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## W2 Waterdrive

### Water driven rural development in the Baltic Sea Region

Strengthening the role of farmer and advisor

For what reasons and through what services?

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# The challenge in Waterdrive

We started Waterdrive because we wanted to explore more off win-win solutions for agriculture, environment and communities. Can we come further by following such a strategy? The preliminary finding from Waterdrive is YES.

- Prevent leaching of nutrients
- Manage losses of biodiversity
- Improve risk management - drought and flooding
- Implement smart drainage for water and agriculture.
- Strengthen climate change adaptation and mitigation

More action is needed – but how to change?

# Waterdrive findings – Drivers

- Farmers want to play a positive role in the local community
- Farmers want to combine measures that are good for the economy, for the farm and the environment
- The farmers are interested in nature and want to have a positive influence.
- The farmers know their lands and can best allocate measures to fit/work with nature and food production
- Farmers cooperate with other farmers and can also do that in water management
- For the farmer smart water management is much broader than eutrophication of the Baltic Sea.
- Farmers want to enhance long term real estate values of their farms.

# Waterdrive findings - Barriers

- Lack of approved environmental measures.
- Lack of agricultural schemes AES and guidelines.
- Lack of local decision support – where shall the different measures be placed in the landscape?
- Lack of financing – long-term funding to real investment- and implementation plans of environmental measures at local level.
- Lack of professional advice in the agricultural advisory service, municipalities or agencies?
- Lack of trust in the system

# Where should the leadership be developed for the change – question?

- In the government and state agencies
- At the local municipalities
- At the local agricultural advisory service
- At the farming community
- A close cooperation between a,b,c,d in well-defined roles



# If - where shall the catchment officers the Baltic Sea region be employed - question?



Denmark 25 catchment officers  
Agricultural land:  
25.787 km<sup>2</sup>  
1/1.031 km<sup>2</sup>  
Private 50% +  
50 % state funding

Poland 40 Water advisors  
312.679 km<sup>2</sup> \* 48,2 %  
1/3.768 km<sup>2</sup>  
State

Sweden 30 catchment officers  
350.295 km<sup>2</sup> \* 7,5 %  
1/876 km<sup>2</sup>  
State/municipality



# Strengthening the role of farmers – what are the key ways forward?

1. Stimulating cross-actor cooperation on the local and landscape level.
2. Providing easy to use digital decision support.
3. Taking on a more profound leadership role in farming community.
4. Improving economy for investments in agri-environment measures.
5. Strengthening advisory services/capacity building.
6. Implementing catchment officers.
7. Participation in tests and pilots with research.
8. Performing monitoring at farm and landscape level.
9. Other priorities