

Retour d'expériences

Country

Belgium 

Title of the operation (name of your water protection operation for water catchment area (s))

WATERPROTECT Bollaertbeek

A short summary of the operation of drinking water catchment protection (fight against diffuse pollution)

The Bollaertbeek feeds the drinking water supply for the city of Ieper but has too high loads of pesticides during spring and summer to be used for drinking water production. In the WATERPROTECT project, farmers, drinking water company, environmental administration and farmers' advisory centre are brought together in a multi-actor approach to discuss the problem, develop a targeted monitoring approach, select suitable best management practices and mitigation measures and get these implemented in the catchment developing new water governance approaches. A software tool is developed to visualize the concentrations and risk zones in the area and help in making decisions on new measures.

Key words

Multi-actor approach, pesticide, water governance

Name of the catchment area(s) and its localisation (city, geographical situation...)

Bollaertbeek, Ieper (Flanders, Belgium)

Description of the area where the operation takes place and feature of their territory (forest, urban area, main crops...)

Mix of urbanised area (villages) and agriculture (81% of the area); agriculture is mainly arable land (maize, potatoes, cereals) and grassland

Number of farmers present in the water catchment area

400



Problems encountered (main water pollutants and original aims)	Pesticides
Water quality monitoring	- Regular monitoring: every week at the catchment outlet/drinking water production - Project: year 1 2-weekly monitoring at 7 locations in the catchment; from year 2 high-resolution monitoring at 1 one location
Population served by this catchment for drinking water	35 000
Operation: is it voluntary/compulsory (related to regulation)	The aim is to stimulate farmers to take measures against point source and diffuse pollution on a voluntary basis
Background/ history of the operation	The drinking water company needs to stop the intake of water from the Bollaertbeek during half of the year because of the bad water quality. This also leads to period of water shortage in the drinking water production centre.

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED (Organisations' name and department)

Technical partners	Inagro, de Watergroep, ILVO, VITO, VMM
Financial partners	
Project leader	VITO, Inagro
Other stakeholders	
Description of concrete actions (with the dates of the accomplishment)	Short-term actions: -farmer interviews (summer 2017) -1st information event (Nov 2017) -spatially distributed 2-weekly monitoring (Jun-Sep 2017) -targeted high-resolution monitoring (Jun-Sep 2018, 2019) -establishment of catchment working groups
Funding	EC (H2020 project)



Mains results (outcomes): Examples:
number of farmers engaged,
enhancement of water quality...

too soon, started 1 June 2017

Website

www.vito.be (project website to be built)

