

CONTEXT

The **Berlin University Alliance (BUA)** explores the topic of water through the program **ON WATER. WasserWissen in Berlin**, with the upcoming **On Water exhibition at Humboldt Lab**, the artistic event series **Parcours** and the transdisciplinary program **Dialogues**.

The initiatives connect scientists, practitioners, and local communities to foster collaborative learning and knowledge exchange on Berlin's blue-green infrastructure.

DIALOGUES is a format by BUA's TD-Lab

on water

DIALOGUE

Netzwerk für Forschung und Praxis

FOUNDATIONS

INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE DIALOGUE-PROGRAM

STAKE-HOLDER MAPPING

preliminary identification of participants from practice and science to enable targeted engagement

METHODS

reflections on transdisciplinary networking practices

ANALYSIS

external study of medial discourses on water



FOCUS TOPICS



Oct. 2024 – Dialogue 1 @ Floating University; with Inputs from CitiWaC & Floating University

COLLABORATION AND RESEARCH AGENDAS



Feb. 2025 – Dialogue 2 @ Ufer Space; with Inputs from ODIS (City Lab) & CitiWaC Explorer

WATER DATA AND DATA COLLECTIONS



March 2025 – Dialogue 3 @ Humboldt Lab; with Inputs from Baumentscheid e.V. & KFS (FU Berlin)

WATER SCARCITY AND HEAT MANAGEMENT



July 2025 – Dialogue 4 @ Spreefeld Bootshaus; with Inputs from Riparian Struggle & Kiosk of Solidarity

URBAN SOLIDARITY AND WATER JUSTICE



Sept. 2025 – Dialogue 5 @ Roof Water Farm; with Input and Side Tour from Roof Water Farm (TU Berlin)

BUILDINGS AND WATER CIRCULATIONS

EXCHANGE FORMATS

SCIENTISTS STUDYING WATER

ON WATER DIALOGUES foster connections between scientists and practitioners in the water sector. Interaction sparks new knowledge, ways of working, networks, and collaborations.

THE METHOD

- **Memory:** Icebreaker and introduction round in the group
- **Two inputs:** One from a research and one from a practice project, **initiating the dialogue and providing insights** into the event's topic and current discourses
- **Knowledge Atlas:** In small groups, participants share their expertise, **discuss knowledge gaps**, and develop **new perspectives** in the plenary.

INPUTS



KNOWLEDGE ATLAS



KEY INSIGHTS

- **Access & Impact:** Need better links to decision-makers and ways to translate knowledge into policy.
- **Visibility & Resources:** Funding and transparency are limited; results and collaborations often remain invisible.
- **Knowledge Structures:** Stronger networks and sustainable processes are needed to share and apply expertise.

*Based on discussions with participants and feedback from the evaluation process (Okt. 2024 – July 2025).

TRANSFER AND DEVELOPMENT: IMPACT WORKSHOP SERIES

Communication, cooperation, and societal impact for researchers and practitioners

- Wednesday, 10 Dec 2025: Writing Policy Briefs
- Thursday, 29 Jan 2026: Presenting Data with Infographics
- Thursday, 19 Feb 2026: Strategic Science Communication



For more information and registration:

ADMINISTRATION

BUSINESS

PRACTITIONERS WORKING WITH WATER

NGO'S

CIVIL SOCIETY

OUTCOMES

NETWORK

KNOWLEDGE

CO-LABORATION

IMPACT

- ON WATER Dialogues foster **collaborative networks between scientists and practitioners**, supporting the development of a 'community of practice'.
- Knowledge exchange generates **new insights** on future-oriented topics as well as **practical approaches** (e.g. data sets and their availability).
- The program promotes **new collaborations** between science and society to **advance participatory research** and targeted implementation.
- ON WATER assesses its impact through media discourse analysis, tracking the increased **visibility of water-related issues** during the program.

ON WATER-NEWSLETTER



The **TD-Lab – the Laboratory for Transdisciplinary Research** – develops innovative formats for co-production, supports participatory research, and fosters knowledge exchange at Berlin University Alliance. #UpgradeYourScience