Beyond our future generation focusing on nature-based solutions with climate adaptive inspired maintenance of levee systems

Priority 1: Climate and environment

Climate adaptation and disaster risk prevention (SO 2.4)

BONSAI 01

What challenge(s) is your project addressing in the NWE territories?

Improving our readiness for the impact of more extreme conditions in the Tidal influenced Estuarian System - resulting from the accelerating climate change - on the flood risk management infrastructure (time horizon 50 – 100 years from now).

What is the objective of your project?

To be more flood risk resilient in North-West Europe by learning from sites in different climate bands over Europe and developing and sharing pro-active and responsive measures using nature-based solutions.

What impact/results is your project aiming for?

1. Robust Levees against erosion
2. Adaptive Resilient Flood defence systems through nature-based solutions
3. Sustainable less vulnerable communities through innovations, raised awareness, capacity building and disaster response to become antifragile

What kind of partners are you looking for? Indicate country and/or type of organisations and/or expertise needed.

Countries: Ireland, Germany

Expertise on emergency response, community building and smart data applications (AI)

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Farmers for clean water through sustainable management

FFCW 02

Priority 1: Climate and environment

Climate adaptation and disaster risk prevention (SO 2.4)

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What challenge(s) is your project addressing in the NWE territories?

In BE, NL, LUX, Northern DE and Brittany (FR) over 70% of the surface water bodies are not in good ecological condition. 18% of groundwater body area in the EU is chemically contaminated with nitrates. A significant contributor to diffuse contamination is agricultural activity (leaching, erosion or run-off).

What is the objective of your project?

Farmers actively contribute to the protection and improvement of water quality by minimising nutrient losses through agricultural measures adapted to their conditions (crop, soil, climate) but with a continued additional focus on good quality and quantity of crops.
Policy makers, researchers, farmers and the general public are engaged to drive forward an agricultural ecosystem that supports water quality.

What impact/results is your project aiming for?

The project aims to improve surface and groundwater quality by reducing 10% of nutrient loss from farmland. The model created by the partnership shows best applicable measures to improve water quality linked to the agricultural conditions and is widely available for farmers. Authorities take outputs on board for their policies and practices to develop/ adapt regulations and standards. The cooperating community is aware of farmers being part of the solution.

What kind of partners are you looking for? Indicate country and/or type of organisations and/or expertise needed.

Partners with expertise in:

- Soil/Water Knowledge and Research (NL/LUX/DE/FR)
- Field trials and cooperation with farmers (NL and DE)
- Citizen science
- Water sensor technology
- Data analysis and modelling

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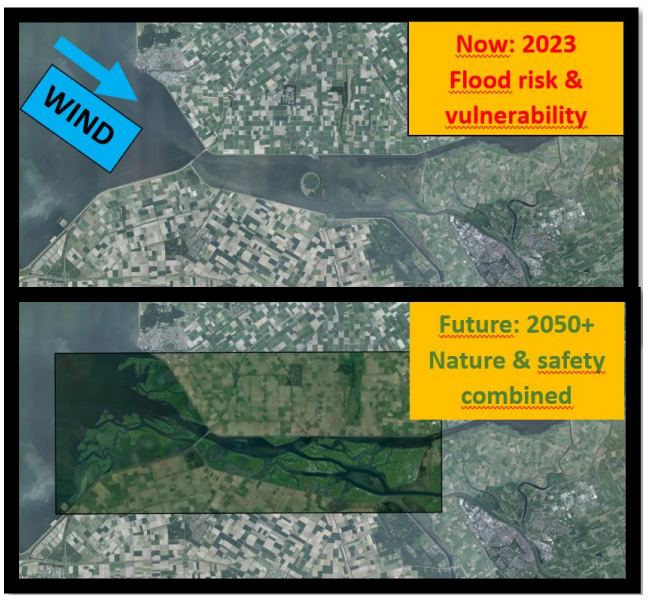
NEW DELTA
in lake « Ijsselmeer »

KETELDELTA NL 03

Priority 1: Climate and environment

Climate adaptation and disaster risk prevention (SO 2.4)



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What challenge(s) is your project addressing in the NWE territories?

Watersafety, nature recovery, climate resilience and sweet water supply

What is the objective of your project?

Due to the creation of new land ('polders') the water safety and ecological quality in the eastern lake ´IJsselmeer', changed dramatically. We want to create 'Keteldelta'. This new delta is a smart solution which combines different goals into one plan. The ecological functioning of the IJsselmeer will improve and land will be better protected against flooding. This will result in more resilience to climate change and reduced costs.

What impact/results is your project aiming for?

- Improved water safety in the 'old' IJsseldelta: Reduction of North-Western storm surge by building a new delta
- Decreased dike-improvement challenge: lower costs
- Better climate adaption possibilities in relation to sea and IJssellake level rise, increased availability sweet water
- Improved ecological functioning: more and better nature
- Creating a new delta: restore hydro- and morfodynamics

What kind of partners are you looking for? Indicate country and/or type of organisations and/or expertise needed.

We’re looking for partners with equal challenge or expertise needed to develop a new delta.

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New and safe sources for guaranteeing sustainable drinking water supply

Priority 1: Climate and environment

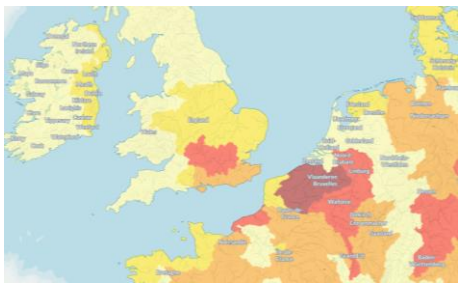
Climate adaptation and disaster risk prevention (SO 2.4)

NEW WATER 04

What challenge(s) is your project addressing in the NWE territories?

The NWE territories face a growing pressure in drinking water supply

- Current sources are declining due to the effects of climate change
- Population growth will even increase the needs for drinking water



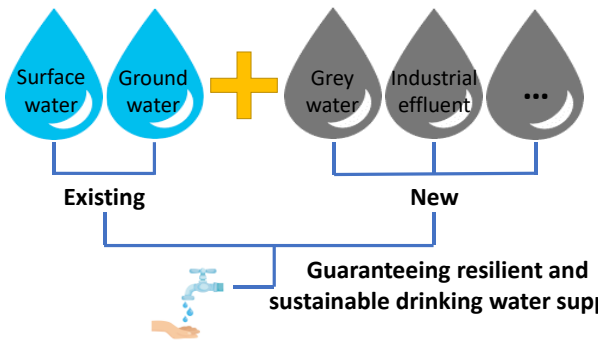
Water stress in NWE region (source: Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas)

What is the objective of your project?

Tapping into new sources for drinking water production, e.g.:

- Conversion of industrial effluent
- Conversion of grey water
- Conversion of brackish water

(final selection of sources depending on partnership)



What impact/results is your project aiming for?

- Development and implementation of a joint integrated action plan to increase drinking water availability
- Demonstration of new drinking water sources by using innovative technologies in pilots in NWE (afterwards scaled up)
- Creation of a strong support base at consumer level for accepting drinking water from new sources (co-creation of communication instruments and materials)

What kind of partners are you looking for? Indicate country and/or type of organisations and/or expertise needed.

- Drinking water companies or authorities with pilot actions on transformation of alternative sources into drinking water, especially in France
- Local governments involved in policy, legislation, and/or exploitation of drinking water production facilities for developing a joint action plan
- Current interested partners: De Watergroep, Tiense Suiker, DDS-Verko, Veolia, Den Haag, Dunea, Purecontrol, Intewa, Vlakwa, TZW, ...

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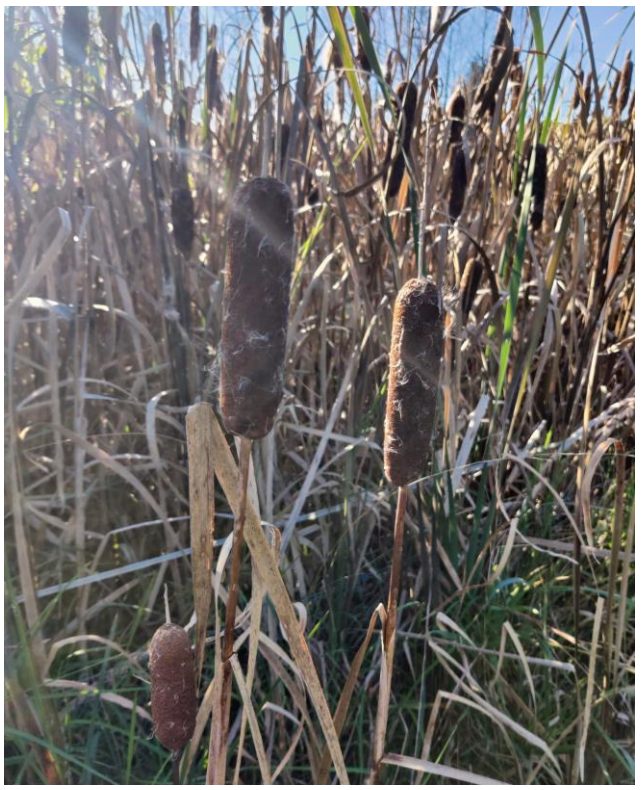
The pursuit of paludiculture?!

Priority 1: Climate and environment

Climate adaptation and disaster risk prevention (SO 2.4)

PALUD 05



What challenge(s) is your project addressing in the NWE territories?

- Carbon loss by peaty soils on agricultural land
- Pressure on land use, current agricultural use and nature conservation goals can seem contradictory
- Valorisation of ecosystem services
- Is a business model possible for paludiculture? Is there a supply chain for biobased paludiculture products?

What is the objective of your project?

In this project we want to explore the possibilities of rewetting peatlands in agricultural use through creating profitable business models for paludiculture. Stakeholder participation is key in this project: can paludiculture combine agricultural production and nature conservation goals with sustainable business models on agricultural land?

What impact/results is your project aiming for?

Through rewetting peat soils climate mitigation is realised.
Also other ecosystem services can by realised through paludiculture: e.g. water conservation and biodiversity goals.
Creating a business model through payment **for** ecosystem services is a first step in realising paludiculture. Through stakeholder participation a common understanding between farmers and nature managers is realised.

What kind of partners are you looking for? Indicate country and/or type of organisations and/or expertise needed.

Germany, Ireland, France, the Netherlands
Knowledge partners and pilot sites

- Experience in the practice of paludiculture: soil, crops, environment, machinery,... .
- Experience in business models (market economy know-how), processing and marketing paludiculture products.

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Smart Flooding as a Craft

SFAAC 06

Priority 1: Climate and environment

Climate adaptation and disaster risk prevention (SO 2.4)

Heavy storms on the coast threaten us (Oranjemolen, Vlissingen)

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What challenge(s) is your project addressing in the NWE territories?

Areas along rivers and in deltas are considered to be particularly vulnerable to climate change and flooding. To be ready for the future and continue growth, we need to develop concepts in which the current spatial, ecological and economic development and future flood defenses in deltas and catchments are interrelated instead of obstructing each other. No higher dikes, but an integrated approach.

What is the objective of your project?

Rather than having to wait for the future, we can start developing coastal and river side areas right now and anticipate an uncertain future, without restricting the current use or the spatial, natural and welfare quality. The aim is to develop and implement smart (nature based) solutions based on data and creativity for flood risk management. We do this by applying innovative strategies aimed at the future and building with nature principles in current assignments.

What impact/results is your project aiming for?

A mutually reinforcing package of strategies, measures and applied inspiring examples about adaptive flood risk management in deltas, coasts and river areas.

1. implementation of pilots or implementation of strategies
2. methodology for research by design to connect short-term tasks with long-term uncertainties
3. transferable development strategies: bringing together crafts from the various technical domains, a new craft is created; integral water management design.

What kind of partners are you looking for? Indicate country and/or type of organisations and/or expertise needed.

- Governments near riversides, in deltas (Seine, Loire) or along coasts
- Knowledge institutes and private sector
- Expected to be committed partners: Technical University of Delft (NL), Municipality of Vlissingen (NL), Municipality of Blankenberge (BE). Observer partners from the UK.
- Looking for a lead partner.

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Biodiversity+ and Urban Green

Priority 1: Climate and environment

Nature protection and biodiversity (SO 2.7)

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B+UG 07

What challenge(s) is your project addressing in the NWE territories?

Cities should better recognise the role of the natural environment in shaping healthy and livable places. Urban planning traditionally occurs without much consideration of biodiversity. Urban areas developed in the last century have a high level of monotonous green an a low level of biodiversity. Which has a negative impact on the enjoyment of green and general well-being, heat stress and climate resilience.

What is the objective of your project?

Maintaining biodiversity within its city limits. Improve existing green spaces for local biodiversity.
To create more biodiversity and enhancing higher quality of life. Gain knowledge on creating and maintaining high biodiversity and social experience, reduction of heat stress and better climate adaptation. To bring biodiversity into urban design.

What impact/results is your project aiming for?

1. Mapping current biodiversity in the (partner) cities. 2. Identifying drivers of biodiversity loss. 3. Reducing these threats. 4. Ecological planning guides on smart urbanisation that directs new development to places with minimal impacts on biodiversity. 5. Gain more knowledge on cost effective creation and maintenance of high level green, and on the additional benefits on health, heat stress and climate adaptation. 6. A guidebook for nature education.

What kind of partners are you looking for? Indicate country and/or type of organisations and/or expertise needed.

Partners who also want to gain knowledge on biodiversity in urban envorinments and additional benefits on health, heat stress, social engagement, climate adaptation and other positive spillovers.

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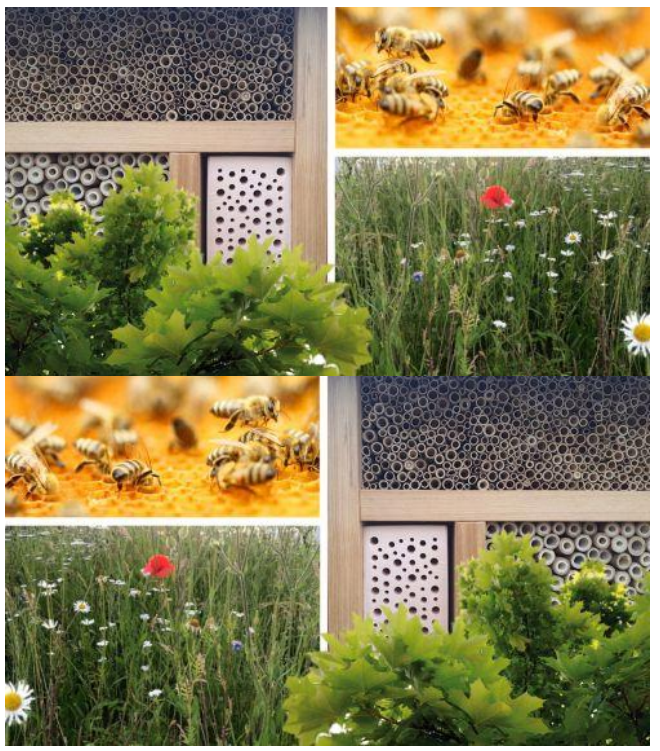
Enhancing biodiversity through cross-pollination

Clim@Bee 08

Priority 1: Climate and environment

Nature protection and biodiversity (SO 2.7)



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What challenge(s) is your project addressing in the NWE territories?

- Decline of the number of cross-pollinators and their habitats
- Lack of knowledge about the most efficient and effective measures to support cross-pollinators

What is the objective of your project?

- Monitoring the impact of biodiversity-enhancing measures in different habitats
- Make policy recommendations to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of measures within specific habitats.
- Knowledge dissemination to a wide audience
- Involvement and participation of citizens,
- Implement existing joint action plans by upscaling tools and outputs developed in previous European projects

What impact/results is your project aiming for?

- 12 pilots in 3 countries
- 60 different measures to increase biodiversity
- 10% total increase of biodiversity
- Implement and upscale 5 existing monitoring tools
- Implement and upscale 3 joint action plans
- Implement and upscale 3 previous project outputs

What kind of partners are you looking for? Indicate country and/or type of organisations and/or expertise needed.

- Partners with expertise on impact monitoring tools, e.g. universities
- Nature organisations and NGO's working on biodiversity
- Farmers and local governments willing to provide a pilot location & implementation of measures to increase biodiversity

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Peatlands for nature, climate and future

PEAT Pirates 09

Priority 1: Climate and environment

Nature protection and biodiversity (SO 2.7)

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What challenge(s) is your project addressing in the NWE territories?

Peatlands in Europe, especially in the NWE region, are highly degraded (more than 50 %). Next to several ecosystem services they hold a unique biodiversity that is highly impacted by the loss of habitat. Habitat loss also fragments ecosystems and can cause species extinctions. Furthermore, degraded peatlands emit huge amounts of carbon.

What is the objective of your project?

Enhance regionwide peatland restoration efforts to bolster biodiversity & ecosystem services, & create a climate where upscaling is streamlined with local & regional needs, by
(1) deploying, improving & scaling restoration techniques;
(2) developing strategies to garner local & regional support (e.g. through local ambassadorship);
(3) improving financial sustainability by developing investor engagement strategies.

What impact/results is your project aiming for?

The acceleration & upscaling of peatland restoration across the region, through hands on restoration efforts at various pilot sites spread out across the region, by engaging interest groups locally & regionally to uplift their perception of peatlands in order to preemptively tackle resistance & expedite projects & restoration efforts. Investigate & advance economic schemes based on environmental condition, ecosystem services, biodiversity to attract private funds.

What kind of partners are you looking for? Indicate country and/or type of organisations and/or expertise needed.

- nature organisations (peatland managers)
- knowledge institutes
- governmental bodies (cooperate on economic schemes)

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Enhancing Pollinator Biodiversity through Innovative Grassland and Flower Strip Management Techniques

POLLIBIO 10

Priority 1: Climate and environment

Nature protection and biodiversity (SO 2.7)

What challenge(s) is your project addressing in the NWE territories?

Wild pollinators are extremely important. However, pollinator biodiversity is facing significant challenges in the North-West Europe region, necessitating urgent measures to restore their habitats. Biodiverse grasslands and offset field margins play a crucial role in this restoration to build up sustainable and more biodiverse landscapes within agro-environments.

What is the objective of your project?

The POLLIBIO project wants to enhance pollinator biodiversity in the region through the implementation of innovative grassland and flower strip management techniques, like sinus management and three strip management. We will work closely with regular farmers, establishing test and demo sites, to ensure practicality and applicability to farming operations.

What impact/results is your project aiming for?

The project will set up pilot sites in the different partner regions. Here the different management techniques will be tested. The results will be monitored to assess the impact on biodiversity and disseminated to stakeholders. The project commits to developing best practices, guidelines and policy recommendations, conducting socio-economic assessments to understand and positively influence stakeholder behaviours.

What kind of partners are you looking for? Indicate country and/or type of organisations and/or expertise needed.

The project will be managed by the Flemish Land Agency (Vlaamse Landmaatschappij, VLM), together with the University of Ghent.
We are looking for partners in the other countries of the NWE region that can set up pilot projects in their area. These can be farmers organisations, nature organisations, local and regional governments, research institutes...

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