



The Water Framework Directive (2000/60/CE)

Challenges with implementation of river basin
management plans in EU-Member Countries
and the link to economic growth



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The WFD: a major text for water policy

Before

More than 30 European directives concerning water

A sectorial approach

⇒ fight against some substances
(Dangerous substances directives, Nitrate directive, ...)

⇒ standards and regulation by use
(potable water, bathing, ...)

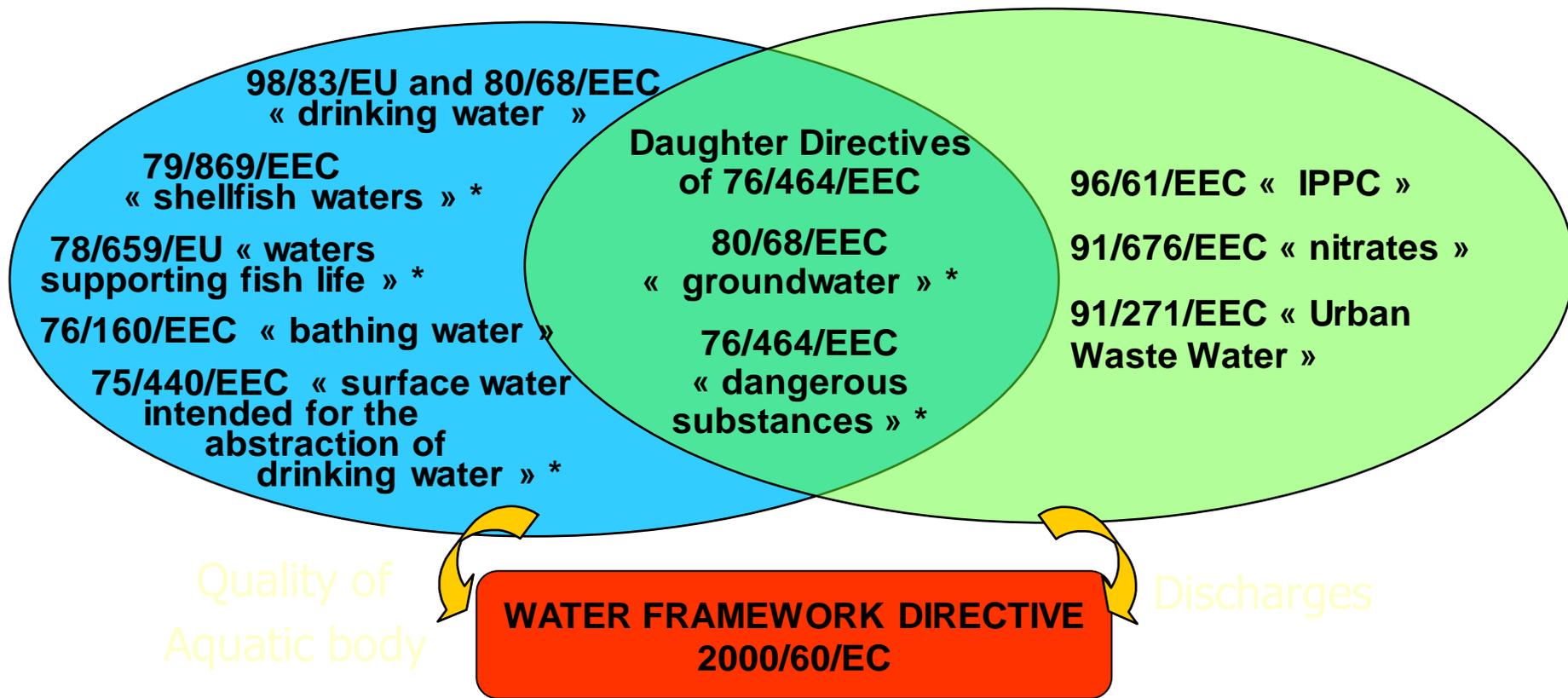
With the WFD

Upcoming abrogation of several directives

A main objective : protection of aquatic bodies and of water resources

Panorama of European Directives

From a sectorial to an integrated approach



Birds' directive
79/409/EEC

Directive on major accidents (Seveso)
96/82/EC

Directive concerning the evaluation of the environmental impacts
85/337/EEC

Directive concerning the use of plant protection products
91/414/EEC

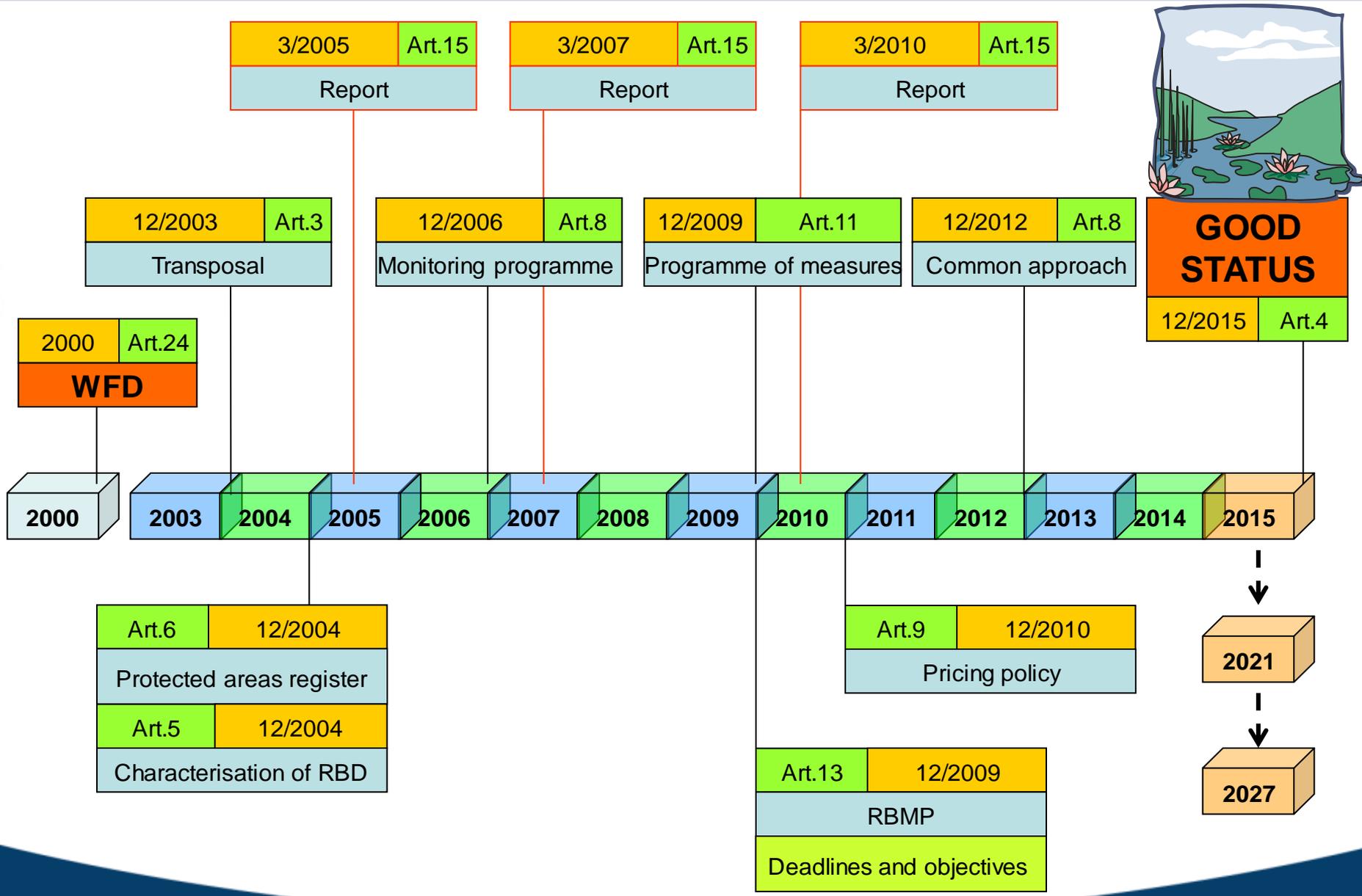
Habitats' directive
92/43/EEC

* Directives to be repealed by the Water Framework Directive



WFD leans on confirmed or reinforced principles

- Management by hydrographic districts/basins
- Planning cycle on the horizon 2015, 2021, 2027
- Protection of aquatic ecosystems and terrestrial ecosystems which depends directly from
- Economical analysis (new)
- Public participation (new)



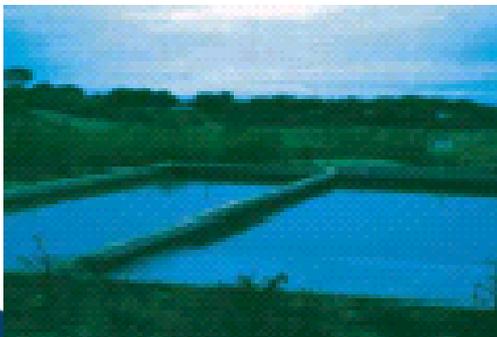
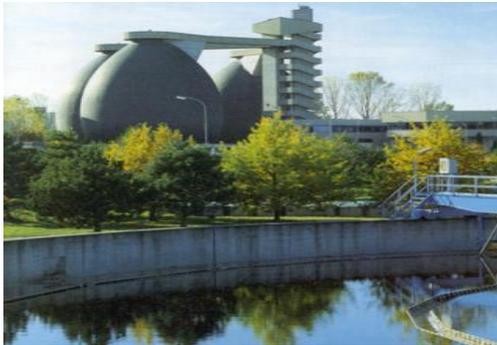
GOOD STATUS
12/2015 Art. 4



Some Objectives and obligations of results

Environmental objectives:

- Reach the **good status of surface waters** (ecological and chemical) and **groundwaters** (chemical and quantitative),
- **No deterioration**,
- Objectives to reach in **protected areas**,
- **To suppress the discharges of priority dangerous substances** in 20 years and
et to **reduce emissions** of priority substances



Urban Waste Water Directive

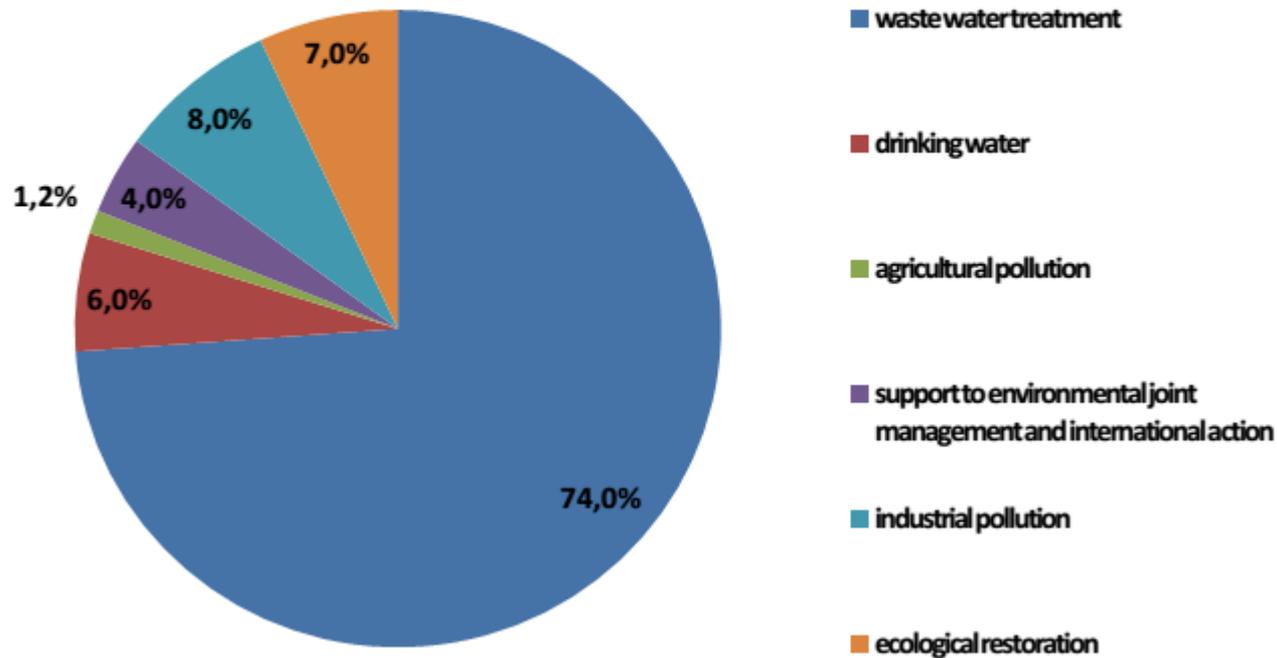
- **Collection and treatment** of waste water in **urban settlement areas**, incl. economic activities, (agglomerations) of > 2000 population equivalent
- **Transitional deadline** for implementation, including interim targets, currently applicable in 13 EU-MS
- Performance **monitoring** of treated waste waters
- **Industrial waste water:**
 - 1) => pre-treatment of industrial waste water discharged into public network (where necessary)
 - 2) => UWWTD covers 11 industry sectors with biodegradable waste water

Implementation of UWWTD – state of play

- Very high compliance rates in **EU15**, frequently in the range 95-100%
- Significant progress in **EU13**, but results still much lower (e.g. in SA)
- EU funding helped implementation: **Between 2007-2013 17,8 billion euro investment support from EU funds, but better use of implementation programmes** is needed
- Attention to be paid for **big cities** (> 150,000 p, almost 600 in EU): 89% of its load received more stringent treatment than required, however, degree of compliance varies significantly (e.g., in capital cities)

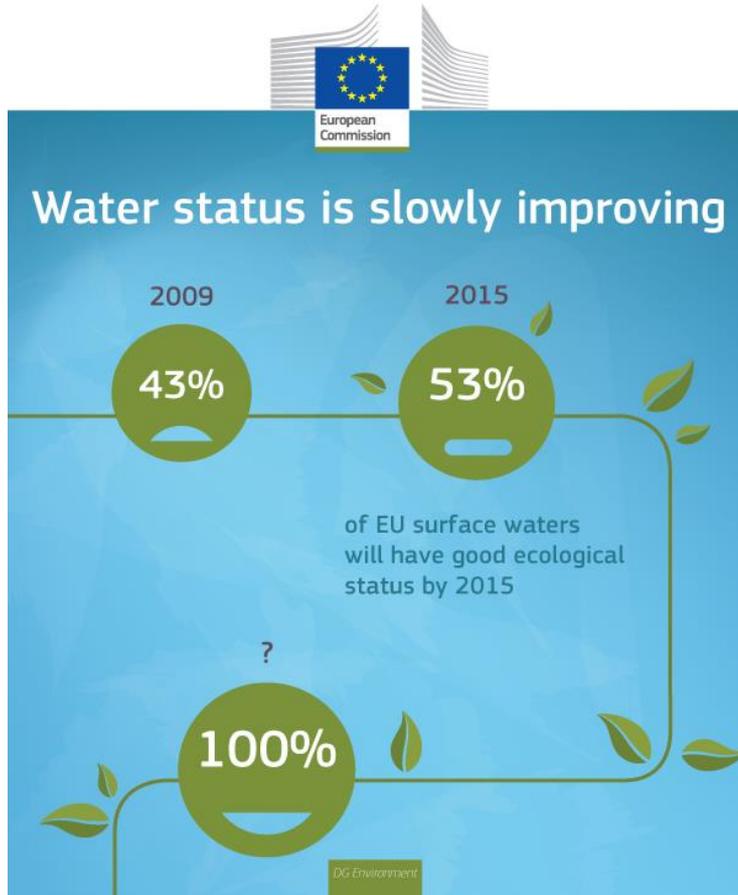
Economical aspects

~ 1 billion€ / year (Seine Normandie)



Main outcomes

2027 ?



The “**one out all out**” principle prevents to show the real progress achieved in improving the state of the water bodies, and that is direly needed to justify investments to the public and the decision-makers in a context of strong budget constraints.

More generally the question of **communication on progresses** already achieved (by MS and by COM) must be tackled

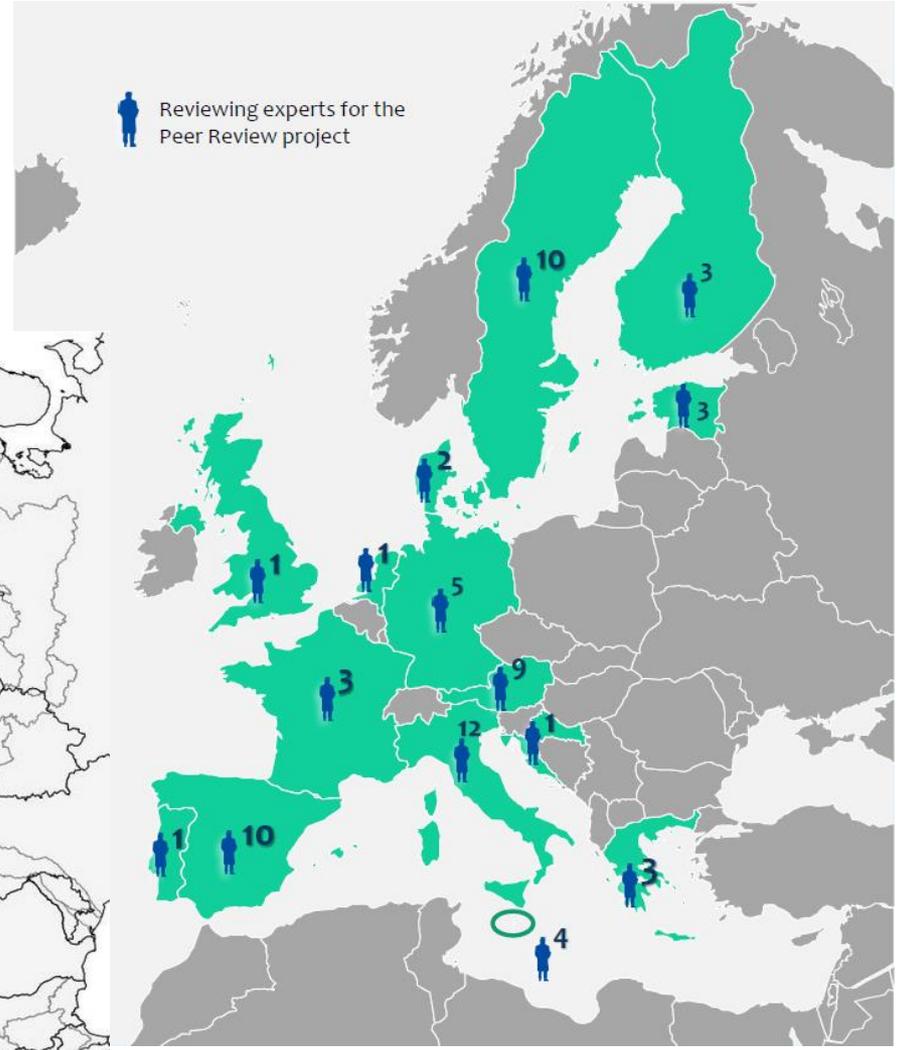
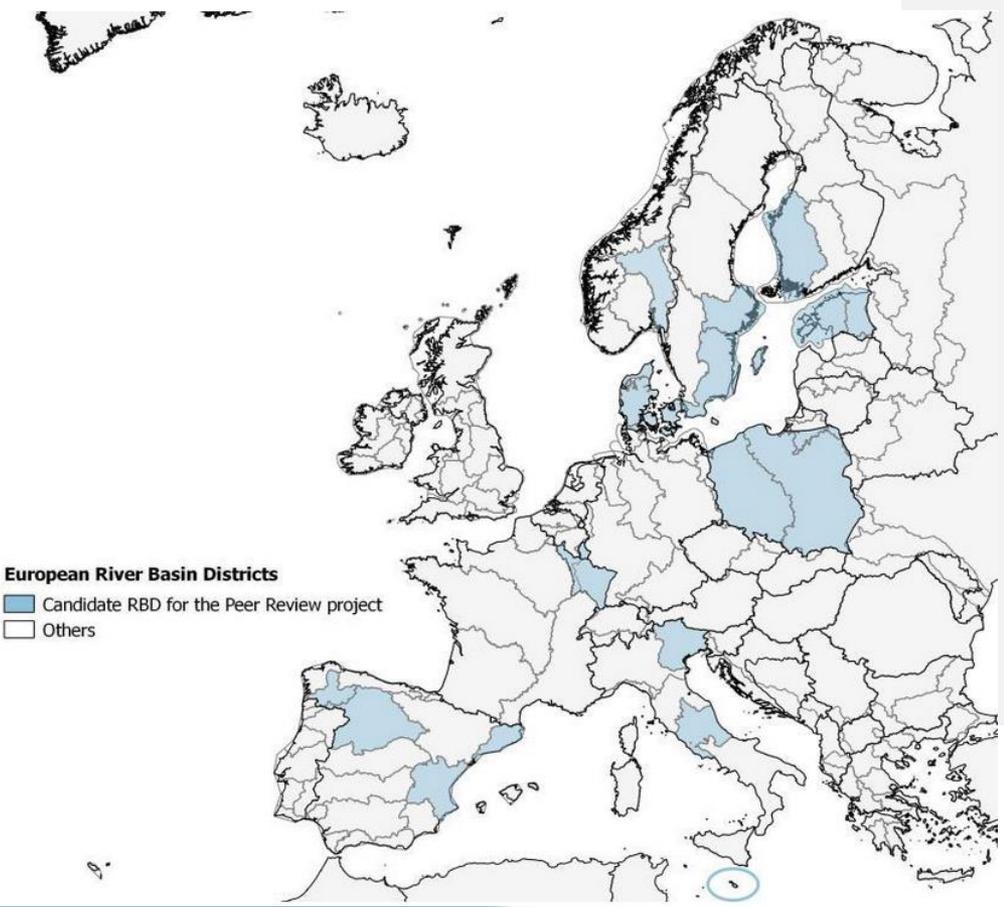
Praising WFD's strengths and lessons learned...:

WFD brought 28 EU Member States to adopt the right approach and tools to improve the states of the water resources and this shouldn't put in jeopardy.

Among the key achievements made thanks to the WFD: greater coordination (between administrations and sectors), broader application of the cost recovery analysis, stronger monitoring networks and Water Information Systems (WIS) for data management, wider involvement of the stakeholders and the public

Many developments of tools and methods at basin, national or european level

Establishment of a Peer-Review Mechanism



Challenges and perspectives

Many lessons learned from 2 first RBMPs

Limits already identified for some methods and implementation

Changing context (SDG, CC, Economic crisis...)

A cautious approach for the 2019 review, as WFD shouldn't result in a loss of ambition or in a loss of accountability

The framework and integration spirit of the WFD must be kept

Perspectives

Integration with other directives and policies :

Nitrates,

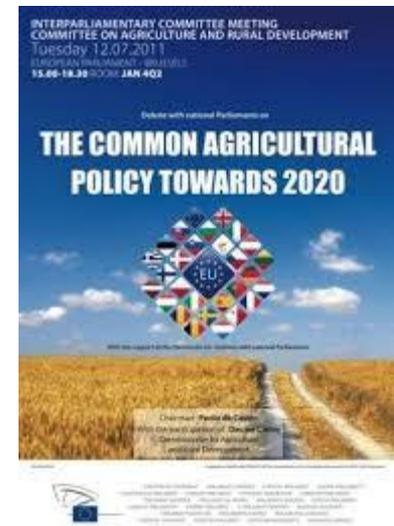
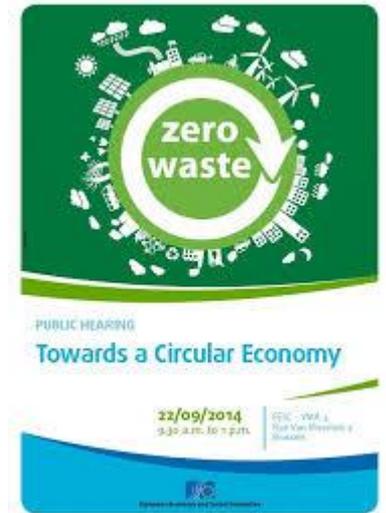
CAP,

Green growth and innovation,

Circular economy package

Re-use

...



Thanking you for your attention



*International
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