



# Wetskills Water Challenges

## WetsNext? Overview of some follow-up

**This document describes some of the results of Wetskills events. It does not contain all results and follow-up. It aims to give potential case owners the potential added value of participating in Wetskills.**

## Results of Wetskills for case owners

The Wetskills teams deliver directly to the case owner:

1. Pitch at a high-level event (water conferences, ministerial visits, bilateral panel meetings)
2. Poster with the concept
3. Memo for the case owner with extra background, estimations, references

“

*For Berson UV it is clear that Wetskills is not only a worthy CSR case, but also returns value.*  
Paul Buijs, managing Director

”

## PR & Communication

Wetskills Foundation is active on Twitter and Facebook and has a recently updated website.

During the Wetskills events several press

releases are published and based on this Wetskills has been on local television, radio and newspapers. In the communication Wetskills Foundation strives to include the case owners and donors of the programme.

## Recruitment

Several participants got a job after Wetskills events. In Romania (2013) five participants got directly a job in the network of Wetskills. In Mozambique one of the organising partners used Wetskills to find some talented Young Professionals for projects. Wetskills still have contact with Alumni participants.

In The Netherlands several Dutch and international Wetskills participants got an invitation for the National Water Traineeship or Young Expert Programme, because Wetskills is a value added on their Curriculum Vitae.

## Good question: WetsNext?

What is next after Wetskills? How to follow-up great concepts? That is WetsNext. This is a new program to stimulate follow-up activities based on the concepts and results of the Wetskills Challenges. The first focus of WetsNext is on further (feasibility) studies done by the same

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target group as Wetskills, but intensively guided by case owners, Wetskills alumni, other interested partners to come further and gain impact.

Approx. 25-30 % of the Wetskills cases have follow-up in different ways. This can be implementation within organisations, development of WetsNext project for Young Professionals or students to do follow-up research (pilots, feasibility study or proposal for financing)

## Some concrete examples of follow-up activities

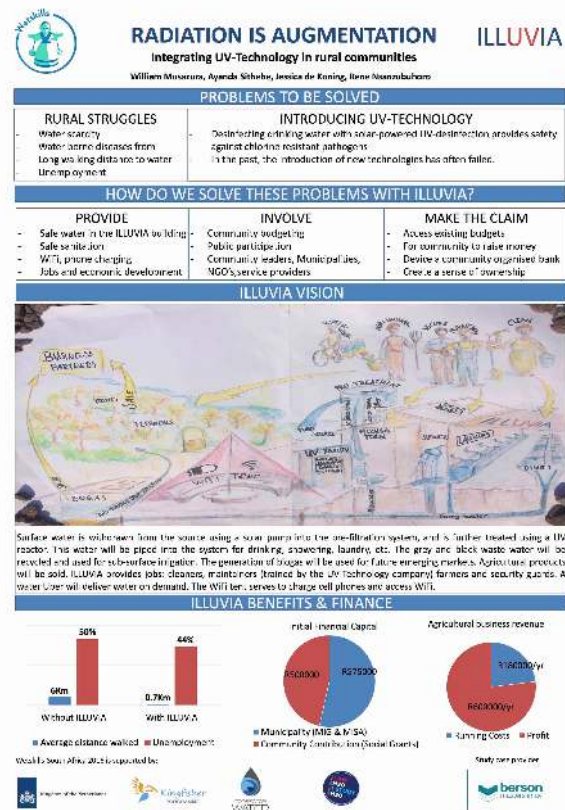
### illUVia concept in South Africa

**Ambition:** implementation of a project that aims to improve the access to clean drinking water and sanitation in rural areas and informal urban settlements in South Africa. It started out as a case study by BersonUV during Wetskills-South-Africa 2016, which resulted in the ILLUVIA concept.

The main vision is to provide the community with more than just safe drinking water and proper sanitation, like: ablution facilities, electricity and wifi. Thereby, we aim to smartly combine technologies and to involve the target community and local enterprises in planning and implementation. Jobs are created in the maintenance of the facility and a small agribusiness that uses pre-treated wastewater from the facility for irrigation. Like this, we aim for the project to evolve into a self-sustaining source of community up-lift and economic development.

A Dutch student from Utrecht University will do a feasibility study of three months near Cape Town. A South African entrepreneur and case owner BersonUV will provide support. She will be linked to the University of Cape Town, and the team members.

*Status: in execution*





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### City BluePrint

**Ambition:** Wetskills Foundation partnered with KWR Watercycle Research Institute / University of Utrecht to roll-out the City BluePrint concept in cities worldwide.

**Your Water Blueprint**  
Empowering citizens to improve water sustainability by showing a personal blueprint in one graph

**The City Blueprint:** a quick scan of water strengths and weaknesses of a city, designed by KWR (2012) to empower policy makers. The blanks illustrate the weaknesses. *The bluer, the better.*

Households contribute significantly to the City Blueprint. So what can citizens do to improve their city bottom-up?

Where are citizens efforts required?

**The solution: Your Blueprint**

**Your Blueprint:** a quick scan of your household's water strengths and weaknesses, showing where your impact is most required to contribute to your city.

To improve Your Blueprint, we provide you with access to simple and cost effective measures to improve water sustainability.

**Result of measures applied to your average house Boston**

**The impact of \$149 of simple measures:**

- Installing a water saving shower and adding a toilet stop, the water demand will drop by 25%, resulting in a \$250 saving each year.
- Waste separation and recycling will decrease solid waste generation by 35%.
- Installing a rain barrel will relieve the sewage of your storm water and save water.
- Greening the driveway will expand the green space significantly.

Wetskills USA 2016 is supported by:

Holland, Northeastern University, KWR

The City BluePrint was an assignment for one of the Wetskills teams in Boston-USA. Students will do the research at partners of Wetskills Foundation to execute City BluePrint Assessments. Based on these assessments we know more about the water management and water governance status of cities, directions for improvement and we can even compare cities.

The first WetsNext try-out of City BluePrint (and Governmental assessment) was executed in Ahmedabad. This WetsNext project has been set-up by KWR Watercycle Research Institute, University of Utrecht and Wetskills Foundation and with the great support of Wetskills partner CEE. At the moment these partners are planning to roll-out this concept to other cities in India. A City BluePrint of Milwaukee, USA has been executed together with the network of Wetskills Foundation.

*Status: Ongoing*

**Plastic reuse for Rain barrels**  
**Ambition:** To develop a rain barrel from recycled plastics for a competitive prize (and so reducing the plastic waste worldwide).

“ *Hoogheemraadschap Delfland submitted two times a Wetskills case. Two times we could use the outcomes in our Innovation Programme.* ”

Jaap Korf, Advisor

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This basis idea of reusing shredded plastic for small scaled storm water infrastructure was posed by the team that worked on the case of Water Authority Delfland during Wetskills-USA 2016.

The aim of WetsNext project is to: 1. Developing a Programme of Demands and a first design, 2. Piloting at the Living Lab plastic in Culemborg and optimizing, 3. Business case and 4. Network analysis.

Groups of students from the Industrial Design Engineering department of Rotterdam University of Applied Science will do the first steps of this assignment of Water Authority Delfland. This is in close cooperation with Searious Business, an organization that strives to clean-up the Ocean from plastic. Searious Business initiated a Living Lab for plastic with some industrial partners in Culemborg, which will bring their residual plastic.

*Status: Ongoing. Based on the outcomes of the students further market investigation and pilots.*

**NEXT-cycle your rainwater**  
A framework for citizen participation and water harvesting measures  
Lieve van der Lugt, Douwe Terpstra, Mirijn van Elk

**WHY?**  
Heavy rainfall affects the built and social infrastructure of cities and households. Floods occur more often because drainage systems can not keep up with the amount of water anymore. A shift towards the private domain is needed. The technical possibilities are endless, but how to involve households?

**WHAT?**  
'The NEXT-cycle app' An easy to use app that combines technical aspects and social aspects of neighborhoods. Technical aspects to see in which neighborhoods the impact of measurements is the biggest. Soft aspects to determine what communication strategy fits best with the motives and behavior of the targeting group according to colors.

**HOW?**  
1. Plastic shred into flakes and mould into rain harvesting facilities  
2. Reducing the amount of solid surfaces  
3. This can be **YOUR** Idea! We invite you to come up with innovative ideas and share these with others

**Benefits**

- More awareness for the effects of heavy rainfall
- Participation rates are expected to go up by 65%
- Increase water harvesting measures on private property up to 100%
- Opportunity to use rainwater for all domestic purposes

Wetskills-USA is supported by:

## Temporary embankments in Romania

**Ambition: market research for temporary embankments as environmentally alternative for dike reinforcements in Danube Delta**

VP Delta about temporary Embankments (provided by SMEs): team of four Bachelor students is doing a research about the implementation of the Wetskills idea in the Danube Delta in Romania. The case owners, together with the Windesheim University of Applied Sciences, will facilitate this research.

*Status: This project has been executed; potential follow-up is creating a start-up within Horizon2020 project*

## New building disconnected to sewer

Ryerson University hired in a consultant to do research of the implementation of the idea of small-scaled wastewater treatment for new buildings at the Ryerson University Campus in Toronto, based on the winning case of Wetskills-Canada 2014. Ryerson University is one the



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largest property owner in Canada, because of the basis in downtown Toronto. A Wetskills Alumni student of Wageningen University did a part of that study.

*Status: Done, follow-up not further defined*

#### **Business wise training**

World Water Academy (training centre for water sector) was the case owner of the winning team in Wetskills-South Africa. The ideas of the team were partly used for a follow-up project under the new Non-Profit Company AquaDactics in South Africa. RandWater Academy implemented the ideas for mentoring and training purposes of new staff members.

*Status: Partly implemented; idea submitted in proposal*

#### **Price winning team trough re-submitting Wetskills concept**

CanNorth and Incas<sup>3</sup> were so enthusiastic about the results that they invited and paid their team (Wetskills-Canada 2014) to present the solution in The Netherlands. Meanwhile the team submitted the solution to another challenge in the USA and they won the first price of \$15,000.

*Status: done*

#### **Sustainable Cheese making**

University of Twente formulated a follow-up project on sustainable cheese making. They supported students of Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences to do a follow-up research based on the idea of one of the teams of Wetskills-The Netherlands 2015. The results have been used in a research for the Water FootPrint as case study.

*Status: done*

*More information:*

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