



REsilienT water gOvernance Under climate CHange within the WEF E NEXUS: Belgian case study



RETOUCH NEXUS

VITO – De Watergroep



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THE RETOUCH NEXUS PROJECT



CASE STUDY OVERVIEW

General topic: Making a stronger economic case for **collective, decentralized water systems** as a solution for water governance challenges in Belgium.

Setting the scene:

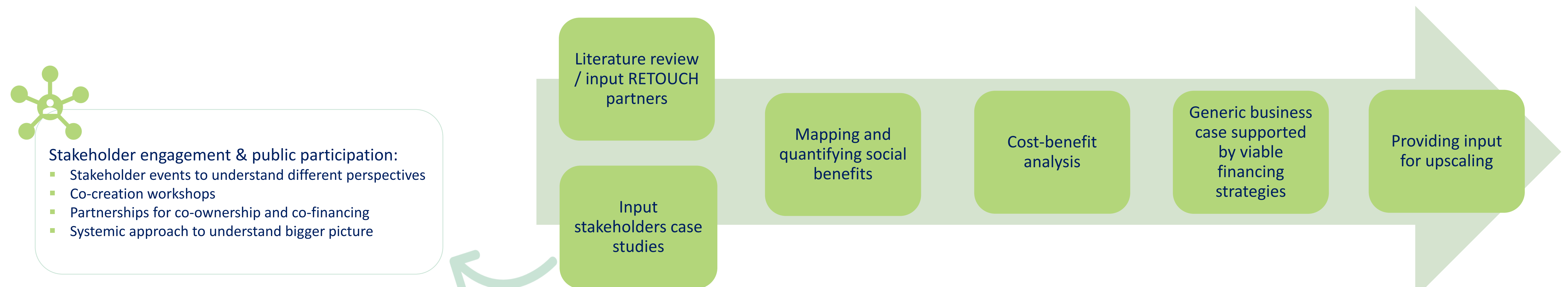
- Belgium is characterized by **high water stress** and a **high degree of urbanization and urban sprawl** → Collective, decentralized water systems can be part of the solution
- Leading water policies:
 - The Decree of Integrated Water Policy** (Flemish transposition of the European Water Framework Directive) must ensure that water resources and water quality are safeguarded, and that the impact of floods and droughts is minimized.
 - The **Blue Deal** program of the Flemish Government funds projects that work on structural solutions for water scarcity and drought in Flanders.
 - The **Rainwater Ordinance** imposes measures on constructors to prevent rainwater from being drained immediately.

Challenges:

- Valuing societal benefits** from collective, decentralized systems and integrating them in **robust business cases** is difficult.
- There are **no structural financing strategies** in place for these projects (currently highly dependent on subsidies).



METHODOLOGY AND EXPECTED RESULTS



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