



Launched in November 2017, the European Channel Payments for Ecosystem Services (CPES) project is a collaborative project managed within the Interreg VA France (Channel) England programme. It has a €4 million budget, co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (€2.8 million), and runs for a 45 month period (2017-2020).

Fourteen partners are working towards a common goal: to improve water quality of lakes, rivers and groundwaters, by implementing sustainable payments for ecosystem services (PES) schemes in six case-study catchments in Southern England and Northern France. The emphasis of the schemes will be to encourage farmers to adopt practices that are more sympathetic to catchment water quality.

14 PARTNERS

University of Chichester

Lead partner responsible for WP Management

Syndicat Mixte du Grand Bassin de l'Oust

Responsible for WP Communication

South Downs National Park Authority

Portsmouth Water

Westcountry Rivers Trust

Responsible for WP Implementation

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique

Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique

University of Rennes 1

Southern Water

Environment Agency

Sara Hernandez Consulting

Responsible for WP Policy framework

Eau de Paris

Syndicat d'Eau du Roumois et du Plateau de Neubourg

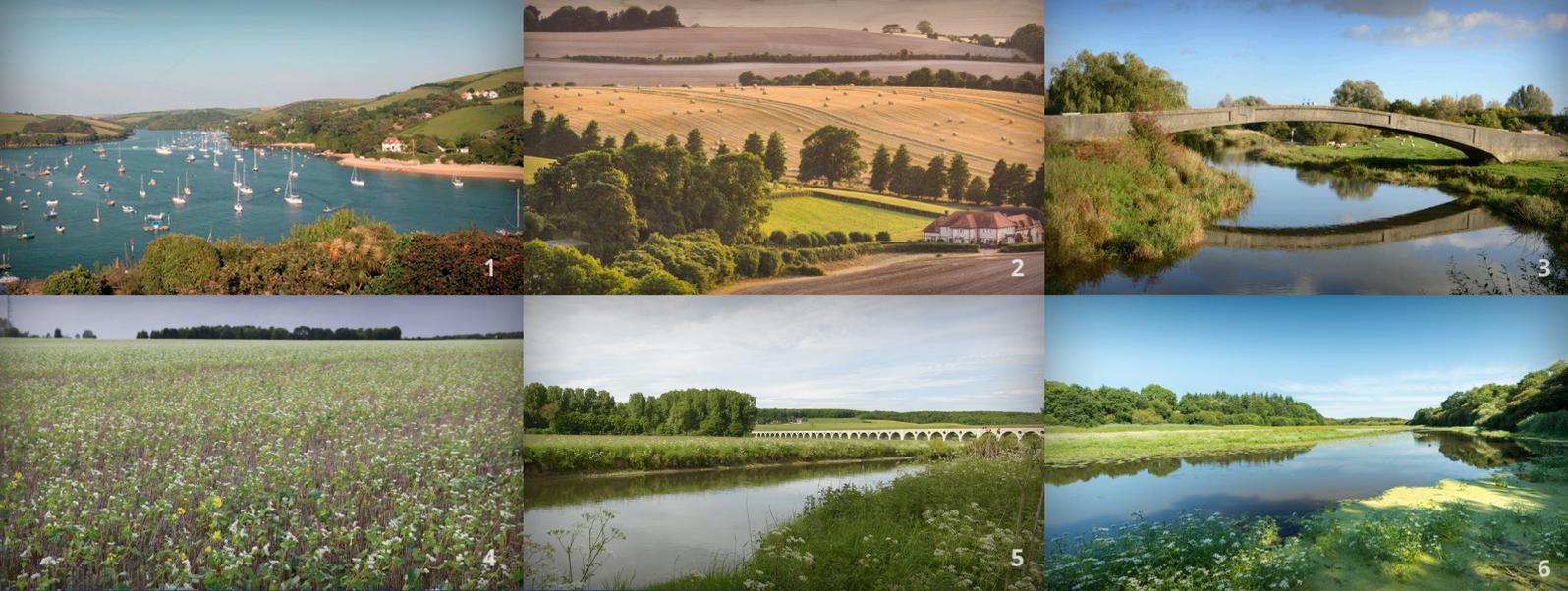
Agence de l'Eau Seine-Normandie

Among the innovative financial mechanisms, payments for ecosystem services (PES) are voluntary approaches in which the beneficiaries of ecosystem services pay land managers to change practices. Previous projects have demonstrated the viability of PES to reduce diffuse pollution from agriculture but have not tested their environmental effectiveness and their financial sustainability at a larger scale.

Our partners have proven experience in identifying and implementing measures for changing agricultural practices in favour of water quality. However, the current mechanisms, such as agri-environment schemes, seem to face certain difficulties in achieving water quality objectives (low incentives, complex administrative and financial management, etc.). This explains the partners' interest in innovative schemes and their commitment to Interreg cooperation.

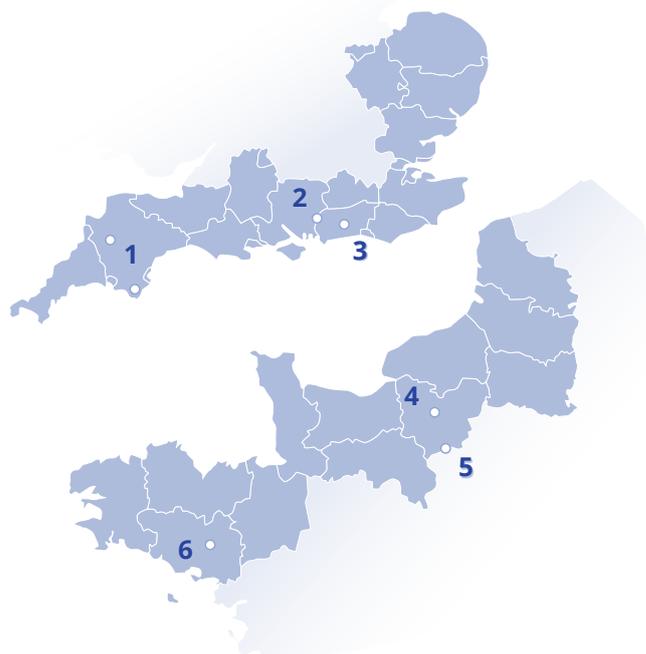
The Interreg project offers a unique experimental framework to test the construction and implementation of PES schemes. The ultimate goal of the CPES project is to demonstrate that PES is a cost-effective tool for solving diffuse pollution problems. It also examines the consistency of PES schemes with the range of environmental policies and regulations currently in place, as well as their legal viability and monitoring and control mechanisms.

The diversity of issues and contexts across the case-studies is one of the strengths of the CPES project, which will allow replicability to other catchment areas, thanks to the construction of a toolbox made available to all stakeholders concerned with water quality.



Channel Payments for Ecosystem Services

Improve water quality by implementing sustainable Payments for Ecosystem Services across 6 pilot catchments in England and in France.



6 SITES

1. Roadford Lake and Salcombe-Kingsbridge estuary, Slapton & Gara
Devon, England
2. South Downs chalk grasslands groundwater
Hampshire & West Sussex, England
3. River Western Rother catchment
West Sussex, England
4. Tremblay-Omonville catchment
Normandy, France
5. Springs of la Vigne catchment
Normandy & Centre, France
6. Lac au Duc and river Yvel catchment
Brittany, France



SARA HERNANDEZ
CONSULTING
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