



MissionLakes Webinar Series

Building a European Community of Practice on Lake Restoration

3 September 2026, 13:30-15:00 CET

Laurence Carvalho

Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA)

(FutureLakes)



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RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

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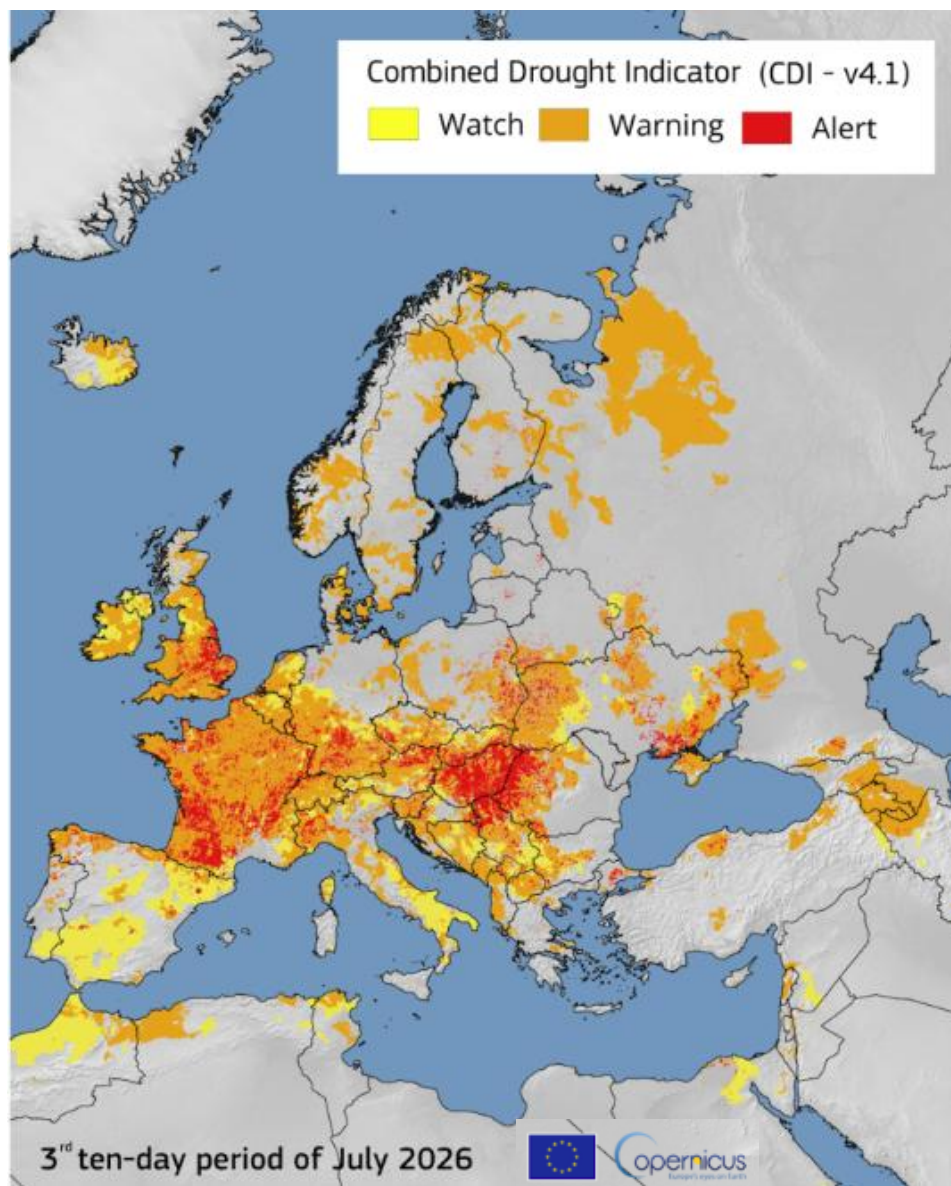


Workshop Programme

- 13:30-13:35: **Welcome & Agenda** – Laurence Carvalho, NIVA (FutureLakes)
- 13:35-13:50: **Introduction to uPcycle Global Community of Practice on Lake Restoration**
- Maira Mucci, Wageningen University (uPcycle)
- 13:50-14:20 **Practitioner presentations (knowledge and support needs)** (10 mins each)
- Natalia Lekner, Kartuzy City Municipality, Poland (FutureLakes)
 - Maja Ćuže Denona, Manager of Vransko Lake, Croatia (ProCleanLakes)
 - Szilárd-Péter Kelemen, Green Life, Romania (RECI-OXBOW, FERRO)
- 14:20-14:25 **Introduction to breakout group task** – managing expectations
- Laurence Carvalho, NIVA (FutureLakes)
- 14:25-14:50 **Breakout groups on Building a European CoP**
- 14:50-15:00 **Selected feedback and wrap-up (next steps)**



Need for a European Community of Practice



- 45% of lakes failing WFD good ecological status
- Nature Restoration Regulation policy need – National Restoration Plans
- Freshwater biodiversity most threatened (GBF Targets)
- Building climate resilience - Europe is the fastest-warming continent - severe floods, droughts and heatwaves
- Water security (quality and quantity) need strengthening
- Economic benefits gained from restoration - far outweigh costs

Purpose of a Community of Practice



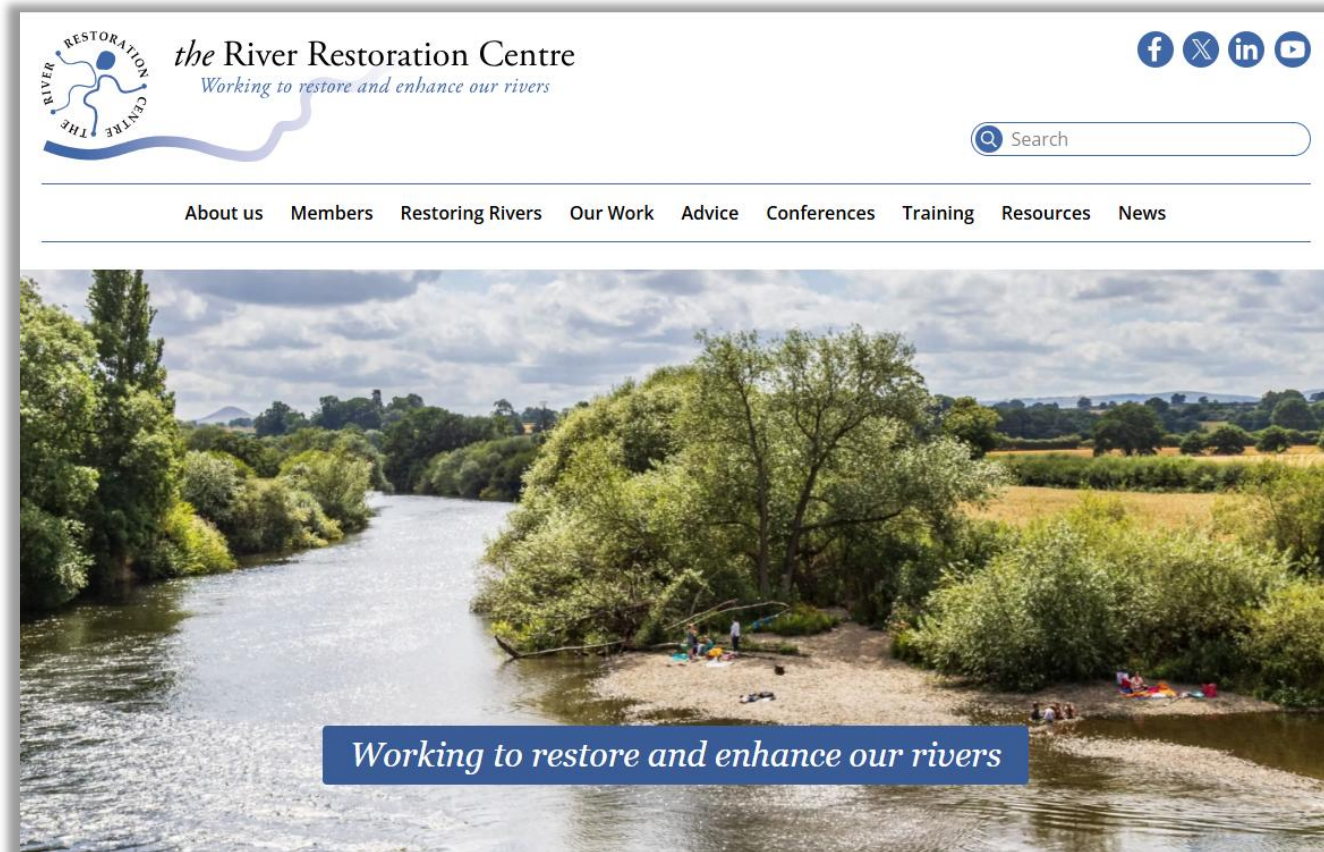
A learning network that empowers learners to take effective action (Wenger 1998)

A group of people who "share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly"

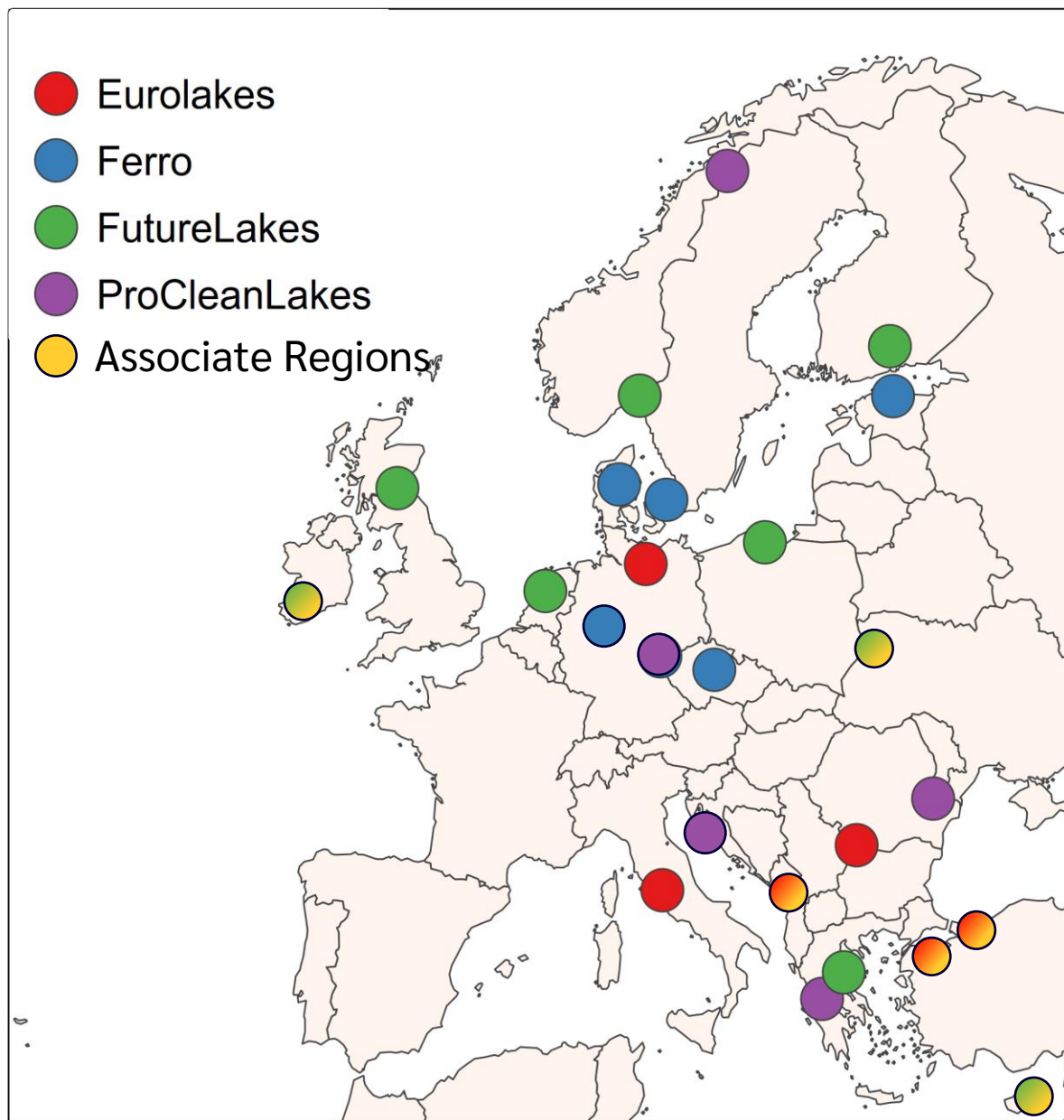
(Etienne and Beverly Wenger-Trayner, 2013)

Long-term vision

- Formal organisation (cf. River Restoration Centre)
- Dedicated well-maintained website with guidance and tools for learning and knowledge exchange forum
- Physical meetings to exchange knowledge and experiences
- Lake exchange visits, Twinning



MissionLakes Community of Practice



- 16 Demo basins
- 12 Associated Region basins
- 7 Innovation or monitoring sites

Short-term Expectations

- Informal network (Mission Lakes)
- Online meetings and webinars
- Mission Ocean & Waters Annual Forum (March 2027, Brussels) – side event?
- Lahti Lakes conference (June 2027, Finland)
- Teams-based knowledge hub – for sharing documents and chat discussions

Teams site - country/language channels

1. English
2. French (France, Wallonia, Luxembourg, parts of CH)
3. German/Dutch/Flemish (Austria & parts of Switzerland)
4. Swedish/Norwegian/Danish
5. Finnish (Finland & Estonia)
6. Baltic (Lithuania, Latvia)
7. Spanish/Portuguese
8. Italian (Italy, parts of Switzerland)
9. Romanian
10. Greek
11. Central & Eastern European Slavic (Polish/Czech/Slovak)
12. South Slavic (Croatian, Serbian, Bosnian, Montenegrin, Slovenian)

Teams - Topic channels

- Effectiveness of Restoration Measures
- Water Governance
- Financing restoration
- Monitoring impacts

Project or ad-hoc working group channels

Questions for Breakout Groups (14:25-14:50)

How could an EU-CoP be established in the short-term?

1. What topics do you want to learn most about? Engagement? Lake Governance? Effectiveness of Measures? Financing measures? Other?
2. How could a CoP operate in the short-term? Email list? Online hub? Online meetings and webinars?
3. How could an online hub be established in the short-term? Teams site? Project-based knowledge hub? Existing platforms? Other ideas?
4. How best would you prefer to discuss things? Online forum (Teams channel chats)? Online (themed) meetings?
5. Dealing with language differences? Opinions of Teams language channels?
6. In-person meetings and site exchanges?
7. Any other suggestions for CoP learning and knowledge exchange?
 - Copy questions from chat
 - Join breakout group and agree a scribe to summarise answers in a Word document
 - Scribe to email group summary to futurelakes@niva.no
 - Collated opinions will be emailed to attendees after the workshop

Thank you!

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EUROLakes



ProCleanLakes



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