

Water Co-Governance - Danish pilots

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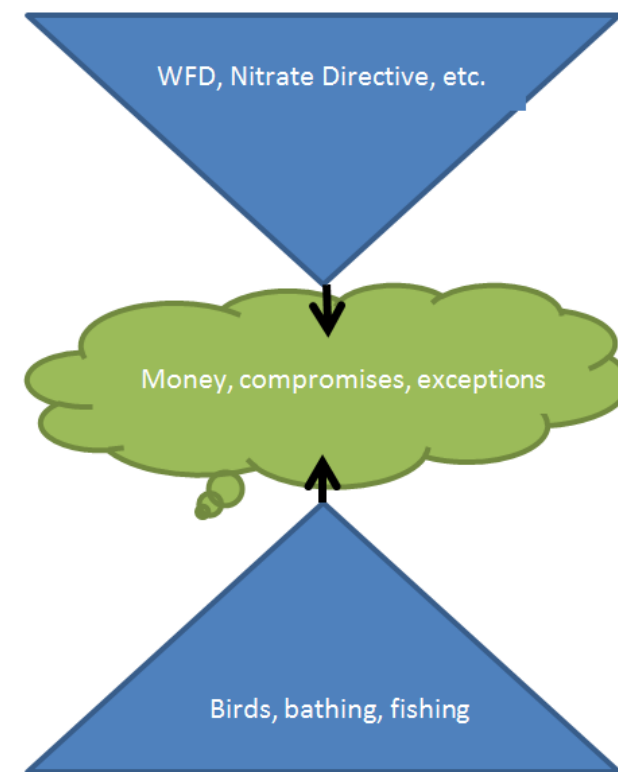


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Background information Co-Governance and Water-CoG

- Governance is a key factor for realizing important goals in regard to environment, climate, biodiversity etc. In this project, the concept of “Co-Governance” is the main driver for achieving these goals
- Co-Governance: **Inviting social actors to participate in the core activities of the state** (Ackerman. J. 2004) or **sharing decision making with public authorities**
- The aim of the project is to change working practice in the institutional set-up towards “Co-Governance” by improving the integration between top-down implementation of European directives and national legislation and bottom-up, participatory developed solutions which will achieve more sustainable management strategies of NSR ecosystems.
- Hypothesis: Good Water Co-Governance structures requires sufficient interaction between top-down targets (EU Directives, national legislation) and local bottom-up.



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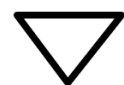


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Visualizing governance structures – WaterCoG tool

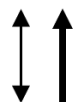
- Aim: to describe the current structures within each pilot and set goals for the implementation of measures that will deliver better Co-Governance



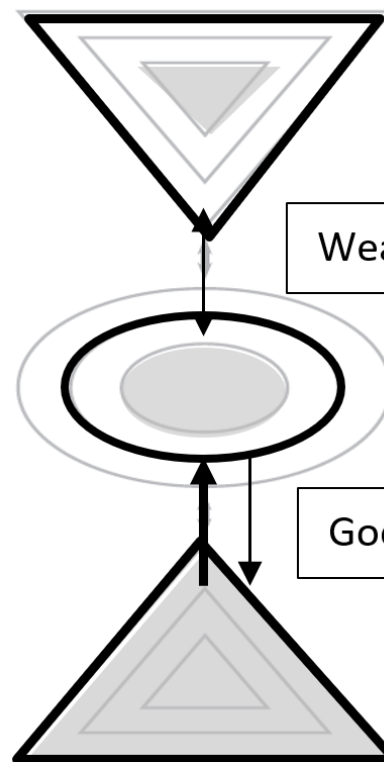
Relative weight between top (national level), middle (regional and local level) and bottom (citizens, landowners etc.)



Strength of internal corporation within top, middle or bottom



Strength of interaction between top, middle or bottom. Could be one way, both ways and weak or strong



Strong national institutions (top-down) with only minor internal corporation

Weak connection between national (top) and “middle”

Medium-strong “middle” institutions with minor internal corporation.

Good interaction upwards but weak downwards

Strong local actors with strong internal corporation

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Water management cycle

Adaptive management framework

A time line of the management of etc.
the EU WFD or the DK Water Plans

Identify stakeholders

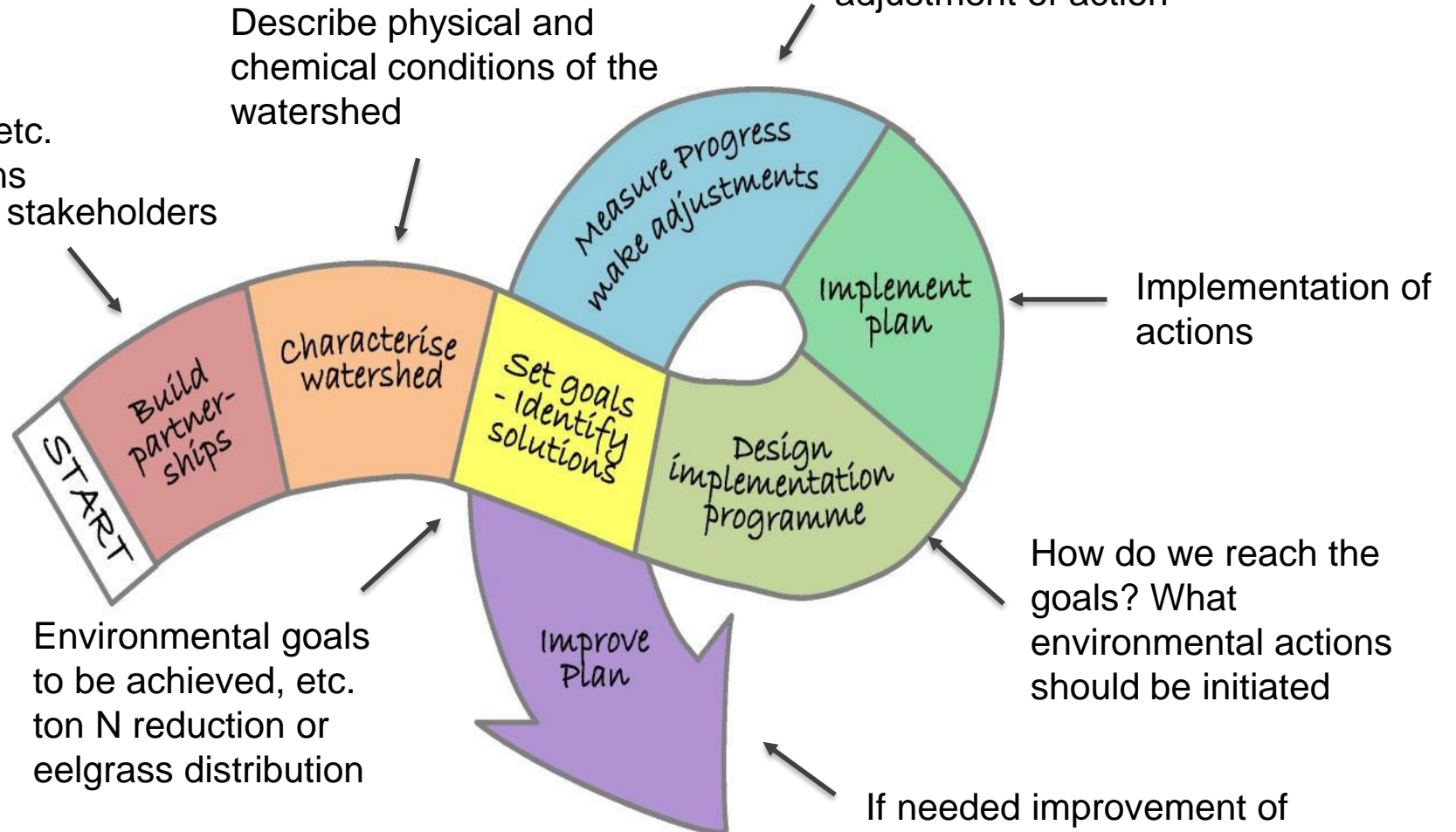
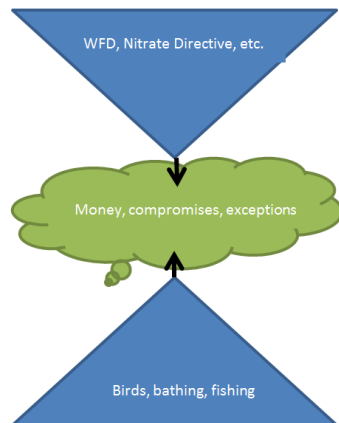
Describe physical and
chemical conditions of the
watershed

Measuring of
progress and
adjustment of action

Implementation of
actions

How do we reach the
goals? What
environmental actions
should be initiated

If needed improvement of
plan – the implementation
circle starts over
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Environmental goals
to be achieved, etc.
ton N reduction or
eelgrass distribution

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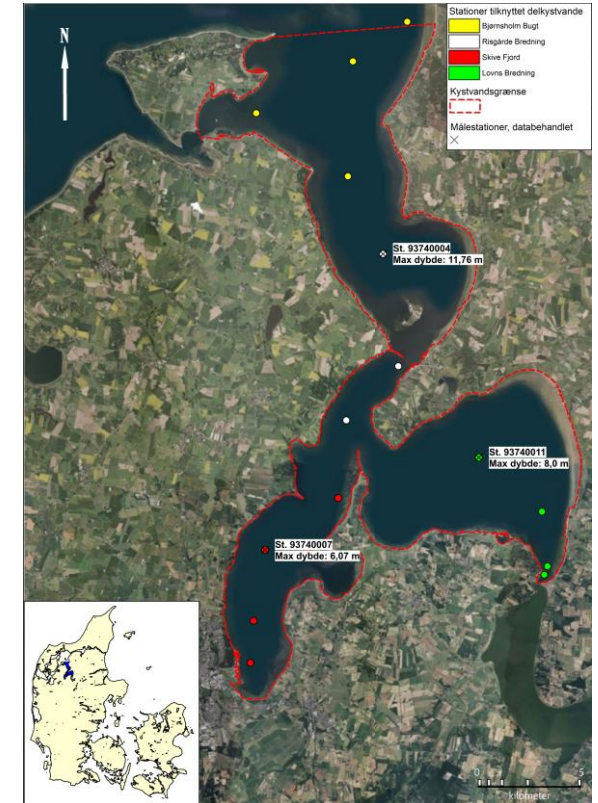
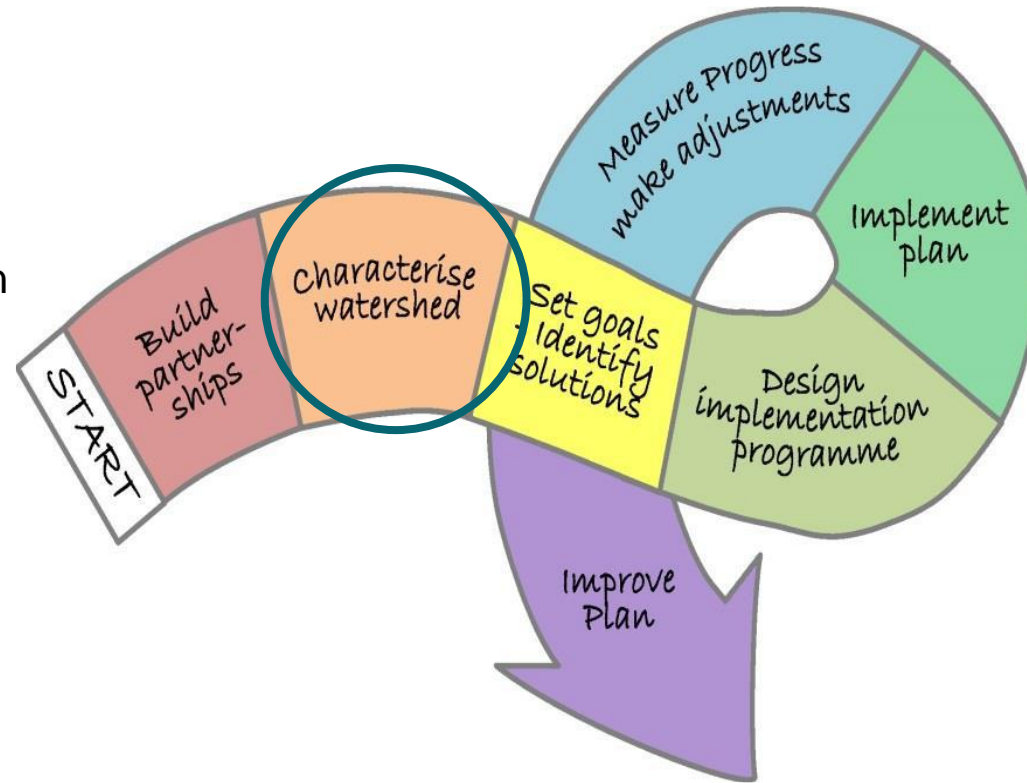
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Danish pilot: Better characterization of watersheds – Skive Fjord and Ringkøbing Fjord

Aim: to demonstrate a new top-down/bottom-up interaction, when characterizing water environment status

This will lead to a better common understanding and better decisions, concerning actions towards improving the coastal water quality.



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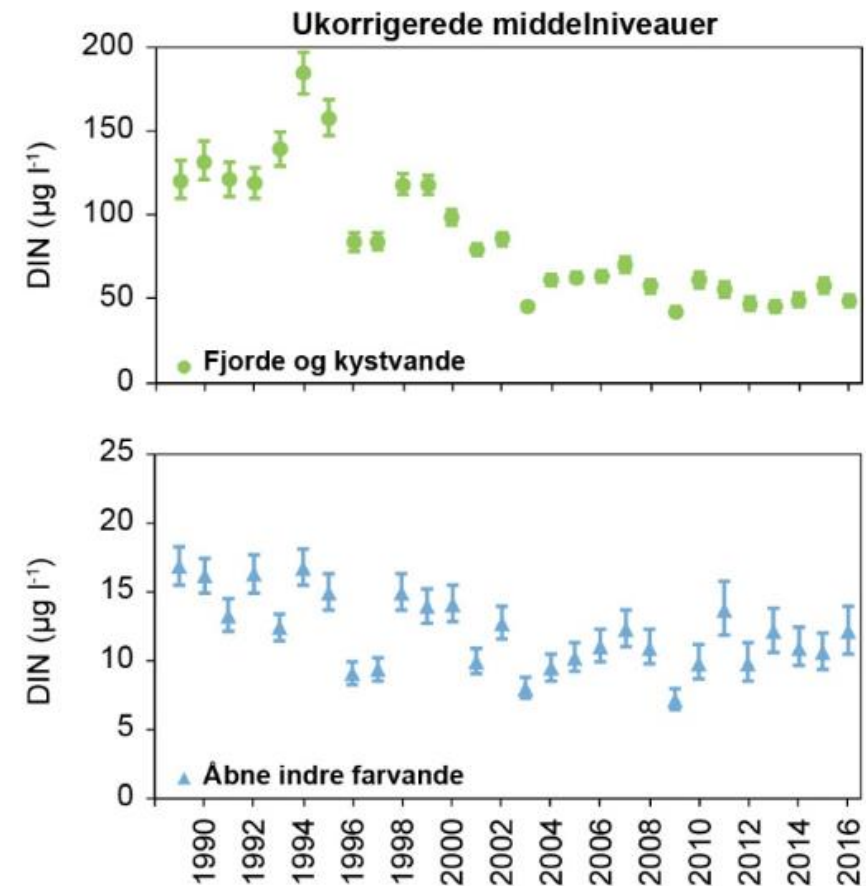
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Current situation in DK – Characterizing watershed

- Each year is an environmental status report (NOVANA report) published by The Danish Environmental Protection Agency.
- The report summaries all fjords or all watercourse on a national scale into one graph or into one indicator,
- That means that local *stakeholders are lacking the possibility of gaining knowledge on the environmental status of their local surface water*



Hansen, 2018

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Skive Fjord and Ringkøbing Fjord pilot area: output

- More detailed description of the environmental condition of Skive Fjord and Ringløbing Fjord based on long series of data
- 50 page report with 200 pages of appendix
- Stakeholder meeting – we got:
 - Local inputs such as birds, fishing, algae blooms etc.
 - Agreement on local involvement is essential in water management
 - Willing to participate in the future management
- An inspiration to national institutions on how to do water management in the future



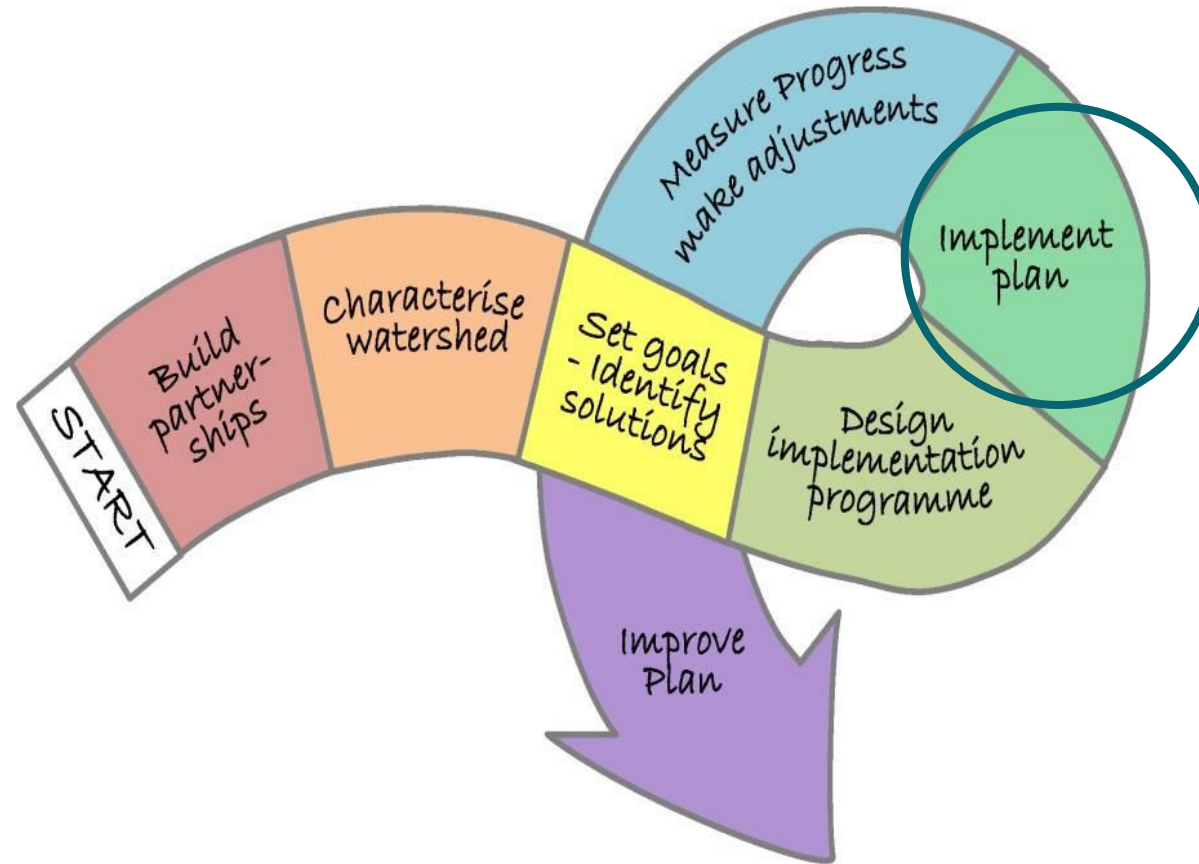
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Danish Pilot: Better implementation of plan – Catchment Officers in DK



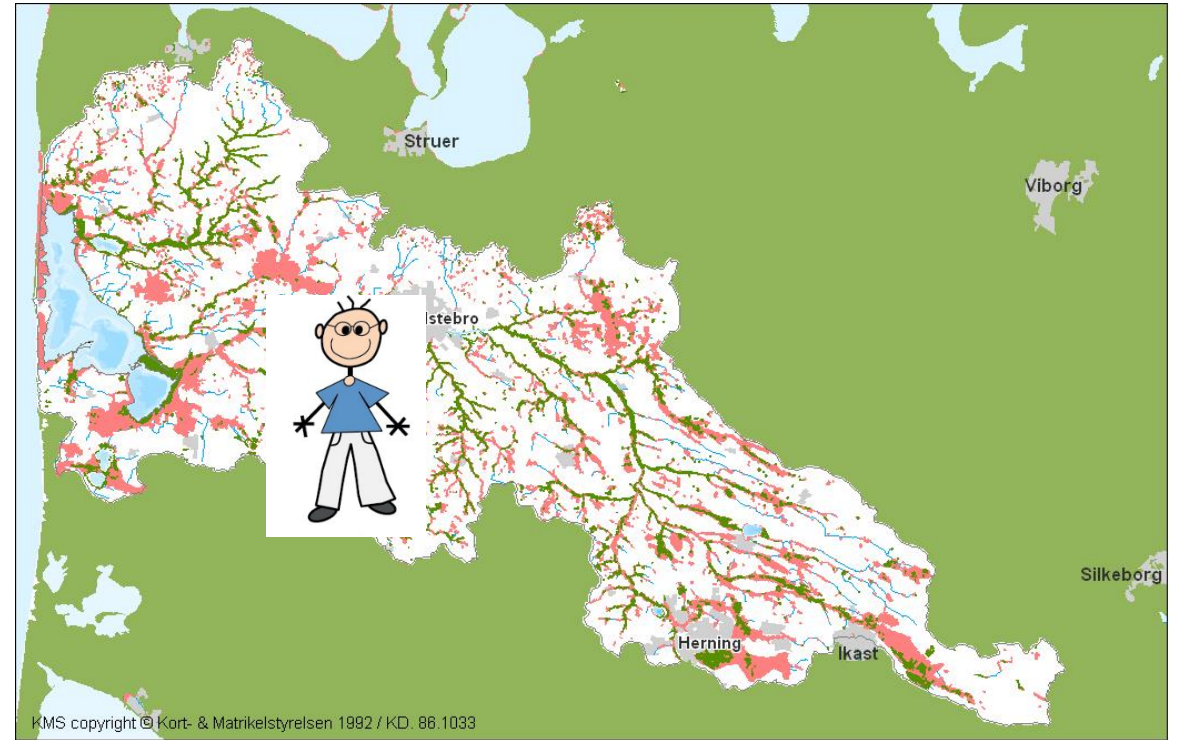
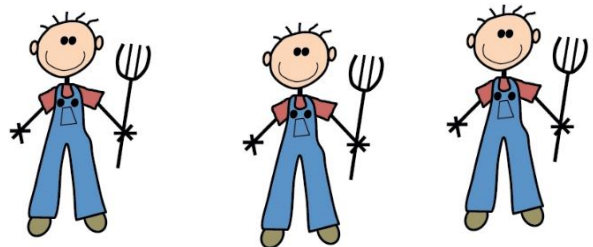
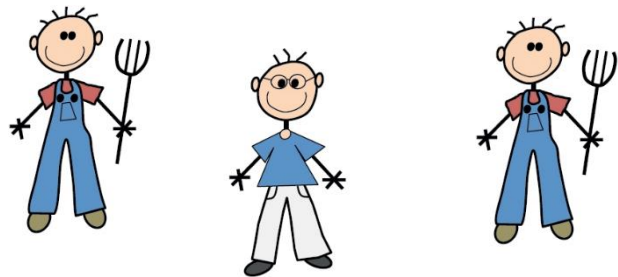
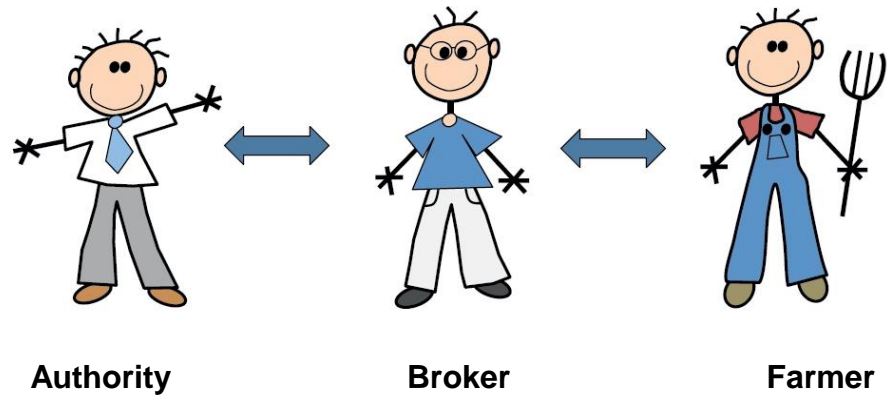
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Catchment Officer concept



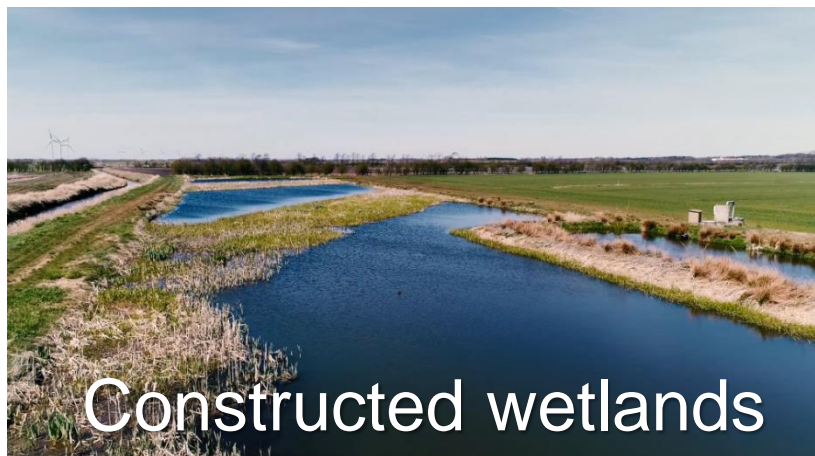
Tested in Water Co-Governance in 2016

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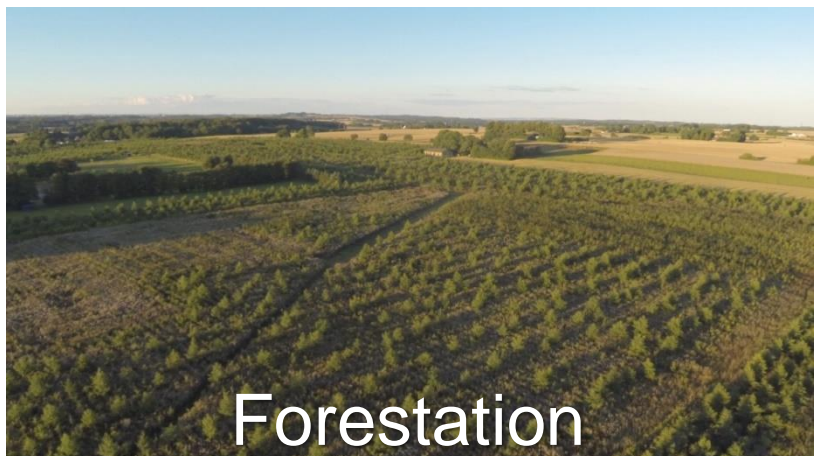


Effective implementation of environmental measures



Restriction on nitrogen fertilizers was reduced back in 2015

In exchange Danish farmers had to implement approx. 1,500 constructed wetlands among other nitrogen reducing initiatives before 2021.



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Catchment officer – new concept in Danish water management

- 25 Catchment officers (16 full time) was assigned to assist back in 2017 in a National Program
- Finding suitable areas, make grant applications etc. Important for the dialog between farmers, farmers unions and municipalities in order to find the best solution
- Budget: 8 million EUR over 4 years
- 50 % payed by farmers (farmer union) and 50 % payed by the government.
- No direct payment for the farmer
- 78 applications in April 2018. 338 applications in April 2019



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Thank you for your attention

