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Welcome to the 8th OPTAIN Newsletter

A periodic update on the latest developments in the OPTAIN project. Find out what's ahead by [checking our website!](#)



Launching OPTAIN Regional Dialogues: Advancing Water & Nutrient Management Across Europe

The OPTAIN Regional Dialogues aim to foster policy exchange and collaboration on NSWRMs, supporting sustainable water and nutrient management, enhancing climate resilience, and integrating solutions into agricultural and environmental policies. Find out more by clicking on the link!

🕒 3 MIN READ

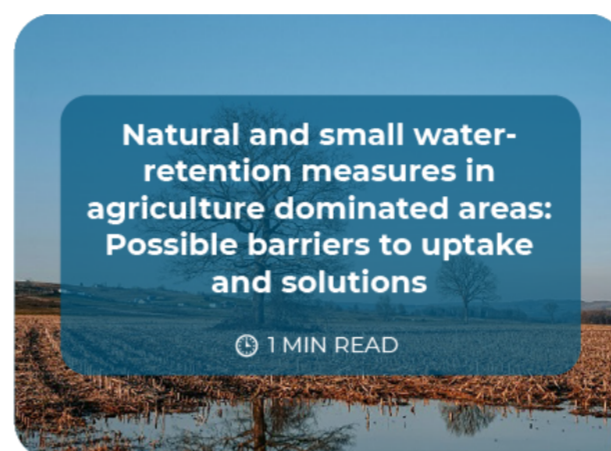
OPTAIN SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATION



Addressing soil data needs and data gaps in catchment-scale environmental modelling: the European perspective

🕒 1 MIN READ

Effective agricultural management relies on simulating water quantity and quality while assessing land use and climate change impacts. This study catalogues soil data, evaluates pedotransfer functions, and provides R scripts to improve environmental modelling across Europe ([link](#)).

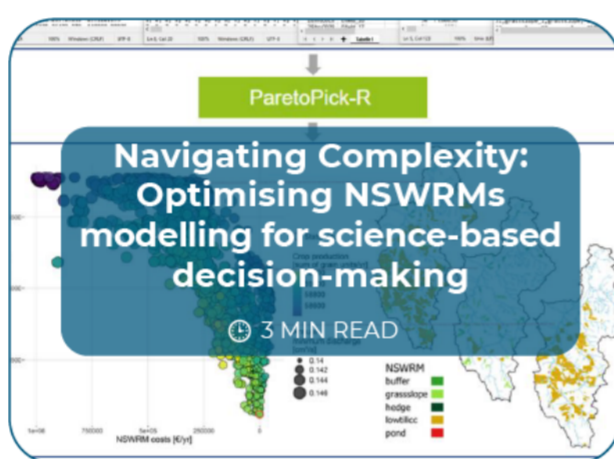


Natural and small water-retention measures in agriculture dominated areas: Possible barriers to uptake and solutions

🕒 1 MIN READ

Agriculture faces water challenges like erosion, runoff, floods, and droughts, worsened by climate change. A survey in SE Norway identified barriers to measures and suggested better funding, training, and simpler bureaucracy ([link](#)).

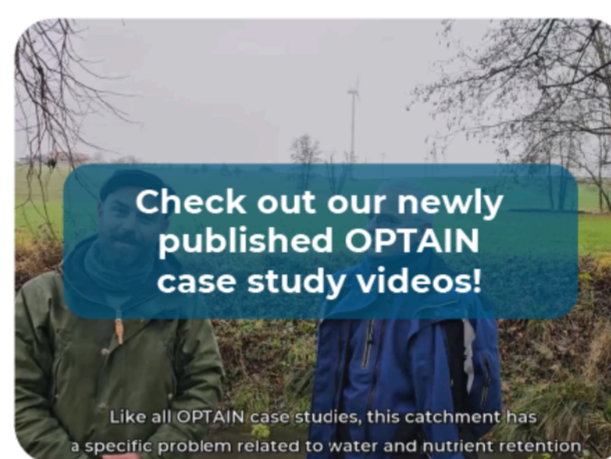
OPTAIN UNIVERSE



Navigating Complexity: Optimising NSWRMs modelling for science-based decision-making

🕒 3 MIN READ

The OPTAIN model generates 20,000+ Pareto-optimal NSWRM plans, balancing four catchment objectives. The ParetoPick-R app, detailed in Deliverable 5.2, helps stakeholders visualize and select solutions ([link](#)).



Check out our newly published OPTAIN case study videos!

Like all OPTAIN case studies, this catchment has a specific problem related to water and nutrient retention.

The OPTAIN project showcases case study videos demonstrating the benefits of Natural/Small Water Retention Measures (NSWRMs) in various agricultural catchments, emphasizing stakeholder engagement and sustainable water management practices ([link](#)).

ABOUT OPTAIN



OPTAIN 5th General Assembly: Progress, Collaboration & Field Insights in Klaipėda

🕒 3 MIN READ

From Sept 24–27, 2024, OPTAIN's 5th General Assembly in Klaipėda gathered 50+ experts to review progress, discuss NSWRMs, and plan ahead. Highlights included workshops, case studies, and field excursions ([link](#)).

MEET OUR CASE STUDIES



Meet Kråkstad Catchment - Norwegian Case Study

🕒 10 MIN READ

Case study in Norway faces water quality and erosion issues. Mitigation includes NSWRMs like low tillage and buffer zones, aiming to balance crop yield, water retention, and environmental health ([link](#)).



Meet Petite Glâne - Swiss Case Study

🕒 7 MIN READ

The Petite Glâne catchment faces water shortages and extreme rainfall. NSWRMs help manage water retention, soil health, and reduce sediment loss. Stakeholder collaboration aims to ensure sustainable solutions ([link](#)).

SAVE THE DATE

Continental Regional Dialogue

23 April 2025

Join us at the upcoming Continental Regional Dialogue during the ICPDR Expert Group meeting in Sarajevo, where experts will discuss transboundary water and agriculture management in the Danube River Basin. OPTAIN will facilitate discussions on modelling of Natural/Small Water Retention Measures (NSWRMs) and their implementation in agricultural catchments.

Online registration deadline: 14 April 2025

Registration is required via the following link.

Pannonian Regional Dialogue

22 May 2025

On International Biodiversity Day, the Pannonian Regional Dialogue will bring together diverse stakeholders, including policymakers, researchers, and practitioners, to address region-specific challenges in water and nutrient management in Pannonia. The discussion will focus on advancing the implementation of NSWRMs in alignment with local policies and strategic priorities. Mark your calendars and join the discussion online!

Onsite registration deadline: April 23, 2025

Online registration deadline: May 14, 2025

Participation in this event is free of charge; however, registration is mandatory via the following link.



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