

# International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine

**André Weidenhaupt**  
**Chairman**



---

Internationale  
Kommission zum  
Schutz des Rheins

---

Commission  
Internationale  
pour la Protection  
du Rhin

---

Internationale  
Commissie ter  
Bescherming  
van de Rijn

---

International  
Commission  
for the Protection  
of the Rhine

# Catchment area



**3rd biggest  
European river**

**9 countries,  
58 million  
Inhabitants**

**Drinking water  
supply for 30  
million people**

# Landmarks



- **1950 - Foundation**
- **1963 - Convention of Berne**
- **1986 - Accident at Sandoz**
- **1987 - Rhine Action Program**
- **1993 and 1995 – Flooding**
- **1998 – Flood Action Plan (1995 – 2020)**
- **1999 - New Convention - entry into force 1 Jan. 2003**
- **2000 - Programme Rhine 2020**
- **2000 - EU Water Framework Directive**
- **2007 - EU Floods Directive**

# The ICPR



- ▶ **ICPR**  
Established 1950, amended in 1963 and 1999
  
- ▶ **Members**  
Switzerland, France, Germany,  
Luxemburg, Netherlands, European  
Union  
  
Cooperation with Austria, Liechtenstein,  
Wallonia (Belgium)
  
- ▶ **Observers**  
Intergovernmental Organizations (IGO's)  
  
Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's)



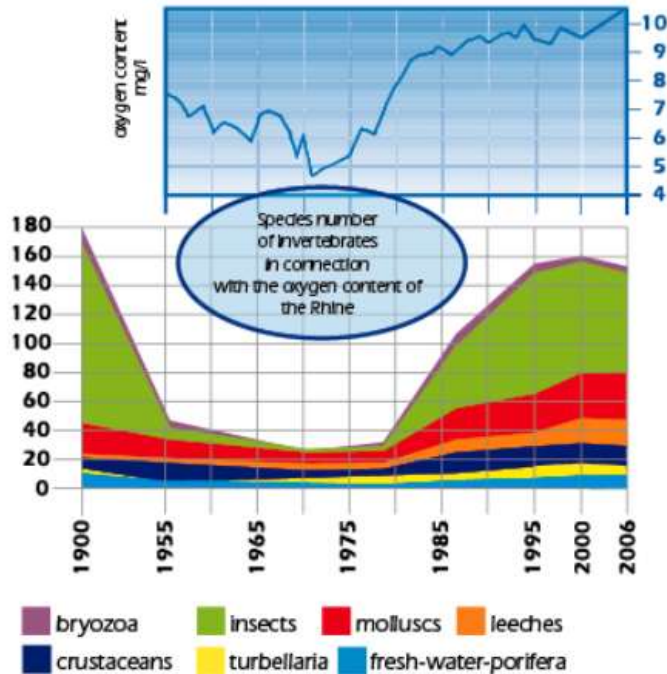
# Cooperation

- **De-centralised organization**
- **National delegations**
  - **political mandate**
  - **technical know how**
  - **annual budget 1.200.000 €/a (operational costs of the Secretariat)**
- **Political framework, no sanctions**
- **Legal framework provided by EU Directives (WFD and FD) and national legislation**
- **All agreements by consensus. Measures as recommendations to countries**
- **Obligation to report on implementation of measures**
- **Small neutral Secretariat, 4 languages**

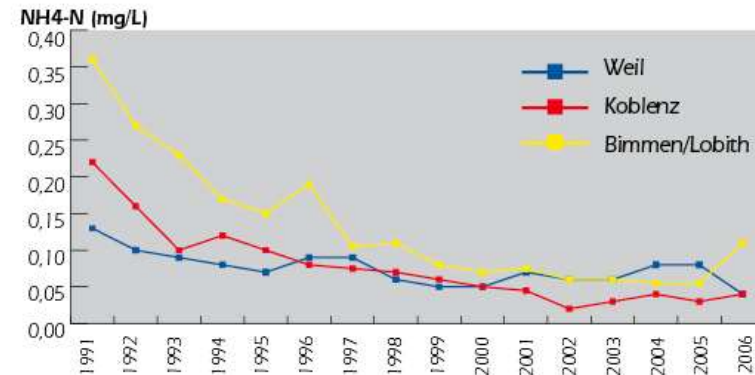
# Results



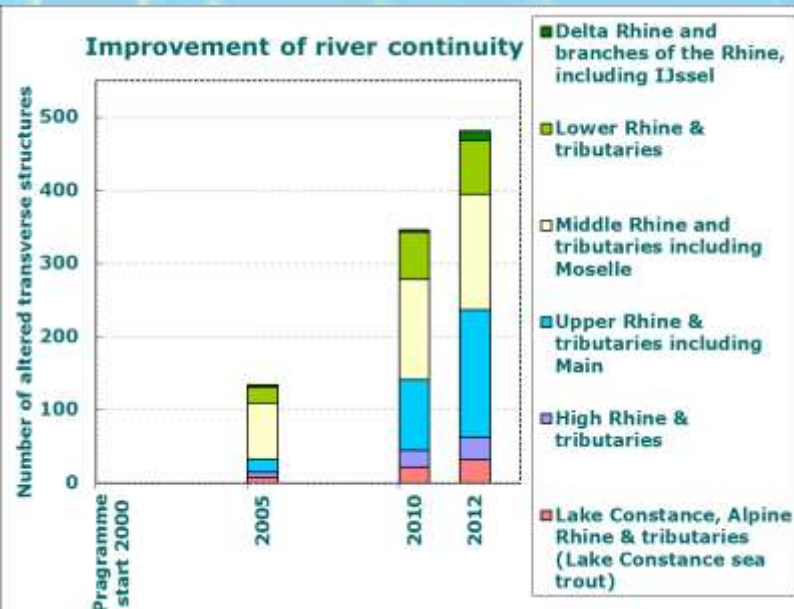
**Development of the communities of the Rhine and average oxygen content of the Rhine at Emmerich**



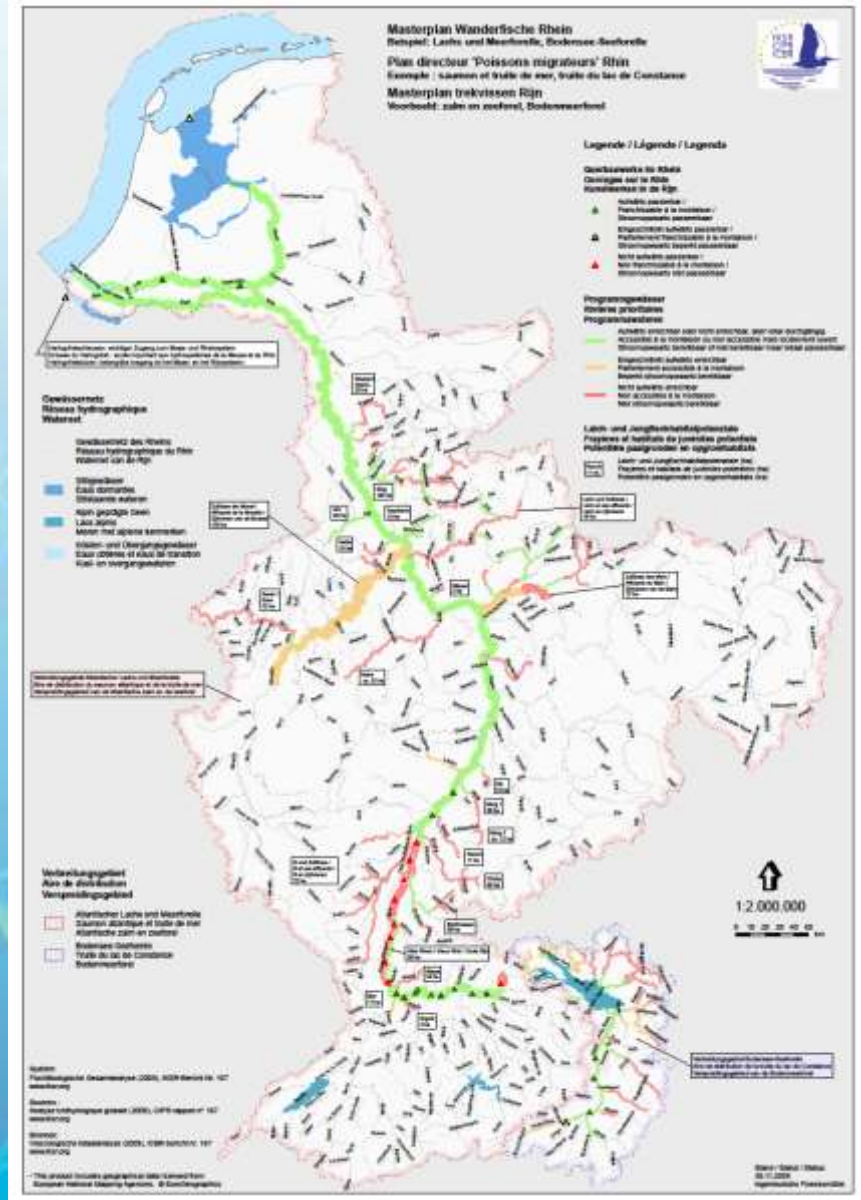
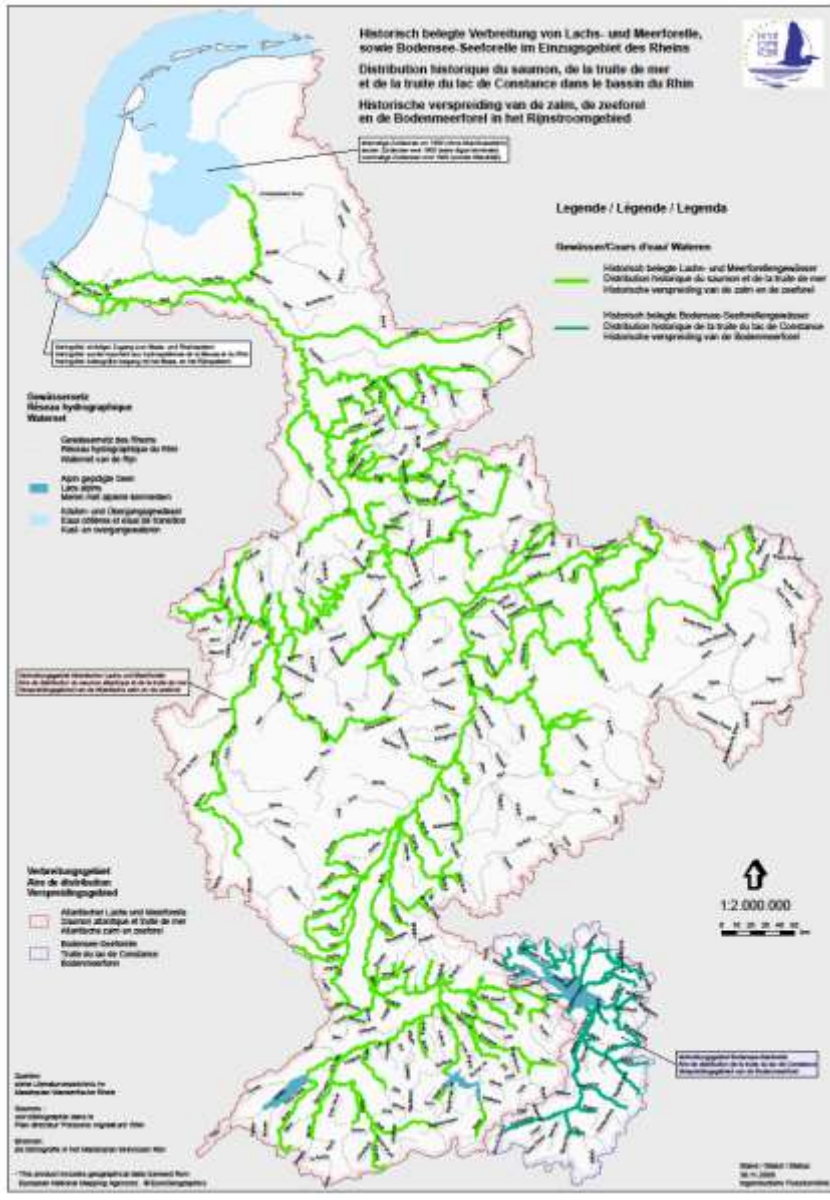
**Contents of ammonium (ammoniacal nitrogen) in Rhine water (1991-2006)**



**Improvement of river continuity**



# But more to do ...



# New topics



- **Micro-pollutants**



- **Contamination of fish**



- **Mitigating effects of climate change**





# Use of the Prize (1)



## Communication

- development of an ICPR-Website dedicated to the younger generation (age 10 – 16)
- translation of examples of management concepts (like “integration”) understandable for the general public for publication on the ICPR-Website

## Research

- evaluation of available knowledge regarding environmental friendly downstream fish-migration (avoiding the “turbine syndrome”)

# Thank you!



[www.iksr.org](http://www.iksr.org)