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Implementing blue infrastructure solutions for a sustainable water management

Renaturalisation of the inland delta of Nida River – LIFE4Delta_PL

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Photo of delta in the mid-90 (left) and 2017 (right). Almost the same spot.



Photo of delta in the mid-90 (left) and 2018 (right). Almost the same spot.




On the area of almost 400 ha we tried to restore and stabilize the hydrological system of Nida river and its inland delta area based on natural processes.

Zasięg projektu w skali kraju



- **Project name:**
LIFE17 NAT/PL/000018 Renaturalisation of the inland delta of Nida River
- **Budget:**
Overall project budget: 5 473 145 EUR
which consist:
60% of EU Contribution
30% of NFOSiGW contribution
10% of own funds
- **Duration:**
01/01/2019 to 31/12/2024
- **Coordinating Beneficiary:**
Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship – The Complex of Świętokrzyskie and Nida River Landscape Parks
- **Co-beneficiary:**
National Forests, Pińczów Forest District, Polish Academy of Sciences, University of Agriculture in Krakow
- **Implementation area:**
410 ha including 280 ha of agriculture area and ca. 130 ha of forest area.

An aerial photograph showing a wide, multi-channel river system flowing through a rural landscape. The water is a deep blue, contrasting with the brownish-yellow and green fields and forests. The river has several meanders and smaller tributaries, creating a complex network of waterways. The surrounding land appears to be a mix of agricultural fields and natural vegetation. In the distance, some buildings and more developed areas are visible under a clear sky.

**Since today, we restored 19,3 km of old riverbeds.
At the same time we restored 19 units of hydrotechnical infrastructure.
Thanks to this, we are able to store up to 2 million cubic meters
of spring water, which contributes to increased water retention
and a significant maintenance of biodiversity in this area, especially
during the increasingly frequent and prolonged periods of drought.**

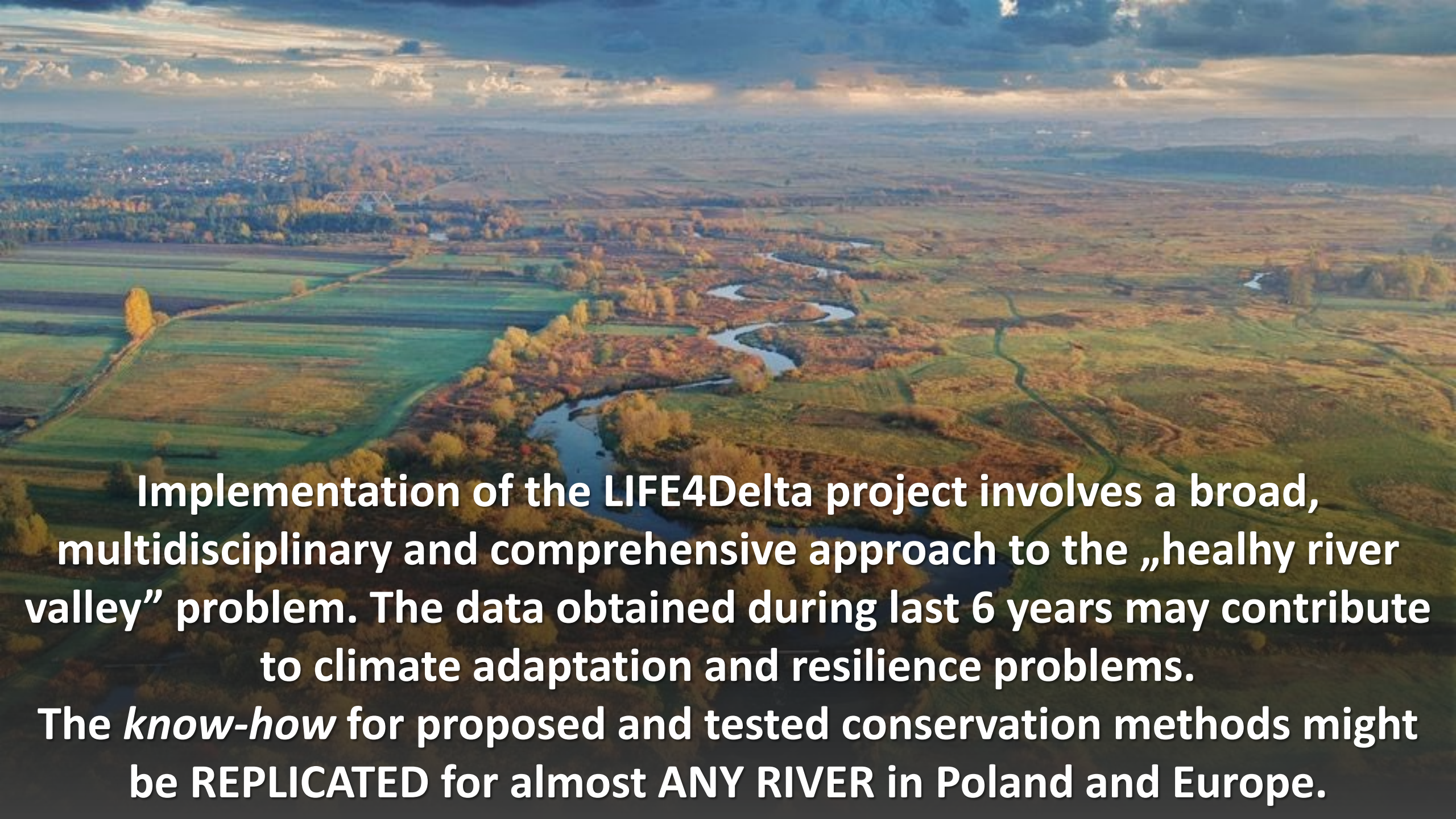


We have developed a water management methodology. Thanks to the renovated hydrotechnical infrastructure, we are able to manage water in a sustainable way, allowing for the parallel functioning of environmental, hydrological, and local economic needs.



The area has become a platform for further analyses, such as flood control (flood wave attenuation) and firefighting.

The initiation of the river's natural self-purification processes through water cleansing within restored marshlands, aided by the combined efforts of reintroduced freshwater mussels (*Unio crassus*).



Implementation of the LIFE4Delta project involves a broad, multidisciplinary and comprehensive approach to the „healthy river valley” problem. The data obtained during last 6 years may contribute to climate adaptation and resilience problems.

The *know-how* for proposed and tested conservation methods might be REPLICATED for almost ANY RIVER in Poland and Europe.



One of the tools for ensuring the transferability and sustainability of the project results is education and tourism. Therefore, as a complementary investment, we have built a Environmental Education Center in close proximity to the Delta



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More info: www.life4delta.pl , www.facebook.com/LIFE4Delta