

# NORDBALT ECOSAFE

## Invitation to 2<sup>nd</sup> round of REGIONAL STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS with presentation and discussion of project results

The EU project named **NORDBALT-ECOSAFE** focuses on a region in Europe that offers ideal conditions for developing an innovative methodologies to set safe ecological boundaries for nutrients, to use sensors to measure nutrients as well as to quantify nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) sources and pathways and efficiently reduce nutrient emissions with due attention to safeguarding GHG emissions and utilizing advanced governance structures in the different regions. The project is a coordinate or support research action that includes activities and policies (networking, exchanges, access to research infrastructures, studies, conferences, etc.) that are intended to support the policies of the EU Agencies for future environmental planning.

The **NORDBALT-ECOSAFE** consortium consists of eight institutes and is developing and demonstrating innovative methods and establish best practices to improve current river basin management and governance by reaching the following major aims:

- i) Setting ecologically safe nutrient boundaries in different types of water bodies.
- ii) Improving monitoring of nutrient concentrations by comparing benefits of novel high-frequency online sensors with traditional monitoring.
- iii) Establishing nutrient loading tipping points for carbon sequestration and emissions in water bodies.
- iv) Establishing a harmonized river basin modelling tool for precise estimation of nutrient sources, pathways and transport.
- v) Demonstrating novel Nature Based Solutions (NBSs) and Mitigation Measures (MMs) for reaching the required nutrient load reductions.
- vi) Developing advanced solutions supporting regional governance structures to implement the most suitable measures to meet the ecological nutrient boundaries.

The overarching aim of **NORDBALT-ECOSAFE** is to ensure that N and P concentrations and loadings in water bodies in the Nordic-Baltic region are reduced and will remain within safe ecological boundaries in the different regional water bodies such as streams, rivers, lakes, and coastal waters.

**The project has seven work packages (Figure 1) and our homepage where all our deliverables can be found is: <https://projects.au.dk/nordbalt-ecosafe>.**

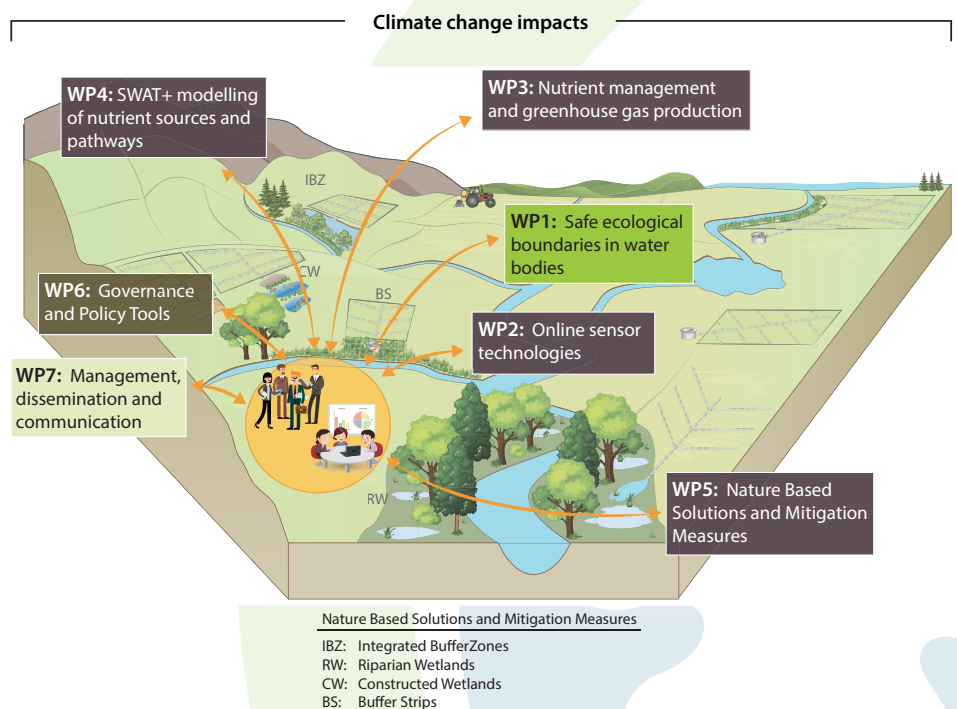


Figure 1: NORDBALT-ECOSAFE work packages.

One important part of the project is to reach out to regional and national stakeholders at regional meetings in the six catchments investigated in the project (Figure 2).

The project has developed the following key deliverables to be shared with you as stakeholders at the upcoming regional meeting:

1. Reference values as well as safe ecological boundaries (G/M) for river and lake types in the Nordic (WP1).
2. Fact sheets for use of sensors in regional/national monitoring programs.
3. Application of SWAT+ on the river basin and comparison of outcome regarding nutrient loss and loadings to national methodologies.
4. A classification framework and factsheets for Nature based Solutions (NbS) and mitigation measures (MM) for reducing nutrient losses from agricultural land.
5. A timeline of policy and water quality changes with examples of governance tools.

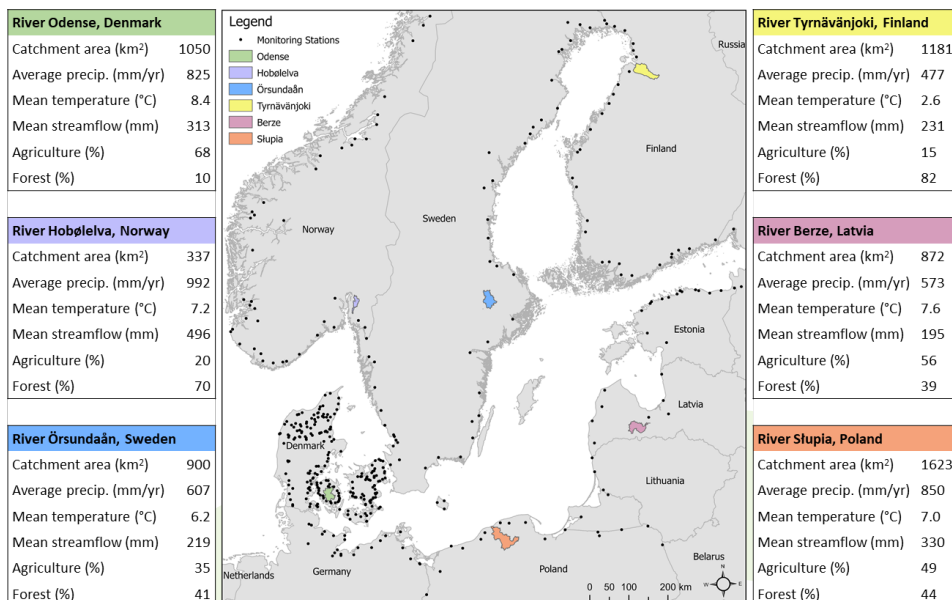


Figure 2. The six catchments that is central for the projects work and outputs.

**NORDBALT-ECOSAFE** is inviting you to attend the regional stakeholder meeting in your river basin for discussion of project outcomes and their possible use in your situation. The in-person meetings will take place in November 2024. The possibility to attend online via Teams will be provided. The invitations for the meetings will be sent around by the local organizers in early autumn of 2024.

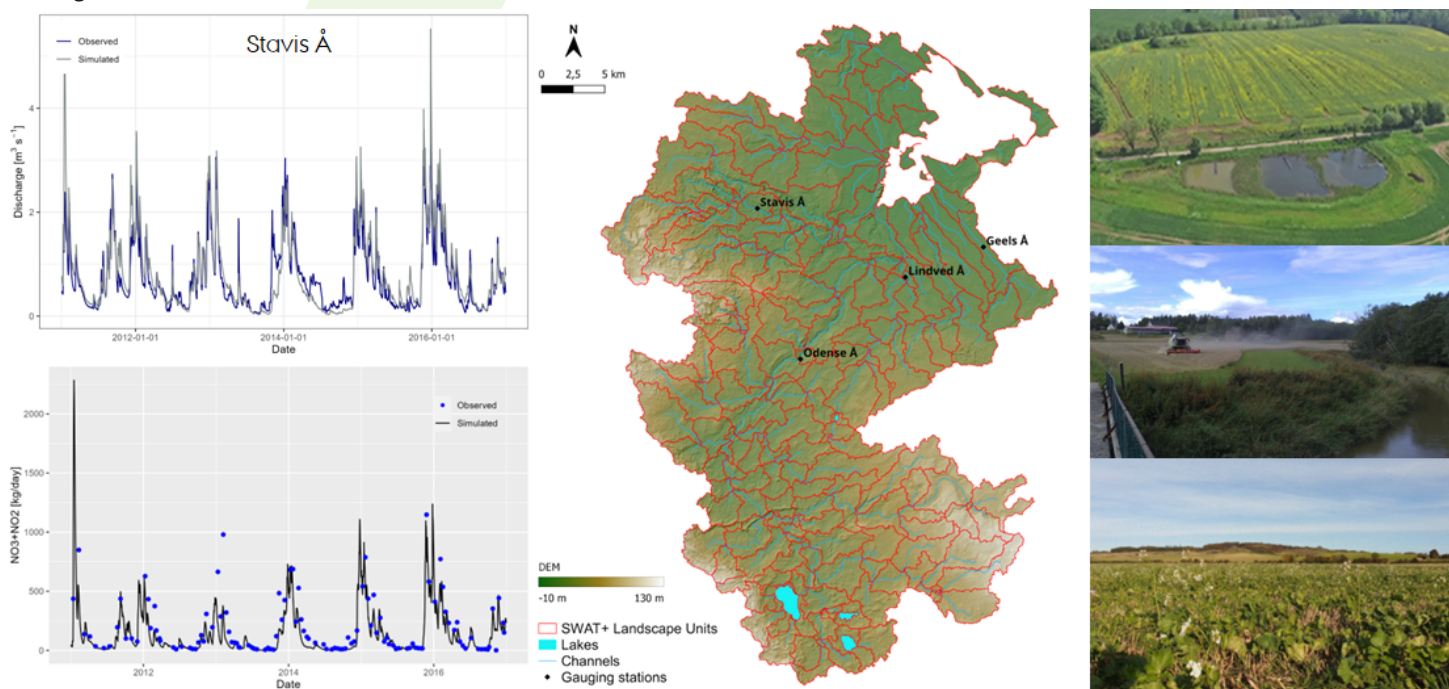


Figure 3. Example of a SWAT+ application to a river basin with selected NbSs and MMs to be applied in the scenario analysis (river Odense, Denmark).

**The draft agenda for the meetings will be:**

1. Welcome from the coordinator of NORDBALT-ECOSAFE – Professor Brian Kronvang, Department of Ecoscience, Aarhus University, Denmark.
2. A round table introduction of the participants at the meeting.
3. Presentation and discussion of safe ecological boundaries and sensor monitoring followed by a short round of Mentimeter questions (WP1 and WP2).
4. Lunch break.
5. Presentation of SWAT+ modelling and NbS and MM scenarios to be modelled in the river basin and discussion of their relevance to stakeholders (WP4 and WP5).
6. Presentation of timelines of policy and water quality changes and of governance tools (WP6).
7. Summing up and end of meeting.