Interreg Europe

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### Climate Adaptation in Deltas II: Wetland Restoration

Online webinar, 28 June 2023

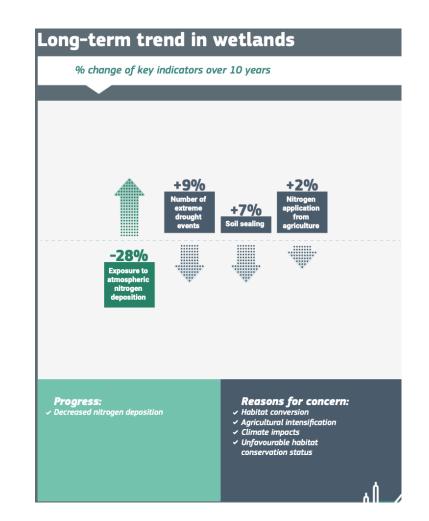
Astrid Severin Thematic Expert Environment & Resource Efficiency | Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform

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## Status of wetland habitats in Europe

- Ecosystem services: rich biodiversity, storage of carbon, regulation of water supply & quality, mitigation of impact of natural disasters
- Wetland habitats in Europe subject to continued degradation, land drainage and conversion
- Remaining habitats are in a very poor conservation status
- **Restoration measures needed** to improve water quality and physical structure, hydrological regimes and functions of freshwater ecosystems

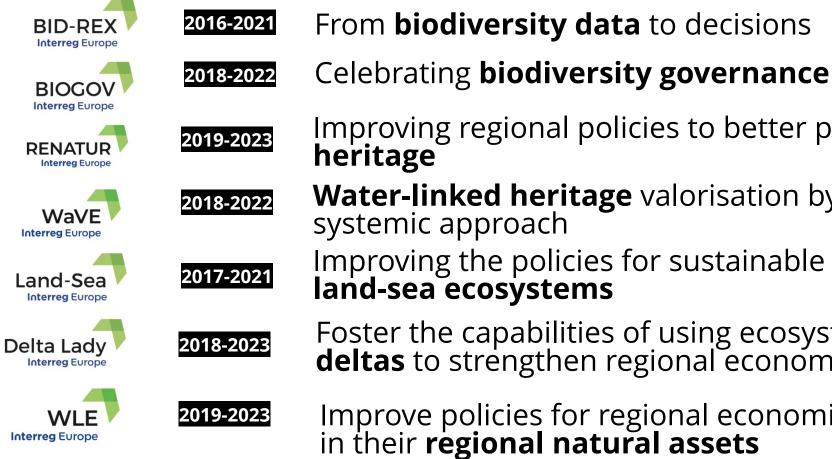


## Economic value of wetland protection and restoration

"... protecting coastal wetlands could save the insurance industry around €50 billion annually through reducing flood damage losses..."

EU Biodiversity Strategy

## Examples of IR-E projects tackling the topic of Nature restoration and biodiversity



Improving regional policies to better protect **natural** Water-linked heritage valorisation by developing an ecosystemic approach Improving the policies for sustainable management of the

land-sea ecosystems

Foster the capabilities of using ecosystem services in **river deltas** to strengthen regional economy.

Improve policies for regional economic development rooted in their **regional natural assets** 

## Examples of IR-E projects tackling the topic of Nature restoration and biodiversity APPROVED



Nature and biodiversity – Green Infrastructure

Climate change – nature-based solutions

Climate change – nature-based solutions

Recently

#### **Climate adaptation in deltas** Webinar series

#### Costal restoration

- Ebro Delta
- Po Delta
- Southern Ireland

#### Wetland restoration

- Kempen-Maasland
- Weser-Ems
- Danube Delta



#### Agenda

- Welcome & Introduction
  - Astrid Severin, Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform
- Keynote presentation
  - Chris Baker, Wetlands International (BE) on 'Why wetlands matter'
- Interreg Europe policy changes & good practices
  - Restoring rivers and wetlands for flood prevention (WLE) Katrien Schaerlaekens, Regionaal Landschap Kempen en Maasland (BE)
  - Wetlands restoration in the Weser-Ems region Dr. Claus Hinz, Lower Saxony State Agency for Water Management, Coastal and Nature Conservation (DE)
  - Danube Delta wetland restoration (Delta Lady) Jenica Hanganu, Danube Delta National Institute for Research and Development (RO)
- Panel Discussion
- Wrap up & Conclusions





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# Thank you!

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