



WATERPROTECT

Innovative tools enabling drinking water protection in urban and rural environments

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empowered by



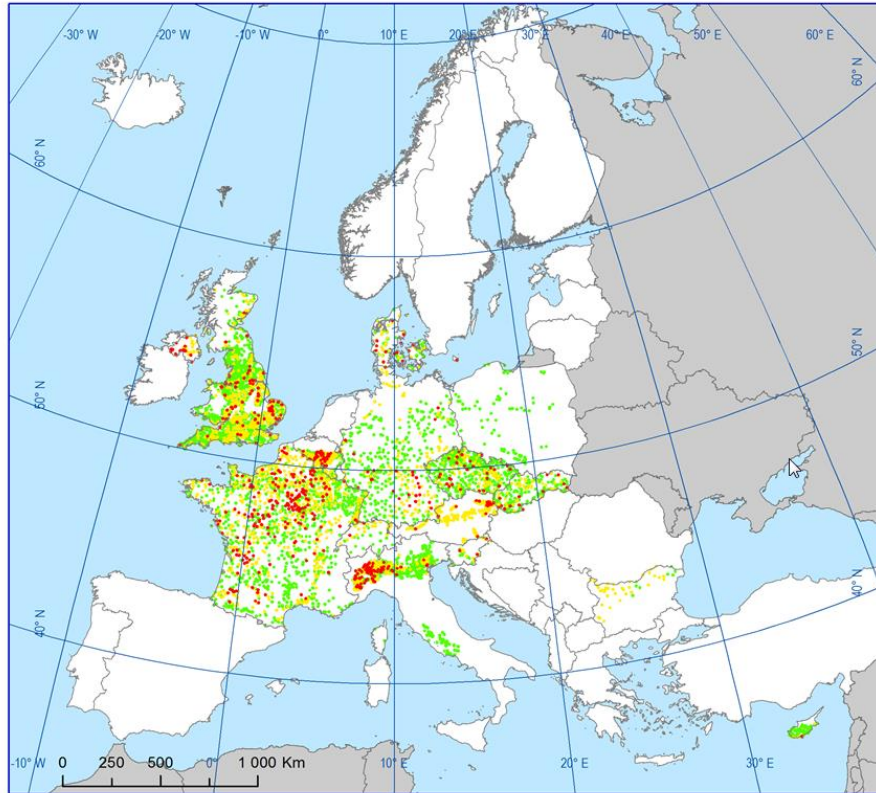
**Joint FairWay-WaterProtect Launch meeting
Brussels, 6 December 2017**

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No. 727450



PESTICIDE AND NUTRIENT POLLUTION OF DRINKING WATER SOURCES IS A CONTINUING CONCERN ...

Occurrence and exceedance of selected pesticides in groundwater monitoring stations, 2010-2011 (Source: Eurostat)



● < limit of quantification ● > quality standard
● >= limit of quantification and <= quality standard ■ outside coverage

Points of concern:

- Hot-spots of exceedance across Europe ($>0.1 \mu\text{g/l}$)
- Hot-spots = intensive agriculture
- Pollution sources are diffuse, monitoring and treatment costly
- Poor information across Europe
- **Mitigation measures are not in place, or not effective and need farmer engagement**

OBJECTIVES OF WATERPROTECT

- “Contribute to *effective uptake and realisation of management practices and mitigation measures to protect drinking water resources*”



Action ! In local “action labs” across EU (BE, IE, DK, IT, ES, PL, RO)

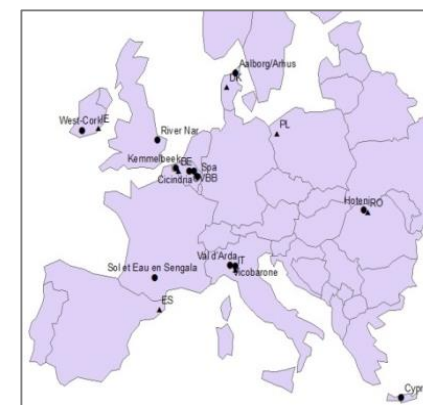
New governance: alternative financing

Share data: participatory monitoring

Best management into practice

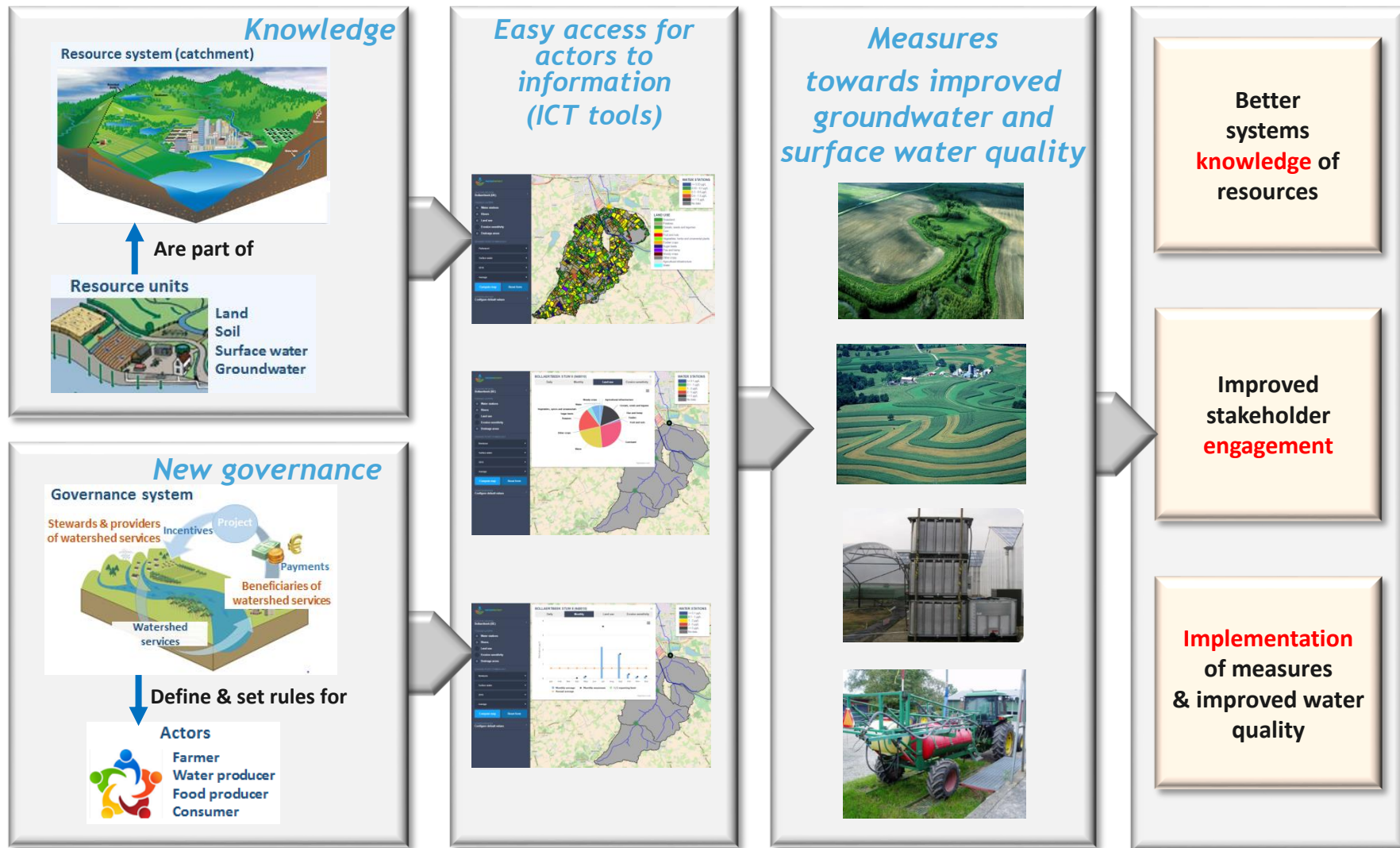
Bring information close to actor using ICT

- ▲ action lab
- desk case



- “Upscale findings from action labs to other regions”
- “Advise policy makers: WFD, CAP, nitrate and pesticide directives”
- “Strategic communication to stakeholders and dissemination to the public”

GENERAL CONCEPT

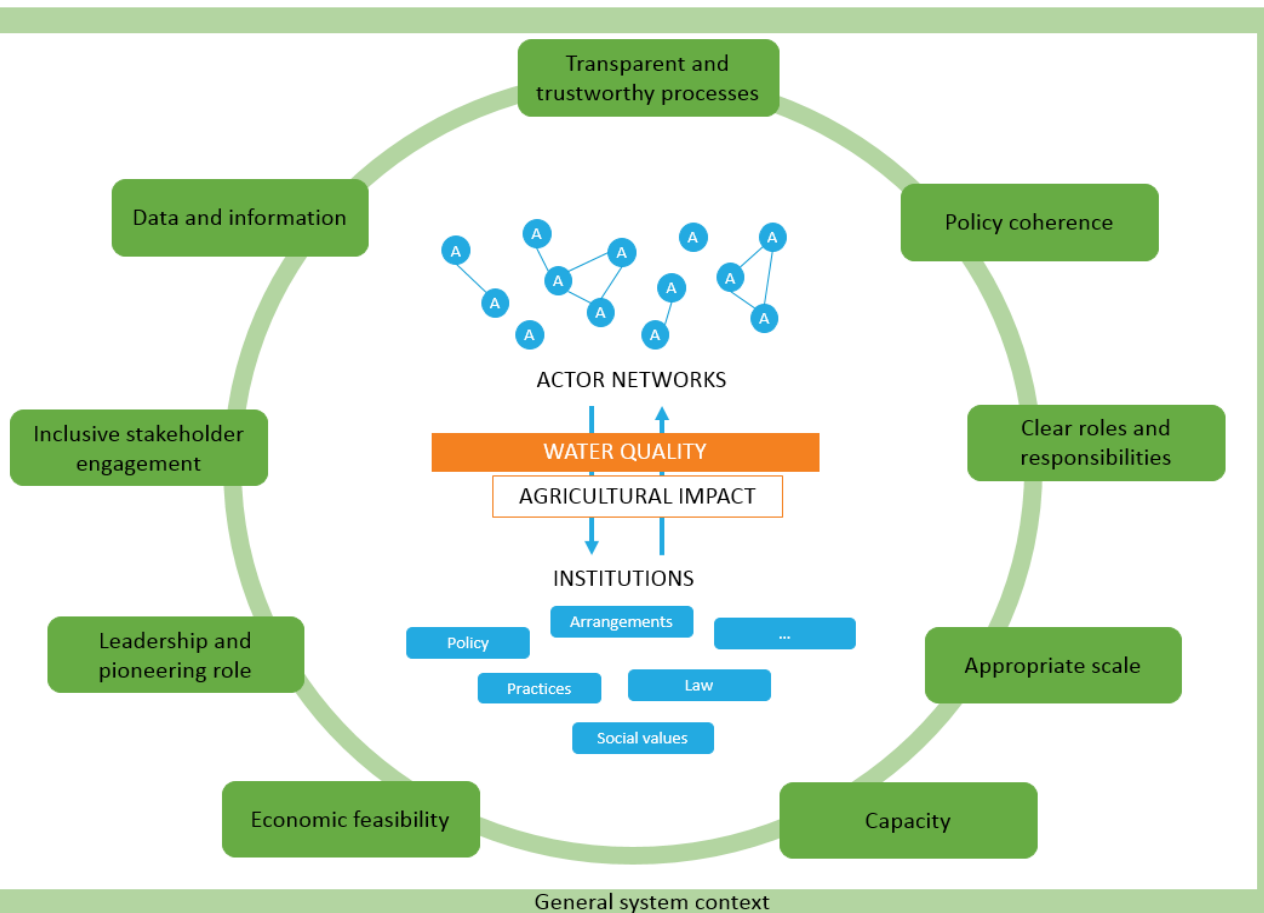


Components

The water system (orange):
interaction between human
and water system

The governance systems
(blue): interactions between
actor networks and the
institutions

Building blocks to obtain a
'constructive environment for
development of a well-
functioning governance
system' (green).

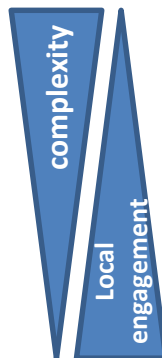


About finding new incentives to engage actors

PARTICIPATORY MONITORING

Designing, aligning and bringing together monitoring data from:

- *Scientists*
- *Environment agencies*
- *Drinking water companies*
- *Local farmers*
- *Local citizens*



Local actors become more engaged in the monitoring and they trust the results.



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- *Engage actors to implement measures !*

Diffuse sources:
Bufferstrips
Mgt practices
Dams, pools



Treatment point
sources

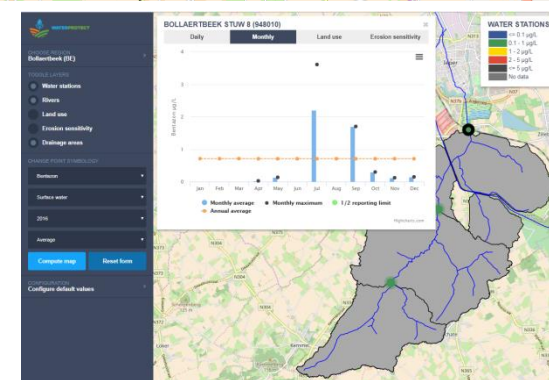
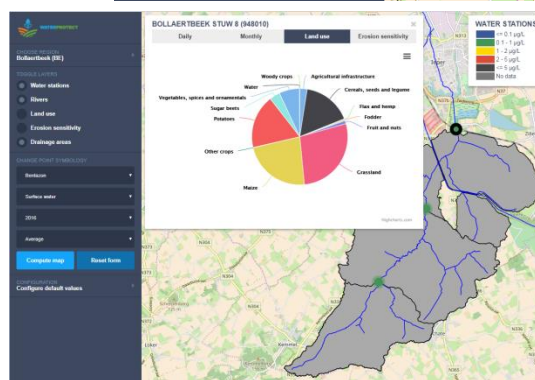
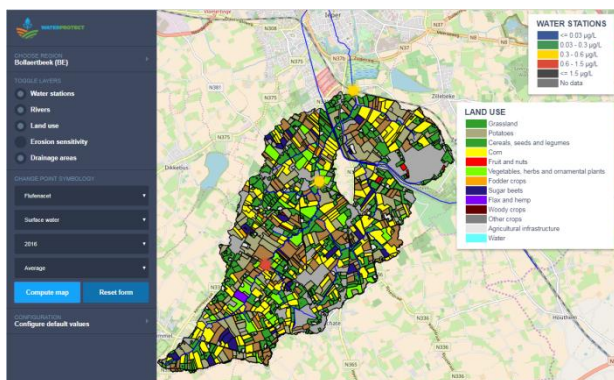
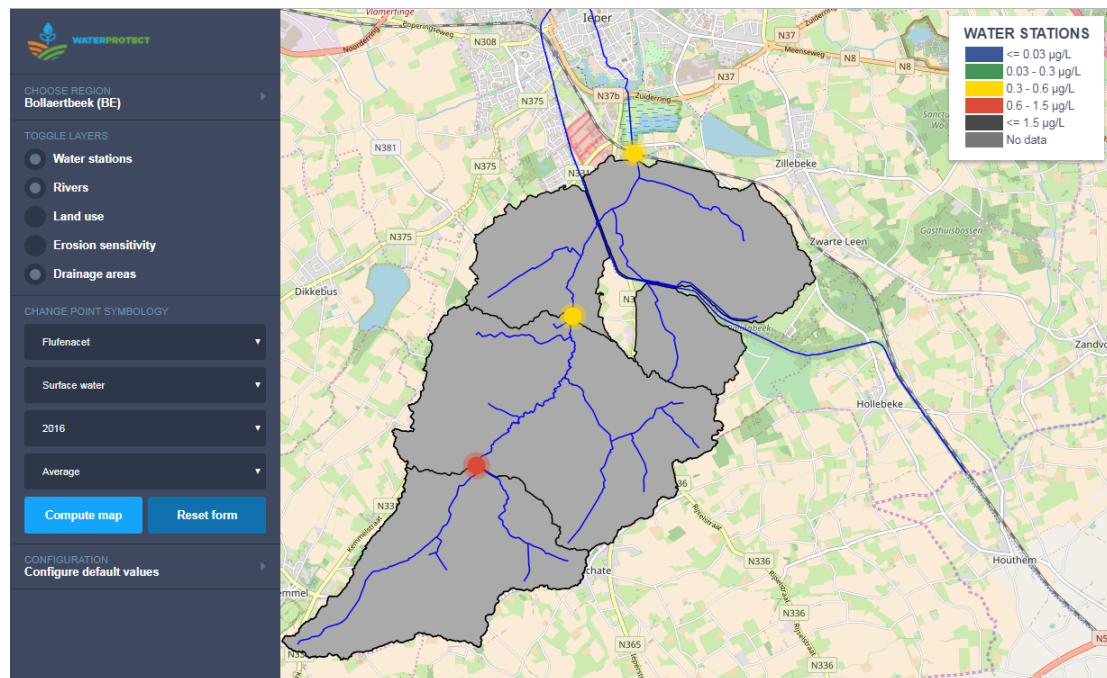


The right measures at the right places

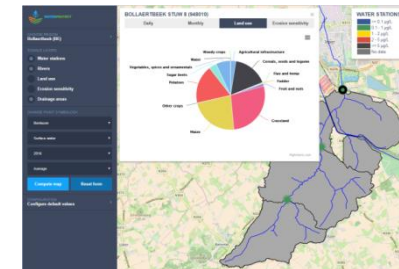
COLLABORATIVE TOOLS AND APPS

- *Harmonised data*
- *Easy access*
- *Link action to water quality*
- *Visualise landscape*
- *Show impact of behaviour*

Transparency on the water system



Impacts	Targets
multi-actor approach for a close cooperation and sharing of information and knowledge	40 training events 500 interactions webtools
sustainable impact on diffuse pollution and point sources at action lab level	13 mitigation systems installed or demonstrated
reduction of costs of water treatment	trend to improvement of water quality
harmonised datasets on water quality	7 harmonised datasets in 7 countries available through web
co-created participatory monitoring approaches	350 farmers + consumers participating 175 users of the webtool
water governance models that lead to higher adoption rates of best management practices	14 BMPs implemented through the governance process
strong multiplier effect to extend best practices across Europe and to translate the lessons into policy reforms and actions	6 EU workshops initiate EIP Water Governance in Agriculture



Project management



www.vito.be

Multi-actor management



www.ilvo.be

Upscaling to EU



www.ewp.eu

Romanian action lab



www.ecologic.org.ro

Belgian action lab



www.inagro.be

Danish action lab



www.geus.dk

Polish action lab



www.pgi.gov.pl

Irish action lab



www.teagasc.ie

Italian action lab



www.unicatt.it

Spanish action lab

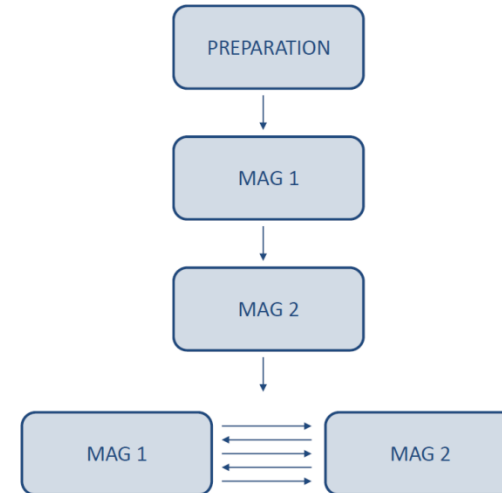


www.csic.es



- **Action lab actors (17 other local project partners)**
 - Environment Agencies
 - Drinking water producers
 - Consumer organisations
 - Local communities
 - Farmers advisory
- **Action lab stakeholders (30 local organisations signed letters of Support)**
 - Local rural networks
 - Farmers unions
 - Fertilizer and plant protection products industry
 - NGO's and nature conservation
 - Ministeries: environment, agriculture

START BELGIAN ACTION LAB (NOV 2017)



MULTI-ACTOR GROUP 1

- Large group of all stakeholders
- Lower level of participation
- To inform, newsletter, etc.

MULTI-ACTOR GROUP 2

- Intensive working group
- All stakeholders have the possibility to join this multi-actor group
- Collaborative discussion and selection of possible actions to improve water quality
- Implementation of actions

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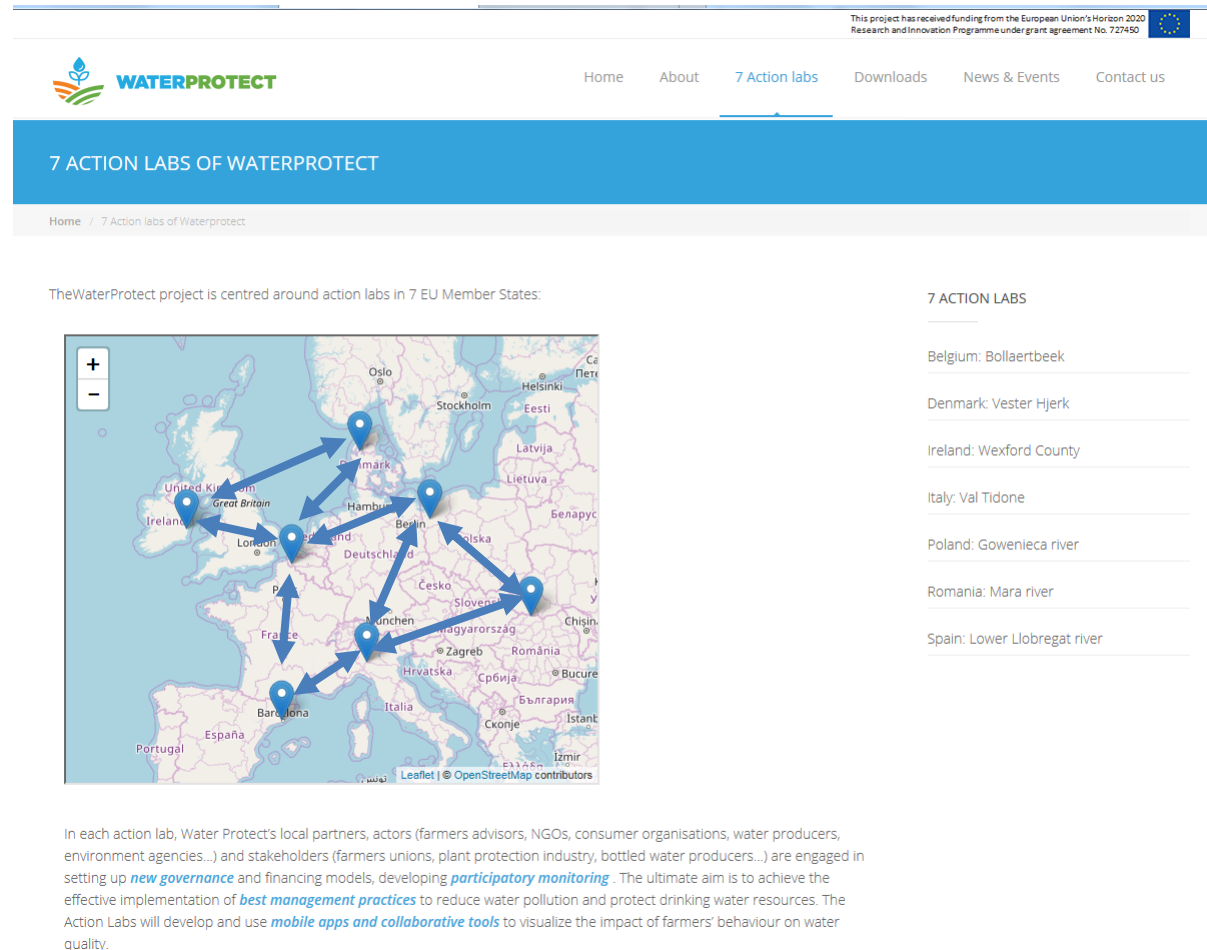


Management

- Part of core group meetings (agenda item)
- Exchange experience and knowledge
- Ensure consistency

Upscaling

- Add desk cases from EWP and EFBW
- Joint Fairway DK case
- EIP Agri operational groups



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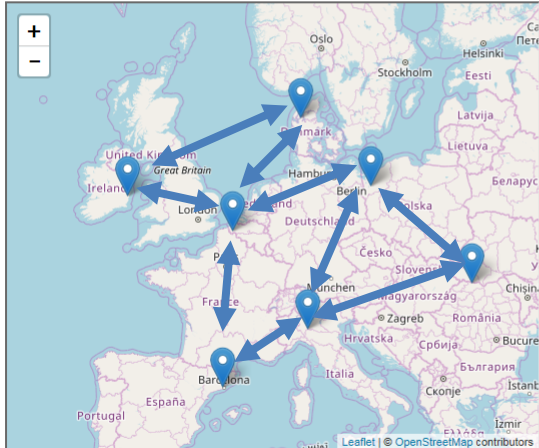
WATERPROTECT

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7 ACTION LABS OF WATERPROTECT

Home / 7 Action labs of Waterprotect

TheWaterProtect project is centred around action labs in 7 EU Member States:



7 ACTION LABS

- Belgium: Bollaertbeek
- Denmark: Vester Hjerk
- Ireland: Wexford County
- Italy: Val Tidone
- Poland: Gowenleca river
- Romania: Mara river
- Spain: Lower Llobregat river

In each action lab, Water Protect's local partners, actors (farmers advisors, NGOs, consumer organisations, water producers, environment agencies...) and stakeholders (farmers unions, plant protection industry, bottled water producers...) are engaged in setting up **new governance** and financing models, developing **participatory monitoring**. The ultimate aim is to achieve the effective implementation of **best management practices** to reduce water pollution and protect drinking water resources. The Action Labs will develop and use **mobile apps and collaborative tools** to visualize the impact of farmers' behaviour on water quality.

WaterProtect yearly meeting (partially co-organised with FairWay)

2018, June 20-22 Denmark

WaterProtect Theme based upscaling workshops

2018, October Poland

2018, November Italy

2018, December Belgium

Best management upscaling workshop & Regional policy conferences

2019, June Poland

2019, October Italy

2019, September Belgium

- **EIP Agri**

- WaterProtect is a H2020 multi actor project : brings together research and innovation actors
- Focus is on sustainable agriculture and water , fits in “sustainable management of the essential natural resources”
- Science, or from practice and intermediaries, including farmers, advisors, NGOs, businesses etc. as actors in a bottom-up process (all partners in the project)
- Practice materials
- synergies between existing policies: WaterProtect has a policy oriented work package and will advice on cross-cutting issues from WFD, CAP, SUD, Nitrates directive, DW directive
- We are keen to learn from and exchange experiences with operational groups dealing with water and agriculture

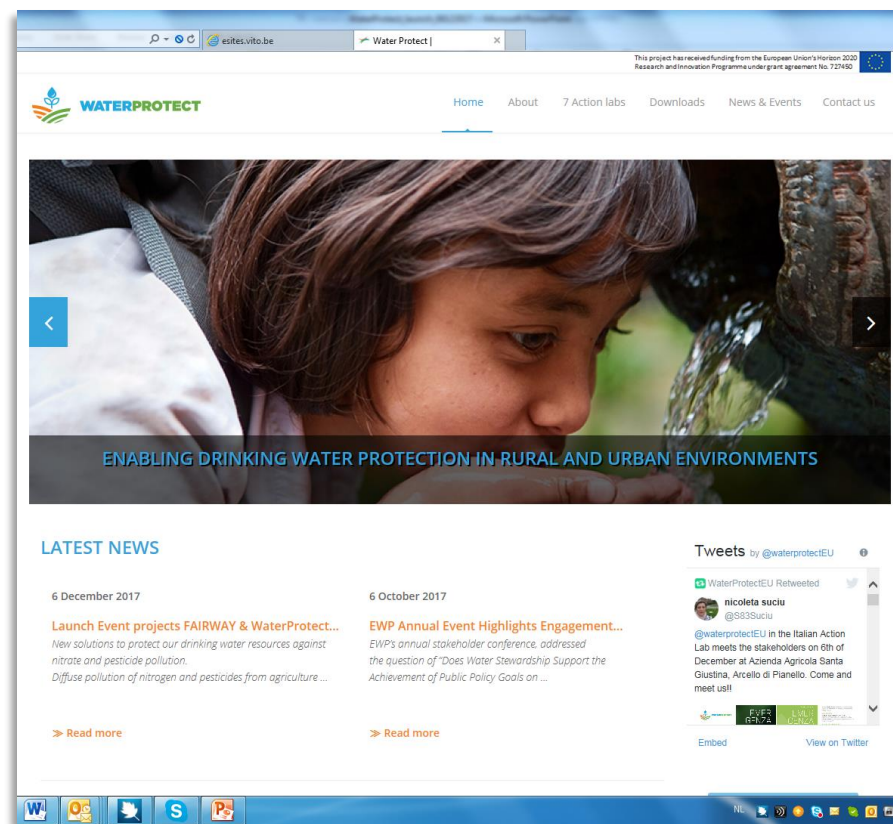
- **EIP Water**

- WaterProtect searches for new governance strategies for improved water protection in rural areas and develops decision support tools (collaborative management): two priority items in EIP Water
- WaterProtect is keen to learn and exchange experiences with related action groups (although relatively few on water and agriculture). We will evaluate to establish an EIP action group on water governance in agriculture
- Address the important topic of diffuse pollution and goals of the WFD

- **Jointly with FairWay**

- Local (work in the field) and EU level
- General WaterProtect website:
 - Twitterbox
 - Action labs info (video, pictures, story lines)
 - Impact
 - News , events, announcements
- Local WaterProtect websites/communication
 - separate project websites: e.g. www.water-protect.ie
 - integration in communication channels of **farmers advisory**
 - Beyond lifetime of the project
 - Practice materials EIP Agri
- Links to EU communication tools
- Joint communication with twinning project FairWay

www.water-protect.eu



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



- We have **technologies** and **policy instruments** in place but what exactly hampers improvement of water quality ?
- We need better **governance**, but at what scale: local, regional, or EU?
- Do we get the policy instruments from **CAP** (Pillar I green direct payment, Pillar II rural development) sufficiently **communicated** to the actors related to **water** ?
- What do you see as potential **alternative financing regimes** to enable implementation of measures?
- Are there any **relevant aspects** in relation to pollution of drinking water by nitrate and pesticides **missing** in the projects?
- Both projects will have **workshops at EU level**. What are important topics at the EU level to be discussed from your point of view? Are you willing to participate in workshops of the projects?

