



**BLUE
DEAL**



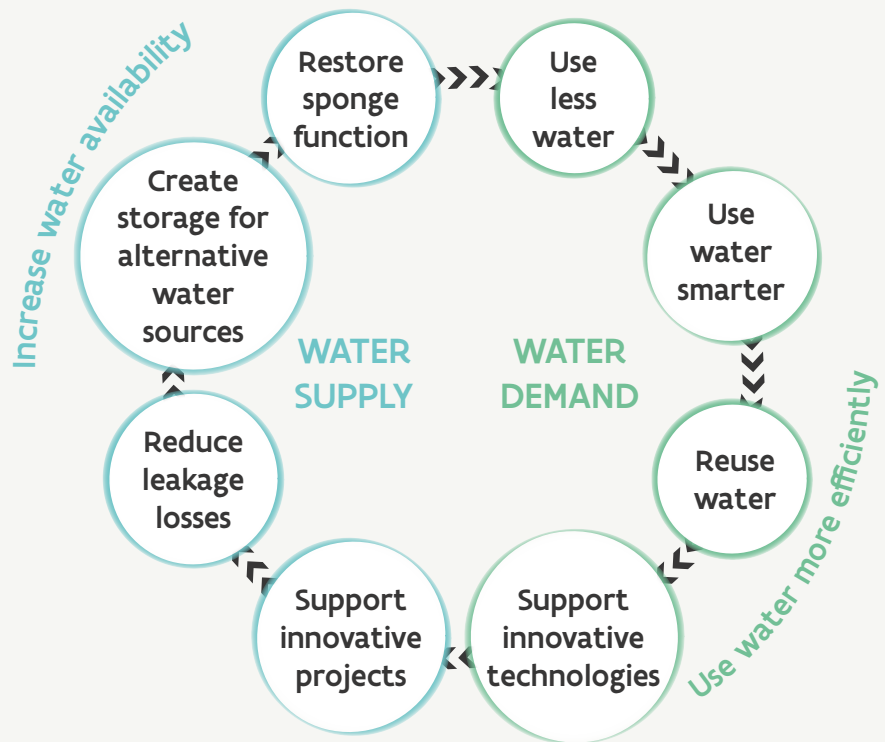
Flanders
State of
the Art

**Blue Deal: an ambitious plan
to combat water scarcity
and drought in Flanders**

The basic principles of the BLUE DEAL for a European approach

Water availability is a real concern in Flanders, the northern part of Belgium. A plan to structurally tackle drought and water scarcity is necessary.

In the summer of 2020, the Flemish Government therefore launched a unique program with more than 70 ambitious actions: the Blue Deal.



Working together to tackle the impact of climate change? Deal!

The Blue Deal encourages actors to roll out innovative partnerships, test new technologies, and get more people on board. It contains more than 70 ambitious actions divided in 4 main domains. A few examples:

INVESTMENTS IN THE FIELD

Creating and restoring wetlands



Developing green-blue infrastructure



Depaving for more water infiltration



REGULATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION

Reuse all types of water



Improving local rainwater and drought plans



INNOVATION, RESEARCH AND MONITORING

The automation of ground water measurement



Reduce leakage losses



Reuse of rain and wastewater



AWARENESS-RAISING

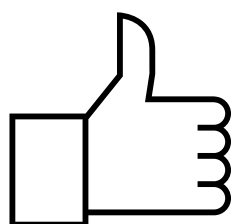
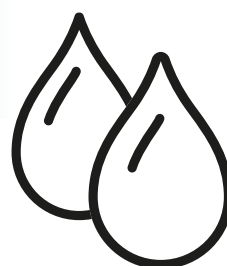
Accessible initiatives to engage the general public such as a Tile deleting championship



Lessons learned for a BLUE DEAL at the European level

A comprehensive approach ensures systemic change

To better balance supply and demand, the Blue Deal tackles water availability and more efficient water use at the same time.

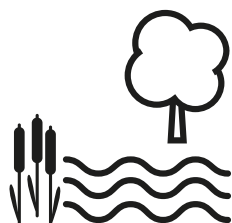


Engaging a broad set of actors to achieve the high ambitions

By investing, regulating, and stimulating innovation, the Blue Deal ensures commitment at different levels.

A programmatic approach speeds up investments

A wide range of programs, projects, and measures provide multiple benefits, both in the short and long term.



Building with nature

By investing in the restoration of wetlands and in nature-based solutions, droughts and flooding are managed simultaneously while biodiversity is boosted.

A decree for long term efforts

The innovative policy is anchored by a Blue Deal decree to sustain efforts in the long term.



BLUE DEAL: impact



Creating and restoring more than 6,400 HA OF WETLANDS

Restoring 88 KM OF WATERCOURSES



Removing and ADAPTING 113 HA OF PAVED SURFACE for rainwater infiltration



More than
**560 WEIRS AND
PUMPS** in agri-
cultural areas for
better water level
management and
water buffering for
agriculture

Collecting
4 TO 8 MILLION M³
ADDITIONAL
VOLUME OF
RAINWATER storage
for reuse



Yearly REUSE OF
23.8 BILLION LITRES
or **9,500 Olympic**
pools of further
treated wastewater
as cooling or
process water

**600 HA OF AGRI-
CULTURAL AREAS**
with climate adap-
tive management





Funded by
the European Union
NextGenerationEU

Further information

bluedeal.integraalwaterbeleid.be/about-blue-deal

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