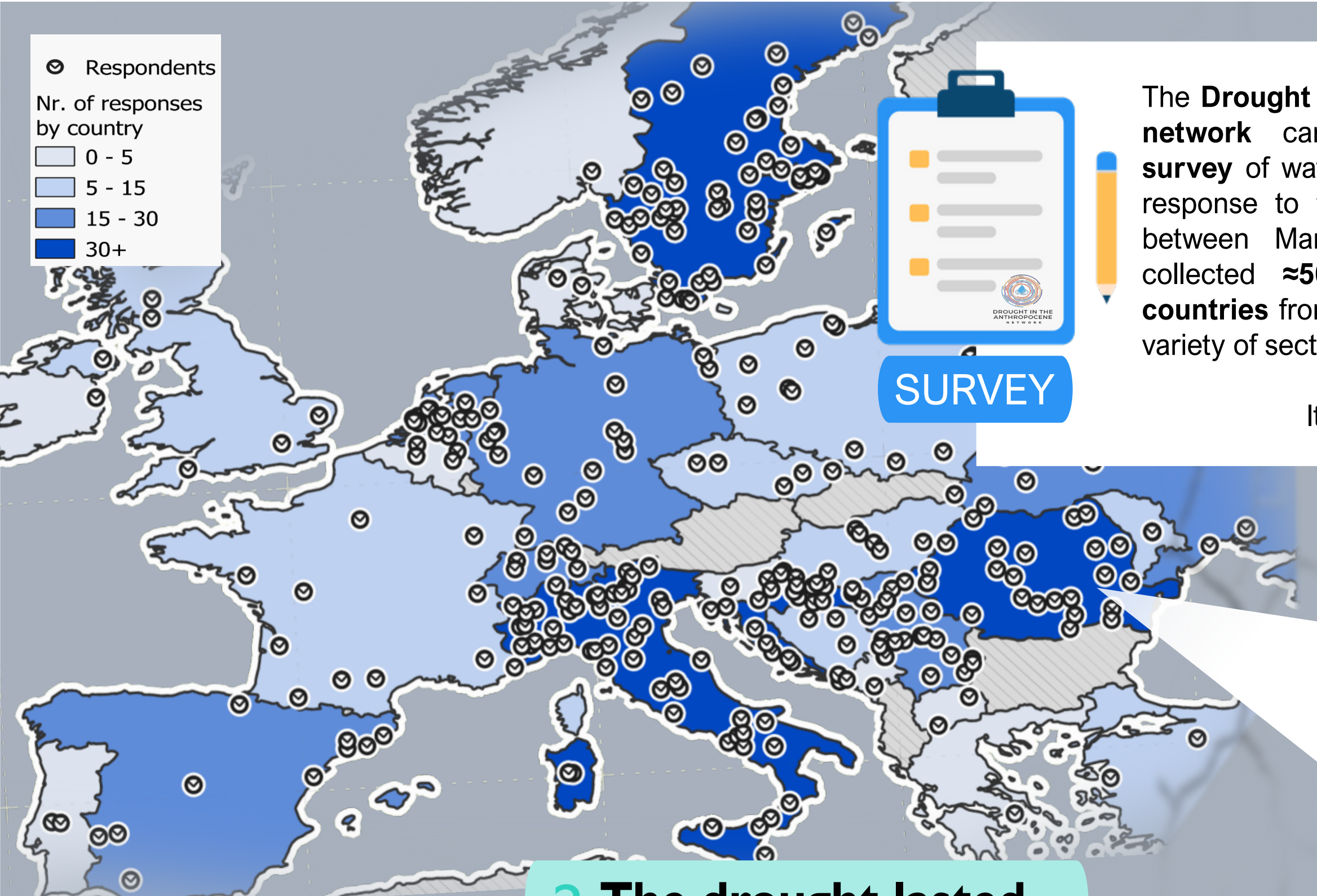


THE 2022 DROUGHT NEEDS TO BE A TURNING POINT FOR EUROPEAN DROUGHT RISK MANAGEMENT



DROUGHT IN THE ANTHROPOCENE NETWORK

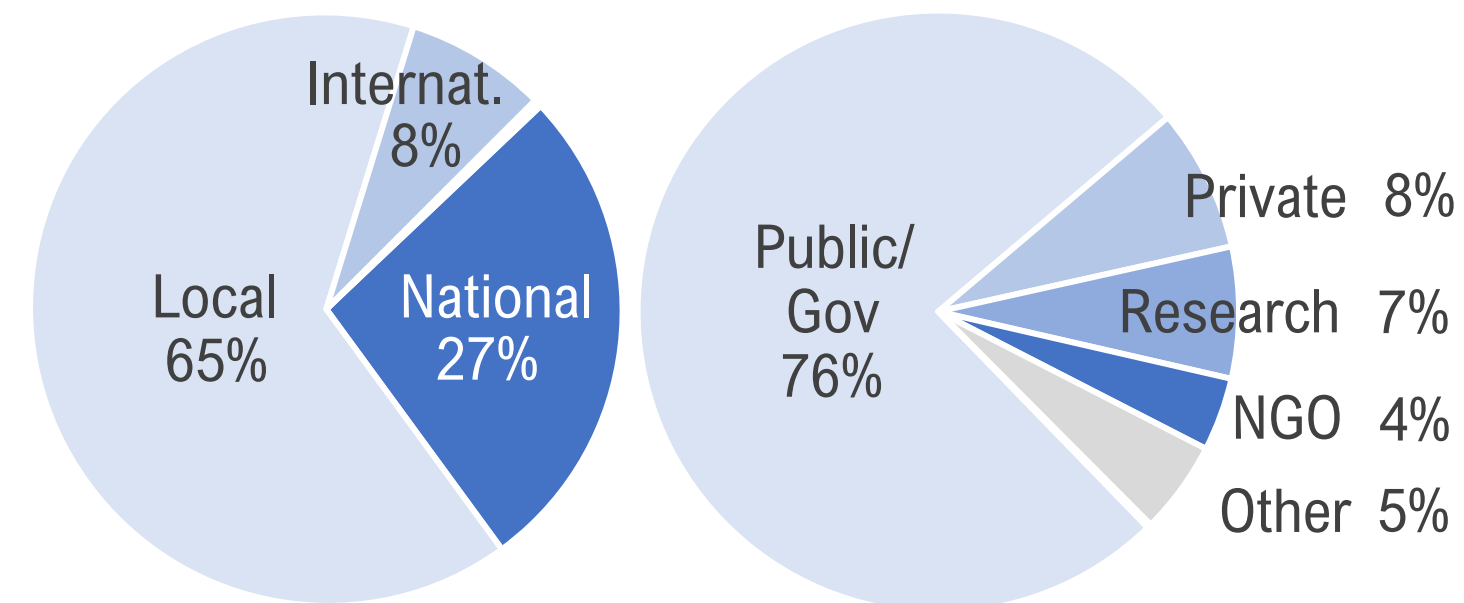
Riccardo Biella (CNDS); Anastasiya Shyroka (CNDS); Monica Ionita (AWI); Raffaele Vignola; Samuel Sutanto; Andrijana Todorovic; Claudia Teutschbein; Daniela Cid; Maria Carmen Llasat; Pedro Alencar; Alessia Matanó; Elena Ridolfi; Benedetta Moccia; Ilias Pechlivanidis; Anne van Loon; Doris Wendt; Elin Stenfors; Fabio Russo; Jean-Philippe Vidal; Lucy Barker; Mariana Madruga de Brito; Marleen Lam; Monika Bláhová; Patricia Trambauer; Raed Hamed; Scott J. McGrane; Serena Ceola; Sigrid J. Bakke; Svitlana Krakovska; Viorica Nagavciuc; Faranak Tootoonchi; Giuliano Di Baldassarre; Sandra Hauswirth; Shreedhar Maskey; Svitlana Zubkovich; Marthe Wens; Lena M Tallaksen



The **Drought in the Anthropocene (DitA) network** carried out a **Europe-wide survey** of water managers involved in the response to the 2022 European drought between March and October 2023. It collected **~500 responses across 30 countries** from respondents operating in a variety of sectors and types of organization.

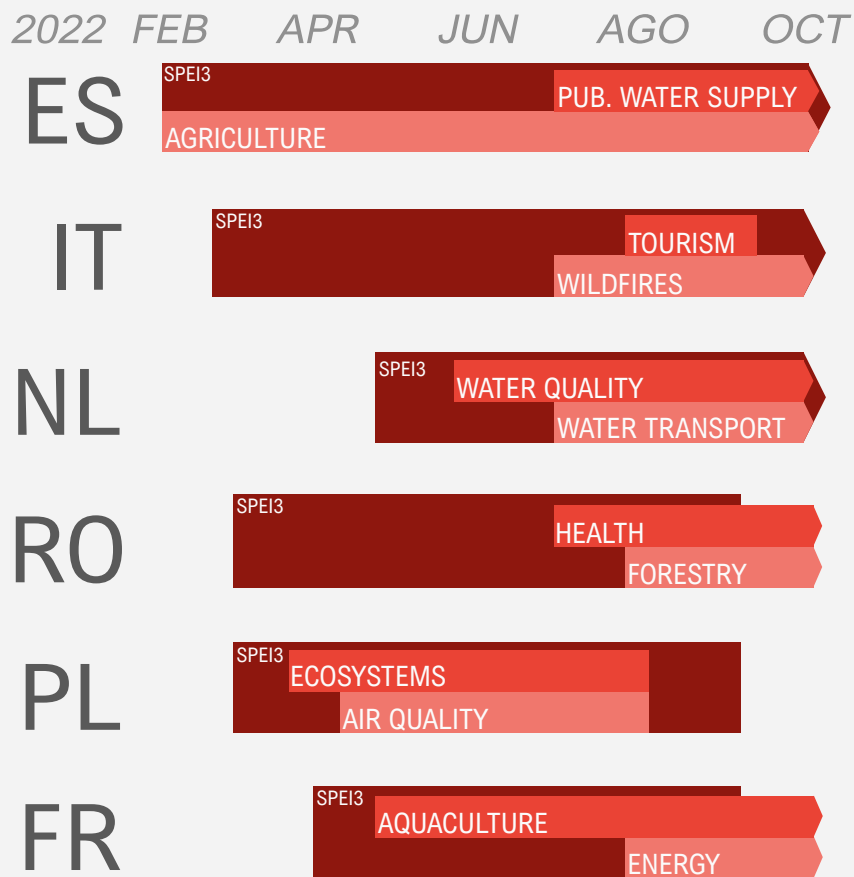
It emerged that...

Overview of respondents



2 The drought lasted...

DURATION OF THE DROUGHT



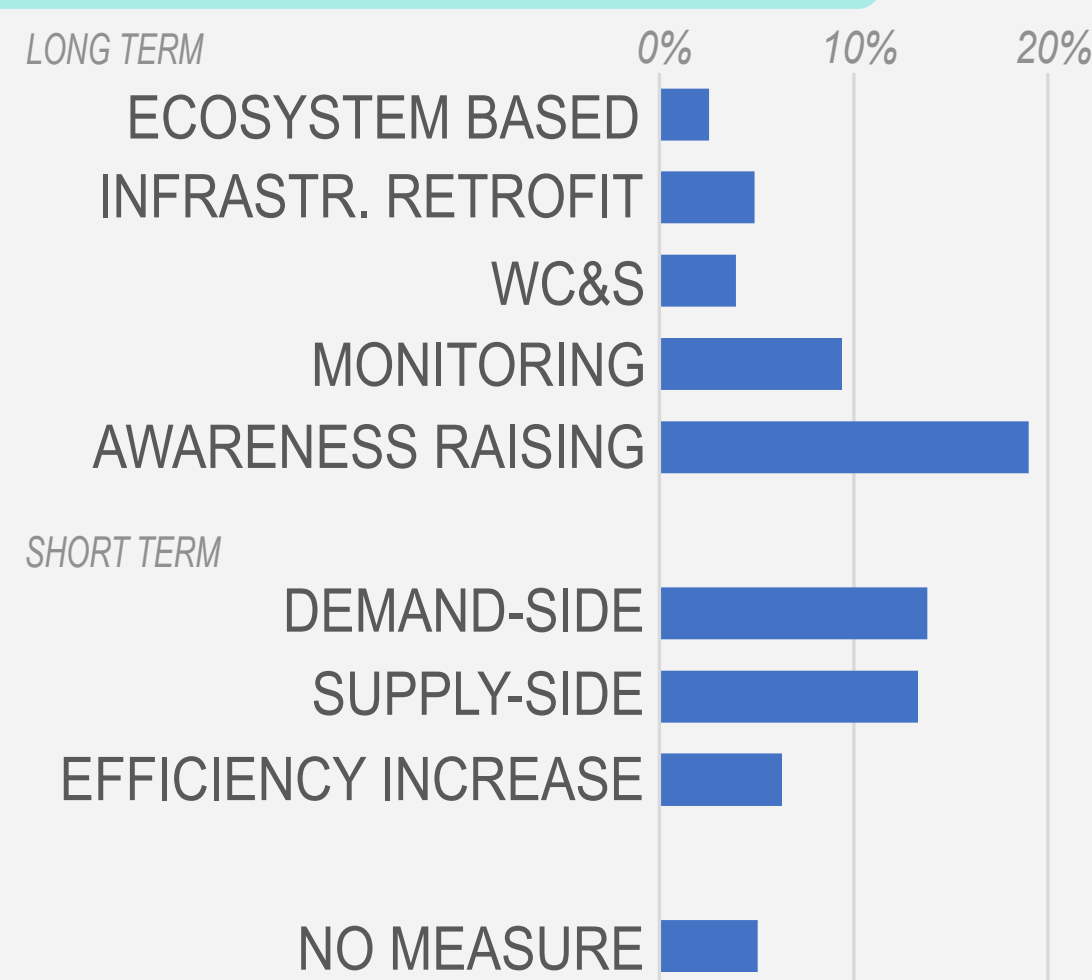
... a different amount of time depending on the sector and country. **Areas in southern Europe experienced over 8 months of drought.** The impacts were observed at **different times in different sectors**, with sectors such as public water supply and forestry showing delayed start of the impact compared to agriculture.

Northern Spain experienced almost two years of continuous drought with long-lasting impacts water restrictions, and reliance on alternative water sources, including groundwater, reclaimed water, and desalination.

4 Drought management measures are...

...mostly short-term and supply-side despite the principles reported in the EC Communications. Awareness raising and monitoring are widely applied. **Demand-side, efficiency-increasing, and ecosystem-based measures remain underused.**

Effectiveness varied by region and organization type. Public organizations reported higher effectiveness than NGOs and scientific organizations. Overall, there are **significant differences in effectiveness between organizations.**



5 Time is ripe for change!

Organizations report being more **aware, prepared and effective** than in 2018. Still, drought risk management capacity varies across Europe, with significant regional differences. Despite increased awareness, preparedness capacity lags behind. A unified European drought policy is needed to address these disparities.

The high drought risk awareness shows that **time is ripe to mainstream Drought Risk Governance at the EU level.**



MAINSTREAMING WINDOW

European Drought Directive

The European Union does not currently have unified and legally-binding drought legislation. **We believe a EU Drought Directive to be necessary** in order to:

- Reduce regional differences;
- Manage drought risk systemically;
- Manage drought risk not hazard.
- Put preparedness at the centre;
- Prioritize demand reduction;

Available research from DitA



The 2022 Drought Needs to be a Turning Point for European Drought Risk Management



The 2022 Drought Shows the Importance of Preparedness in European Drought Risk Management

