**Rational**

Wetland cultivation may affect the health of land users or the population at large both positively (food security, nutritional diversity) and negatively (water-borne diseases).

This research delivers an understanding about public health aspects associated with wetland ecosystems, covering physical, mental and social health aspects. A holistic Health Impact Assessment, will be used to guide use policies.

**Approach and methods**

Interdisciplinary research in collaboration with colleagues from the disciplines:
- Public Health
- Cultural and Social Anthropology
- Hydrology
- Hydrogeology
- Meteorology / Climatology
- Socioeconomy

Applied Methods: Questionnaires, focus group discussions, interviews, observation, laboratory analysis, modelling

**Outcomes and work in progress**

Comprehensive overview of positive and negative health impacts focusing on different wetland uses and health-supporting ecosystem services.

Healthy people in healthy wetlands

Wetlands and their uses affect not only physical, but also mental health and the general wellbeing

Human health in wetlands is determined by the nexus of water, ecology and human activities

Intersectoral is thinking mandatory to understand the overall impact on human health

**Physical health implications**

- Health risks and benefits resulting from agricultural production
- Water-related diseases and risk behaviour
- Risks for water-borne disease associated with drinking water and sanitation
- Risks for washed diseases caused by poor personal hygiene
- Risks for water-based diseases by aquatic parasites
- Risks for vector-related diseases transmitted by insects

**Social and mental health implications**

- Determination of environmental factors influencing mental health and well-being
- Community and individual well-being and place bonding
- Assessment of place-related well-being
- Assessment of emic health perceptions in cultural context

**Wetland health concept**

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**Wetland health concept**

Agricultural Production

**HUMAN HEALTH**

**PHYSICAL HEALTH**

**MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING**

Society Culture Economy

**WETLAND**