

CATCH

an Interreg North Sea Region project

Good practice:

A stormwater basin:

prevents 150 residential basements from flooding, provides a recreation area and is favourable for biodiversity.

Degerängen, Sweden 

In leaps and bounds to a water sensitive city

ABOUT THE PILOT

In the extension of the CATCH project, Arvika has been working on adding ecosystem services to a stormwater storage basin that is being constructed in the area of “Degerängen”. This area is prone to flooding when heavy rainfall occurs and it is common that properties with basements get flooded. The catchment area is about 23 hectares and includes about 150 properties. At a heavy rainfall event in 2021 60 basements flooded in this area. The stormwater basin is designed to prevent this problem to continue.

To meet the needs and wishes of the affected property owners for the design there was close communication with them. The stormwater basin creates an area for recreation. Additionally, the plants provide a pleasant scenery and a favourable setting for pollinating insects.





POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR OUR RESIDENTS AND ORGANISATION

- Less work for staff on duty when heavy rainfall occurs at catchment area of “Degerängen” and downstream pipelines.
- Providing security measures to this area where basements are prone to flooding.
- Higher level of awareness and knowledge about the importance to include ecosystem services in projects.
- Raised awareness among residents living in project area.

“It was visible, even before the stormwater basin was finished, that the measure has an effect on heavy rain.”





LESSONS LEARNED

- Dialogue with other municipal departments and citizens adds value.
- Taking negative effects into account when choosing the design of storage – e.g., the risk of creating a favourable environment for mosquitoes.
- Consider ecosystem services early in projects – to be able to implement them at a lower cost.
- Consider maintenance costs when choosing design and material.
- An important aspect when choosing the plants along the sides of the stormwater basin was to create a favourable environment for pollinating insects”

“The area is now a place to meet and recreate, a good example that the pilot has provided ecosystem services of value for the neighborhood and nature.”

More information

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Or visit our website:

www.northsearegion.eu/catch/pilot-projects/arvika/

