Water Use Case Study
SONAE SIERRA

Sonae Sierra performed 14 water audits at its retail facilities in order to target opportunities to reduce water consumption. To perform the audits in a consistent manner, Sonae developed a tool called the Standard Shopping Centre—Water. The tool takes into account elements such as equipment/systems in place, irrigated areas, local weather, and occupancy features (e.g., visits, tenants).

The outputs of the tool aim to help:

- Assess the efficiency of the centers’ water systems while pointing out technology-related and operational areas for improvement
- Calculate the expected environmental and economic benefits of investing in more efficient water systems
- Set performance targets
- Improve knowledge sharing

The tool’s output, combined with effective monitoring strategies, creates opportunities for improved water efficiencies.

Results

Sonae Sierra Potential Consumption Reductions and Savings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>90,000 kL, or 14%</th>
<th>€389,000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WATER SAVINGS</td>
<td>TOTAL SAVINGS</td>
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Many projects were considered quick wins and have a payback of less than one year. These accounted for a savings of 30,000 kL of water and €90,000.

Benefits

The Standard Shopping Centre—Water tool identifies opportunities to reduce expenses by improving water use efficiency. In property locations that are under significant hydraulic stress or face water scarcity, the implementation of water-efficiency measures certainly increases asset resilience.

Challenges

Some recommendations to increase water use efficiency show poor returns on investment and may be difficult to implement.