

AQUACROSS's Eight Case Studies – practical local examples of ecosystem-based management

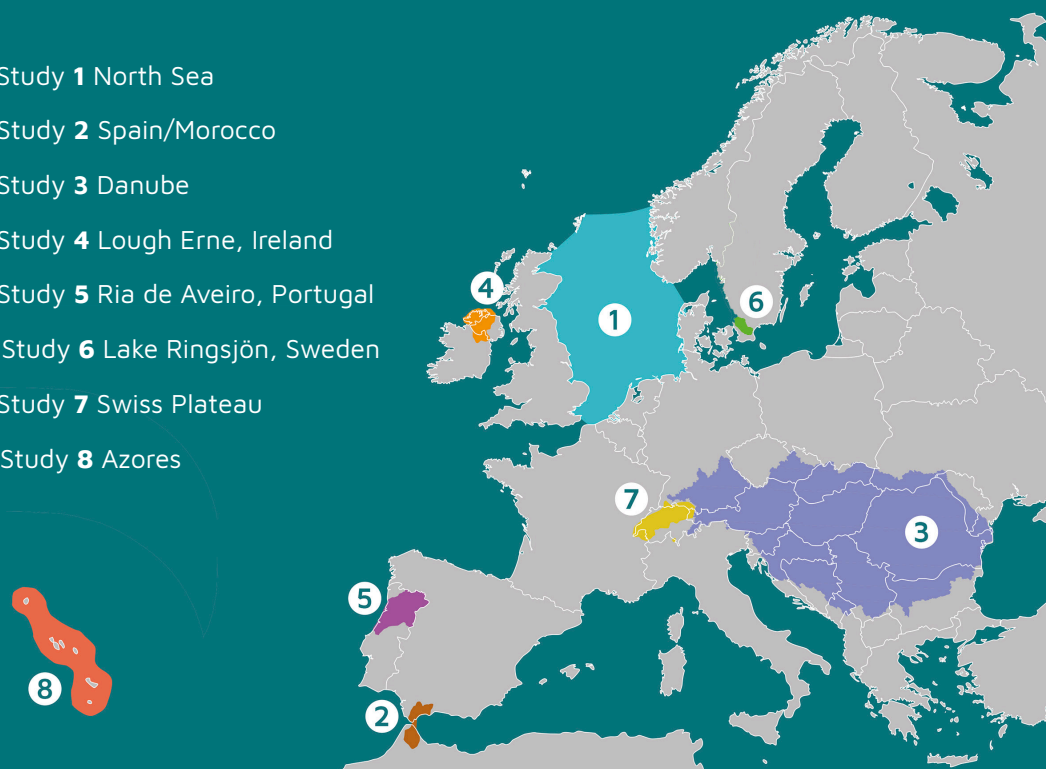
The AQUACROSS Case Studies provide eight real-world examples of applying ecosystem-based management in Europe's inland, transitional, and marine waters to protect local biodiversity from diverse threats. Each case study followed the steps laid out the AQUACROSS Ecosystem-Based Management Cookbook, and therefore offer useful examples of the approach in practice.

Each case study worked closely with local policy-makers and environmental managers, as well as diverse stakeholders (including fishers, farmers, tourism operators, and environmental groups) to apply and test ecosystem-based management on the ground. The wide range of threats, realms, key sectors, and strengths mean that these eight case studies offer diverse specific examples and practical insight into how and when ecosystem-based management can be used. For practitioners, this diversity means that – whatever your local conditions – one or more of the case studies should offer a relatable example of how ecosystem-based management can incrementally improve biodiversity protection so that ecosystems can continue to deliver valuable services that support human well-being.

More information

The table on the next page introduces the unique elements of each case study. To find out more, see the introductory briefs on each case study.

- #15 Case Study **1** North Sea
- #16 Case Study **2** Spain/Morocco
- #17 Case Study **3** Danube
- #18 Case Study **4** Lough Erne, Ireland
- #19 Case Study **5** Ria de Aveiro, Portugal
- #20 Case Study **6** Lake Ringsjön, Sweden
- #21 Case Study **7** Swiss Plateau
- #22 Case Study **8** Azores



Case Study	Realm	Biodiversity Threat	Key stakeholders/ sectors	Highlights/strengths
1 Trade-offs in ecosystem-based management in the North Sea aimed at achieving Biodiversity Strategy targets	Coast, Marine	Fishing; Changes to morphology	Fishing, renewable energy, environment	Identifying EBM responses: risk assessment; Qualitative and quantitative evaluation; Linkage framework
2 Analysis of transboundary water ecosystems, Green and Blue Infrastructures in the Intercontinental Biosphere Reserve of the Mediterranean: Andalusia (Spain): Morocco	Freshwater, Coast, Marine	Water abstraction; Change to morphology	Environment, agriculture, fishing, tourism	Ecosystem-service maps; Indicators; Information Platform; Modeling
3 Danube River Basin - harmonising inland, coastal and marine ecosystem management to achieve aquatic biodiversity targets	Freshwater	Nutrient pollution; Water abstraction; Change to morphology	Environment, fishing, transport, renewable energy, agriculture	Integrative policy objectives; Modelling; Evaluation; Scenarios
4 Management and impact of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Lough Erne, Ireland	Freshwater	Nutrient pollution; Invasive Species; Change to morphology	Agriculture, tourism, fishing, renewable energy	Stakeholders; Identifying EBM responses; Evaluation
5 Improving integrated management of Natura 2000 sites in the Ria de Aveiro , from catchment to coast, Portugal	Freshwater, Coast, Marine	Change to morphology	Environment, tourism, shipping, agriculture	Linkage framework; Stakeholders; Modelling; AquaLinks tool
6 Understanding eutrophication processes and restoring good water quality in Lake Ringsjön - Rönne å Catchment, Sweden	Freshwater	Nutrient pollution	Agriculture, fishing, tourism	Stakeholder goals; Integrative policy objectives; Modelling
7 Biodiversity management for rivers of the Swiss Plateau	Freshwater	Nutrient pollution; Change to morphology, chemical pollution	Renewable energy, environment, agriculture	Integrative policy objectives; Modelling; Developing relevant indicators
8 Ecosystem-based solutions to solve sectoral conflicts on the path to sustainable development in the Azores	Coast, Marine	Fishing	Fishing, tourism, environment	Stakeholder processes; Integrative policy objectives; Identifying EBM responses; Monitoring