

Birds and amphibians support on wet meadows in Czech Republic

Lisbon

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Findings and lessons to enhance the sustained provision of environmental and social benefits for policy and practice



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Introduction to the case study



- **Resource system:** extensive wet grasslands with limited production, old irrigation system
- **Environmental/social benefits** of the initiative: biodiversity, public awareness rising, culture.
- **Key dilemma:** farmers motivation is to manage meadows with low cost to optimise CAP support, but conservation increase the cost of management (market is not a driver).



Mechanisms of nevironmental benefits provision



- Attempts to get agreements on management of the site between farmers and NGOs
- NGOs collect financial resources from general public in order to buy the land.
- NGO use CAP and Ministry of Environment support to build pools for amphibians and nesting sites for birds and renew the irrigation system.
- NGOs invite public and schools and provide guided tours in the area.



How it was arranged?



Limited resources available in NGOs, therefore a collective action was needed

- Two NGOs created board to manage the project.
- Built trust and motivated public to provide support.
- Invited several stakeholders to agree on common approach (e.g. local administration, farmers, fishers).
- Hired local leader as project manager to improve trust of local actors.



Success - difficulties



- NGOs were able to increase biodiversity significantly during recent years.
- Number of visitors is growing and schools pay some fee for guided tours.

BUT:

- Some farmers do not trust the NGOs and are not willing to cooperate
- Some principles of collective action were not pursued sufficiently (e.g. reciprocity).
- Risk the project manager could be burnt out – difficult to overcome low trust.





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Thank you for listening!

For more information, contact us!

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