

CLEARANCE

LIVING WETLANDS

- removal of agricultural nutrients
- reduction of flood risk & drought
- riparian biodiversity
- carbon storage & climate change mitigation

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- paludiculture - productive use of natural or restored peatlands
- wetland biomass use
- green energy: fermentation, combustion, pyrolysis
- compost - substitution of synthetic fertilisers

LIVING RIVERS

- riverine biodiversity
- clean water for society
- sustainable fisheries
- recreation
- clean sea

CLEARANCE project aims to develop an integrated landscape-ecological, socio-economic and policy framework for using **wetland buffer zones (WBZ)** in circular economies of water purification and nutrient re-use in agriculturally used catchments. This is to be achieved via: (1) assessing synergies and constraints between **nutrient removal** in WBZ and **biomass utilisation**, (2) analysing market and non-market values of rivers and river **ecosystem services** (as co-benefits of WBZ), (3) quantifying costs and benefits of WBZ at **catchment** scale, (4) **policy** and **social network** analysis, (5) **market assessment** of WBZ-related ecosystem services, including nutrients removal and biomass production.

CLEARANCE consortium seeks to implement **wetland solutions** that address growing societal demands for clean water provision and the necessity to preserve and restore vanishing riverine nature – as a sustainable alternative to technical ways of managing and transforming rivers by hard-infrastructure projects on the costs of their biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The authors would like to thank the EU and the Innovation Fund Denmark (DK), the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (DE), the National Centre for Research and Development (PL) for funding, in the frame of the collaborative international consortium CLEARANCE financed under the ERA-NET Cofund WaterWorks2015 Call. This ERA-NET is an integral part of the 2016 Joint Activities developed by the Water Challenges for a Changing World Joint Programme Initiative (Water JPI).



Project co-ordination:
Wiktor Kotowski, w.kotowski@uw.edu.pl
Faculty of Biology, University of Warsaw
Project duration: 2017-2020

