



## FAIRWAY

### PARTICIPANTS, FACILITATORS, AND FUNDERS OF MULTI-ACTOR ENGAGEMENT PROCESSES.

Enabling meaningful engagement is key for sustainable and long-lasting multi-actor platforms with real impact.

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### FURTHER DETAILS

[Sundnes, F. et al. \(2020\) Advancing MAPs as vehicles for resolving issues on drinking water pollution from agriculture. FAIRWAY Project Deliverable 2.5](#)

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## KEY MESSAGE

Multi-actor platforms are valuable in building networks and creating a common understanding about complex issues in the agriculture-water governance interface. While they are important for setting joint strategies, they might not be sufficient to achieve desired impacts.

### EXPLANATION

Multi-actor platforms connect actors, improve dialogue, increase awareness, and enable knowledge transfer. They therefore have the potential to contribute to building networks and creating common understanding of complex issues in the agriculture-water governance interface. While improved interaction between actors and sectors can be considered a success factor of engagement processes and can be important for setting joint strategies in cross-sectoral decision-making, it is not necessarily sufficient to achieve desired impacts.

Engagement processes require long-term investments in terms of time, resources, and facilitation. This realization should be acknowledged by project partners and funders, as well as participants, to enable management of expectations and contribution of all parties, and to avoid fatigue in the engagement processes.

### EVIDENCE

A review of ten multi-actor platforms in the FAIRWAY project was carried out to harvest lessons from engagement processes in a multi-actor context. A literature review and surveys in the respective multi-actor platforms enabled a mapping of opportunities and bottlenecks for meaningful engagement, as well an exploration of the prospects for long-term sustainability of the multi-actor platforms.



Farm visit. Nordjylland, Denmark (FAIRWAY 2019)