Catchment officers in Sweden

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The effects of catchment officers

- Over **200 meetings** and group meetings with a total of over 2400 participants have been arranged between 2019-2020. Personal contacts and meetings have been held with about **1100 unique farmers**.

- The catchment officers have been part of applying for **€15 million** for local measures during 2019-2020. This is an increased exchange of **four times** compared to the state funding of the catchment officers.
Lessons learned among the Catchment officers

• What level of participation can you offer?
• Respect that co-operation takes time
• Be transparent
• Dialog rather than information
• Respect different levels of understanding
• Respect the fragile process of co-operation and trust
• Invest time in meetings and planning meetings
• Understand that different personalities are an asset
• Show good leadership and respect
Lessons learned for the authorities

• Landowners want to perform different measures for the environment, but lack of time, knowledge, and funding is often an obstacle.

• Catchment officers are catalysts on a basin scale, and for the individual farmer. They create incentives for implementing measures and increase participation and legitimacy.

• Continued improvement of knowledge and planning local measurers are needed. At all scales.

• The Regional Water Authorities have suggested in the Programme of Measures 2021-2027 that SwAM continues to head the support function for Catchment officers.
Thank you.

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