

RestoreMAR – Letters of Support

HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03

A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection

List of supporting organisations

1. **Iași County Directorate for Agriculture (Direcția pentru Agricultură Județeană Iași)**
2. **GAL Colinele Iașilor (Colinele Iașilor Local Action Group)**
3. **Asociația Om Bun**
4. **ELYSATOR Engineering AG**
5. **GAL Colinele Recaș (Colinele Recaș Local Action Group)**
6. **Asociația de Dezvoltare Intercomunitară „Zurobara” a județului Timiș**
7. **Asociația Produs în Banat (Produs în Banat Association)**
8. **GAL Timișoara (Timișoara Local Action Group)**



DIRECȚIA PENTRU AGRICULTURĂ JUDEȚEANĂ IAȘI

B-dul Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt, nr.13, IAȘI, cod poștal – 700064

Tel. 0232/255957, 0232/255958, 0232/261080; Fax: 0232/211012, cod fiscal 37597618

E-mail: dadr.is@madr.ro; Site: www.dajiasi.ro

8305/31.08.2026

LETTER OF SUPPORT

To the RestoreMAR Consortium

On behalf of the **Iași County Directorate for Agriculture (Direcția pentru Agricultură Județeană Iași)**, I am pleased to express our support for the project proposal **RestoreMAR - A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection**, submitted under the Horizon Europe programme.

Water availability and groundwater quality are increasingly important concerns for agriculture, particularly in regions facing recurrent drought, changing precipitation patterns and growing pressure on water resources. Addressing these challenges requires not only technological innovation, but also close cooperation between researchers, public authorities, farmers and rural communities.

From this perspective, we consider the RestoreMAR initiative particularly relevant. The project proposes an integrated approach to managed aquifer recharge in rural and agricultural contexts, combining water-quality assessment and treatment, groundwater monitoring and decision-support tools with environmental and sustainability considerations. Its ambition to develop solutions that can be adapted to different local conditions is especially important for their future applicability in agricultural areas.

We also value RestoreMAR's multi-actor approach and the involvement of stakeholders throughout the project. Connecting scientific developments with the practical experience and needs of the agricultural sector can contribute to solutions that are both technically sound and responsive to real challenges faced at local and regional level.

The **Iași County Directorate for Agriculture** therefore supports the objectives of RestoreMAR and expresses its interest in the knowledge and results generated by the project. Where relevant and subject to institutional availability, we would be pleased to contribute to stakeholder dialogue, knowledge exchange and dissemination activities concerning sustainable water management, groundwater protection and climate resilience in agriculture.

We consider that the approaches and knowledge developed through RestoreMAR have the potential to support more resilient and sustainable management of water resources in rural and agricultural areas, and we wish the consortium every success in the development and implementation of the project.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Hoha

Director

Iași County Directorate for Agriculture

Direcția pentru Agricultură Județeană Iași

31.08.2026



MINISTERUL AGRICULTURII
ȘI DEZVOLTĂRII RURALE



ASOCIAȚIA GRUPUL DE ACȚIUNE LOCALĂ „COLINELE IAȘILOR”

(Local Action Group “Colinele Iașilor” Association)

Registered office: Ciurea Town Hall, 2nd Floor, Room 18, Ciurea village, Ciurea commune, Iași County, Romania

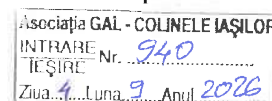
Territory covering rural communes in Iași and Neamț Counties

Phone: +40 232 269 018 · Email: secretariatgal@colineleiasilor.ro · www.colineleiasilor.ro

Ref. No.: 940

Date: 4 September 2026

LETTER OF SUPPORT



To whom it may concern,

Local Action Group (GAL) Colinele Iașilor expresses its support for the Horizon Europe proposal “RestoreMAR – A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection”, submitted under the HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03 topic.

RestoreMAR aims to develop an integrated framework for the safe and sustainable use of Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) technologies, with an emphasis on protecting groundwater quality and increasing the resilience of rural and agricultural areas to drought and climate change. The project integrates solutions for characterising water sources and aquifers, treating water prior to recharge where needed, monitoring water quality, modelling processes, and decision-support tools, and it will validate this integrated approach in three real-world demonstration contexts in Italy, Slovenia and Uzbekistan, with a view to assessing its sustainability, transferability and replication potential.

GAL Colinele Iașilor considers the project’s multi-actor approach — and its intention to involve farmers, rural communities, local organisations and public authorities in the development, validation and replication of Managed Aquifer Recharge solutions — to be particularly valuable. The project’s emphasis on stakeholder engagement, local needs, environmental protection and practical transferability is highly relevant for rural development.

We also note that RestoreMAR is coordinated by the West University of Timișoara, with the National Institute for Research and Development in Technical Physics – IFT Iași leading the scientific and technical coordination of the development, integration and validation of the proposed technologies, within a consortium of 14 organisations from 9 countries (Romania, Italy, Germany, Norway, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Slovenia, the Czech Republic and Uzbekistan). The involvement of a leading Iași-based research institute in this role further reinforces the relevance of the project for our region.

GAL Colinele Iașilor is a LEADER Local Action Group operating across rural communes in Iași and Neamț Counties, with an established network of relationships among local farmers, rural communities and public authorities across its territory, built through the implementation of its Local Development Strategy.

Subject to the project being funded and according to its institutional capacity, GAL Colinele Iașilor is willing, where appropriate, to support dialogue with relevant local stakeholders, to contribute to the exchange of information on rural and agricultural needs, and to participate in consultation and dissemination activities related to the project.

We therefore support the RestoreMAR proposal and recognise its potential contribution to climate-resilient water management, groundwater protection and sustainable rural development.

Sincerely,

For GAL Colinele Iașilor

Name: BASU IULIAN

Position: Manager

Date: 04.09.2026

Signature:

Stamp:



LETTER OF SUPPORT

To the RestoreMAR Consortium

On behalf of **Asociația Om Bun**, a Romanian non-governmental organisation (NGO), we are pleased to express our support for the project proposal **RestoreMAR - A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection**, submitted under the Horizon Europe programme.

We recognise the importance of the challenges addressed by RestoreMAR, particularly the sustainable management and protection of groundwater resources, water quality, climate resilience and the development of innovative solutions supporting rural and agricultural communities.

As an organisation actively involved in educational and community-oriented initiatives, including activities addressing young people and rural communities, Asociația Om Bun considers that raising awareness, improving environmental literacy and facilitating dialogue between researchers and local communities are essential for the successful uptake of sustainable water-management solutions.

In this context, we express our interest in supporting the dissemination and stakeholder-engagement activities of RestoreMAR, where relevant, through participation in and promotion of educational and awareness-raising activities, workshops, webinars, public events and other initiatives aimed at communicating the project objectives and results to non-specialist audiences.

We particularly welcome the project's multi-actor approach and its ambition to connect scientific and technological innovation with the needs and perspectives of rural communities and other relevant stakeholders.

We believe that RestoreMAR can make an important contribution to climate-resilient water management and groundwater protection and are pleased to support its objectives and its efforts to strengthen dialogue between research, education and society.

Sincerely,

Ioana Briaur
Legal Representative
Asociația Om Bun
30.08.2026

Company / Institute

Attn:

Street / number

Postal Code / City

Country

Bilten, 31. August 2026

Letter of Interest and Support for **RestoreMAR Project** within the Europe Research and Innovation Action **HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03**

To whom it may concern

Introduction of ELYSATOR Engineering AG:

The company ELYSATOR Engineering AG, headquartered in Bilten GL, Switzerland is a Swiss pioneer in the field of water technology. Nearly 60 years ago, the company began using electrochemical treatment of heating water to prevent corrosion in piping systems. In recent decades, the company has expanded its focus to include the treatment of cooling water and process water using filter systems, filter materials like ion exchange resins and activated carbon and membranes.

Measurement sensors for continuous/permanent water monitoring are integrated into many of our products and system components. Our expertise also extends to water analysis and based on this, providing expert consulting to our customers. As a result, Aquitest AG, a spin-off company, was founded 15 years ago and is now one of the largest water laboratories in the field of industrial water. Elysator Engineering AG conducts its research, development, consulting, and production activities at its headquarters in Switzerland. In addition, Elysator Engineering AG is represented in several European countries through its own subsidiaries or affiliates - such as in Germany, France, and Croatia - or through distribution partners. Its products are used internationally in approximately 20 countries.

Two years ago, in 2024 we introduced the AQUA RONDA®, a mobile trailer for the post-treatment of circulating water.

Relation ELYSATOR Engineering AG and ZHAW:

For many years, ELYSATOR Engineering AG and the Center for Functional Materials and Nanotechnology at ZHAW have maintained a close collaboration in the field of filtration and adsorption. In particular, many research projects and student theses - including bachelor's theses - have been carried out jointly with Dr. Jürgen Ebert of the Filtration Technology Research Group.

During a meeting, Mr. Ebert presented the RestoreMAR Project within the European Research and Innovation Action HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03 to us, along with a request for ELYSATOR Engineering AG to participate as an “Associated Partner” in this project. According to the information provided, this is an RIA project with the goal of “developing managed aquifer recharge (MAR) techniques in a rural context.” One of the consortium’s planned work packages involves a real-field demonstration: moving beyond modeling to test MAR systems on actual agricultural land with real variations in weather, soil, and water supply across at least two distinct pedoclimatic zones.

Mr. Ebert proposed our product, AQUA RONDA, as the basis or starting point for the development of the RestoreMAR demonstrator.

The project immediately attracted our interest, as we see the potential of AQUA RONDA and new business areas as well as market opportunities for our company. Due to recent acquisitions and the associated internal restructuring, our personnel resources are unfortunately very limited at the moment. Nevertheless, we would like to support the project to the best of our ability by drawing on our specialized expertise through ZHAW.

Description of AQUA RONDA:

The AQUA RONDA system is a mobile, modular water treatment system comprising various pre-filters, filter tanks (for filling with adsorbents), membrane filters and integrated sensors, as well as a connection to a cloud-based system. **At present**, this system is used solely for the treatment of process water since this is the focus/core market of our activities.

The AQUA RONDA is highly mobile (complete equipment mounted on a trailer) and could therefore be deployed flexibly in various locations. The individual components are arranged in a modular configuration (currently comprising various pre-filters, four tanks with ion exchangers, membrane filters, etc.). The tanks could each be filled with application-specific adsorbents (e.g. LDH/clay, natural materials, waste derived materials, specific activated carbons, waste-derived materials, ‘new materials’, etc.). The system can be expanded depending on the application or the volumes required.

Individual analysis parameters are already being recorded online and transmitted via a cloud-based system. Here, too, there is a baseline configuration that could subsequently be supplemented with additional sensors within the RestoreMAR project.

According our opinion AQUA RONDA has the potential relevance as the starting point for an engineering reference/a technological platform for the mobile and modular RestoreMAR treatment demonstrator within the project.

Summary:

Elysator Engineering AG is interested in the RestoreMAR project and confirms their willingness to provide industrial/technical feedback through its existing collaboration with ZHAW (for example regarding modularity, operability, scalability, and potential practical uptake).

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best regards
ELYSATOR Engineering AG

Rolf Frei
Managing Director

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Horizon Europe proposal - RestoreMAR - A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of GAL Colinele Recaș (Colinele Recaș Local Action Group), we are pleased to express our support for the RestoreMAR - A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection, submitted under the ***HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03*** topic proposal.

The sustainable management of water resources is becoming increasingly important for rural communities and agricultural areas, particularly in the context of climate change, increasing pressure on water availability and the need to protect water quality. We therefore consider the objectives addressed by RestoreMAR to be both timely and relevant.

RestoreMAR proposes an integrated approach combining water treatment and regeneration, monitoring and sensing technologies, digital tools and sustainability assessment. Of particular interest to us is the project's intention to validate these approaches under different environmental and socio-economic conditions and to assess their potential for subsequent transfer and replication.

This dimension is particularly relevant to the territory represented by GAL Colinele Recaș, which includes communities with a strong agricultural profile and the well-established viticultural area of Recaș. In such territories, the long-term availability and quality of water resources are closely connected to agricultural resilience, environmental protection and sustainable rural development.

We also welcome the inclusion within RestoreMAR of an agricultural and viticultural context, supported by the expertise of the Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA), as this may generate knowledge and solutions of potential relevance to comparable agricultural areas in Romania.

Should RestoreMAR be funded, GAL Colinele Recaș would be interested in following the project's development and results and, where relevant, participating in dialogue, dissemination and knowledge-exchange activities. We would particularly welcome the opportunity to explore the potential relevance and transferability of the approaches developed by RestoreMAR to rural and agricultural communities in our territory.

We therefore support the RestoreMAR proposal and its ambition to contribute to more sustainable and resilient water management in European rural and agricultural areas.

Sincerely,

Cătălin TIUCH
President
LAG Colinele Recaș

Date: 16.09.2026

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Horizon Europe proposal - RestoreMAR - A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of Asociația de Dezvoltare Intercomunitară „Zurobara” a județului Timiș (“Zurobara” Intercommunity Development Association of Timiș County), we are pleased to express our support for the RestoreMAR - A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection, submitted under the ***HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03*** topic proposal.

The sustainable management of water resources is becoming increasingly important for rural communities and local authorities, particularly in the context of climate change, increasing pressure on water availability and the need to protect water quality. We therefore consider the objectives addressed by RestoreMAR to be both timely and relevant.

RestoreMAR proposes an integrated approach combining water treatment and regeneration, monitoring and sensing technologies, digital tools and sustainability assessment. Of particular interest to us is the project’s intention to validate these approaches under different environmental and socio-economic conditions and to assess their potential for subsequent transfer and replication.

This dimension is particularly relevant to our association, which brings together local authorities cooperating on the development of their territory. Groundwater represents a principal source of drinking water for many rural localities, while local authorities carry direct responsibilities for local infrastructure, public services and climate adaptation planning. The long-term availability and quality of water resources are therefore closely connected to environmental protection and sustainable rural development in our member communities.

We also welcome the inclusion within RestoreMAR of an agricultural and viticultural context, supported by the expertise of the Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA), as this may generate knowledge and solutions of potential relevance to comparable agricultural areas in Romania.

Should RestoreMAR be funded, our association would be interested in following the project’s development and results and, where relevant, participating in dialogue, dissemination and knowledge-exchange activities. We would particularly welcome the opportunity to make the approaches developed by RestoreMAR known to our member local authorities and to explore their potential relevance and transferability to the communities within our territory.

We therefore support the RestoreMAR proposal and its ambition to contribute to more sustainable and resilient water management in European rural and agricultural areas.

Sincerely,

Cătălin TIUCH

Director

Asociația de Dezvoltare Intercomunitară „Zurobara” a județului Timiș

Date: 16.09.2026

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Horizon Europe proposal - RestoreMAR - A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of Asociația Produs în Banat (Produs în Banat Association), we are pleased to express our support for the RestoreMAR - A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection, submitted under the ***HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03*** topic proposal.

The sustainable management of water resources is becoming increasingly important for local producers and agri-food value chains, particularly in the context of climate change, increasing pressure on water availability and the need to protect water quality. We therefore consider the objectives addressed by RestoreMAR to be both timely and relevant.

RestoreMAR proposes an integrated approach combining water treatment and regeneration, monitoring and sensing technologies, digital tools and sustainability assessment. Of particular interest to us is the project's intention to validate these approaches under different environmental and socio-economic conditions and to assess their potential for subsequent transfer and replication.

This dimension is particularly relevant to our activity, as Asociația Produs în Banat brings together local producers, small-scale farmers and craftspeople from the Banat region under a territorial brand. For these producers, the long-term availability and quality of water resources directly affect production capacity, the quality of local food products and, ultimately, the credibility of the territorial brand itself.

We also welcome the inclusion within RestoreMAR of an agricultural and viticultural context, supported by the expertise of the Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA), as this may generate knowledge and solutions of potential relevance to comparable agricultural areas in Romania.

Should RestoreMAR be funded, Asociația Produs în Banat would be interested in following the project's development and results and, where relevant, participating in dialogue, dissemination and knowledge-exchange activities. We would particularly welcome the opportunity to disseminate the approaches developed by RestoreMAR among the producers within our network and to explore their practical relevance for small-scale agricultural production in the Banat region.

We therefore support the RestoreMAR proposal and its ambition to contribute to more sustainable and resilient water management in European rural and agricultural areas.

Sincerely,

Cătălina ARDELEAN
President
Produs în Banat Association

Date: 16.09.2026

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Horizon Europe proposal - RestoreMAR - A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of GAL Timișoara (Timișoara Local Action Group), we are pleased to express our support for the RestoreMAR - A Framework for Climate-Resilient Managed Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Protection, submitted under the ***HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-03*** topic proposal.

The sustainable management of water resources is becoming increasingly important for urban communities, particularly in the context of climate change, increasing pressure on water availability and the need to protect water quality. We therefore consider the objectives addressed by RestoreMAR to be both timely and relevant.

RestoreMAR proposes an integrated approach combining water treatment and regeneration, monitoring and sensing technologies, digital tools and sustainability assessment. Of particular interest to us is the project's intention to validate these approaches under different environmental and socio-economic conditions and to assess their potential for subsequent transfer and replication.

This dimension is particularly relevant to the territory represented by GAL Timișoara, an urban area where soil sealing, reduced natural infiltration and recurrent drought periods place growing pressure on local water resources. In such territories, the long-term availability and quality of water are closely connected to climate adaptation, environmental protection and the quality of life of urban communities, including disadvantaged ones.

We also welcome the intention of RestoreMAR to test its approaches across a range of territorial contexts, supported by the expertise of the Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA), as this may generate knowledge and solutions of potential relevance to urban and peri-urban areas in Romania facing comparable water-related challenges.

Should RestoreMAR be funded, GAL Timișoara would be interested in following the project's development and results and, where relevant, participating in dialogue, dissemination and knowledge-exchange activities. We would particularly welcome the opportunity to explore the potential relevance and transferability of the approaches developed by RestoreMAR to the urban communities in our territory.

We therefore support the RestoreMAR proposal and its ambition to contribute to more sustainable and resilient water management in European territories.

Sincerely,

Cătălin TIUCH
President
LAG Timișoara
Date: 16.09.2026