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E COSTRUZIONI IDRAULICHE  
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**FREEWAT**  
Free and Open Source Software Tools for Water Resource Management



**EIP Water** Online Market Place  
Matchmaking for water Innovation  
**MAR Solutions - Managed Aquifer Recharge Strategies and Actions (AG128)**

# THE H2020 FREEWAT PROJECT FOR DEVELOPING A GIS-INTEGRATED PLATFORM FOR WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**G. De Filippis<sup>1</sup>, I. Borsi<sup>2</sup>, L. Foglia<sup>3</sup>, M. Cannata<sup>4</sup>, E. Vázquez-Suñé<sup>5</sup> e R. Rossetto<sup>1</sup>**

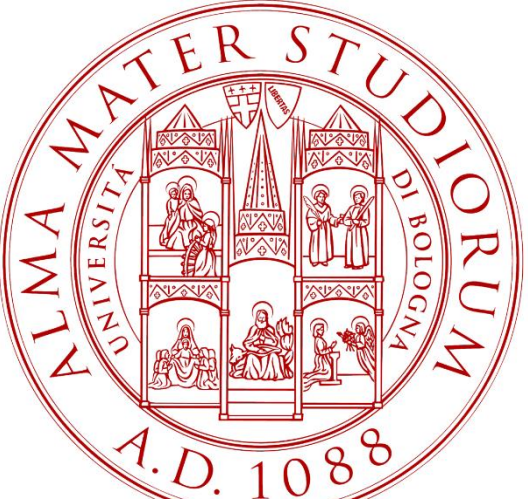
<sup>1</sup>Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa (Italy), g.defilippis@sssup.it, r.rossetto@sssup.it

<sup>2</sup>TEA SISTEMI S.p.A., Pisa (Italy), iacopo.borsi@tea-group.com

<sup>3</sup>Technische Universität Darmstadt, Darmstadt (Germany), laura.foglia74@gmail.com

<sup>4</sup>Scuola universitaria professionale della Svizzera italiana, Lugano (Switzerland), massimiliano.cannata@supsi.ch

<sup>5</sup>IDAEA - CSIC, Barcelona (Spain), enric.vazquez@idaea.csic.es



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## THE FREEWAT PROJECT

FREEWAT is an HORIZON 2020 project financed by the EU Commission under the call WATER INNOVATION: BOOSTING ITS VALUE FOR EUROPE.

FREEWAT aims at promoting water resource management by simplifying the application of the Water Framework Directive and other EU water-related Directives by means of an innovative GIS-integrated open source and public domain ICT tool (the FREEWAT platform) for the simulation of water quantity and quality in surface- and ground-water with an integrated water management and planning module.

The FREEWAT platform aims at producing scientifically & technically sound decisions and policy making based on:

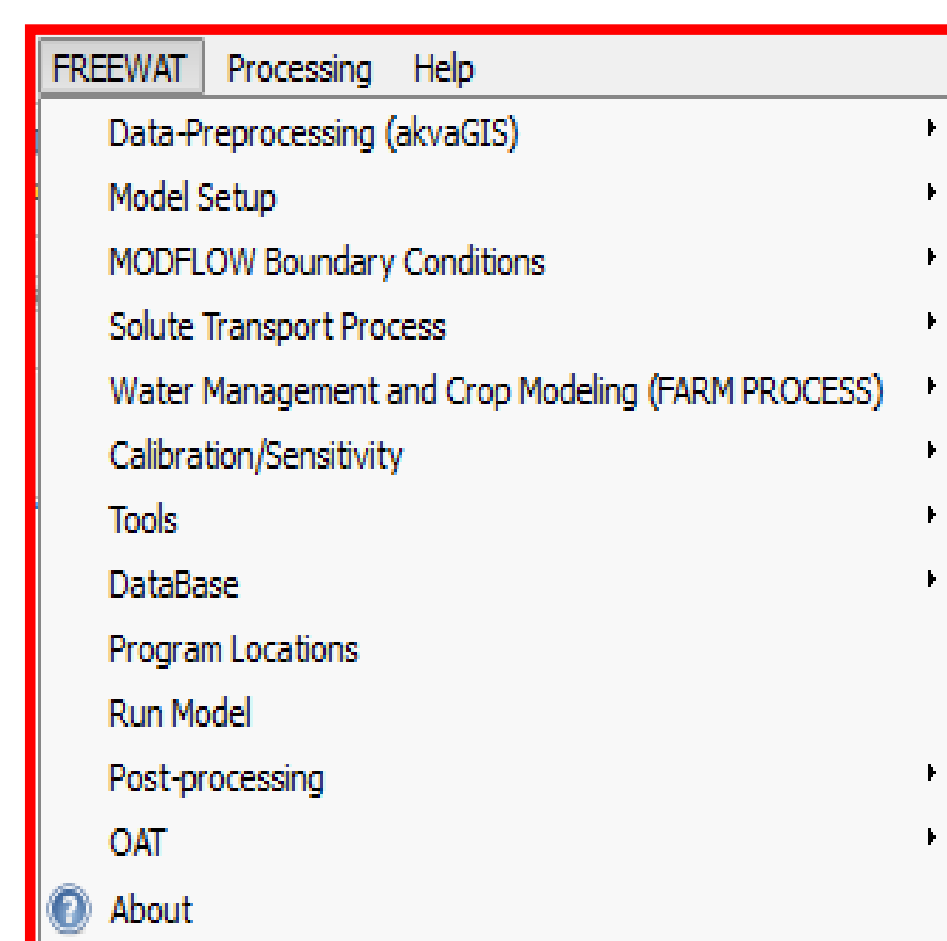
- data and innovative data analysis tools and
- a *participatory approach* not only in the final stage of discussion, but also during the phase of scenario generation.

The open source characteristics of the platform allow to consider FREEWAT an initiative "*ad includendum*", as further research institutions, private developers etc. may contribute to the platform development.

## FREEWAT UP-TO-DATE

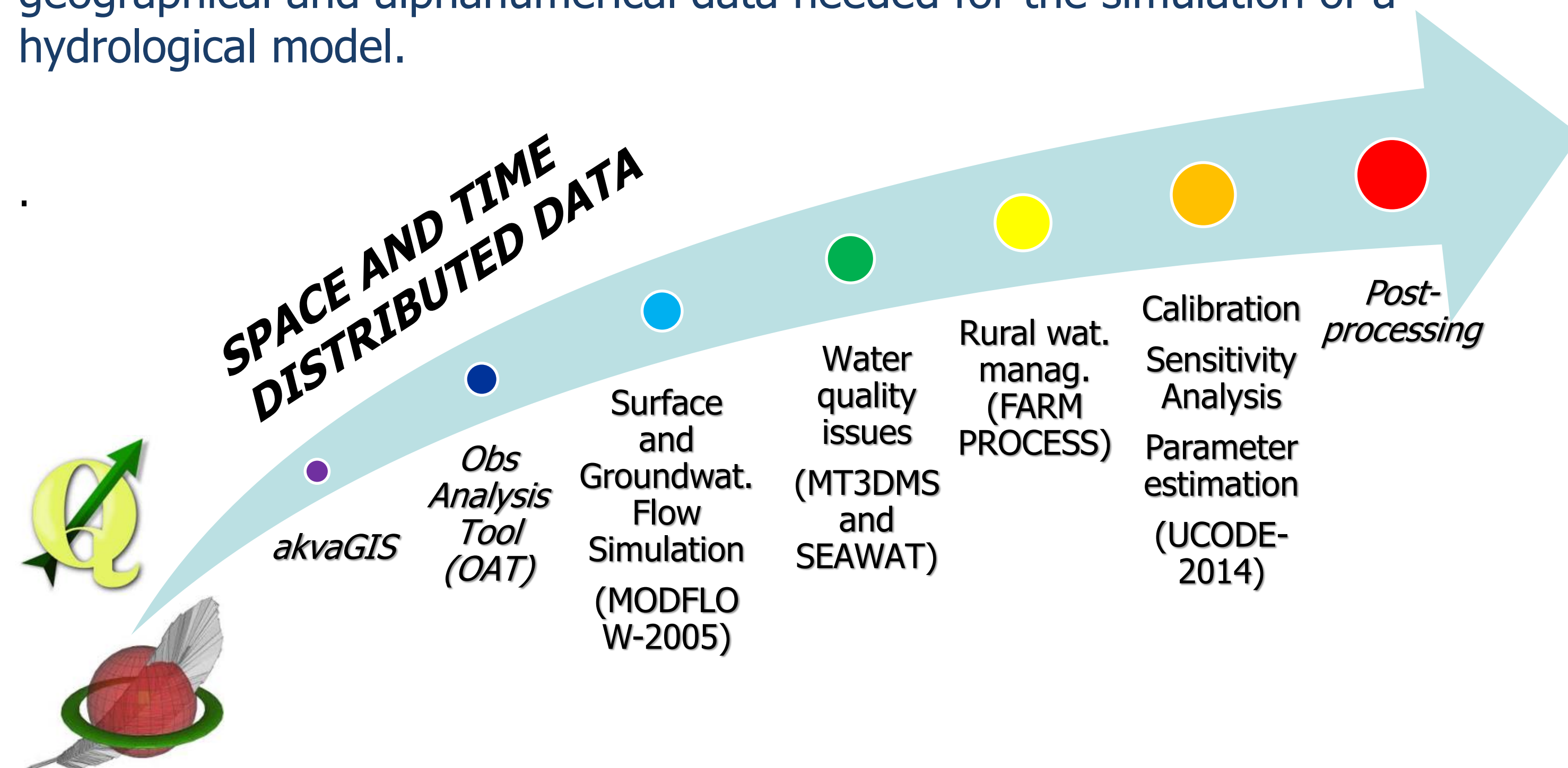
The FREEWAT platform, developed as a plugin integrated in QGIS, is conceived as a canvas, where several simulation codes, based on the hydrological cycle, hydrochemical or economic-social processes, might be virtually integrated in a unique GIS desktop, so coupling the power of GIS geo-processing and post-processing tools in spatial data analysis to that of simulation software.

Coupling is guaranteed in FREEWAT through a tight coupling approach, where GIS and hydrological model engines work separately, but the first provides the interface where data are pre-processed, run and then visualized.



The FREEWAT hydrological model is based on fully distributed and physically-based numerical codes, mainly from the open source USGS MODFLOW family.

A spatial database was designed using Spatialite DBMS to store and handle geographical and alphanumeric data needed for the simulation of a hydrological model.



### References

Rossetto R, Borsi I, Foglia L, 2015. FREEWAT: FREE and open source software tools for WATER resource management. Rendiconti Online Società Geologica Italiana, 35:252-255. DOI: 10.3301/ROL.2015.113

### Aknowledgements

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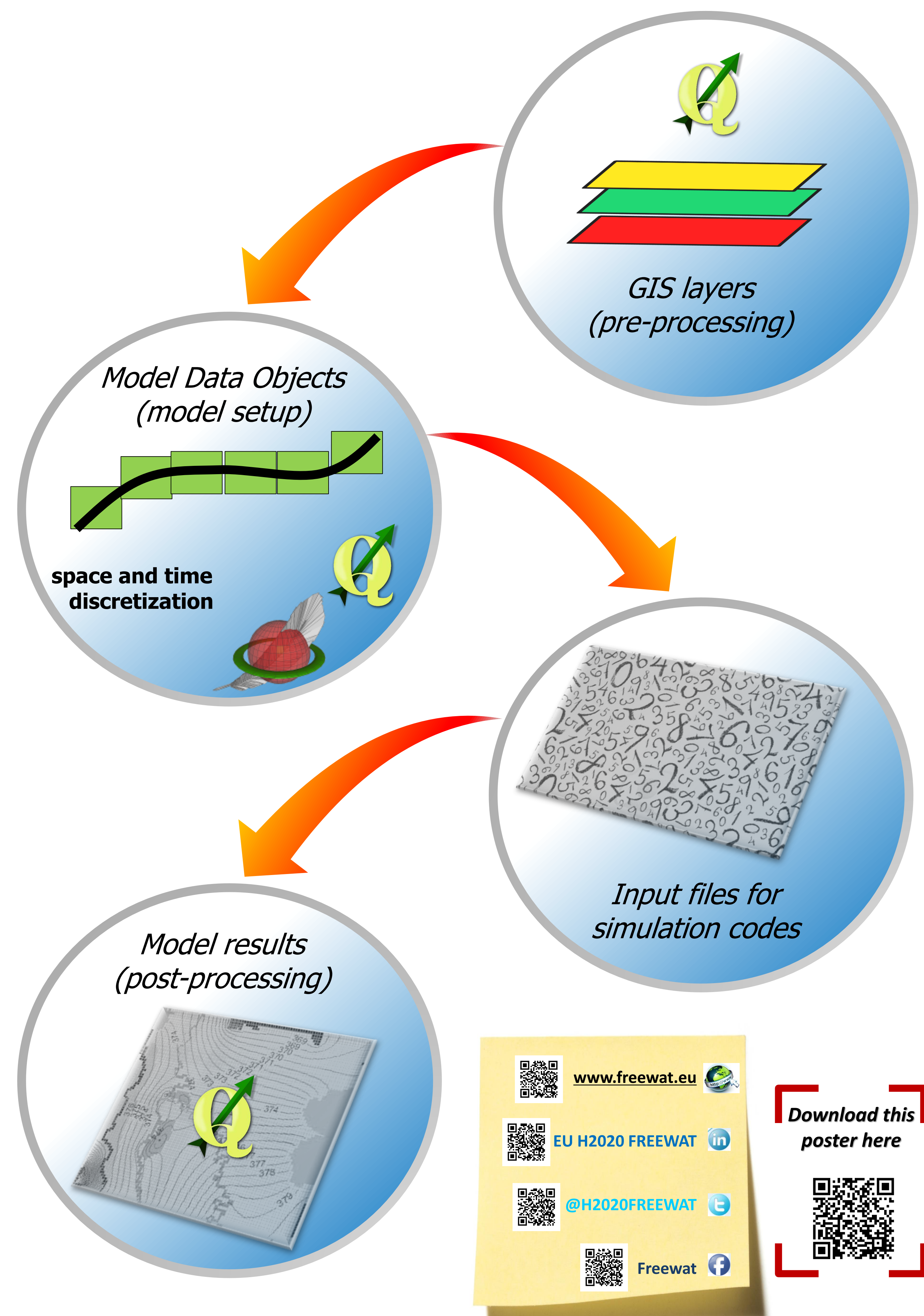
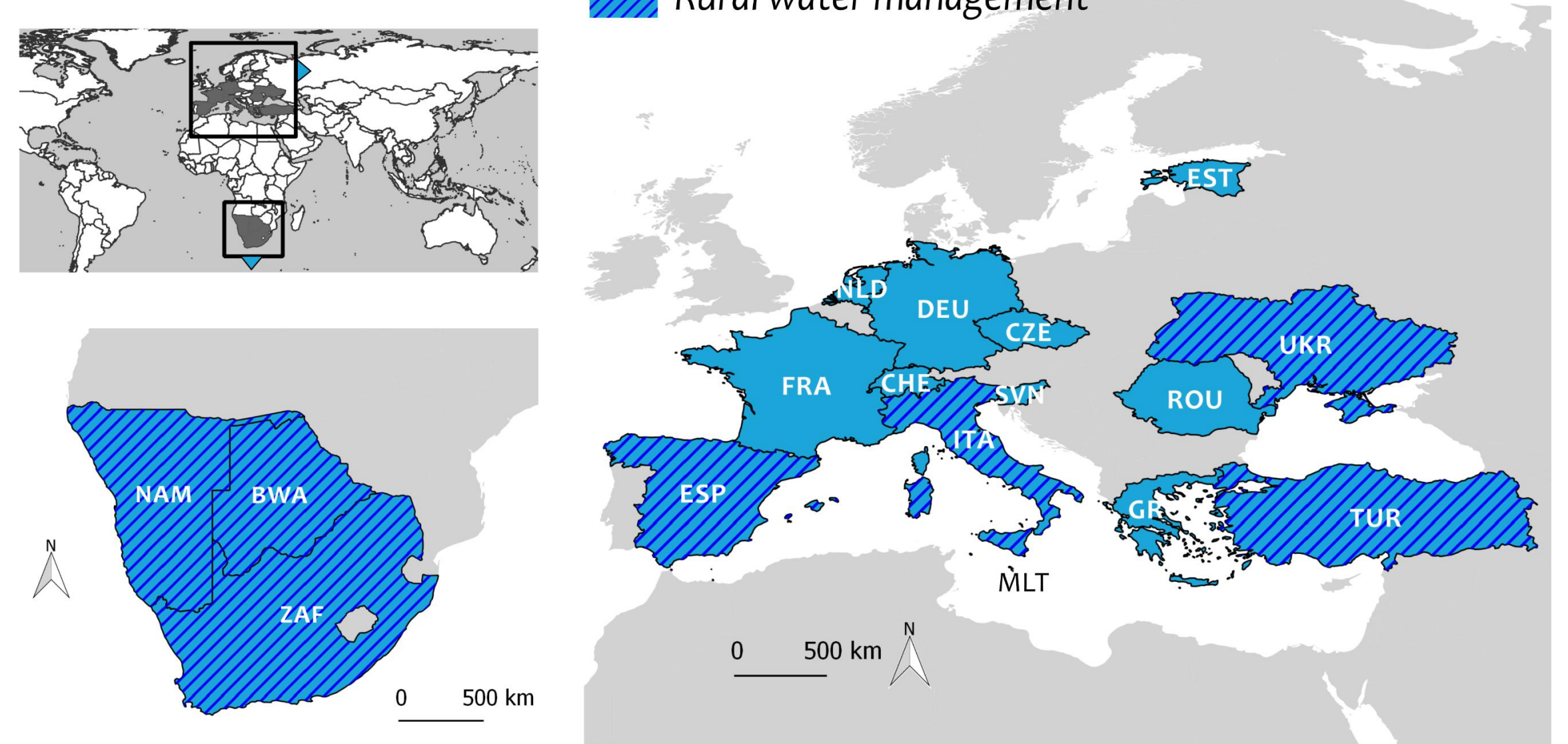
## FREEWAT NUMBERS

- 19 Partners
- About 100 people trained
- 54 institutions involved
- More that 220 stakeholders involved
- 14 case studies (9 devoted to the application of the Water Framework Directive; 5 devoted to rural water management)

### Partners



### CASE STUDIES



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