

RESTORE

Rivers: Engaging, Supporting and Transferring knOwledge for Restoration in Europe
EU LIFE+ Information & Communication Project

Sector Engagement Event



Restoring Europe's Rivers

Workshop Theme:

Integrating River Restoration Into Spatial Planning: Delivering Multiple Benefits

Invited audience:

Practitioner-level land-use planners, government agency, water managers,
river basin planners, local authorities, and project designers

Date and location:

8th March 2012, **Rijkswaterstaat offices, Arnhem, NL**, with a site visit on 9th March 2012
to Bakenhof (Arnhem) and Klompenwaard (Pannerden)

Workshop objectives:

- Identify how **spatial planning mechanisms** such as land banking and sketch-match can be used to achieve **integrated land and water management**. Discuss the **issues and multi benefits of river restoration** in both urban and rural settings and how to promote them.
- Using **Europe-wide examples**, demonstrate spatial planning practice, experience and the varying degrees of success of land and water projects.
- Identify **what tools land-use planners need** to help them deliver river catchment planning and river restoration projects.
- Discuss **how to involve stakeholders** in planning **and at what stage in order to** initiate projects which successfully delivery multiple benefits.

There will be short introductory presentations relating to key issues and experiences from specially invited speakers. Free attendance (see booking form for details)

The RESTORE project is made possible with the contribution of
the LIFE+ financial instrument of the European Community



and works in partnership with



www.restorerivers.eu

Draft Programme

11.00 – Introduction to RESTORE (*Toni Scarr, RESTORE Project Manager*)

11:10 – Introduction to the workshop:

Land and water management and how it can incorporate river restoration

**11:20 – Speaker 1: Planning Liaison Officer, United Kingdom
*Judith Cooke (Environment Agency)***

Delivering river restoration through the UK planning system in South London

11:30 – Speaker 2: Planner, Netherlands

Pieter Boone (Dutch Government Service for Land and Water Management)

Dutch experience of making 'Room for the River'

11.40 – Speaker 3: To Be confirmed

French Experience of spatial planning

11:50 – Group discussions to tease out issues.

What are your barriers to delivering river restoration through planning?

What are the tools that you are currently using?

12:40 – Summary of issues

13.00 – 14.00 - LUNCH

**14:00 – Speaker 4: Local Authority Planner, United Kingdom
*Tim Crawshaw (Darlington Borough Council)***

Solutions to delivering river restoration through land use planning

**14:10 – Speaker 5: Government agency Biodiversity Specialist, United Kingdom
*Dave Webb (Environment Agency)***

Delivering river restoration from UK Agency perspective

14:20 – Group Discussion – looking at solutions for issues identified

15:40 – 15:55 - Tea/coffee

15:55 – Group Discussions – What additional tools are needed?

16:55 – Summary of Discussions

17:10 – Next Steps, and introduction to the site visit

17.30 – Close

Klompewaard – Dyke Relocation (1990-2003)

In the forelands of Millingerwaard and Klompewaard, there is one of the finest examples of integrated water management and nature restoration in Western Europe. Reconstruction of the river forelands to increase the discharge capacity by clay mining and sand mining started around 1990 and the development of the site continued for a further decade. Natural grazing (including beavers) as an ecological approach to vegetation management began in 1991, and the dyke was relocated in the summer of 2003 to improve the condition of the River Waal (Figure 1). The works have improved the visual appearance of the river corridor (Figure 2), and it is anticipated that it has also significantly improved the ecological value of the site in this area.



Figure 1 – A photograph (post-project) of the dyke relocation at Klompewaard. The inset picture shows the direction of the flow of the River Waal through this section.



Figure 2 – The development of vegetation in the river corridor has been a very positive outcome of the scheme – this will continue to mature in the years to come.

Bakenhof - Dyke Reconstruction (2001-2004)

The Bakenhof site is a chain of floodplains that have been enlarged by moving the dyke 200m inland. A side channel was constructed to account for natural erosional processes (Figure 3). The result of this project in terms of biological quality elements under the Water Framework Directive is fairly limited. Fish and benthic invertebrates were not monitored and macrophytes only scarcely occur in the side channel. However, a key outcome has been the development of vegetation in the floodplain where dynamic succession is progressing steadily. To halt or set back succession, large grazers have been employed. A further feature is the site's synergy with recreation – it is now a popular area for people in Arnhem for water sports and other activities. Post-project photography has revealed the capacity to account for significant changes in water level has improved, and this has also led to an improvement in the resilience of the river system.



Figure 4 – The construction of a side channel at the Bakenhof site allows natural processes to help form the development of the river and floodplain in this reach of the River Nederrijn.



Figure 3 – Photography has also shown the resilience of the post-project riverine landscape in a period of nine months. From left to right, the river is at mean level in June 2009; near dry (extreme low water levels) in September 2009; and in flood in March 2010.