

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Thematic Group meeting on Sustainable Management of Water and Soils

# Multi-actor approaches

How can RDPs be used to provide support?

*Kaley Hart / Silvia Nanni*

*ENRD CP/IEEP*

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# Rationale and approach to the analysis

## Rationale

- Understand the extent of use and benefits of multi-actor approaches for soil and water management in EU
- Identify enabling conditions and barriers
- Support TG discussions and inform recommendations

## Desk analysis

- Selected number of multi-actor approaches
- RDP content
- Specialist articles

## Interviews

- RDP NRN
- Beneficiaries
- Experts

# Why multi-actor approaches for soil and water?

- Achieving **environmental improvements** requires coordinated action at river basin or landscape scale
- Dialogue and co-learning help leading to **improved understanding** and **behavioural change**

## France

(Coop de l'eau 79)

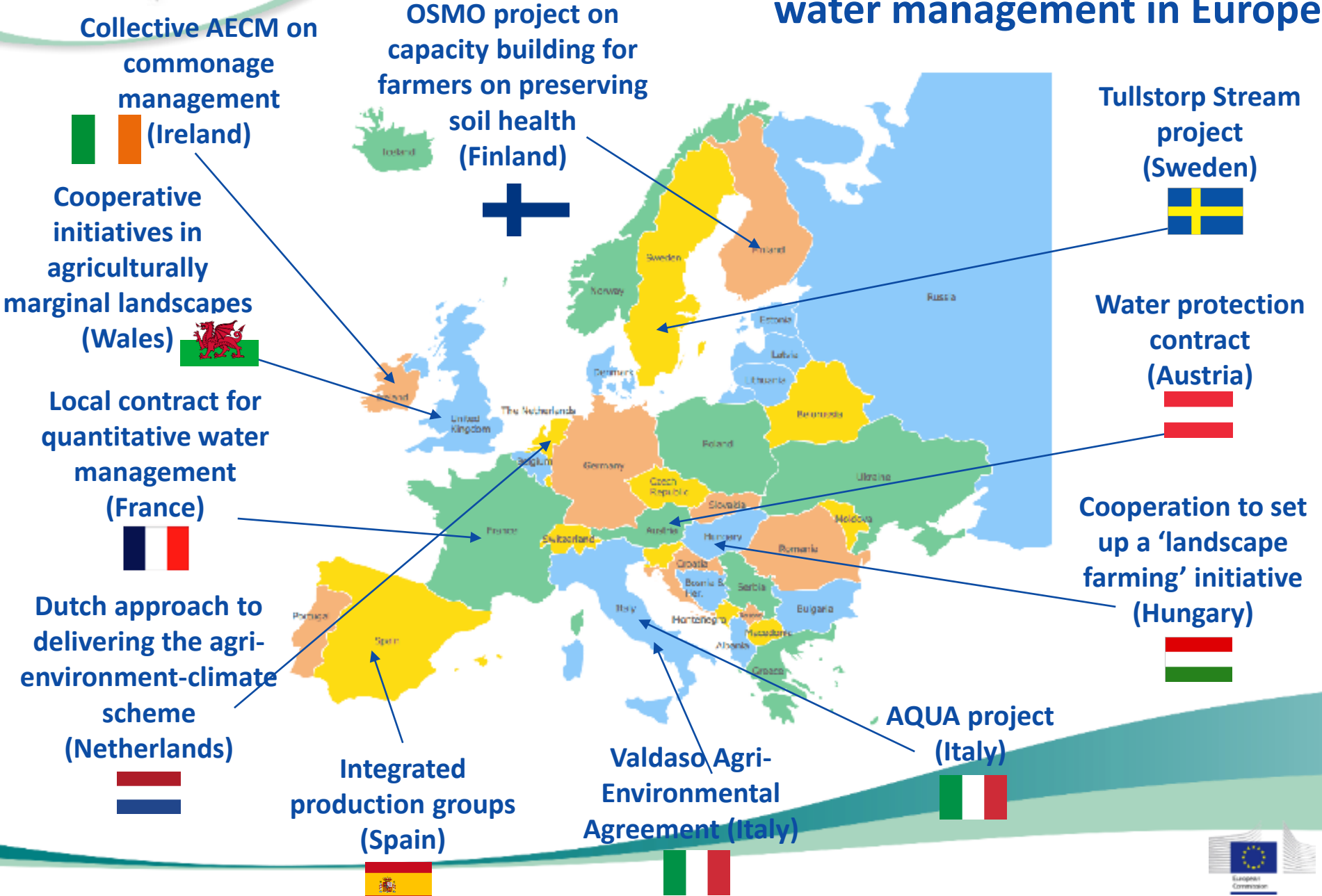
*The collective local contract for managing levels of water abstraction created the conditions for measuring water savings on a trial farm and reducing the use of water by farmers signed up to the local water cooperative.*

## Finland

(OSMO project)

*Finnish farmers improved their understanding on the most pressing environmental challenges in the local area and learnt how to produce soil health management plans on their farm.*

# A wide spectrum of approaches to soil and water management in Europe



# Enabling factors and barriers of working collaboratively

## Enabling factors

- Presence and engagement of leaders and facilitators
- Trustworthy relations between farmers and local actors as well as public authorities and actors working on the ground
- Flexible rules & requirements as to scope and delivery of approaches
- Track record of pilots and previous experience
- Local and managing authorities willing to innovate
- Use of up-front funding

Participation  
& leadership

Governance  
& innovation

Appropriate  
financing

## Barriers

- Complexities in organisation and facilitation
- Absence of a 'local champion'
- Challenges in relation to building trust among participants
- Balancing local needs with EU, national and regional priorities and policy directions
- Limited administrative capacity
- Higher transaction costs

## Questions for discussion (multi-actor approaches)

Select at least one question to discuss



Focus on what's practical and feasible in the current programming period



Identify elements/building blocks of a recommendation to Managing Authorities

1. How can RDPs better encourage participation of farmers/rural actors in the set up of a multi-stakeholder approach? What are the key requirements for this to succeed?
2. What are the key measures of success (indicators, criteria, etc.) for multi-actor approaches to work? How can we integrate these into relevant RDP measures/calls for projects?
3. How can applications for funding be designed in a way to encourage more use of multi-actor approaches? (also consider the coordination/sequencing between relevant measures)

# Thank you!

[khart@ieep.eu](mailto:khart@ieep.eu)

[snanni@ieep.eu](mailto:snanni@ieep.eu)

## ENRD Contact Point

Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat, 38 (bte 4)

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 2 801 38 00

[info@enrd.eu](mailto:info@enrd.eu)