

The importance of hydromorphodynamics and its ecological effects on water body status in rivers



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Hydromorphological pressures in European surface waters

- 127 000 surface water bodies
 - 82% rivers
- HYMO pressures affecting ..
 - 40% river and transitional waters
- Causes
 - Hydropower
 - Navigation
 - Agriculture
 - Flood protection
 - Urban development



Source: EEA report 8/2012 European waters – assessment of status and pressures

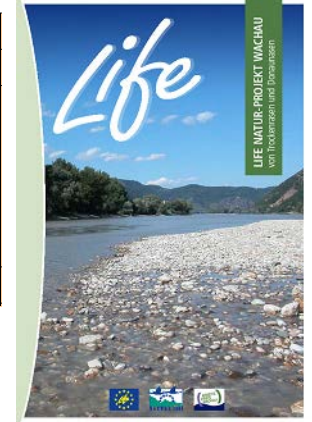
Much investments in river restoration. How do we share the expertise?

Examples of EU funded River River restoration projects



<http://wwwlife-donau-ybbsat/>

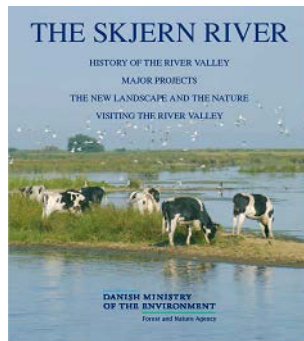
Count of ProjectName	Programme			
	Global objective	INTERREG	LIFE	Grand Total
Flood management		20	1	21
Integrated River Basin Management		26	1	27
River & floodplain restoration		17	114	131
Water quality improvement		4	1	5
Species conservation and management		14	55	69
Grand Total		81	172	253



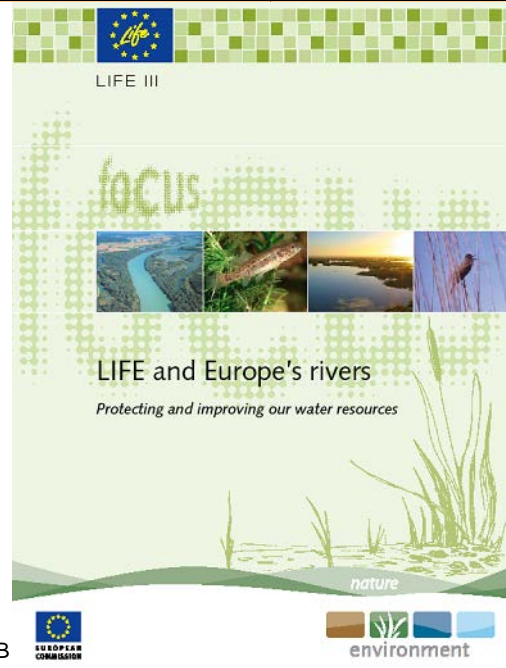
<http://wwwlife-wachau.at/>



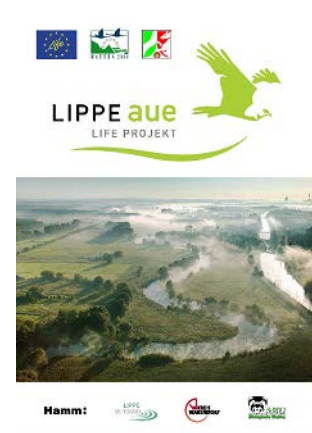
<http://webarchivenationalarchiv.esgovuk/20110303155229/http://wwwstreamlifeorguk/>



http://wwwnaturstyrelsendk/Naturoplevelser/Beskrivelser/Vestjylland/SkjernEnge/Skjern_River_Wetlandshtm



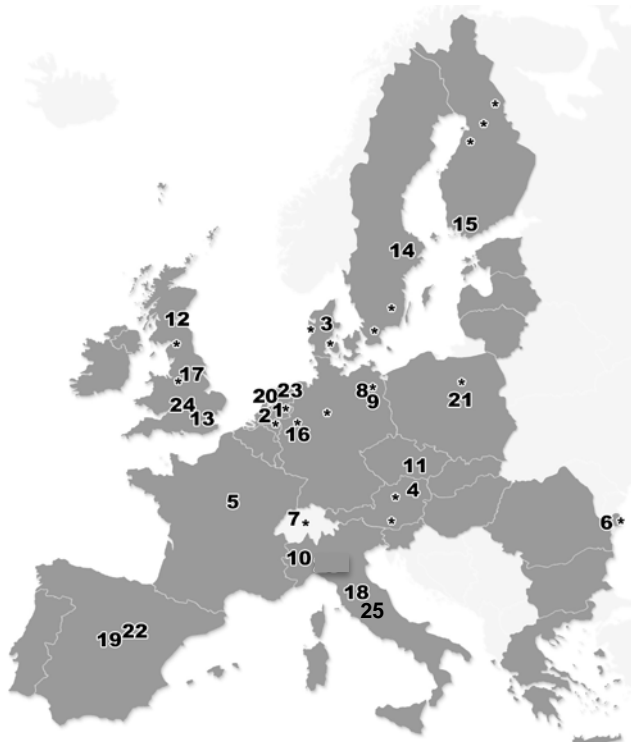
www.wwf.se/flodparlmussla



<http://wwwhammde/lifelippeauehtml>

REFORM - REstoring rivers FOR effective catchment Management

Partners



26 partners from 15 European countries

2011 - 2015

No	Name	Short name	Country
1	Stichting Deltares	Deltares	Netherlands
2	Stichting Dienst Landbouwkundig Onderzoek	Alterra	Netherlands
3	Aarhus University	AU-NERI	Denmark
4	Universitaet fuer Bodenkultur Wien	BOKU	Austria
5	Institut National de Recherche en Sciences et des Technologies pour l'Environnement et l'Agriculture	IRSTEA	France
6	Institutul National de Cercetare-Dezvoltare Delta Dunarii	DDNI	Romania
7	Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology	EAWAG	Switzerland
8	Ecologic Institut Gemeinnützige Gmbh	Ecologic	Germany
9	Forschungsverbund Berlin E.V.	FVB.IGB	Germany
10	Joint Research Centre- European Commission	JRC	Belgium
11	Masaryk University	MU	Czech Republic
12	Natural Environment Research Council - Centre for Ecology and Hydrology	NERC	United Kingdom
13	Queen Mary University of London	QMUL	United Kingdom
14	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	SLU	Sweden
15	Finnish Environment Institute	SYKE	Finland
16	Universitaet Duisburg-Essen	UDE	Germany
17	University of Hull	UHULL	United Kingdom
18	Universita Degli Studi Di Firenze	UNIFI	Italy
19	Universidad Politecnica de Madrid	UPM	Spain
21	Warsaw University of Life Sciences	WULS	Poland
22	Centro de Estudios y Experimentacion de Obras Publicas	CEDEX	Spain
23	Dienst Landelijk Gebied	DLG	Netherlands
24	Environment Agency	EA	United Kingdom
25	Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale	ISPRA	Italy
26	Norsk Institutt for Vannforskning	NIVA	Norway
27	Stichting VU-VUmc	VU-Vumc	Netherlands

Objectives of REFORM

APPLICATION

1. Select indicators for cost-effective monitoring
2. Improve tools and guidelines for restoration

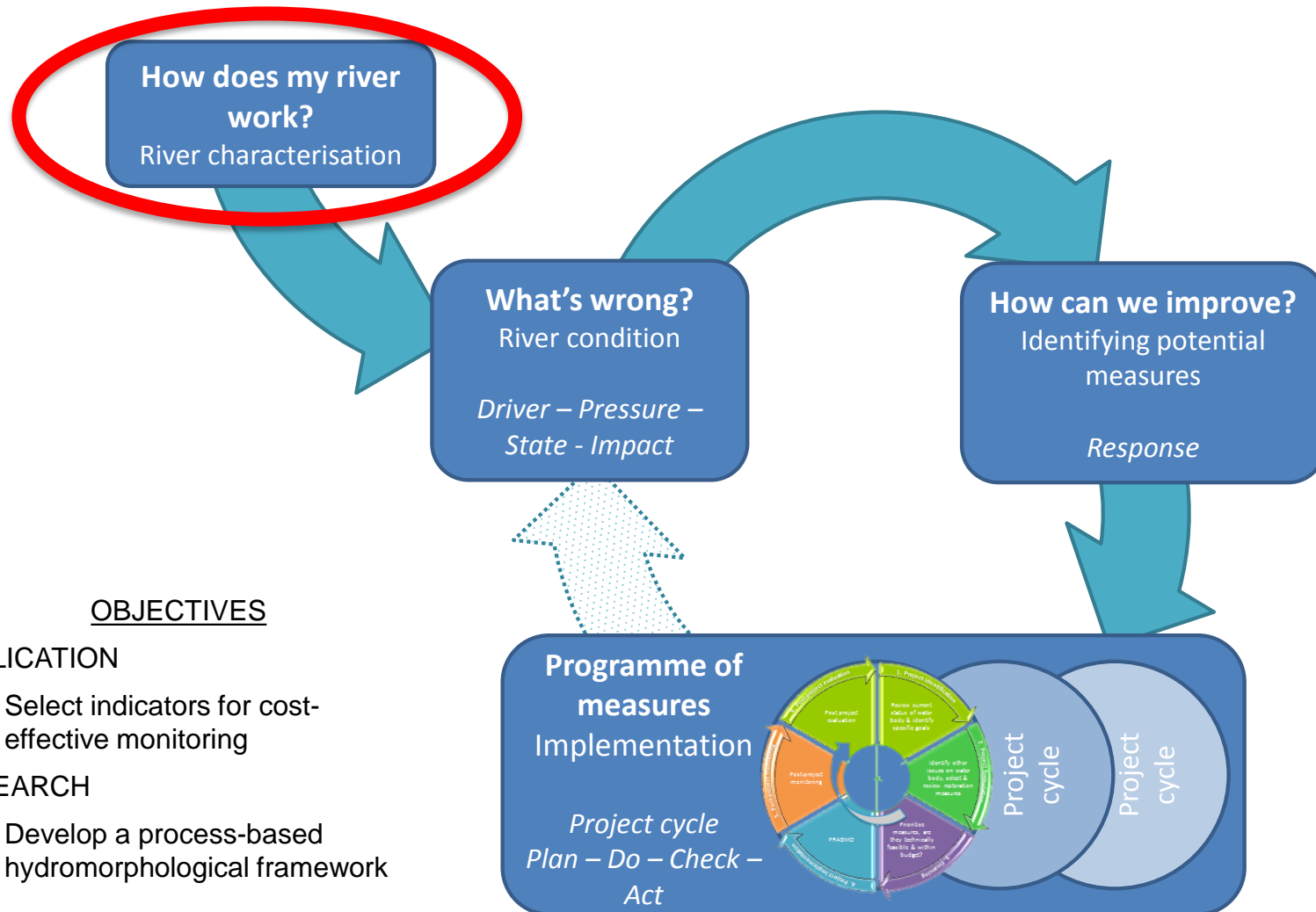
RESEARCH

3. Review existing information on river degradation and restoration
4. Develop a process-based hydromorphological framework
5. Understand how multiple stress constrains restoration
6. Assess the importance of scaling on the effectiveness of restoration
7. Develop instruments for risk and benefit analysis to support successful restoration

DISSEMINATION

8. Enlarge appreciation for the benefits of restoration

Connecting REFORM's output to River Basin Management Planning



OBJECTIVES

APPLICATION

- Select indicators for cost-effective monitoring

RESEARCH

- Develop a process-based hydromorphological framework

Water Framework Directive

Overview of broad European river types

Broad river type name	Broad river type code	Altitude (masl)	Catchment area (km ²)	Geology	number of national types	number of WBs	% of WBs
Very large rivers (all Europe)	1	any	>10 000	any (usually mixed)	54	827	1,0 %
Lowland, Siliceous, Medium-Large	2	≤200	100 - 10 000	Siliceous	24	1139	1,4 %
Lowland, Siliceous, Very small-Small	3	≤200	≤100	Siliceous	30	7302	8,9 %
Lowland, Calcareous or Mixed, Medium-Large	4	≤200	100 - 10 000	Calcareous/Mixed	67	2872	3,5 %
Lowland, Calcareous or Mixed, Very small-Small	5	≤200	≤100	Calcareous/Mixed	47	14137	17,1 %
Lowland, Organic and Siliceous	6	≤200	<10 000	Organic and Siliceous	18	6193	7,5 %
Lowland, Organic and Calcareous/Mixed	7	≤200	<10 000	Organic and Calcareous/Mixed	9	336	0,4 %
Mid altitude, Siliceous, Medium-Large	8	200 - 800	100 - 10 000	Siliceous	41	3051	3,7 %
Mid altitude, Siliceous, Very small-Small	9	200 - 800	≤100	Siliceous	37	8627	10,5 %
Mid altitude, Calcareous or Mixed, Medium-Large	10	200 - 800	100 - 10 000	Calcareous/Mixed	61	1797	2,2 %
Mid altitude, Calcareous or Mixed, Very small-Small	11	200 - 800	≤100	Calcareous/Mixed	48	7663	9,3 %
Mid-altitude, Organic and siliceous	12	200 - 800	<10 000	Organic and Siliceous	8	3290	4,0 %
Mid-altitude, Organic and Calcareous/Mixed	13	200 - 800	<10 000	Organic and Calcareous/Mixed	6	154	0,2 %
Highland (all Europe), Siliceous, incl. Organic (humic)	14	>800	<10 000	Siliceous	16	1525	1,8 %
Highland (all Europe), Calcareous/Mixed	15	>800	<10 000	Calcareous/Mixed	17	2227	2,7 %
Glacial rivers (all Europe)	16	> 200	<10 000	any	16	3251	3,9 %
Mediterranean, Lowland, Medium-Large, perennial	17	≤200	100 - 10 000	any	16	941	1,1 %
Mediterranean, Mid altitude, Medium-Large, perennial	18	200 - 800	100 - 10 000	any	13	615	0,7 %
Mediterranean, Very small-Small, perennial	19	< 800	≤100	any	21	1942	2,4 %
Mediterranean, Temporary/Intermittent streams	20	any	<1 000	any	26	3549	4,3 %
				Total	575	71438	86,6 %

EEANSV13/002 – ETC/ICM

European Topic Centre
Inland, coastal, marine waters

European Freshwater Ecosystem Assessment: Cross-walk between the Water Framework Directive and Habitats Directive types, status and pressures



ETC/ICM Technical Report 2/2015

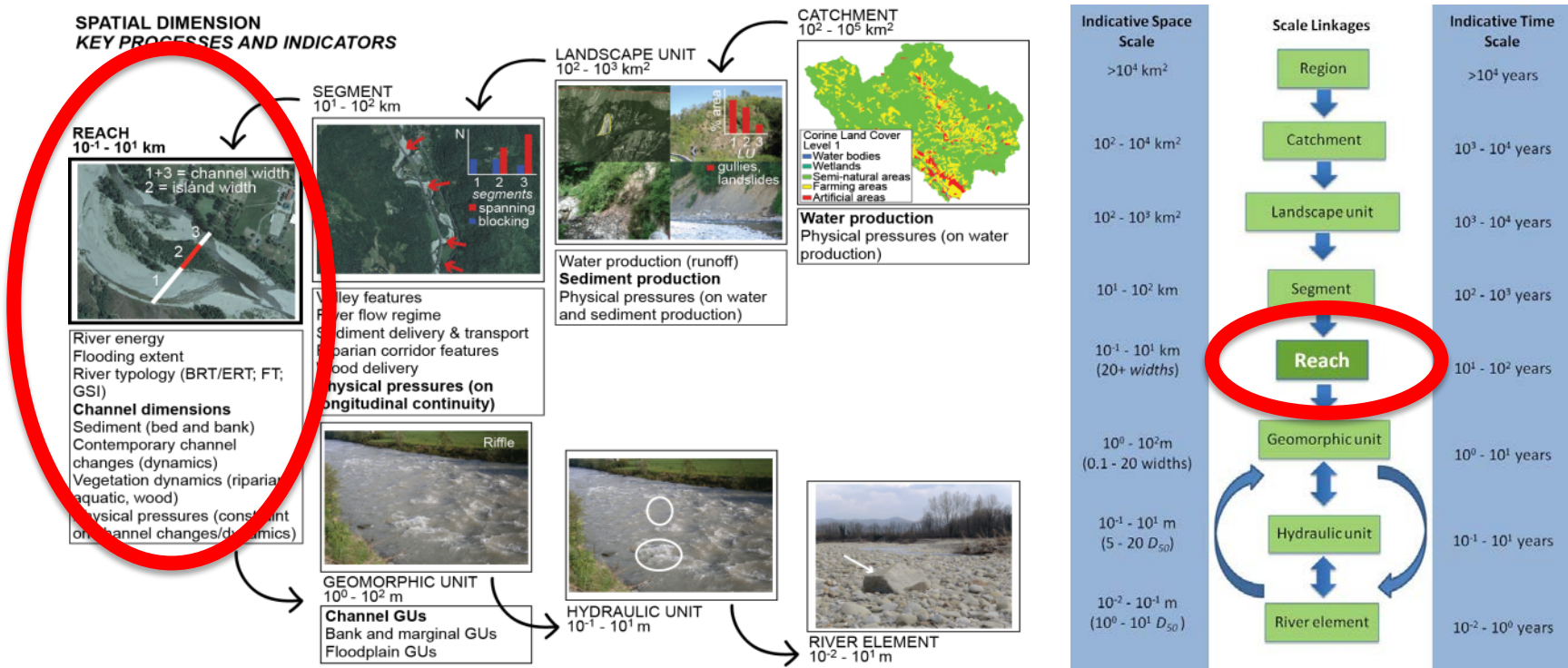
Anne Lyche Solheim, Jonas Persson, Karl Austnes, Jannicke Moe, Eufheria Kampa, Ulf Stein, Janos Feher, Sandra Polkane, Peter Kristensen

The European Topic Centre on inland, coastal and marine waters (ETC/ICM) is a consortium of European institutes under contract to the European Environment Agency; UFZ, CENIA, CMCC, Delmas, Ecologic, HCMR, ICES, IMARES, ISPRA, IMRS, JNCC, NIVA, NTUA, OIEau, SYKE, TO Vele and UBAW

ETC/ICM, 2015. European Freshwater Ecosystem Assessment: Cross-walk between the Water Framework Directive and Habitats Directive types, status and pressures, ETC/ICM Technical Report 2/2015, Magdeburg: European Topic Centre on inland, coastal and marine waters, 95 pp. plus Annexes.

Take the catchment perspective

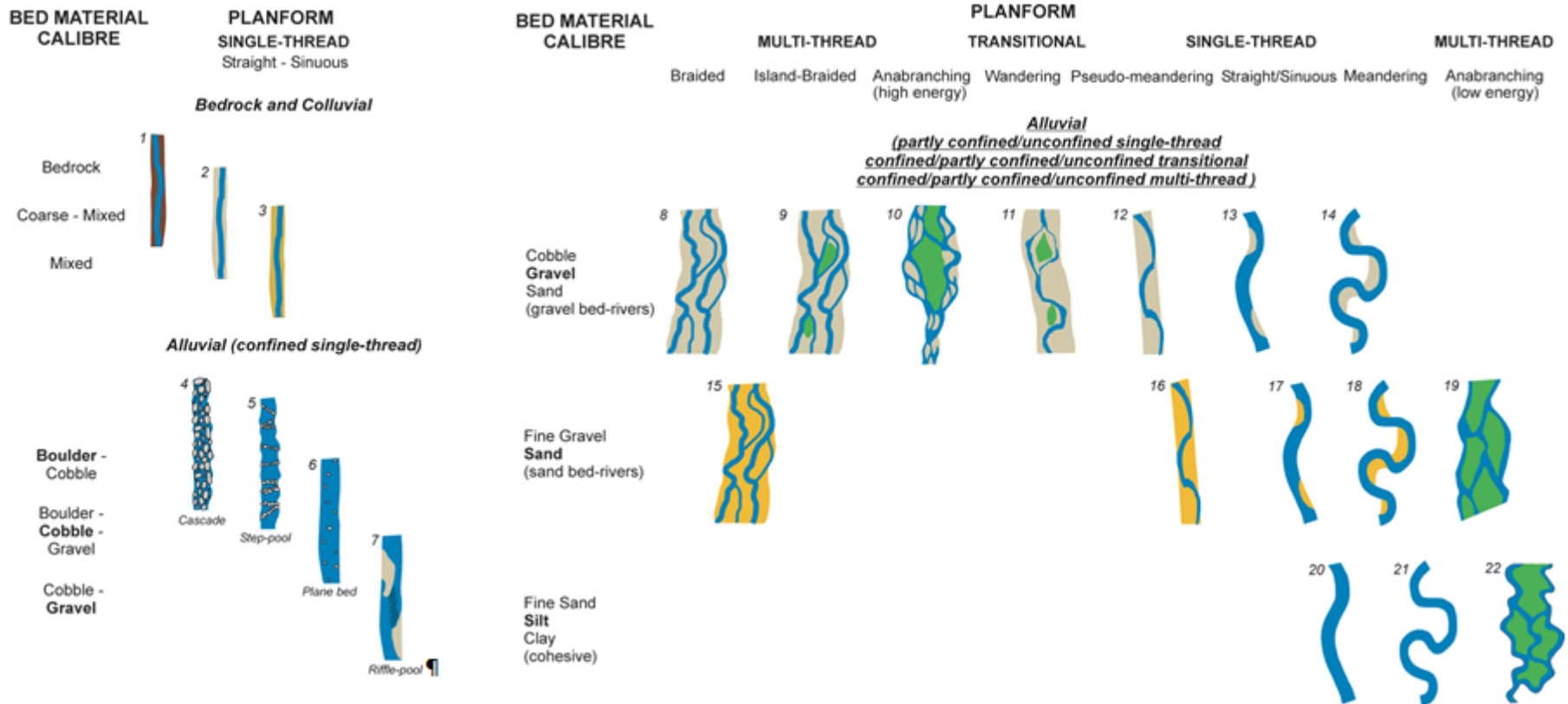
Awareness to relevant spatial and temporal aspects beyond river restoration project boundaries and project life span



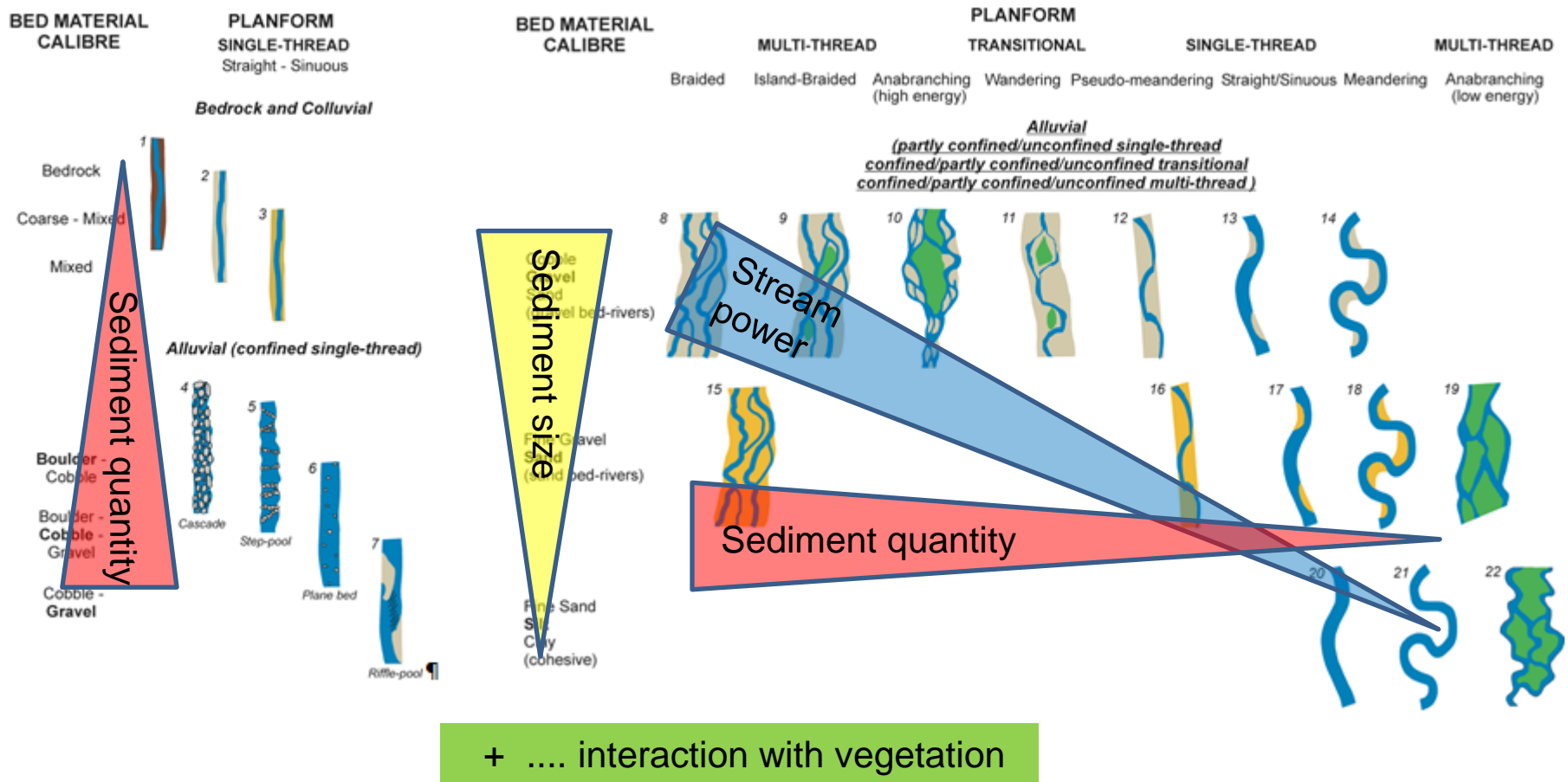
Grabowski, R.C., N. Surian and A.M. Gurnell (2014) Characterizing geomorphological change to support sustainable river restoration and management. WIREs Water. doi/10.1002/wat2.1037

Gurnell, A. et al (2014) Multi-scale framework and indicators of hydromorphological processes and forms. REFORM deliverable 2.1

Hydromorphological processes and vegetation affecting river reaches

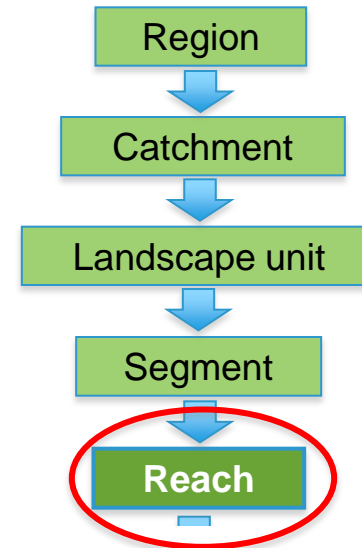


Hydromorphological processes and vegetation affecting river reaches



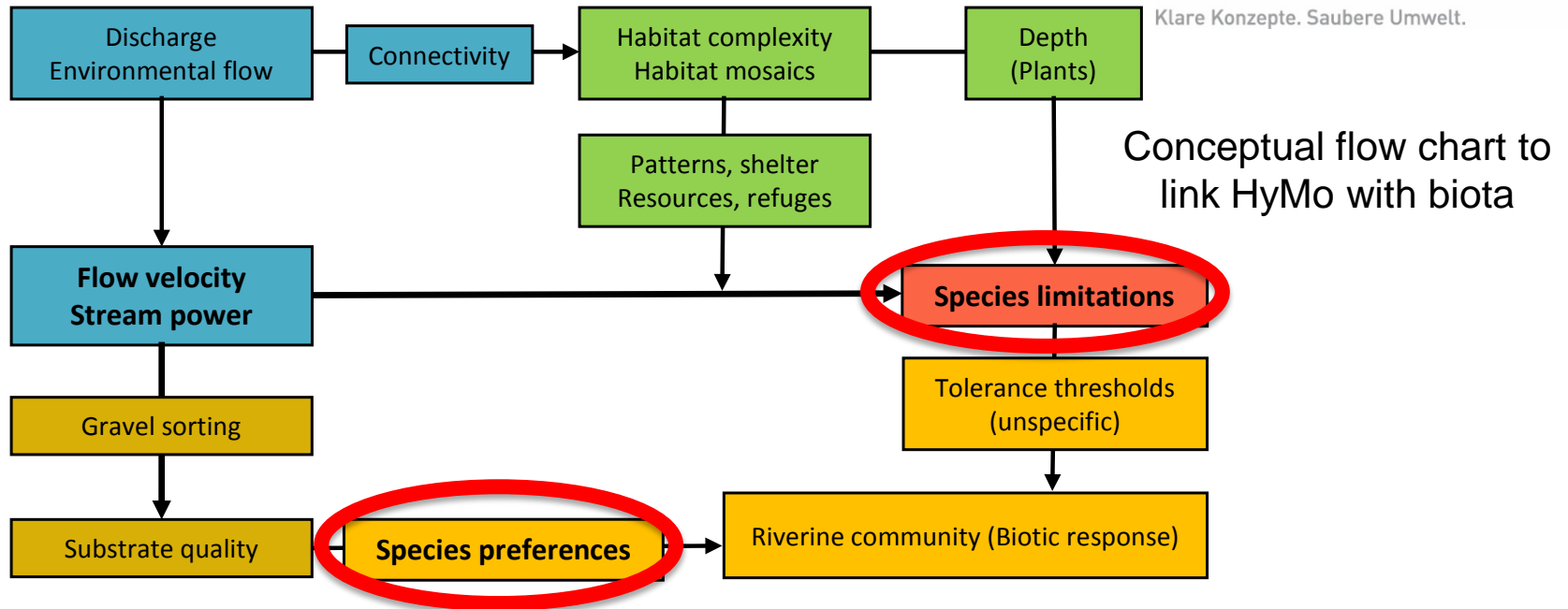
REFORM Framework: Delineation

- **'Reach'** key spatial scale
 - i.e. portion with sufficiently uniform boundary conditions so that the river maintains a near consistent set of process-form interactions

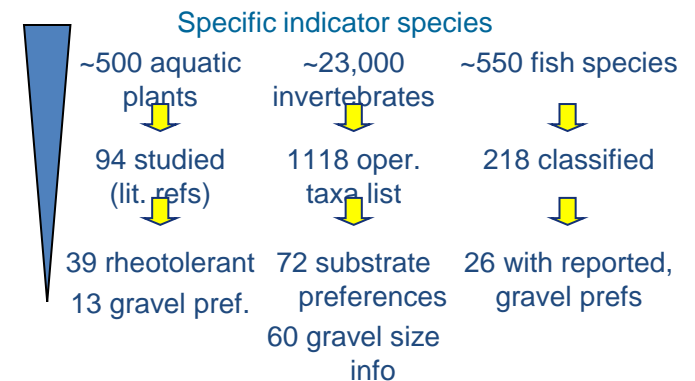


- **WFD water bodies** can be further sub-divided into 'reaches' using additional geomorphological criteria (morphological types)

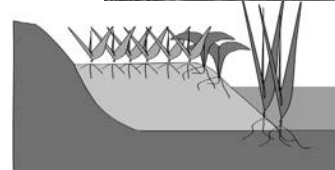
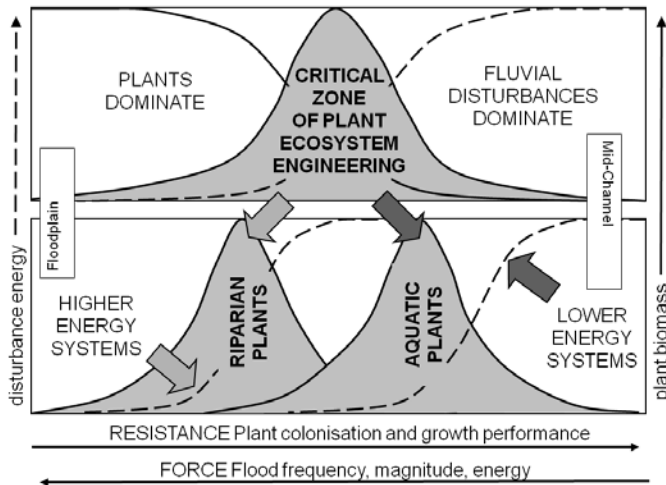
Hydromorphology – biota interactions



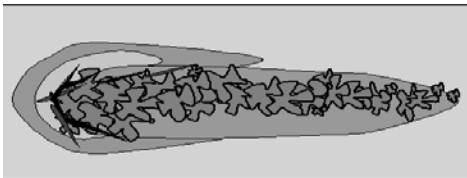
- **High flow** velocities and **coarse** gravel key indicators for HyMo integrity relevant to aquatic organisms.
- Species depending on **coarse** substrates specific indicators for HYMO degradation, rehabilitation, and integrity
- Review on the substrate and flow velocity preferences: quantifiable data are rather limited



Vegetation as ecosystem engineer for river restoration is too often insufficiently taken into account



-> Nature-based solutions



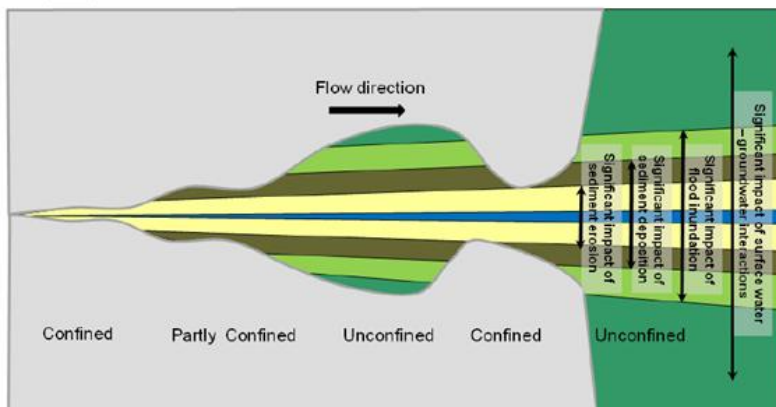
Gurnell, A. et al. D2.2 (2014) Influence of natural hydromorphological dynamics on biota and ecosystem functioning. REFORM deliverable 2.2 part 1

Gurnell, A.M. (2014) Plants as river system engineers. Earth Surface Processes and Landforms 39: 4–25

Existing EU Directives provide a too limited legislative framework for riparian zones and floodplains



- 1. Perennially inundated
- 2. Fluvial disturbance dominated (coarse sediment erosion & deposition)
- 3. Fluvial disturbance dominated (finer sediment deposition)
- 4. Inundation dominated
- 5. Soil moisture regime dominated
- Hills



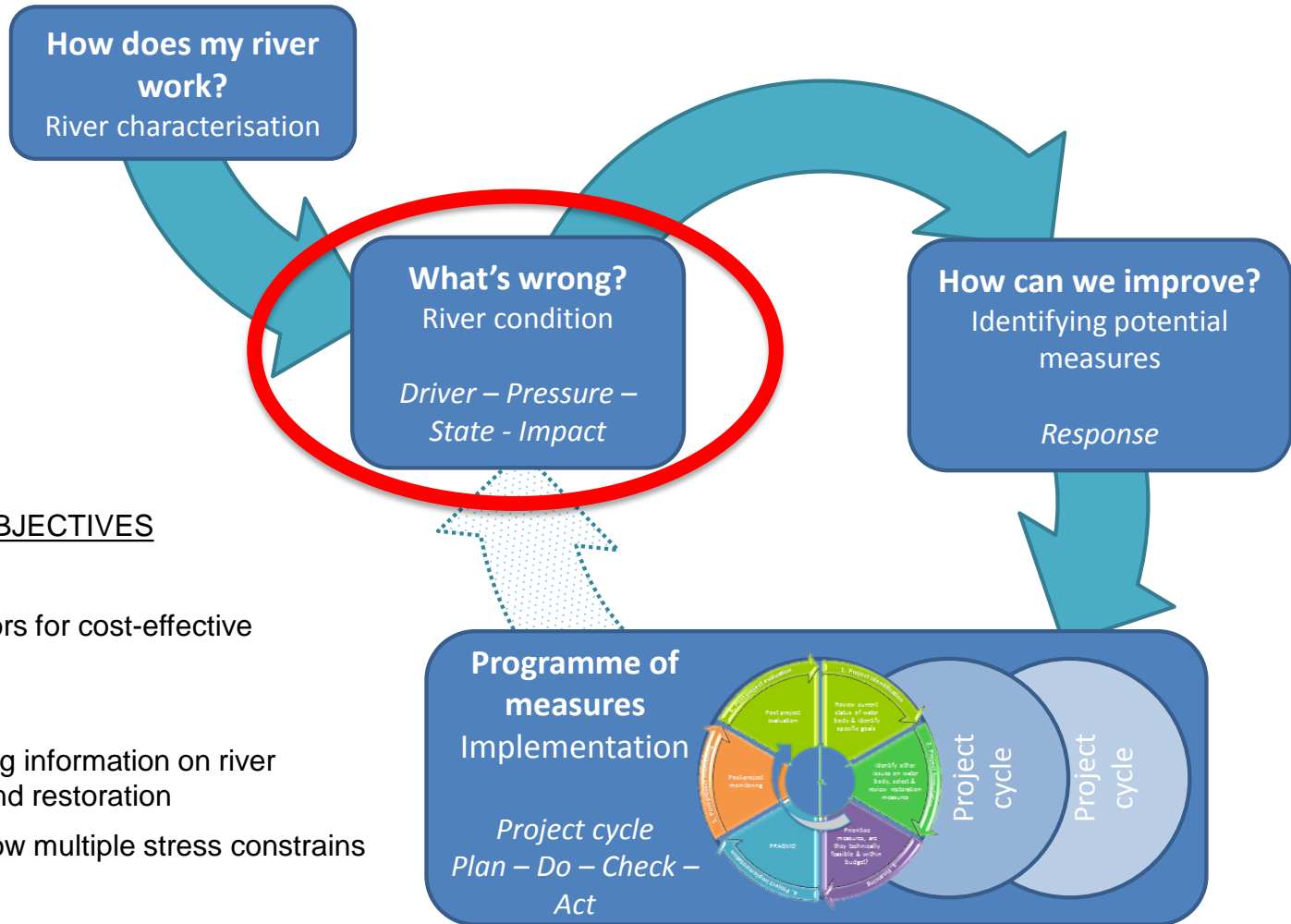
- Hydromorphological impacts can take years to fully manifest themselves
- Riparian and floodplain ecosystems are not subject to extensive monitoring
- Plant diversity alone cannot be considered a valid and exhaustive indicator to assess the health of a river system and its functioning
- A generic framework is recommended for assessing the impact on floodplain and riparian ecosystems

Baatrup-Pedersen, A., M. O'Hare et al. (2015) Guidance on how to identify impacts of hydromorphological degradation on riparian ecosystems. REFORM deliverable 3.4

Baatrup-Pedersen, A., Göthe, E., Riis, T., & O'Hare, M. T. (2016). Functional trait composition of aquatic plants can serve to disentangle multiple interacting stressors in lowland streams. *Science of The Total Environment*, 543, 230-238. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2015.11.027>

Connecting REFORM's output to RBMPs

Status monitoring and assessment



OBJECTIVES

APPLICATION

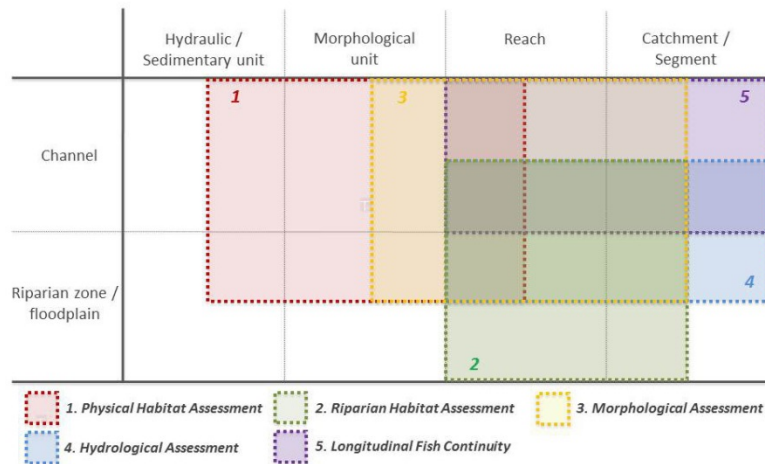
- Select indicators for cost-effective monitoring

RESEARCH

- Review existing information on river degradation and restoration
- Understand how multiple stress constrains restoration

Consider physical processes

most applied hydromorphological methods do this insufficiently



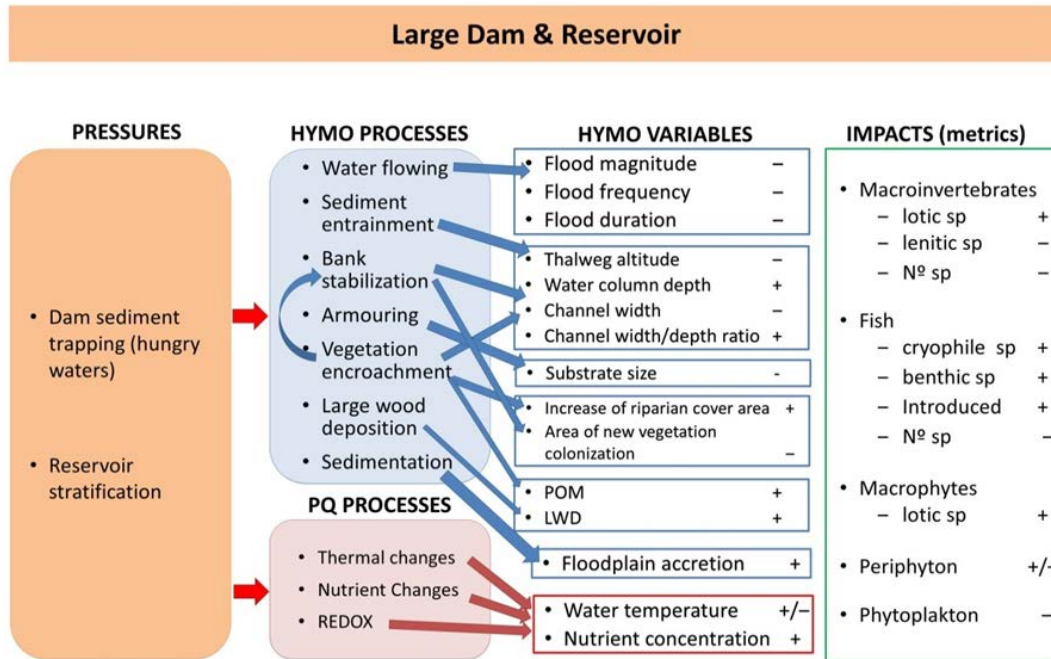
Rinaldi, M., B. Belletti et al. (2013) Review on eco-hydromorphological methods. REFORM deliverable 1.1

Belletti, B., Rinaldi, M., Buijse, A.D., Gurnell, A.M., Mosselman, E (2015) A review of assessment methods for river hydromorphology. Environmental Earth Sciences 73:2079–2100

	Categories of methods					TOT
	1. Physical habitat	2. Riparian habitat	3. Morphological assessment	4. Hydrological assessment	5. Fish continuity	
Europe	40	5	13	4	13	75
Austria	6				1	7
Belgium	2				2	4
Czech Republic	1		1			2
Denmark	5					5
England & Wales	4		4		2	10
France	3		2		2	7
Germany	5				1	6
Ireland	1		1			2
Italy	2	1	1	1	1	6
Netherlands	2				1	3
Poland	3		1			4
Portugal	1					1
Scotland			2	1	1	4
Slovakia	1					1
Slovenia	1					1
Spain	2	4	3	2	2	13
Sweden	2					2
US	24	5	8	4	5	46
Australia	4	2	1			7
Switzerland	1					1
Others*	4	2	2	2	2	12

*South Africa, Canada/Quebec, China, New Zealand, Ukraine

Conceptual DIAGNOSIS pressure – process – impact framework



- 18 most significant HyMo pressures reviewed that impact aquatic biota
 - Hydrological regime pressures, including water abstraction and flow regulation
 - River fragmentation pressures
 - Morphological alteration pressures
- Diagnosis helps to identify appropriate restoration measures

Garcia de Jalon, D. et al. (2013) Review on effects of pressures on hydromorphological variables and ecologically relevant processes. REFORM deliverable 1.2

Wolter, C. et al. (2013) Review on ecological responses to hydromorphological degradation and restoration. REFORM deliverable 1.3

Fish and macrophytes best BQEs to detect HyMo degradation

- Fish most sensitive biological quality element (BQE) for HYMO.
- Macrophytes can be used for assessing HYMO degradation in low-land rivers, if a trait-based metric is developed.
- Need to develop **NEW** biota sampling methods that are more sensitive to HYMO impacts.
 - Current sampling methods are not appropriate to capture HYMO impacts and they underestimate the influence of HYMO on biota.
- Alternative/new methods using biota (not standardised; not intercalibrated) can be used in investigative monitoring already now to assess HYMO impacts.



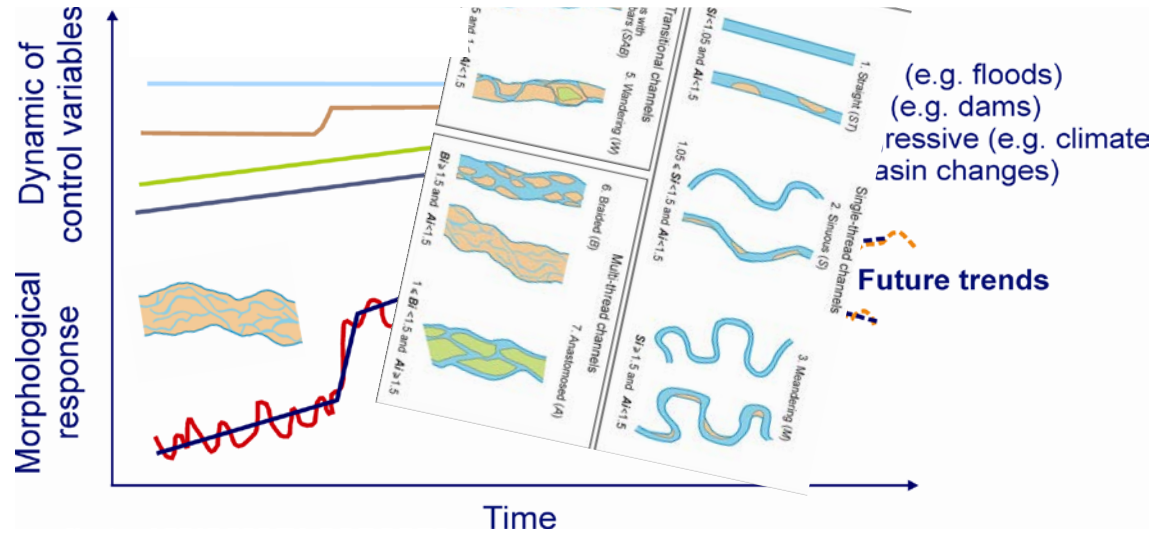
Friberg, N. (2014) Impacts and indicators of change in lotic ecosystems. WIREs Water 2014 [doi/10.1002/wat2.1040](https://doi.org/10.1002/wat2.1040)

Friberg, N., M. O'Hare & A.M. Poulsen [eds.] (2013) Impacts of hydromorphological degradation and disturbed sediment dynamics on ecological status. REFORM deliverable 3.1

O'Hare, M. et al. (2015) Understanding biological responses to degraded hydromorphology sediment dynamics and multiple stress. REFORM deliverable 3.2

Verdonschot, P. et al. (2015) Evaluation of candidate indicators for case studies including uncertainty. REFORM deliverable 3.3

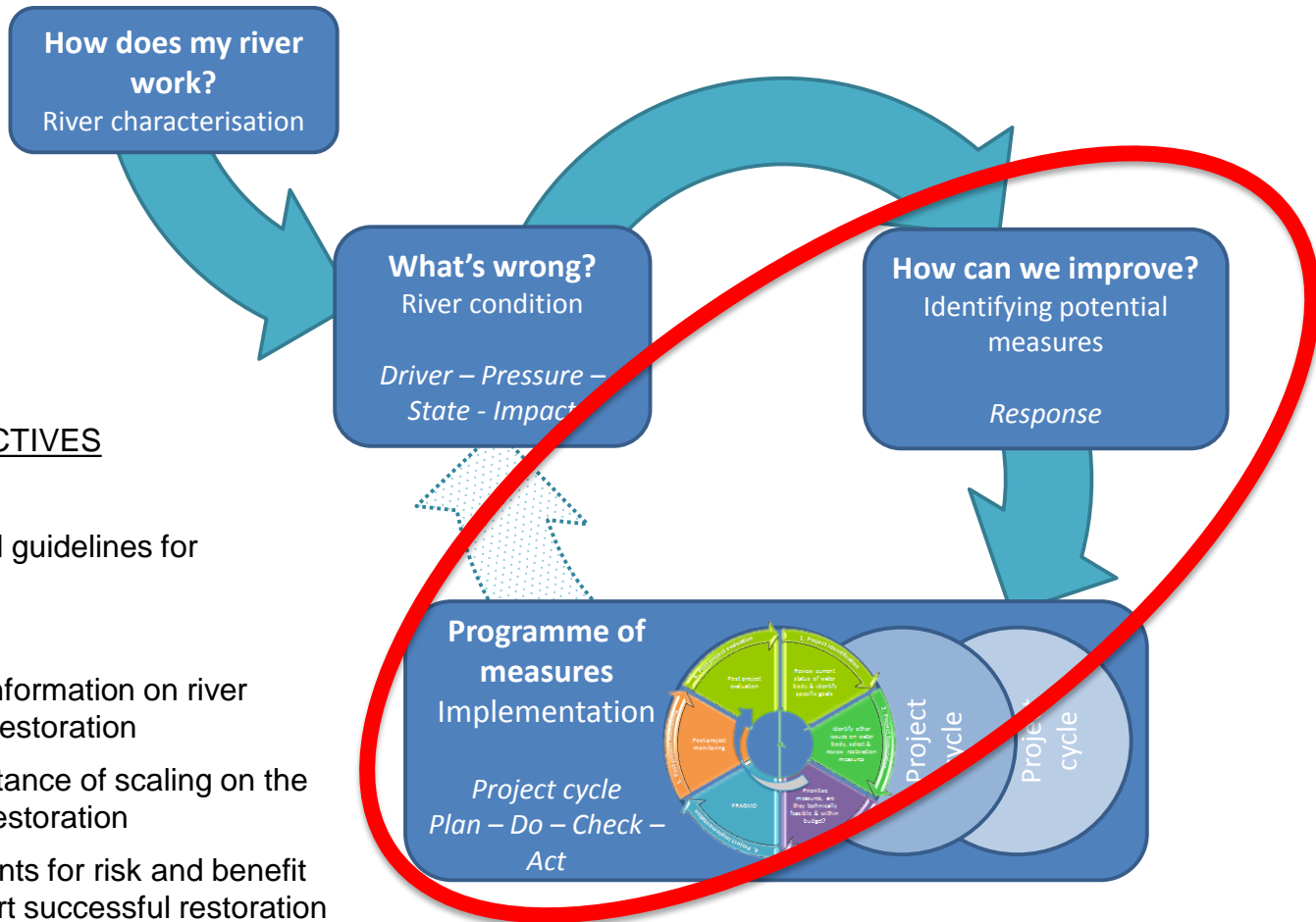
HYMO assessment along the entire gradient from high to bad ecological status



- Hydromorphological impacts can take years to fully manifest themselves.
 - HYMO assessment early warning
- At present BQEs cannot differentiate between different degrees of HYMO degradation with sufficient precision
- HYMO assessment essential to diagnose impact of HYMO pressures and to identify appropriate restoration measures
- The proposed REFORM HYMO assessment method is specifically tailored to this purpose.

Connecting REFORM's output to RBMPs

Programme of Measures & Individual Restoration Projects



OBJECTIVES

APPLICATION

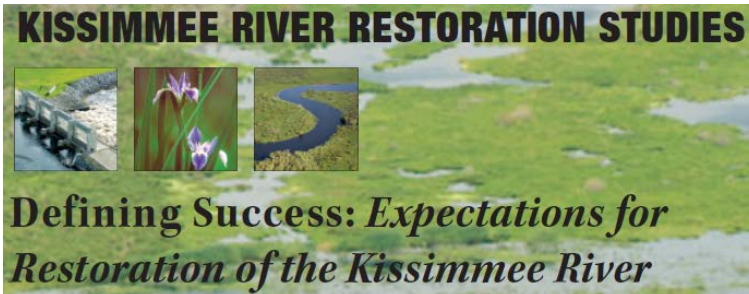
- Improve tools and guidelines for restoration

RESEARCH

- Review existing information on river degradation and restoration
- Assess the importance of scaling on the effectiveness of restoration
- Develop instruments for risk and benefit analysis to support successful restoration

Good planning and management

Restoration projects should have well-defined success criteria



Kissimmee River restoration expectations

9 describe abiotic responses for hydrology, geomorphology, and water quality.

5 describe changes in plant communities in the river channel and floodplain

6 describe invertebrate and amphibian and reptile communities.

5 describe anticipated changes in fish and bird communities.

Angelopoulos N.V., Cowx I.G., Buijse A.D. Integrated planning framework for successful river restoration projects: upscaling lessons learnt from European case studies. *Environmental Science and Policy* 76: 12–22.

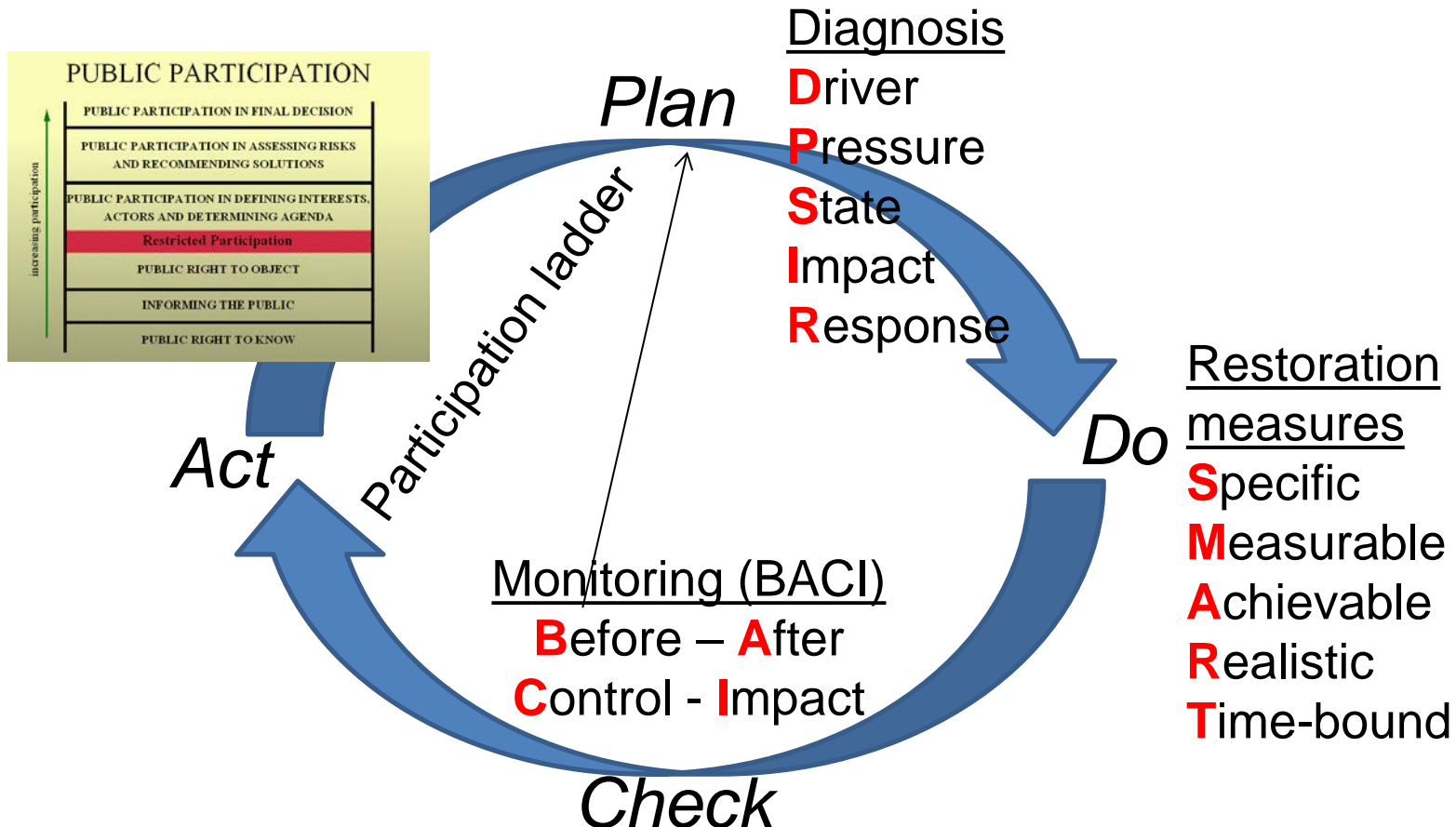
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2017.06.005>

Friberg, N., N.V. Angelopoulos, A.D. Buijse, I.G. Cowx, J. Kail, T.F. Moe, H. Moir, M.T. O'Hare, P.F.M. Verdonschot, C. Wolter (2016) Effective River Restoration in the 21st Century: From Trial and Error to Novel Evidence-Based Approaches *Advances in Ecological Research* 55: 535-611.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/bs.aecr.2016.08.010>

Good planning and management

Application of existing management tools can substantially enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of restoration

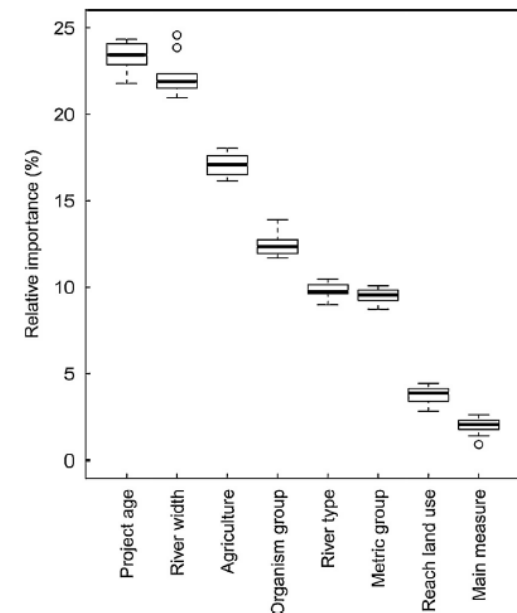
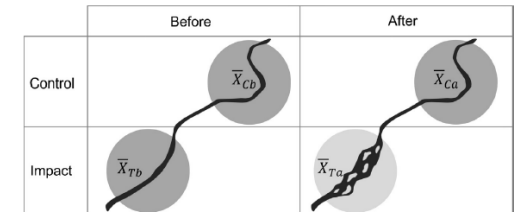


River Restoration does benefit Biological Quality Elements

- Compilation of peer-reviewed literature and unpublished databases
- Significant effects
 - instream measures on fish, benthic invertebrates
 - river widening on macrophytes
- Restoration resulted in a higher number of individuals but few new species
 - Recolonization potential?
- Most strongly affected by agricultural, river width and project age.
 - Project age indicates that restoration benefits may vanish over time
 - Need for long-term monitoring to understand trajectories of change following restoration and improve sustainability

Data sources, number of publications, projects, and response ratios.

	Peer-reviewed literature	Unpublished studies
Publications	69	–
Projects	91	64
Response ratios	239	299
Unique response ratios (per project, organism group, metric group)	132	265












Kail, J. & N. Angelopoulos et al. (2014) Evaluation of hydromorphological restoration from existing data. REFORM deliverable 4.2

Kail, J. et al. (2015) The effect of river restoration on fish, macroinvertebrates and aquatic macrophytes: a meta-analysis. Ecological Indicators 58 (2015) 311–321.

Standardised sampling of restored reaches across mid-sized rivers in Western, Central and Northern Europe

Mid-sized lowlands rivers

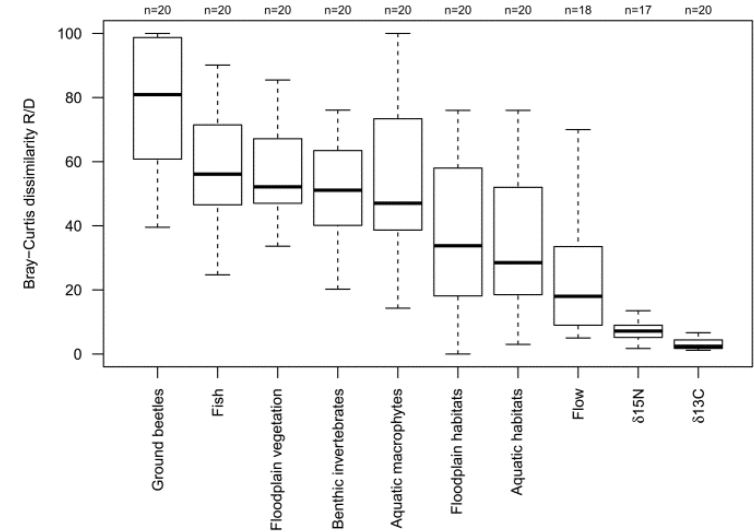
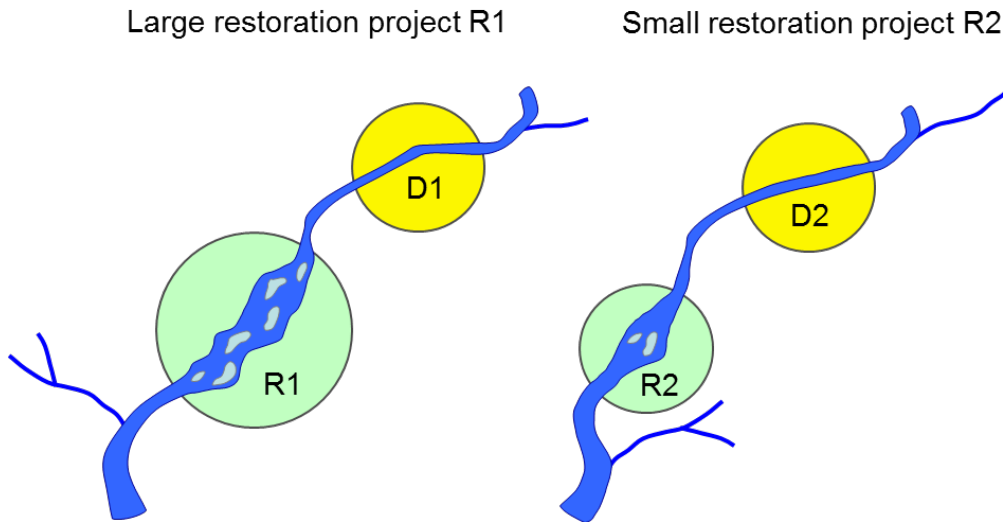
Mid-sized mountain rivers

Where?	Who?	Where?	Who?
Em / Mörrum	SLU 	Ruhr / Lahn	UDE 
Skjern / Stora	NERI 	Thur / Töss	EAWAG/UDE 
Regge / Dommel / Dinkel	Alterra 	Drau / Enns	BOKU 
Spree / Lippe	IGB 	Becva / Morava	MU 
Narew / Warta	WULS 	Kuivajoki/Vääräjoki	SYKE 



Restoration matters!

Comparing common restoration practices e.g. widening cross sections, remeandering and expanding aquatic-terrestrial transition zones in medium-sized rivers



River restoration benefits not only aquatic biota. Terrestrial and semi-aquatic species (e.g. floodplain vegetation, ground beetles) benefited more

Smaller projects did perform surprisingly similar as larger ones

Hering, D. et al (2015) Contrasting the roles of section length and instream habitat enhancement for river restoration success: a field study of 20 European restoration projects. J. Applied Ecology – published online 23 September 2015.

Kail, J., A. Lorenz & D. Hering [eds.] (2014) Hydromorphological and ecological survey of the restoration case studies. REFORM deliverable 4.3

Cost data are too scarce hampering cost-benefit analysis

Measure	Germany	Spain	UK	Netherlands
Flow Quantity (1)	1%	0%	0%	0%
Sediment Flow Quantity (2)	4%	29%	5%	23%
Flow Dynamics (3)	1%	0%	0%	0%
Longitudinal Connectivity (4)	21%	32%	7%	55%
Depth and Width Variation (5)	13%	0%	53%	9%
In-channel Structure and Substrate (6)	27%	7%	19%	9%
Riparian Zone (7)	4%	11%	7%	5%
Floodplains/Lateral Connectivity (8)	29%	21%	9%	0%
Total of Measures	453	228	45/55	30

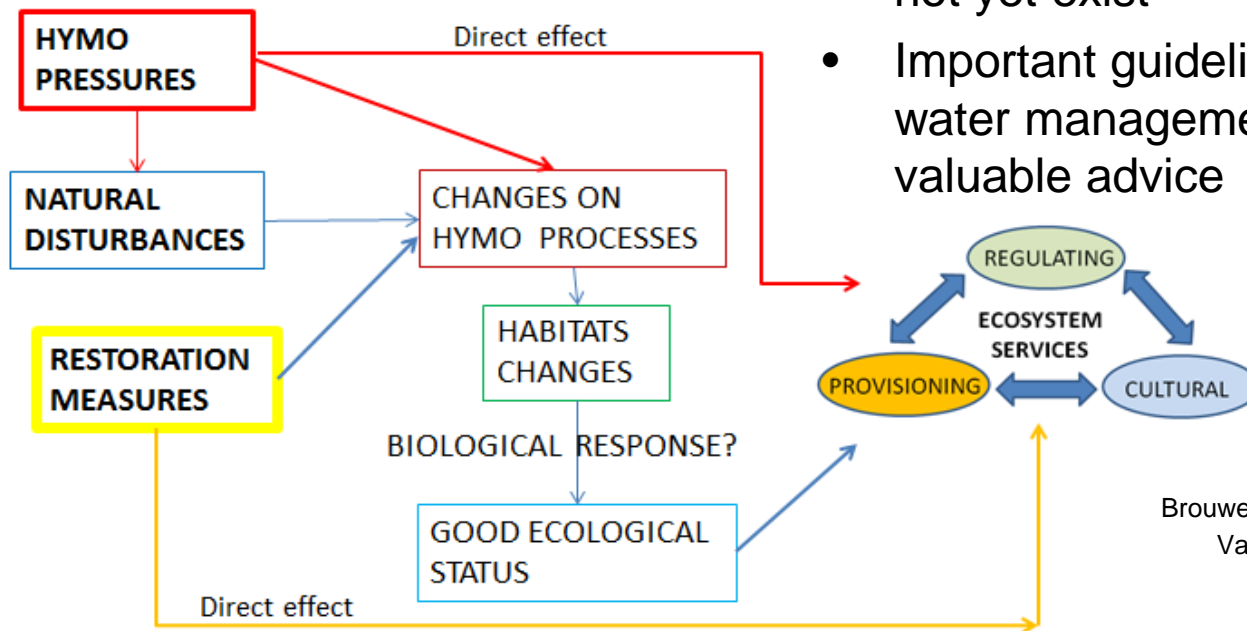
Conclusions & Recommendations

- Incorporating cost information into decision making is a prerequisite to increase river restoration efficiency -> more effort needed
- Difficult to determine ecosystem benefits and services from restoration projects both individually and as a whole

Ayres, A., H. Gerdes, M. Lago et al. (2014) Inventory of the cost of river degradation and the socio-economic aspects and costs and benefits. REFORM deliverable 1.4


Cost-Benefit Analysis aids in prioritizing restoration measures and plans

- In Europe, prioritization of restoration measures in the context of the WFD based on CEA/CBA is still very limited
- Manuals and guidelines for the economic analysis of river restoration projects do not yet exist
- Important guidelines on the economics of water management in general offer valuable advice



Brouwer, R., H. Gerdes, P. Reichert et al. (2015)
Valuing the ecosystem services provided by
European river corridors – an analytical
framework. REFORM deliverable 5.2

?



How do we
restore this river
successfully?

website: **WWW.REFORMRIVERS.EU**

The screenshot shows the REFORM website interface. At the top, the logo 'REFORM' is displayed with the tagline 'REstoring rivers FOR effective catchment Management'. Below the logo is a navigation menu with tabs for HOME, ABOUT, EVENTS, RESULTS, and INTERNAL. The 'RESULTS' tab is selected, and a sub-menu is open showing a list of deliverables: 'Deliverables', 'Scientific Publications', 'Meta-Analysis (WP1)', 'Hydromorphological and ecological processes and interactions (WP2)', 'Effects of hydromorphological changes on river and floodplain ecosystems (WP3)', 'Effects of river restoration (WP4)', and 'Restoration potential and strategy (WP5)'. A red arrow points from a text box to the 'Deliverables' link. On the left side, there is a 'News' section with several articles. On the right side, there is a 'Search site' box, a 'REFORM Wiki' section, and a 'Social Network' section. The browser's address bar shows 'www.reformrivers.eu'. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons and the system clock indicating 16:42 on 08-Sep-15.

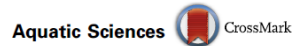
32 deliverables
~ 6,000 pages

> 100 Scientific publications



Klare Konzepte. Saubere Umwelt.

Aquat Sci
DOI 10.1007/s00027-015-0424-5



RESEARCH ARTICLE

A multi-scale hierarchical framework for developing understanding of river behaviour to support river management

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Distinct patterns of interaction between vegetation and morphodynamics

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Journal of Applied Ecology

Journal of Applied Ecology 2015

doi: 10.1111/1365-2664.12531

Contrasting the roles of section length and instream habitat enhancement for river restoration success: a field study of 20 European restoration projects

(2015) 316–332

Daniel Hering^{1*}, Jukka Aroviita², Annette Baatrup-Pedersen³, Karel Brabec⁴, Tom Buijse⁵, Frauke Ecke⁶, Nikolai Friberg^{3,7}, Marek Gielczewski⁸, Kathrin Januschke¹, Jan Köhler⁹, Benjamin Kupilas¹, Armin W. Lorenz¹, Susanne Muhar¹⁰, Amael Pailllex¹¹, Michaela Poppe¹⁰, Torsten Schmidt¹², Stefan Schmutz¹⁰, Jan Vermaat^{13,14}, Piet F. M. Verdonschot¹⁵, Ralf C. M. Verdonschot¹⁵, Christian Wolter³ and Jochem Kail¹

ELSEVIER journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jenvman

Impacts and indicators in lotic ecosystems

Nikolai Friberg*

Journal of Applied Ecology

Journal of Applied Ecology 2015

doi: 10.1111/1365-

Plant trait characteristics vary with size and eutrophication in European lowland streams

Annette Baatrup-Pedersen^{1*}, Emma Göthe¹, Søren E. Larsen¹, Matthew O'Hare², Sebastian Birk³, Tenna Riis⁴ and Nikolai Friberg⁵

Environ Earth Sci (2015) 73:2079–2100
DOI 10.1007/s12665-014-3558-1

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Ecological Indicators

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ecolind

Review
The effect of river restoration on fish, macroinvertebrates and aquatic macrophytes: A meta-analysis

Jochem Kail^{a,*}, Karel Brabec^b, Michaela Poppe^c, Kathrin Januschke^a

A review of assessment methods for river hydromorphology

B. Belletti · M. Rinaldi · A. D. Buijse ·
A. M. Gurnell · E. Mosselman

<http://www.reformrivers.eu/results/scientific-publications>

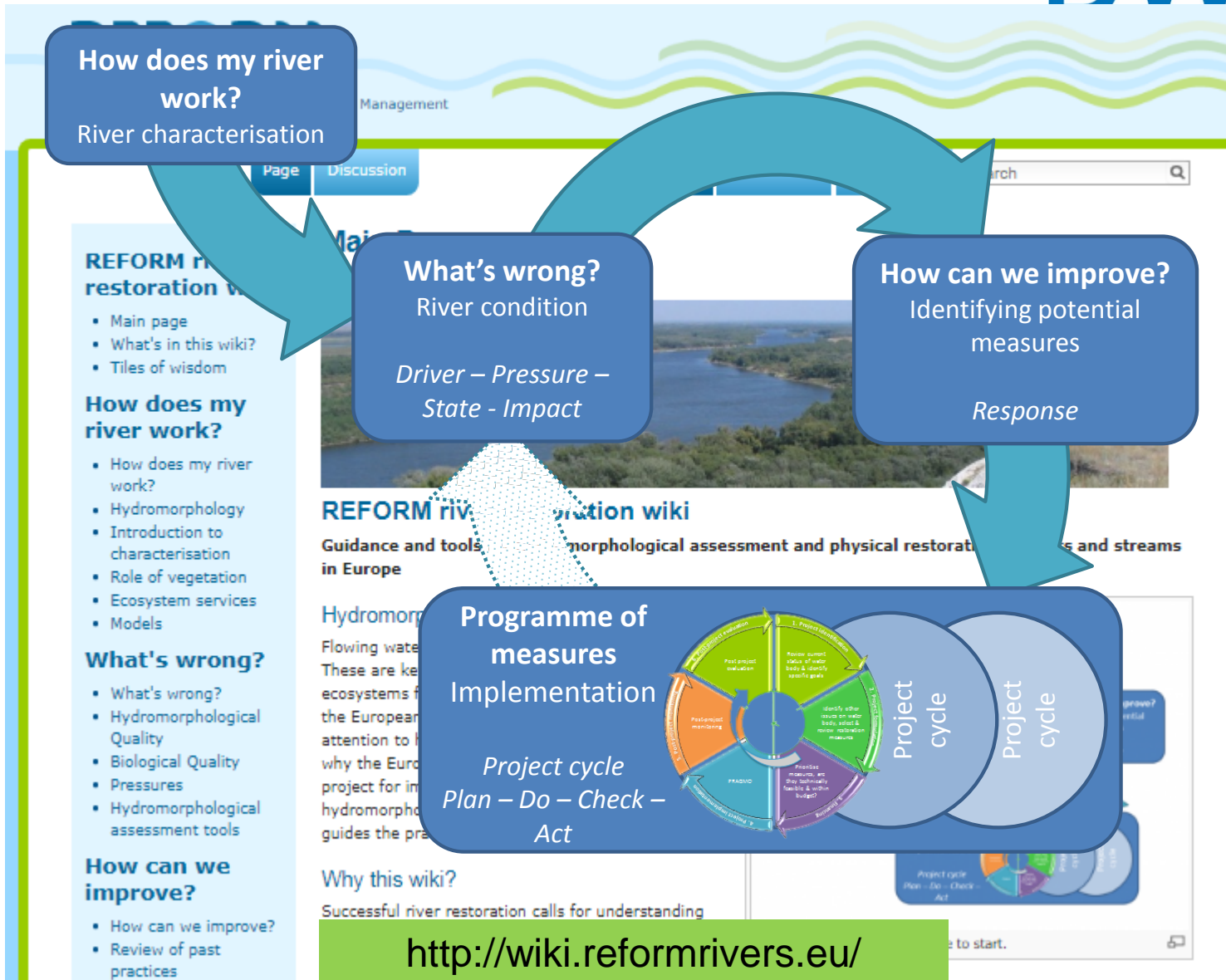
Summer school “Restoring Regulated Streams linking Theory and Practice”

Lecture Notes

1. Ian Cowx (UK) *Planning stream and river restoration and cost- benefit analysis*
2. Angela Gurnell (UK) *The REFORM hydromorphology framework: working with river processes*
3. Massimo Rinaldi (Italy) *Hydromorphological assessment*
4. Christian Wolter (Germany) *Biological assessment*
5. Nikolai Friberg (Norway) *Coupling hydromorphology to biotic responses: challenges in assessing river restoration outcomes*
6. Jochem Kail (Germany) *Selection of restoration measures: general principles and approaches, potential restoration measures and effects on river morphology and biota*
7. Gertjan Geerling (The Netherlands) *Recap of the key reform steps for effective river restoration*

<http://www.reformrivers.eu/events/summer-school>

Guidance and tools – REFORM WIKI



The image shows a screenshot of the REFORM WIKI website with several blue callout boxes and arrows explaining the river restoration process. The boxes are arranged in a flow: 'How does my river work?' (River characterisation) points to 'What's wrong?' (River condition), which points to 'How can we improve?' (Identifying potential measures). Below these, a 'Programme of measures Implementation' box contains a circular diagram of the 'Project cycle' (Plan - Do - Check - Act) and two overlapping circles labeled 'Project cycle'.

How does my river work?
River characterisation

What's wrong?
River condition
Driver – Pressure – State - Impact

How can we improve?
Identifying potential measures
Response

Programme of measures Implementation
Project cycle
Plan – Do – Check – Act

Project cycle

Project cycle

<http://wiki.reformrivers.eu/>

Take home messages - 1 -

Assess HYMO along the entire gradient, from high to bad ecological status

+ The REFORM method is extremely useful for analyzing and interpreting critical problems and causes of alteration.

! Restoration need to consider temporal and spatial aspects beyond project boundaries and project life span

Riparian zones and floodplains are crucial to river morphodynamics and ecology

- Too little legislative framework and monitoring

+ Vegetation can play a cost-effective and significant role as ecosystem engineers for river restoration -> Nature-based solutions

Need to develop NEW biota sampling methods that are more sensitive to HYMO impacts

- Current sampling methods are not appropriate

Take home messages - 2 -

Restoration requires well-defined success criteria

- + Planning benefits from adopting a more synergistic approach and applying existing planning and management tools

Cost-benefit analysis can help prioritizing restoration measures

- Cost data are too scarce

Restoration pays!

- + It increases ecosystem services and benefits other biota
- + Success even in small projects
- Benefits may vanish over time ! Need for monitoring and maintenance

Thank you for your attention



Klare Konzepte. Saubere Umwelt.

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Please visit
www.reformrivers.eu



COLLABORATIVE PROJECT
LARGE SCALE INTEGRATING PROJECT

ENV.2011.2.1.2-1
HYDROMORPHOLOGY AND ECOLOGICAL OBJECTIVES OF WFD

GRANT NO. 282656

