How to ensure long-term effects of mitigation projects?

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AGWAPLAN is a project based on cooperation on finding solutions to allow room for farming as well as for a cleaner water environment in the future.
Who are part of AGWAPLAN?

The project participants are:

- 22 farmers in 3 project areas
- 3 farmer’s associations
- The Danish Agricultural Advisory Centre, National Centre
- 4 municipalities
- Environmental Centre Aarhus
- The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Aarhus University
Three Pilot Areas in AGWAPLAN

- Norsminde
- Fjord
- Hinnerup – drinking water
- Lake Ravn
Content

- How does the cooperation between environmental authorities and farmers work? Successes and limitations.
- Tools used in Integrated Advising
  - Manual for Integrated Advising,
  - Good Agricultural Practice Manual,
  - Data Information System
- What is the effect of Integrated Advising?
How does the cooperation work? and How do we create the cooperation platform?

The challenge....
The strategic approach

**Farmer’s STRATEGY**
- HR strategy
- Financial strategy
- Communication strategy
- Environmental strategy

**Authorities’ STRATEGY**
- Models
- Financial
- Communication
- Farmers

GOALS
The challenge is to combine very different visions

- The farmer needs to understand the environmental challenge for the farm
- Involve the farmers from day 1 and through the whole process
- Use a holistic process where production, water, (nature, air and soil) are dealt with at the same time
- Co-operation creates cost effective benefits for environment (synergy)
If these conditions are fulfilled, then

the cooperation works well
Tools

Concept for Integrated Advising on farm level and on catchment level

GAP (Good Agricultural Practice-manual)

DIS (Data Information System)
GAP

GAP-catalogue of measures developed in co-operation between agriculture and authorities

Examples of what the farmers do

- Reduction of nitrogen load in specific areas
- Change in crops - catch crops
- Non-cultivated zones
- Wetlands
- Technology

The farmers just do it in order to survive as farmers in society

Development of business
An example

38 ha located fertilizer x 1kg N/ha = 38 kg N

162 ha use of ammonia instead of nitrate fertilizer x 6 kg N/ha = 972 kg N

57 ha early sowing of wheat and barley in the autumn x 4 kg N/ha = 228 kg N

Another 38 ha with catch crops x 25 kg N/ha = 950 kg N

7 ha ploughed in the spring (not autumn) x 37.5 kg N/ha = 263 kg N

Altogether at one farm, a reduction of leaching by 26 % 2.451 kg N

A small constructed wetland ? kg N

Working in a catchment process to find catchment solutions to solve what can’t be reached at farm level
Outcome & Benefits

Experience from the AGWAPLAN project relevant for future implementation of WFD

- Improving environmental conditions
- Cost-effective implementation of measures
- Reducing the impact on environment of overall agricultural production
- High degree of dialogue between all participants
- Personal interest and commitment from involved farmers
- Public awareness and acknowledgement of efforts made by farmers
Messages

- Involving the farmers is a prerequisite for achieving understanding of the environmental objectives.
- Understanding environmental objectives and professional connections creates motivation.
- Motivation is important in order to achieve the right results.
- Results must be achieved through efforts on farm level as well as on catchment level.
- Finding solutions on catchment level seems time-consuming at the moment, but can be developed upon (Aquarius).
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