



Interactive session:
challenges and synergies in balancing nature conservation, water management
and other policy objectives

Baltic-Nordic region thematic workshop/ summary from SWE group
Lubāns, 29-30 September 2021

EU LIFE Programme integrated project
“Implementation of River Basin Management Plans of Latvia towards good surface water status”



- No direct conflicts between the reviewed Directives
- Different prioritization between measures – e.g., nutrient traps not always good for biodiversity;
 - A county administration **decides** as they hold the money; approach -combination of incentives and land-use planning;
 - Individual persons can also influence the activities in areas;
 - National priorities are set by Agencies (also guidelines, rules) e.g. Nature Conservation Agency, but implementation is taking place on county level.
- It is important to assess and present benefits (quantify) from the areas, to take care about the waters;
- WFD&Flood – knowledge about synergies in changing climate is not sufficient; to quantify aspects of flood risk and climate adaption (new activity in RBMP, a lot of modeling in SE, but still actual data on role of wetlands in buffering waters is missing)

Synergies

- Climate mitigation by wetland (carbon rich soils, peat soils), rewetting soils would reduce carbon oxide emissions+ other synergy effects. Agricultural land would be lost, thus potential conflict.
- Multifunctionality & Prioritization of measures
 - Water parks implemented by municipalities – wetlands that can be seen, used by local people (recreation); recreation part is overlooked – it can be also negative effect (for farmers); importance of international tourism – revenues for municipality.
- Measures are easier for implementation if the goal&objective is straight forward (e.g. 1 bird); but as WFD is rather complex it is difficult to focus and to show the imidiate results

Thank you!



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The integrated project “Implementation of River Basin Management Plans of Latvia towards good surface water status” (LIFE GOODWATER IP, LIFE18 IPE/LV/000014) has received funding from the LIFE Programme of the European Union and the Administration of Latvian Environmental Protection Fund. www.goodwater.lv

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