

# Implementation of the WFD in the Netherlands

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agriculture, nature  
and food quality

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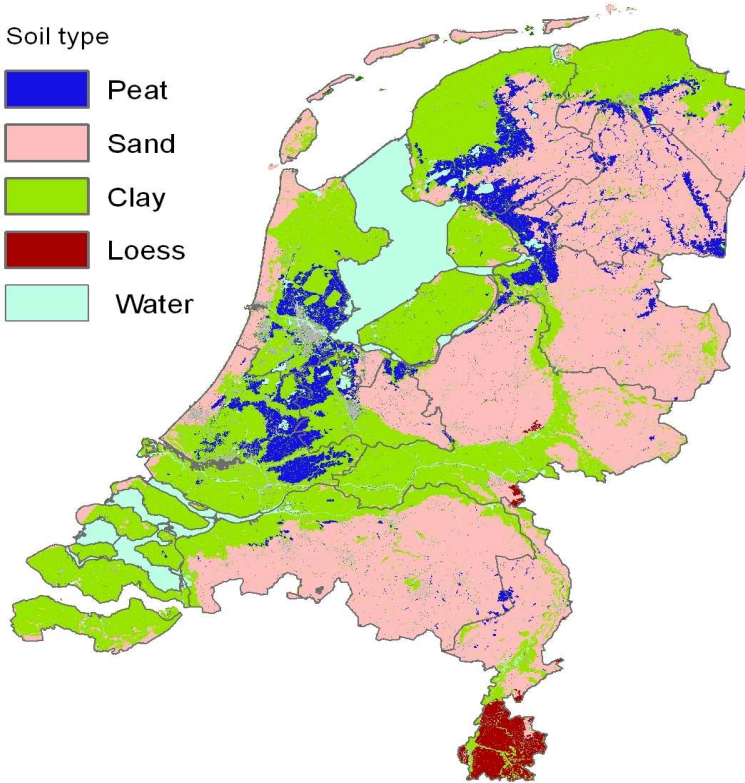
1. Agriculture in the Netherlands
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# 1. Agriculture in the Netherlands

# Soil type and land use

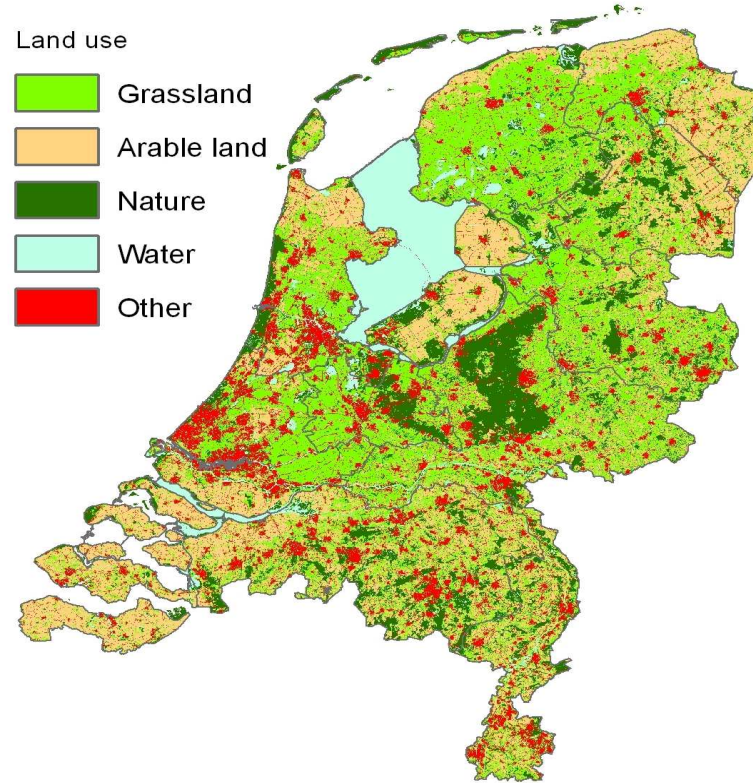
Soil type

- Peat
- Sand
- Clay
- Loess
- Water



Land use

- Grassland
- Arable land
- Nature
- Water
- Other



# Livestock numbers

	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Cattle</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.8</b>
<b>Pigs</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>11.7</b>
<b>Poultry</b>	<b>91.9</b>	<b>106.8</b>	<b>95.5</b>	<b>95.7</b>
<b>Sheep /goats</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>

# Land use in the Netherlands (ha)

Land use	2004-2007
Grassland	988
Silage maize	225
Other arable crops	556
Horticulture	114
<b>Total cultivated area</b>	<b>1883</b>
Fallow land	23
Nature and forest areas	484
Other land use	986
<b>Total non-cultivated area</b>	<b>1493</b>
<b>Total land surface</b>	<b>3376</b>

and hundreds of thousands kilometers of  
waterways...







## 2. Implementation of the Water Framework Directive in the Netherlands

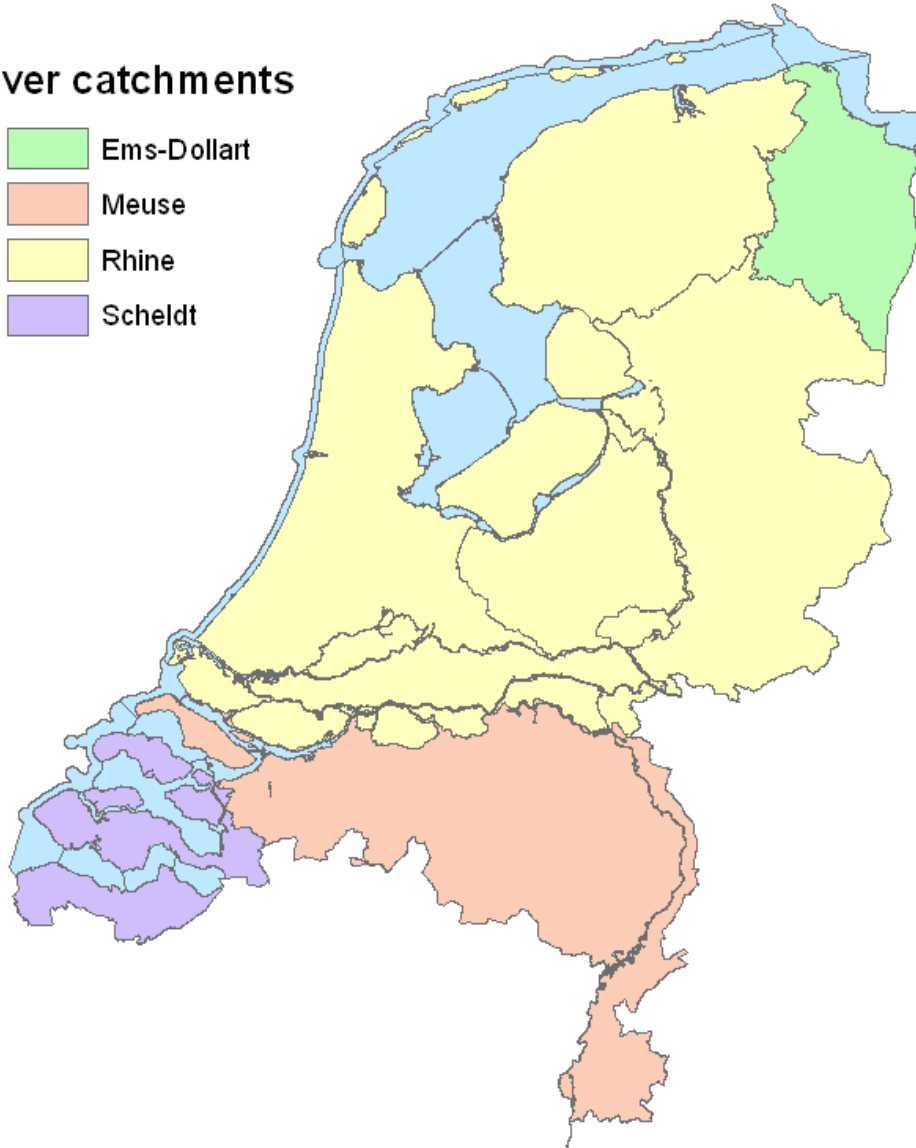


# Parties involved

- 3 Ministries
- 12 Provinces
- 27 Water boards
  
- Interest groups
- Scientists

## River catchments

-  Ems-Dollart
-  Meuse
-  Rhine
-  Scheldt



## 4 River Basin Management plans

# Legal implementation

- General governments regulations:  
[Decree on Monitoring and Quality Standards](#)

Main principles:

- Closely linked to text of the WFD
- Flexibility

### 3. Policy on nutrients and water quality

# Ex ante evaluation WFD

- Question: Are we reaching our targets for the WFD?
- Answer: No!
- In only ca. 30 % of the water bodies targets will be reached in 2027 with current policy

## Main bottlenecks:

- Artificial design of watercourses
  - Nutrient losses from agriculture, mainly phosphorus
- Phosphate saturated soils

# Position of the Dutch Government on nutrients and water quality

- Nitrate action programme is leading for farmers
- River Basin Management Plans mainly focused on a more natural design of watercourses
- Additional measures necessary but costs are rising quickly
- Innovation is needed!

# Policy instruments (1): Nitrate Directive and Action Programmes

- General policy on manure
- 2010 – 2013 4th Action Programme Nitrate

## Objectives:

- Reach the goal of 50 mg N/liter in a large part of the Netherlands
- Reduce eutrophication
- Reach the goals of OSPAR

# Policy instruments (1): Nitrate Directive and Action Programmes

- Phosphorus: Further reduction of application standard
- Phosphorus: Differentiate standard based on saturation level
- Nitrogen: increase of efficiency coefficient for pig slurry
- Period for application of manure shortened by ca. one month
- Sets a baseline for water quality
- Additional, voluntary measures needed for goals of WFD



## Policy instruments (2): Innovation programme for the WFD

- 75 mln € for improving water quality
- Tender offer

### Aimed at bottlenecks:

- Artificial watercourses
- **Nutrients** (agriculture and waste water treatments)
- Other emissions (heavy metals, medicines, crop protection products)
- Traffic and transport

# Policy instruments (2): Innovation programme for the WFD

## Objectives:

- Search for cost effective measures
- Approaching targets WFD more closely
- From 2012: measures can be used in 5th Nitrate Action Programme and 2nd RMBPs

## Policy instruments (3): Water quality and the CAP

- Pillar 2: Rural Development Programme
- Modulation 2010 - 2013
- 20 mln € reservation for water management (quality and quantity)
- 40 mln € reservation for innovation on reduction of environmental losses from agriculture and improving environmental quality

# We are heading in the right direction but...

Still more information is needed!

- Better understanding source – effect relationships
- Location of problem areas
- Cost effective measures – source **and** end-of-pipe

COST action:

- Provides us with information needed to develop measures and implement the WFD

Thank you for your attention!