

# 1<sup>ST</sup> IWRA ISLANDS AND WATER CONGRESS

4 – 6 SEPTEMBER  
2024 TORHSAVN,  
FAROE ISLANDS

## Why: Rationale

- islands face increasing freshwater challenges, due, amongst other factors, to climate change, that need to be addressed urgently and often require bespoke island responses.



## How: Going Beyond “just” a congress

- including also a more policy relevant focus, which will be of interest to and useful for water professionals working in islands, and in SIDS in particular
- a celebration of freshwater within an island context, including arts, culture and the younger island generations.



## Policy relevant focus

- Each edition has a **broad freshwater and island theme** and a more **specific focus** agreed with the host island partner
- The Congress will be used to provide **tools for the island partner** to progress on a specific freshwater related issue that it has identified in advance as of special interest



## Congress theme and focus

- The Congress creates an ongoing forum for island specific responses to freshwater challenges and opportunities
- *freshwater regulation within an island setting*
  - Island proofing freshwater regulation: opportunities and challenges
  - Bringing surface and groundwater together in island water regulation
  - Regulating water for electricity
  - Aligning freshwater regulation with innovation within an island setting





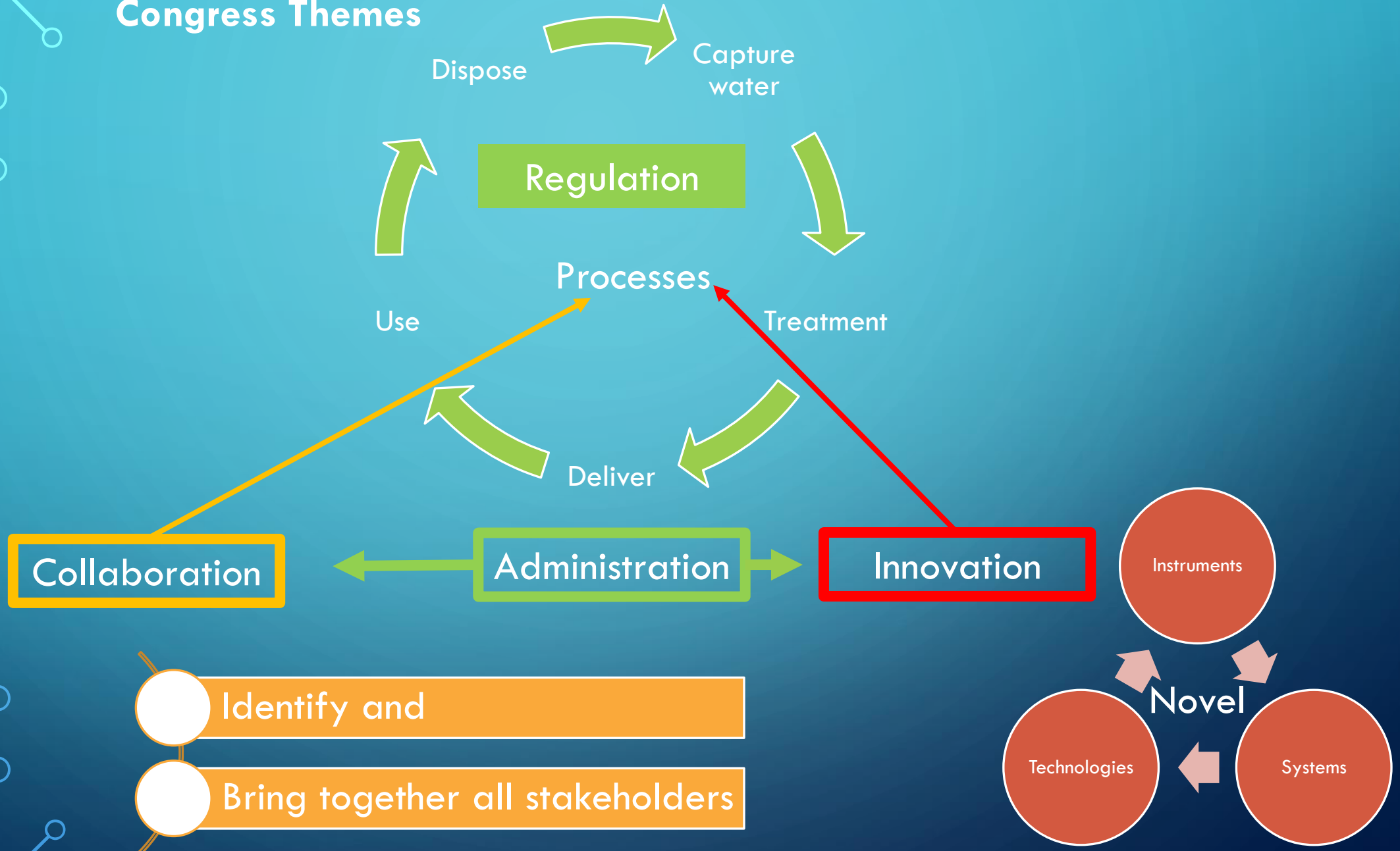
## Congress Call for Papers, Special sessions and Creative Proposals

For the purposes of Congress and its call for papers, by “ADMINISTRATION” we mean the different processes necessary to capture, process, deliver, use and dispose of freshwater on islands.

By “COLLABORATION” we refer to the need to identify and bring together all stakeholders involved in the processes of the administration of freshwater on islands.

And by “INNOVATION” we mean novel instruments, systems and technologies that improve freshwater administration.

# Congress Themes



Identify and

Bring together all stakeholders

## Congress Call for Papers, Special sessions and Creative Proposals

- Administration of freshwater on islands
- Collaboration in the Administration of Freshwater on Islands
- Innovation in the Administration of Freshwater on Islands

Themes	(1) <u>Administration of Freshwater on Islands</u>	(2) <u>Collaboration in the Administration of Freshwater on Islands</u>	(3) <u>Innovation in the Administration of Freshwater on Islands</u>
Sub-themes	(1a) concept of freshwater administration on islands	(2a) different actors who partake in the administration of freshwater on islands	(3a) innovation capable of enabling different actors to better engage in the freshwater administration processes (hard and soft innovation)
	<b>(1b) the role of regulation in the administration of freshwater islands</b>	(2b) need for such actors to collaborate in the administration of freshwater on islands	(3b) innovation that better captures the value of freshwater on islands

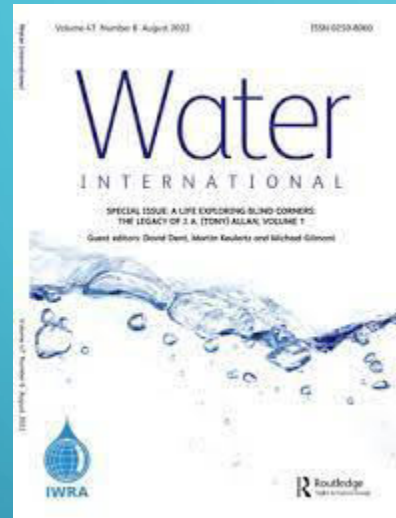


## Why would a non-islander come to an “Islands” Water Congress?

- Because Islands are prominent actors in international relations
- Because Islands are hubs of innovation
- Because coastal areas and in some countries rural areas share similar (but not identical) challenges and opportunities
- Because the Faroe Islands need to climate proof their water management and regulation (just like other non-island Nordic regions or other regions in the world who thought they were water rich all year round)



## Congress more traditional outputs



## When and where?

- 4-6 September 2024
- Torshavn



## ISC Chairs

- Francesco Sindico, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland (on secondment with Scottish Government until April 2024) – [Francesco.Sindico@strath.ac.uk](mailto:Francesco.Sindico@strath.ac.uk)
- Óluva R. Eidesgaard, Faroe Islands Geological Survey - [Oluva.Eidesgaard@jardfeingi.fo](mailto:Oluva.Eidesgaard@jardfeingi.fo)

