



EIP Water

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This presentation

- Water policy objectives: why do we need EIP?
- EIP Water & links to agriculture

Background – EU Water objectives

- The EU Water Framework Directive – WFD (2000):
 - **Set 2015 as the deadline to achieve good water status.**
- The Nitrates Directive
 - **Had a measurable effect on the reduction of pollution from agricultural nitrogen.**
 - **The Nitrates Directive alone will not lead to nutrient management at the scale necessary to secure the WFD environmental outcomes.**



Background – EU Water objectives

- Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (2009)
 - **important instrument to help achieve good water status**
- Drinking Water Directive
 - **Minimum health standards in water intended for human consumption**

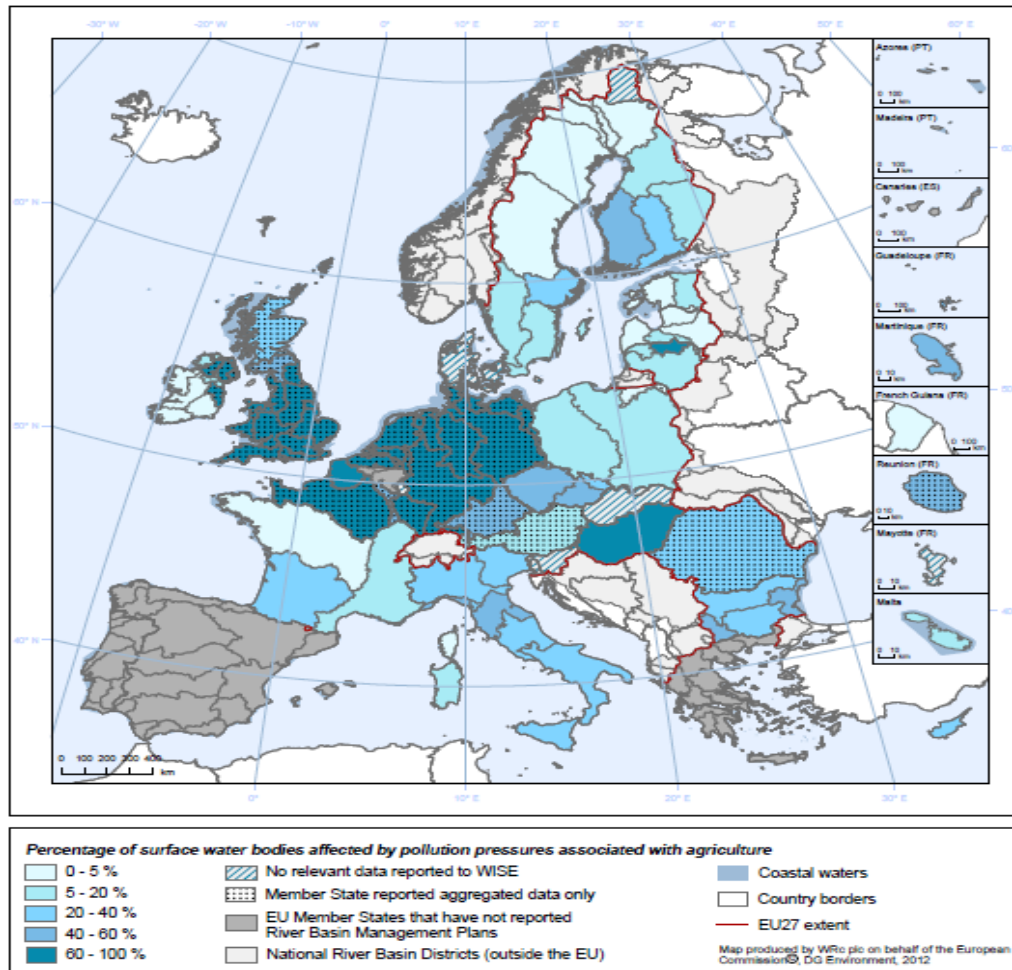
Key challenges

- Assessment of the Member States 1st River Basin Management plans shows **progress has been made** in improving water chemical and ecological status.
- More than **90% of the RBMPs** indicate that agriculture is a significant pressure, including
 - **diffuse or point source pollution by organic matter, nutrients, pesticides and hydromorphological impacts**
- Assessment of 2 River Basin Management Plans 2018



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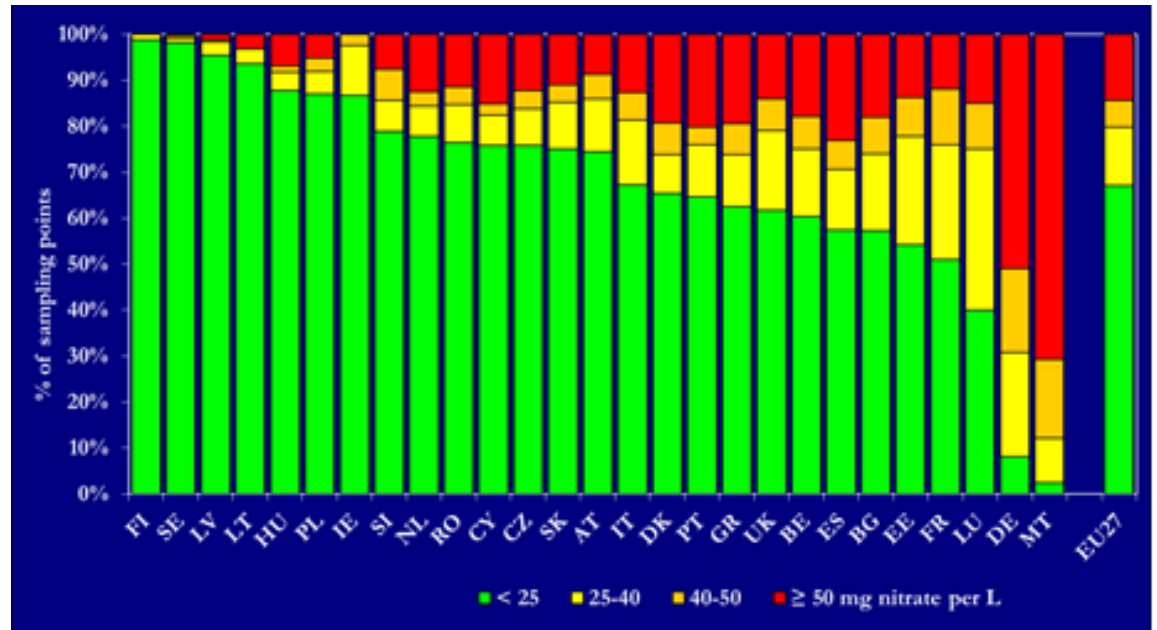
Surface water bodies affected



(COM, 2012)

Nitrates

- Nitrogen pollution is still a major European water issue.
- About **50-70 %** of nitrogen input to water come from agriculture



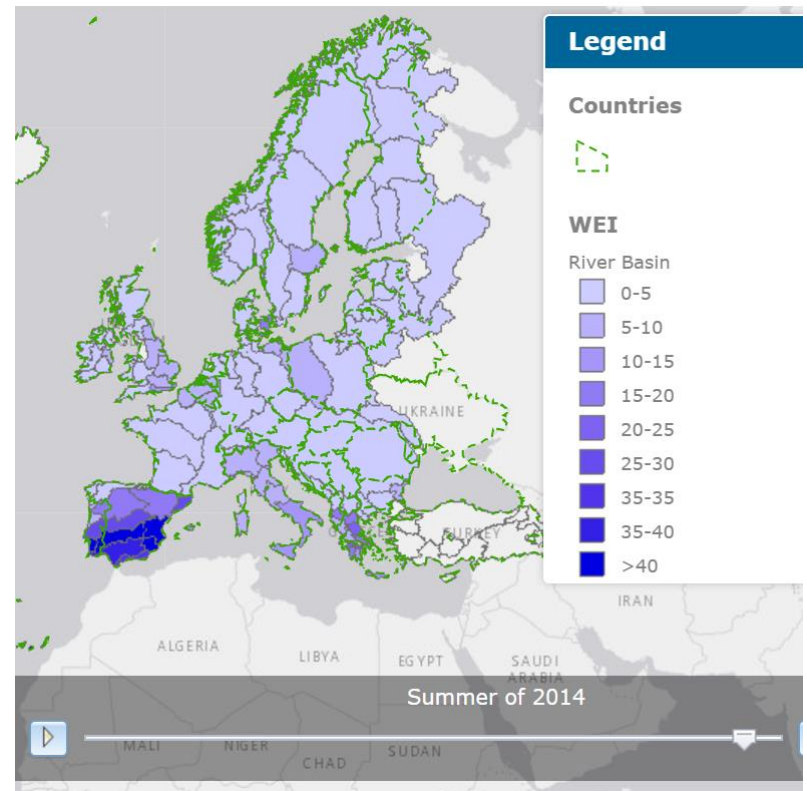
Frequency diagram of groundwater classes (Annual average nitrate concentrations ([COM](#), 2013))

Pesticides

- About **7 % of groundwater stations** reported excessive levels for one or more pesticides.
- Groundwater at risk appears to be located in areas used intensively for agriculture ([EEA](#), 2013).
- Agriculture is considered as the greatest contributor to pesticides in European surface and groundwater ([EEA](#), 2013).

Water abstraction

- The abstraction of water beyond the renewing capacity of nature puts major pressure on EU water.
- In first RBMPs, most Member States have not addressed the water needs of nature ([COM](#), 2015)



Water exploitation index plus (WEI+) for river basin districts ([EEA](#), 2017)



Water and Agriculture

- Commission Staff Working Document
 - **“Agriculture and Sustainable Water Management in the EU” (28 April 2017)**
- Four priority areas: implementation, governance, investment, knowledge.
- EIP highlighted under knowledge.
- Identify synergies between the European Innovation Partnerships on Agriculture and Water.

EIP Water

- 8 Priority Areas
- Action groups, for example
 - **WIRE (Water Irrigated Agriculture Resilient Europe)**
 - **PVAIZEC (Irrigation using photovoltaics)**
 - **MAR (Managed Aquifer Recharge)**
 - **SPADIS (economic tools for water security)**
 - **RESEWAM (remote sensing for scarcity and droughts)**
 - **ARREAU (resource recovery from waste water)**

Other EIP Water elements

- Innovation directories (people, projects, organisations, products & services)
- Personalised information services
- Networking
- Policy oriented research



Thank you for your attention

<http://water.europa.eu/policy>

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