



**Porto, a Water Sensitive City: Sustainable Management of
Urban Water Cycle: EPSA2011248**
Submitted by Aguas do Porto, EEM



Strengths of the project (I)



- Water sensitive urban design is an **innovative** management approach to a scarce resource, allowing all the relevant aspects of the water cycle to be dealt with in a holistic way.
- Water rehabilitation acts as a pole of attraction for the population, not just those who live and work in the city but also the inhabitants of Porto Metropolitan Area and the visitors from other regions of the country and abroad, boosting tourism as a **factor of development**, competitiveness and diversification of the regional economy.
- Water scarcity and efficient water management is of high **public concern** for the Southern part of the EU as water is an increasingly scarce resource.



Strengths of the project (II)



- The program has already achieved remarkable public **impact** through savings in water wastage and allowing the opening of Porto's beaches to the public. Water loss reduction from 56.000 m³/day to 22.000m³/day corresponding to economic **savings** of cumulative 17M EUR; electricity consumption decreased by 65%: avoiding emissions of 719 tons of CO₂.
- The Water sensitive urban design is a smart management system which lends itself to **transferability** and experience exchange. The measures taken to increase efficiency in water management could be implemented in other administrations.
- A very interesting “water park” –the environmental education centre- which also contributes to an **educational programme** for children with approx. 30.000 visitors/ year and which in fact is the second most visited sight in Porto, thus both awareness building among the population is shown as well as visibility demonstrated.

