



# *Innovative tools enabling drinking water protection in urban and rural environments*

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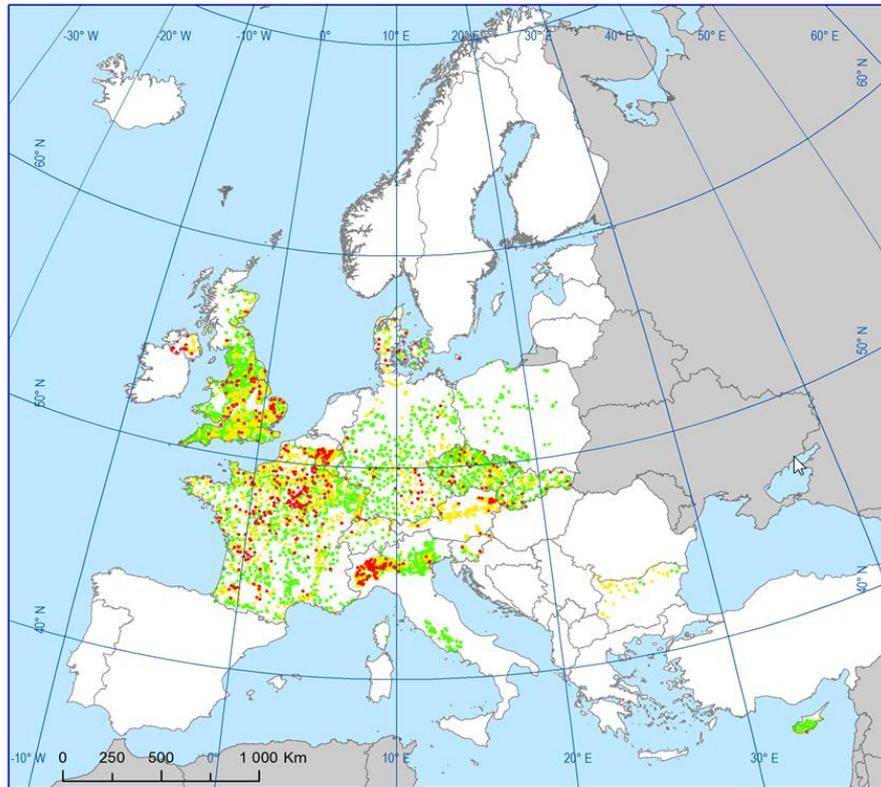
**SCAR-AKIS meeting Lisbon 10 October 2017**

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# PESTICIDE AND NUTRIENT POLLUTION OF DRINKING WATER SOURCES IS A CONTINUING CONCERN ...

Occurrence and exceedance of selected pesticides in groundwater monitoring stations, 2010-2011 (Source: Eurostat)



● < limit of quantification      ● > quality standard  
● >= limit of quantification and <= quality standard      ■ outside coverage

## Points of concern:

- Hot-spots of exceedance across Europe ( $>0.1 \mu\text{g/l}$ )
- Hot-spots = intensive agriculture
- Pollution sources are diffuse, monitoring and treatment costly
- Poor information across Europe
- **Mitigation measures are not in place, or not effective and need farmer engagement**

# OBJECTIVES OF WATERPROTECT

- *“Contribute to **effective uptake and realisation of management practices and mitigation measures to protect drinking water resources**”*



**Action ! In local “action labs” across EU (BE, IE, DK, IT, ES, PL, RO)**

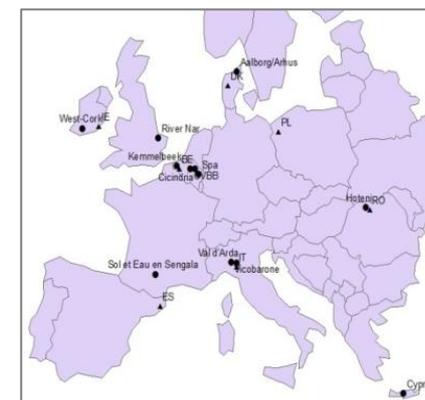
*New governance: alternative financing*

*Share data: participatory monitoring*

*Best management into practice*

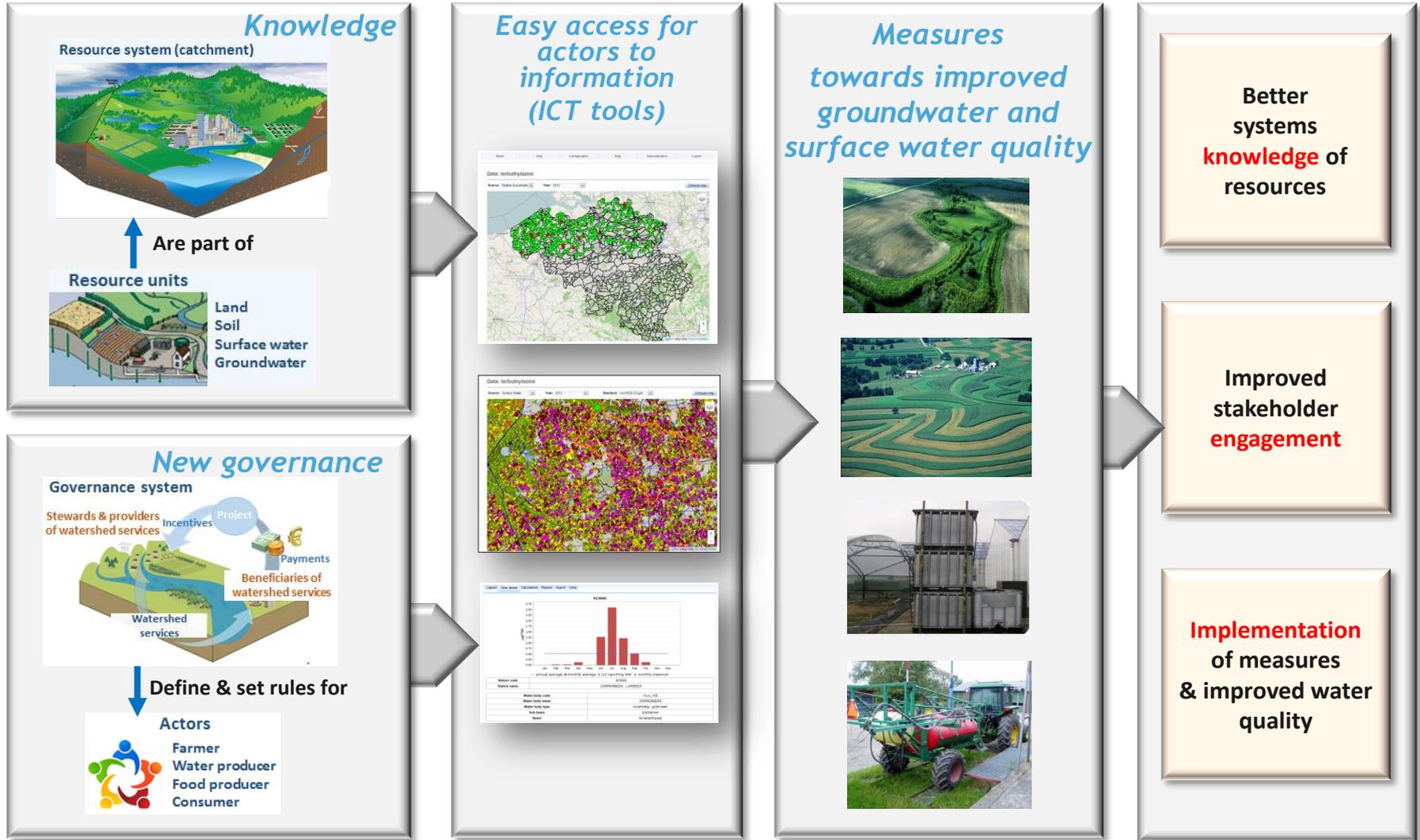
*Bring information close to actor using ICT*

- ▲ action lab
- desk case



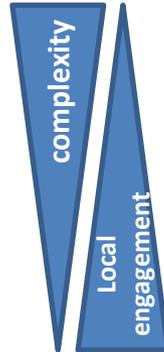
- *“Upscale findings from action labs to other regions”*
- *“Advise policy makers: WFD, CAP, nitrate and pesticide directives”*
- *“Strategic communication to stakeholders and dissemination to the public”*

# ACTION LAB MULTI-ACTOR MANAGEMENT



## Designing, aligning and bringing together monitoring data from:

- Scientists
- Environment agencies
- Drinking water companies
- Local farmers
- Local citizens



**Local actors become more engaged in the monitoring and they trust the results.**

# BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- *Engage actors to implement measures !*

Diffuse sources:  
Bufferstrips  
Mgt practices  
Dams, pools

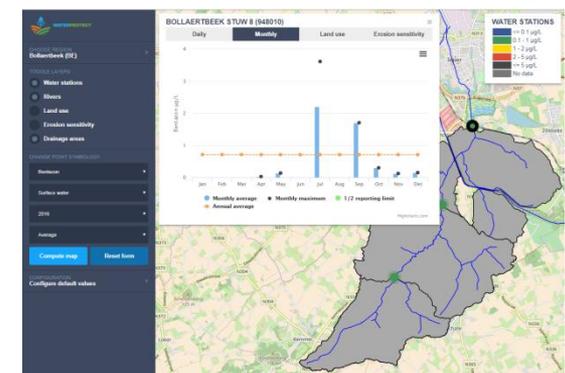
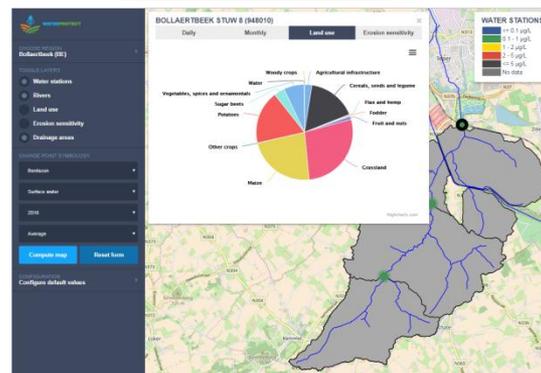
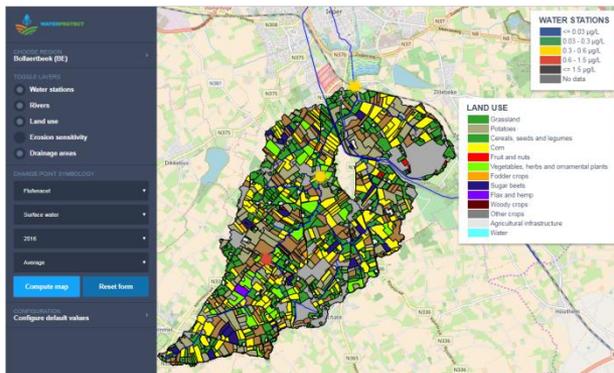
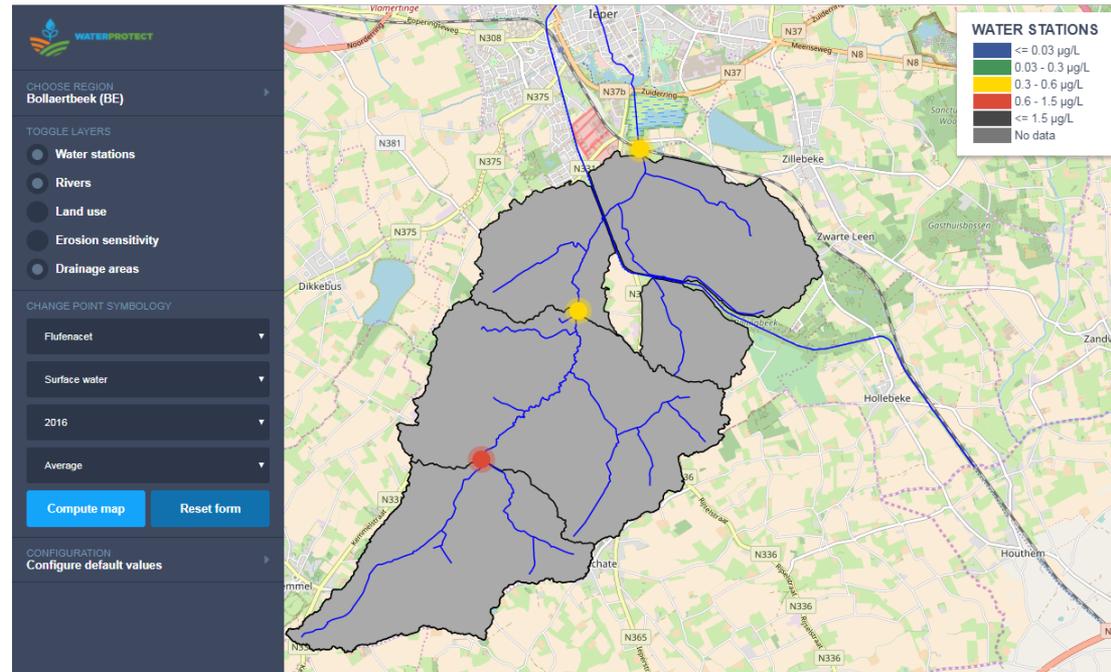


Treatment point  
sources



# COLLABORATIVE TOOLS (GIS + MODELS)

- *Harmonised data*
- *Easy access*
- *Link action to water quality*
- *Visualise landscape*
- *Show impact of behaviour*



Impacts	Targets
multi-actor approach for a close cooperation and sharing of information and knowledge	40 training events 500 interactions webtools
sustainable impact on diffuse pollution and point sources at action lab level	13 mitigation systems installed or demonstrated
reduction of costs of water treatment	trend to improvement of water quality
harmonised datasets on water quality	7 harmonised datasets in 7 countries available through web
co-created participatory monitoring approaches	350 farmers + consumers participating 175 users of the webtool
water governance models that lead to higher adoption rates of best management practices	14 BMPs implemented through the governance process
strong multiplier effect to extend best practices across Europe and to translate the lessons into policy reforms and actions	6 EU workshops initiate EIP Water Governance in Agriculture



# WATERPROTECT CORE PARTNERS



## Project management



[www.vito.be](http://www.vito.be)

## Multi-actor management



[www.ilvo.be](http://www.ilvo.be)

## Upscaling to EU



[www.ewp.eu](http://www.ewp.eu)

## Romanian action lab



[www.ecologic.org.ro](http://www.ecologic.org.ro)

## Belgian action lab



[www.inagro.be](http://www.inagro.be)

## Danish action lab



[www.geus.dk](http://www.geus.dk)

## Polish action lab



[www.pgi.gov.pl](http://www.pgi.gov.pl)

## Irish action lab



[www.teagasc.ie](http://www.teagasc.ie)

## Italian action lab



[www.unicatt.it](http://www.unicatt.it)

## Spanish action lab



[www.csic.es](http://www.csic.es)

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# CHARACTERISTICS WATER PARTNERSHIP



- **Action lab actors (17 local project partners)**
  - Environment Agencies
  - Drinking water producers
  - Consumer organisations
  - Local communities
  - Farmers advisory
- **Action lab stakeholders (30 local organisations signed letters of Support)**
  - Local rural networks
  - Farmers unions
  - Fertilizer and plant protection products industry
  - NGO's and nature conservation
  - Ministeries: environment, agriculture
- **EU level stakeholders (WaterProtect Advisory Board)**
  - COPA-COGECA (Farmers)
  - ECPA (Plant protection industry)
  - CEEP (Water producers)
  - BelFertil (Fertilizer industry)
  - EFBW (Mineral Water Bottlers)
- **EU policy (DG ENV and DG AGRI)**
  - EIP Agri
  - EIP Water

## Flemish government



DEPARTEMENT  
LANDBOUW &  
VISSERIJ



## Province level



## Municipalities



## Industry Farmers advisory



## Water producer



## Farmers



## Research



## Governmental organisations:

- River catchment meeting with ‘water body managers’
- Bilateral meetings

## Agricultural sector

- Farmers advisory – farmers organisations – farmers
- Representative of phyto-industry – farmers organisations

## Difficulties

- Privacy rules to monitor data
- Who is responsible for the communication to farmers?
- ...

## Project – try to involve all actors

- Individual approach (“kitchen table”)
- Discussion moments
- Information moments
- Use of tools to inform people
- ...



# KNOWLEDGE FLOWS

## Obligation to have a licence

fyto**licentie**

Farmers advisory

Farmers organisations

DEPARTEMENT  
LANDBOUW &  
VISSERIJ



## Tools to inform

PP Industry



Farmers advisory



ONDERZOEK & ADVIES IN LAND- & TUINBOUW

Farmers organisations



- 1 OPSLAG VAN GEWASBESCHERMINGSMIDDELEN
- 2 SPUITTOESTELLEN OP UW BEDRIJF
- 3 VULLEN
- 4 INWENDIG REINIGEN
- 5 UITWENDIG REINIGEN
- 6 WEGZETTEN VAN HET SPUITTOESTEL
- 7 ANDERE MACHINES IN CONTACT MET GEWASBESCHERMINGSMIDDELEN
- 8 ANDERE TYPES WATER BELAST MET GEWAS



## Sensitization projects

Province level

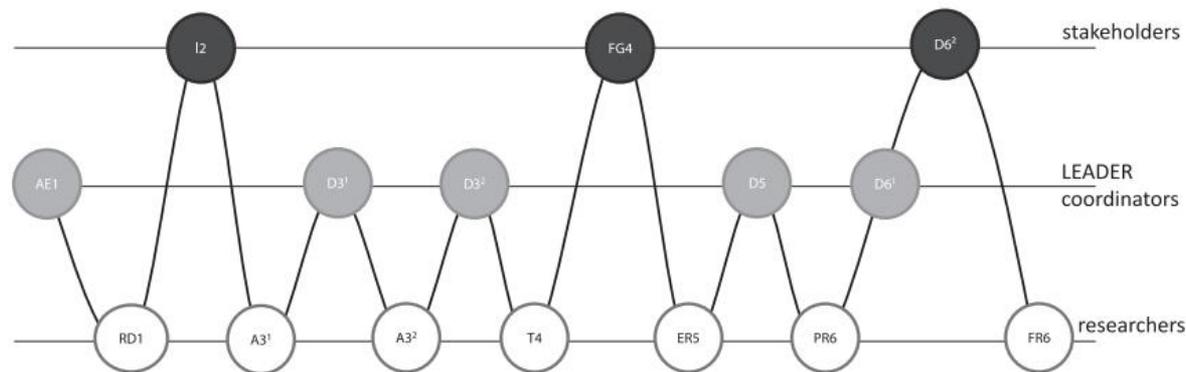


Flemish government



# The social perspective: multi actor approach

- A transparent and fair process
- Visualization of the process for better understanding
- An equal involvement of all actors
- A neutral start for the process by sharing common objectives and a common language
- Social and emotional dynamics to encourage overall group functioning



Key: the colors indicate specific meeting constellations (white: scientists; grey: project meetings; black: stakeholder meetings). Each circle mirrors a specific activity. The number in the circle refers to the specific stage of the process. The capital characters indicate a specific activity:

AE: assignment and exploration  
RD: research design  
I: interviews  
A: analysis  
D: discussion

T: translation  
FG: focus group  
ER: extensive report  
PR: provisional report  
FR: final report



- **EIP Agri**

- WaterProtect is a H2020 multi actor project : brings together research and innovation actors
- Focus is on sustainable agriculture and water , fits in “sustainable management of the essential natural resources”
- Science, or from practice and intermediaries, including farmers, advisors, NGOs, businesses etc. as actors in a bottom-up process (all partners in the project)
- Practice materials
- synergies between existing policies: WaterProtect has a policy oriented work package and will advice on cross-cutting issues from WFD, CAP, SUD, Nitrates directive, DW directive
- We are keen to learn and exchange experiences with operational groups dealing with water and agriculture

- **EIP Water**

- WaterProtect searches for new governance strategies for improved water protection in rural areas and develops decision support tools (collaborative management): two priority items in EIP Water
- WaterProtect is keen to learn and exchange experiences with related action groups (although relatively few on water and agriculture). We will evaluate to establish a EIP action group on water governance in agriculture
- Address the important topic of diffuse pollution and goals of the WFD

- Important WP in WaterProtect
- Local (work in the field) and EU level
- General WaterProtect website: [water-protect.eu](http://water-protect.eu)
  - Twitterbox
  - Action labs info (video, pictures, story lines)
  - Impact
  - News , events, announcements
- Local WaterProtect websites/communication
  - separate project websites: e.g. water-protect.ie
  - integration in communication channels of **farmers advisory**
  - Beyond lifetime of the project
  - Practice materials EIP Agri
- Links to EU communication tools
- Joint communication with twinning project FairWay

## SAVE THE DATE

Brussels, Dec 6, 2017

## Joint launch of WaterProtect and FairWay

Registration:

<https://goo.gl/forms/hzZ2EgKJ32bK74v73>

