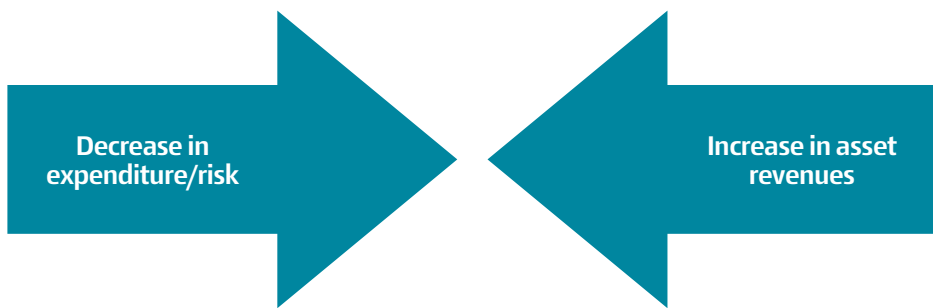


ONLINE COURSE in Introduction to **Asset Management for the Water Sector:** a step-by-step guide for improving the management of water services

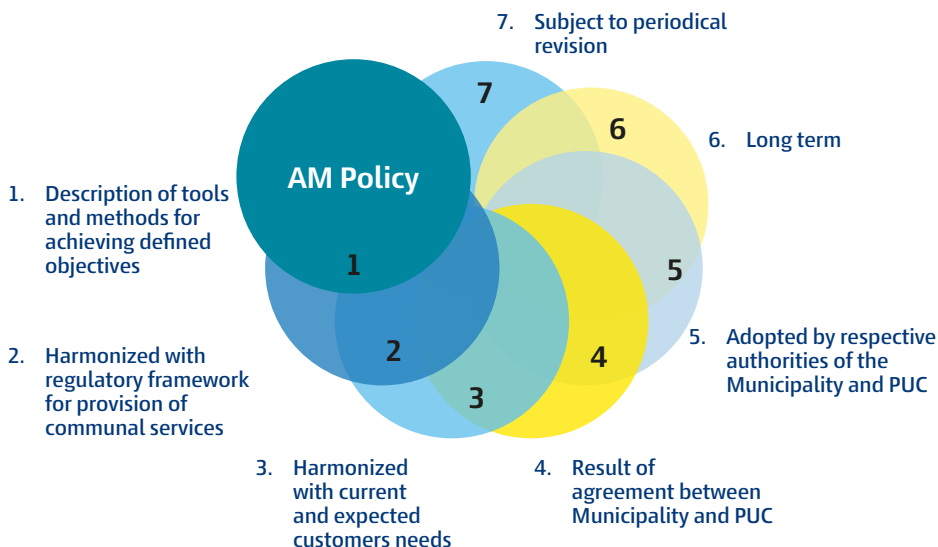


Why is Asset Management important?

Asset management in water utilities has received much attention in the past decade, as part of the broader focus on deteriorated public assets and a need for their renewal. It is the practice of strategic managing of capital assets that can minimize the total cost of owning and operating them, while delivering the optimal quality service. Companies implementing asset management develop detailed asset inventories, perform operation and maintenance tasks, conduct long-range financial planning and undertake other activities to build the system's capacity, all of which help move it along the path to long-term sustainability. Asset management can have numerous benefits to a system, such as: prolonging asset life, meeting customer demands, reducing risks of leakages and failures, etc.



Infrastructure asset management policy



How can the online course help you?






One of the objectives of the Course on Introduction to Asset Management in the Water Sector is to increase understanding of the concept, processes and systems of proactive asset management among the local government (LG) and Public Utility Company (PUC) management decision-makers and their key staff.

In addition, the course will help LGs and PUCs to:

- Effectively utilize and manage arrangements in the asset management process: adoption of the strategy, asset management plan, determining levels of services;
- Improve understanding on how financial (full cost recovery), institutional (asset management enablers) and technical aspects of the asset management are correlated;
- Improve existing asset management practices by applying new tools, techniques and best practices;
- Exchange experiences with other LGs and PUCs from South-East Europe.

The screenshot shows a web-based course interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with 'Lessons' (1. Asset depreciation, 2. Asset valuation) and 'Modules' (1. Importance of Asset Management, 2. Infrastructure Asset Management System and Resources, 3. Asset Management Techniques, 4. Financial Aspects of Asset Management). The main content area features a header 'Financial Aspects of Asset Management' with a blue background and a white number '6'. Below the header is a photograph of hands writing on a document. The text below the photo explains the goal of financial management in water utilities and discusses depreciation and asset valuation. On the right side, there are sections for 'Case studies' (Brigade waterworks and sewerage, Pipelines water joint stock company), 'Software' (Asset management training tool), 'Interesting Links', and 'Bibliography'.

Target audiences:

-  Mayors;
-  Members of City Councils;
-  Managers and key staff in public utility companies;
-  Employees in the municipal departments for utility affairs;
-  Managers in land directorates

Course structure-Modules:

-  Importance of asset management;
-  Asset management system;
-  Asset management techniques;
-  Asset financial management;
-  Strategic documents;
-  Asset data management.



Learning methods:

The course offers the most advanced online learning methodology and tools, including readings, videos, case studies, tutor-guided discussions, assignments, tests and quizzes. These interactive tools will enable participants to share their views and findings with peers and to receive feedback. Vivid forum discussions and daily exchanges of ideas and thoughts will encourage the participants to establish a permanent network of asset management professionals for future active learning and networking.



Languages:

The course is available in English, Serbian, Albanian and Macedonian languages.

Course delivery

Courses are usually delivered twice a year, in spring and autumn delivery cycle, in collaboration with NALAS member Local Government Associations (LGAs). To express your interest to attend this course, please contact the LGA in your country, or NALAS Secretariat at info@nalas.eu.

The screenshot shows a course page with a central video player area. On the left, there is a sidebar with 'Lessons' and 'Basic concepts and definitions' sections. On the right, there are 'Start video', 'PDF presentation', and 'Case studies' sections. The main content area includes a title 'Basic concepts and definitions', a video thumbnail of a lake, and text defining 'Asset Management Definition' as a set of activities for property ownership, including analysis of expenditures, compliance with laws, and decision-making for maintenance and repairs.

The slide lists five key components of an Asset Management Plan:

- Develops very specific targets;
- Contains detailed screening of assets using already explained AM techniques and hydraulic modelling;
- Contains tactical directions;
- Prepares short to medium term activities;
- Reform an non-asset aspects of organization (HR, IT).

This course is part of NALAS e-Academy

NALAS e-Academy is an online platform for development learning designed for local governments of South-East Europe. NALAS e-Academy provides a superb knowledge on topics relevant for local government professionals in the areas of urban planning, energy efficiency, municipal finance, water management, solid waste management and more.

Taking advantage of new technologies, the learning experience provided by the NALAS e-Academy is affordable, innovative and practitioner-focused. NALAS is an e-learning wholesales partner of the World Bank for South-East Europe.



The course is developed within the project “Asset management for water and sanitation sector in South-East Europe”. The project is funded by the German Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) and the Government of Switzerland and is implemented by GIZ (ORF MMS) and the Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe (NALAS).



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