



WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE & RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

IMPROVING WATER ECOSYSTEMS

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EU Water Framework Directive

- Coordinated objectives - ecosystem approach
- Catchment approach
- Integrated management
- Public participation



River basin management

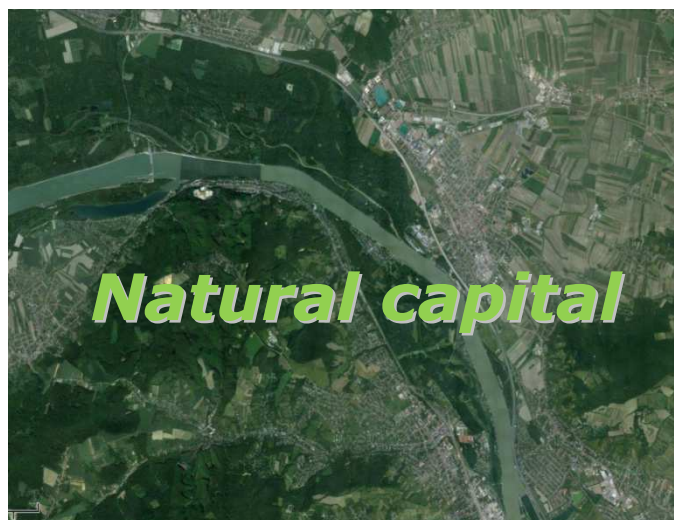
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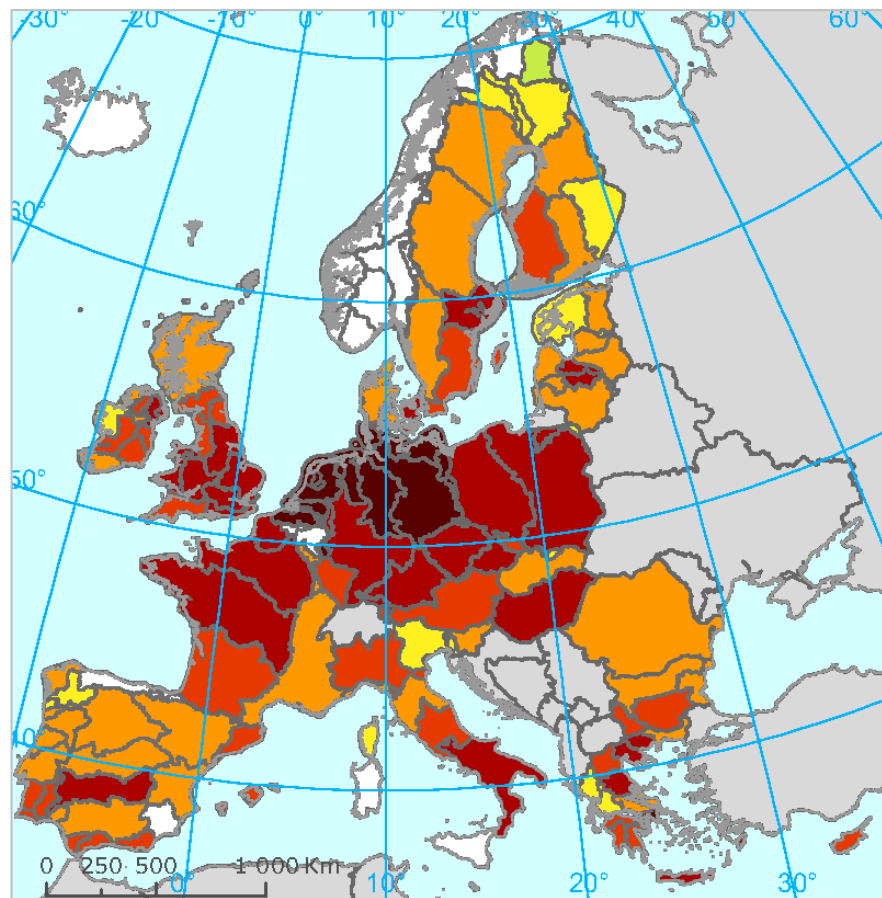
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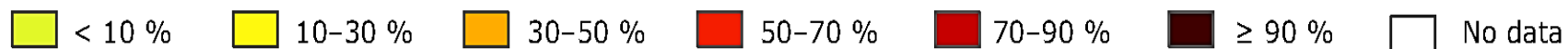
To



Ecological status of Europe's rivers



Percentage of classified rivers and lakes in moderate-to-bad ecological status or potential



Water-dependent biodiversity at risk

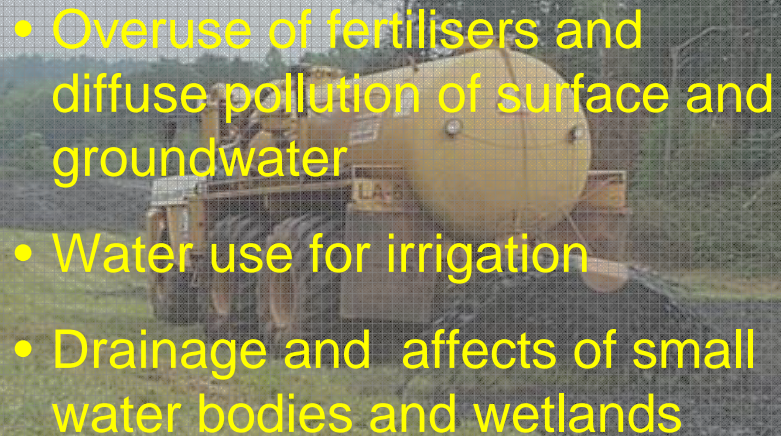
Nature directives:

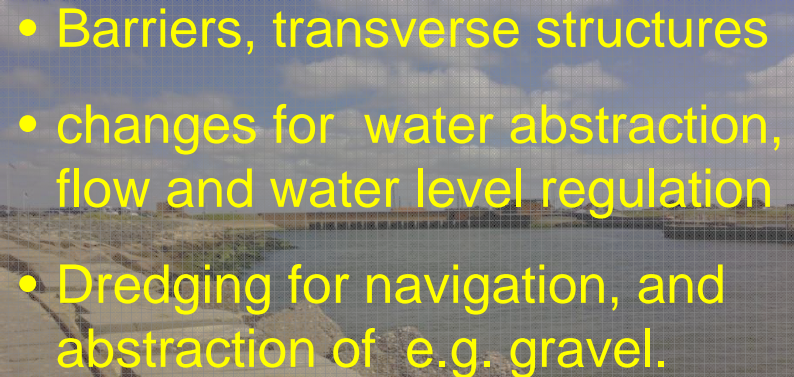
Only 15 % of the assessments for the river and lake habitat types, and 13 % of the assessments for inland water species are in favourable conservation status.

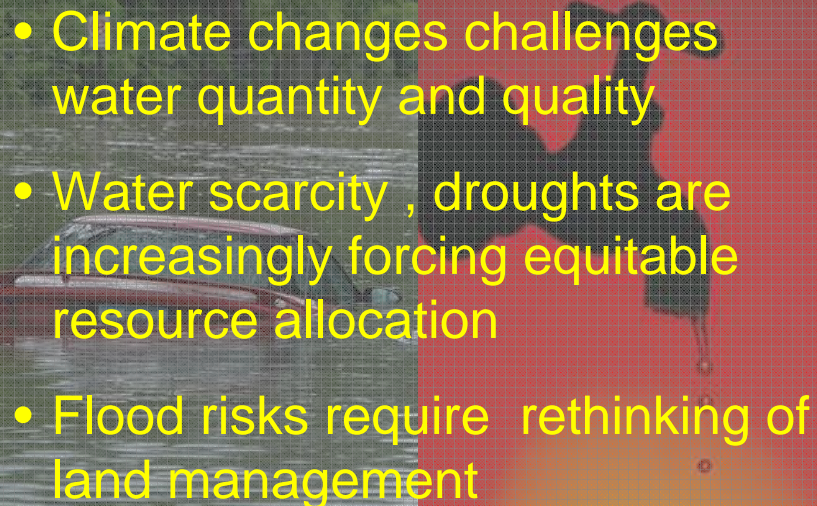


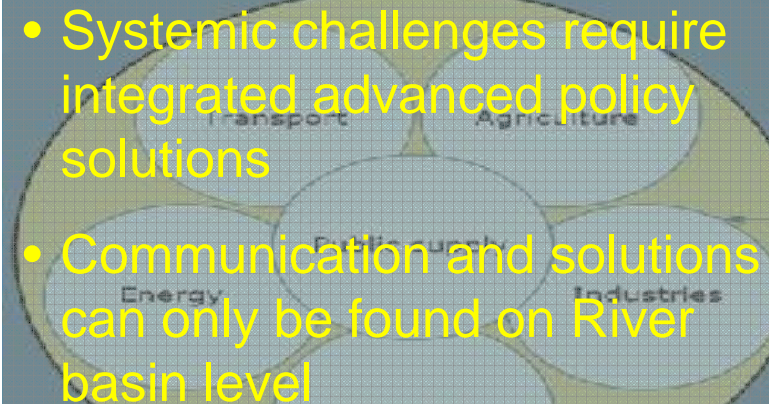
2020 Biodiversity Strategy:
Establishing green
Infrastructure and restoring at
least 15% of degraded
ecosystems

Four challenges for Europe's Waters

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- Overuse of fertilisers and diffuse pollution of surface and groundwater
 - Water use for irrigation
 - Drainage and affects of small water bodies and wetlands

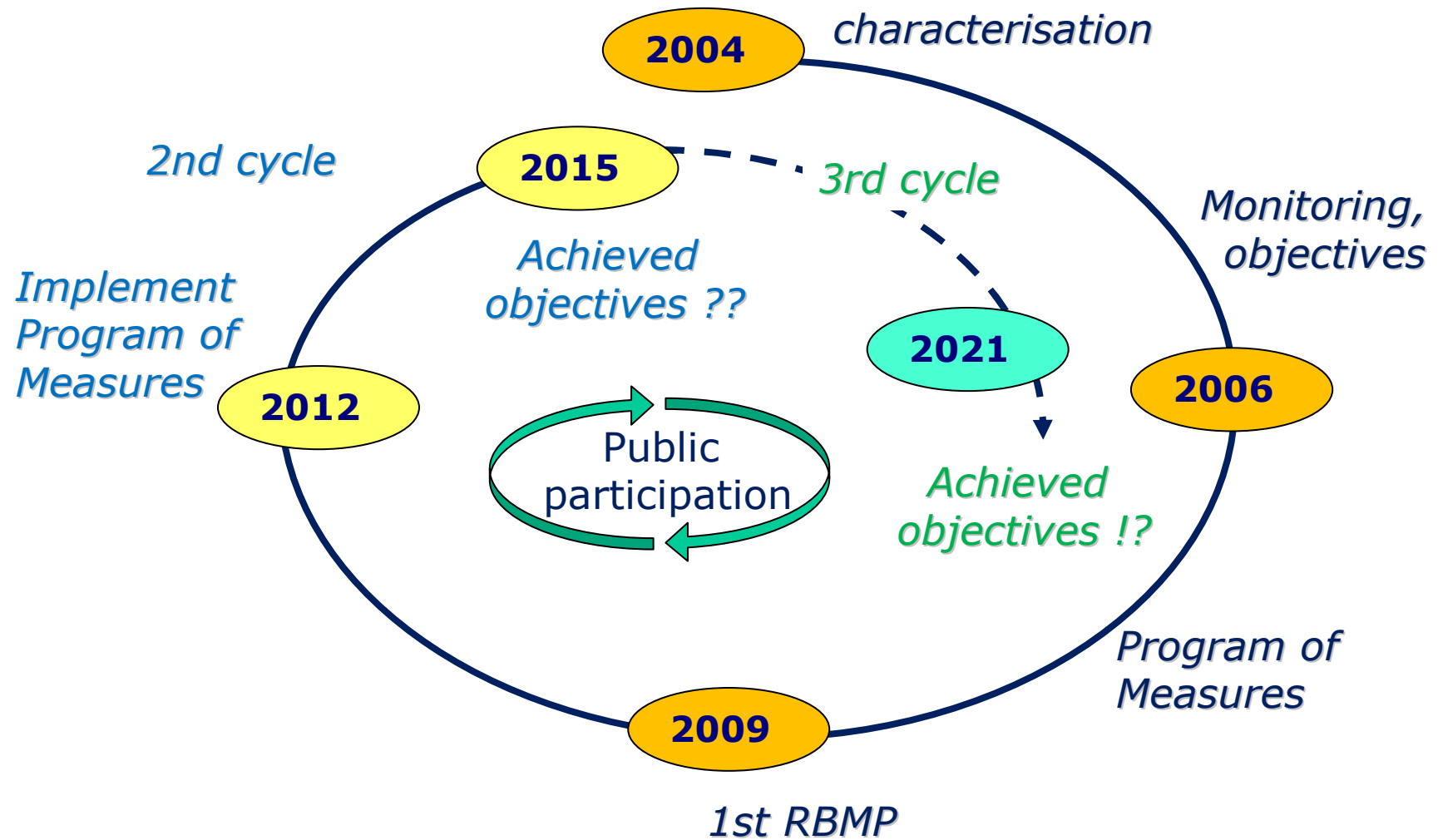
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- Barriers, transverse structures
 - changes for water abstraction, flow and water level regulation
 - Dredging for navigation, and abstraction of e.g. gravel.

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- Climate changes challenges water quantity and quality
 - Water scarcity , droughts are increasingly forcing equitable resource allocation
 - Flood risks require rethinking of land management

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- Systemic challenges require integrated advanced policy solutions
 - Communication and solutions can only be found on River basin level



Planning cycle of the WFD



Pressures & Measures

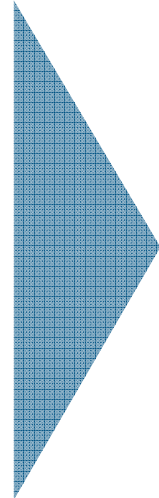
Pressures

Water pollution from wastewater and diffuse sources

Water storage, and abstraction

Barriers (dams, weirs etc.)

Bank reinforcements channelisation and straightening



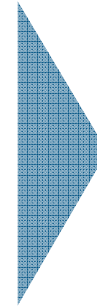
Measures

good agricultural practices;

Reduced emissions to water bodies by better wastewater treatment;

Improving hydromorphology → restoration, changed land-use, removing migratory obstacles and transverse structures

Ensuring good environmental flows



Improved State; Achieved objectives

Good chemical quality

Good ecological status

Healthy river habitats





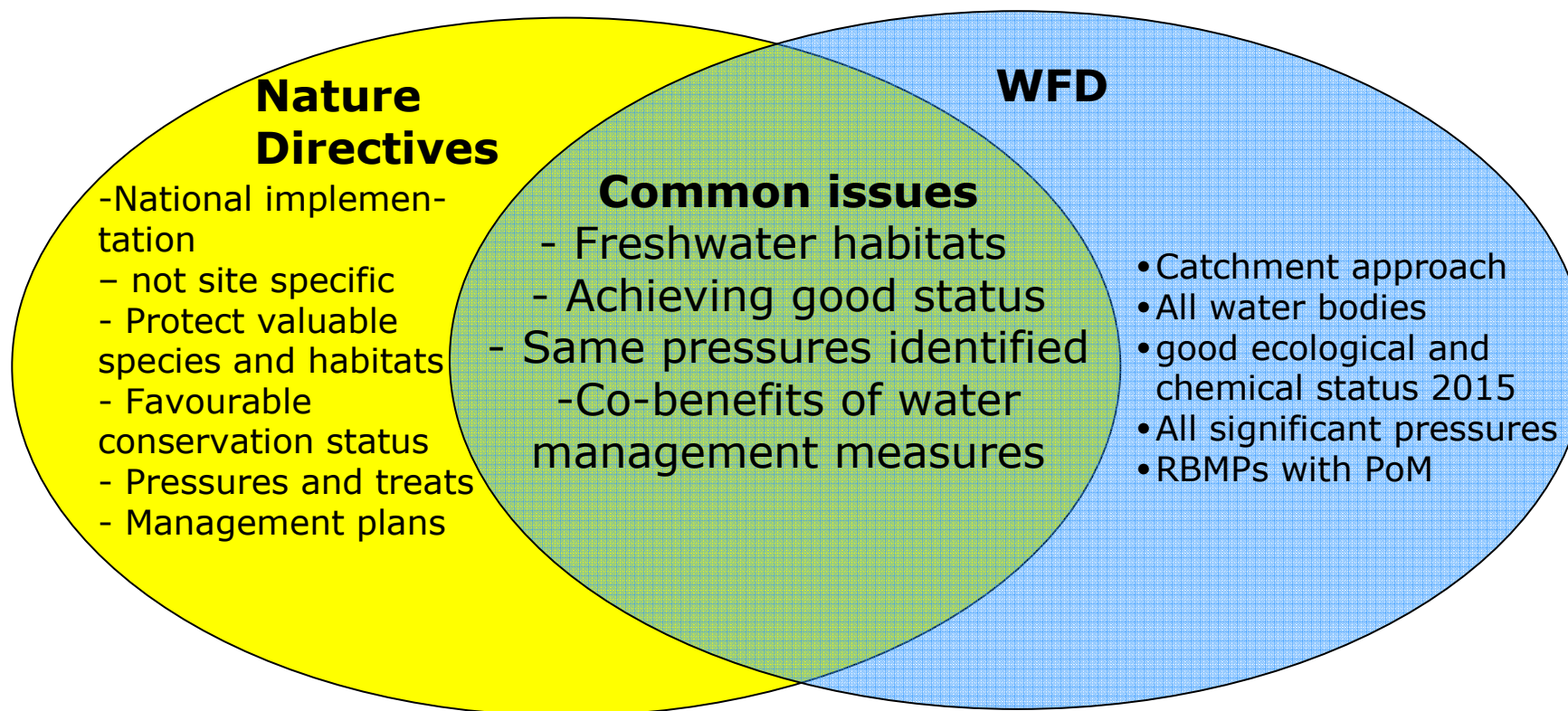
Program of Measures

COM report on 1st RBMPs:

"...The programme of measures lack information on the specific measures to be taken to achieve the environmental objectives. This is a concern not just for transparency of the plans with regard to public interest and economic actors, but also towards the authorities tasked to carry out the measures."



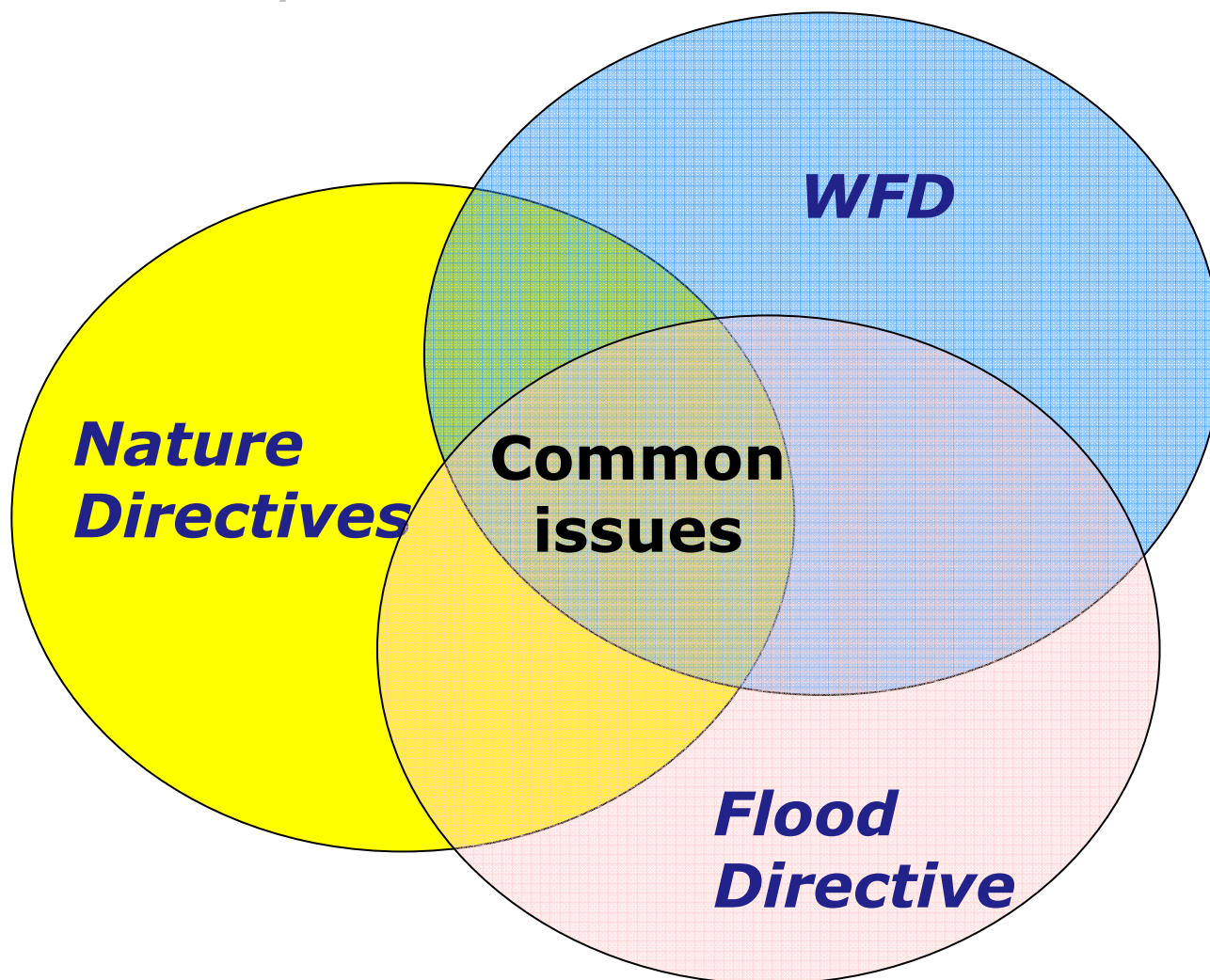
WFD, Flood and Nature Directives



Coordinated activities of the nature directives, WFD and Flood Dir. should ensure better protection of freshwater ecosystems and water management.



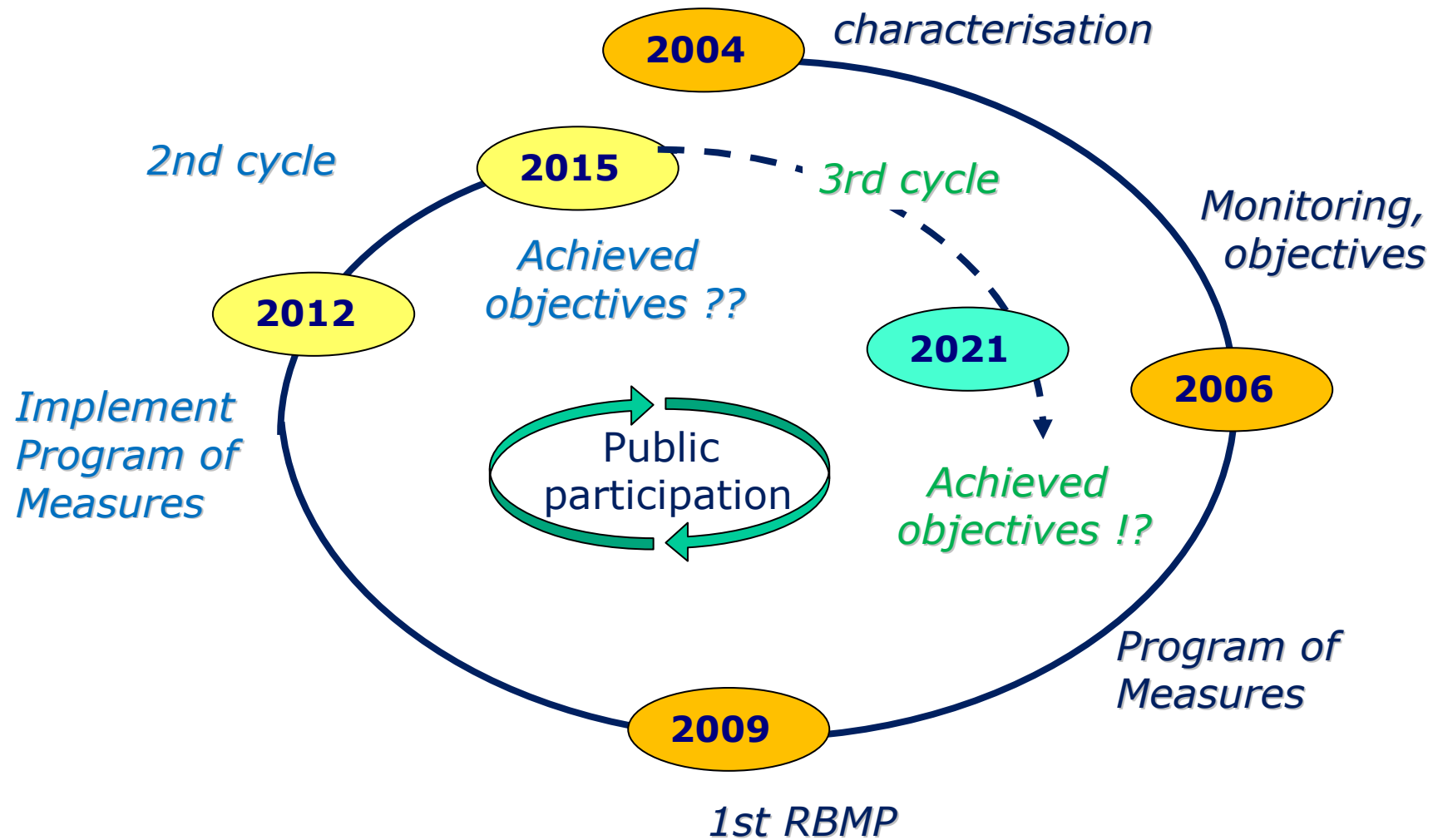
WFD, Flood and Nature Directives



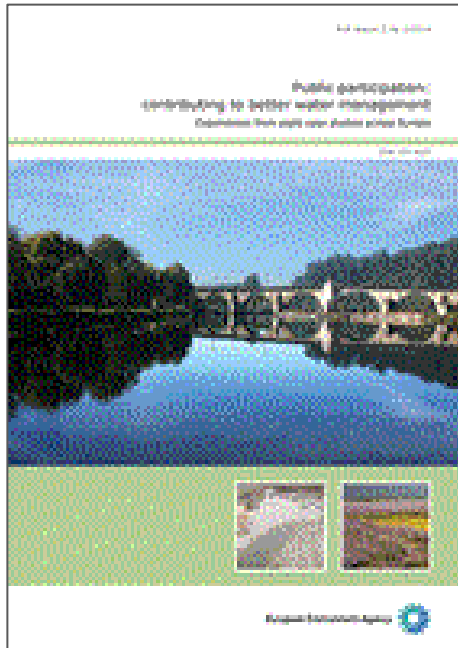
Coordinated activities of the nature directives, WFD and Flood Directive should ensure better protection of freshwater ecosystems and water management.



Planning cycle of the WFD



Public participation



- Institutional set-up transparent & clear responsibilities in all domains
- shared ownership between all stakeholders,
→ buy-in and willingness for implementation
- Include all relevant stakeholder, depending on regional settings, problems & priorities, to tailor PoMs efficiently
- practical activities and face to face discussions to increase trust and buy-in
- Involve the wider public using modern technologies and social media

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/river-basin-management-relies-on>

WFD 2015 2nd RBMP

- Coordinated objectives - ecosystem approach
WFD - Nature - Flood
- Catchment approach & Integrated management
coordinating measures for all pathways&drivers
- Public participation
- ***working with the public and all stakeholders***

→ The 2015 winner of the
European River Prize ??





Thank you for your attention

More information



eea.europa.eu



water.europa.eu

