

MEET THE EU

Strategic Business Workshop on Water under Global Gateway

18 March 2026 | Brussels, Belgium

ORGANISED BY

European Commission, DG
INTPA

CO-HOSTED BY

Water Europe, EurEau, EFCA, Cyprus
Presidency EU Council

RULES

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1. Opportunity: A Direct Line to the EU

As part of the **Strategic Business Workshop on Water under Global Gateway** (18 March 2026, Brussels), the **"Meet the EU" sessions** offer a targeted platform for private-sector stakeholders to engage directly with European Commission representatives on concrete investment opportunities in the water sector.

These one-to-one meetings aim to bridge the gap between project pipelines in **Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the MENA region** and the expertise and appetite of European companies — fostering partnerships aligned with the **Global Gateway Investment Hub** and **Team Europe** initiatives.

By facilitating direct dialogue at a strategic decision-making level, these sessions seek to clarify support mechanisms and catalyse investments in sustainable water infrastructure.

2. Session Objectives

These sessions pursue two main purposes:

- To present **projects from the EU-funded pipeline** that the EU considers having potential interest for private sector actors (the list of projects will be shared with participants ahead of the workshop).
- To present **projects your organisation is developing or working on**, and where you believe EU support could add concrete value.

3. Format & Logistics

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| Format | 20-minute one-on-one meetings between your organisation and European Commission representatives |
| Venue | Journal Room, Mezzanine level, Bibliothèque Royale de Belgique (KBR), Brussels |
| Time Slots In parallel of the Roundtable Discussions | Session 1: 11:45-12:45 — Meet the EU Sessions <i>Bilateral meetings with DG INTPA and DG MENA — 3 × 20 min sessions</i> Session 2: 14:00–16:00 — Meet the EU Sessions (continuation) <i>Bilateral meetings with DG INTPA and DG MENA — 6 × 20 min sessions</i> |

4. Eligibility Criteria

- 1) To participate in the "Meet the EU" sessions, your company must be **registered in the EU Transparency Register**.
- 2) Projects should align with the **EU Investment Hub eligibility criteria**.

Key criteria include:

- The project is in a Global Gateway partner country (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, the Caribbean, or the MENA region)
- The project contributes to sustainable development and meets EU standards on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria
- The project involves a European company or consortium as a key actor
- The total investment size should generally be at least €10 million, and the project sponsor must provide a minimum own contribution of 10% of the total investment (financial or in-kind).

For the full list of eligibility criteria, please visit the [Global Gateway Investment Hub-Eligibility criteria](#).

5. How to Express Your Interest

To register for a **"Meet the EU" session**, send an email to **Isidora Zerva** at i.zerva@lp.gr with the following information:

- **Which EU project interests you and why** — referring to the project list to be shared ahead of the workshop.
- **In the case of your own project** — a brief description (maximum half a page) of the project and what you expect from the EU.
- **What you hope to get out of the meeting**

Please note that the deadline to submit your expression of interest is **Wednesday, 11 March**.

We look forward to a productive conversation.

Seats are limited. Early expressions of interest are encouraged.