

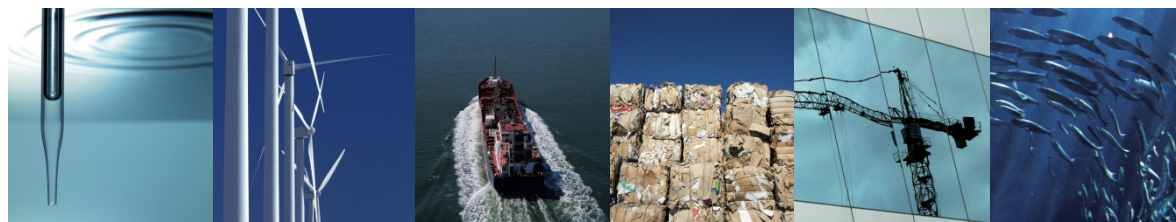


AQUARIUS

– Farmers as Water Managers in the North Sea Region

[Final Conference]

12 October 2011, Knebel, Denmark



Aquarius

The farmer as water manager working for a good water environment.



Matt Nichols

Effective agricultural production adapted to new climatic conditions and environmental demands in the North Sea region.

*Investing in the future
by working together for a
sustainable and competitive region*





A mistake that was almost made ...

AQUARIUS was recommended for rejection

- Concerns about long-term impact of a manual
- Concerns whether results would transfer outside local pilots



Do we need AQUARIUS?

What happened to the green revolution?

- 89% see climate change as a serious problem (Eurobarometer)
- 68% see it as more important than the economy
- CO2 emissions rose by 2.4% in 2010 in the EU (EEA)
- Climate change is already here. EU insurers estimate that climate-related damage cost \$15 billion in 2010
- Only 6 of the 15 'old' EU countries achieve Kyoto commitments without buying international quotas
- 78% of EU citizens believe that the green economy is the way to create growth in Europe

Climate change impacts were only one aspect of Aquarius's work but pressure for more sustainable approaches remains as strong as ever



Difficult times for agriculture

We expect a lot from our farmers...

- Highest quality food
- At lowest possible price
- With free environmental management



What do we believe Aquarius has achieved?

Finding workable solutions for agriculture has been a challenge. Here's some ideas on how...

- Agreed solutions are much more successful than imposed solutions
- Further evidence that real collaboration between the public, private and knowledge sectors works
- The technologies and methods needed to make a change are already available – there is no reason to wait
- Even in a globalised world, we all know different things. Cooperation can be an accelerator of change



What do we believe Aquarius has achieved? II

- Catchment based approach is a must
- Local action is the right scale for concrete implementation
- Specific local situations vary but the right problem-solving approaches are effective regardless of location (e.g. problem solution wheel)
- The subsidy question
- 'It is possible to have profitable farms in a way that actually benefits the environment and helps comply with international rules and legislation.'



Let's have that again

'It is possible to have profitable farms in a way that actually benefits the environment and helps comply with international rules and legislation.'

What are we waiting for?



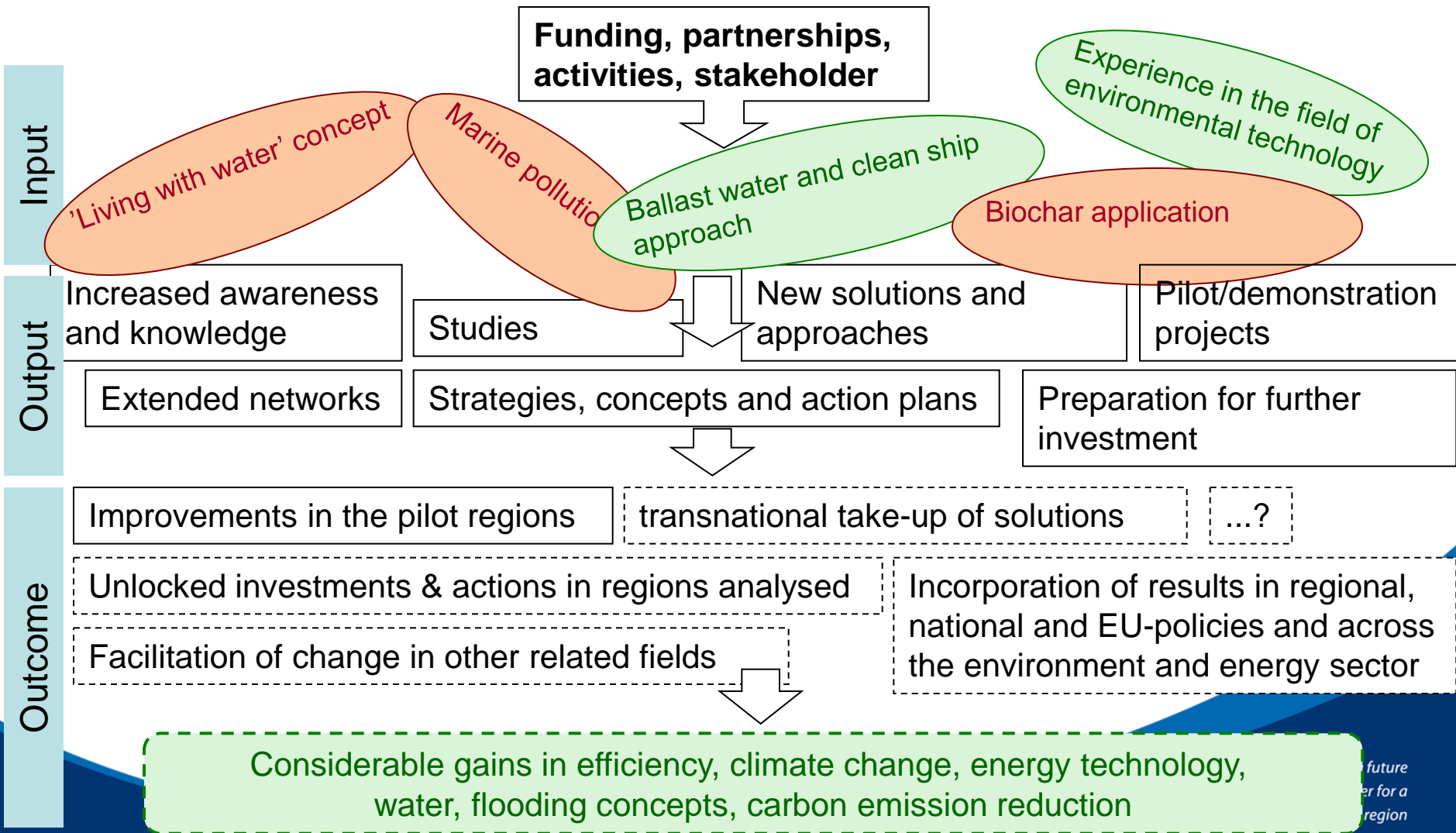
Where do we go from here?

How do we secure regional results and move towards North Sea impact?

- Is this the end or the beginning?
- What do you have to offer? To who? How will it make their life easier?
- Much more on this tomorrow...



Capturing the outcomes of cooperation





Goodbye AQUARIUS and
thank you very much for your
very good co-operation!

It has been a pleasure working with you!

Aquarius

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manager working for a
good water environment.



Farmers as water managers

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adapted to new climatic conditions
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www.northsearegion.eu

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