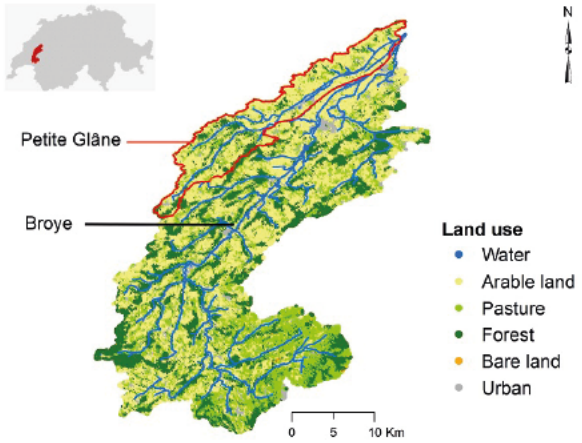
CASE STUDY INFORMATION

Location map

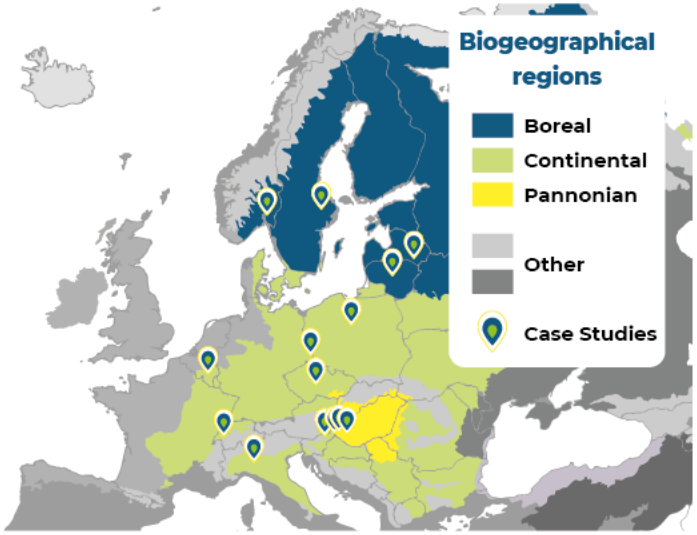


"Source: FSO (2020). Spatial Land Use Statistic of Switzerland; Swiss Federal Statistical Office: Neuchâtel, Switzerland."

General info

Although the soil and climate in the Broye catchment are highly suitable for arable production, the area is experiencing a water shortage. The water availability from the Broye or Petite Glâne streams is often insufficient for irrigation and farmers are considering other options to mitigate increasing drought events.
This project investigates the potential of natural small-scale water retention measures to mitigate drought stress in the future.

PROJECT INFO



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Coordinator
Prof. Dr. Martin Volk
Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ

WWW.OPTAIN.EU

21 partners from 15 countries across Europe

7 million Euro budget

14 partners will contribute with their own case study

5 years duration 2020-2025

PARTNERS

OPTAIN

Optimal Strategies to Retain Water and Nutrients

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 862756.

ABOUT OPTAIN

OPTAIN (EU-funded research and innovation project) aims to increase better understanding of the multiple benefits of **Natural/Small Water Retention Measures (NSWRM)**.

NSWRM are multi-functional measures using natural means for the management of water and nutrients in a river catchment. This also comprises small technical solutions and measures which positively affect water use efficiency of the agricultural production. The challenge is to identify sound combinations and allocations of NSWRM that respond to the characteristics and management of a specific catchment.

OPTAIN seeks to identify efficient NSWRM to better adapt to extreme events (floods, droughts) and reduce conflicts between agricultural water uses and other human and environmental demands on water in small catchments across Europe in close cooperation with local actors.

Project outcomes will be elaborated from the current state of knowledge, innovative scientific modelling and optimization approaches, and contributions from local experts and stakeholders from 14 case studies across Europe.

*NSWRM - Natural/Small Water Retention Measures

Multi-Actor Reference Groups (MARGs)

Benefits for stakeholders in MARGs

Influence and co-design OPTAIN research by providing local knowledge and vision for the area.

Learn about a wide range of measures and their expected environmental, economic, social benefits, and constraints.

Engage in dialogue on existing and prospective agricultural policies with other farmers, agricultural advisors, and policymakers.

Exchange experiences and approaches with other stakeholders around Europe to better adapt to extreme events.

Benefits for OPTAIN partners

Better understand the conflicts between agricultural water uses and other water demands at local scale.

Better incorporate the expectations of local stakeholders and experts by including their opinions on which measures are possible and desirable in each case study.

Improve research on assessment, prioritization, and comparison of measures evaluated by stakeholders.

Get feedback on a combination of measures investigated in the project and their expected environmental, economic, social benefits, and constraints.