



*Protecting the aquatic environment from urban runoff pollution*

*Project Overview*

**Tone M. Muthanna (NTNU)**

# RELEVANCE OF THE TOPIC

POLLUTED STORMWATER RUNOFF: A GROWING THREAT (Chesapeake Bay Foundation) [3]



**Road runoff pollution damages London's rivers, study finds**

(The Guardian) [1]

**Urban water pollution is a major threat to groundwater and freshwater ecosystems**

(IGB Berlin) [2]



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 101060428.

# RELEVANCE OF THE TOPIC

## Urban runoff...

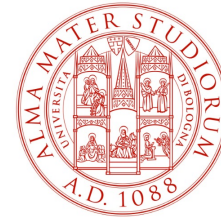
- ... is increasing due to growing populations and subsequent urbanization
- ... is a significant pathway for pollution to contaminate aquatic ecosystems
- ... is, if it is not treated, releasing million tons of toxic, non-biodegradable and emerging contaminants to the environment
- ... pollution is not systematically measured, their toxicity effects are ill-defined and potentially underestimated

## Sustainable strategies needed to treat urban runoff:

- Make urban runoff storage and treatment processes more common
- Especially urgent for densely populated cities where natural landscapes are insufficiently available to process, infiltrate and treat urban runoff
- More research needed



# PROJECT PARTNERS



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITA DI BOLOGNA



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation program under grant agreement No 101060428.



# PROJECT DATA SHEET

## *Protecting the aquatic environment from urban runoff pollution „StopUP“*

Funding: European Union  
Project partners: 11   
Funding period: 36 months  
Project start: Scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2022  
Project coordination: RWTH (Content organization: ISA; Administration: Department 4.2)  
Work packages: 6  
Funding volume: 3,766,439.50 €

No.	Name of Organization	Acronym	Type	Country
1	Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen	RWTH	University	DE
2	Aquafin NV	AQF	Water Supply	BE
3	Norwegian University of Science and Technology	NTNU	University	NO
4	ATD Ingenieurgesellschaft für Abwasserwirtschaft und technische Dienstleistungen mbH	ATD	SME	DE
5	University of Bologna	UNIBO	University	IT
6	FLUVES NV	FLUVES	SME	BE
7	HR Wallingford Ltd	HRW	Consulting	GB
8	TAUW BV	TAUW	Industry	NL
9	Affiliated Entity: Aqua Aurora BV	AA	SME	NL
10	Associated Partner: Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz	FHNW	University	CH
11	Institut Supérieur des Sciences Biologiques Appliquées de Tunis	ISSBAT	University	TN



# USE CASES

- **Aachen (DE):** Retention soil filters in urban catchments
- **Bologna (IT):** Sewer of Bologna and pilot plant installed at the Bologna WWTP CSO
- **Birsfelden (CH):** Use of rain radar and adaptive WWTP operation to minimize CSO spills in the Birs catchment



- **Berchem & Wetteren (BE):** Treatment of high traffic roads and residential areas in the Antwerp region/ Shopping area runoff characterisation and treatment
- **Trondheim (NO):** Nature-based solution retrofit in an urban catchment
- **Tunis (TN):** Characterisation and treatment using improved constructed wetlands of stormwater runoff/sewage overflow

# Revised Urban Waste Water Directive

	2025	2030	2035	2040
Storm water overflows & urban runoff	Monitoring in place	Integrated plans for agglo. >100k p.e. & risk areas identified	Integrated plans in place for agglo. at risk between 10 and 100k p.e.	Indicative EU target for all agglo. > 10,000 p.e.
Nitrogen & Phosphorus	Identify areas at risk (agglomerations of 10-100k p.e.)	Interim target for removal at facilities >100 p.e. & new standards	Removal in all facilities >100k p.e. & interim target for areas at risk	Removal in place in all areas at risk (between 10 and 100k p.e.)
Micro-pollutants	Set up of extended producer responsibility schemes	Areas at risk identified (10 to 100 k p.e.) & interim target for facilities > 100k p.e.	All facilities >100k p.e. equipped & interim targets for areas at risk	All facilities at risk equipped with advanced treatment
Individual appropriate systems (IAS)	Regular inspection in all member states (MS) & Reporting MS with high IAS	EU standards for IAS		
Small-scale agglomerations	New threshold of 1000 p.e.	All agglo. > 1000 p.e. compliant		
Energy	Energy audits for facilities >100k p.e.	Audits for all facilities >10k p.e., Interim target	Interim target for energy neutrality	Energy neutrality met and related GHG reduction met



# PROJECT GOALS IN TERMS OF RESEARCH FUNDING

*Project's pertinence to the scope:*

- „**good quality of freshwater**“
- „urban stormwater runoff **pollution** [...] climate change affecting frequency and intensity of precipitation“
- „additional knowledge is needed on **sources and transport pathways** of diffuse pollution“
- „urban runoff water quality **management plans**“
- „develop innovative and integrated **concepts and technologies** for urban drainage systems“
- „seek compomenetarities and synergies“ (**Water Quality Interception Tool**)



*Innovations and outputs:*

- #1: Novel alarming protocol for continuous monitoring of water quality (TRL 3 → TRL 5)
- #2: Adsorption + sieve filtration to retain pollution from CSO spills (TRL 3 → TRL 5)
- #3: RSFcompact technology for CSO treatment (TRL 3 → TRL 5)
- #4: Smart real-time control loop for the sewer-WWTP interface (TRL 4 → TRL 5/6)
- #5: Urban Rainshell – Nature based solution for stormwater treatment (TRL 3 → TRL 5)
- #6: Web-based tool ‘Water quality Interception’ (TRL 3 → TRL 5)
- #7: Decision Support Method for Infiltration and Treatment Technologies (TRL 3 → TRL 5)





# Urban Runoff Water Quality Management Plans



## MAIN HYPOTHESIS AND CONTEXT



### **Revision of the European Wastewater Treatment Directive**

- Wastewater management plan to be developed (including runoff pollution),
- Measures to be taken to limit urban runoff pollution.

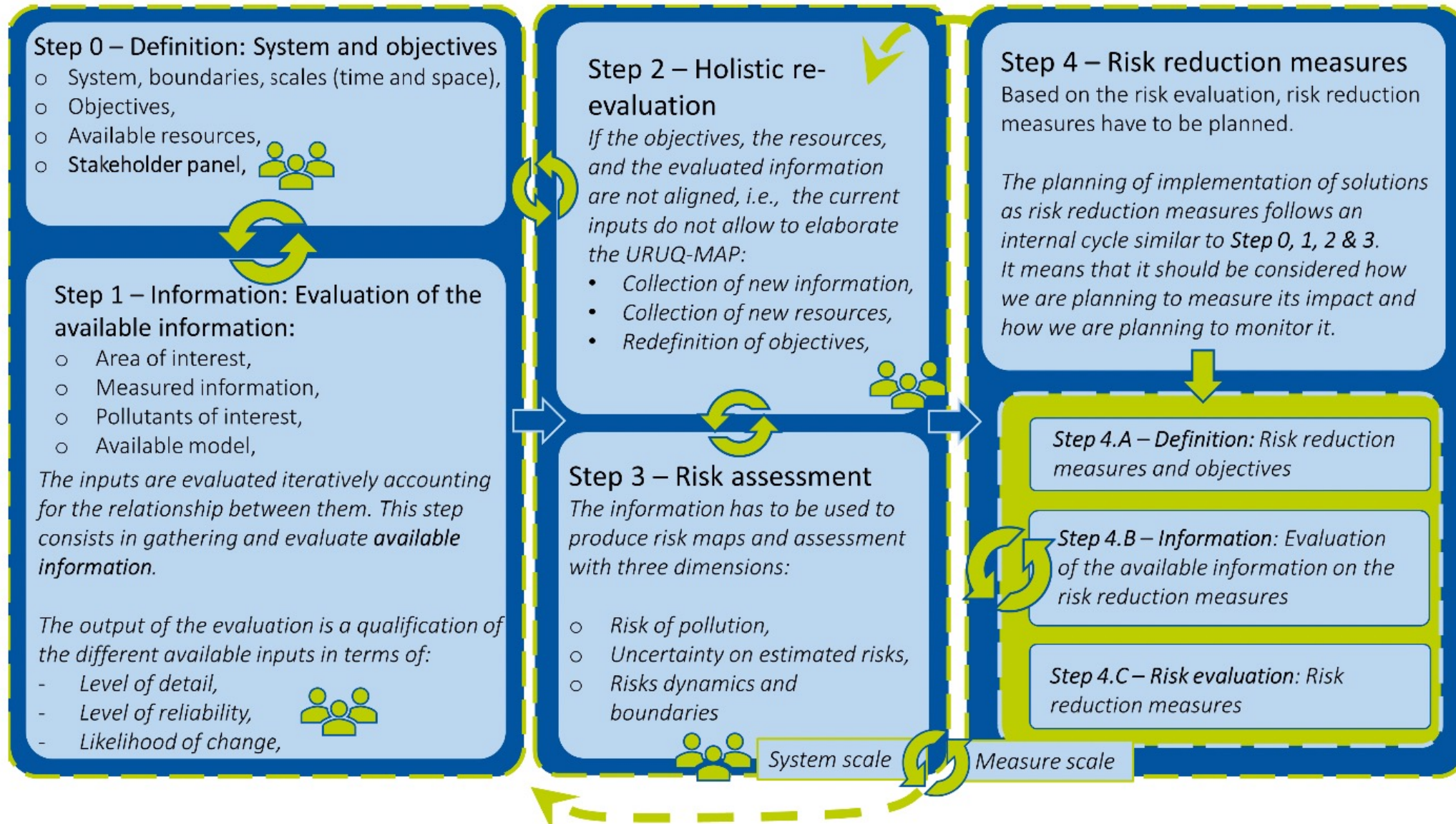
### **ISO 31000:2018 – Risk management – Guidelines:**

- The URUQ-MAP is aligned with the ISO and emphasis on the principles of *Dynamic*, *Best available information*, and *Continual improvement*,
- The ISO is the reference regarding the points not defined in the current deliverable,
- Following the principle of continual improvement of the ISO, the URUQ-MAP is to be updated based on feedback from application in the different case studies.

### **Pollution and risk:**

- Pollution risk is dynamic,
- Likelihood and consequence of pollution risk events are hard to quantify and subject to large uncertainties,
- The URUQ-MAP should be adaptable and explicitly account for uncertainties.

# Urban Runoff Water Quality Management Plans - Draft

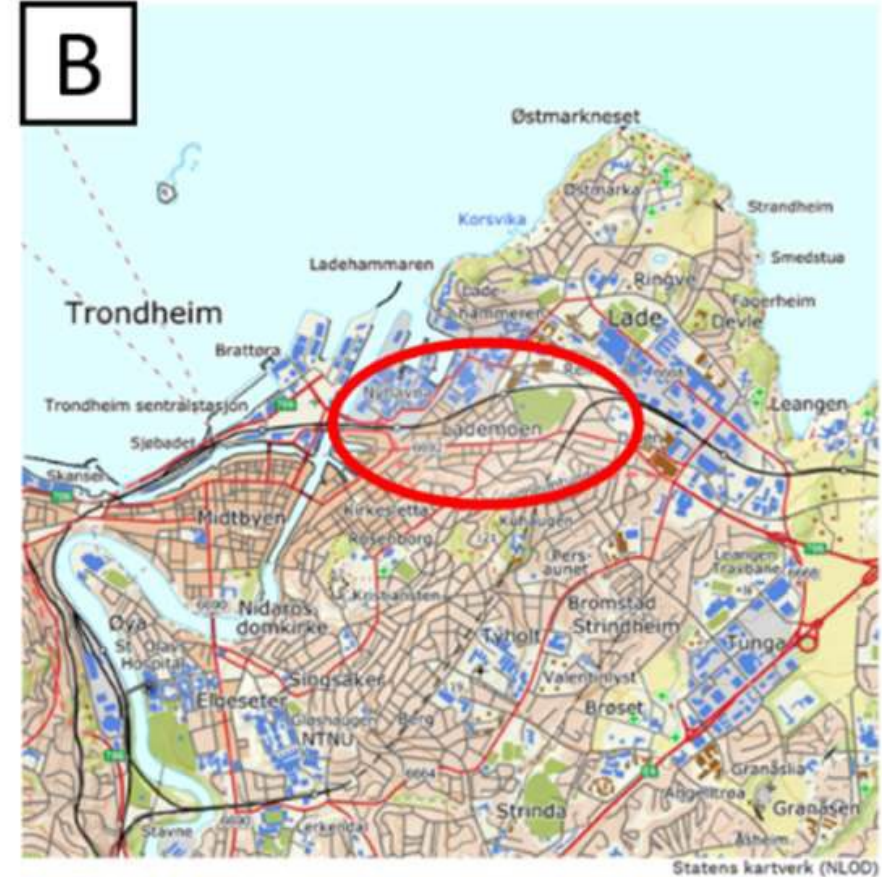




# CS #5: Nature-based solutions retrofit in an urban catchment



# Lademoen catchment





# Lademoen

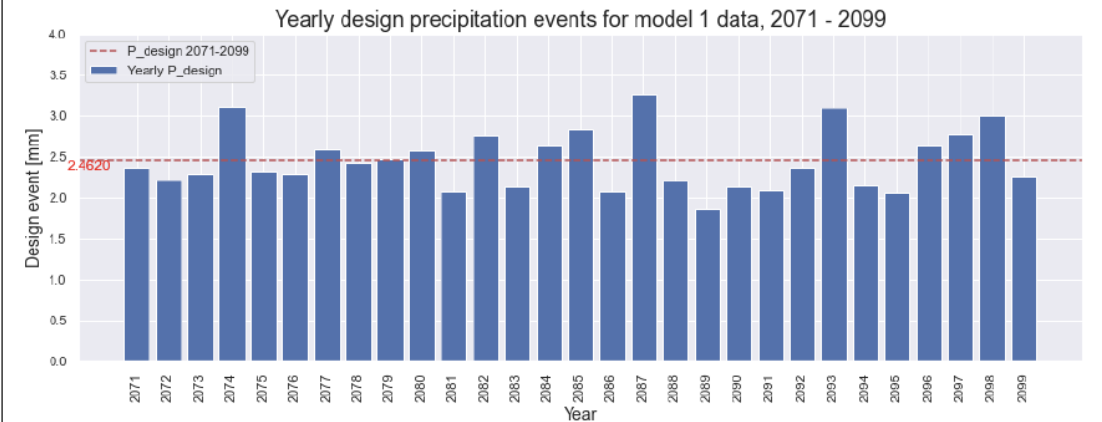
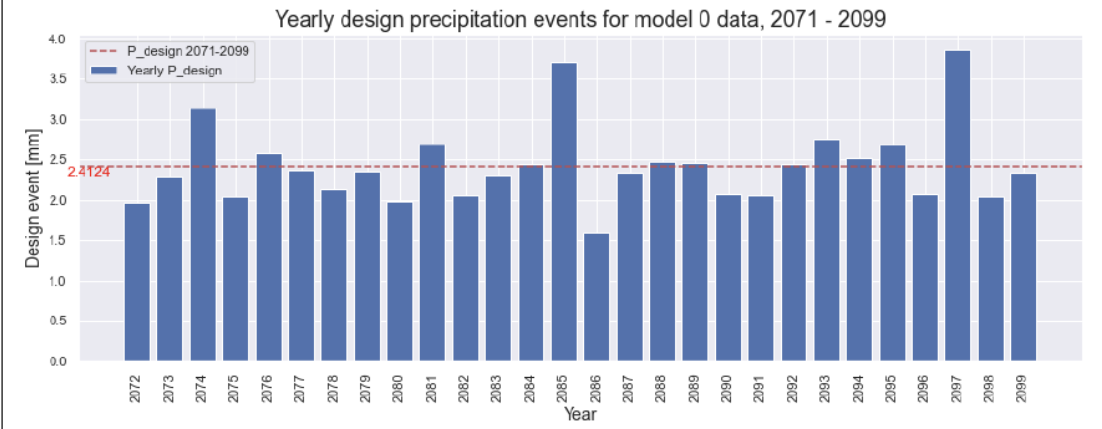
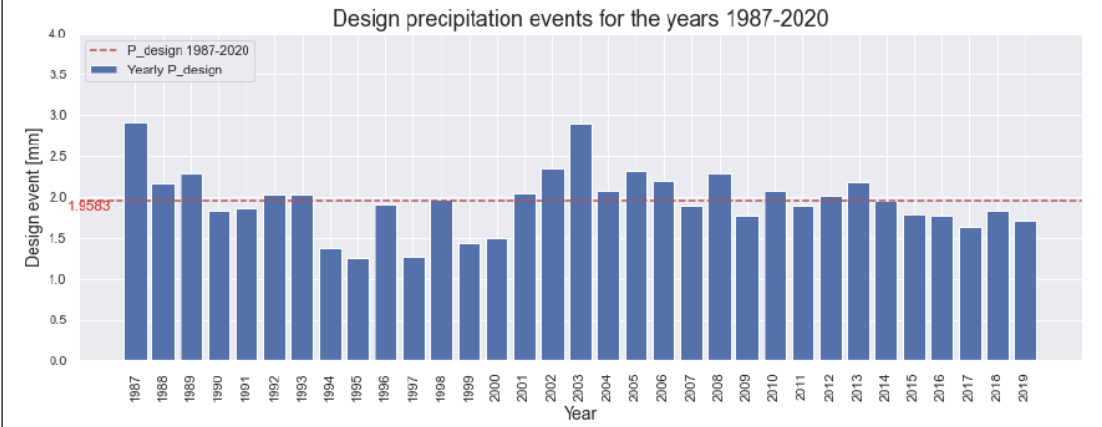


- Dense urban
- Climate change
- Aging infrastructure
- Point and non-point source of pollution



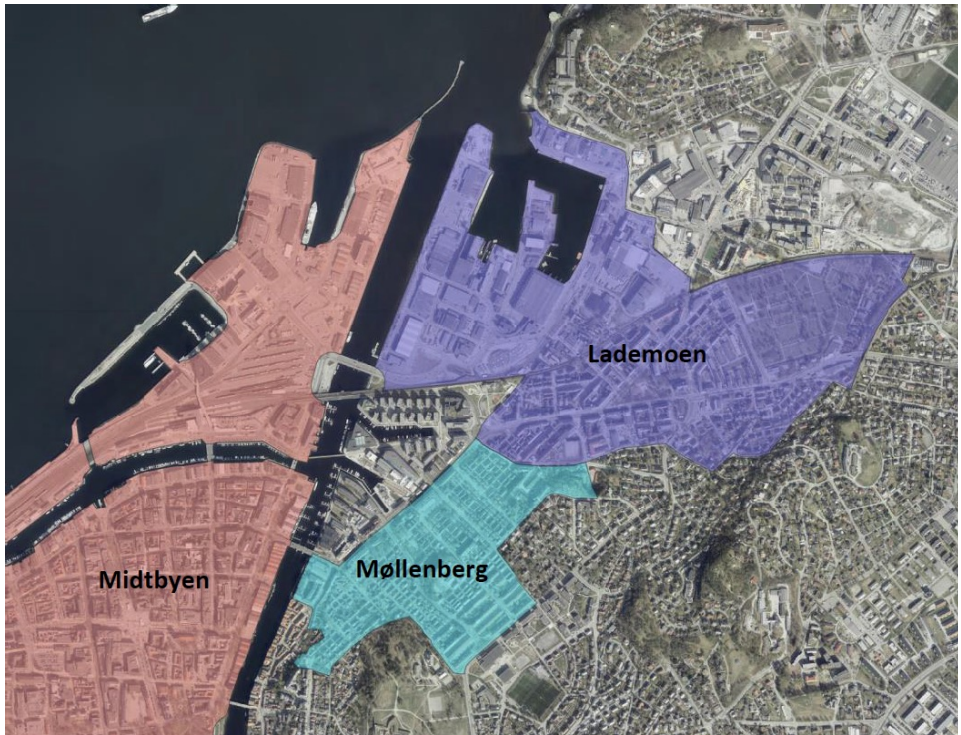


# Lademoen





# Lademoen

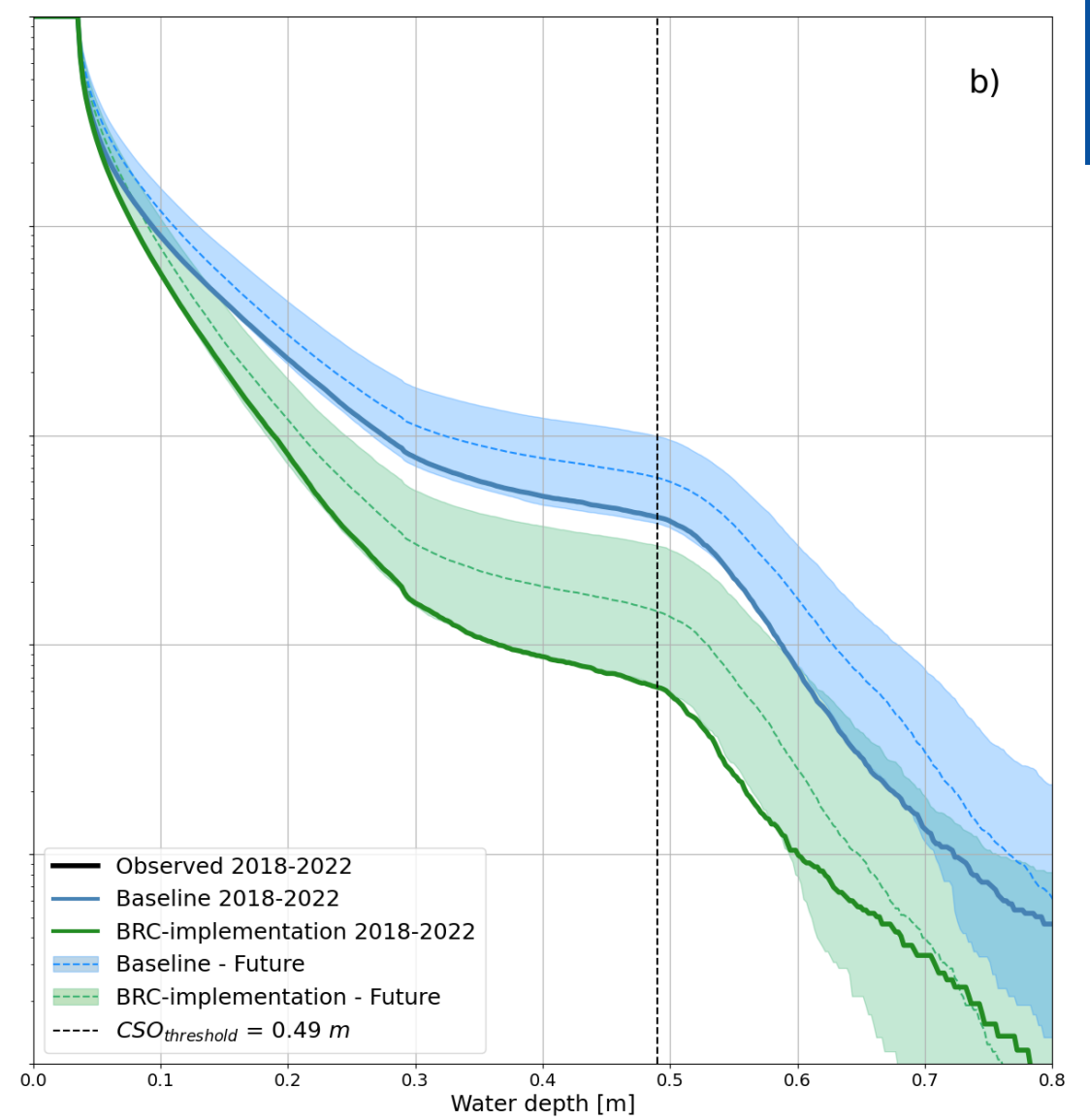
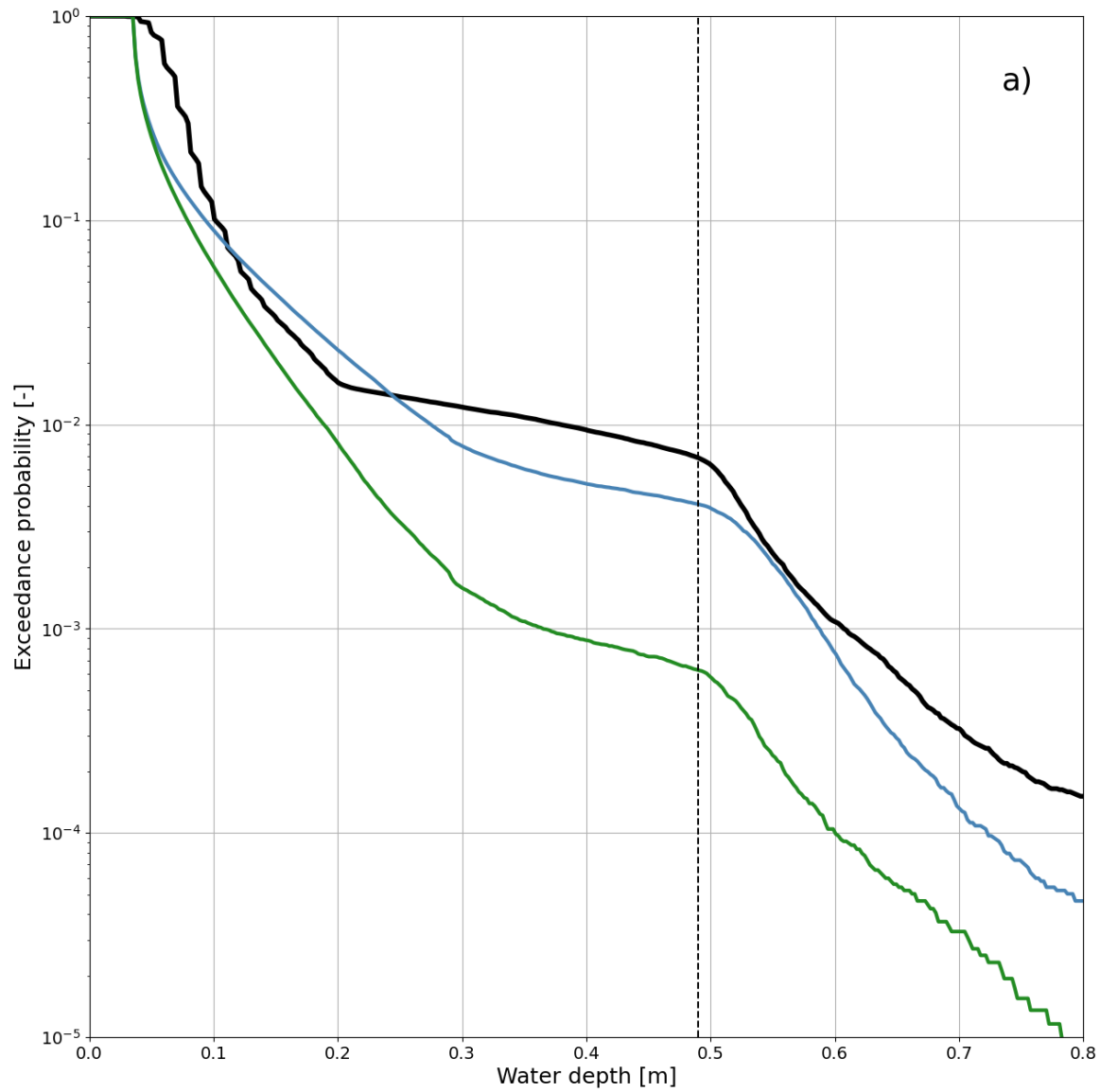


# Available area for SUDS

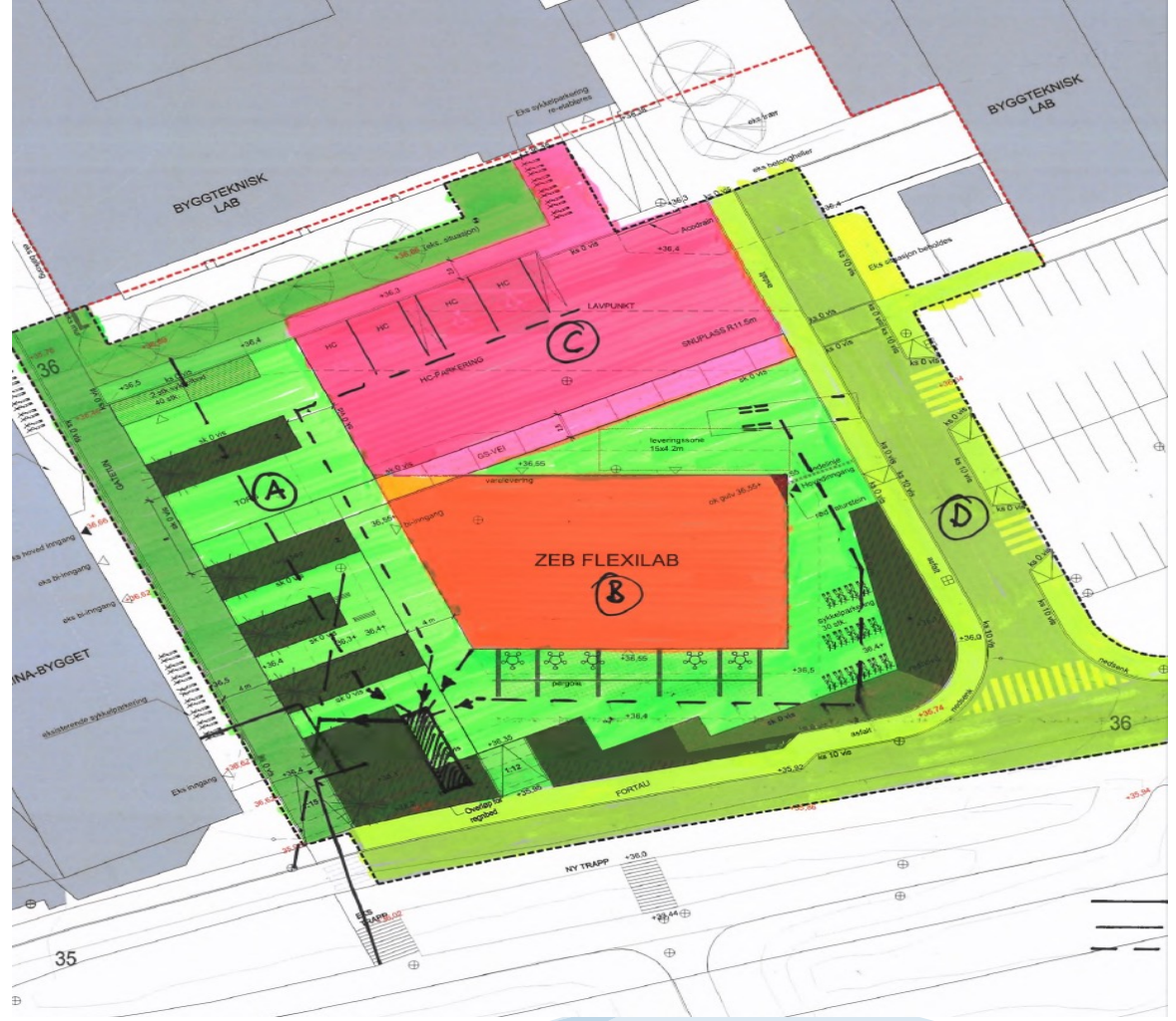
Land use type	Area [m <sup>2</sup> ]	% of total area
Total area of project site	189978	-
Roofs (projected area)	52192	27.5%
Roads and sidewalks	49880	26.3%
Unavailable area in Lademoen Park	11347	6.0%
Marked parking	5033	2.6%
Total unavailable area	118453	62.4%
Total available area for retrofit	71525	37.6%

Data	Name	P <sub>design</sub> [mm/hr]	Roof area (A <sub>drain</sub> ) [m <sup>2</sup> ]	Area of Rain Garden surface	% of the available area
Historical, measured 1987 - 2020	P <sub>d,historical</sub>	1.9	52192	831	4.74%
Future, model 0, 2071 - 2099	P <sub>d,m0</sub>	2.4	52192	1024	5.84%
Future, model 1, 2071 - 2099	P <sub>d,m1</sub>	2.5	52192	1045	5.96%



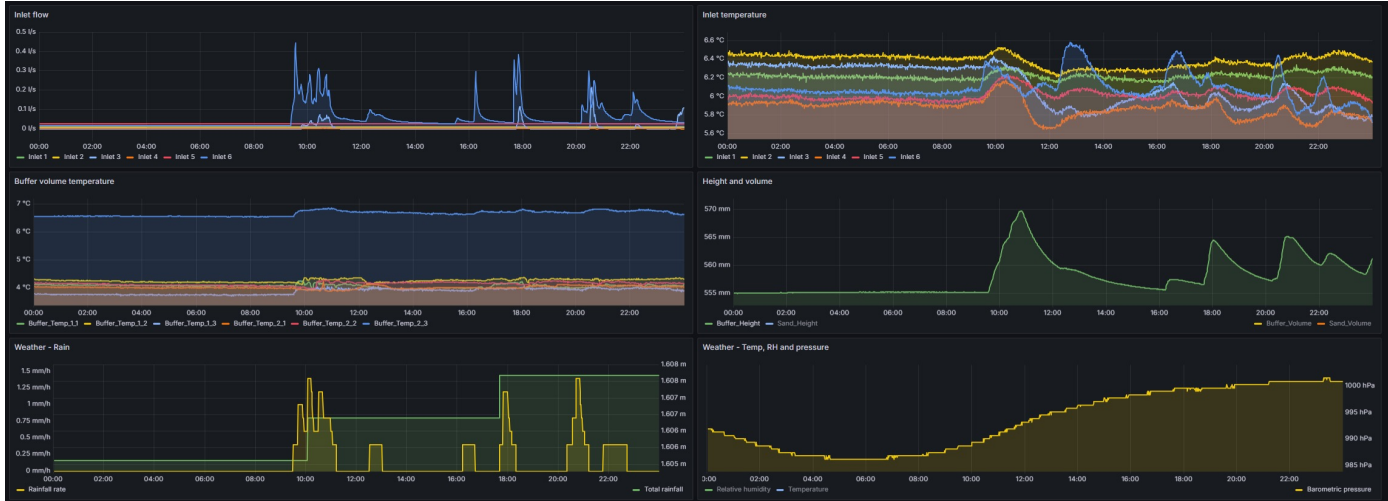
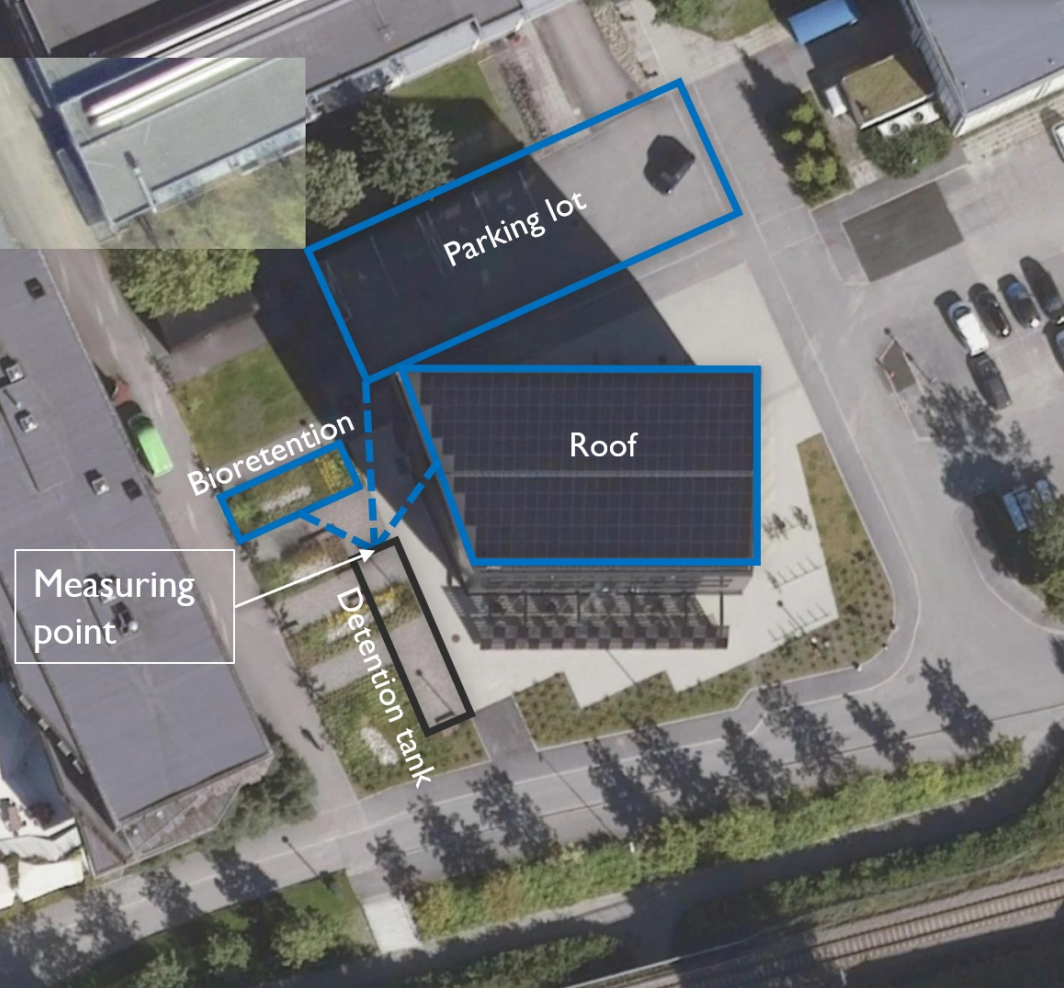


# ZEB lab Pilot

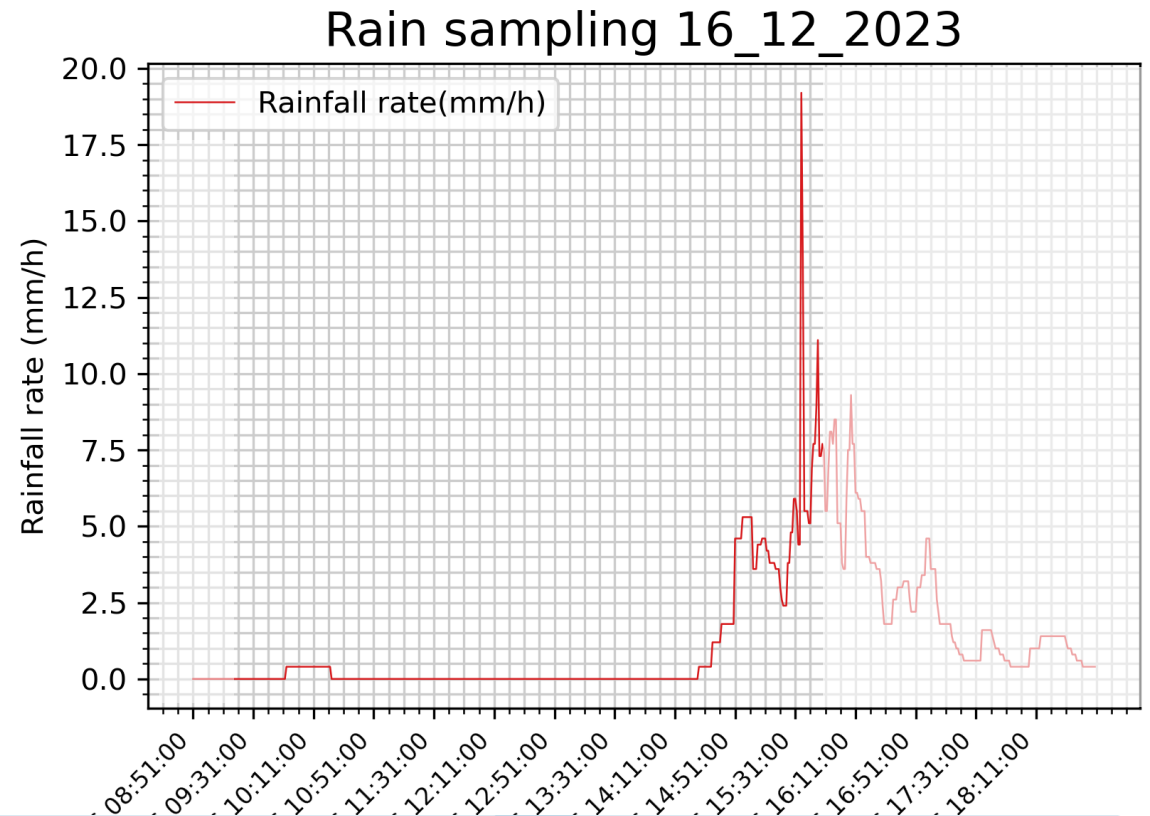
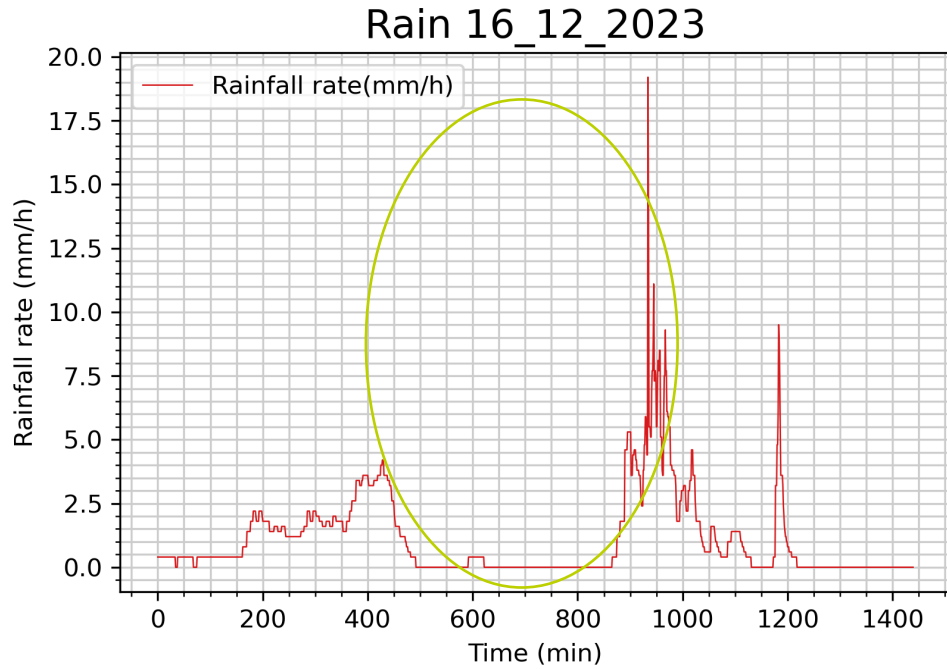




# ZEB lab Pilot

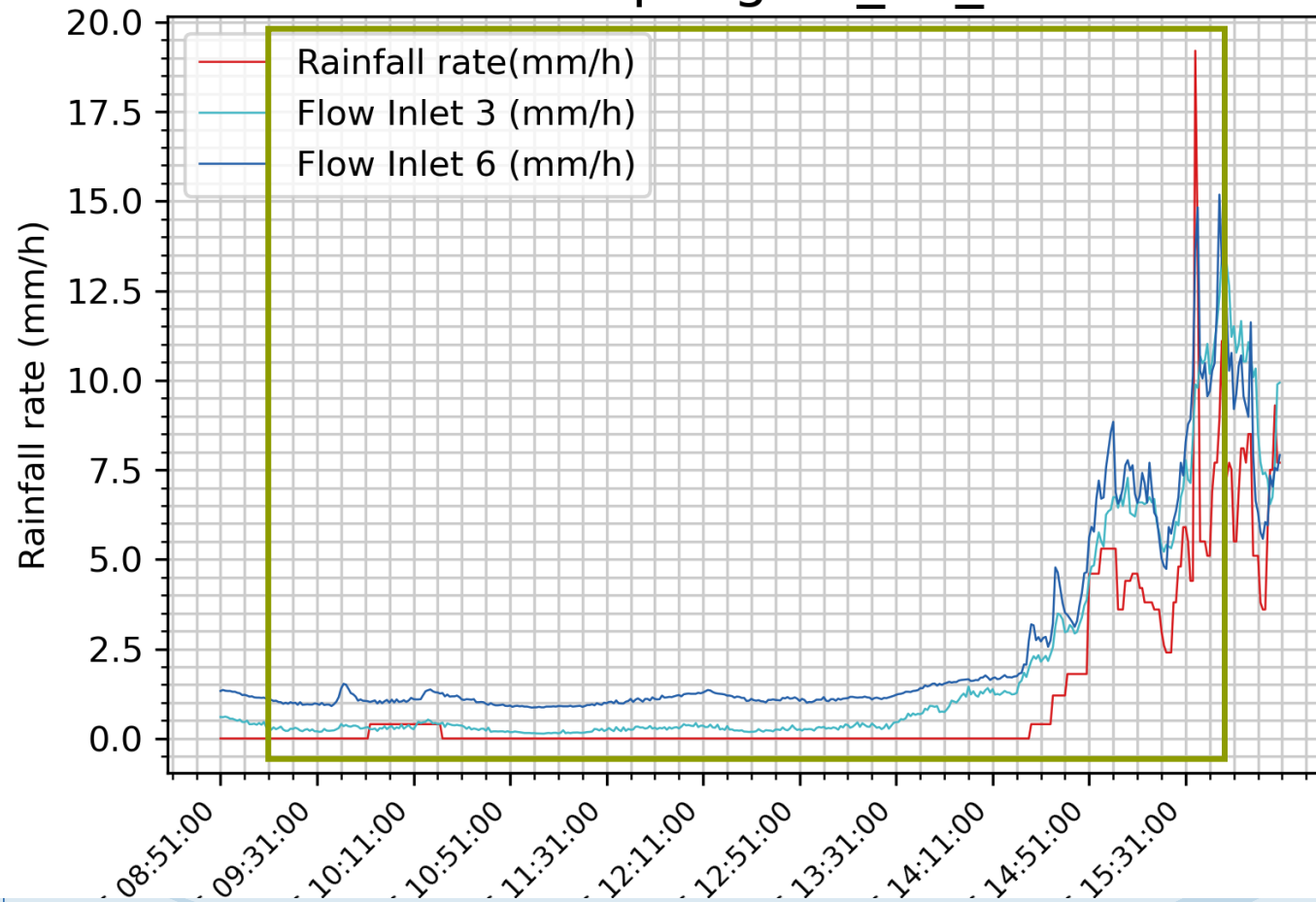


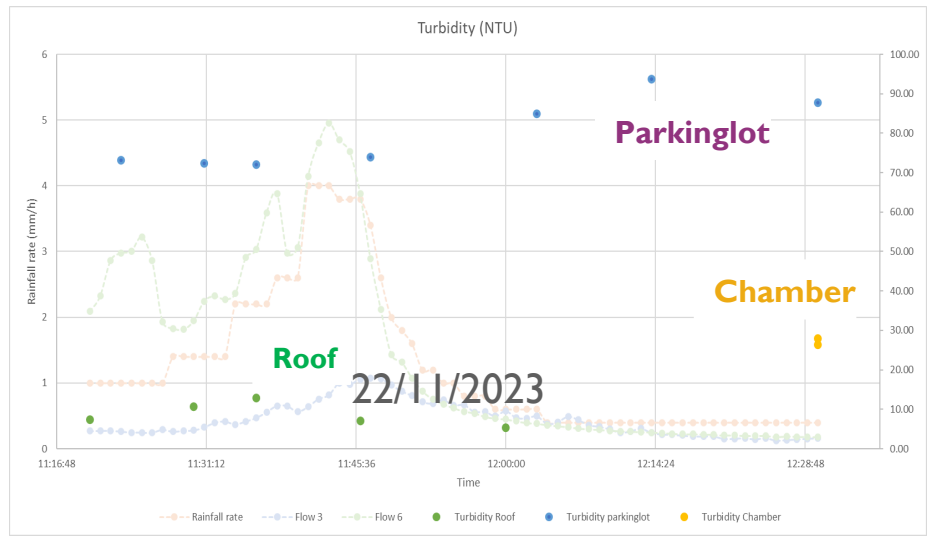
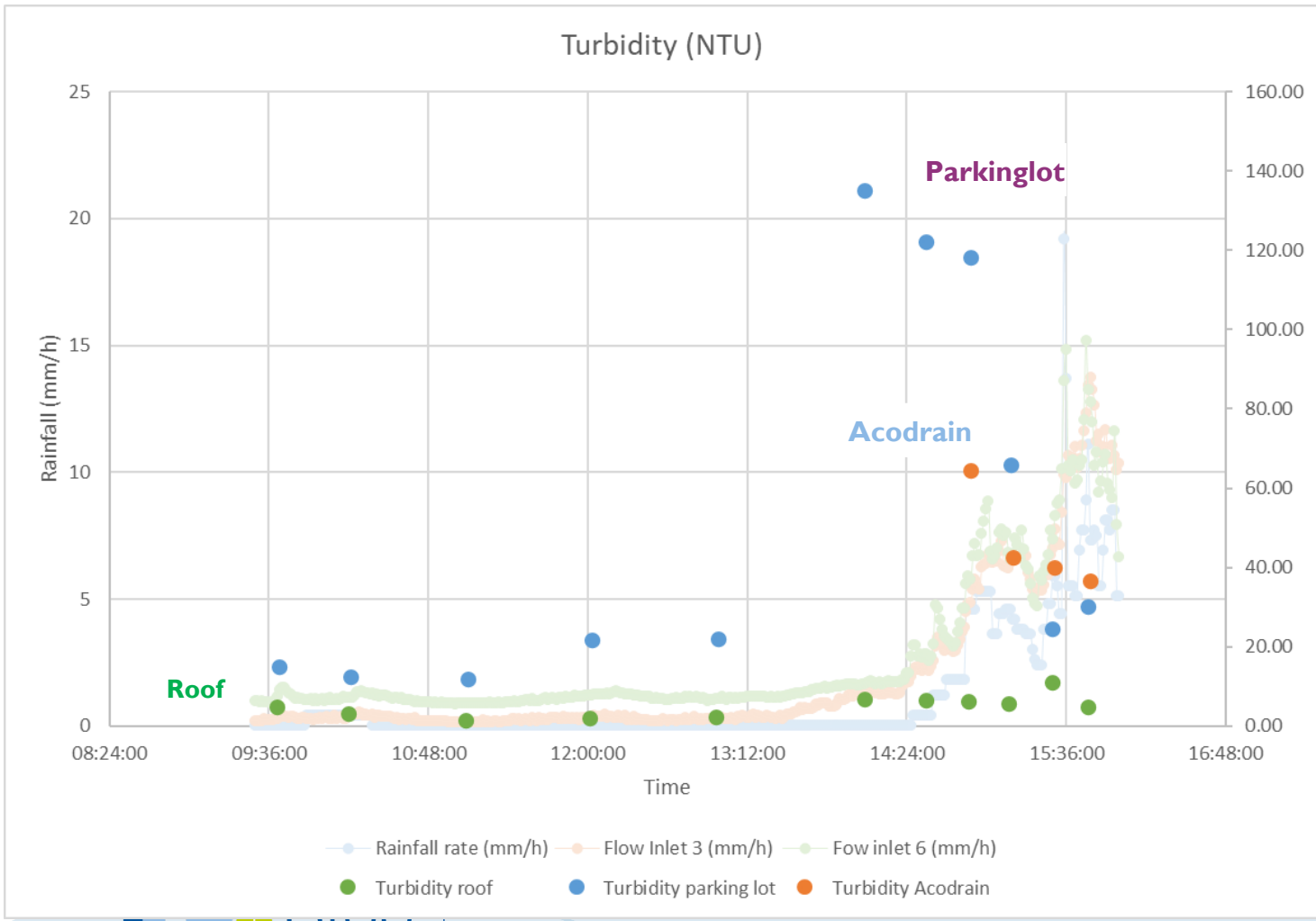
# When did we sample ?





## Rain sampling 16\_12\_2023





16/12/2023





Stop  
UP



StopUP website:  
[www.stopup.eu](http://www.stopup.eu)



[www.linkedin.com/company/87183165/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/87183165/)



[www.twitter.com/StopUPeurope](http://www.twitter.com/StopUPeurope)