The Alice Project zooms stakeholders through best practices in wastewater infrastructures across the globe.

12th November 2020: The ALICE Project, which is accelerating innovation in urban waste management for climate change, held its first stakeholder workshop on Wednesday 11th November 2020 from 08:00 – 13:30 GMT. The workshop, which was free and open to all stakeholders, focussed on themes related to the challenges faced by wastewater management for climate change with analyses of a case study in Brazil, modelling developments in Turkey, and an examination of Nature Based Solutions (NBS) in Nordic climates and Scotland.

ALICE Project partner REDINN, represented by CEO Mr Leonardo Piccinetti, hosted and chaired the event. 54 stakeholders registered for the event, representing 15 countries across Europe as well as India, Brazil, Jordan, Israel, and Tunisia. Of these, 6 came from government entities, 3 from NGOs; 30 from RTOs; and 16 from SMEs. The event reflected the multi-national identity of its audience by taking them on a journey of case studies and research through target countries across the globe.

Following a warm welcome and introduction to the webinar and speakers by Mr Piccinetti, he then presented an overview of the challenges faced by the Alice project, as well as examining the socio-economic impact of local adaptation solutions, This was followed by a presentation delivered by Alice project partner Dr Marc Neumann (BC3) on the 'Vulnerability and resilience assessment for wastewater infrastructures' during which he provided insight into the use of cognitive maps as analysis tools and looked at emerging themes. Dr Kamal Azrague from SINTEF came on next with an interesting case study entitled: 'Use of Nature-Based Solutions in Nordic Climates' that took the audience up to the far reaches of the northern hemisphere.

After a short virtual coffee break, the case study focus moved to Turkey with an overview of 'Green Infrastructures for Environmental Sustainability: Rainfall-Watershed-Bioretention Experimental System and Avcılar Campus Modelling of Istanbul University-Cerrahpaşa' delivered by Prof. Dr. Cevza Melek Kazezyılmaz-Alhan, from Istanbul University-Cerrahpaşa. Moving to Norway, Prof. Miklas Scholz from Lund University then provided highlights of a further case study: Water retention and nutrient recycling in soils and streams for improved agriculture production – WaterAgri.' To enhance the inclusive aspect of the programme, a talk entitled 'Citizen support of Programme of measures aimed at the protection of NBS solutions,' was subsequently given by Dr Philippe Ker Rault, Key Resources for Environmental Management.

This was followed by a stimulating focus on key issues from a Scottish representative, Mr Ian Findlay of Aurora Sustainability Group, who raised the issue 'Will Nature-Based Solutions - with a circular edge - be able to tackle the climate challenges? Scotland innovation is driving by NBS practical examples'.

The global focus then crossed the ocean to Brazil, where Prof. Jose Galizia Tundisi from the International Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, IIEGA, delivered a final presentation on 'Green infrastructures: case studies from São Carlos, SP, Brazil and perspectives for collaboration EU- Brazil.'

At the conclusion of the presentations, Leonardo Piccinetti took to the floor again to thank the speakers and attendees for participating in what had truly been a thought-provoking and engaging event. Participants were able to touch on a diverse range of areas including pharmaceutical pollution, bioeconomies, wetland restoration, urban agriculture and green roofing, vegetative swale and stormwater, among many others. A notable comment from Iain Findlay that met with considerable consensus was that, 'The human aspect is the most important part of the sustainability equation' and that there was a clear need for cooperation between the Green Deal and changes in behaviours.

If you would like more information, please contact: redinn.projects@gmail.com

If you would like to access the presentations, they are downloadable here:
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/07j7kjunuas6mi1/AABVI-xDkLqzQBcnrHmJXUA2a?dl=0

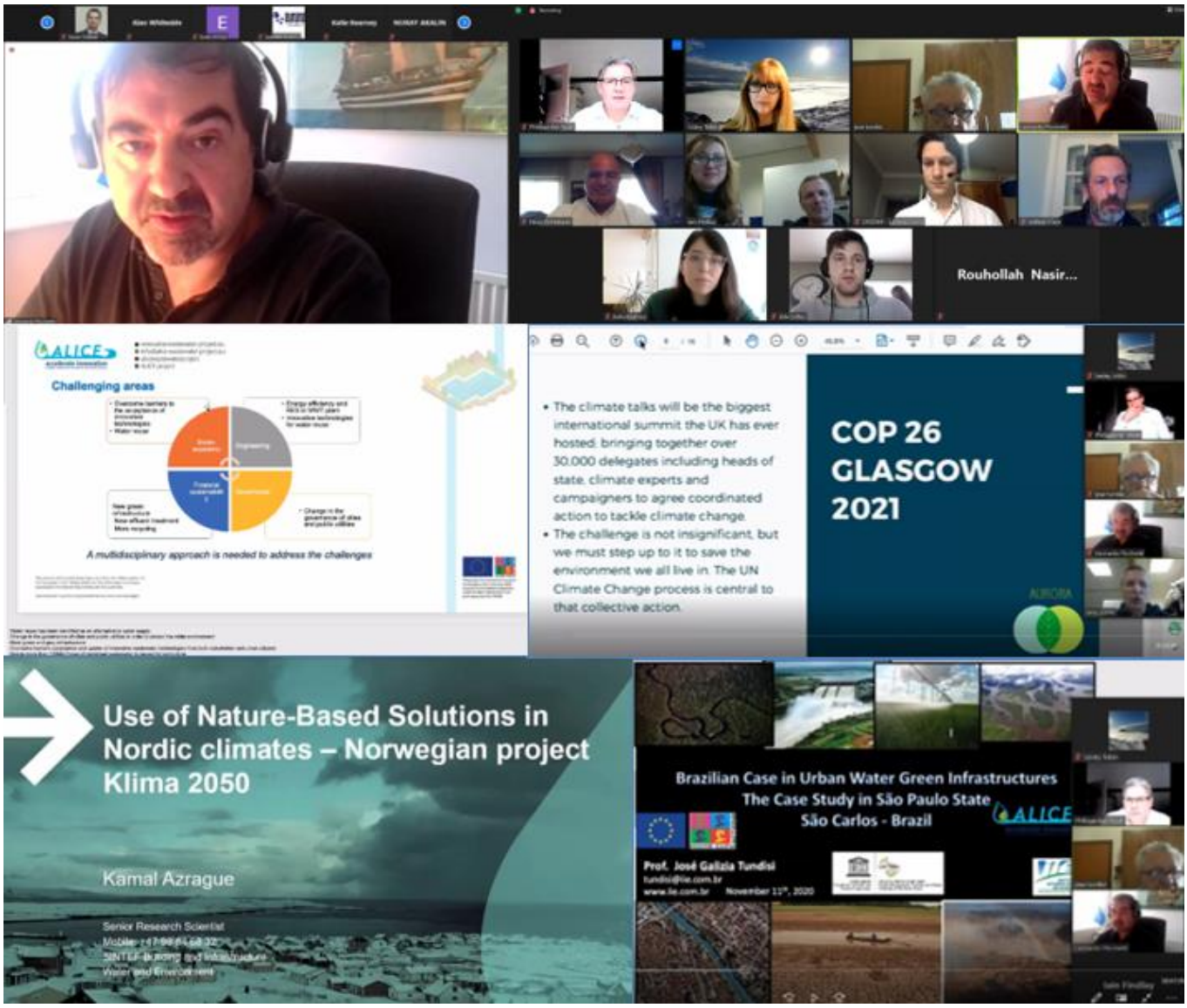

Image caption: *Organised and chaired by Leonardo Piccinetti of REDINN (top left), The Alice Project zooms stakeholders through best practices in wastewater infrastructures across the globe.*

About the ALICE Project

Through mobility (secondments) of staff members facilitating the transfer of knowledge and boosting staff skills and career perspectives, ALICE aims to: explore society's role, social behaviour and acceptability in the development of innovative management systems for urban WW; improve the urban resilience of WW infrastructures; enhance the reuse of reclaimed WW and resource recovery, exploring the leading edge technologies of urban WW treatment to broaden its dimension in Europe; explore the WW and energy nexus in WW treatment plants to reduce their carbon footprint, adopting a holistic approach to resource efficiency.

ALICE will go beyond the state-of-the-art, suggesting new tools, methodologies and knowledge to boost innovation in the wastewater sector.

ALICE will develop an innovative interdisciplinary research programme, combining different competences (engineering, chemistry, economics, planning, governance and law, biology), methodologies and tools, following a problem-focused approach. One of the main innovative aspects of the research approach is the design of an integrated structure where different themes are clearly defined but at the same time strongly interrelated with one another.

Different disciplines and sectors will work together on specific themes to address the four objectives:

- Urban resilience and wastewater infrastructures
- Wastewater and energy nexus
- Reclaimed wastewater reused and resource recovery linked together by the analysis of
- Society's role in introducing innovative urban wastewater systems

For information about the ALICE project:

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 734560