



LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Dear Participants of the Porto Water Innovation Week,

As the President of Águas do Porto, and in behalf of all the consortium that hosted the Porto Water Innovation Week, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your presence in this event, that took place in Porto, from 24th to the 30th of September.

When we applied to host the 4th edition of the EIP Water Conference, we did it fully aware of the importance that this matter has for the European Commission. Since the beginning, the European Innovation Partnership on Water has pursued the development of innovative solutions to address major European and global water challenges.

In this context, and under the theme “Water Innovation: Bridging Gaps, Creating Opportunities”, we’ve tried to bring out to discussion several innovative solutions to address these challenges, with objectives clearly defined:

- *Improve access to finance and markets for innovations;*
- *Facilitate easier procurement of innovation for end users;*
- *Develop regulation that is conducive to innovation;*
- *Share best practice and results from demonstration and test sites;*
- *Build European-wide partnerships among stakeholders and contributors.*

Although it is our conviction that we’ve reached most of these objectives during the days of the Porto Water Innovation Week, this was just a part of the long road that we all have ahead of us in the future, and it is our duty to maintain our presence in future collaborative meetings and discussions with all kind of agents within the water sector.

Becoming the European Capital on Water Innovation has been a privilege. I hope we have met your best expectations, and I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Frederico Fernandes

President, Águas do Porto