

Case: 13-DRAVSKO POLJE

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Presentation structure of the case study Dravsko polje

- **National context**
 - Pressure for change
 - Legislative primary drivers
 - Status
 - History of engagement
- **MAP Characteristics**
 - MAP Establishment and Stakeholders
 - Aim and MAP Mandate
 - Shared Understanding of the Problem
 - Synergies Associated with MAP
 - Economic Resources Available for MAP
 - MAP Development: Strategy, Achievements, Learning Points, and Risks Challenging Long Term Engagement, as seen from the case perspective

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National context

Water protection areas (VVO) in Slovenia cover about 17% of the territory. An important part of WPZ (VVO) they also cover agricultural land.

a) Pressure for change

With water protection areas and water protection regimes in these areas, we protect drinking water that is used for public supply of the population or is intended for this public supply in the future.

The water protection regime prohibits or determines the conditions and protective measures that must be observed when intervening in space, prohibits or restricts the performance of activities, and prohibits or restricts the transport of goods or people.

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b) Legislative primary drivers

In Slovenia, the field of water resources protection is regulated with:

- Water Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, 67/02, 41/04, 57/08, 57/12, 100/13, 40/14 and 56/15).
- On the basis of the Act, thirteen regulations have been adopted so far, which determine the WPZ – water protection zones

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c)Status

- Dravsko Polje is an alluvial plain of the river Drava, in north-eastern Slovenia. The area is administratively divided among twelve municipalities, each one with their individual rights and responsibilities in managing land use policy and wastewater. In addition to state regulation, municipalities have the right to enforce decrees on water protection zones for small water resources of local importance.
- the aquifer supplies all the drinking water in the area, through six drinking water systems.
- **Intensive arable and livestock production**
- the soils are very susceptible to nutrient and pesticide losses and leaching into the groundwater
- regular state monitoring is implemented by Slovenian Environmental Agency (ARSO) and by drinking water supply companies in Ptuj and Maribor. The **shallow aquifer is contaminated by nitrates and pesticides**, mainly from livestock farms and intensive arable land management.

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d)History of engagement

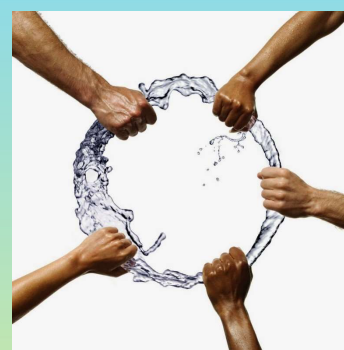
- There has been previous engagement with individual farmers in projects
- there is no existing platform for engagement in the case study
- civil initiatives didn't have direct communication with ministries representatives (Minister, Secretary).
- we propose to establish MAP in form of Water partnership
- the MAP Slovenia was established in the period between 2017 and 2018 in collaboration with local and regional actors, and water companies, facilitated by a research team

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MAP Characteristics:

a)MAP Establishment and Stakeholders

- **Farmers** -joined in Civil initiative Dravsko polje. They all work on voluntary basis.
- **Agricultural companies**- hire land from state Farmland and Forest Found of RS. They are usually quiet and do not debate publically about problems.
- **Advisers**
- **NGO's** - consumer organizations and other civil initiatives and local action groups (voluntary).
- **Drinking water suppliers** They are professionally organized companies – Maribor and Ptuj
- **Governmental organisations** Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food (MAFF), Farmland and Forest Found of RS (FFF)



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MAP Characteristics:

b) Aim and MAP Mandate

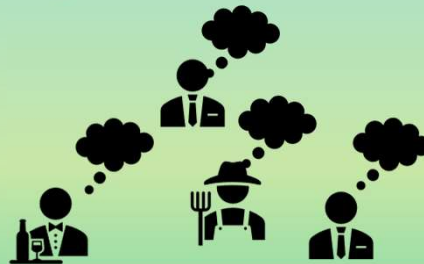
1. Strengthen the communication between stakeholders.
2. To form Multi Actor Platform e.g. Water partnership (WFD).
3. Evaluate the efficiency of the measures enforced through the legislation, regulations and decrees.
4. Propose new way of division/reshaping of WPZ for nitrate and PPPs and to improve measures.

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c) Shared Understanding of the Problem

Established MAP will contribute to the:

- formalisation of current occasional meetings of farmers with government.
- the problems could be solved and misunderstandings cleared.
- none of the stakeholders is satisfied with current state of the problem and the solutions.
- MAP = is to share understanding of the problem between the different groups



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d) Synergies Associated with MAP

- Outside of the MAP - low level of synergy about MAP future.
- the MAP reported contributing to improved synergy.
- synergies could be improved if ministries would recognize local MAP as partner in communicating local issues.

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e) Economic Resources Available for MAP

- increased knowledge of farm management and current agricultural practices, regarding measures and subsidies
- the MAP could become part of agri. adviser public service paid by Ministry for agriculture

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f) MAP Development:

- Strategy: Established MAP will contribute to the formalisation of current occasional meetings of farmers with government.
- Achievements: talking about the problem, none of the stakeholders was or is satisfied with current state of the problem and the solutions.
- Learning Points: MAP discussions need to be considered by decision makers; formal meetings are taken more serious by actors.
- Risks Challenging Long Term Engagement, as seen from the case perspective: Politicized issues, poor cooperation between gov. agencies and ministries, insufficient emphasis on the need for solving the problem

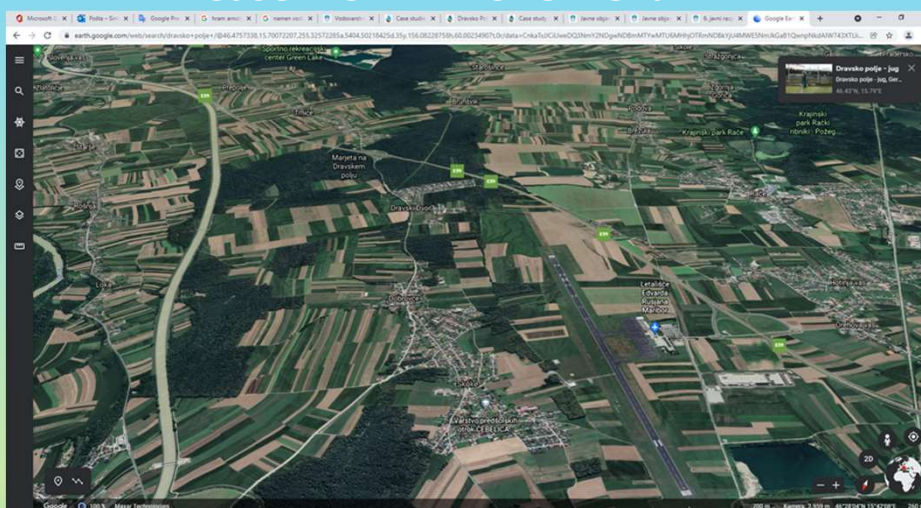
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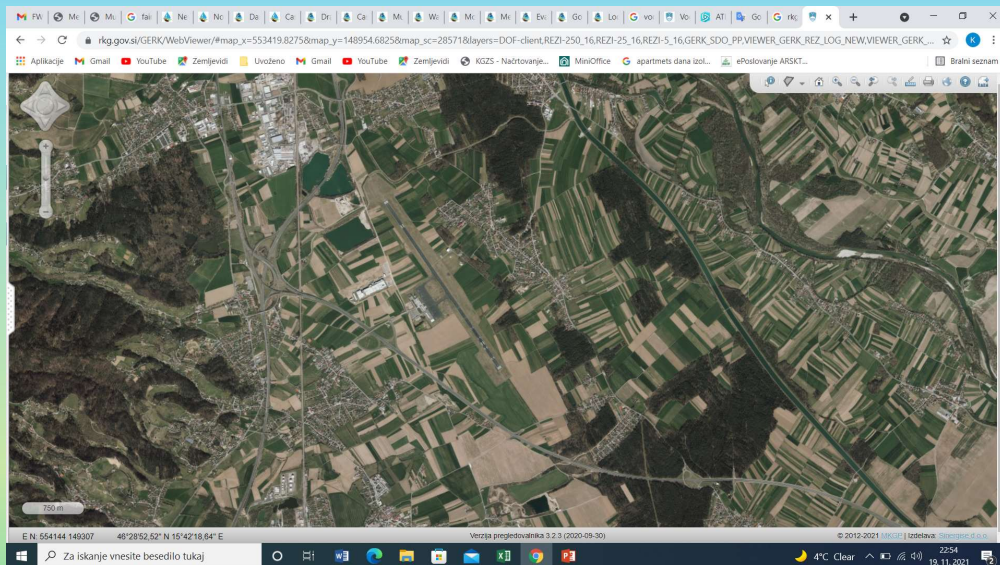
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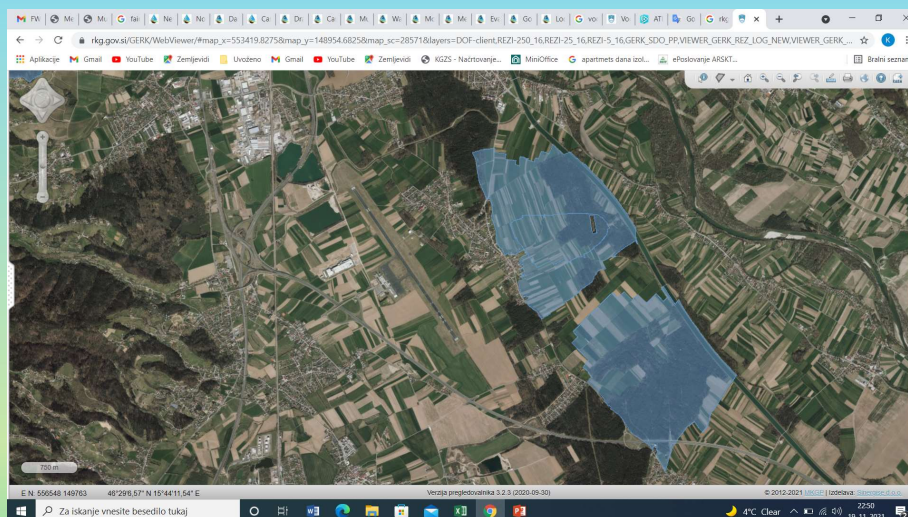
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Conclusion

The partnership provides a platform in which different stakeholders work together on the basis of equality and fairness, the main requirement for which is volunteering. Although it was emphasized by all stakeholders that the partnership is really important and successful in pooling, it is noted that it serves more as a platform for exchanging information rather than as a platform for action. The greatest knowledge gained by stakeholders is the importance of formal meetings as bearers of trust, as these contribute to a better understanding among stakeholders.

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