

Mission Model Canvas

Project title:

Lebendiger Dorfbach

Created by:

Aqua Viva

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Partners & Support 🤝

- Municipalities and cantonal water authorities who provide permits and technical cooperation.
- Local environmental organisations and educational institutions, contributing to community outreach and public engagement efforts.
- Philanthropic foundations, grants and individual donors, offering vital financial support for project implementation.
- Media partners who amplify the project's message.

Activities 🔄

1. Support stream revitalisation projects, including ecological assessments.
2. Accompany the physical restoration of the streams (excavation, planting, creating buffer zones).
3. Engage the public through workshops, stream walks and hands-on participation.

Project 🎁

Our project brings small, impaired village streams back to life. Many of these streams were channelised or even put underground – practices that disrupt ecosystems and exacerbate flooding and drought risks. Restoring these small streams helps to recharge local groundwater, to protect villages from flood peaks and boosts aquatic biodiversity. It's an adequate measure for urban climate adaptation creating thermal refuges. By involving residents of any age, the project enhances inclusion, empowerment and engagement. Climate action starts right outside one's doorstep.

Relationship, Community ❤️

- Organise community planting days, inviting residents to actively participate in restoring stream banks and wetlands.
- Offer guided walks for residents to experience newly created habitats firsthand.
- Partner with schools to incorporate environmental monitoring of aquatic species into their curriculum, fostering environmental education and involvement.
- Share successes stories and personal testimonials to illustrate and multiply community-led revitalisation.

Target Groups 👥

- Local residents and families committed to protecting and enhancing their immediate natural environment.
- Municipal leaders and decision makers seeking impactful and visible climate adaptation initiatives within their communities.
- Schools, teachers, and youth organisations interested in immersive, hands-on environmental education opportunities.
- Environmentally conscious individuals looking for accessible and meaningful ways to contribute to climate action at the local level.

Ressources 🛠️

- Expertise in ecological and hydraulic engineering to design effective revitalisation measures as well as expertise to support the revitalisation procedure
- Skilled communication and facilitation to engage municipal authorities and inspire active citizen participation
- Funding resources – donors, foundations, cantonal and national funds, lottery funds.

Channels 📺

- Aqua Viva's website and regular newsletters to inform and engage our dedicated supporter base.
- Social media (Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn) for broad outreach.
- Traditional media such as local newspapers, village bulletins, and regional radio to keep local communities informed.
- Direct partnerships with schools and internal newsletter for municipalities.

Budget 📊

Project period: 2025–2028

Annual budget: approx. CHF 220,000*

Base funding needed: CHF 95,000/year

Variable costs: CHF 135,000/year (1–3 revitalisations per year)

Direct municipality support (included in variable costs): One-time grant up to CHF 20,000 for preliminary studies

Impact 🌱

1. What does your idea do for the climate? How do you measure/verify the impact?

- Support local communities in coping with climate change impacts
- Enhances local groundwater recharge, reducing drought stress.
- Creates buffer zones that slow runoff and reduce flood peaks
- Strengthens local biodiversity and natural cooling effects of natural watercourses (microclimate)
- Scientific monitoring of species diversity and key water parameters before and after the revitalisation, lean on the “Wirkungskontrolle” indicator set of the Bundesamt für Umwelt.
- Nature observations with the platform iNaturalist (automated species identification tool)
- Increased recreational activities

- **2. Scaling/Expansion/Unfolding: How to increase the impact of your project?**
- Use pilot projects as models to inspire other municipalities (multiplier effect)
- Held networking excursions to help and inspire other communities to start a revitalisation project of their own.
- Share success stories and statements of residents or municipal employees to motivate new partnerships.