



Case study #15: Tzipori catchment

Case study cluster: small streams and basins

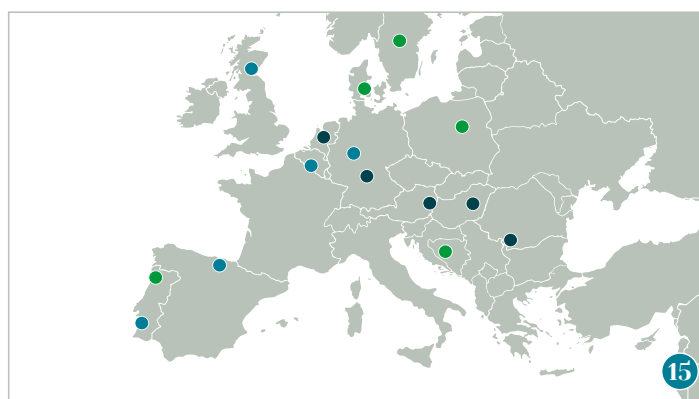
Country: Israel

Scientific partner: The Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Tel Aviv University (TAU)

Implementation partner: Kishon River and Drainage Authority (KRDA)

Twinning case study: Yarkon Drainage Authority (YDA)

Website: in progress



Demonstration

- **Type of restoration:** Tzipori watershed restoration: restoration of a small Mediterranean stream (ca. 32 km), draining an intensively cultivated catchment in the Lower Galilee (Israel) from the Mountains of Nazareth to the Mediterranean Sea
- **Size:** watershed size: ca. 300 km²
- **Location(s):** Lower Galilee, Israel
- **Value of the case:** channel and riparian restoration, improvement of water quality (point and diffuse pollution sources), flow connectivity and floodplain reconnection, biodiversity enhancement, nature-based solution for flood protection, ground-water recharge, recreation and economic potential
- **Stakeholders involved:** governmental organisations and NGO's, local municipalities, academia, eco-tourism, local communities and farmers, philanthropic foundations
- **Sectors involved:** civil, public and business sectors
- **Innovations being applied:** ecohydrological restoration, watershed partnerships, remote sensing, continuous water quality monitoring, improving wildlife crossing

Implemented within MERLIN

- **Restoration measures:** River floodplain restoration and reconnecting

- **Size:** 10 ha restored land, 1,25km restored river length, 2 barriers removed
- **Scope:** regional
- **Vicinity:** rural to peri-urban
- **Stakeholders involved:** agriculture, water authority, tourism, nature protection, academia
- **Estimated costs:** 2,100,000€ (including planning, monitoring and construction costs) + 48,000€ annual maintenance and monitoring costs

Lessons learnt

- Use a structured workflow throughout restoration planning and implementation.

Strengths

- Watershed-scale programme
- Strong institutional commitment
- Robust legal framework

Weaknesses

- Landowner opposition
- Continued water abstraction
- Fragmented water governance

Opportunities

- Nature-based flood management
- Inclusive stakeholder dialogue
- Multiple restoration benefits
- Private funding

Threats

- Stakeholder resistance
- Complex land negotiations
- Diffuse pollution