



spongeworks

Co-creating, Implementing and Upscaling Nature-based Solutions for Water Retention and Climate Resilience in Europe

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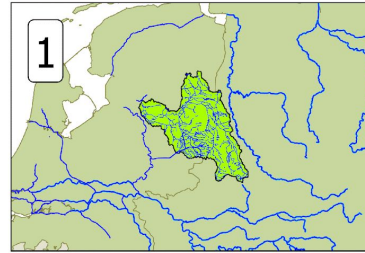
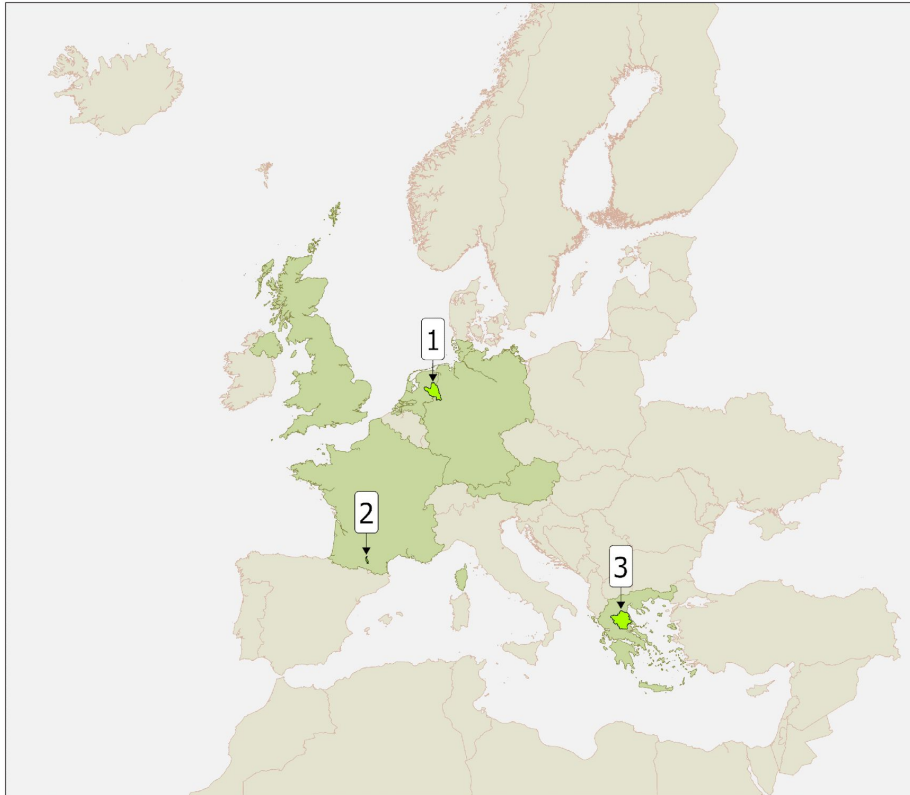


Funded by
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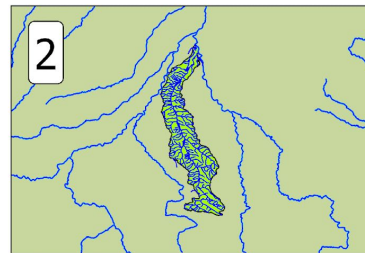
UK Research
and Innovation

Common challenges in diverse European basins



1. Vecht River Basin (NL/DE)

Cross-boarder lowland basin;
Floods, droughts, water quality, biodiversity



2. Lèze River Basin (France)

Hilly agricultural catchment
Flash floods, soil erosion, water quality



3. Pinios River Basin (Greece)

Intensive agricultural catchment
(ground-)water scarcity, soil management,
water quality

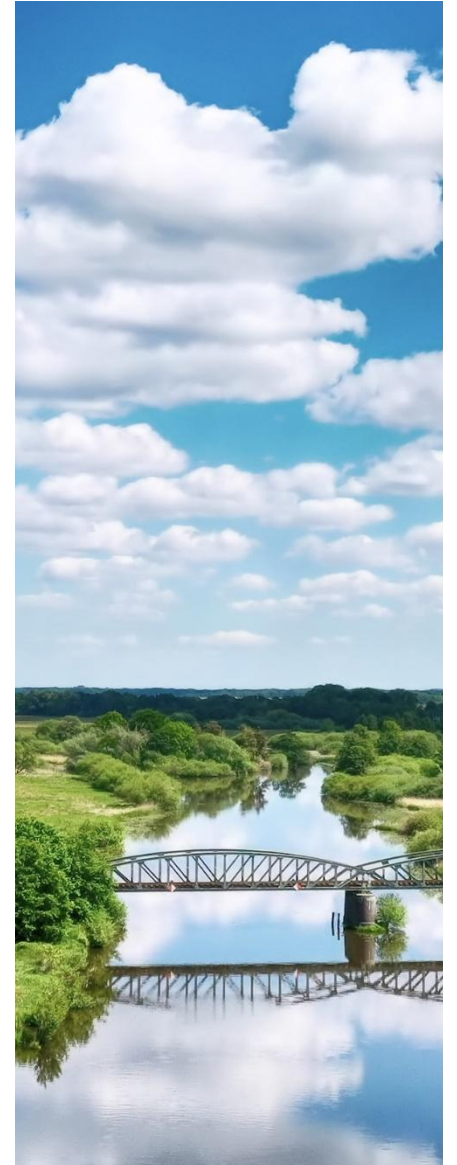
All: climate-resilient agricultural practices & maintaining harmony among stakeholders

SpongeWorks vision & aim

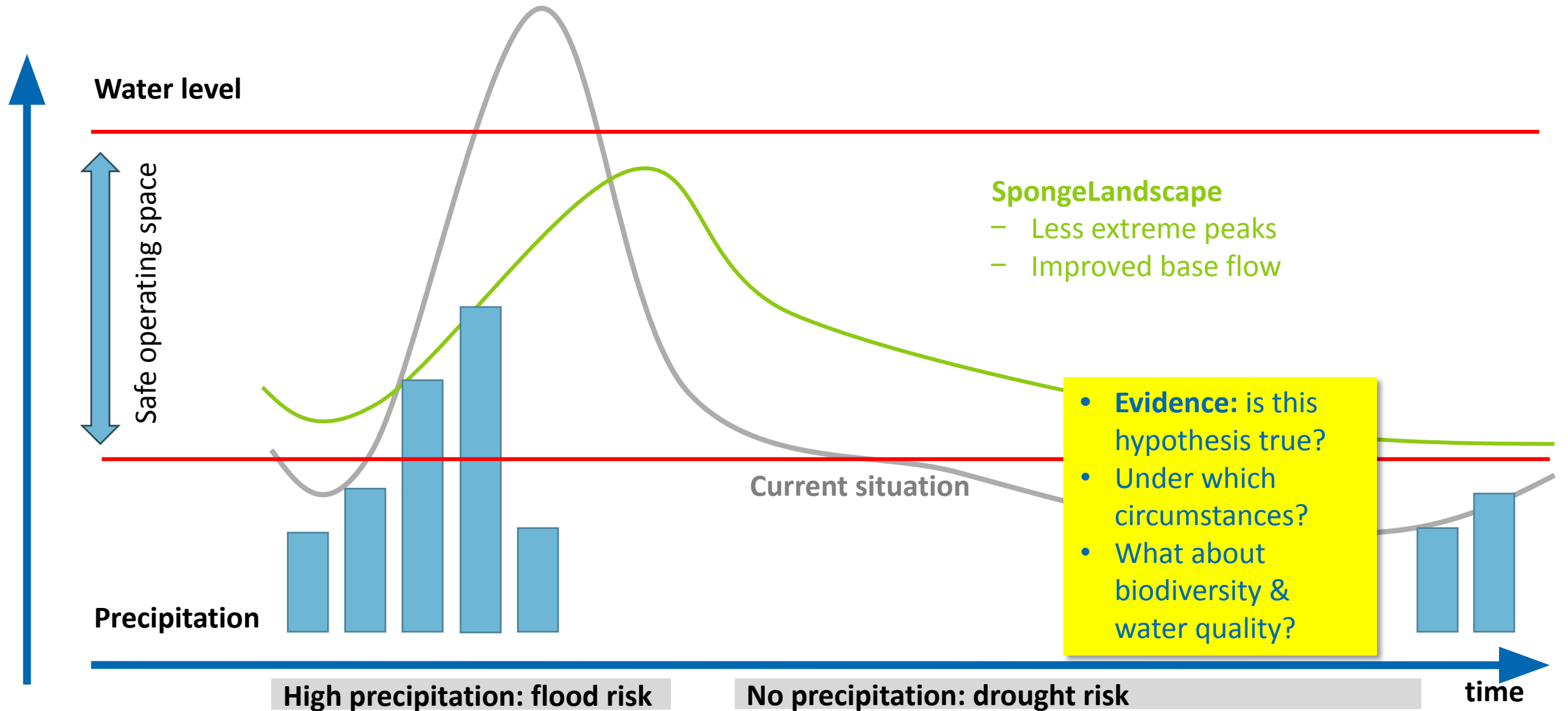
Transformative change of landscape and water management for climate resilience

Aim: contribute to reducing **floods, droughts and biodiversity decline** by **demonstrating effective and inclusive** integrated approaches to increase **landscape** water retention capacity of groundwater, soil and surface water systems

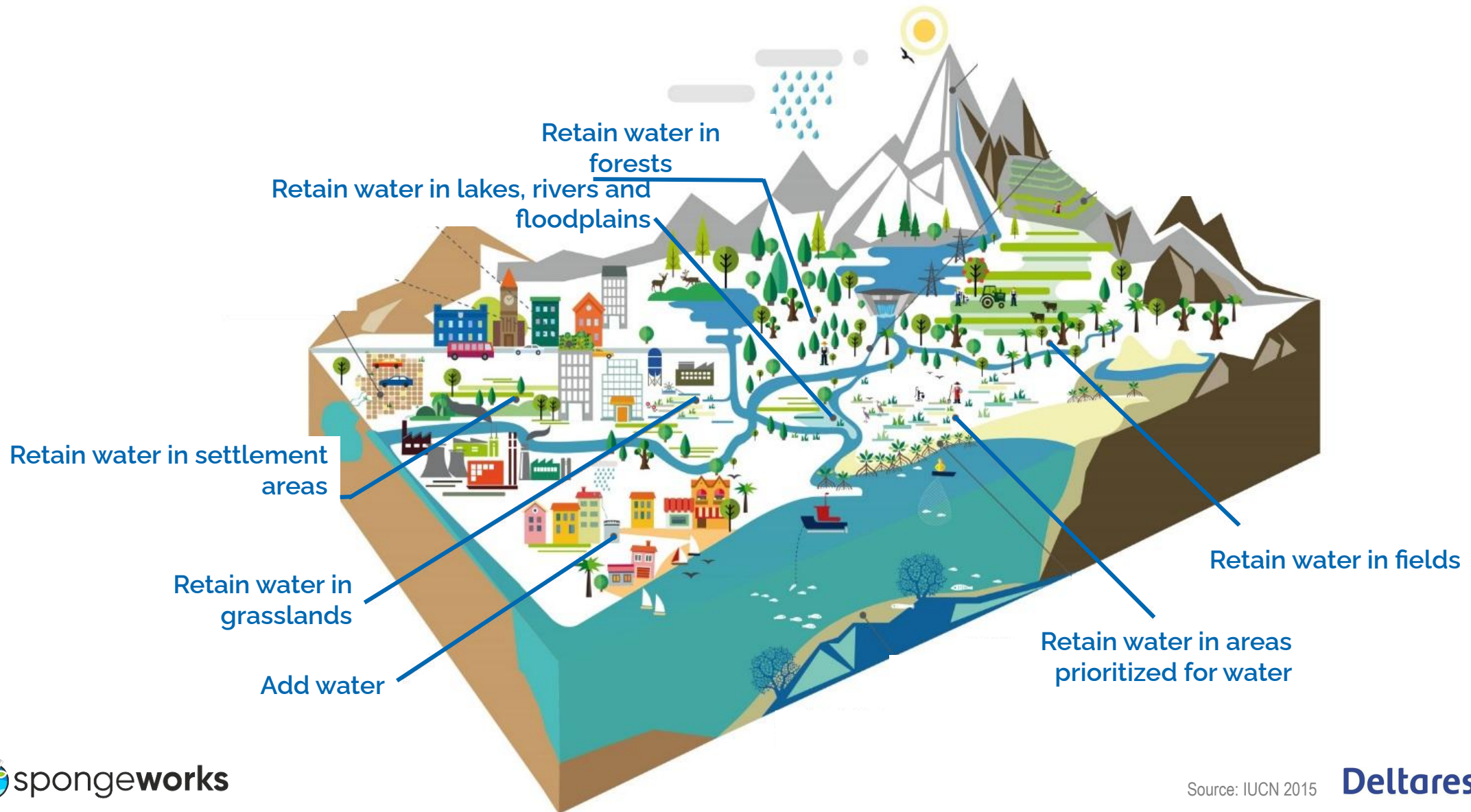
Combined scientific excellence and practical know-how □ a shift in the pace of implementing sponge measures and strategies in Europe and beyond



Hypothesis: Sponge landscapes at work



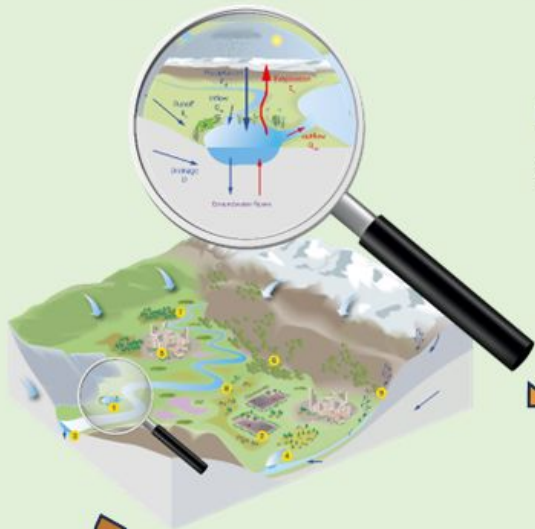
Sponge measures & strategies



Understand

Monitoring:

Process understanding of individual measures



Including stakeholder knowledge:
supply context and local knowledge



Inform: Effectiveness and socio-economics of sponge measures and strategies

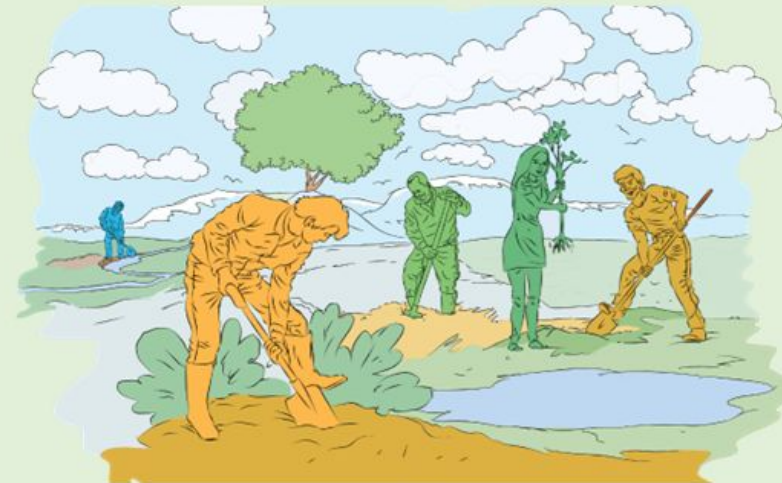
Upscaling:

Assessing sponge functioning at landscape scale now and in the future



Implement

Evaluate: Lessons learnt from implemented sponge measures and decision processes



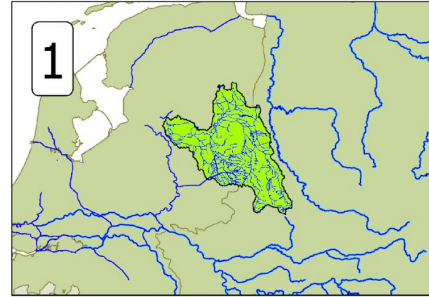
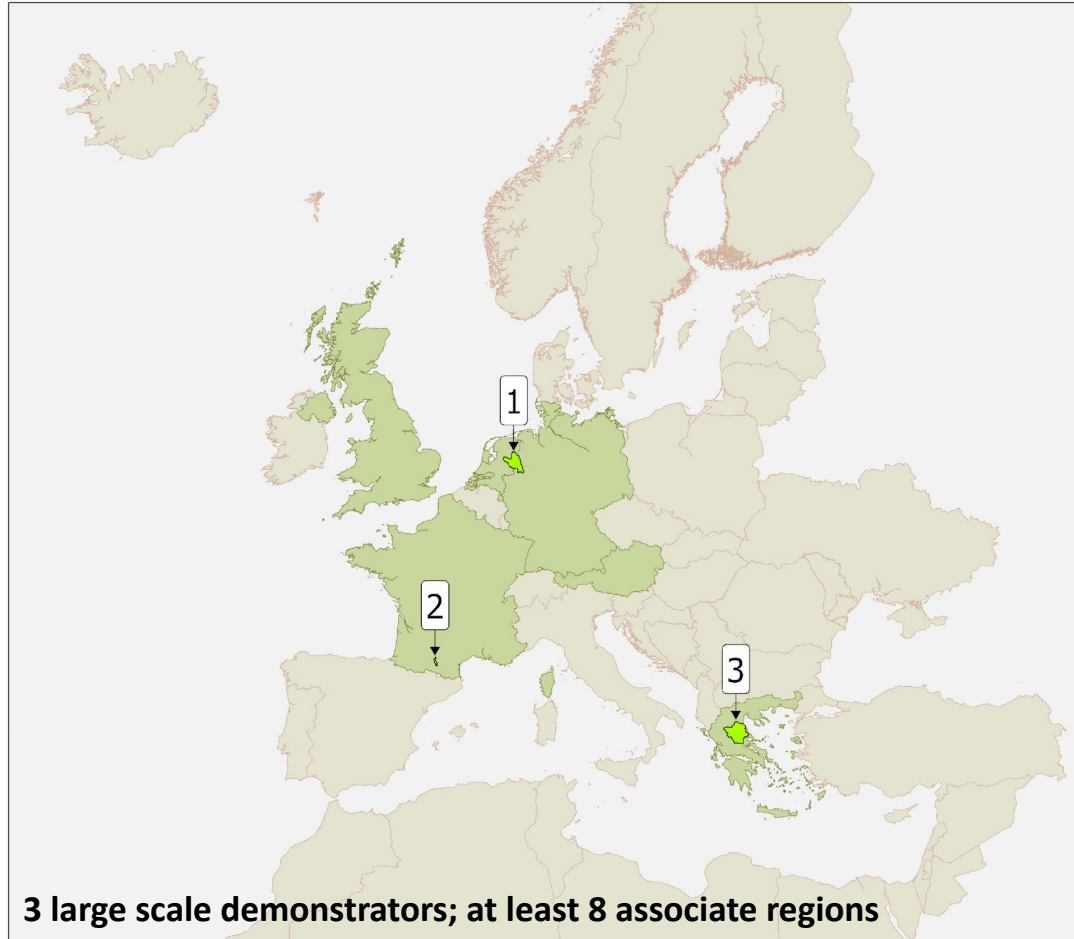
Joint learning



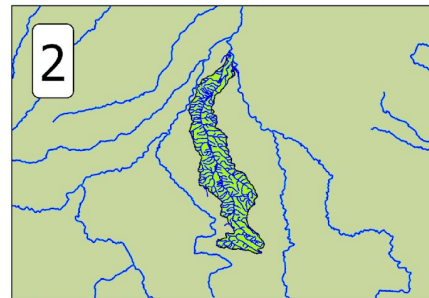
Mainstreaming:

Co-design of sponge strategies with stakeholders

Demonstrator measures and associated regions



Vecht River Basin (167 km, 3875 km²)
River, floodplain, peatland restoration, citizen awareness, groundwater recharge...



Lèze River Basin (70 km, 350 km²)
Food filtering dams, infiltration ponds, hedges, agro-ecological measures...



Pinios River Basin (213 km, 11,000 km²)
Mulching, hedges, restore terraces, riparian forest...

 Demonstrator basins

 Territories covered in consortium

 Territories targeted with AR programme

Thank you! See: www.spongeworks.eu

Research partners

Practice partners

Knowledge partners

