

# Swedish environmental policies, incentives and tools for implementation - examples from the LEVA-concept

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## Sweden's Environmental Goals

- » A guiding light for all environmental work Sweden engages in, nationally, within EU and internationally
- » The over all goal for environmental politics is to create a society for the next generation where the large environmental problems are solved
- » Reaching the environmental goals is to be done with out creating increased environmental and health problems outside the Swedish border



# 16 Environmental Quality Objectives

1. Reduced Climate Impact
2. Clean Air
3. **Natural Acidification Only**
4. **A Non-toxic Environment**
5. A protective Ozone Layer
6. A Safe Radiation Environment
7. **Zero Eutrophication**
8. **Flourishing Lakes and Streams**
9. **Good-Quality Groundwater**
10. **A Balanced Marine Environment, Flourishing Coastal Areas and Archipelagos**
11. **Thriving wetlands**
12. Sustainable Forests
13. A Varied Agricultural Landscape
14. A Magnificent Mountain Landscape
15. A Good Built Environment
16. **A Rich Diversity of Plant and Animal Life**



# The Environmental dimension of Agenda 2030

»The Environmental Objectives are the environmental dimension of The Global Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

»The Environmental Objectives are therefore an important part of Sweden's implementation of Agenda 2030.





# Trend for environmental goals not reached

- » Two goals are reached or almost reached (A protective Ozone Layer and A Safe Radiation Environment)
- » Trend **positive** for 2 of the goals and **negative** for 5.
- » For 7 of the goals there is no trend and the goals are not reached



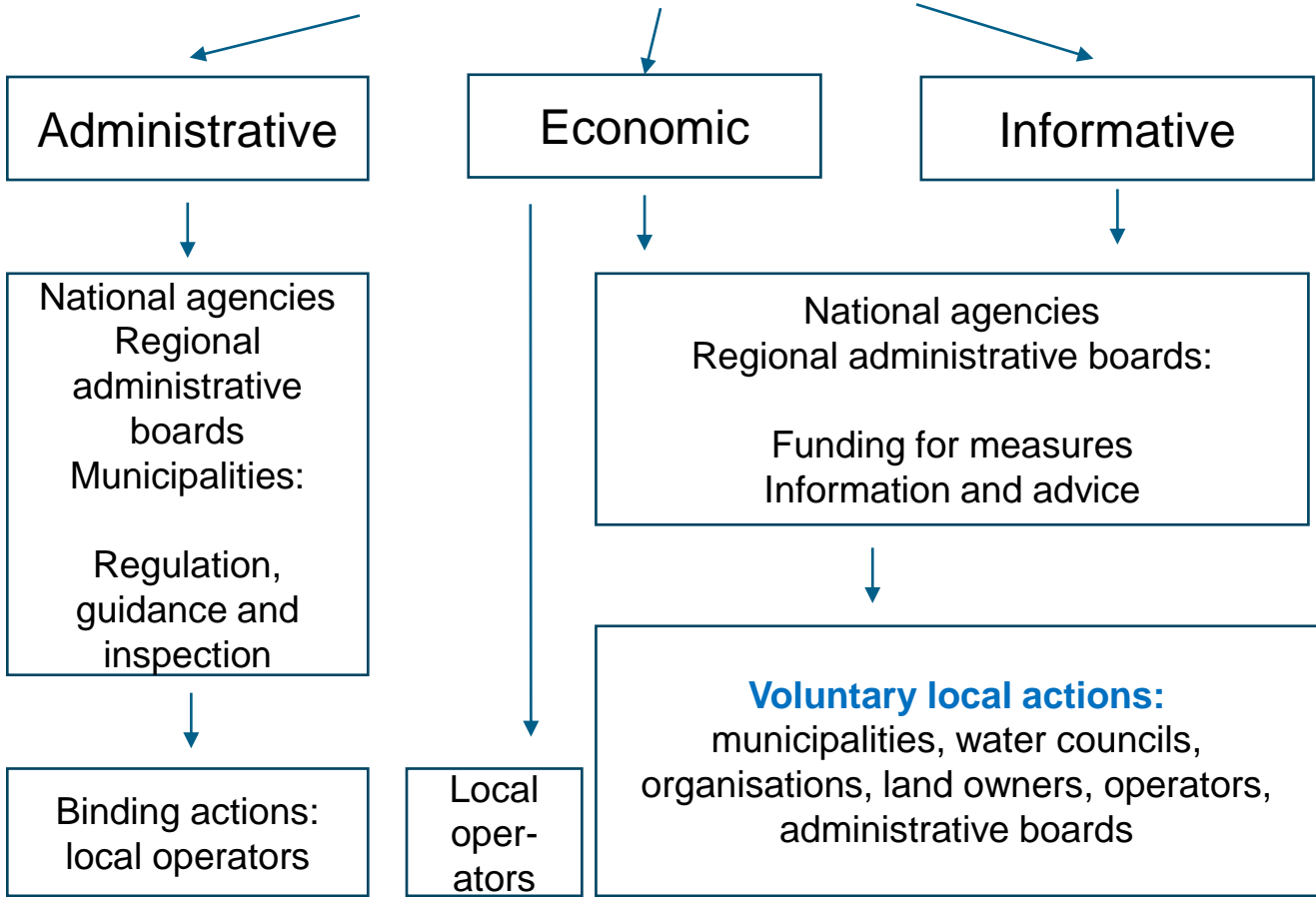
## Read more at the Swedish EPA

» <https://www.naturvardsverket.se/en/environmental-work/environmental-objectives/>

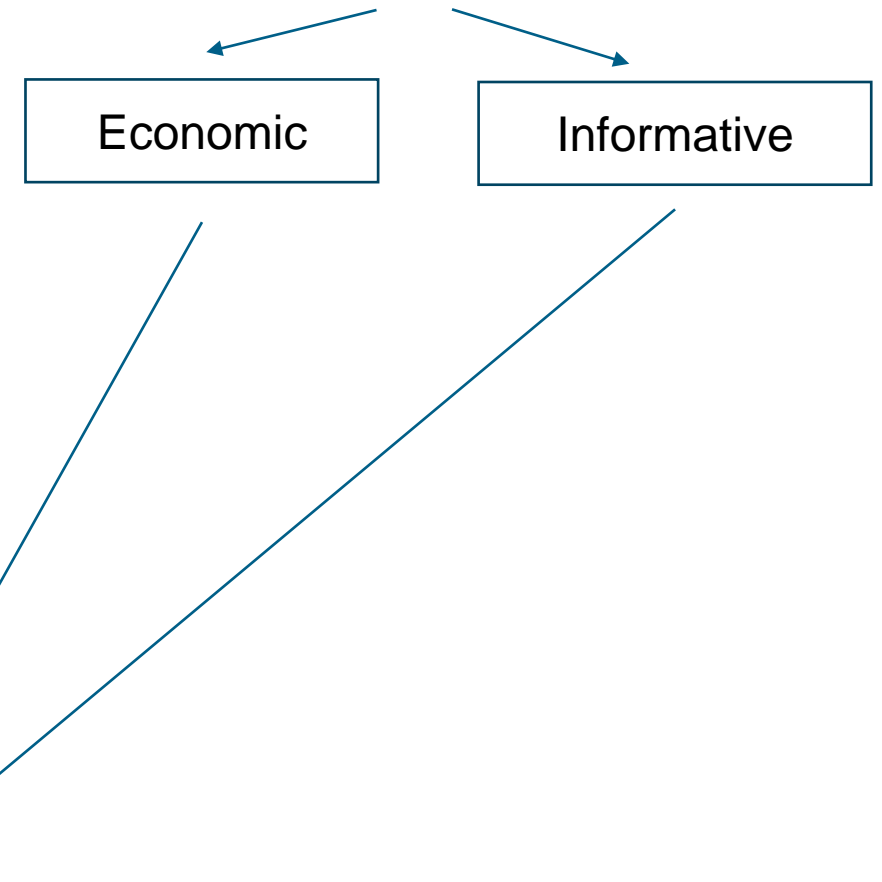
The Global Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Swedish Environmental goals and other Societal goals  
(EU-directives are integrated)

The government gives instruments to reach political goals

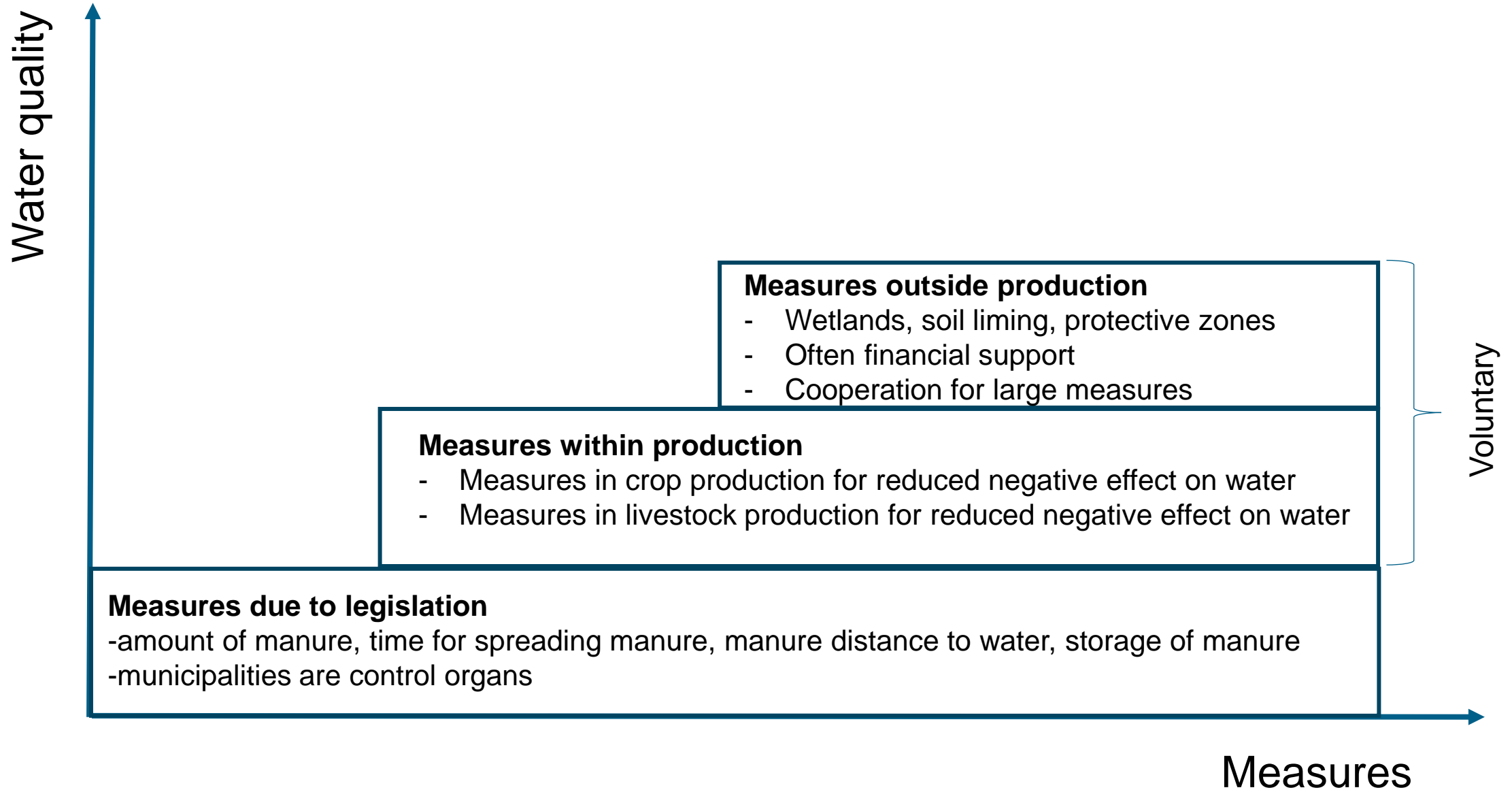


Voluntary organisations and operators



*(Some economic instruments as taxes can be made binding by the government)*

# Steps of measures in the agricultural landscape





## LEVA- Lokal engagement for water

In 2018 SwAM was given two governmental mandates:

1. Strengthened measures against eutrophication at the local level
2. Pilot areas against eutrophication

Both mandates were carried out in co-operation with the Swedish Board of Agriculture, the water district authorities and the farmers federation.

- » 20 pilot areas with catchment officers for local coordination against eutrophication
- » Support function for the catchment officers (information, education, knowledge exchange)
- » Report to the government March 2021
- » Second evaluation of pilot areas March 2022

LEVA 2022= national support function as well as local work method with local coordination. Future not decided by the government.

## The effects of coordination 2019-2021



Färdigrävd våtmark hösten 2020. Foto Edlunds schakt AB

- » The catchment officers had 325 meetings with almost 3500 participants. They have had almost 1400 individual meetings with landowners as well as many other operators.
- » The catchment officers have been part of applying for 250 million SEK in grants/funding for local measures during 2019-2021
- » This is a **increased exchange of four times** compared to the state funding of the catchment officers
- » Local measures so far performed are for example wetlands, meandering, ponds, environmental ditch maintenance, spring processing and liming to improve soil structure

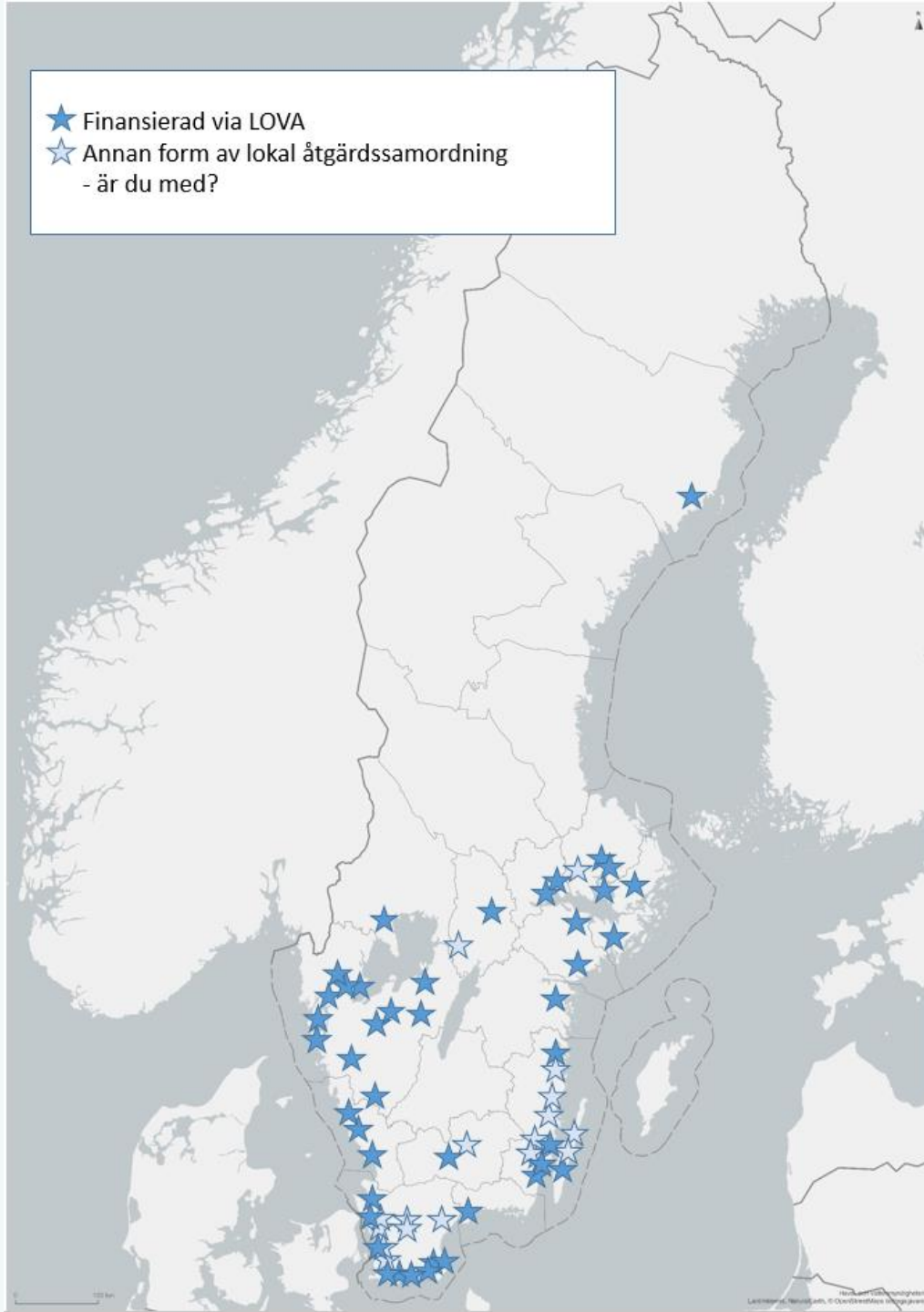
# Local coordination is growing

- » Catchment officers funded by the state grant LOVA
- » Other forms of local coordination of measures

The government increased LOVA funding 2022 by 100 millions

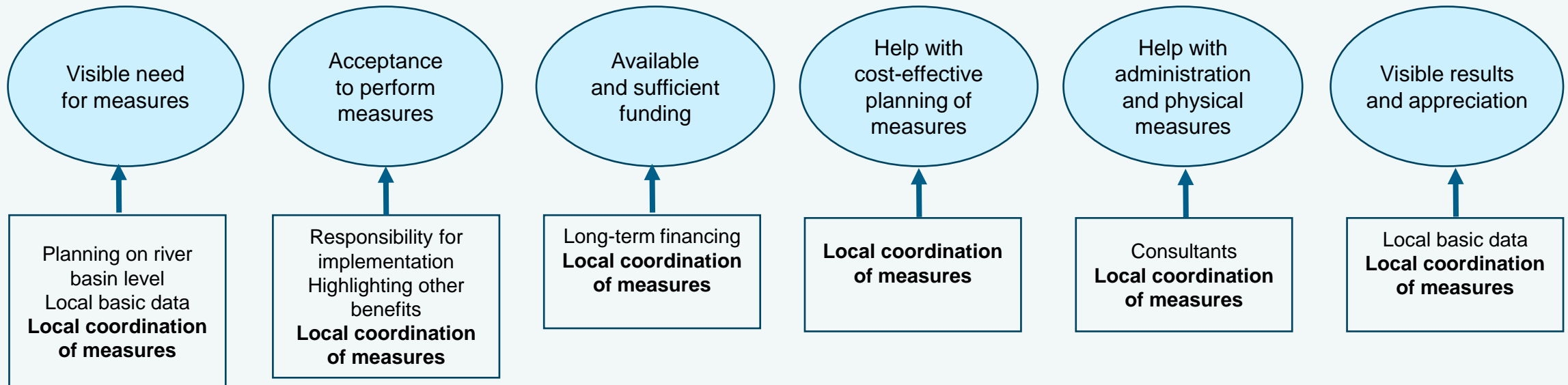
Continued political debate on the need to increase local coordination of catchment officers

[Stoppa övergödning och algblomning i Östersjön - Centerpartiet](#)



# Increasing incentives

## Chain of incentives for local voluntary measures in the agricultural landscape



## Summary

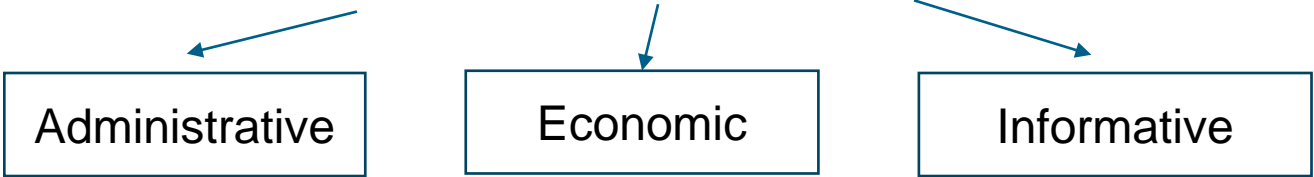
- » Landowners want to perform voluntary measures, but lack of time, knowledge and economy can be a hindrance
- » Catchment officers are a catalyst on a basin scale and for the individual farmer, creating incentives for implementing measures and increasing participation
- » Continued improvement of the process of planning local measures is needed, from the national to the local scale
- » SwAM proposes a long-term government initiative for catchment officers as well regional and national support for voluntary local action



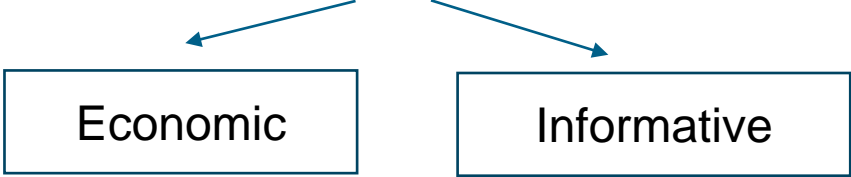
The Global Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Swedish Environmental goals and other Societal goals  
(EU-directives are integrated)

The government gives instruments to reach political goals



Voluntary organisations and operators



National agencies  
Regional administrative boards  
Municipalities:  
Regulation, guidance and inspection

Binding actions:  
local operators

National agencies  
Regional administrative boards:  
**Funding**  
Funding for measures  
Information and  
**National and regional support function for catchment officers**

**Voluntary local actions:**  
municipalities, water committee, organisations, land owners, operators, administrative boards  
**Funding**  
**Support from catchment officers**

(Some economic instruments as taxes can be made binding by the government)





Lokalt engagemang  
för vatten



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