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R7.6 REPORT ON STUDENT MOBILITY

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1. Organizing Partner Information

Three student mobility sessions with two students from each university for 1 week to two universities (KUL & ITU) have been envisaged. The main purpose of this task is to carry out Innovation Camps among students facilitating the generation of innovative ideas and building entrepreneurship values. It is also planned to use the students in review of the proposed course materials and guidebooks so that they can experience the teaching of the newly drafted courses so the products can be iteratively improved. The iterative development process will take place during the three student camps and at home universities enabling reviews in various learning environments.

2. Participant Information

DigiWater's project gave students from six different countries the opportunity to meet in Turkey and in Belgium. There were students from Cyprus, Norway, Germany, Romania, Turkey and Belgium. Figures 1 and 2 encapsulate the participation from both innovation camps, showcasing the number of students engaged from various countries. In total 78 students participated, 43 in Belgium and 35 in Turkey. From Figure 2 the majority of students that participated was from Belgium, 46%, and from Turkey, 33%. This is because they are the two hosting countries, as we can see in Figure 1, and therefore more students were encouraged to participate. Students from the hosting countries had different roles, as explained in sections 2.1 and 2.2.

Otherwise, there were between two and three students participating from other countries at both innovation camps. Cyprus had the lowest participation overall at 4% because only one student participated in the innovation camp in Turkey. Norway and Romania had in total 6% participation because there were three students at the Turkish innovation camp and two students in Belgium. Germany had two students in both Belgium and Turkey.

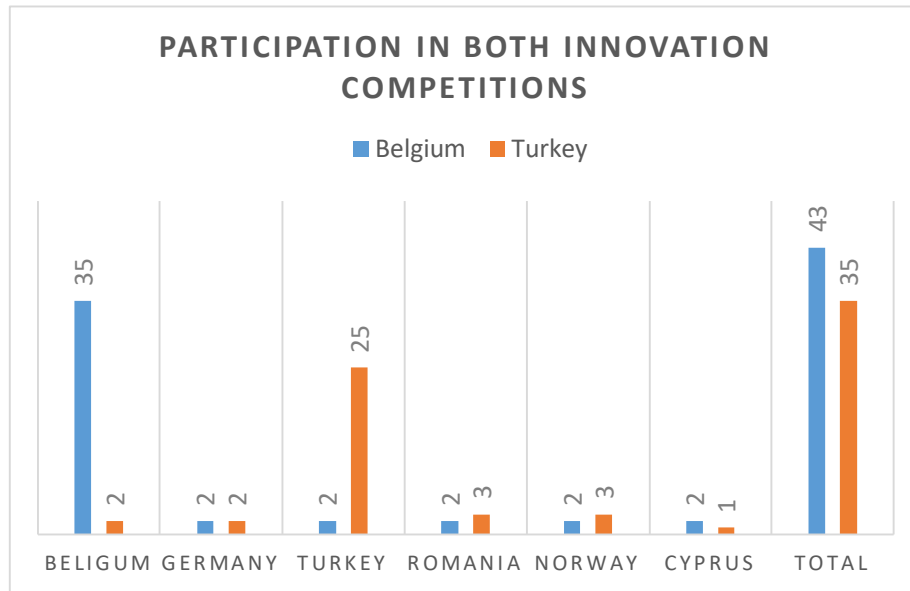


Figure 1: This figure shows the number of students who participated in innovation camps in Belgium and Turkey. It shows the participation from the different countries.

Participants from both innovation camps

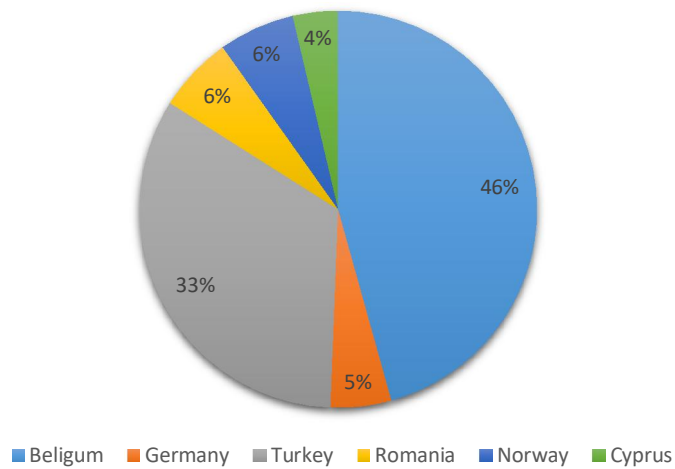


Figure 2: This figure shows the distribution of each country that participated in the two innovation camps.

The involved universities for this project are KULeuven in Belgium, THOWL in Germany, ITU in Turkey, UGAL in Romania, NMBU in Norway and UCY in Cyprus.

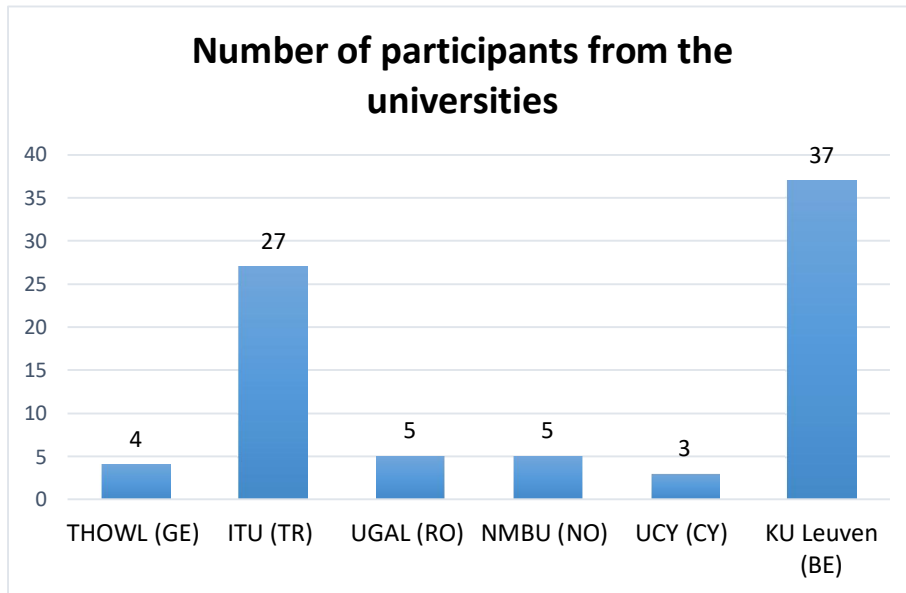


Figure 3: This figure shows how many students participated from the various universities.

2.1 Innovation camp in Belgium

Innovation camp Belgium

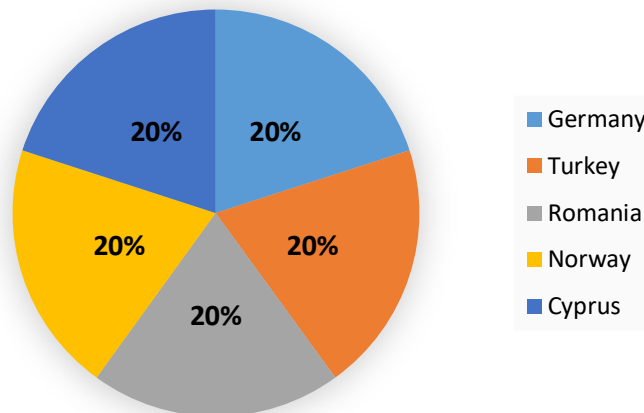
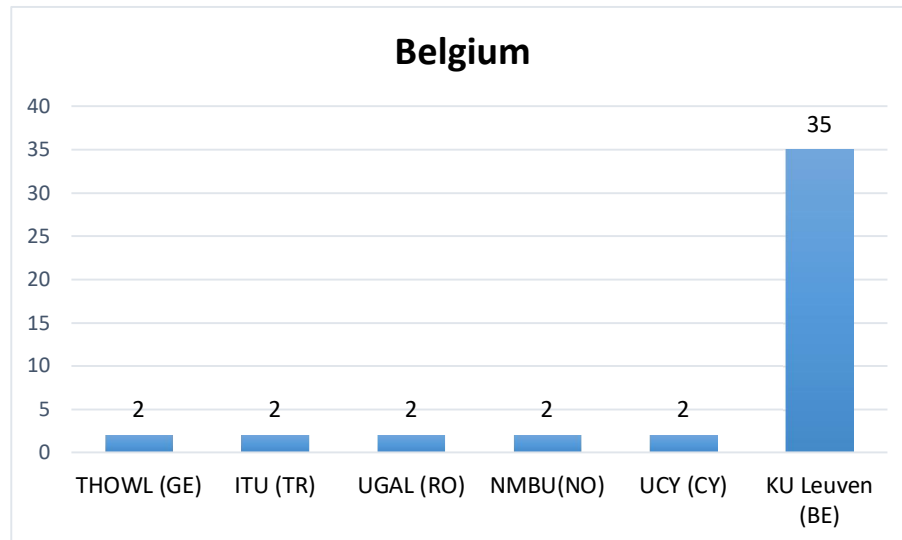
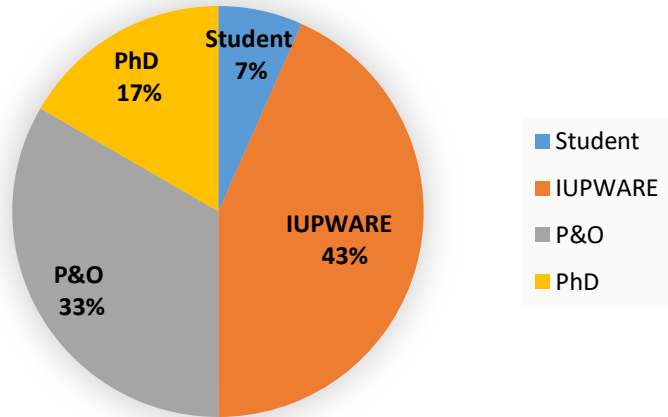


Figure 4: This figure shows the proportion of participants from the various countries, excluding the host country, for the innovation camp in Belgium.

Overview of Belgian participants



2.2 Innovation camp in Turkey

Innovation camp Turkey

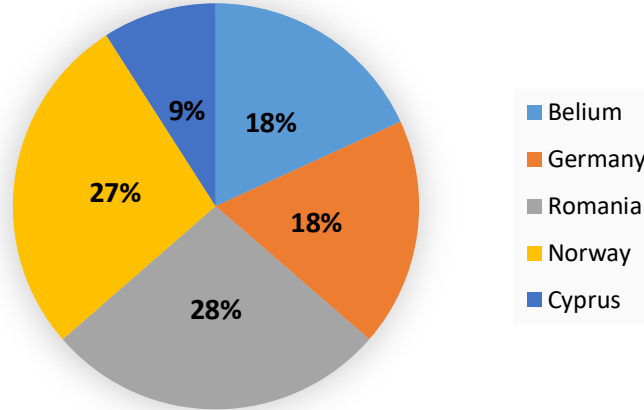
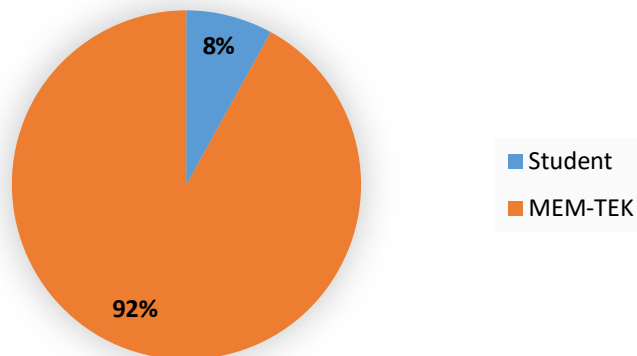
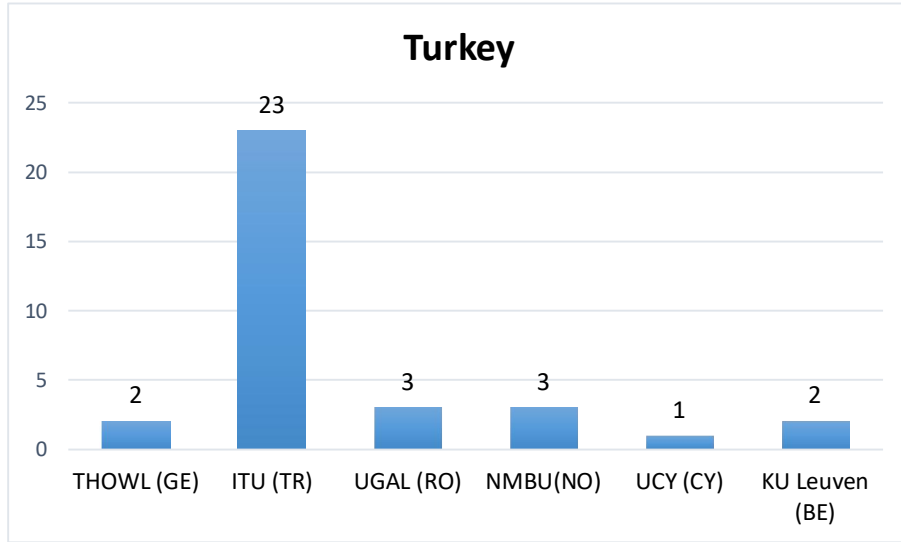


Figure 5: This figure shows the proportion of participants from the various countries, excluding the host country, for the innovation camp in Turkey.

Overview of Turkish participants





3. Summary of activities and workshops conducted

3.1 Summary from Belgium

On Tuesday, October 4th, the innovation camp unfolded with a detailed focus on practical organization, ensuring a seamless setup for the day's activities. The team meticulously prepared the venue, conducting infrastructure tests and arranging essential materials such as name cards, information folders, and DigiWater pens at the registration table. The day commenced with a registration and lunch session, fostering connections among participants. The formal opening featured presentations by Dr. Ir. Vincent Wolfs and Prof. Patrick Willems, laying the foundation for stakeholder discussions on water challenges and AI models for drought forecasting. Subsequently, structured sessions included an explanation of upcoming brainstorming activities by Kato Schoeters, a break for table setup, and three parallel brainstorm sessions exploring digital technology's role in addressing water-related issues. The day concluded with an introduction to challenge groups, providing students with a roadmap for the innovation canvas model and practical insights into the camp's activities, wrapping up at 6:00 PM with preparations for the next day's events. The day's agenda offered a dynamic blend of presentations, interactive sessions, and hands-on workshops, fostering collaboration and innovative thinking among the participants.

Wednesday, October 5th, unfolded as a dynamic day at the innovation camp, marked by an array of engaging activities and workshops. The morning commenced with a comprehensive overview and an introduction by Katharina Pilar von Pilchau, offering participants a virtual tour experience that seamlessly blended both physical and digital elements. The incorporation of a drone/camera and the use of QR codes for forms added a modern touch to the proceedings. Four short introductory lectures, covering topics such as Big Data, IoT, and Cybersecurity, provided valuable insights from speakers representing UCY, KUL, NMBU, and UGAL. Following a break, participants delved into challenge-group activities, focusing on the Innovation Canvas Model (ICM) to explore, ideate, and design solutions to water-related issues. The day also included a captivating excursion to the AB INBEV brewery, offering participants a hands-on experience in the industry. The evening concluded with an optional staff dinner at MYKENE, providing a casual yet enriching space for further networking and collaborative discussions. Overall, Wednesday's activities not only deepened participants'

understanding of crucial technological aspects but also emphasized practical applications through challenges and industry visits.

Thursday, October 6th, unfolded as a day marked by meticulous practical organization and collaborative efforts at the innovation camp. The morning commenced with an insightful presentation by Prof. Marian Barbu on a test platform for a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), providing participants with valuable insights into real-world applications. This was followed by focused work within challenge groups, exploring the intricacies of the Innovation Canvas Model (ICM) in its various phases, including prototype building and addressing risks, assumptions, and constraints. A highlight of the day was the outcome presentation of the virtual tour led by Katharina Pilar von Pilchau, offering a visual culmination of the participants' explorations. After a well-deserved break, the day continued with inter-group consultations, featuring short presentations and discussions that allowed students to pitch their ideas to others, fostering collaborative insights. The afternoon sessions delved deeper into the ICM, emphasizing key messages, roadmaps of activities, and final presentation preparations within challenge groups. As the day drew to a close, the plenary wrap-up set the stage for the final pitches, with tables being rearranged to accommodate both presentations and collaborative work. The day concluded with a communal dinner at Domus, providing a relaxed setting for participants to unwind and reflect on the day's achievements. Thursday's activities showcased the camp's emphasis on practical application, collaboration, and the progressive development of innovative solutions to address water-related challenges.

Friday, October 7th, marked the culmination of the innovation camp, focusing on the practical organization and presentation of final outcomes. The day commenced with an overview presentation, guiding participants as they worked intensely within their challenge groups to prepare for the conclusive phase. This involved the meticulous crafting of final presentations and the distribution of evaluation forms for the impending jury assessment. The highlight of the morning was the series of pitches, where each challenge group presented their innovative solutions to a distinguished panel of professionals, including representatives from the City of Leuven, academics, and industry experts. Following these insightful presentations, the day progressed to the camp conclusions and next steps, led by Vincent Wolfs and Prof. Patrick Willems, providing a comprehensive reflection on the camp's achievements and discussions about potential future initiatives. The innovation camp

concluded on a celebratory note with a well-deserved lunch, offering participants an opportunity to reflect on their collaborative journey and network in the aftermath of a successful and impactful week.

The innovation camp spanning Tuesday, October 4th, to Friday, October 7th, offered a comprehensive and dynamic experience for participants, emphasizing practical organization and collaborative problem-solving to address water-related challenges. The camp began with meticulous preparations, ensuring a seamless setup for activities and a focus on student mobility, drawing participants from diverse backgrounds, including Belgium, Germany, Turkey, Romania, Norway, and Cyprus. The days were structured to provide a blend of insightful presentations, interactive sessions, and hands-on workshops, fostering collaboration and innovative thinking. Notably, the integration of a virtual tour, drone technology, and QR codes enhanced the learning experience, while short introductory lectures on Big Data, IoT, and Cybersecurity added valuable insights. The camp's international scope was evident through an excursion to the AB INBEV brewery and an optional staff dinner, promoting cross-cultural exchanges. Thursday's emphasis on the Innovation Canvas Model (ICM) in challenge-group activities further accentuated practical application and collaborative efforts. The camp concluded on Friday with the culmination of innovative solutions presented to a professional panel, signaling the success of the collaborative journey. Overall, the innovation camp highlighted the significance of student mobility, fostering international collaboration and providing a rich learning environment for addressing global water challenges.

3.2 Summary from Turkey

On Wednesday, March 15th, the day began with meticulous preparations for the DigiWater project meeting and the ensuing innovation camp at MEM-TEK Main Hall in Istanbul. The staff-only meeting focused on testing infrastructure, setting up necessary equipment, and arranging logistical details, including registration materials and information folders for participants. The formal opening of the camp featured presentations by Dr. Mehmet Emin Pasaoglu and Dr. Selda Murat Hocaoglu, providing a warm welcome and an overview of the camp. A series of intensive courses on topics such as cybersecurity and disruptions in water services, led by experts including Prof. Enver Ozdemir and Adnan Baykal, enriched the participants' knowledge. The afternoon continued with a brainstorming session

on water infrastructure protection, facilitated by Dr. Turker Turken. The day concluded with the introduction of challenge-groups, guided by Dr. Mehmet Emin Pasaoglu, delving into the Innovation Canvas Model (ICM) to explore, define outcomes, identify stakeholders, and receive feedback on innovation ideas. The day wrapped up with a joint dinner at Istanbul University Baltalimani Social Facilities, fostering camaraderie among staff and students. The activities of the day showcased a rich blend of informative presentations, interactive sessions, and collaborative workshops, providing a comprehensive and engaging learning experience for participants.

Thursday, March 16th, unfolded as a day brimming with informative sessions and hands-on activities at the DigiWater innovation camp in Istanbul. The morning commenced with an overview presentation by Mehmet Emin Pasaoglu, setting the stage for a series of enlightening lectures from prominent organizations such as ISKI, TUBITAK, DOSCON, and THOWL. These lectures covered diverse topics, ranging from digital tools in the water sector to co-creative methods for new solutions in water management. The day's agenda included a group picture in front of the Hezarfen Ahmed Celebi Statue, captured by a drone, and a technical visit excursion to the ISKI Agva Advanced Biological Wastewater Treatment Plant (MBR). Participants engaged in challenge-group activities, progressing through various phases of the Innovation Canvas Model (ICM), including ideation, design, prototype building, and risk assessment. Inter-group consultations provided a platform for short presentations and idea pitching, fostering collaborative discussions and generating new insights. The day concluded with a focus on refining key messages, outlining roadmaps of activities, and preparing final presentations within challenge-groups. The closing of the day marked the culmination of intensive collaborative efforts, showcasing the participants' commitment to addressing water-related challenges through innovative solutions.

Friday, March 17th, marked the culmination of the DigiWater innovation camp with a day filled with critical activities and final presentations. The morning commenced with an overview, followed by participants delving into their challenge-groups to prepare their concluding presentations. A notable highlight of the day was the Innovation Camp Bosphorus Boat Tour, featuring a picturesque journey along the Bosphorus, offering participants a unique and scenic backdrop for collaborative discussions. The boat tour included a simple lunch, fostering camaraderie among participants. Subsequently, participants were shuttled

from USKUDAR to the ITU Campus for the much-anticipated pitch sessions. Each challenge group had the opportunity to present their innovative solutions to a panel of professionals, followed by insightful questions and discussions. The panel, moderated by Dr. Mehmet Emin Pasaoglu and Dr. Turker Turken, provided valuable evaluations and comments on the proposals, wrapping up the innovation camp on a reflective and impactful note. The day's activities showcased the culmination of the participants' collaborative efforts, demonstrating their commitment to addressing water-related challenges through innovative solutions.

Over the course of the DigiWater innovation camp held in Istanbul from March 15th to March 17th, participants engaged in a dynamic learning experience marked by meticulous preparations, informative sessions, and collaborative workshops. The camp commenced with a staff-only meeting focused on infrastructure testing and logistical arrangements. Noteworthy presentations by Dr. Mehmet Emin Pasaoglu and Dr. Selda Murat Hocaoglu provided a comprehensive overview of the camp's objectives. The inclusion of intensive courses led by experts in cybersecurity and disruptions in water services enriched participants' knowledge. Key sessions, such as a brainstorming session on water infrastructure protection and a technical visit to the ISKI Agva Advanced Biological Wastewater Treatment Plant, showcased the practical application of concepts. The involvement of challenge-groups, guided by the Innovation Canvas Model (ICM), highlighted the participants' commitment to addressing water-related challenges through ideation, design, and prototype building. The camp's emphasis on student mobility was evident with activities like a joint dinner fostering camaraderie among staff and students. The Innovation Camp Bosphorus Boat Tour on Friday offered a unique backdrop for collaborative discussions, emphasizing both the educational and networking aspects. The culmination of the camp with final presentations and evaluations by a professional panel underscored the participants' dedication to innovative solutions. Overall, the DigiWater innovation camp provided a comprehensive and engaging platform for international collaboration, showcasing the participants' commitment to addressing complex water-related challenges.