

# Social and economic effects to justify water measures

**Examples from LIFE IP Rich Waters** 







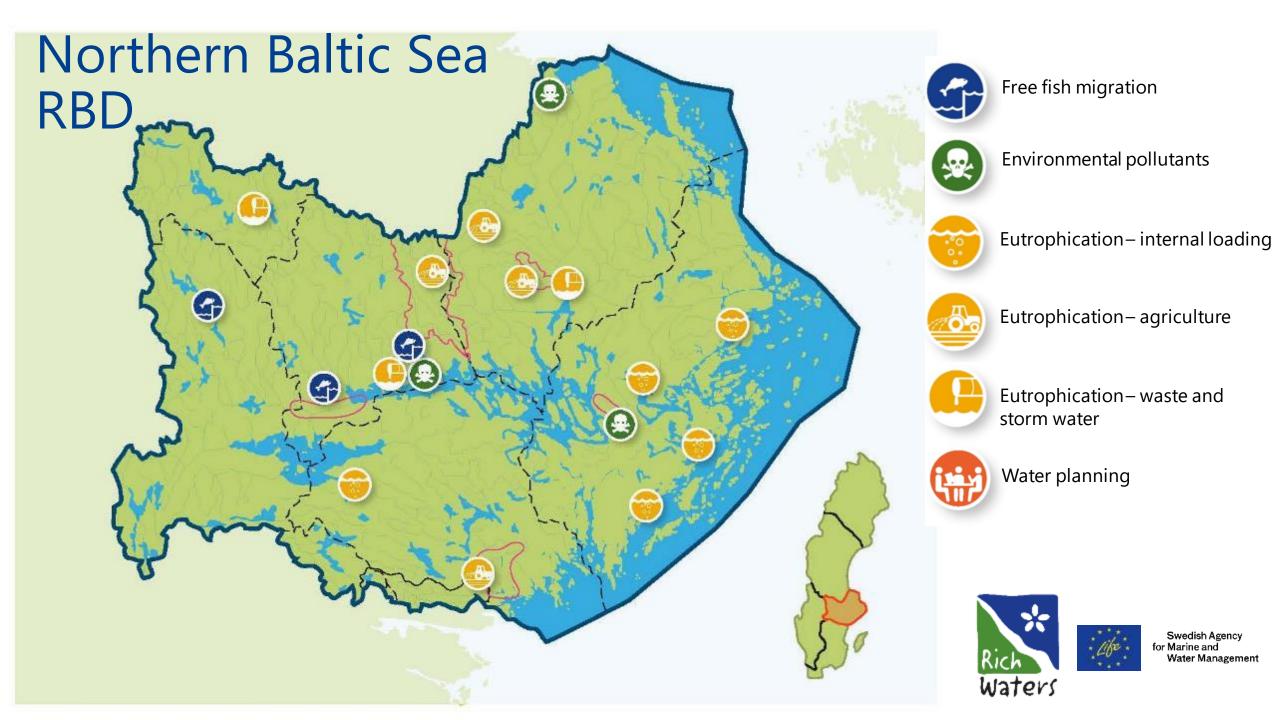
## Rich Waters: The first integrated LIFE project in Sweden

**Project period:** 2017 – 2024/25

**Total budget:** € 30 million

**Goal of project:** Boosting the implementation of the Water Framework Directive





### For the benefit of our common waters















wbab

Havs och Vatten myndigheten















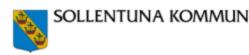




















Länsstyrelsen

Västra Götaland



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Norrbotten



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# Multifunctionality for sustainable development

- Evaluation of social and economic effects provides knowledge about, and a tool for creating more synergies
- Future efforts more coordinated towards multiple goals (societal benefits)
- Creates higher cost efficiency



Participation and impact

Local capacity building

#### **METHOD**

- Technical reporting
- Financial reporting
- Surveys/interviews with the projects

#### **ANALYSIS**

- Effects -> societal benefits -> combined assessment (qualitative)
- To the extent that it is possible to make an economic evaluation (quantitative)

Equality and integration

Health and wellbeing

Physical measures for better water

**Employment** 

Business opportunities, profiling and industry development

Savings/increased financial resilience

- Towards main target groups
- Estimations or evaluations

Participation and impact

Equality and integration

- Effects of the measures (ecosystem services)
- Qualitative effects recreation
- Accessibility recreation

Health and wellbeing

### Local capacity building

- New collaborations
- Formal collaboration
- Trust (estimated)



#### **Employment**

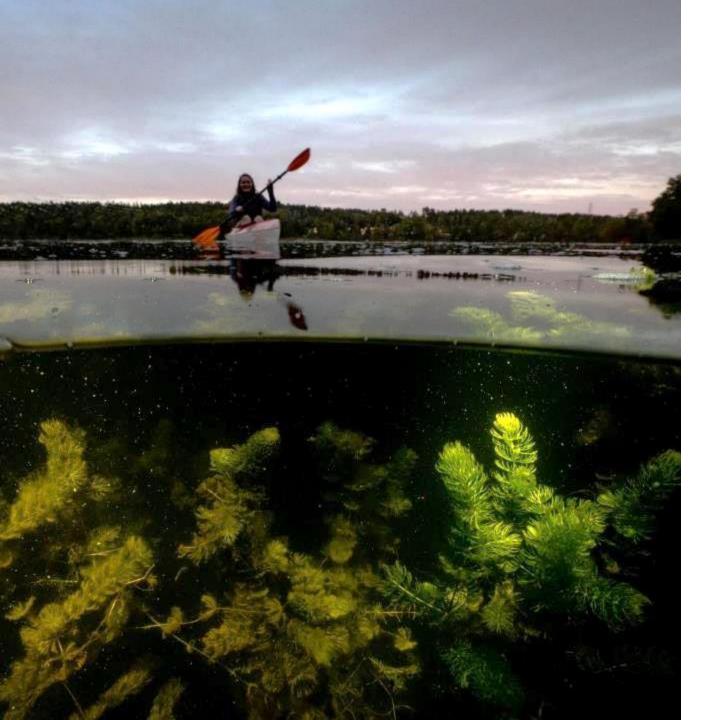
- Financial reporting
- Internships, job training, competence provision, stated strategies/requirements

Business opportunities, profiling and industry development

- New innovations
- Site development → business opportunities
- Profiling (estimated by project party)

Savings/increased financial resilience

- The expected effects of the measures
- Costs that are avoided/reduced
- Coordination gains/values



## Al-treatment in lake Norrviken

- Main purpose: restore eutrified lake
- Other effects: health and well-being – better water quality leading to greatly improved recreational values
- Possible economic value exceeds the costs of the measure



# Multifunctional water parks

- Main purposes: Water treatment, biodiversity, recreation
- Other effects: Integration, equality, awareness raising



### Adding value through architecture











## Fauna passage in urban environment

- Main purpose: Restoring connectivity and free fish passage in river Svartån
- Other effects: cultural environment preserved, economic effects (climate adaptation, protection from flooding), recreation and learning, awareness raising
- Tourism
- Inspiration for others, possibly leading to more, similar measures













### Visibility and public debate

- Awareness raising on occurance and effects of PFAS, TBT, organic pollutants
- Nutrient leakage from horse keeping - - changing public opinion
- Visibility for measures in city contexts
- More than 500 news reports, some
  60 press releases from our partners
- Website, newsletter, social media
- Video, illustrations, publications



## Water at the heart of politics

https://youtu.be/fk-uluGJ1qM?si=zQHPJ11Y 0VvS8Q6

### To sum it up!

- Great potential in multifunctional measures
- Cheaper to prevent than to remediate e.g. environmental pollutants and floods
- Document: make sure that the conditions for monitoring are in place from the start
- Learn from other evaluations to create greater societal benefit



### Keep in touch!



www.richwaters.se



#### LIFE IP Rich Waters

LIFE IP Rich Waters tackles some of the most services environmental problems that affect the quality and virollity of the water bodies of the Northern Robic Sea liber testin – eutrophication, barriers to fish migration and environmental pollutants. LIPE IP Rich waters aims at developing new and better methods to membral these problems in a cost-effective way.



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