Water scarcity and droughts are on the increase and expected to aggravate further due to climate change. Early actions are required to adapt to these changes. The transnational project 'Benefit of governance in DROught adapatation (DROP)' aims to enhance the preparedness and resilience of Northwest European (NWE) regions to such periods of drought. Ecologic Institute is one of the five knowledge partners of DROP which jointly develop further an existing Governance Assessment Tool and apply the tool in the six regions of the participating water authorities.

DROP is a transnational project and integrates knowledge from science, policy and practice. The project is implemented through collaboration between six regional water authorities (practice partners) and five knowledge institutes (knowledge partners).

The knowledge partners of DROP (including Ecologic Institute) are developing an existing Governance Assessment Tool further and apply the tool in the six regions of the participating water authorities. Ecologic Institute is responsible for the assessment in two of these: the Flanders region in Belgium and the Eifel-Rur region in North-Rhine Westphalia. This assessment will show what aspects of the various regional governance settings support or restrict the implementation of drought and water scarcity.
measures. On this basis, recommendations will be developed on how to optimise the regional governance setting from a drought perspective. The experience of evaluating governance settings with the Governance Assessment Tool will be collected in a practical guide on how to use this tool.

The practice partners will implement and test innovative, concrete measures focusing on specific drought and water scarcity problems related to nature, agriculture and freshwater supply. The project will aid other NWE regions through the development of tools, support and guidance that can be of beneficial use in the process of adapting to drought and water scarcity situations, which are likely to increase in NWE in the near future.

The experiences with the governance assessment and the implementation of concrete measures of the practice partners will be integrated into a handbook. The handbook will include a synthesis of the main project results and transferable lessons.

The DROP project receives European Regional Development Funding through INTERREG IVB [2].

Further information on the project is available on the DROP project-website [3].

**Main Link**

DROP project website

**Related Articles**

- Water Governance Assessment Tool
- Regional Governance and Management for Adaptation to Drought and Water Scarcity in North-West Europe
- Regional Governance and Management for Drought Adaptation in North-West Europe

**Funding**

European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG Climate)

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**Partner**

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Vilaine Planning Institution (IAV), France
French National Institute for Environmental and Agricultural Science and Research (irstea), France
Flemish Environment Agency (VMM), Belgium
Ecologic Institute, Germany
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Somerset County Council, United Kingdom
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Links
[1] https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/project/2015/fotolia_c_david_hands_0.jpg