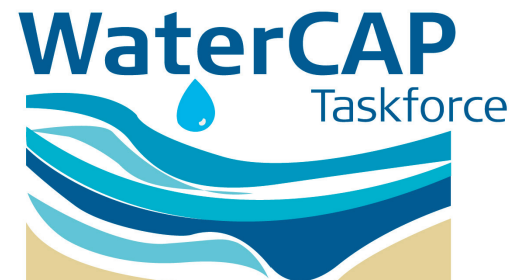
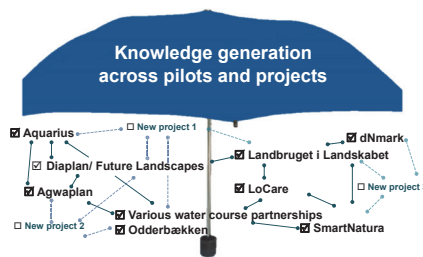
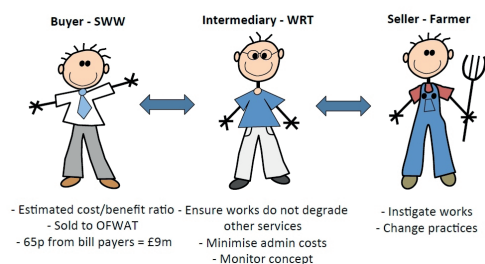


# Shift to a catchment based approach

## Paid Ecosystem Service - In practice



## *Summary*

Water governance has for decades been a national high priority area in many EU countries. In order to secure action and to secure control, national regulation has been a key tool.

In WaterCAP-Taskforce, we have learned from the UK experience on how to go from general regulation to a bottom-up approach where the third sector (local volunteers) is involved in finding win-win solutions for the benefit of water, farming, nature, etc. Knowledge sharing, education and raising awareness are key words for the solutions. They call it "The catchment based approach".

## *Main Benefits*

### **General aspects of catchment based approach**

Active involvement of locals and the creation of a charitable vehicle for catchment management can lead to:

- » Local win-win solutions across sectors.
- » More money for implementation of local goals.
- » More work on the ground implementation.
- » Fast track innovation across sectors and catchments.

### **Economic/job creation**

The catchment based approach involving the third sector delivers:

- » Cheap improvements for the water environment (WFD).
- » Local involvement and resilient solutions.

### **Innovative aspects**

- » Involvement of the third sector in catchment management.
- » Making an umbrella for the third sector, where knowledge is made available, knowledge is shared and where support for actions is given.

## *Boosters for Implementation*

- » EU policy framework which gives increased room and support for local action.
- » Catchment Partnership Groups provide coordination and guidance.
- » A local intermediary, such as a local or regional organisation which supports local solutions for the benefit of multiple stakeholders.
- » Payment schemes which are available on the catchment level and supports multiple benefits.

## *Barriers for Implementation in Denmark*

- » Strong tradition for national regulation and a fear amongst regulators of losing control.
- » The lack of a strong third sector and missing tradition for charity.
- » Lack of time to involve stakeholders when implementing WFD.
- » The cooperation between Nature conservation organisations and land owners is on a low level.

## *How to Get Over Barriers*

- » Increased support from regional and state level for long lasting local engagement.
- » Important to show the benefits for all involved (stakeholders).
- » At the beginning, take time to reach clear agreements about mutual tasks and responsibilities.

## *Policy Recommendations*

- » When drafting new policies, keep in mind that participatory partnerships play a crucial role in water management.
- » Support and facilitate (at least as start-up) cooperation between stakeholders at a local level.
- » Make room for bottom-up solutions as a way to develop and implement innovations.
- » Take the EU guidelines: "The common implementation strategy for the water framework directive" seriously.

### *More Information*

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