



**i-Five**

What have we learnt from the 1st implementation cycle?

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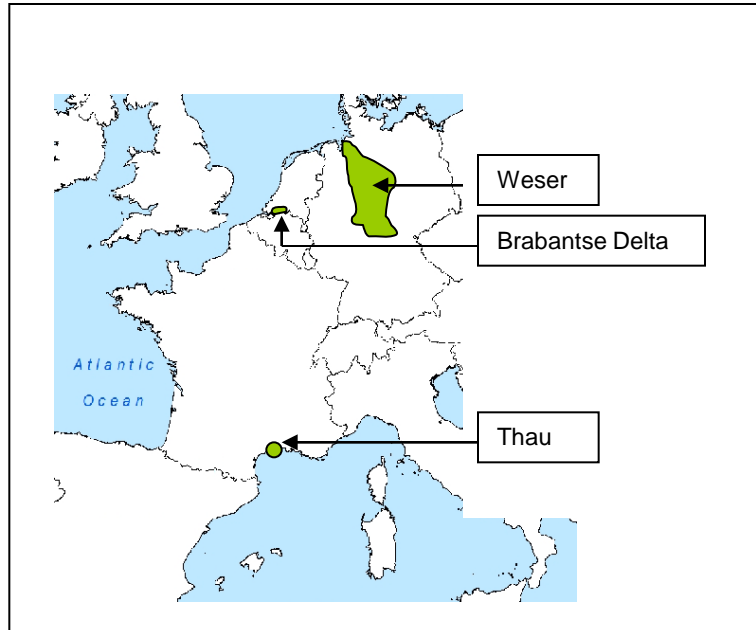
# Partners

- Seecon, Germany, with FGG Weser and NLWKN
- Cemagref, Engref, France with Syndicat Mixte du Bassin de Thau
- Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands, with waterboard De Brabantse Delta

# Research approach

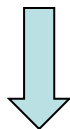
- Active involvement of stakeholders
- Three case studies: each case different country, different innovation
- Comparison of context and innovation
- Discussion of transferability of innovation
- QuickScan

## Cases



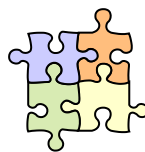
- *not representative but addressing WFD challenges and innovations*
- *Identifying processes rather than general laws*
- *a focus at 1,000 to 10,000 km<sup>2</sup> in relations with upper scales*

Previous research on IWRM and WFD



### Challenges of the WFD implementation

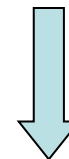
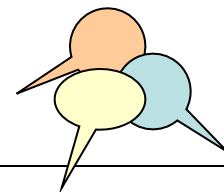
1. Institutional changes
2. Coordination across scales
3. Integration between sectors
4. Public participation
5. Local "Appropriation" of the WFD
6. The role of expertise



Analyses on WFD implementation in

- *Brabantse-Delta*
- *Thau*
- *Weser*

**Innovations**



Cross-case comparison,  
quick-scan and lessons  
drawn

*Are such innovations useful for you?*

**Come and see  
our quick-scan tool tomorrow!**

## Lessons drawn

*The **institutions** that decide on objectives and measures should **include** the ones that have to fund and/ or implement the measures in order to provide optimal conditions for the realisation of the programme of measures.*

*The WFD requires:*

- *Competent authorities: decision making*
- *River basin planning: coordination*
- *Organising public participation: coordination*
- *Implementing measures: commitment*
- *Accountability: paying penalties:*

## Lessons drawn

*A **trans-sectoral river basin approach** needs support from European and national policy.*

*Contradicting policies at EU and national level*

*Driving forces imposing non-negotiable sectoral options*

## Lessons drawn

***Active involvement** of stakeholders is severely **hindered** by the focus on methodological **complexities** and the administrative demands of the WFD, instead of the basic principle of improving the water quality in river basins.*

*New vocabulary*

*Complex decision-tree*

*Data collection*

## Lessons drawn

***Standardisation** may be valuable from a national and international perspective and may be frustrating from a local one.*

The local relevance of measures and measurement gets lost

Lack of traceability

## Lessons drawn

***Non-attainment** of environmental objectives, in itself, does not necessarily imply bad implementation of WFD.*

*great uncertainties in ecological restoration*

*good implementation of WFD does not guarantee water quality improvement*

## Lessons drawn

*Adaptive water management is the way forward for implementing the WFD*

*data for better knowledge and adaptation vs data for reporting*

## Lessons drawn

1. *implementing measures requires all authorities involved in decisions*
2. *trans-sectoral river basin approach requires national and European support*
3. *methodological complexities hinder participation*
4. *Standardisation: balancing national and local interests*
5. *Non-attainment ≠ bad implementation*
6. *Adaptive water management way forward*

Thank you for your attention