

The EU Water Framework Directive

INBO Conference, 29 September 2005, Namur. Patrick Murphy



Notification (Art. 24)	😊	😐	😞	😊	😞	😞
Intercalibration (Site selection)	😊	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊



Themes of the Presentation

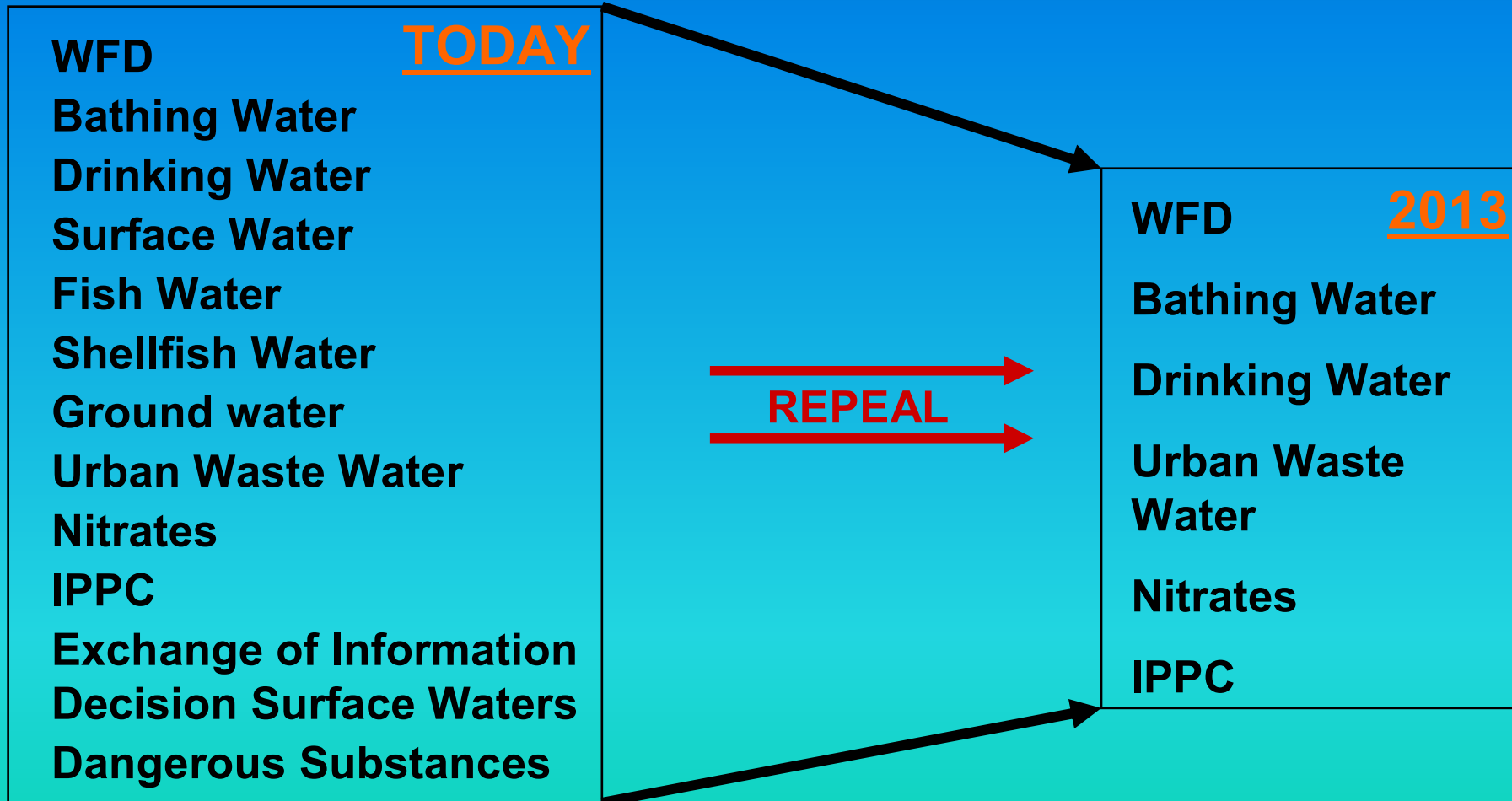


- Background to the Water Framework Directive
- Key Features of the Directive
- Progress in Implementing the Directive
- The Common Implementation Strategy
- Priorities for the Future

Diversity of river basins



Evolution of Water Legislation



WFD Covers all Water Bodies in a River Basin

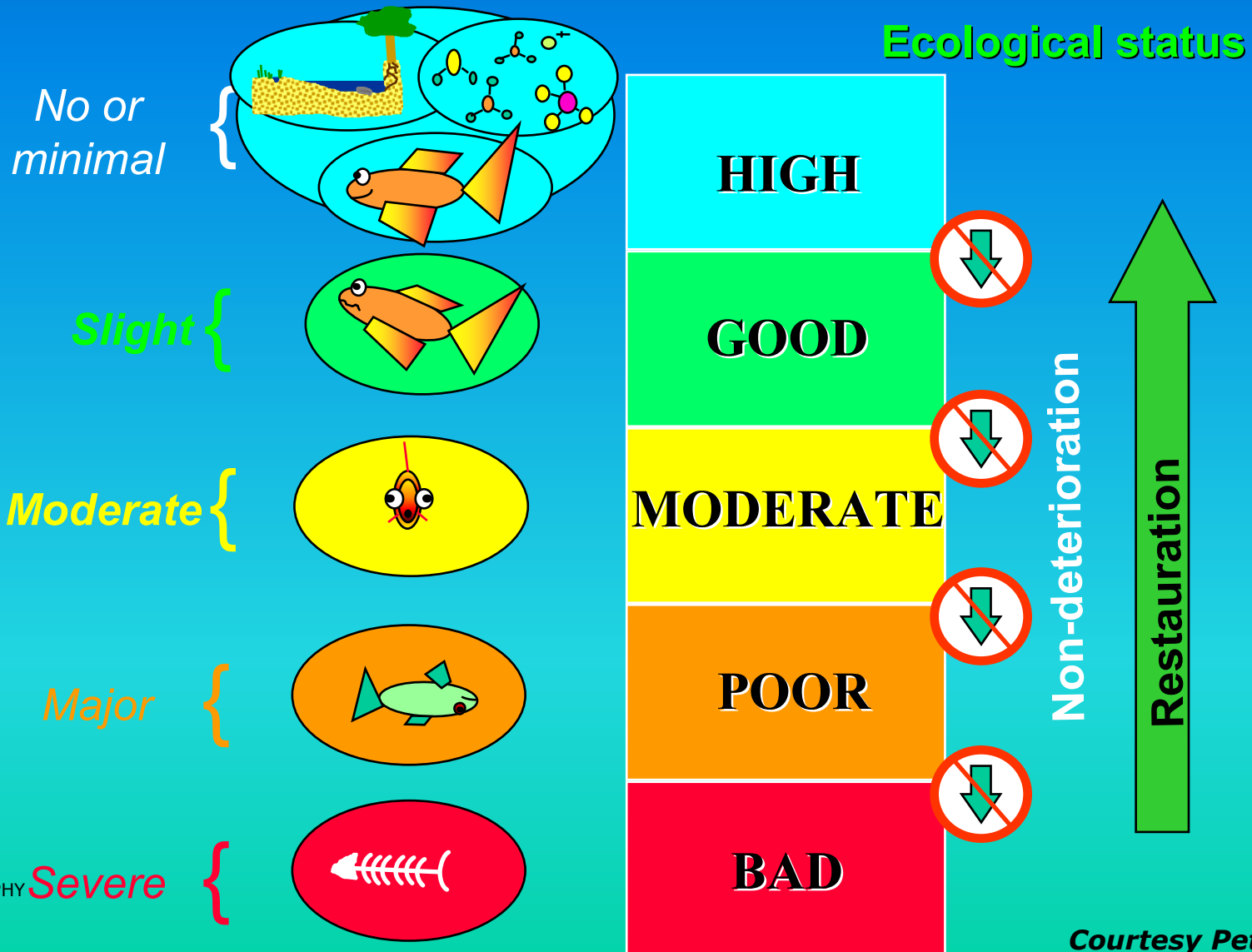


Water Framework Directive: key elements



- Protecting all waters, surface and ground waters
- Covering all impacts on waters.
- Good quality ('good status') to be achieved, as a rule, by 2015
- Water quality defined in terms of biology, chemistry and morphology

Ecological objectives



Implementation: a continuous & transparent process



Formal transposition into national law	Dec 2003
↓	
Environmental analysis, economic analysis	Dec 2004
↓	
Monitoring programmes operational	Dec 2006
Public participation at the latest	Dec 2006
↓	
Draft river basin management plans	Dec 2008
↓	
Final river basin management plans	Dec 2009
↓	
Implementation, assessment, adjustment	2015 and further

"WFD Scoreboard" for 2004-2005



	Country	
Notification (Art. 24)		(non) communication
Completeness		(non) conformity
Conformity		
Intercalibration (Site selection)		(incorrect) implementation
River Basin Districts (Art. 3 Reporting)		
RBD Analysis (Art. 5 Reporting)		

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water/water-framework/scoreboard.html>

Explanation of symbols and colours	
Report or information submitted electronically via the WFD report prototype	😊😊
Report or information submitted	😊
Requirements only partially fulfilled	😐
Report or information not submitted	😞

"WFD Scoreboard" September 2005 1/3



Country	AT	BE	CY	CZ	DK	EE	FI	FR	DE	GR
Notification (Art. 24)	😊	😐	😊	😊	😊	😊	😐	😊	😐	😊
Intercalibration sites	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
RBD - Art 3 report	😊	😐	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😐
RBD Analysis - Art 5 report	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞

"WFD Scoreboard" September 2005 2/3



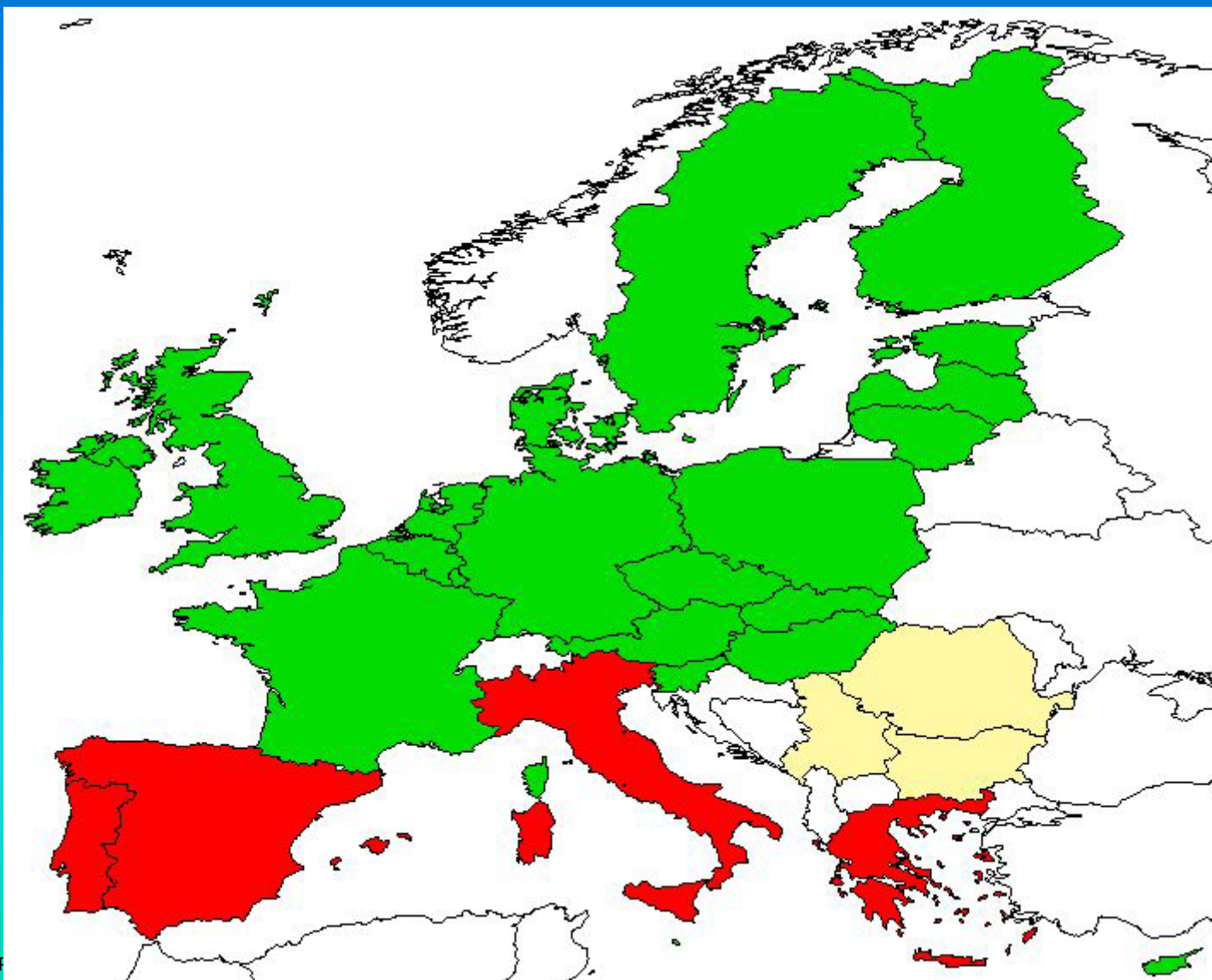
Country	HU	IE	IT	LV	LT	LU	MT	NL	PL	PT
Notification (Art. 24)	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	😊	😞
Intercalibration sites	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
RBD - Art 3 report	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
RBD Analysis - Art 5 report	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞

“WFD Scoreboard” September 2005 3/3



Country	SK	SI	ES	SE	UK
Notification (Art. 24)	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Intercalibration sites	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
RBD - Art 3 report	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊
	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊
RBD Analysis - Art 5 report	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊

Article 5 report submissions



Common Implementation Strategy CIS



- Challenges for all stakeholders
- Many large river basins in Europe are shared
- Common understanding of the Directive is critical
- Has led to: The Common Implementation Strategy
- Involves all stakeholders
- Example of Good European Governance

Cooperation beyond EU current and future borders



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Danube river basin: 18 countries, 817.000 km² catchment area

CIS –Who is Involved



- 25 EU Member States
- Bulgaria, Romania, Norway, Iceland, Switzerland
- Industry - EUREAU, CEFIC, ECPA, EURELECTRIC, Irrigators, Land-Owners etc etc
- NGOs - WWF, EEB, BirdLife, etc
- In total over 1000 people actively involved

CIS Achievements



Fourteen Guidance Documents

- 1) Economics and the Environment
- 2) Identification of Water Bodies
- 3) Analysis of Pressures and Impacts
- 4) Artificial and Heavily Modified Water Bodies
- 5) Transitional and Coastal Waters –Typology, Reference Conditions
- 6) Intercalibration Network and the Intercalibration Process
- 7) Monitoring
- 8) Public Participation
- 9) GIS and the WFD
- 10) Rivers and Lakes Typology
- 11) Planning Process
- 12) Wetlands
- 13) Classification
- 14) Reporting

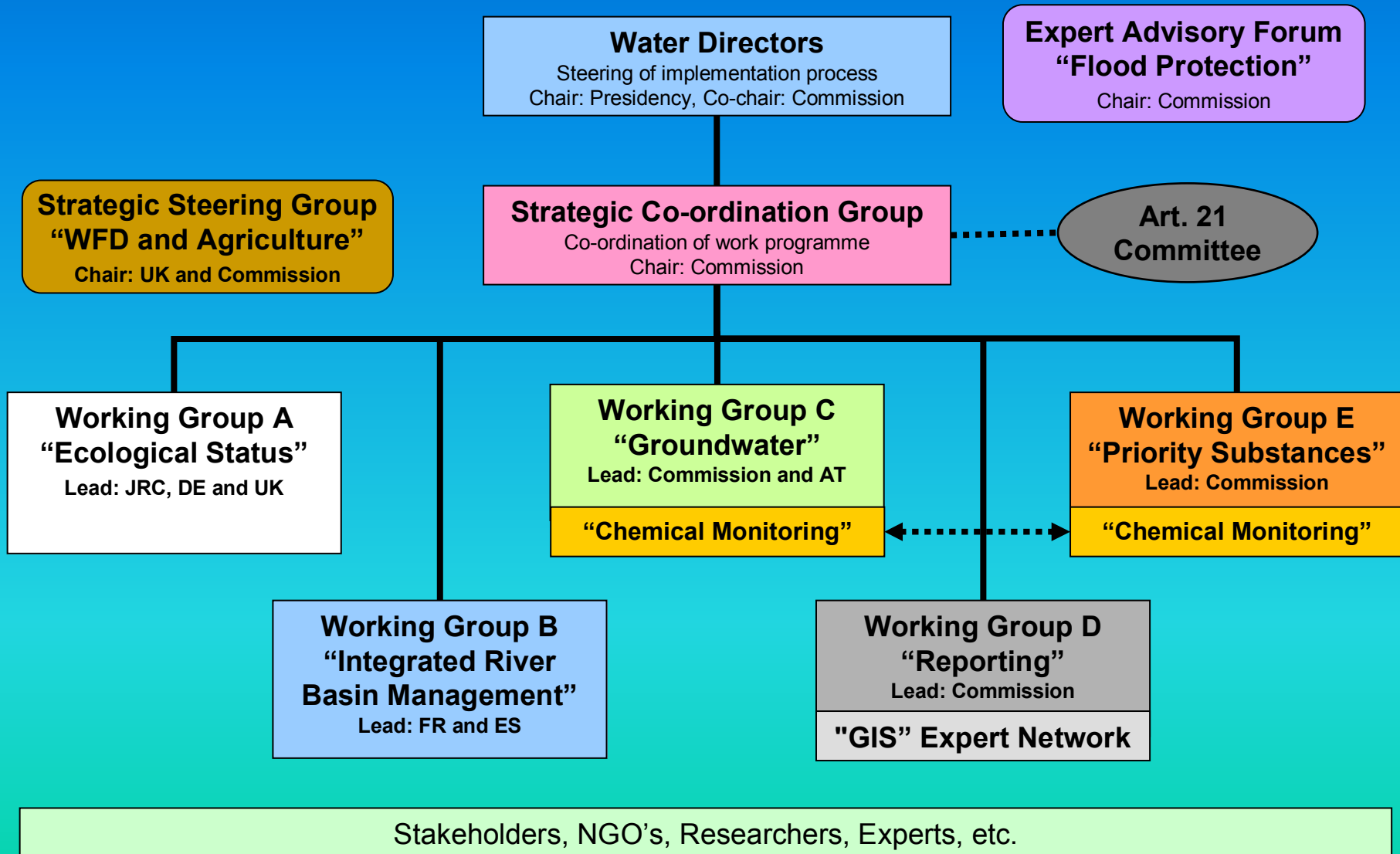


CIS Achievements (cont'd)



- Water Information System for Europe (WISE)
- River Basin Pilot Exercise – summary reports
- Individual PRB reports - Odensee, Shannon, Jucar, etc
- Newsletter
- CD ROM
- CIRCA

CIS organisation 2005-2006



Priorities for 2005-2006



- Climate Change
- Droughts and Floods
- Intercalibration exercise
- WFD and agriculture
- Hydromorphology (hydropower and navigation)
- New Pilot River Basin exercise
- Reporting and WISE
- Priority substances / Chemical monitoring
- Cost effectiveness

More information



On water policy:

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water>

WFD CIRCA Information Exchange Platform

<http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/env/wfd/library>

Email:

env-wfd-circa@cec.eu.int