



OPTAIN

Optimal Strategies to Retain Water and Nutrients

D 1.2 Workshop and workshop report on how to establish and nurture MARG for constructive engagement in water – agriculture - environmental conflict related issues

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Summary

WP1 coordinates and harmonizes stakeholder activities and ensures the link between the 14 OPTAIN case studies, research and modelling work across all WPs. At the start of the OPTAIN project, WP1 facilitates the establishment of multi-actor reference groups (MARG) in each case study and provides communication techniques to encourage active stakeholder engagement for the lifetime of OPTAIN.

To facilitate the establishment of a MARG per case study, WP1 has organized two digital workshops of 3.5-hour duration, because COVID-19 restrictions didn't allow for a physical meeting. These workshops took place in December 2020. The purpose of the workshops was to inform case study leaders how to establish and nurture MARG for constructive engagement in water – agriculture - environmental conflict related issues.

Stakeholder engagement is important because a sound scientific solution not necessarily results in solving a real-world problem. Key lesson learned is that engagement of stakeholders is essential during all phases of the project: the phase of the identification of the problem, assessment of the problem, scenarios to solve the problem and in the phase of implementing the solution.

Engaging stakeholders and establishment of MARGs can be brought down in four steps, 1. preparation, 2. make contact & invite to meeting; 3. organize MARG kick-off and 4. confirmation from members (GDPR). Finally, different types of case study context across the 14 case studies ask for a flexible and pragmatic approach in establishing the MARGs. A strict set up for how to establish a MARG cannot take into account the varying situations with regard to norms and practice of engagement already existing in the different case studies across the European countries in the project. In some case studies relations with core stakeholder groups are already present, or engagement platforms may already exist, in other case studies the situation may be entirely different. It was an aim for the workshops to present important issues to be considered when organizing a MARG, explain the theory, and suggest how to approach these issues in practice.

Enabling meaningful engagement is facilitated by some knowledge of stakeholders. Meaningful and successful stakeholder involvement are influenced by issues as: power balance, equity, trust, adaptivity, shared goals, available resources, decision space as these issues are likely to impact positively or negatively stakeholders' willingness to contribute, share their experiences. Continuity of stakeholders is important for building relationships and trust (takes time). «Trust» is identified as an overall cross cutting dimension being fundamental for successful engagement processes.

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Abbreviations

CS	Case study
CSL	Case study leader
MARG	Multi-Actor Reference Group
MAP	Multi-Actor Platform (multi-actor approach of the FAIRWAY project)
WP	Work Package

1. Introduction

1.1. Introduction of MARG

WP1 coordinates and harmonizes stakeholder activities and ensures the link between the 14 OPTAIN case studies (see figure 1), research and modelling work across all WPs. At the start of the OPTAIN project, WP1 facilitates the establishment of multi-actor reference groups (MARG) in each case study and provides communication techniques to encourage active stakeholder engagement for the lifetime of OPTAIN.

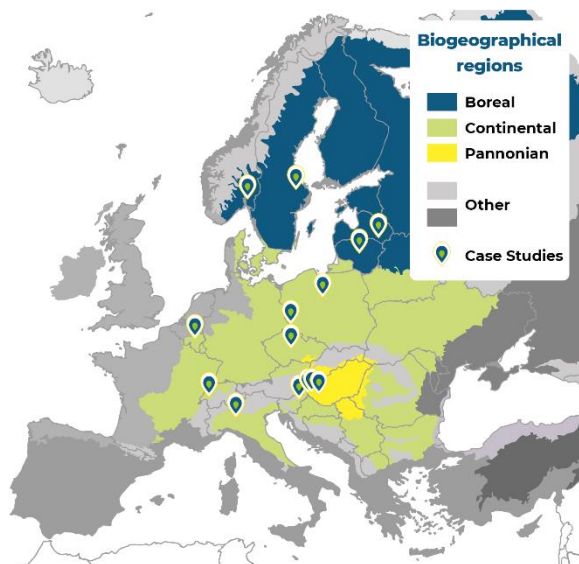


Figure 1 OPTAIN case studies per biogeographical region

To facilitate the establishment of a MARG per case study, WP1 has organized two workshops of 3.5-hour duration. These workshops took place in December 2020, more specific:

- December 10th, 2020- 9:00 – 12:30 (CET+1)
- December 16th, 2020- 9:00 - 12:30 (CET+1)

1.2. Purpose of the workshop

The purpose of the workshop was to inform case study leaders how to establish and nurture MARG for constructive engagement in water – agriculture - environmental conflict related issues. The two workshop mornings each had their own objectives, as specified below:

Objectives day 1:

- Why a MARG?
- How to establish a MARG, including examples from FAIRWAY project
- Discussion on MARG status & challenges of the individual case studies

Objectives day 2:

- Framework and guidelines for meaningful stakeholder engagement
- Case study leaders present result of their homework (preliminary plan on the set up and the date for the first MARG meeting)
- Clarify role of WP1 in relation to other WPs

2. Workshop

2.1. Frame of the workshop

Organization

The workshop was organized and facilitated by the WP1 team that consist of NIVA and Royal HaskoningDHV. The initial plan was to host a physical meeting and invite one participant per case study (the CS-leader). Due to COVID-19 restrictions the workshops were organized via the online application Microsoft Teams. Because of the virtual setting, more people than only the CS-leader were able to join. Therefore, COVID-19 restrictions were both a problem for not having a physical meeting but as well a benefit for hosting more attendees than the CS-leaders only.

During preparations, WP1 team was in close contact with the project lead Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ. Together they agreed on the agenda which was prepared by WP1 team.

Since WP1 and especially the case studies play a central role in the OPTAIN project, alignment with the other WPs is important. In preparation of the workshop bilateral meetings with WP0, WP2, WP4 and WP7 were held, and agreed that they would take a slot during one of the workshops.

Participants

In total 39 people from the OPTAIN consortium got invited of which 30 people attended the workshops. These were the case study lead and co-leads, as well as representatives of WP2, WP4, WP7 and WP8.

FAIRWAY

A few OPTAIN partners also collaborate in the EU project FAIRWAY¹. FAIRWAY is a Horizon2020 project that started in 2017 and will end in 2021. FAIRWAY uses a multi-actor approach (Multi-Actor Platforms – MAP) to facilitate effective cooperation between actors from different sectors and levels, including farmers, advisors, drinking water companies, scientists and policy makers. Two FAIRWAY case studies were presented as an example during the first workshop day.

2.2. Annotated agenda and key messages

The following paragraphs will set out the key messages of the workshop. The agendas and PowerPoint presentations of both workshop days can be found in the Annex.

2.2.1. Workshop day 1

Welcome, structure and agenda of the day (10 minutes)

Cors van den Brink (Royal HaskoningDHV) opened the meeting and welcomed all participants. He presented the digital rules for the meeting, the objectives and agenda. There were no questions.

Why MARG: FAIRWAY example of the Tunø case, Denmark (15 minutes)

Cors van den Brink (Royal HaskoningDHV) presented the need for a MARG based on findings from a case about historical groundwater protection on a Danish island Tonø. The drinking water abstraction of the small island Tonø suffered from a strong increase of nitrate concentrations in the groundwater by the public drinking water facility in the nineties of last century. As the nitrate concentrations exceeded the standards, urgent action was needed. Natural scientists analysed the site, recovered the source of the nitrate pollution and presented scenarios. The economic most feasible scenario consisted of a change of agricultural land-use (permanent grass rather than leek) facilitated by contracts which were favourable for the farmers. This

¹ <https://www.fairway-project.eu/>

scenario resulted in a quick reduction of the nitrate concentrations resulting in safe nitrate levels in the abstracted groundwater. Just a few years ago, the contracts finished and as part of the EU-FAIRWAY project the process was evaluated. Several key stakeholders have been interviewed and most of the farmers ignored that there had been a problem at all. They still believed that the press and authorities created the problem and that the only reason for accepting the solution were the favourable conditions of the contracts.

This example illustrates that a sound scientific solution not necessarily results in stakeholder engagement and solving a real-world problem. Key lesson learned is that engagement of stakeholders is essential during all phases of the project: the phase of the identification of the problem, assessment of the problem, scenarios to solve the problem and in the phase of implementing the solution.

How to establish the MARG and FAIRWAY example of Norwegian MAP (40 minutes)

Ingrid Nesheim (NIVA) presented an approach and the strategy for establishing reference groups in OPTAIN's case studies. The presentation further included a discussion on the establishment of the reference groups in the context of COVID-19 restrictions. The challenges of communicating by means of a virtual platform with and among actors who previously do not know each other, and who do not know the project were discussed. The message was presented that it could be considered to first organize a virtual first kick-off with local authorities, and later a delayed physical kick-off meeting with farmers and other local stakeholders. The presentation also included an overview of experiences from the multi-actor platform in the Norwegian case in the EU project FAIRWAY. Below we present some key messages from this presentation (details on the presentation is included in the annex).

The establishment of MARGs can be brought down in four steps, 1. preparation, 2. make contact & invite to meeting; 3. organize MARG kick off and 4. confirmation from members (GDPR).

Establishment of the reference group – the preparation phase: Preparation and planning are important for a successful kick-off and should include: (i) study the requirements of OPTAIN regarding involvement (data input and feedback), (ii) acquire knowledge about the case study area, what are relevant institutions and actors, and the history of collaboration or lack of collaboration among actors (conflicts). This knowledge is important for prioritizing whom to invite to the MARG and for enabling a successful MARG meeting. It is also important to gain information about the agricultural context in the case study including the agricultural cycle, and what are main type of farmer categories prior to the first MARG kick-off.

Contact stakeholders and invitation to meeting: Present the project in a non-academic language – lay type of language, indicate the type and the extent of engagement requested, and what can be benefits for the stakeholders being involved. An intermediate, contact person in a farmer organization could be helpful in advising on this work. Tailor contact emails according to the receiver on the above-mentioned points. Email may not be effective for communicating with all types of stakeholders, other types of contact information may be needed, e.g. social media platforms, or phone. Ask if it is ok to send information and invite to meetings as part of OPTAIN (store this confirmation).

A flexible and pragmatic approach: A flexible approach to establishing the MARGs is needed in OPTAIN as the case study context among the different 14 cases differs. A case study leader may decide to make use of an already established relevant platform in the case area. When no previous platforms exist, there is a need to establish from scratch (see more in the ppt about this). An important message to convey is: “the project is interested in your situation, your observations and experiences”.

Confirmation from stakeholders: There is a need to get an informed consent from stakeholders that it is ok to send information and to invite to meetings organized by OPTAIN (consent needs to be stored).

FAIRWAY example from Slovenia (15 minutes)

Gregor Kramberger (Slovene Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry, Institute of Maribor) presented the need for a MARG based on findings from a case study site in Slovenia where no stakeholder engagement through a MARG existed prior to the FAIRWAY project. Key lessons learned of MARG establishment:

- Partnership can only function successfully if all stakeholders do its part and are prepared to contribute.
- Find common goals and benefits among all stakeholders (topics) and the frequency of the meeting shall be determined accordingly.

Discussion MARG status & challenges in subgroups (60 minutes)

Alma de Vries (Royal HaskoningDHV) introduced the group exercise which was meant to help case study leaders think about their own MARG status and challenges. During the group discussions the workshop participants have split up in five groups, for which subsequently four sub meetings were established. The fifth group, including all participants without a specific case study, stayed in the original meeting. During the discussion the group made use of MIRO web application. [MIRO](#) is an online collaborative whiteboarding platform that enables distributed teams to work effectively together by brainstorming with digital sticky notes. This working method was communicated before the meeting, so all participants had the change to explore MIRO and prepare for their case study. Figure 2 gives a screenshot from working together in the MIRO board.

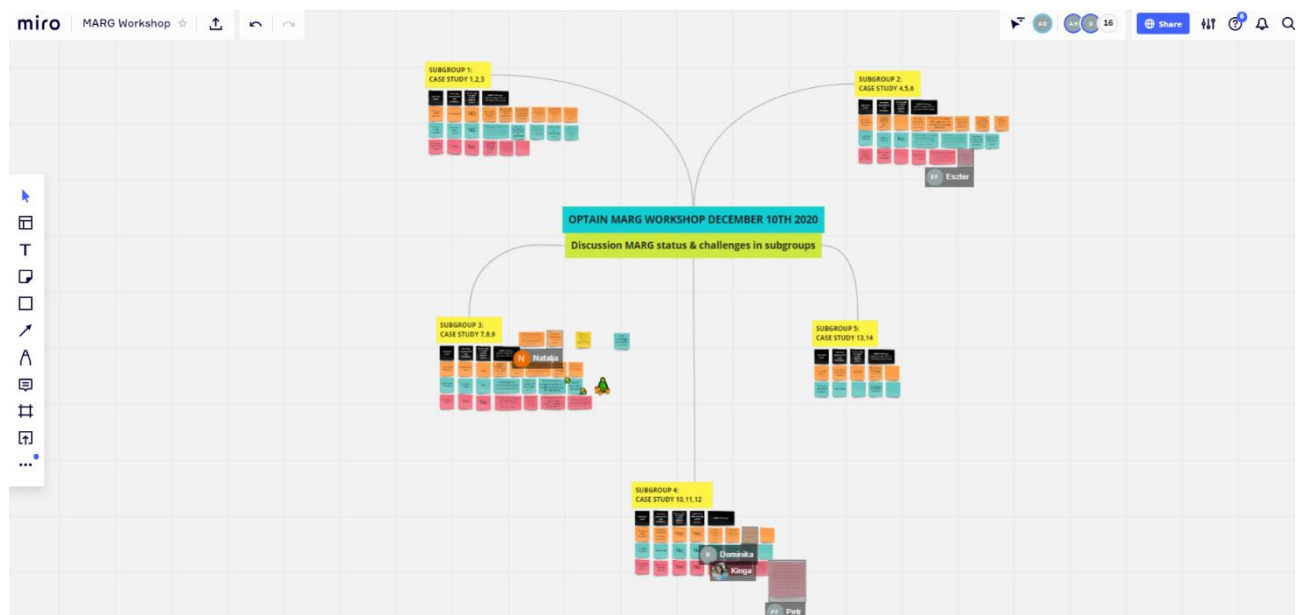


Figure 2 Screenshot working together in the MIRO board

Each CS presents MARG status & challenges (30 minutes)

Alma de Vries (Royal HaskoningDHV) asked all groups to present the main findings of their group discussions. Annex 2 presents the result of the group-discussions and MIRO boards.

Introduction of homework for day 2 (5 minutes)

Cors van den Brink (Royal HaskoningDHV) presented the homework for day 2. WP1 asked each case to – during the next workshop - briefly present how they plan to set up and the date for the first MARG meeting / kick-off.

Discussion and closing of workshop

There were no further questions.

2.2.2. Workshop day 2

Opening day 2: Presentation on MARG (30 minutes)

Ingrid Nesheim (NIVA) opened the second workshop day. She presented how to nurture a MARG and what makes a MARG meaningful. She presented the MARG calendar and timeline and first findings from the stakeholder mapping exercise. Below we present some key messages from this presentation, a few preliminary points from the stakeholder mapping exercise, and also the preliminary MARG calendar. More details on the presentation are included in the attachment of the report.

How to facilitate for meaningful engagement in the MARG –issues for consideration.

Enabling meaningful engagement is facilitated by some knowledge of stakeholders – their situation and their perspectives on agricultural constraints, challenges and what are main financial support systems, subsidies etc. Meaningful and successful stakeholder involvement are influenced by issues as: power balance, equity, trust, adaptivity, shared goals, available resources, decision space as these issues are likely to impact positively or negatively stakeholders' willingness to contribute, share their experiences. Awareness and attention to these issues are needed by the CSL. From the project perspective, a meaningful MARG is dependent upon "representativity of stakeholders". What is representative involvement in the MARG is guided by OPTAIN research questions, and core is involvement, representation of the different stakeholder categories, local, regional and national agricultural and environmental authorities, relevant private companies, agricultural advisors, farmers, NGOs.

Some practical issues: Practical issues have impact on possibilities for a "meaningful" MARG kick-off: (i) Place for workshop to be suited to local context (better to not select formal office for meeting), (ii) Time of workshop to be organized at a convenient time for the invitees, (iii) Avoid lengthy & academic presentations, keep short & simple, (iv) Language accustomed to local context. Another important issue is the role of the moderator, in some cases the moderator role will be the exclusive responsibility of the CSL in other cases this will be shared by some local intermediate. Coordination of responsibilities is important. Provide for coffee, lunch etc., or other types of food if the kick-off will be organized in the afternoon.

Nurturing the MARG between workshops: Continuity of stakeholders is important for building relationships and trust (takes time). «Trust» is identified as an overall cross cutting dimension being fundamental for successful engagement processes. Continuity of stakeholders is also important for enabling process development. An engagement process is based on both way learning interactions – for increased understanding and awareness.

Preliminary results from the stakeholder mapping exercise: Between 10 and 20 stakeholders were identified in each case, with medium to high interest and at different levels (local – regional – national). Two case studies identified ± 50 stakeholders including a relatively high number of local stakeholders.

The preliminary MARG calendar to be updated every year

Case study engagement activities (case leaders)										
2021 (months 5-16)			2022 (months 17- 28)		2023 (month 29- 40)		2024 (months 41-52)		2025 (53-60)	
<p>MARG Workshop 1 Jan.- March 2021</p> <p>Kick off establish the engagement platform & inform about project and expectations</p> <p>&</p> <p>WP 2: Local environmental issues, collecting “underutilized”/potential suitable measures, (pre-) selection of measures</p> <p>WP 7 (about the training environment for awareness of project activity – WP7 to provide template).</p>	<p><i>Engagement activities</i></p> <p>WP 6: <i>semi-structure interviews governance and policy context (send out Jun. 2021, expected return Oct./Nov. 2021)</i></p> <p>WP3: <i>Discuss possibilities to fill data gaps (where required)</i></p> <p>WP7</p>	<p>MARG Workshop 2 Oct.-Dec. 2021 (months 14-16)</p> <p>WP2: Detailed discussion on measures and indicators, starting scenario discussion</p> <p>WP7</p>	<p><i>Engagement activities</i></p> <p>WP 6: <i>semi-structure interviews governance and policy context (send out Jun. 2021; del. Aug. 2022)</i></p> <p>WP3: <i>Discuss possibilities to fill data gaps (where required)</i></p> <p>WP4: <i>(T4.5) Consulting to identify relevant persons to be surveyed</i></p> <p>WP7</p>	<p>MARG Workshop 3 Aug- Oct (months 25-28)</p> <p>WP4: about socio-economic analyses and their setups & presentation of <u>setups</u> of environmental models (+ very first results)</p> <p>WP7</p>	<p><i>Engagement activities</i></p> <p>WP4: Surveys to assess measures’ attractiveness (month 27- 33; del. month 40)</p> <p>WP5: Smaller focus group meetings discussing interactive tools to visualize and filter results of the optimization (del. month 48)</p> <p>WP7</p>	<p>MARG Workshop 4 Aug-Oct (months 35-38)</p> <p>WP4: Feedback on results from environmental + economic modeling of single measures</p> <p>WP7</p>	<p><i>Engagement activities</i></p> <p>WP5: Identification of preferred NSWRM solutions (method not decided) (month 50) del. month 52</p> <p>WP6: Survey on cross-catchment analysis (month 48 - Aug.; return month 50 – Oct.; MS month 52 – Dec. 2025</p>	<p>MARG Workshop 5 Month 45-48)</p> <p>WP5: Feedback on optimization results and interactive visualization /navigation tools</p> <p>WP7: training</p>	<p><i>Engagement activities</i></p> <p>WP6: Individual consulting to test incentives (month 52 – Dec. return month 53 – Jan.; del. month 54 – Mar. 2025)</p> <p>Public training event (May 2025; Del. Aug. 2025)</p>	<p>MARG final event (months 56-58)</p> <p>WP6: Policy aspects and recommendation for action</p> <p>WP7: training</p>

Presentation WP2 and WP7 about the first MARG meeting (15 minutes)

Tatenda Lemann (University of Bern) presented on behalf of WP2. WP2 provides an exercise in the 1st MARG meeting on existing and potentially suitable NSWRM. First inventory takes place through send out questionnaire (deadline January 2021).

Natacha Amorsi (OIEAU) and Sabina Bokal (Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe) presented on behalf of WP7. WP7 aims to develop and provide an online Learning Environment on NSWRM to allow easy access to project outputs using a variety of interactive online tools and training formats tailored to different targeted audiences from stakeholders to the citizens. In the coming months they will set up leaflets about OPTAIN project and WPs. Case study leaders responded that it is preferred to have the leaflets ready before the first MARG meeting.

Each case briefly present (5 min per CS) how they plan to set up and the date for the first MARG meeting

Cors van den Brink and Alma de Vries (Royal HaskoningDHV) asked all case study leaders to reflect on the homework exercise. In general, case study leaders aim for a physical meeting as soon as local COVID-19 regulations allow.

From the presentations it became clear that most case study leaders are very well convinced of the added value of stakeholder engagement. They also have a clear picture of the stakeholders to be involved and the stakeholder issues to be solved. Some of these stakeholders – usually authorities and knowledge institutes / universities – are already working together. In most case studies farmers still have to be engaged. Most of the case study leaders have a good idea of the role of the stakeholders or the way to engage them. Regarding farmers, agricultural advisors have been mentioned most often as intermediate between farmers, authorities and stakeholders executing the project.

The presentations also showed that most case studies are more or less in the same phase: the phase of engaging the farmers and some more distinct stakeholders.

What to expect from WP1 (the ‘triangle’) (15 minutes)

Cors van den Brink (Royal HaskoningDHV) presented what to expect from WP1. WP1 advises on the engagement for a harmonized approach and facilitates communication between WPs (in need of information) and case study leaders (provide information).

MARG and GDPR and regulations on data protection (15 minutes)

Felix Witing (UFZ) presented on behalf of the project lead about MARG and GDPR and regulations on data protection. OPTAIN ensures data protection by minimization of personal data, pseudonymisation of personal data, encryption of key files, appropriate data storage (e.g. OPTAIN cloud). CS leaders must inform stakeholders about GDPR requirements and ask for (written) consent.

Presentation WP4 about socio-economic analysis (15 minutes)

Federica Monaco (University of Milan) presented on behalf of WP4 about socio-economic analysis. WP4 will analyse and identify the leading factors that drive farmers to participate in the implementation of NSWRM. She intends on sending out a questionnaire to CS leaders early 2021.

Discussion and closing of workshop (30 minutes)

During the final discussions multiple case study leaders spoke up together. They indicated that they are in general natural scientists and don't have (much) experience in stakeholder engagement. Especially digital meetings during COVID-19 bring concerns to CS leaders. The two workshops provided theory, which is helpful, but they are afraid it does not prepare them enough for fieldwork. Furthermore, they indicated that WP1's primary 'stakeholders' are the CS leaders themselves, not the outside stakeholders.

WP1 plans to create an InterVision platform and set-up a CS-network. In this platform case studies can use each other's vision, experience and ideas in order to find new ways of addressing issues in the case studies, respecting the different cultural and geographical contexts of the various case studies. More experienced case study leaders can help the less experienced case study leaders by reflecting on the issues raised. Topics can be various. WP1 intends to organize the first of these platform-meetings in January/beginning of February 2021 in preparation of the MARG kick-off. The role of WP1 in these meetings is not 'telling the CS-leaders what to do' but to facilitate a platform in which they can help each other. And of course – as WP1 is attending the meeting as well – WP1 will ask questions and provide information as well regarding the issues raised by the CS-leaders. Especially the practical experience of the CS-leaders and insight in the cultural and geographical context of the OPTAIN case studies, can be of great practical help in addition to the theoretical input from WP1.

Further reading

Suggestions for further reading regarding stakeholder engagement are presented in Annex 3.

Annex

Annex 1: Agenda for MARG workshops

Annex 2: Results MIRO board

Annex 3: Suggested further reading

Annex 4: Compilation of PowerPoint presentations

Annex 1: Agenda for MARG workshops

December 10th 9:00 – 12:30 and December 16th 9:00 - 12:30

Microsoft Teams

Day 1 December 10th

Objectives day 1:

- Why a MARG?
- How to establish a MARG, including examples from FAIRWAY project
- Discussion on MARG status & challenges of the individual case studies

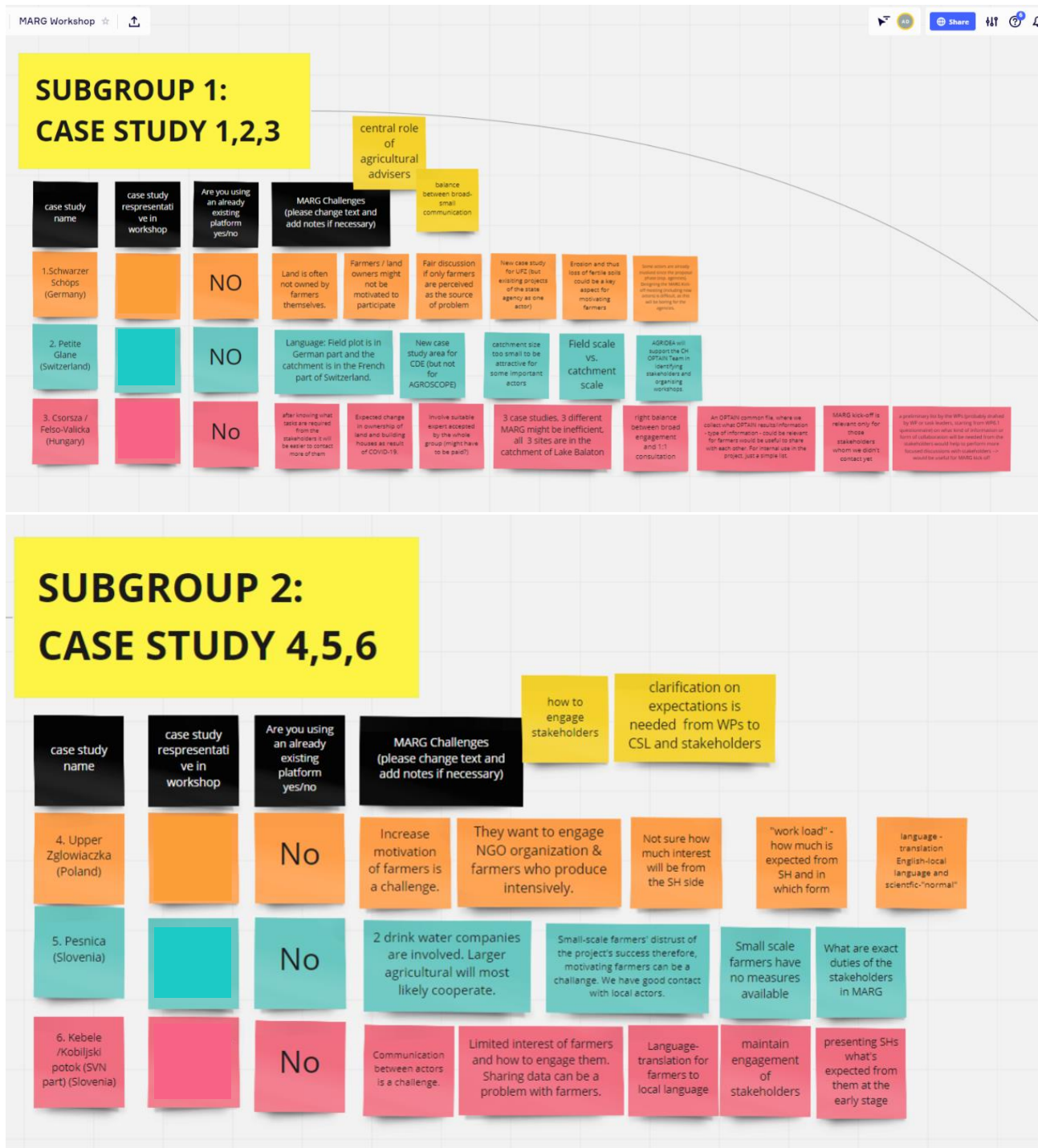
#	Time	Subject	Presenter
1	9.00 – 9.10	Welcome, structure and agenda of the day	Cors van den Brink (Royal HaskoningDHV)
2	9.10 – 9.25	Why MARG: FAIRWAY example of the Tunø case (Denmark)	Cors van den Brink (Royal HaskoningDHV)
3	9.25 – 10.05	How to establish the MARG + FAIRWAY example of Norwegian MAP	Ingrid Nesheim (NIVA)
4	10.05 – 10.20	FAIRWAY example from Slovenia	Gregor Kramberger (Slovene Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry, Institute of Maribor)
5	10.20 – 10.30	Questions and break	
6	10.30 – 11.30	Discussion MARG status & challenges in subgroups (3 CS per subgroup; each group presents for 10 min and 10 min for reflection)	All
7	11.30 – 12.00	Each CS presents MARG status & challenges (2 min per CS)	All
8	12.00 – 12.30	Introduction of homework for day 2 Discussion and closing of workshop	Cors van den Brink (Royal HaskoningDHV)

Day 2 December 16th
Objectives day 2:

- Framework and guidelines for meaningful stakeholder engagement
- Case study leaders present result of their homework (preliminary plan on the set up and the date for the first MARG meeting)
- Clarify role of WP1 in relation to other WPs

#	Time	Subject	Presenter
1	9.00 – 9.30	Welcome Presentation on how to nurture the MARG, MARG timeline, about what are meaningful MARGs, reflect on challenges presented day 1 and Stakeholder mapping exercise	Ingrid Nesheim (NIVA)
2	9.30 – 9.45	Presentation WP2 and WP7 about the first MARG meeting (Agenda and facilitating leaflets)	Tatenda Lemann (University of Bern) Sabina Bokal (Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe) Natacha Amorsi (OIEAU)
3	9.45 – 10.20	Each case briefly present (5 min per CS) how they plan to set up and the date for the first MARG meeting	CS 1-7
4	10:20-10:30	Short break	
5	10:30 – 11.15	Each case briefly present (5 min per CS) how they plan to set up and the date for the first MARG meeting	CS 8-14
6	11.15 - 11.30	What to expect from WP1 (the 'triangle')?	Cors van den Brink (Royal HaskoningDHV)
7	11.30 – 11.45	MARG and GDPR and regulations on data protection (WPO)	Felix Witing (UFZ)
8	11.45 – 12.00	Presentation WP4 about socio-economic analysis	Federica Monaco (University of Milan)
9	12.00 – 12.30	Discussion and closing of workshop	Cors van den Brink (Royal HaskoningDHV)

Annex 2: Results MIRO board



SUBGROUP 3: CASE STUDY 7,8,9

case study name	case study representative in workshop	Are you using an already existing platform yes/no	MARG Challenges (please change text and add notes if necessary)
7. La Wimbe (Belgium)		NO	<p>Differences in opinions, interests & ideas between stakeholders, can be partly due to missing clarity in approaches.</p> <p>Limited or no interest among farmers</p> <p>Current experience on working with MARG is limited.</p> <p>TBD: Which level has the highest influence within each CS? Management agencies, legal context, etc.</p> <p>Common stakeholder nurturing guideline / handbook would be useful.</p> <p>There is a challenge with culture due to a culture of liberty.</p> <p>General lack of spatial planning policy.</p> <p>Differences in opinions, interests & ideas between stakeholders, can be partly due to missing clarity in approaches.</p> <p>Limited interests among farmers.</p> <p>Differences in Language</p>
8. Dotnuvele (Lithuania)		No	<p>A challenge is to contact farmers due to data protection policy</p> <p>Medium interest of the public sectors</p> <p>Established farms struggle to comply with already existing rules and regulations</p> <p>"good" and "bad" farmers</p>
9. Cherio (Italy)		No	<p>No particular challenges in establishing the MARG: good contacts with local actors</p> <p>Timing (outside cropping season) and modality (on site/on line)</p> <p>Limited interest of single farmers: motivation needed (in future MARG)</p> <p>Different roles in water management, interests and awareness about measures between stakeholders</p>

SUBGROUP 4: CASE STUDY 10,11,12

case study name	case study representative in workshop	Are you using an already existing platform yes/no	experience with running a MARG yes/no	MARG Challenges
10. Krågstad River (Norway)		Yes	Yes	<p>attract stakeholders as we start to observe "stakeholders fatigue"</p> <p>to show what is there for stakeholder, what we can offer other/better than until now</p> <p>trust and communication between farmers and scientists</p> <p>Challenge now, before the first MARG: we need "TOOLS" to contact the MARG, we need flyers, we need clear messages, harmonised at project level</p>
11. Tetves (Hungary)		No	No	<p>Farmers don't see too much benefits from projects / nutrient management.</p> <p>Overcome stakeholder fatigue is a challenge. In addition farmers don't have time to engage much.</p> <p>The lack of concrete questions, what we can ask from farmers. It is pretty challenging.</p>
12. Cechticky (Czech Republic)		Yes	No	<p>Farmers do not always find benefits from water retention measures on agricultural land. Farmland is mostly hired</p> <p>Farmers prefer non-technical (tillage, etc.) easily applicable measures. Water quality is of a minor interest despite some water supply sources are influenced by farming.</p> <p>To show what is valuable for stakeholders to participate - what we can offer other/better than until now, what could they influence</p> <p>Our experience from previous projects is to involve - to explain - to engage the farmers in the process of designing some measures - where they see the problems (with pollution, water retention, etc)</p>

SUBGROUP 5: CASE STUDY 13,14

Good contacts
with local
municipalities
/ decision
makers

case study
name

case study
representative in
workshop

Are you using
an already
existing
platform
yes/no

MARG Challenges
(please change text and
add notes if necessary)

13. Dviete
(Latvia)

There are no
challenges
in the work
with actors.

14. Sävjaån
Headwaters
(Sweden)

Yes, we will partly
use an already
existing water
quality
management
organization.

Engage with
stakeholders
despite COVID
situation

Annex 3: Suggested further reading

1. Advancing MAPs as vehicles for resolving issues on drinking water pollution from agriculture

Sundnes, F., C. van den Brink and M. Graversgaard (2020). FAIRWAY-report D2.5 (58p).

This report presents and analyses experiences from ten multi-actor platforms of the FAIRWAY project. FAIRWAY's overarching objective is to review approaches for drinking water protection against pollution from agriculture. With the aim of doing a critical assessment of the engagement processes in a multi-actor context, we harvest lessons from the participants in FAIRWAYS multi-actor platforms (MAPs). Further, we map opportunities and bottlenecks for meaningful engagement, shed light on challenges and how they have been addressed, and explore the future sustainability of the engagement platforms beyond the lifetime of the project.

Issue of trust between participants and actors is flagged as a crosscutting issue, relating to all other dimensions of engagement, requiring facilitation and long-term commitment. Across the project, the MAPs seem successful in creating arenas for dialogue and exchange of information and viewpoint. However, three years into the project many of the MAPs are still short of seeing real impact of the processes in terms of reaching established goals. There is evidence from some MAPs that the lack of impact might jeopardies the engagement processes, creating disappointment or fatigue on the part of the participating actors. It is reported that building relationships and fostering good relations and common understanding requires long-term commitment and takes time. When coupled with awareness-raising amongst key actors, it also takes time for change to take place, for instance the changing farming practices. Voluntariness in terms of implementation of measures is considered something that can help in the trust-building process, but that also constitutes a barrier for effective implementation. There are also apparent differences in perspectives within the MAPs, on whether the facilitation of dialogues is to be considered a success-factor in itself, or whether success only can be determined when there are real impacts with reference to set goals.

2. BiodivERsA Stakeholder Engagement Handbook in research projects

Durham E., Baker H., Smith M., Moore E. & Morgan V. (2014). The BiodivERsA Stakeholder Engagement Handbook. BiodivERsA, Paris (108 pp).

BiodivERsA is the network of national funding agencies in Europe that aims to build a dynamic platform for encouraging excellent and policy-relevant biodiversity research at a pan-European scale. Between 2008 and 2014, it launched five major calls for proposals on prioritized topics that correspond to the most pressing strategic issues that biodiversity and ecosystem services currently face. BiodivERsA aims to launch annual calls in future. BiodivERsA partners recognize that research on biodiversity and associated ecosystem services is not only an environmental issue, but as much an economic, political, food-security and energy-security one. Being a cross-cutting subject, biodiversity research needs to promote interdisciplinarity, integrate a range of actors, reach academic excellence, and have a clear societal impact. Biodiversity scientists have already been involved in the provision of knowledge to stakeholders, including policy makers, adopting new ways of disseminating and explaining their findings. Still, for researchers it is not always clear how to effectively engage with stakeholders as exemplified by a recent statement from the principal investigator of one of the BiodivERsA-funded projects: *“A key point for me is understanding who are the key persons to be involved in research and what is the best way of communicating research results while having an impact; which is the lever we need to activate in order to make our results be used and change the course for the foreseeable future”*.

In this context, BiodivERsA is promoting science society and science-policy interfacing along the whole research process, from inception onwards (Figure F1). BiodivERsA recognizes that it is particularly challenging for researchers to ensure academic excellence and societal impact at the same time. In particular, it appears that biodiversity scientists (probably as scientists from many other domains) are very strong in developing and using scientific frameworks and methodologies, but often lack such clear frameworks and methodologies when engaging with stakeholders. A selection of frameworks and methodologies designed to ensure a balanced representation of relevant stakeholders in research activities are available but are often not applied in biodiversity research. In this context, BiodivERsA has developed this best practice handbook on stakeholder engagement in research projects, providing practical guidance to researchers to better plan and engage with nonacademic stakeholders, including policy makers. The development of this handbook has been led by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), one of the UK partners in BiodivERsA and an established authority in the field of stakeholder engagement practices. The objective of this BiodivERsA handbook is not to provide a detailed and prescriptive methodology; the handbook provides a framework and selection of tools so that each research consortium can determine which types of stakeholder engagement are the most profitable for their research project. Making the engagement process more inclusive and enhancing the legitimacy and societal relevance of scientific research is considered a crucial aspect of BiodivERsA's activities to reinforce the European research community in the field for reaching excellence in terms of both academic outputs and societal relevance. We hope this handbook will further pave the way to knowledge provision and illuminate solutions for better protecting, managing and using biodiversity to tackle key environmental and societal challenges at the European level.

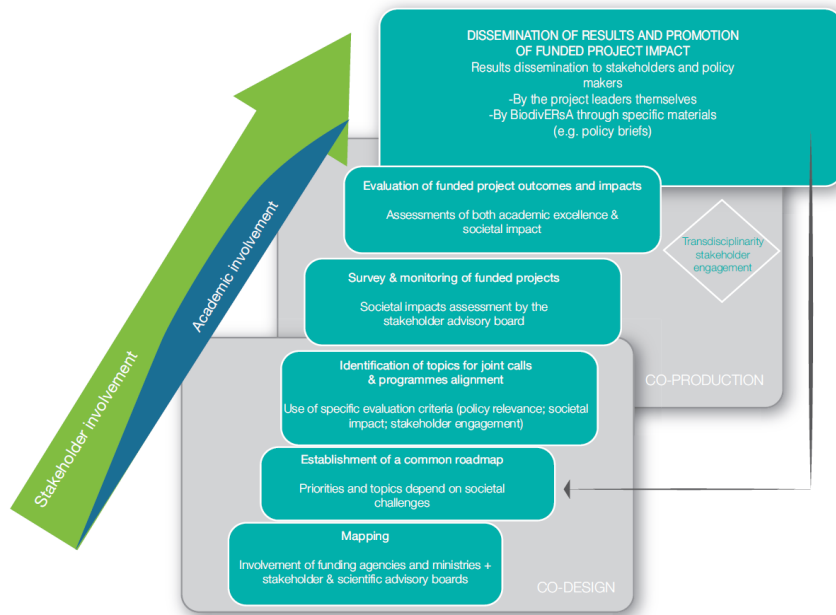


Figure F1. Approach and methodology used to engage stakeholders and promote the science-policy and science-society dialogue in BiodivERSA throughout the research (development) process. While academic excellence is a major criterion for evaluating research to be supported in BiodivERSA, innovative approaches are used (from co-design of programmes to promotion of research results) to increase the societal impact of the funded research.

3. Catchment sensitive farming

Environment Agency (2019) Catchment Sensitive Farming Evaluation Report – Water Quality, Phases 1 to 4 (2006-2018). Natural England publication, June 2019.

Launched in December 2005, the Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF) partnership is an advice-led initiative enabling action by farmers to reduce agricultural pollution. CSF's primary objective is to encourage voluntary action to help achieve Water Framework Directive, National Emission Ceilings Directive and SSSI targets. Delivered in partnership by Natural England and the Environment Agency, CSF contributes to Government targets for 'Clean and plentiful water' and 'Clean air' set out in the 25 Year Environment Plan.

Monitoring and evaluation are core elements of CSF. Evaluation informs decisions on the future of CSF, including ongoing improvement (of design and implementation) and reinvestment, as well as informing wider policy development.

After twelve years, evaluation demonstrates that CSF has made significant progress in delivering its water quality objectives¹. Success has been underpinned by effective farmer engagement and advice delivery achieved through a combination of CSF Officers, commissioned contractors, and partnerships with other organizations.

Targeting areas where action is most needed, CSF has delivered extensive farmer engagement and advice delivery. The 19,776 farms engaged represent 34 per cent of the total farmed area of England. Using an effective mix of one-to-one and group engagements, significant importance has been placed on building relationships across the farming community. Overall, farmers are very positive about their experiences of CSF and indicate CSF Officers provide them with relevant and trusted advice.

76,700 individual pollution mitigation measures² have been implemented on farms following (one-to-one) CSF advice. The majority are judged to be 'mostly effective'. Cost is the most significant barrier to implementation of measures, but capital grants (initially available through CSF and now through Countryside Stewardship) are a strong enabler and driver of action. CSF advice is making a positive contribution to delivery of Countryside Stewardship objectives for water.

Nutrient, sediment, faecal indicator organism and pesticide pressures have been reduced within those areas where pressures from agriculture are greatest. These reductions contribute towards achieving sector-weighted water quality targets. CSF is, however, part of a wider policy mix and, in the majority of cases, will not achieve these targets on its own.

Water quality improvements are evident in monitoring data, after accounting for a range of confounding factors (for example, weather variation and changes in cropping patterns and livestock densities).

CSF requires time in a catchment to achieve widespread farmer engagement, establish effective farmer relationships, provide farm advice and grant support, and achieve significant uptake of mitigation measures on farms. Our evidence indicates a lag of around three years before mitigation measures produce a detectable water quality improvement.

Both extended timescales (to allow for further CSF delivery, lags in the system and building more comprehensive datasets) and refined evaluation methods will be needed to determine the ecological and groundwater benefits from CSF.

There are indications that CSF is reducing the occurrence of water pollution incidents, relating to agriculture, where advice delivery has been most focused, but incidents are increasing in areas where there are agricultural pressures and less focused CSF delivery.

The benefits of CSF go well-beyond water quality. Natural capital benefits particularly associated with CSF also include biodiversity, provision of animal products and materials, erosion control, reduced flood risk, natural pest control, and beneficial insect pollination.

Looking forward, evaluation remains fundamental to the success of CSF. Further work is planned to support continuous improvement of CSF delivery and ensure the evaluation of benefits is increasingly robust and comprehensive. As the policy framework evolves, we will look to adapt the approach developed for CSF in order to provide a more integrated assessment of water policies relating to agriculture.

4. RECARE Guidelines Stakeholder Workshop

Caspari, T., Godert van Lynden, Zhanquo Bai, Stephan Mantel, Felicitas Bachmann, Gudrun Schwilch (2014). RECARE WP4 / WP5 Project Guidelines. Stakeholder Workshop 1. Participatory identification of measures to combat soil threats in Europe. World soil information & University of Bern, September 2014

Stakeholder involvement in RECARE

The integrated, trans-disciplinary approach of the RECARE project aims at initiating a process of co-production of knowledge and joint learning between relevant stakeholders from the local to the (sub-) national level. Thus, in each case study site a range of different stakeholders – from land users, civil society organizations, local authorities to industry and government representatives - will actively be engaged in the process. Two major categories of stakeholders are being distinguished in RECARE:

1. local stakeholders (land users, representatives of local authorities, local NGOs, etc.) with site specific knowledge and experience who live in the specific rural environment (local participants); local stakeholders know best the characteristics of their land and the way to work it; and
2. external stakeholders, i.e. researchers, consultants etc. working in rural environments (external participants), with different degrees of professional expertise on soil-related issues, and able to suggest alternative techniques and evaluate their results. This means, the group is composed of researchers, project staff and representatives of the local community (land users, local authorities). All members of the group have experience in and knowledge about the specific rural environment.

The RECARE report contains guidelines for the set-up of participatory stakeholder workshops. The workshops are a cornerstone of stakeholder participation and aim at enabling transdisciplinary learning processes throughout the project, i.e. learning processes between scientific and non-scientific actors. Thus, the workshops provide opportunities to initiate, promote and deepen a mutual learning process between the researchers and a range of relevant stakeholders (e.g. land managers, food producers, developers, industry, regulators, advisory services, authorities, experts) that have some kind of interest in the topic of soil threats in the case study sites.

Annex 4: Compilation of PowerPoint presentations



OPTimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe

MARG Workshop Day 1

Cors van den Brink & Alma de Vries (RHDHV)
Ingrid Nesheim (NIVA)
December 10th - 2020



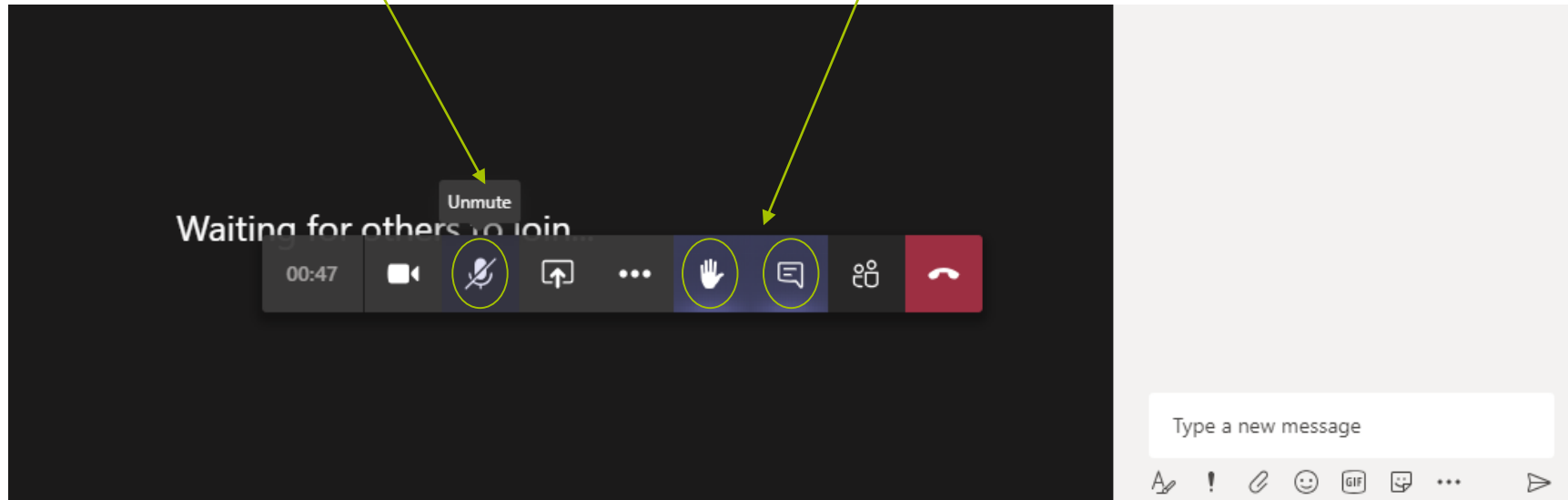
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 862756.



Digital social rules

Please mute your microphone

Questions in the chat or raise your hand



Introduction

Objectives day 1 - today

- Why a MARG
- How to establish a MARG, including examples from Fairway project
- Discussion on MARG status & challenges of their Case Study

Objectives day 2 – next week

- Framework and guidelines for meaningful stakeholder engagement
- Case study leaders present result of their homework (to be announced)
- Clarify role of WP1 in relation to other WP's

Agenda

#	Time	Subject	By who
1	9.00 – 9.10	Welcome, structure and agenda of the day	Cors
2	9.10 – 9.25	Why MARG: Fairway example of the Tunø case (Denmark)	Cors
3	9.25 – 10.05	How to establish the MARG + Fairway example of Norwegian MAP	Ingrid
4	10.05 – 10.20	Fairway example from Slovenia	Gregor
5	10.20 – 10.30	Questions and break	
6	10.30 – 11.30	Discussion MARG status & challenges in subgroups (3 CS per subgroup; each group presents for 10 min and 10 min for reflection)	All
7	11.30 – 12.00	Each CS presents MARG status & challenges (2 min per CS)	All
8	12.00 – 12.30	Introduction of homework for day 2 Discussion and closing of workshop	Cors

WP2 –case studies

Historical groundwater protection

By Cors van den Brink & Morten Graversgaard*

*Department of Agroecology, Aarhus University, Denmark.
Email: Morten.Graversgaard@agro.au.dk

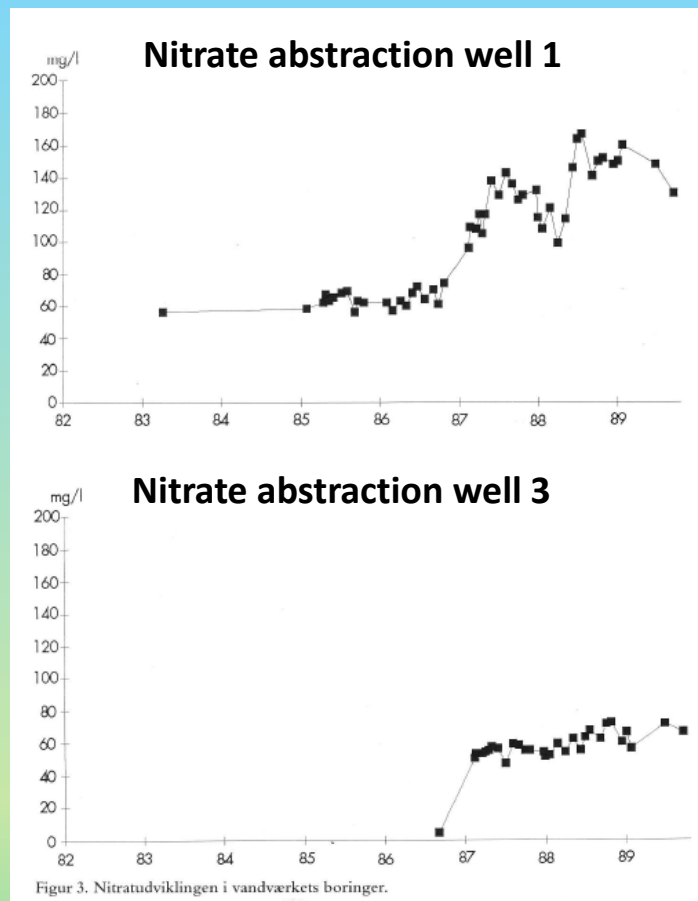


WP2 –Tunø case



(Photo: Lærke Thorling)

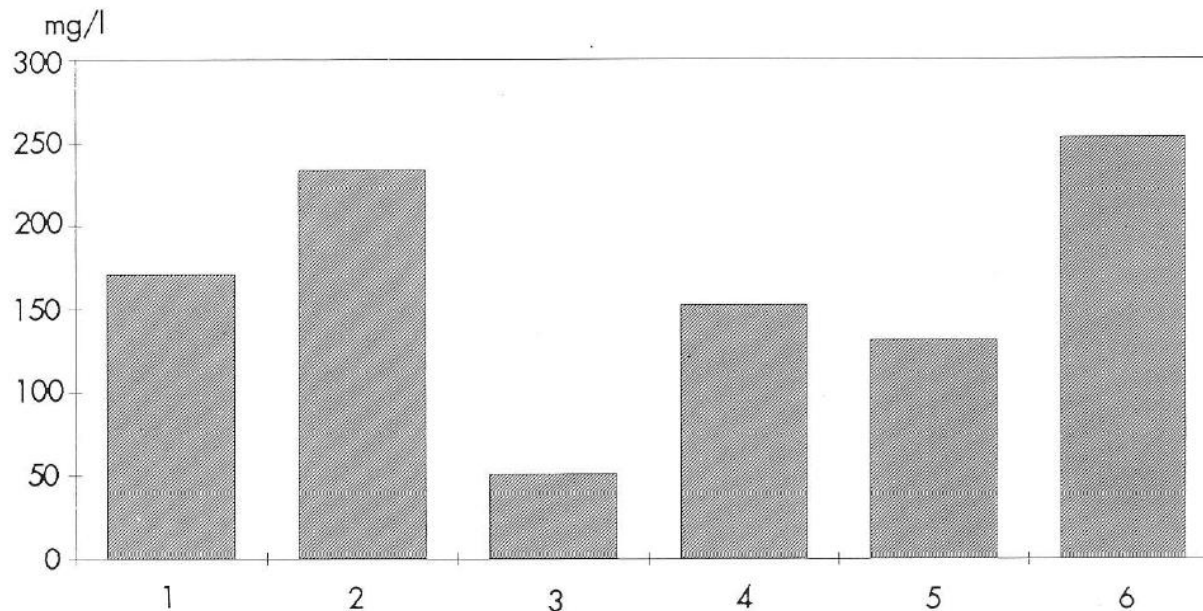
(Jensen og Thirup, 2006)



Figur 3. Nitratudviklingen i vandværkets boreriger.

(Thomsen, 1990)

Nitrate in various parcels in 1989

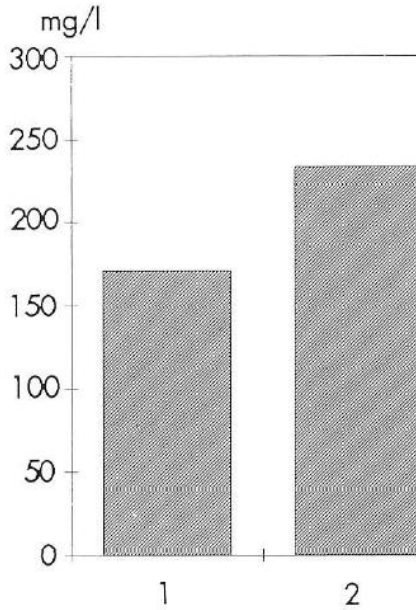


Average nitrate concentrations febr – oct 1989

Figur 6. Gennemsnit for hvert felt i febr.-okt. 1989.

(Thomsen, 1990)

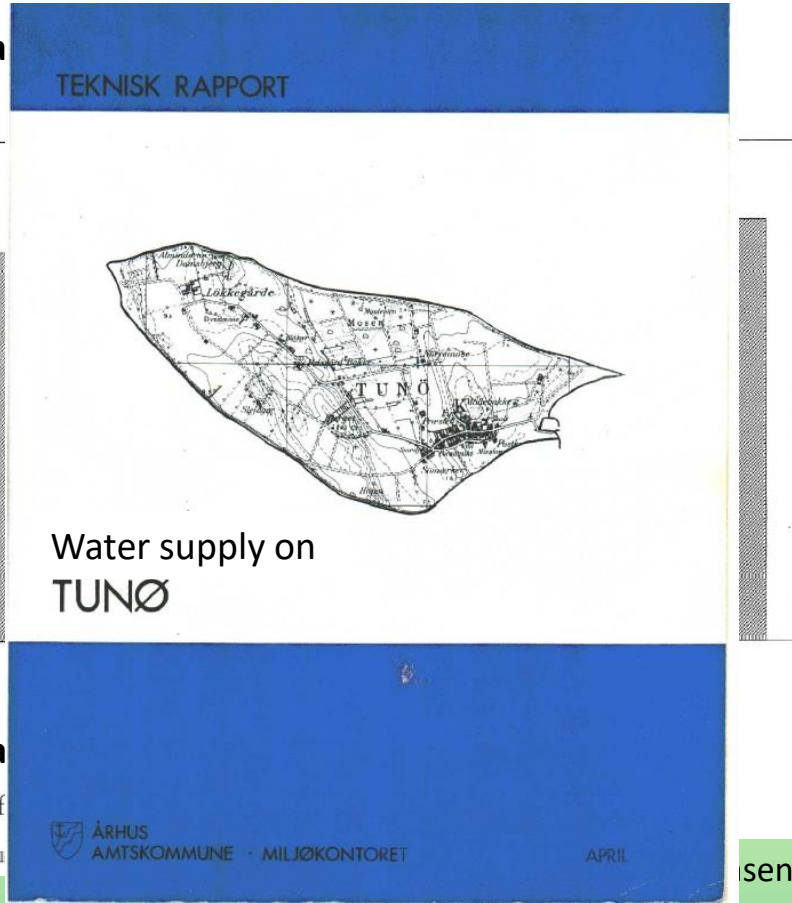
Nitrate in va



Avera

Figur 6. Gennemsnit for hvert f

Figur 3. Nitratudvikl

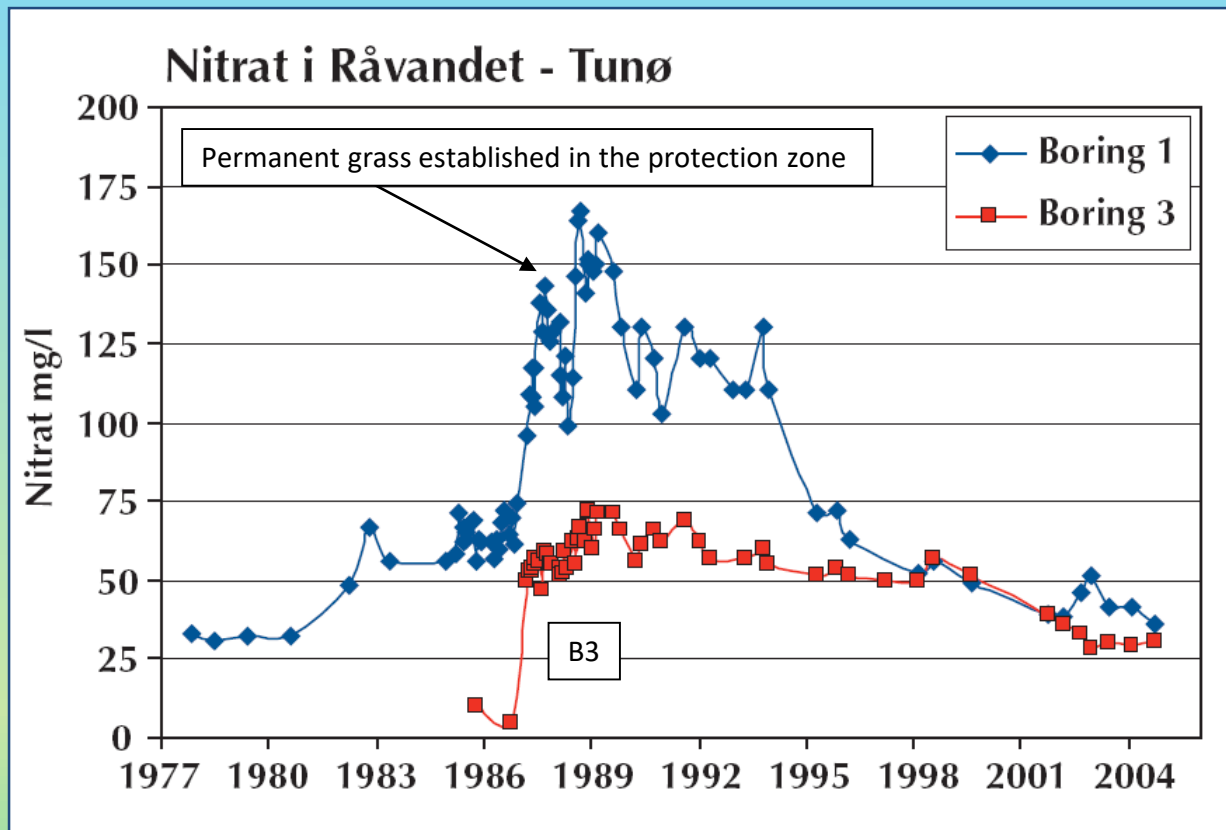


Economic analysis of measures

Solution	Investment costs	Operational costs
Payment schemes in protection zones with 20-year contracts	DKK 200.000 – 400.000	DKK 2.000 – 80.000
Water purification	DKK 1.2 – 2.0 million	DKK 200.000
Import of water by truck	DKK 65.000	DKK 265.000
Import of water by pipe line	DKK 3.6 million	DKK 400.000

Protection zones and monitoring at the Tunø water works





WP2 –Tunø case today



Learnings (natural/technical science)

- Grass works!
- Groundwater protection is time consuming and it is important that the process has the necessary time.
- Cooperation with local farmers is necessary
- Effect measurements are an important part of adjusting the effort.
- Monitoring is crucial for evaluating instruments
- Expect changes in policy and ownership over time
- A credible forecast is crucial for planning and acceptance.

(Thorling & Thomsen, 2013)

Learnings (social science and historical perspective)

But what now?

More than 30 years after groundwater protection was started:

- New ownerships
- New administrative units
- Old agreements and 20-year lease agreements which have been terminated

Graversgaard, 2019, conducted interviews with key stakeholders and farmers about the process in the 1980s and 1990s:

- There was not a nitrate problem in the 1980s / early 1990s;
- And it all came as a shock!
- "It was not as bad as they said, some journalists added 200 mg extra and then the media show was not to stop"
- "It would have resolved itself over time"
- It is not perceived as a success, but more luck because many of the farmers stopped anyway and then it was easy for the authorities to buy the land and pass it on.
- At the same time, they felt fairly treated by the authorities, did not receive compensation but new land and more!
- Now only one farmer with leek remains!

Learnings with regard to MARG

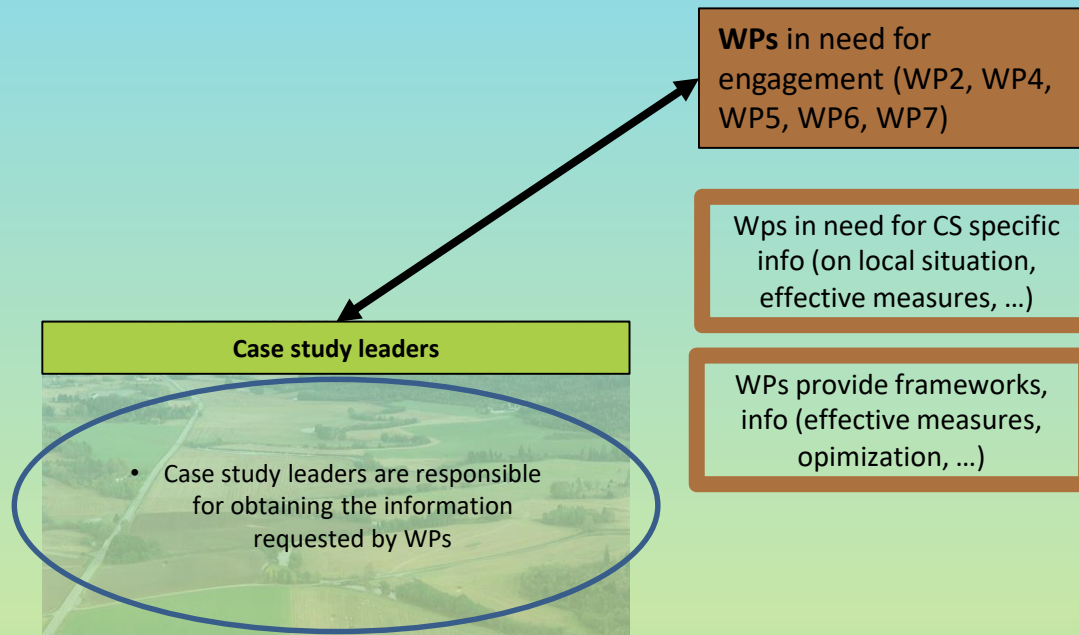
Sound info and understanding & biophysical modelling and economic analysis is a necessary start, but not enough to solve a real-world problem

Engagement of stakeholders is essential:

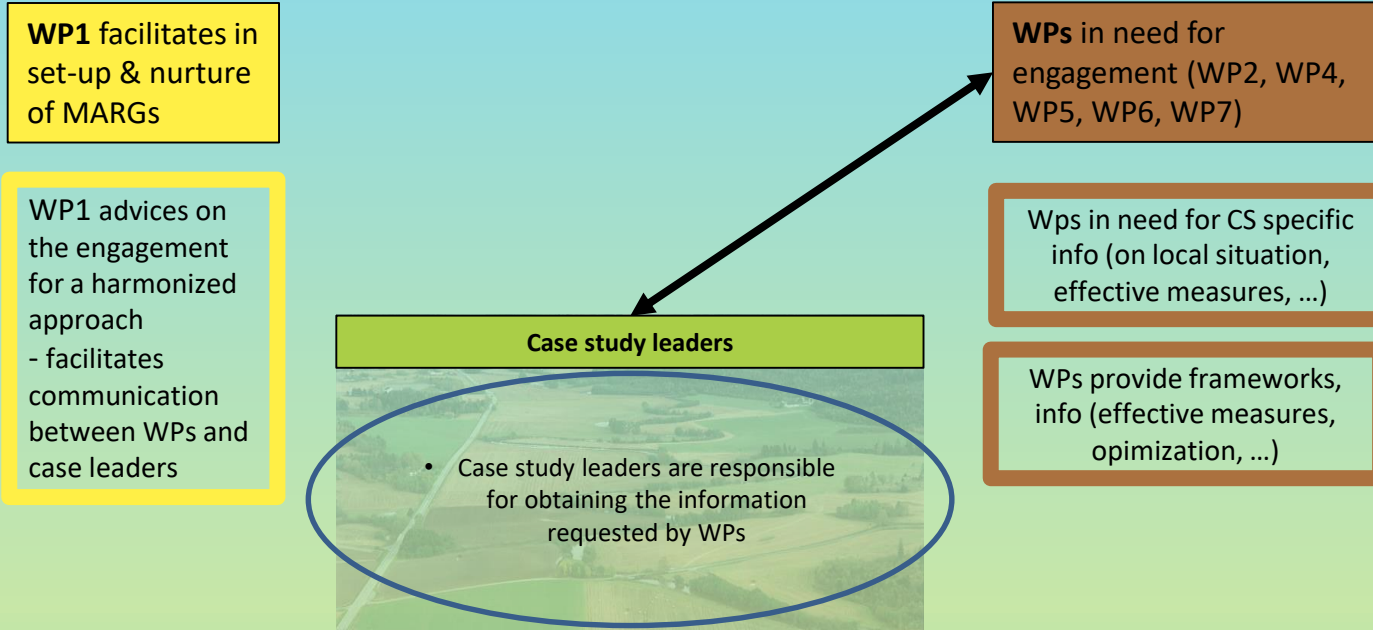
- In the phase of the identification of the problem
- In the phase of assessment of the problem
- In the phase of scenario's to solve the problem
- In the phase of implementing the solution

- ... even in the 'maintanance phase' of the problem

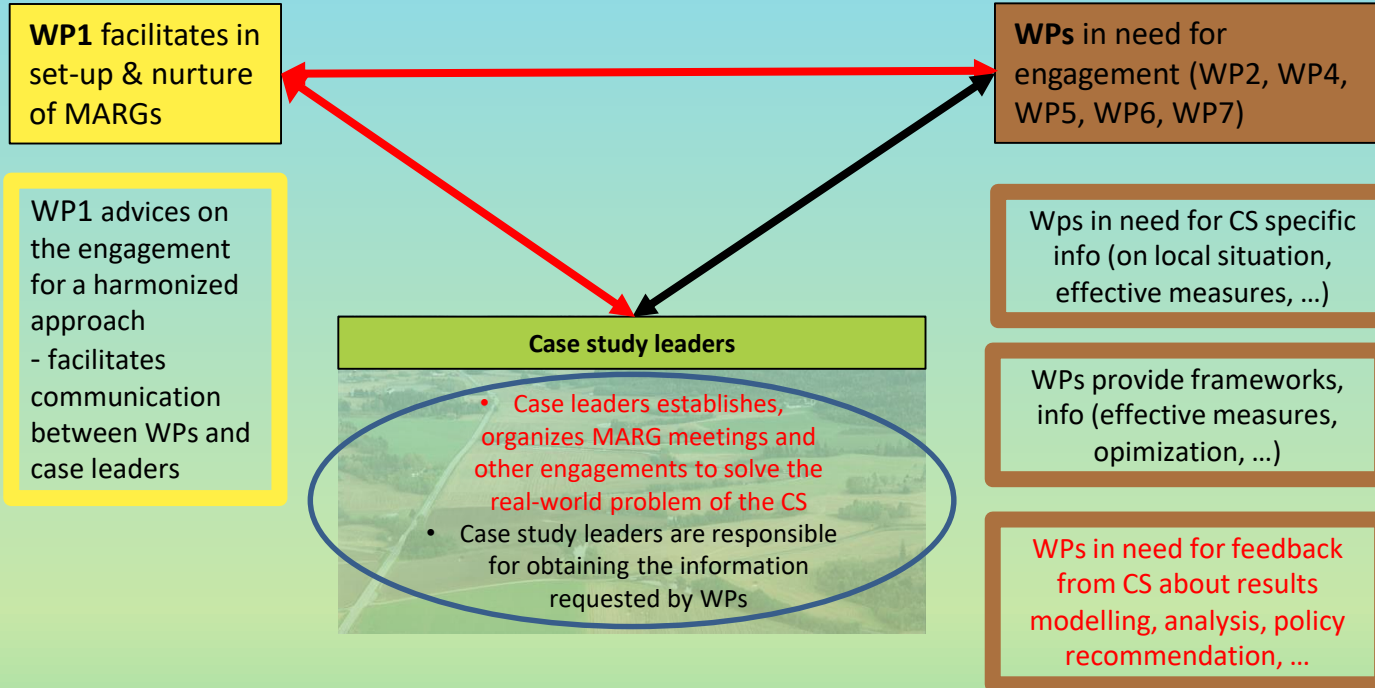
Learnings fit into the OPTAIN-working structure



Learnings fit into the OPTAIN-working structure



Learnings fit into the OPTAIN-working structure





OPTimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe

Establishment of the MARGs

Ingrid / Nesheim

A workshop for CS Leaders how to establish and nurture MARG for constructive engagement

Teams / December 10th, 2020



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 862756.



Agenda and introductory slide

1. A possible approach for stakeholder contact & organizing the MARG kick-off
2. Confirmation from stakeholders
3. Different type of MARGs
4. MARGs, when physical meetings are difficult, issues to consider
5. Presentation of different Multi-actor platforms from the Fairway project
 1. The Norwegian case (Ingrid Nesheim)
 2. The Slovenian case (Gregor Kramberger)



How to establish the MARG

First step, preparation

1. *Knowledge* about the project, knowledge about the specific case area: – *institutions, history of collaboration / lack of collaboration, history of conflicts*
2. *Knowledge* about “agro, and environmental stakeholders / actors in the case, the agricultural context from the perspective of farmers -> this will provide an overview of sub-categories of relevant actors.
3. *Knowledge* about each WPs need for type of engagement (primary information, feedback on suggested measures etc.), and from which stakeholders (farmers, experts, local, region. national policy makers)

Second step, make contact & invite to meeting

1. Contact information (purpose of the project in non-academic language, the type and the extent of engagement requested, and the gain for the stakeholders by being involved??)
2. Tailor contact emails with according to the receiver – the different type of stakeholder categories
3. Email may not be equally the means of communication by all, other types of contact information may be needed, e.g. follow up by phone.
4. *Ask if it is ok to send information and invite to meetings as part of Optain (store this confirmation).*

About MARG establishment & first MARG kick-off

Third step, Organize MARG kick off

1. Gain information about local practice of meetings, *where, when, food? what is feasible and practical*
2. Invite well in advance ! Make sure up front that important stakeholders are available – in some cases making use of doodle to identify the date & time is practical
3. Is it possible to make use of an already established platform (an intermediate)
4. Flyers about the project in the language used
5. Don't hold long lectures – don't underestimate actors prior knowledge
6. Gain trust, i.e. important message – “the project is interested in your situation, your observations and experiences”
7. Emphasize that information gained is kept within the project – information is not forwarded without prior consent.

WP 1: Will make individual contact with each CSL in January /February to understand if additional advice is needed (CSLs are also asked to contact WP1 directly).

MARG when Physical meetings are difficult # Covid 19th

- What is the current situation regarding virtual meetings / physical meetings in your areas?



No restrictions – people meet physically – no specific adaptations needed: invite make contact.

Kick-off meeting could be delayed until physical meeting can be organized (April last deadline).

Possibly adaptations to the situation to be considered:

- A combination of physical meetings and virtual meetings. The physical meetings with stakeholders who are not accustomed with online meetings (go to their area for the meeting).
- No physical meetings possible :
 - Find out experiences & preferred platform for virtual meetings; zoom / skype / messenger etc.
 - In this situation - prioritize good communication between project and stakeholders – not among stakeholders - plan for several meetings. **The plenary meeting will be organized later.**

How to establish the MARG - confirmation from members

Fourth step,
Confirmation from members (GDPR)

Inner circle MARG: Confirmation from members at MARG kick off physical meeting, or – at virtual meeting;

1. Inform about this GDPR requirement at the kick off meeting and ask for consent.
2. Specify confirmation in minutes disseminated to all attendants & request feedback within two weeks.
3. Stakeholders becoming MARG members later, can state consent to be included in meeting minutes.

Outer circle MARG: Case informant that does not regularly take part in the regular MARG meetings.

1. As part of every engagement activity, specify the engagement, and ask for a written consent.

Make sure to anonymize personal information before sending.

Different types of approaches to MARGS, a flexible and pragmatic approach

No prior platform

Few multi-actor platforms exists
Only little knowledge of different type of actors in the area
Contact with one or two intermediates in the area

*Possibly more time may be needed to establish the MARG – gaining trust
Depending on the position and the range of contacts by the intermediate, a larger outer circle may be needed.*

A relevant platform exists

A sub-basin district board (WFD) & work-groups exist in the area
Another relevant multi-actor platform exists

*Ask if Optain can make use of existing platform ?
Making use of existing platforms is respectful to local systems
Important to adapt to current practices*

Several platforms exists

Several “single” actor platforms exists; farmer organization, drinking water etc.

Multi-actor governance (few farmers) local level

Multi-actor different levels of different governance exist

*Ask if Optain may make use of existing platform and if possible, invite inviting additional actors
OR
Engage directly with other actors*

Fairway EU project, Norwegian case

– Sub-basin district Morsa



- 11 municipalities in Viken county
- Challenges with water quality in lake Vansjø, the main drinking water source
- Main pressures:
 - Runoff from agricultural areas
 - Dispersed sewage
- Several important user interests in the catchment
- Collaboration in the area since 1977, Morsa-project with project leader & state funding since 1999
- Multi-actor platform WFD since 2007
- Knowledge based management

History During 1970- 1990 monitoring activities detected continuously deteriorating water quality conditions in the Morsa area – with implications for drinking water quality and recreational activities. A number of environmental measures have been carried out to improve water quality including reduced tillage in the autumn, reduced phosphorus fertilization, grass-covered buffer zones, sedimentation dams and clean-up in disburged sewage.

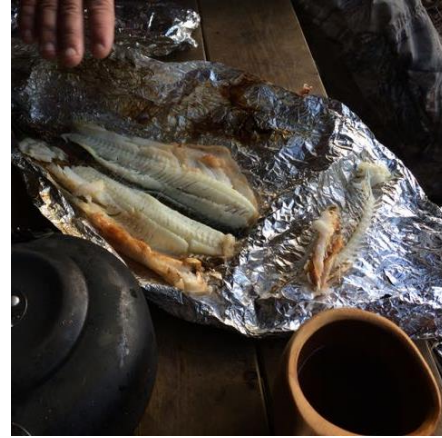
- Emphasis on collective action; all sectors, and municipalities need to contribute.
- Important to facilitate for knowledge-based decision-to increase trust and legitimacy
- The Morsa Sub-district Committee has been important for coordination, and involvement of interest groups and for implementing measures.
- Legal and economic incentives in combination with dialogue and guidance are important for cost-effective and successful implementation of measures.



Good ecological status

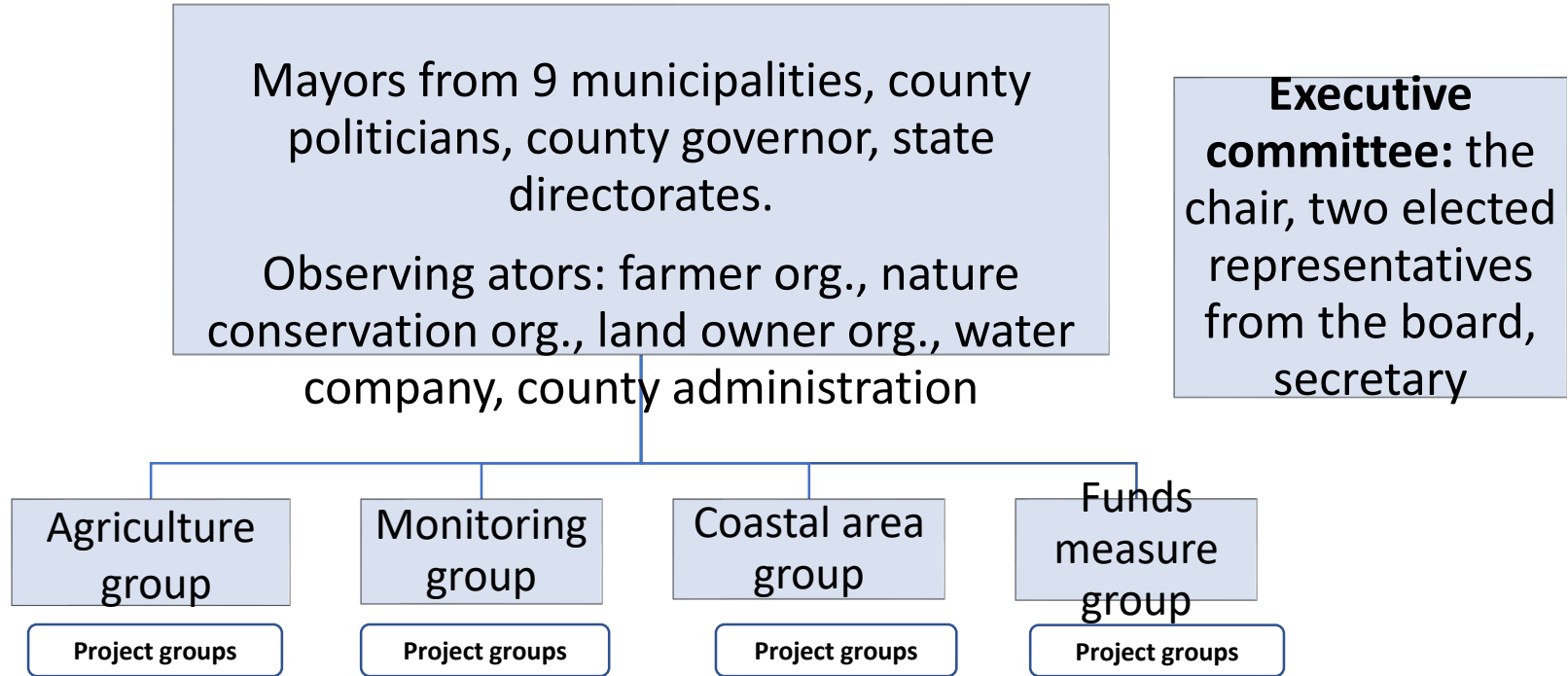


Sustain user interests



Morsa Sub-basin district organization

Morsa Sub-basin District Water Board



Benefits experienced of this approach

Effective

- Making use of already established structures
- Access to observe other relevant local agro-environmental issues
- Access to more contacts, local actors, farmers, relevant local and regional decision makers

Increased relevance

- Easy to connect with ongoing local processes
- Can respond to local needs
- Access to local customs & practices of deliberation
- The local platform project leader was mostly able to respond immediately

Reducing stakeholder fatigue

- Stakeholders already meet does not require additional time & resource's
- It can be easier for stakeholders to link to ongoing processes

Challenges and lesson learned

Need for additional engagements

- Not a challenge – but needed to be acknowledged.
- When engagement required broad multi-actor discussion additional workshops needed to be organized.
- Quite a few additional bilateral interviews with both local, regional and national actors were undertaken.

The local intermediate decides meeting frequency & time

- The case needed to adapt to the existing platform' schedule – this is not always ideal.
- It was important to agree on agenda points and meetings very early.
- The agenda for the meeting was decided by the existing platform.



OPTimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe

Thank you for your attention

Contact / Email:

Web page:



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 862756.



OPTimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe

Establishment of „Dravsko polje“ MAP within FAIRWAY project

Gregor Kramberger

December 10th, 2020

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 862756.

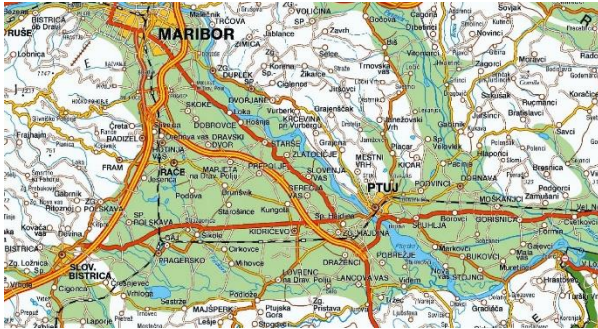


Kmetijsko gozdarska zbornica Slovenije

KMETIJSKO GOZDARSKI ZAVOD
MARIBOR



Fairway EU project, Slovenian case – Dravsko polje



- Dravsko polje is an alluvial plain of the river Drava, in north-eastern Slovenia.
- It covers 293 km² with altitudes between 205 to 364 m.a.s.l.
- The area is administratively divided among 12 municipalities each one with their individual rights and responsibilities in managing land use and wastewaters.
- The agricultural land lies above an intergranular unconfined aquifer with 20 to 35 metres thick carbonate or silicon layers with high coefficient of conductivity of 10-3 m/s.
- The depth from the surface to groundwater varies between 15 metres in the northern to 3 metres in the southern part of the study area.

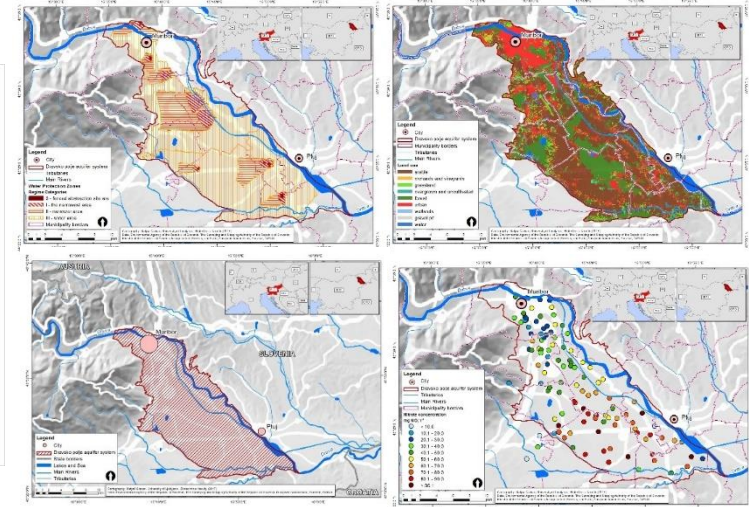
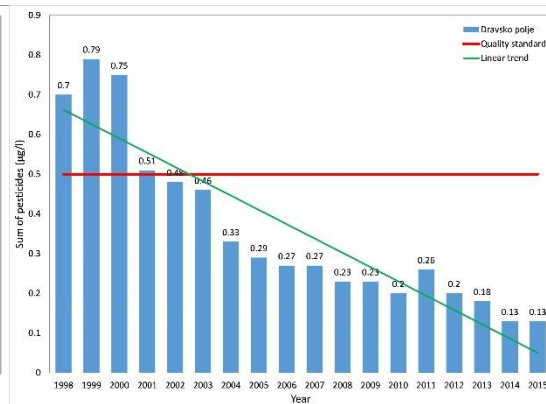
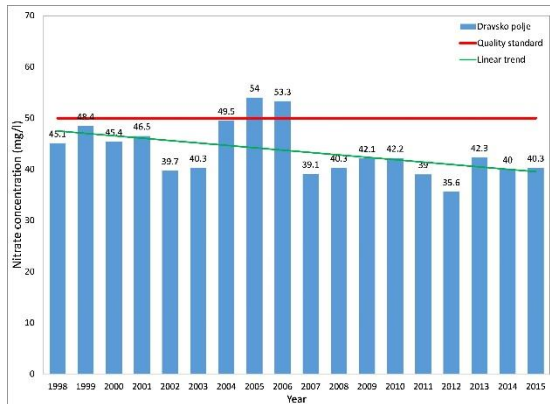
Drinking water source and water protection zones

- The aquifer layer thickness is from 5 to 21 metres, with a medium to high level of groundwater, which is the main (100%) source of drinking water in the area.
- The specific soil characteristics are the result of the deposition of river sediments and are usually light and airy (silt loam or a sandy loam texture), evolved on gravel and sand and are therefore shallow (0.24 to 0.77 metres) which is favourable for the majority of agricultural crops.
- Area under water protection regulations cover 68 drinking water extraction points under 6 water supply systems.
- Average annual extraction is approx. 3.5 M m³/year which is distributed to the cities of Maribor and Ptuj and small and medium size villages around.
- Total amount of inhabitants relying on drinking water from this area is approx. 130,000.



Problem description and it's history

- This soils are very susceptible to nutrient and pesticide losses/leaching into the groundwater.
- Shallow aquifer is contaminated by nitrates and pesticides mainly from livestock farms and intensive arable land management.
- To reach acceptable quality of tap water, companies have to mix water from shallow and deep wells.
- The last report of the quality of groundwater in aquifer of Dravsko polje showed slow improvement over the last decade, but the chemical status of groundwater is not improving at rate expected.



Concept of "Partnership for clean drinking water in the Drava plain"

- Fairway opens new area of research dealing with social aspects of organising official multifactor platform (e.g. Water partnerships).
- The project strives to establish a functioning partnership or reference group. The project aims to encourage a joint approach to solving the various problems facing the water protection zones.



Stakeholders/actors included in this MAP;

- Farmers
- Agricultural Companies
- Agricultural advisers
- Research organization
- NGO's
- Drinking water suppliers
- Governmental organizations

Establishment process and efforts

- The so-called MAP or "Partnership for Clean Drinking Water" was established more than two years ago, although similar activities on this matter have been going on for much longer.
- A similar platform did not exist prior to FAIRWAY project, however similar initiatives were active, consisting mainly of farmers, representatives of the population and nature protection organizations.
- The establishment of proposed platform was not interesting until other members such as policy makers, larger companies, tap water providers, municipal leaders and ministries, decided to join.
- Particularly great interest in establishing a partnership emerged when the Ministry decided to cooperate.
- When establishing the MAP we decided that the group will not exceed more than 10 members.
- None of the stakeholders is satisfied with current state of the problem and the solutions.
- With expanding partnership, informed stakeholders, sufficient knowledge and support of research community the problems could be solved and misunderstandings cleared.

Activities of the "Partnership for clean drinking water in the Drava plain"

- So far, three meetings have been organized where Partnership stakeholders have met. The meetings were organized in such a way as to highlight issues, ideas and topics that should be resolved or discussed.
- The main topics of discussion were about reducing tensions and exchanging information between farmers, public authorities and water companies each in his own point of view....
 - water supply companies on the cost of providing clean water,
 - farmers on adapting production technology and
 - the government with a desire to develop clear and understandable regulations to enable the sustainable coexistence of two (water, food) important care activities for the population.
- During this period, there were many challenges and misunderstandings between the various stakeholders.

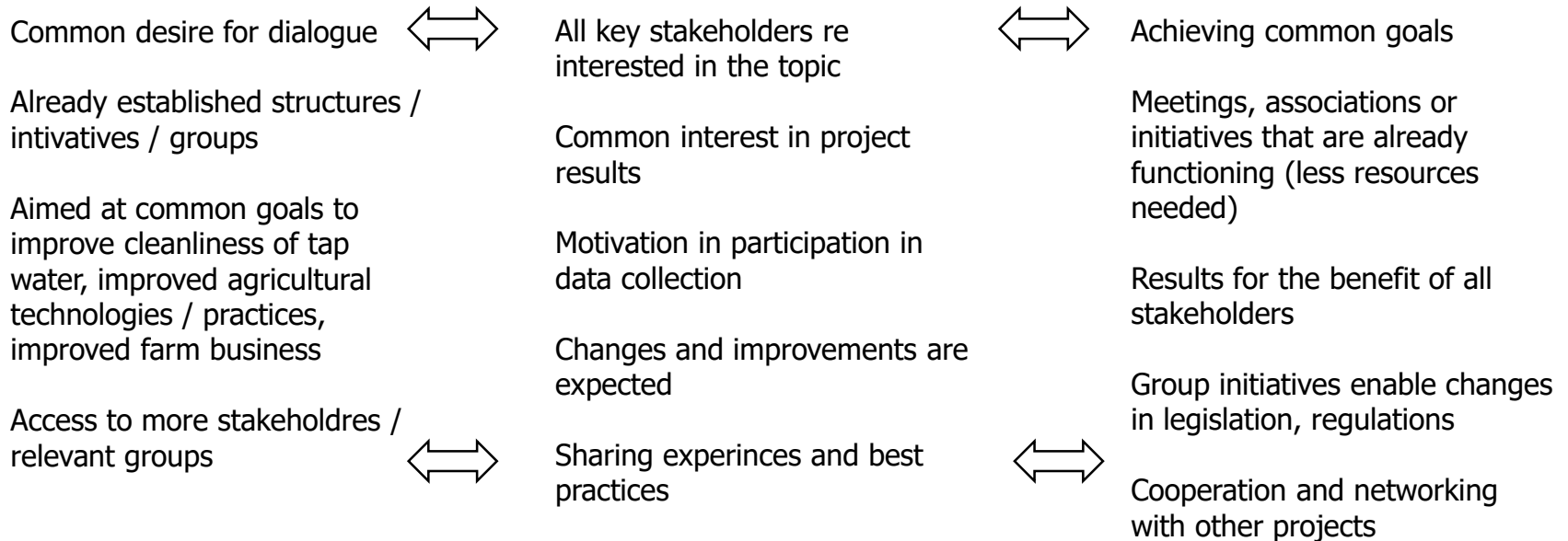


Successes and achievements of the Partnership

- A survey was prepared as part of the project exclusively for Partnership participants who participated at the meetings.
- The majority of respondents believe that the Partnership is "to some extent" successful in solving the problem.
- Respondents have different views on the changes they have observed as a result of the Partnership's activities, half of the respondents believe that there are no changes yet, while the other half of the respondents state that the main change is already in practice.
- The majority of respondents believe that the Partnership is to some extent a successful platform for cooperation and interaction.
- The partnership as a platform for cooperation is considered successful, but the mandate of the Partnership and the impact of the decisions of the Partnership on solving the real problem are assessed differently by different respondents.
- The emerging problem is that stakeholders do not see the benefits in forming a partnership, and above all that there are not enough visible results.

Read more about project results; Advancing MAPs as vehicles for resolving issues on drinking water pollution from agriculture

Key benefits for establishment of the Partnership



Challenges and lessons learned

- Decision-makers should acknowledge the results of meetings and consider the opinions and agreements when drafting legislation.
- Action needs to be taken to solve problems, not just attend meetings and discussions.
- Partnership can only function successfully if all stakeholders do its part and are prepared to contribute.
- To enable all stakeholders to benefit from the project (beneficial results for all groups).
- To organize meetings at an acceptable time for all stakeholders.
- Find common goals and benefits among all stakeholders (topics) and the frequency of the meeting shall be determined accordingly.



OPTimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe

Thank you for your attention



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 862756.



Break



© 2018

Please be back at 10:30

Agenda

#	Time	Subject	By who
1	9.00 – 9.10	Welcome, structure and agenda of the day	Cors
2	9.10 – 9.25	Why MARG: Fairway example of the Tunø case (Denmark)	Cors
3	9.25 – 10.05	How to establish the MARG + Fairway example of Norwegian MAP	Ingrid
4	10.05 – 10.20	Fairway example from Slovenia	Gregor
5	10.20 – 10.30	Questions and break	
6	10.30 – 11.30	Discussion MARG status & challenges in subgroups (3 CS per subgroup; each group presents for 10 min and 10 min for reflection)	All
7	11.30 – 12.00	Each CS presents MARG status & challenges	All
8	12.00 – 12.30	Introduction of homework for day 2 Discussion and closing of workshop	Cors

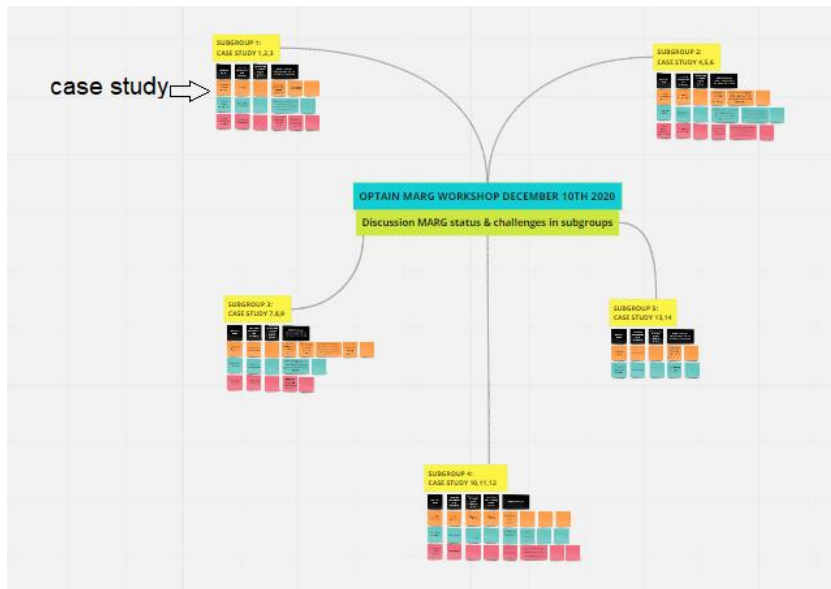
Discussion in subgroups

- Discuss MARG status & challenge(s)
- Per case study: 10 minutes presentation and 10 minutes discussion
- Please use the MIRO Board
- 10.30-11:30

- Group 1 (CS 1-3) stay in this call (+ everyone without a group).
- Group 2-5 got a new invitation in outlook
- Please come back at 11:30

5 different break-out rooms

Case Study No	Case study name	Group
1	Schwarzer Schöps	1
2	Petite Glane	1
3	Csorsza / Felso-Valicka	1
4	Upper Zglowiaczka	2
5	Pesnica	2
6	Kebele /Kobiljski potok	2
7	La Wimbe	3
8	Dotnuvele	3
9	Cherio	3
10	Hobol	4
11	Tetves	4
12	Cechticky	4
13	Dviete	5
14	Sävjaån Headwaters	5



SUBGROUP 1: CASE STUDY 1,2,3

case study name	case study representative in workshop	Are you using an already existing platform yes/no	MARG Challenges (please change text and add notes if necessary)
1. Schwarzer Schöps (Germany)	Michael		Land is often not owned by farmers themselves. Languages
2. Petite Glane (Switzerland)	double click to add name		Language: Field plot is in German part and the catchment is in the French part of Switzerland.
3. Csorsza / Felso-Valicka (Hungary)	double click to add name		Timing (data gathering works best outside Expected change in ownership of land and building houses as result of COVID-19

- One per group summarizes the group discussion on MARG status and challenges (5 minutes per group)

→ Open MIRO Board

Closing

■ Homework for day 2

- Each case briefly present how they plan to set up and the date for the first MARG meeting / kick-off
- When do you organize this meeting?
- Do you aim for a physical or a digital meeting?
- (no ppt needed; 5 min per CS)

■ Discussion and closing of workshop

- What do you think of today's program?
- Any tips for the next workshop?

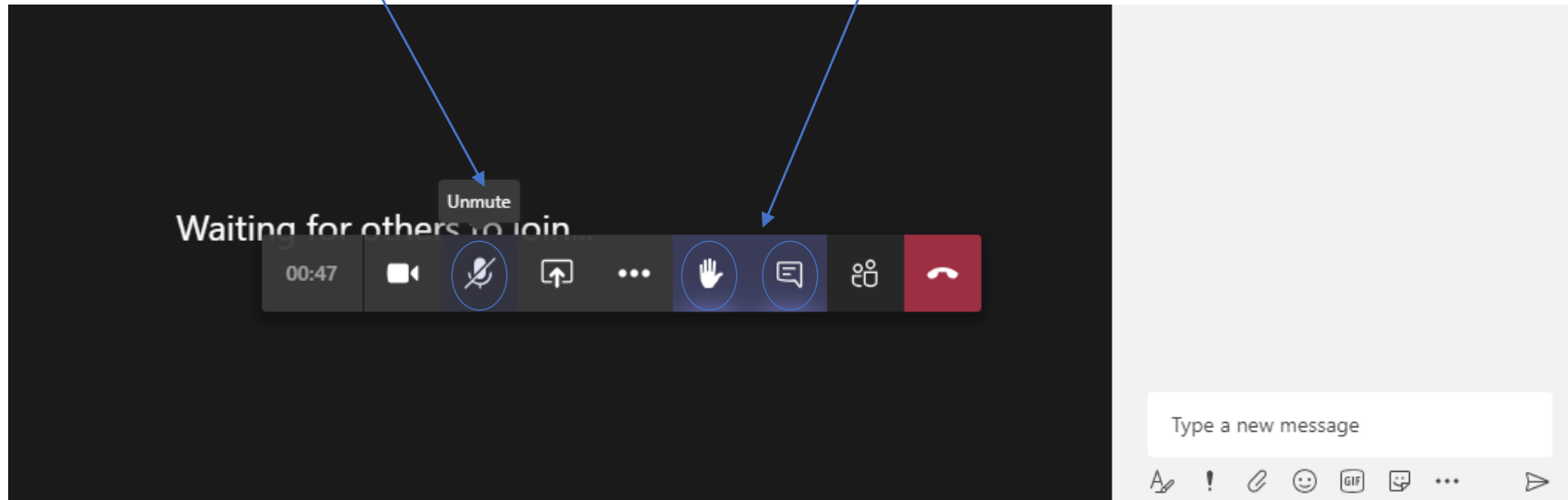
Thanks a lot for your participation!!
See you next Wednesday at 9h!



Digital social rules

Please mute your microphone

Questions in the chat or raise your hand





OPTimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe

A workshop for CS Leaders how to establish and nurture MARG for constructive engagement, Day 2

Ingrid Nesheim, Cors van der Brink and Alma de Vries
Case Study Lead Workshop
Teams, December 16th 2020



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 862756.



Workshop day 1, some summary points

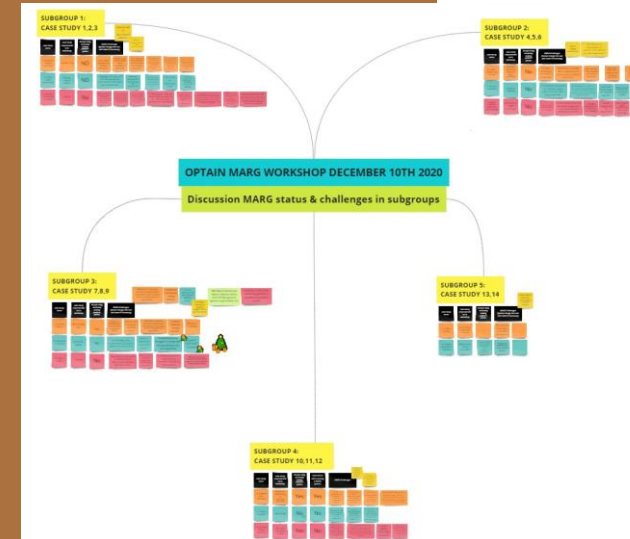
Costs for MARG workshops: xxx EUR in total for MARG workshops, there are no rules for how to use the funds. In general use of funds to pay for attendance only special cases.

Very few CSL have experience in organizing MARGs

Questioning on how to express benefit of project to stakeholders /
how to attract stakeholders

There is a need for **tools to ease communication** with stakeholders, such as flyers etc. (prior to MARG kickoff)

- Advice: Identify and invite influential pioneer farmers
- Advice, focus on Municipal agri-environmental advisors – important actors as they advice farmers



Objectives workshops

Objectives day 1 - today

- Why a MARG
- How to establish a MARG, including examples from Fairway project
- Discussion on MARG status & challenges of their Case Study

Objectives day 2 – next week

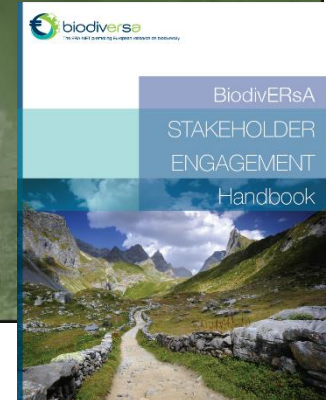
- Framework and guidelines for meaningful stakeholder engagement
- Case study leaders present result of their homework (to be announced)
- Clarify role of WP1 in relation to other WP's

Agenda

#	Time	Subject	By who
1	9.00 – 9.30	Welcome Presentation on how to nurture the MARG, MARG timeline, about what are meaningful MARGs, reflect on challenges presented day 1 and Stakeholder mapping exercise	Ingrid
2	9.30 – 9.45	Presentation WP2 and WP7 about the first MARG meeting (Agenda and facilitating leaflets)	Tatenda & Sabina
3	9.45 – 10.20	Each case briefly present (5 min per CS) how they plan to set up and the date for the first MARG meeting	CS 1-7
4	10:20-10:30	<i>Short break</i>	
5	10:30 – 11.15	Each case briefly present (5 min per CS) how they plan to set up and the date for the first MARG meeting	CS 8-14
6	11.15 - 11.30	What to expect from WP1 (the ‘triangle’)	Cors
7	11.30 – 11.45	MARG and GDPR and regulations on data protection	Felix
8	11.45 – 12.00	Presentation WP4 about socio-economic analysis	Frederica
9	12.00 – 12.30	Discussion and closing of workshop	Cors

Nurturing the MARGs & meaningful engagement & MARG calendar

1. About meaningful engagement & dimensions of engagement
2. Methods for engagement
3. MARG calendar
4. The MARG kick off, suggestions for structure
5. MARGs additional guidelines
6. Reporting on engagement



Meaningful engagement – different stakeholder categories, informants and respondents – issues for consideration

- It can be assumed that the situation and the perspectives of the different stakeholders vary, both among categories and for end users within categories.
- Enabling meaningful engagement – is facilitated by some knowledge of stakeholders –their situations and their perspectives – Who are the stakeholders?



Case & stakeholder mapping exercise

What are local agricultural practices, type of crops, yearly cycle, constraints challenges etc.?

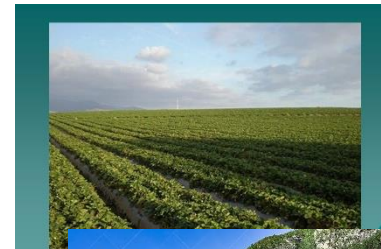
What are typical socio-economic situation of farmers?

What are main financial support systems, subsidies etc. ?

What are main agricultural, and environmental policies?

Representativity of stakeholders in the MARG, is this an aim? What about different farmer groups? Needs to be reflected on in each case, (and in the project?).

“Representativity” should be guided by the research questions. It is important how we report on the results, the feedback from stakeholder groups

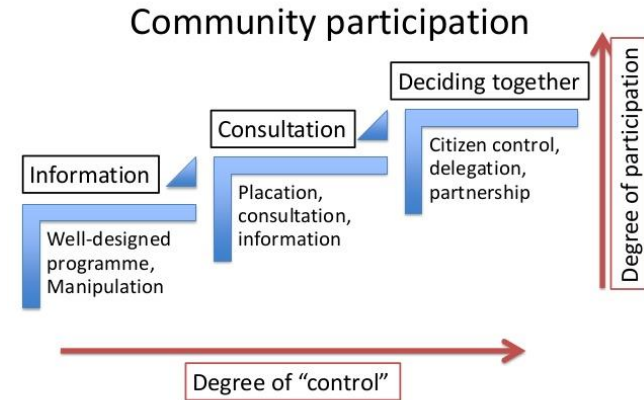


Collaboration for meaningful engagement, WP1 leads & other Optain WP task leads & Case study leads (CSL)

WP1 suggests a set up for MARGs – this is flexible rather than strict - to allow MARGs to be adjusted to local context
- individual support by WP1 in nurturing the MARG upon need;
WP1 will contact each CSL early 2021 about this.

WP1 : Advice rather than rules

Approaches within cases may vary, but there is a need to identify issues or limitations to varying approaches – task leaders to specify to CSL.



How to facilitate for a meaningful MARG?

*Local knowledge are important as actions will be more relevant and appropriate
May assist data generation by citizen sciences approaches*

Meaningful / successful stakeholder involvement are influenced by issues as:

- Empowerment
- Power balance
- Equity
- Trust
- Mutual learning
- Adaptivity
- Shared goals
- Available resources
- Decision space

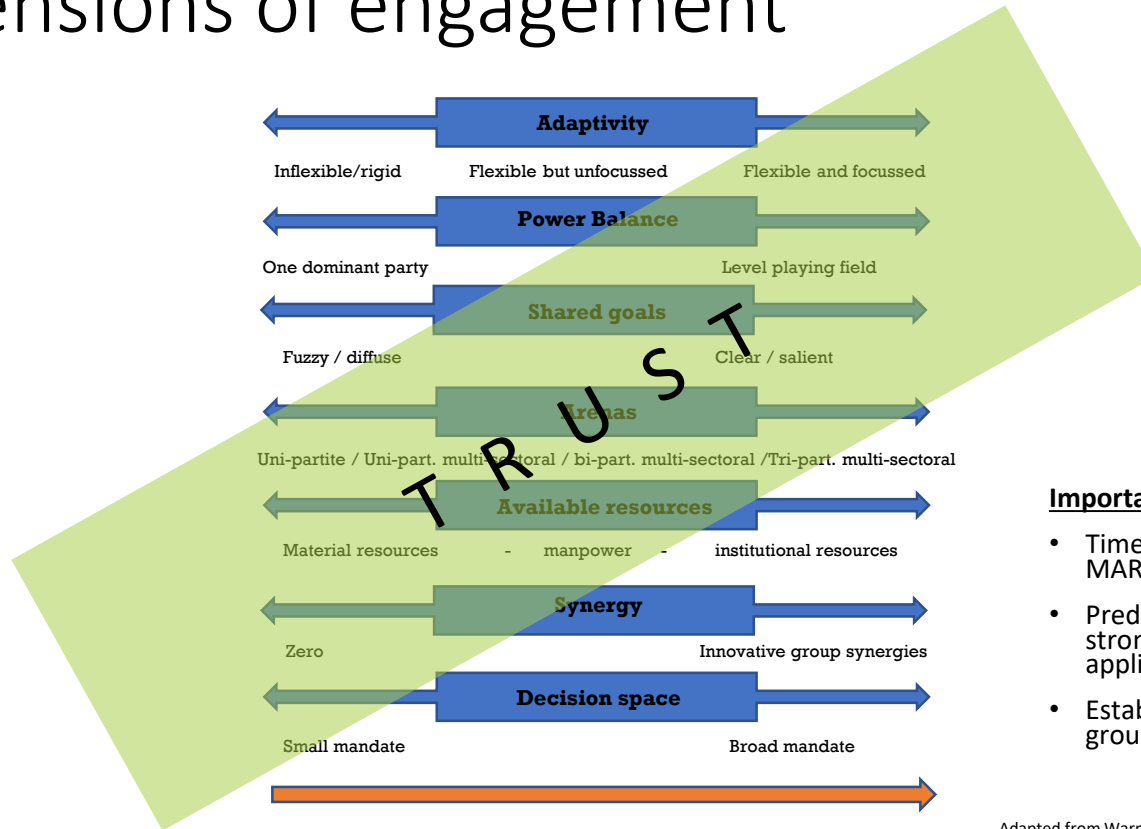
Awareness and attention to these issues are needed by the MARG organizer.

Lack of attention can cause failure to consider local issues and hamper the whole development process.



From, Reed 2008: Ideals of stakeholder involvement; Warner and Verhallen (2012)

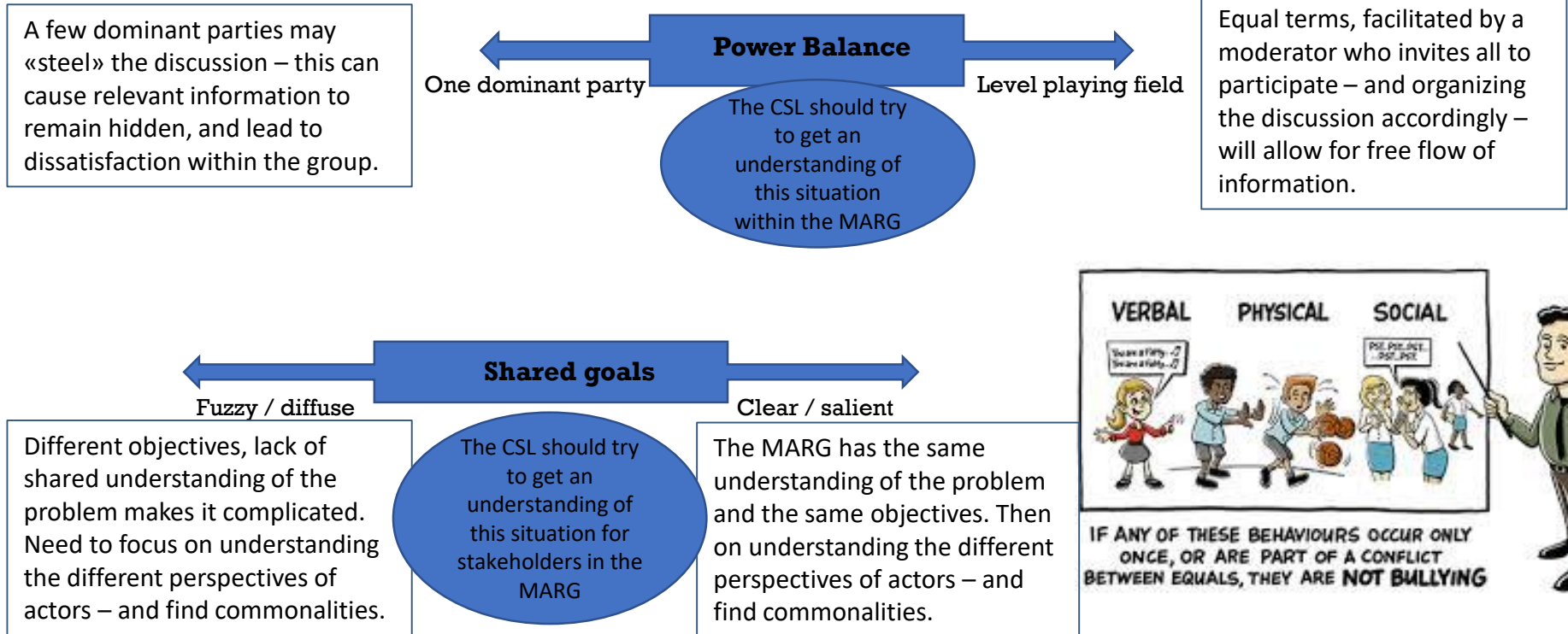
Dimensions of engagement



Important factors

- Timely guidelines and frameworks for MARGs and stakeholder interaction
- Predetermined research focus by strong partners not allowing full application of the MARGs
- Establishing trust between CL and the group, and within the group

Some selected dimensions of engagement



Engagement- and MARGs calendar



Case study engagement activities (case leaders)											
2021 (months 5-16)			2022 (months 17- 28)			2023 (month 29- 40)		2024 (months 41-52)		2025 (53-60)	
<p>MARG Workshop 1 Jan.- March 2021</p> <p>Kick off establish the engagement platform & inform about project and expectations</p> <p>&</p> <p>WP 2: Local environmental issues, collecting “underutilized”/potential suitable measures, (pre-) selection of measures</p> <p>WP 7 (about the training environment for awareness of project activity – WP7 to provide template).</p>	<p><i>Engagement activities</i></p> <p>WP 6: <i>semi-structure interviews governance and policy context (send out Jun. 2021, expected return Oct./Nov. 2021)</i></p> <p>WP3: <i>Discuss possibilities to fill data gaps (where required)</i></p> <p>WP7</p>	<p>MARG Workshop 2 Oct.-Dec. 2021 (months 14-16)</p> <p>WP2: Detailed discussion on measures and indicators, starting scenario discussion</p> <p>WP7</p>	<p><i>Engagement activities</i></p> <p>WP 6: <i>semi-structure interviews governance and policy context (send out Jun. 2021; del. Aug. 2022)</i></p> <p>WP3: <i>Discuss possibilities to fill data gaps (where required)</i></p> <p>WP4: <i>(T4.5) Consulting to identify relevant persons to be surveyed</i></p> <p>WP7</p>	<p>MARG Workshop 3 Aug- Oct (months 25-28)</p> <p>WP4: about socio-economic analyses and their setups & presentation of <u>setups</u> of environmental models (+ very first results)</p> <p>WP7</p>	<p><i>Engagement activities</i></p> <p>WP4: Surveys to assess measures’ attractiveness (month 27- 33; del. month 40)</p> <p>WP5: Smaller focus group meetings discussing interactive tools to visualize and filter results of the optimization (del. month 48)</p> <p>WP7</p>	<p>MARG Workshop 4 Aug-Oct (months 35-38)</p> <p>WP4: Feedback on results from environmental + economic modeling of single measures</p> <p>WP7</p>	<p><i>Engagement activities</i></p> <p>WP5: Identification of preferred NSWRM solutions (method not decided) (month 50) del. month 52</p> <p>WP6: Survey on cross-catchment analysis (month 48 - Aug.; return month 50 – Oct.; MS month 52 – Dec. 2025</p>	<p>MARG Workshop 5 Month 45- 48)</p> <p>WP5: Feedback on optimization results and interactive visualization /navigation tools</p> <p>WP7: training</p>	<p><i>Engagement activities</i></p> <p>WP6: Individual consulting to test incentives (month 52 – Dec. return month 53 – Jan.; del. month 54 – Mar. 2025)</p> <p>Public training event (May 2025; Del. Aug. 2025)</p>	<p>MARG final event (months 56- 58)</p> <p>WP6: Policy aspects and recommendations for action</p> <p>WP7: training</p>	

Log of engagement activities to be provided in annual logging (November) every year

Some possible methods of engagement

Focus group discussion

- Typically involves gathering people of about the same background to discuss a topic
- Questions to be discussed are provided
- Each group present main points
- Could include the “sticker method”
- Could include a map-based approach

Survey/ questionnaire

- Questions for respondents are developed upfront
- Important to test questionnaire
- Closed questions are often preferred
- Some open questions
- Typically more respondents, which can enable quantitative analysis
- Not ideal for understanding behavior

Semi-structure interviews

- Suited for understanding context and behavior
- Suited for understanding motivations and values
- A typical qualitative research method
- Interviewing in the field & or in the home of the informant adds valuable information.
- More time consuming

First MARGE kick off – possible structure and agenda

WP1 session (about 1,5 hours) – *suggested content*:

1. Welcome session (a collaboration with a local intermediate?)
2. Information about the project – purpose project, purpose of engagement (*collection of data case study level WP2,4,5,6*), benefit for stakeholders.
3. **Invite selected stakeholders to present about local issues, problems & history**
4. Discussion to clarify needs and expectations from different stakeholders
5. Present the MARG expected case calendar to inform about expected input (but don't overwhelm stakeholders !!) – Feedback and questions.

WP2 session (1- 1,5 hrs) about local environmental issues, collecting underutilized & potential suitable measures. **WP2 task lead** specifies set up of engagement.

WP7 session (ca. 30 min) presentation about the learning environment for awareness of this project objective; WP7 prepares draft presentation translation.

Closure: Get brief feedback from attendants, what did they like about the project / meeting, and for improvement. When can the MARG expect to hear from the CSL, and in general lines of communication.

Select place for workshop suited to local context (better to not select formal office for meeting)

Avoid lengthy & academic presentations, keep short & simple

Language accustomed to local context

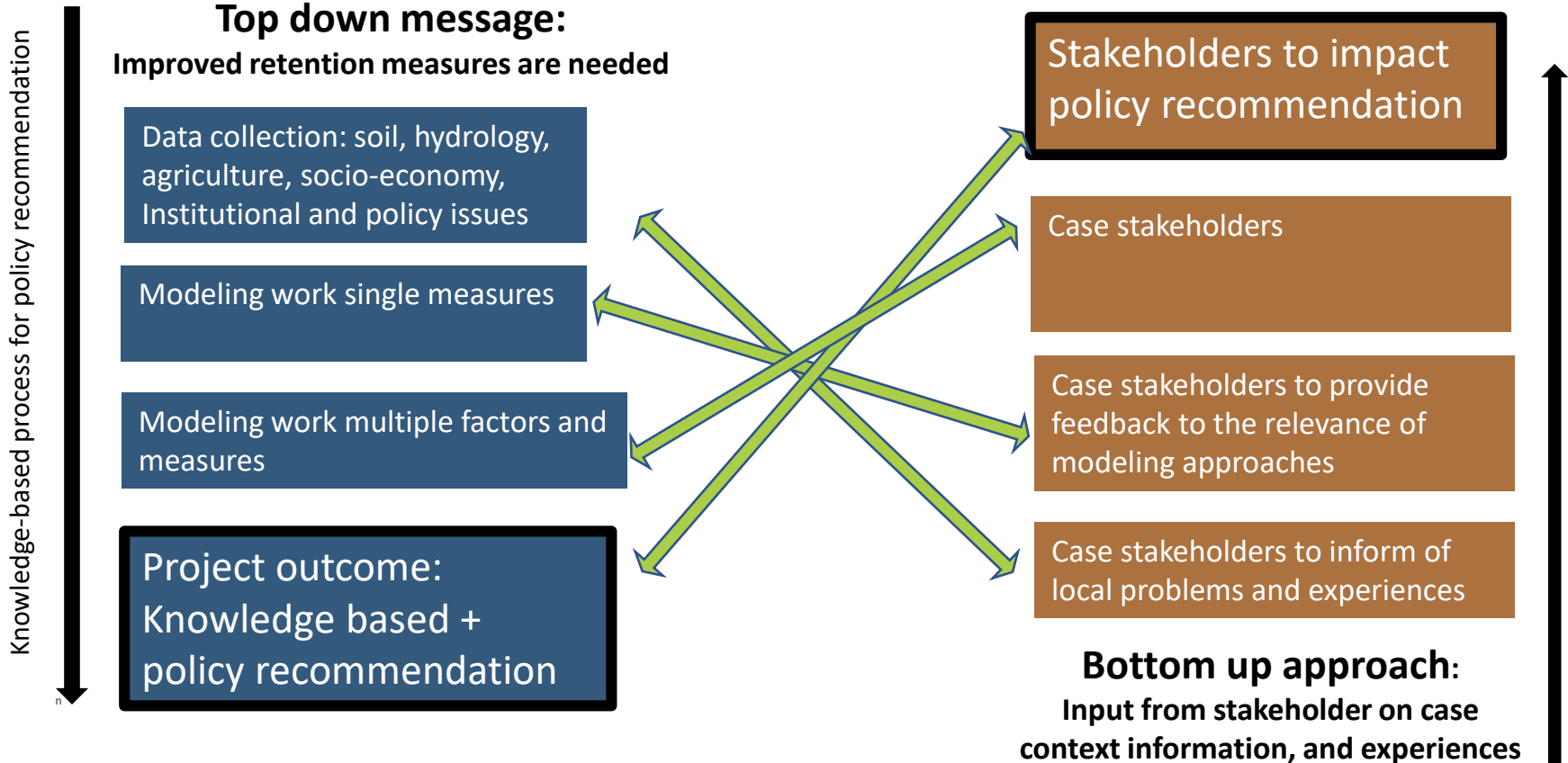
Coffee, lunch etc. important (or other types of food if afternoon)

Length half day to full day.

A local moderator can be important.

CSL write notes on success and points for improvement

About the purpose of engagement – benefit for stakeholders



MARGs, benefit for stakeholders

Stakeholder category	Reasons to involve stakeholders	Why stakeholders may want to be involved (benefits)
Government policy makers	Strengthen science-policy interface and ensure relevant of reserach outputs.	Opportunity to develop better policies based upon rigorous scientific knowledge. Better transparency of decisions made.
Municipal and country agri-environmental advisors	Sharing technical expertice and potential contribution of resrouecs to project; better access to avaiable data.	Interest in using the new data produced. . Getting access to information and data. Interest in influencing the policy advice being developing as part of the project
Private companies, including water companies, and NGOs	Sharing technical expertice and potential contribution of resrouecs to project; better access to avaiable data.	Possibilities of networking with through the engagement process. Getting access to information and data. Sharing Opportunities for partnering in future projects.
Farmers	Farmers are key end users, for research to be relevant their perspectives are essential input.	<p>Innovative farmers want to share their experiences – to influence policy making.</p> <p>Farmers experiencing retention problems want to explain the challenges experienced.</p> <p>Taking part in a reference group is an opportunity to take part in a platform where farmer colleges, and farm practices, and also policy are being discussed.</p>

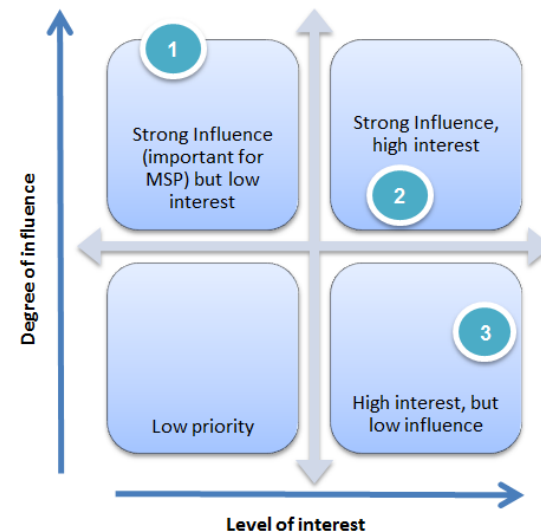
MARGs, additional guiding points

Role of moderator – In some cases the moderator role will be the exclusive responsibility of the CSL. In other cases this will be shared by some local intermediate. CSL have to take overall responsibility for the Optain setup, however, **a local intermediate can be an important facilitator**. Coordination of responsibilities is important.

Learning process – bear in mind that engagement processes is based on both way learning interactions – for increased understanding and awareness

About size of the group – there is a tradeoff with regard to the possibility for involve many actors, stakeholders in the MARG and close engagement with a large group.

Interest and influence analysis – it is recommended to organize the exercise with the MARG. It should be organized at a physical meeting, first of second MARG workshop (more guidelines will be provided later).



Advice from workshop day 1:

- Identify and invite influential pioneer farmers
- Municipal agri-environmental advisors – important actors as they advice farmers

Nurturing the MARG between workshops

Continuity of stakeholders is important for building relationships and trust (takes time). «Trust» is identified as an overall cross cutting dimension being fundamental for successful engagement processes (Fairway project). Continuity of stakeholders is also important for enabling process development.

Continuity and level of engagement; outer and inner circle? A network of groups? It will be difficult to engage closely with a very large group, a smaller group could be selected for closer follow up, this would ideally be influencing stakeholders, it could be pioneers, and intermediates farmer org. envi. org. etc.

Some general aspects for achieving / enabling trust with stakeholders –

- takes time – many encounters face to face may be needed
- avoid a top down approach
- use lay language
- Be transparent & try contribute with information requested

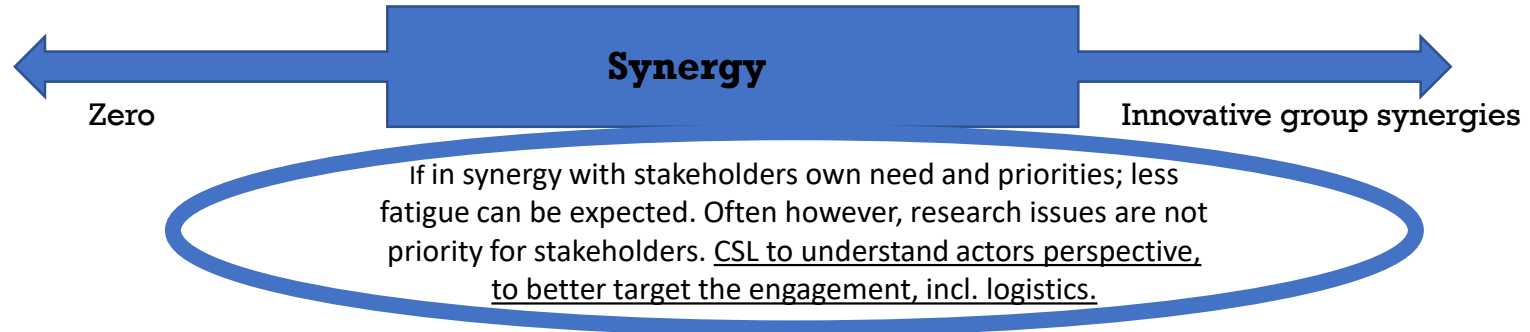
Could be relevant to prepare a case internal mailing list (if approved by all stakeholders) for sharing of minutes and other relevant pieces of information.



WP1 shall according to project document take part in at least one MARG workshop all cases.

About stakeholder fatigue.. and other challenges

'**stakeholder fatigue**', - actors feel overloaded with engagement activities, which negatively affects willingness to participate and lessens the quality of their input.. (source Biodiversa handbook, 2014).



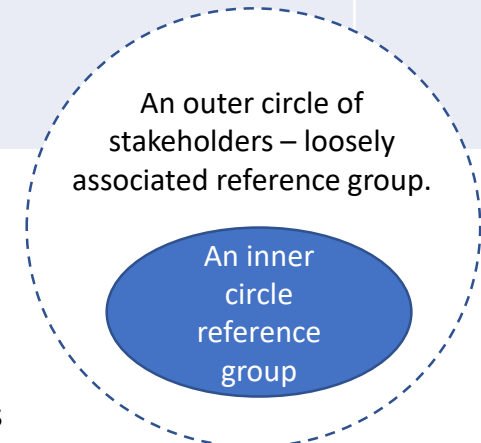
Communication: Present the issue in a way to make it relevant to the different stakeholder categories (consider their issues of interest).

“What’s in it for the stakeholder?” This message should be targeted for each stakeholder category (help from WP7)

What can the project contribute with ? “Learning environment ... ?”

Reporting, annual logging of MARG activities

MARG Activity	Date	Time / duration	Location	Purpose	Link to WP task	Type of meeting (bilateral, MARG meeting, MARG sub-group, external workshop)	Type of engagement (focus group disc./ semi-struc. Interviews/ MCA / other)	Participants category Farmer / private company / authority / politician / - local regional –local level, number within each category (number of)	Outcome



M1.3 Annual activity logging [Yearly, November]
The logging activity

D1.3 Report summarising on actor involvement, MARG activities and experiences
[Report; Month 60; RHDHV]

Stakeholder mapping exercise (due Dec. 1st)

Purpose: identify possible and relevant stakeholders for the reference group / MARG

- Stakeholder mapping framework – a framework for identify project relevant stakeholder categories.
- Results as input *D1.1 Stakeholder mapping report, covering the case studies* [Report; Month 6; RHDHV]

13 filled in templates were uploaded



The image shows a screenshot of a web-based form titled "OPTAIN Stakeholder Mapping Sheet". The form includes a header with the OPTAIN logo and a title. Below the title, there are several sections of text providing instructions and context for the mapping exercise. At the bottom of the form, there is a table with the following columns: Stakeholder name, Stakeholder category, Stakeholder role, Stakeholder location, Stakeholder interests, Stakeholder benefits, Stakeholder status, and Stakeholder influence. The table is currently empty, with only the first row containing the column headers.

Stakeholder name	Stakeholder category	Stakeholder role	Stakeholder location	Stakeholder interests	Stakeholder benefits	Stakeholder status	Stakeholder influence



First analyses of results

Number stakeholder mapping sheets

13 filled in templates were uploaded

Stakeholder sheet Information points

- Stakeholder category
- Level (N/R/L)
- Reasons to involve
- Stakeholder benefits
- Interest of stakeholder
- Planning level of engagement

Preliminary analysis

- Usually between 10 and 20 stakeholders identified in each case, medium to high interest at different levels (local – regional – national)
- Two CS identified \pm 50 stakeholders; (many local stakeholders)

→ *No golden number. Highly depends on the scale of your case.*

Document may grow during the lifetime of OPTAIN; - it is relevant to update this stakeholder mapping sheet to reflect actual situation in the case in about two years time.

Analysis of the engagement situation will inform about the different stakeholder groups that each case is in contact with; contact with farmers, authorities, advisors, private companies etc. and thereby possibilities to influence the situation on case level.



OPTimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe

Thank you for your attention

Contact / Email:

Web page:



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 862756.



OPTimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe

WP 2 exercise in 1st MARG meeting on existing and potentially suitable NSWRM

Tatenda Lemann, Dominika Krzeminska
Case Study Leader Workshop
Teams, December 16th 2020



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 862756.



1st MARG workshop: Exercise on existing and potentially suitable NSWRM

Objectives

- To present the prior selection of existing and potentially suitable NSWRM
- To integrate the perspective, knowledge and experience of different stakeholder groups
- To identify additional existing or potentially suitable NSWRM together with different stakeholder groups.
- To briefly assess applied and potential solutions.
- To identify resource persons for different NSWRM



1st MARG workshop: Exercise on existing and potentially suitable NSWRM

Proposed Approach

- ❑ Plenary session: introduction (NSWRMs, approaches, ...)
- ❑ Group work (depending on the number of participants): assessment of NSWRM
 - *Necessary investments (labour, money)*
 - *Positive and negative short term / long term effects / impacts*
 - *Constraints / limiting factors*
 - *Does the selected item fit into the concrete local context?*
 - *Who benefits? Who loses?*
 - *Who already implements the measure?*
 - *What is required so that more people start to implement?*
 - *etc.*
- ❑ Plenary session: Prioritisation of feasible and effective NSWRM with a high potential in the local context.



1st MARG workshop: Exercise on existing and potentially suitable NSWRM

Expected outcomes

- Motivated stakeholders who will participate future OPTAIN activities during the next 4-5 years
- An updated list of potentially interesting and feasible NSWRM adapted / adaptable to the conditions of the concrete local context.
- A prioritization/selection of NSWRM to be further documented and assessed.
- Identified key resource persons for the different NSWRM



WP 2 Activities including Case Studies

STEP 1

Before first CS Meeting

Questionnaire for CS Leaders on existing and potential NSWORMs
M4-5

STEP 2

First MARG Workshop

Presentation and discussion of existing and potential measures, benefits and drawbacks
M6-M8
→M6-9?

STEP 3

Plenary Meeting

WOCAT & documentation
Training
M10

Initial list of indicators EPIs and SPIs
M10

Documentation in the field
M10-14

STEP 4

2nd MARG Workshop

- Discuss documented and potential NSWORMs scenarios (incl. barriers and incentives)
- Select (and map) most promising NSWORMs
- Discuss and tailor indicators

M14-M16



OPTimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe

Thank you for your attention



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WP 7

Learning Environment

Natacha Amorsi, OIEAU

MARGS WORKSHOP
December 16-12 2020



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Initial ambition

Develop and provide an online Learning Environment on NSWRM to allow easy access to project outputs using a variety of interactive online tools and training formats tailored to different targeted audiences from stakeholders to the citizens; from an awareness raising approach to the knowledge co-creation and exchange

Analysis of trade-offs and synergies between multiple values/goals in the management and design of NSWRMs by providing

- information (catalogue on NSWRMs)
- Interactive scenario exploration tools
- Pre-selection of tools to assist training effects of the OPTAIN learning env.: webinars, MOOC, app, e-books, YouTube & Vimeo channels

Three steps approach

- Set the strategy, M12
- First on line version, M24
- Final version, M60
- **based on an iterative process (i.e. MARG WS)**

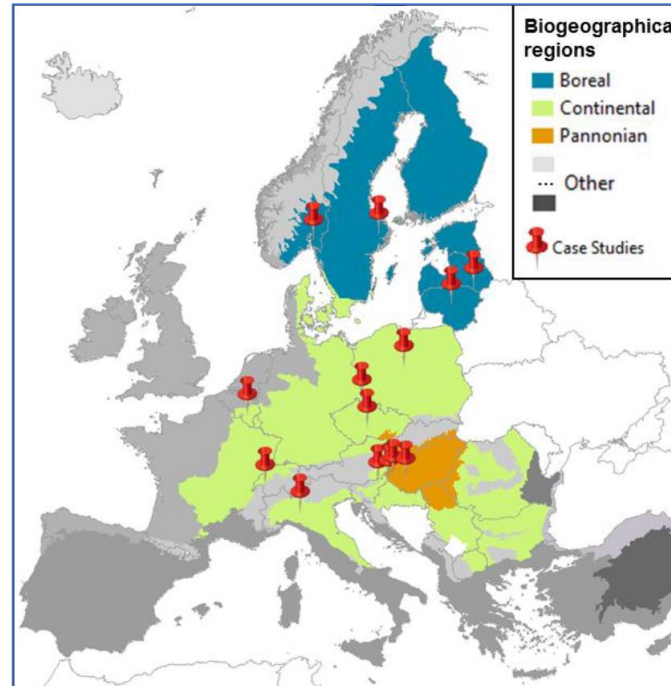
What do we need to start

- A clear & shared understanding of partners' and potential users expectations
- **Strong links with both the developers/scientists and the targeted audiences sides (WP1)**

Case study presentations

- Each case briefly present (5 min per CS) how they plan to set up and the date for the first MARG meeting

Case Study No	Case study name
1	Schwarzer Schöps
2	Petite Glane
3	Csorsza / Felso-Valicka
4	Upper Zglowiaczka
5	Pesnica
6	Kebele /Kobiljski potok
7	La Wimbe



Break

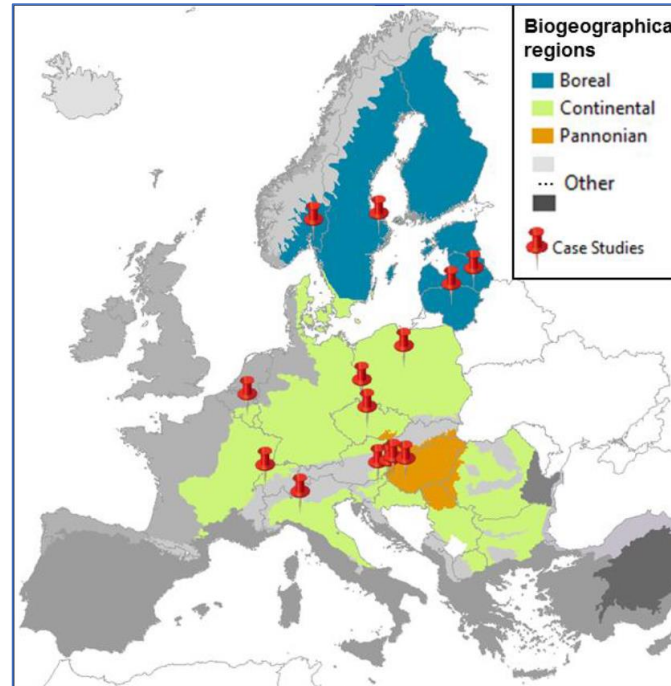


Please be back at 10:30

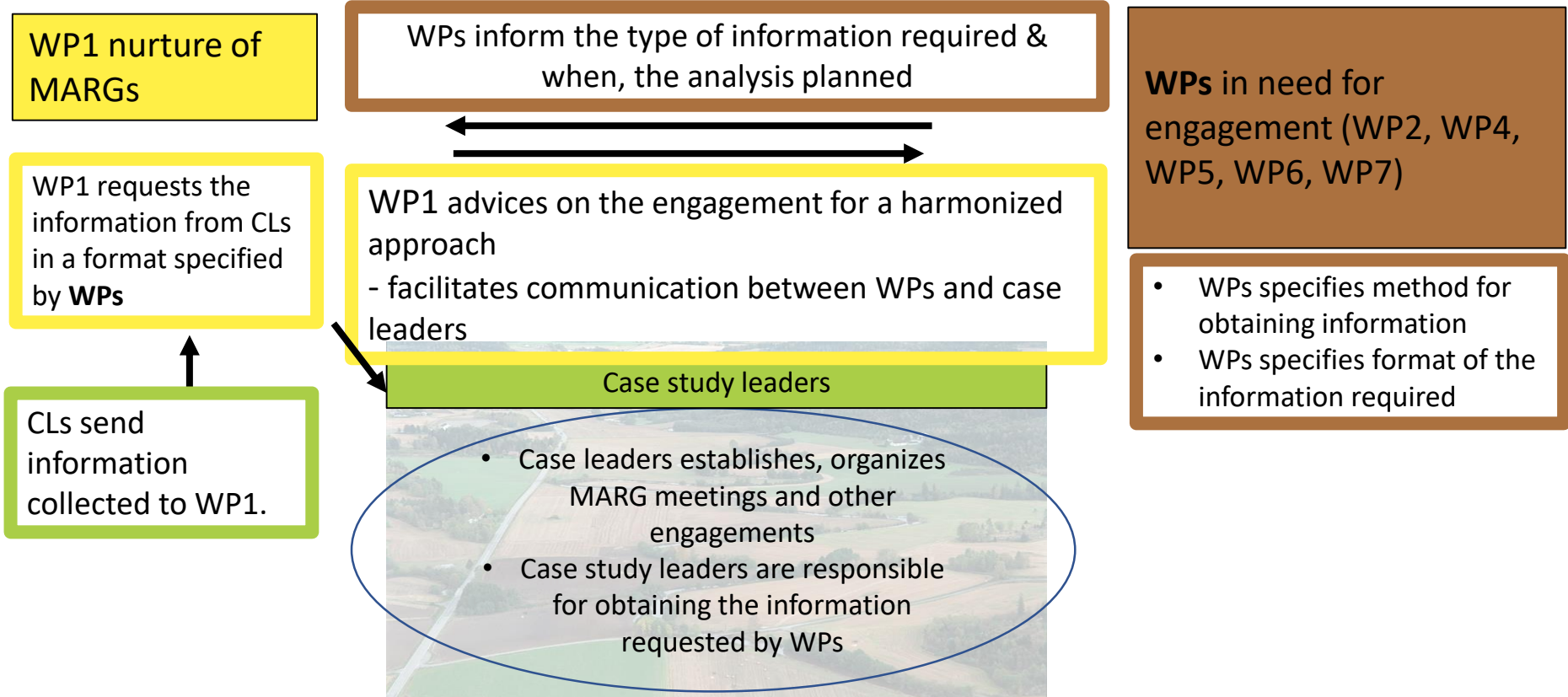
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Case Study No	Case study name
8	Dotnuvele
9	Cherio
10	Hobol
11	Tetves
12	Cechticky
13	Dviete
14	Sävjaån Headwaters



Triangle of responsibilities WP 1, the other WPs and the case leaders





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MARG, GDPR and regulations on data protection

Felix Witing
OPTAIN WP1 MARG workshop
Microsoft teams / December 16 2020



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General ethics requirements of the EC (Grant Agreement Article 34)

- Esp. European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity
- Good research practices
- Reliability, honesty, respect, accountability

Specific ethics requirements for the OPTAIN project:

- Use of humans in research
- Protection of personal data
- Third countries
- Deliverables required in Month 6

Provision of proper information to stakeholders

Identification of stakeholders

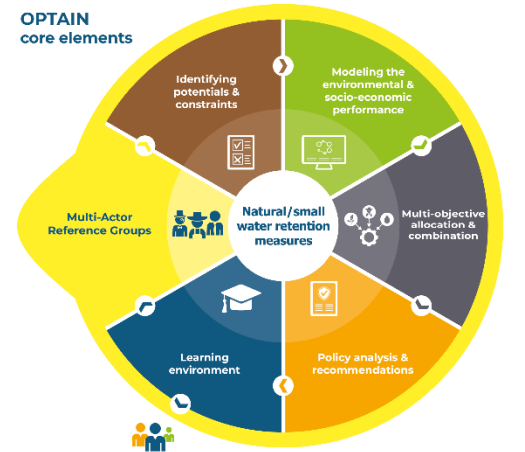
Interactions with stakeholders

Use of engagement results in research

Recruitment

Involvement
(workshops,
questionnaires,
interviews)

Processing of personal data



“**Personal data**” are defined extremely broadly:

- “Personal data” refers to **any information, private or professional, which relates to an identified or identifiable natural person**
- Identifiers: Name; ID number; Location data; Online identifier (e.g. IP, cookie ID); factors specific to the identity (e.g. genetic, economic, social).



“**Data processing**” is also defined very broad:

- **any operation which is performed on personal data** or on sets of personal data, such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction.



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A small version of the OPTAIN logo, showing the green leaf icon and the word "OPTAIN" in blue.

OPTAIN will process personal data in each case study

An illustration representing data processing, featuring a bar chart with three bars of increasing height, a gear, and a cloud with data points.

Some categories of personal data are subject to more **stringent data-protection** safeguards.

OPTAIN will:

- **not collect any kind of 'sensitive data'**
- process identifiers: name, contact details
- focus on professional / technical opinions & information
- Types of data: esp. minutes of technical workshops (notes, responses and comments from stakeholders), questionnaires, (recoded) interviews

[Table 1] Indicators of data processing operations that may entail higher ethics risks

Types of personal data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * racial or ethnic origin * political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs * genetic, biometric or health data * sex life or sexual orientation * trade union membership
Data subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * children * vulnerable people * people who have not given their explicit consent to participate in the project
Scale or complexity of data processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * large-scale processing of personal data * systematic monitoring of a publicly accessible area on a large scale * involvement of multiple datasets and/or service providers, or the combination and analysis of different datasets (i.e. big data)
Data-collection or processing techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * privacy-invasive methods or technologies (e.g. the covert observation, surveillance, tracking or deception of individuals) * using camera systems to monitor behaviour or record sensitive information * data mining (including data collected from social media networks), 'web crawling' or social network analysis * profiling individuals or groups (particularly behavioural or psychological profiling) * using artificial intelligence to analyse personal data * using automated decision-making that has a significant impact on the data subject(s)
Involvement of non-EU countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * transfer of personal data to non-EU countries * collection of personal data outside the EU



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We expect that OPTAINs data processing will have a low risk for stakeholders

- **Data minimisation**
- **Pseudonymisation** of personal data: replace obvious identifiers (e.g. names) indirect identifiers – “**keys**” (e.g. numbers)
- Applied cryptography (e.g. **encryption of key files**)
- Use **data-protection focused** service providers and **storage platforms** (e.g. OPTAIN cloud)
- Arrangements that enable data subjects to exercise their fundamental rights (e.g. **consent to use personal data**)



[Box 3] Data minimisation

Data processing must be lawful, fair and transparent. It should involve only data that are necessary and proportionate to achieve the specific task or purpose for which they were collected (Article 5(1) GDPR).

You should therefore collect only the data that you need to meet your research objectives. Collecting personal data that you do not need for your research project may be deemed unethical and unlawful.

If you are in any doubt as to whether you actually need all of the data you intend to collect, you should conduct a data minimisation review. This should be designed and conducted by the research team to ensure that data are collected on a ‘need to know’ basis, i.e. the data are required for a specific purpose that is relevant and limited to your project’s objectives and methodology.

Data minimisation applies not only to the amount of personal data collected, but also to the extent to which they may be accessed, further processed and/or shared, the purposes for which they are used, and the period for which they are kept. You must minimise the processing as far as possible.

- **Data minimisation**
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LESS
IS
MORE

[Box 3] Data minimisation

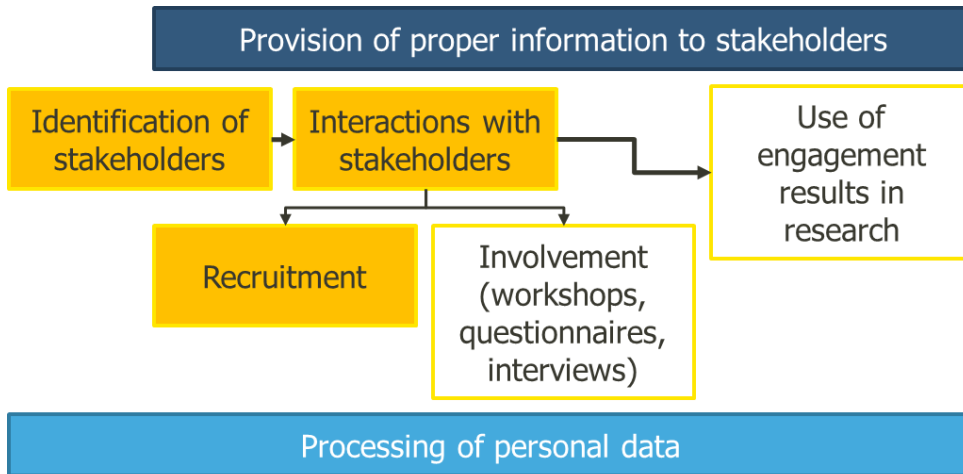
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OPTAIN will mitigate risks related to data processing.
Consult your **data protection officer**

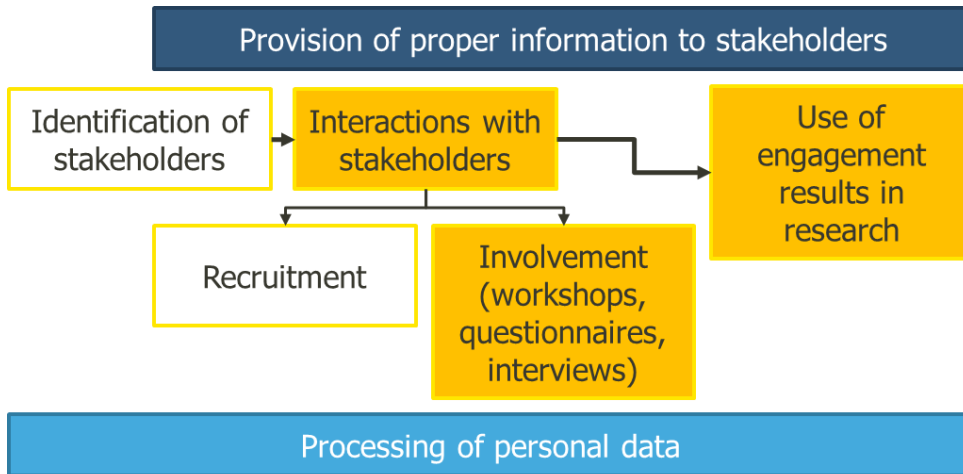


During MARG recruitment:

- Formal vs. informal approach

Via phone, email, (meeting):

- Introduce the project and the case study
- Maybe refer to a reference contact (another person, project, online link..)
- **Ask for permission to contact** the stakeholder **in the future** (e.g. invite to meetings)
- Save confirmation or write a short minute on the phone call



At the first physical (or virtual) meeting:

- **Inform about the GDPR requirements**
 - Information sheet will be provided
- **Ask for consent** and document it in the minutes disseminated to all attendants or (even better) use a consent form
 - Consent form will be provided
- Outer circle and **specific engagement activities** (e.g. questionnaire): written consent will be included in the engagement activity.



Information sheet for stakeholder engagement

Project name	OPTAIN - Optimal strategies to retain and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe
Funding	EU Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Action Grant agreement No. 862756
Coordination	Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research GmbH - UFZ
Duration	60 month, September 2020 - August 2025
Website	www.optain.eu
Researcher	Dr. Michael Strauch
Contact details of the researcher	Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research GmbH - UFZ Department Landscape Ecology Erzbergerstraße 15, 04318 Leipzig michael.strauch@ufz.de 0341 235 1464
Contact details of the data protection officer	UFZ data protection officer datenschutz@ufz.de Tel.: 0341/ 235 1271

1 Introduction

You have been invited to take part in a research study due to your expertise about relevant issues. Before making a decision on whether you want to participate or not, please read this document carefully. Please ask all the questions you may have so you can be completely sure to understand all the proceedings of the study.

2 Background and purpose of the study

OPTAIN (EU-funded research and innovation project, 2020-2025) proposes a social and scientific journey towards the increase and better understanding of the multiple benefits of Natural/Small Water Retention Measures (NSWRMs). But why is this important? To better adapt to extreme events that exacerbate conflicts between agricultural water uses and other human and environmental demands for water. How is that done? By elaborating from the current state of knowledge, the experience of stakeholders from 14 case studies involved in the project and innovative scientific modelling and optimization approaches. Thus OPTAIN aims to: (1) Identify efficient and easy-to-implement techniques for the retention and reuse of water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across Boreal, Continental, and Pannonian regions. (2) Optimize the spatial allocation and combination of NSWRM, based on environmental and economic sustainability indicators

3. What will you be asked to do?



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Stakeholders

Use of stakeholder engagement results in research



Information sheet:

- Case study researchers, contact details
- Background & purpose of the research
- Role of the stakeholder in the study
- Risks and benefits of taking part
- How much time is required to participate
- How the participant's information will be used and stored. How confidentiality and anonymity will be preserved
- How to withdraw from the study



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Contact details of the data protection officer	UFZ data protection officer datenschutz@ufz.de Tel.: 0341/ 235 1274



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Informed consent sheet - to verify that participants:

- understand that taking part is voluntary and they are free to withdraw
- fully have understood the information provided in the information sheet
- have been given the possibility to ask questions about the study to researchers
- consent to the processing of personal information for the purposes of the research study

- Ensure data protection by:
 - Minimization of personal data
 - Pseudonymisation of personal data
 - Encryption of key files
 - Appropriate data storage (e.g. OPTAIN cloud)
 - Consult your DPO if required
- Inform your stakeholders about GDPR requirements and ask for (written) consent
- UFZ will provide an information sheet and consent form (in English)

I just need
the main ideas





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Thank you for your attention

Contact / Email:

Web page:



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1st MARG meeting – Preparing to socio-economic analysis

Federica Monaco
Case Study Lead Workshop
Teams, December 16th 2020



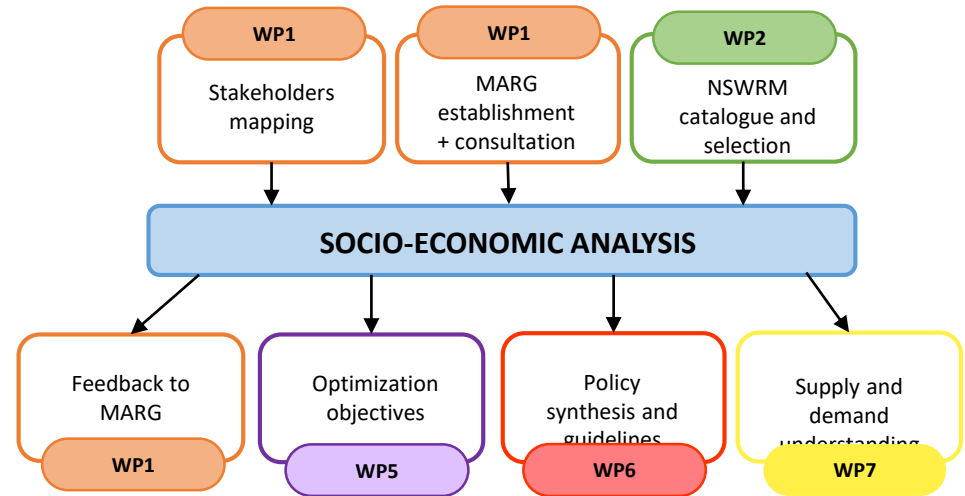
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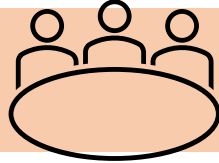
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

Socio-economic analysis

An empirical study will be carried out to analyse and identify the **leading factors** that drive farmers to participate in the implementation of NSWRM. A number of real and representative target farms will be identified within case study areas and directly surveyed during dedicated local workshops or through on-site investigations, with the prime aim of delineating the **propensity** of farmers to innovate their practices through the adoption of NSWRM



Socio-economic analysis and MARGs – structure and agenda



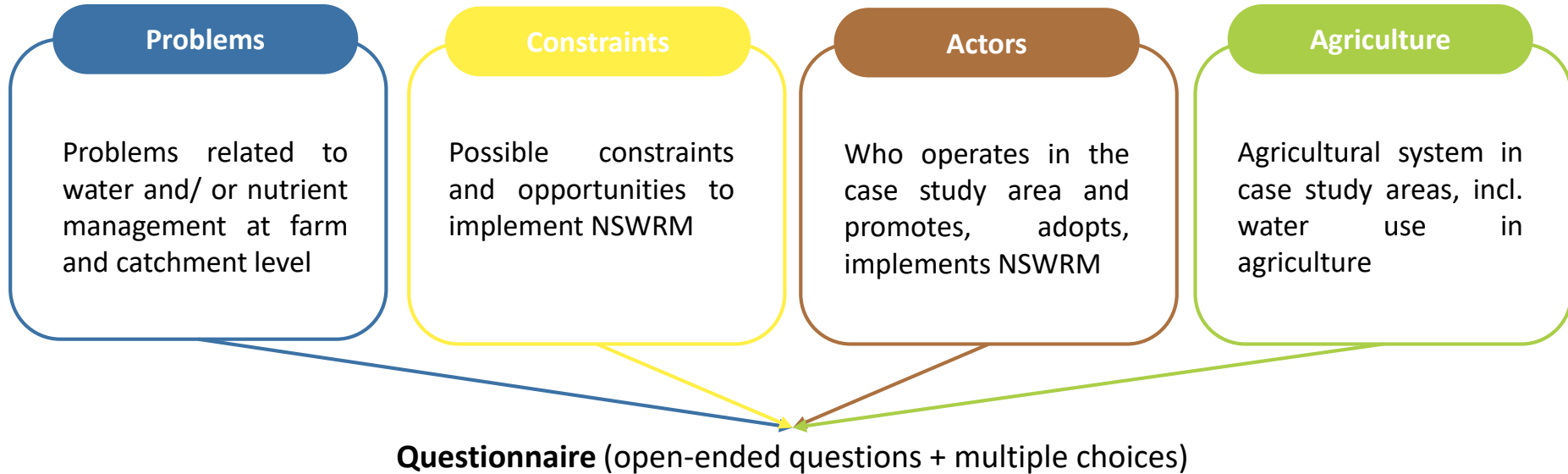
Overall OPTAIN objectives and approaches

Real-world problems of case study areas

Step 1: acquire case-specific information from CSL, which will be later used to outline a questionnaire on measures to guide the discussion during future focus groups (~MARG Workshop 3, 2022)

Step 2 (~m30): match knowledge gained in step 1 and other tasks and acquire case-specific information through surveys (where, who, to whom, how *tbd*)

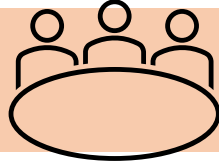
Preliminary information needed (STEP 1)



Sent out to CSL: 21st Dec. 2020

Due date: 31st Jan. 2021 – Please upload on the cloud

Socio-economic analysis and MARGs – *to-dos*



Overall OPTAIN objectives and approaches

Real-world problems of case study areas

Before the kick-off MARG meeting, CSL

- (i) should be aware of engagement activities needed to perform socio-economic analysis + encourage participation in the survey
- (ii) are asked to fill in the questionnaires, providing as many details as possible

During the kick-off MARG meeting CSL are asked to:

- (i) introduce socio-economic activity (stakeholder engagement stimulated?)
- (ii) detect and note any consideration arisen concerning propensity and motivations to adopt NSWRM
- (iii) start exploring potential target persons (other than farmers)

Closing

- Discussion and closing of workshop
- What do you think of today's program?
- Any tips or tops?

Thanks a lot for your participation!!

