



# BioScape

improving Biodiversity in the landScape

Supported by EU LIFE Biodiversity, BioScape seeks to restore five primary ecosystem services by:

- Reducing nutrient overload of aquatic environments
- Contributing to clean groundwater
- Reducing flooding
- Strengthening carbon sequestration
- Promoting biodiversity

BioScape will do so through multifunctional land consolidation with an emphasis on stakeholder involvement, nature restoration, and training of agricultural students in nature conservation.

## Why BioScape?

Because we face a severe biodiversity crisis that is causing loss of species, habitats and important ecosystem services.

In Denmark, the biggest threats to biological diversity is nature fragmentation and a lack of space for nature, along with intensified agriculture.

The biodiversity crisis is an acute call to action that requires a holistic approach which combines several ecosystem services, involves and co-creates in new partnerships, and takes a multifunctional approach to the landscape.

**This is what BioScape will contribute to.**

## Overall objectives of BioScape



To increase nature connectivity in Denmark through a holistic approach to landscape management.



To restore and maintain unique ecosystems that promote biodiversity as a result of multifunctional land consolidation.



To communicate and disseminate knowledge about vulnerable ecosystems and their services by training agricultural students in sustainable nature management.

## Activities in BioScape

- Nature restoration of three project areas, which will improve nature and increase the connectivity between natural areas
- Involvement of stakeholders and farmers through new ways to facilitate dialogue and voluntary participation, in order to achieve the most optimal land use
- Develop knowledge and learn with and from each other: in the project, in Denmark and across the EU



The Central Denmark Region is the project leader of BioScape.

Additionally, the partnership consists of:



Lemvig Kommune

HORSENS KOMMUNE



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## About the project

Project period: October 2021 - October 2026

The total budget of the project is EUR 4.9 mio. of which EUR 2.7 mio is financed by the EU LIFE programme.



### Aastrup Fen

**Target: Reduce flood damages**

The stream Rårup Å runs through Aastrup Fen before continuing into Skjold Å. This intersection leads to flooding of nearby buildings and infrastructure resulting in great damages. The area is characterised by protected habitat types, with approximately 23 protected species in the area. Among them, the Northern Lapwing and Annex IV species, such as the Eurasian Otter. The nature in the area is highly fragmented, which makes the living conditions for the species inhabiting Aastrup Fen difficult.



The three project areas have been selected as they represent important ecosystem services that are deteriorating. The project activities intersect across the three project areas. This allows the municipalities to share experiences and help each other with the concrete activities in the project.

An important part of the project, besides nature restoration, is to demonstrate tools and develop new collaboration methods, to be implemented both nationally and internationally.



### What are ecosystem services?

Throughout time, humans have lived of and with nature. Earth's resources provide humans with food and shelter, while affording us with spiritual and cultural displays. It is these goods that are called ecosystem services. Among other things, they make up the foundation for clean water, oxygen, building materials, pollination, food and medicine. Ecosystem services are not unlimited and exist only as long as they are not overused. To articulate human's consumption of nature's resources as ecosystem services, is a way to ensure balance between humans and nature.



### Endelave

**Target: Reduce groundwater contamination**

Endelave is part of Natura 2000 area no. 56. The island is characterised by its exceptionally valuable nature and is breeding ground for 76 protected species. Endelave has 150 inhabitants and 15.000 tourists visiting the island every year. Endelave's groundwater resource is limited and threatened by contamination from surrounding cultivated areas, which take up 60% of the island's landscape.



### Byn Sø

**Target: Reduce nutrient pollution of Lake Byn**

Lake Byn is a lobelia lake, a nutrient-poor freshwater lake, which is part of Natura 2000 area no. 65. The lake is unique with its 26 threatened species, including the Water Awlwort, which only lives here, and seven EU-protected species, among them the Eurasian Otter. Discharge from surrounding agriculture risks polluting the lake, where especially phosphorus and sediments have deteriorated the lake's condition.

