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Authors

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**Sullied Sediments**

**Sediment Assessment and Clean Up Pilots in Inland Waterways in the North Sea Region**

Many of the inland waterways in Europe are under threat due to the introduction of Watch List chemicals that are not currently regulated under the European Water Framework Directive. These chemicals enter our waterways as a result of our day-to-day activities and through industry, and many have been shown to be harmful to wildlife and the wider aquatic environment. Regardless of their source, these pollutants accumulate in the sediments in our rivers and canals over time.

Water regulators and managing authorities do not always know the levels, locations or impacts of these pollutants. Nor do they have the tools to assess sediments confidently and make informed environmental management decisions. To address these issues, the Sullied Sediment project partnership of scientific experts, regulators and water managers is developing and testing new tools that will enable stakeholders to better assess, treat and prevent contamination from these chemicals. This work is being carried out at selected sites in the Elbe, Humber and Scheldt river catchments.

The intention of the Sullied Sediments project is therefore to help regulators and water managers make better decisions with regard to the management, removal and disposal of sediments, thereby reducing economic costs to private and public sector organisations, and the impact of these pollutants on the environment.

The partnership is also working to reduce the extent of chemicals entering the water system by raising awareness about what we, as consumers, are releasing into the environment through the use of common drugs and household products. This includes the involvement of volunteers in a sediment sampling initiative across the North Sea Region, which will inform and empower them as water champions in their local communities.

The Sullied Sediments project has been co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Interreg VB North Sea Region Programme with match funding from the 13 partners involved. The project partnership includes public, private, community and voluntary sector organisations based in the United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The project has been supported under the Interreg VB North Sea Region Programme’s third priority, which is focused on a Sustainable North Sea Region, and is led by the University of Hull (UK).

**Website:** northsearegion.eu/sullied-sediments

**Blog:** sulliedsediments.wordpress.com

**Twitter:**@SulliedSediment

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Description automatically generated **Executive Summary/Abstract**

The success of the ‘Sullied Sediments’ project will be based on its impact in the real world. In order to quantify this impact, the project partnership has identified three outcomes, or results, that we are working towards achieving. At the end of the project, we will report on how well have delivered on these results to our funder.

Below is a table that states what our target results are and sets out how we will go about accomplishing them:

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# **Methods**

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‘Sullied Sediments’ has been has been co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Interreg VB North Sea Region Programme with a grant of 2.043.413 euros with equivalent match funding from the partners involved. The project partnership includes public, private and third sector organisations based in the United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands

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# **Partners**

**The Sullied Sediments project partnership comprises 13 project beneficiaries:**

*Canal and River Trust (UK)*

*East Riding of Yorkshire Council (UK)*

*Ecossa (Germany)*

*Hamburg Port Authority (Germany)*

*Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany)*

*Institut Dr Nowak (Germany)*

*Openbare Vlaamse Afvalstoffenmaatschappij (Belgium)*

*Radboud University (The Netherlands)*

*Socotec UK Ltd (UK)*

*University of Antwerp (Belgium)*

*University of Hull (UK)*

*University of Leeds (UK)*

*Vlaamse Milieumaatschappij (Belgium)*

**The partnership also receives expert advice from 12 strategic partners who form our Advisory Group:**

*East and North Yorkshire Waterways Partnership (UK)*

*Elbe Habitat Foundation (Germany)*

*Environment Agency (UK)*

*Federal Institute of Hydrology (Germany)*

*Foundation for Applied Water Research (Europe)*

*Hamburg Ministry of the Environment and Energy (Germany)*

*Northumbrian Water (UK)*

*River Hull Board (UK)*

*Sediment European Network Steering Group (European)*

*Thames Water (UK)*

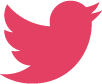
*Vlakwa (water research consultancy) (Belgium)*

*Yorkshire Water (UK)*

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**For more information about this publications, please contact:**

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