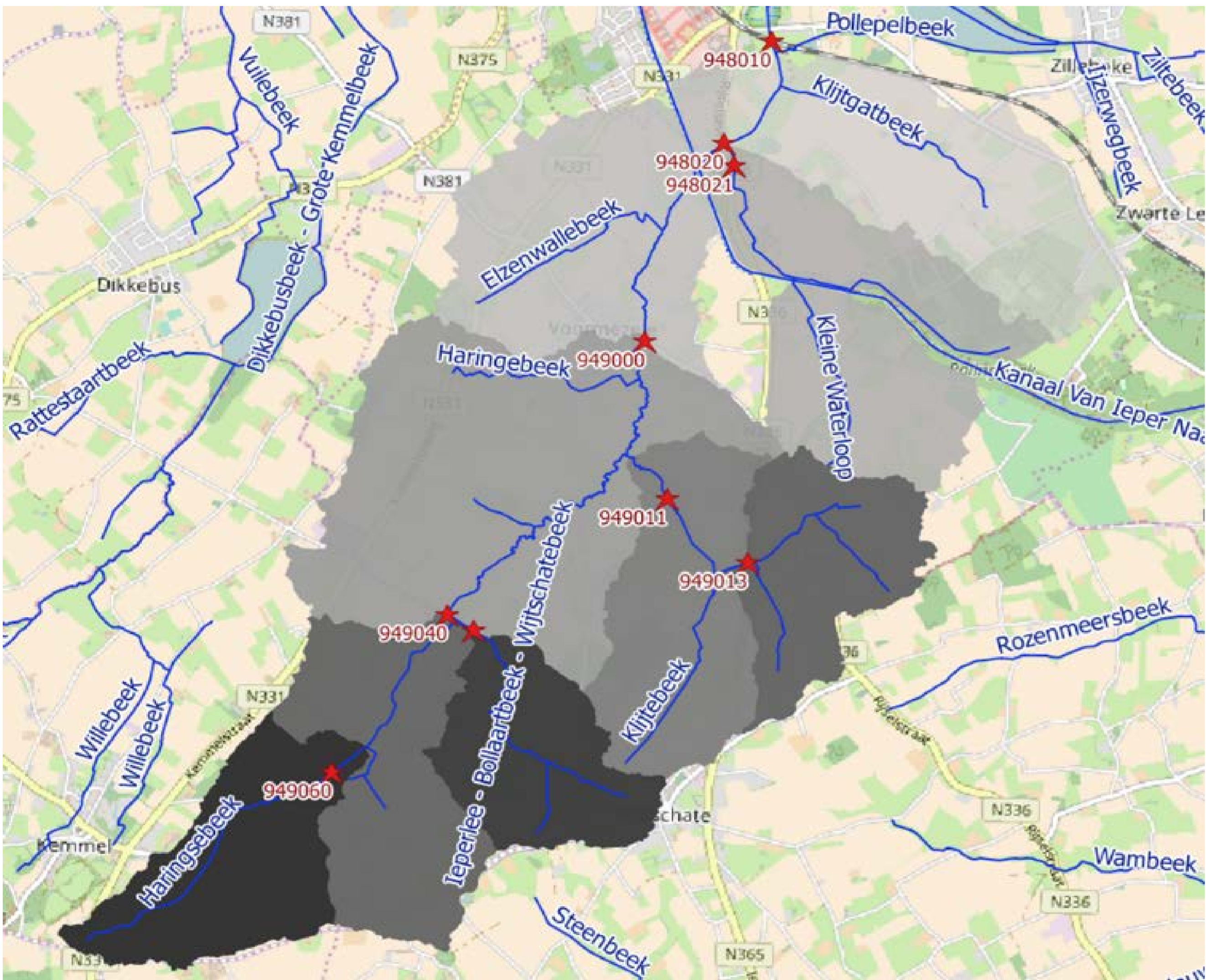




Action Lab Bollaertbeek

THE CATCHMENT

- Mixture of urban and rural land-use and
- 164 farmers



AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES



There's a mix of farms with:

- Livestock
- Arable crops
- Outdoor cropping (vegetables for fresh market and food industry)

LOCAL CHALLENGES

- Plant protection product concentrations are the main problem
- The establishment of water quality groups (CVBB) helped getting nitrate concentrations in surface water under control.
- The surface water of the Bollaertbeek is the capturing area of the drinking water utility De Watergroep.

MITIGATION MEASURES & BMPs

- BMP's that focus on the reduction of PPP's in surface water:
- Preventing point sources and diffuse sources of pesticides
 - Possible solutions:
 - Drift reducing nozzles,
 - Bufferstrips,
 - Management of remnant water
 - Filling and cleaning on permeable surface
 - BMP's not defined yet.
 - Evaluation:
 - on cost effectiveness (data from the Flemish Environmental Costing Model for Water (VITO))
 - Monitoring results

PROJECT IMPACT



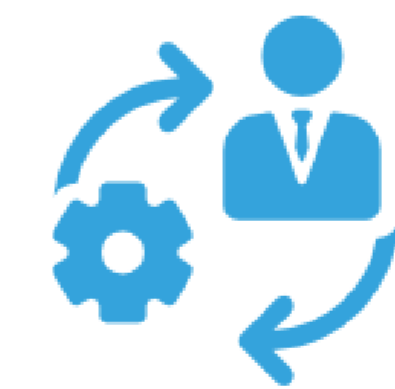
Trend towards better water quality: parameters of Plant Protection Product concentrations are priority



Training Events:
 - 2 jointly meetings with all stakeholders and farmers in wintertime (last winter)
 - F2F-meetings



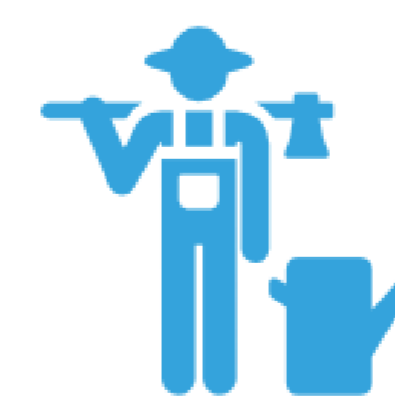
Collaborative Tool in progress. Monitoring results should be uploaded and be available for the farmers in a faster way than before



Target /number of mitigation measures; focus on reduction of PPP in the surface water (29 BMPs on pesticides have potential to be implemented)



Approach & goals for the harmonised datasets



Water company Watergroep, Flemish water agency (VMM), National and Flemish governments, municipalities, farmers, farmers unions, Phytofar, Phytodis, civil society organisations

GOVERNANCE

- The policy regarding the water quality and the use of pesticides is drawn up by the European Commission and translated to Flemish legislation. These policies determine the formal legislation and obligations related to the use of pesticides and the obligations related to minimize the impacts on the water body.
- There exist some financial support incentives in order to support investments on the farm that benefit for a better environment and water quality.
- Farmer's organisations and practice centers give education and communication incentives to improve the knowledge of farmers on the water quality and the best managements practices.

