



Lessons learned from efforts towards reducing water pollution and conserving ecosystems in the Danube River Basin

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ICPDR IKSD

International Commission
for the Protection
of the Danube River

Internationale Kommission
zum Schutz der Donau

Platform for transboundary cooperation on water management



- LEGEND**
- Danube River Basin District (DRBD)
 - Danube River
 - Tributaries (with catchment area > 4,000 km²)
 - Lake water bodies (with surface area > 100 km²)
 - Transitional water bodies
 - Coastal water bodies
 - Canals
 - 📍 Competent authority
 - National borders



Sustainable & equitable use of water



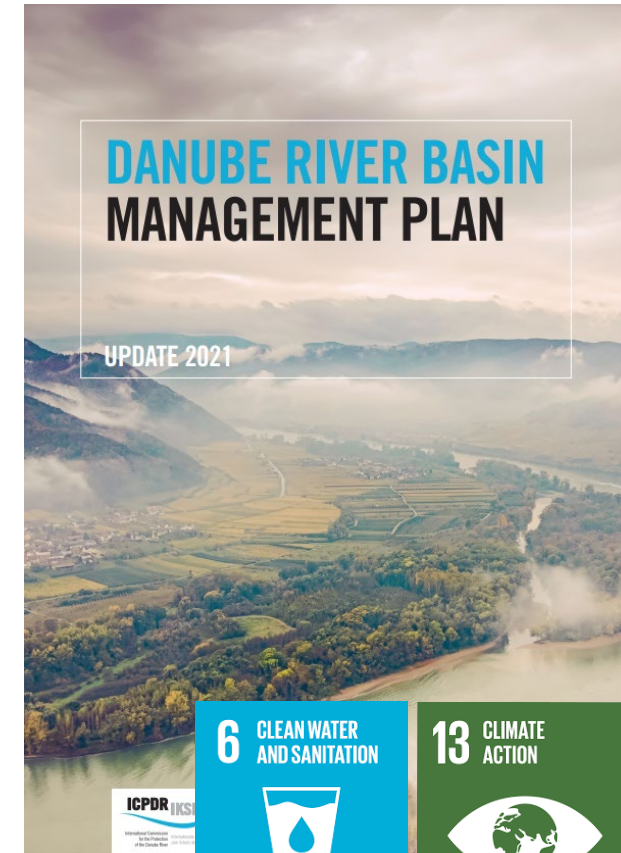
Protection of water & ecological resources



Reduce nutrients & hazardous substances

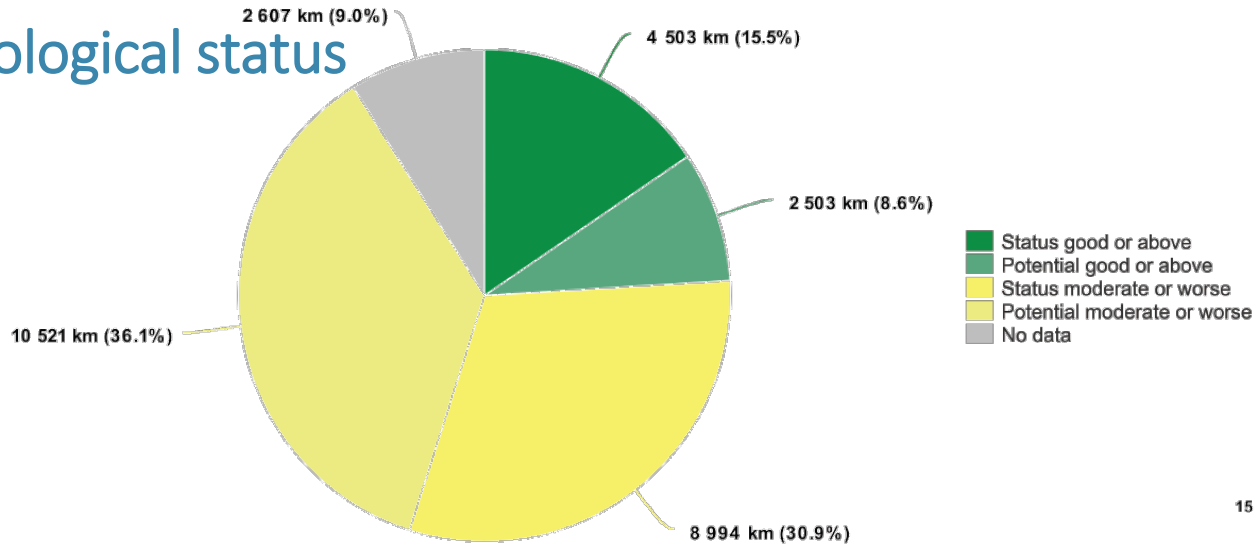


Manage floods & ice hazards

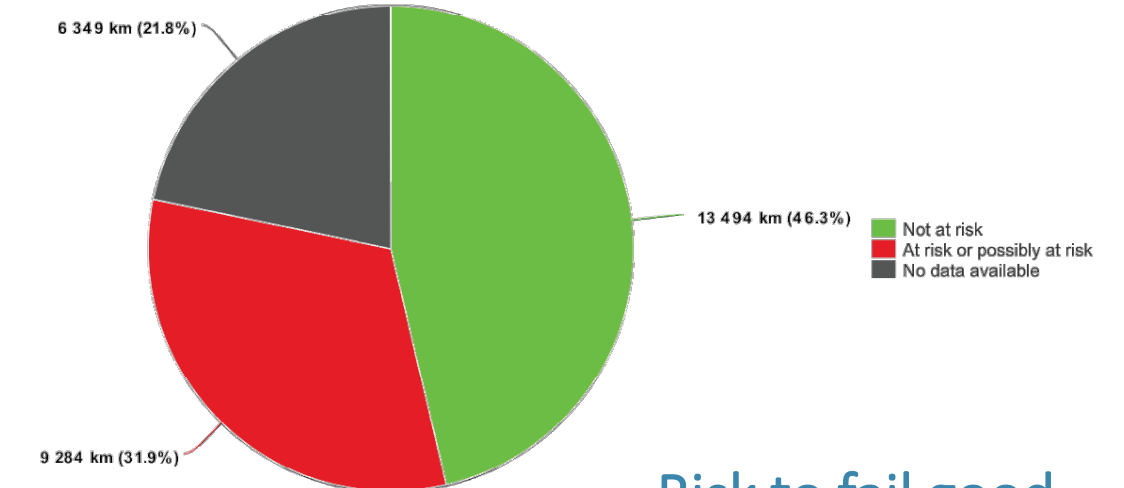
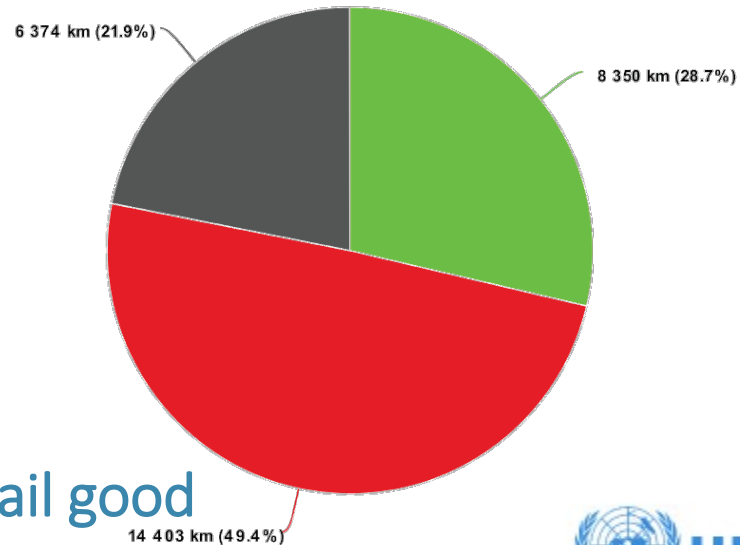
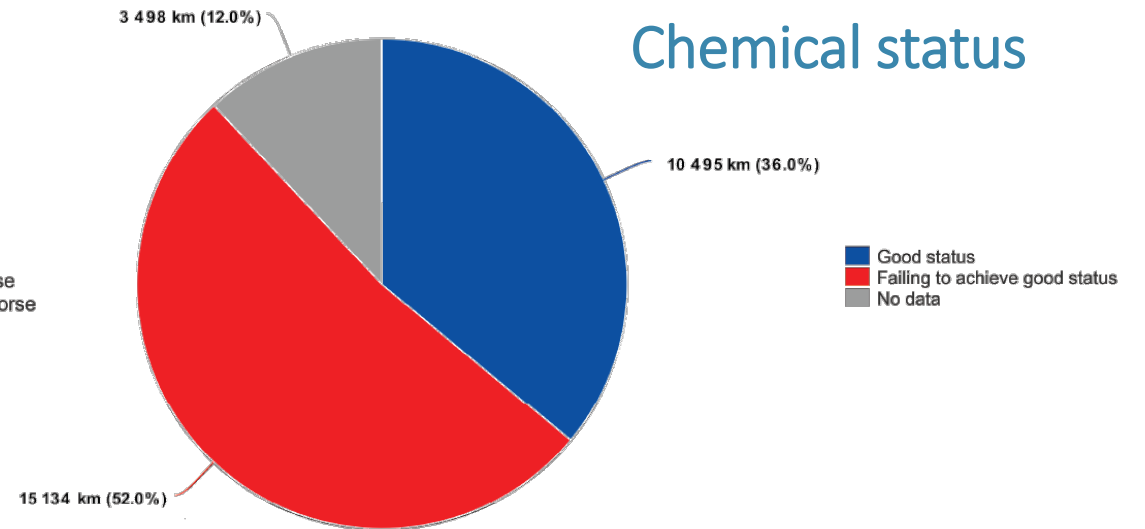


Water status in 2021 and risk of failure by 2027

Ecological status



Chemical status




Risk to fail good ecological status


Risk to fail good chemical status



Achievements since 2009




Joint
Danube Survey
3 & 4



62,000 ha
wetlands &
floodplains
reconnected

- 60%
organic
emission

80%
sewer and
treatment plant
connectivity



- 30%
nitrogen
emissions

- 50%
phosphorous
emissions

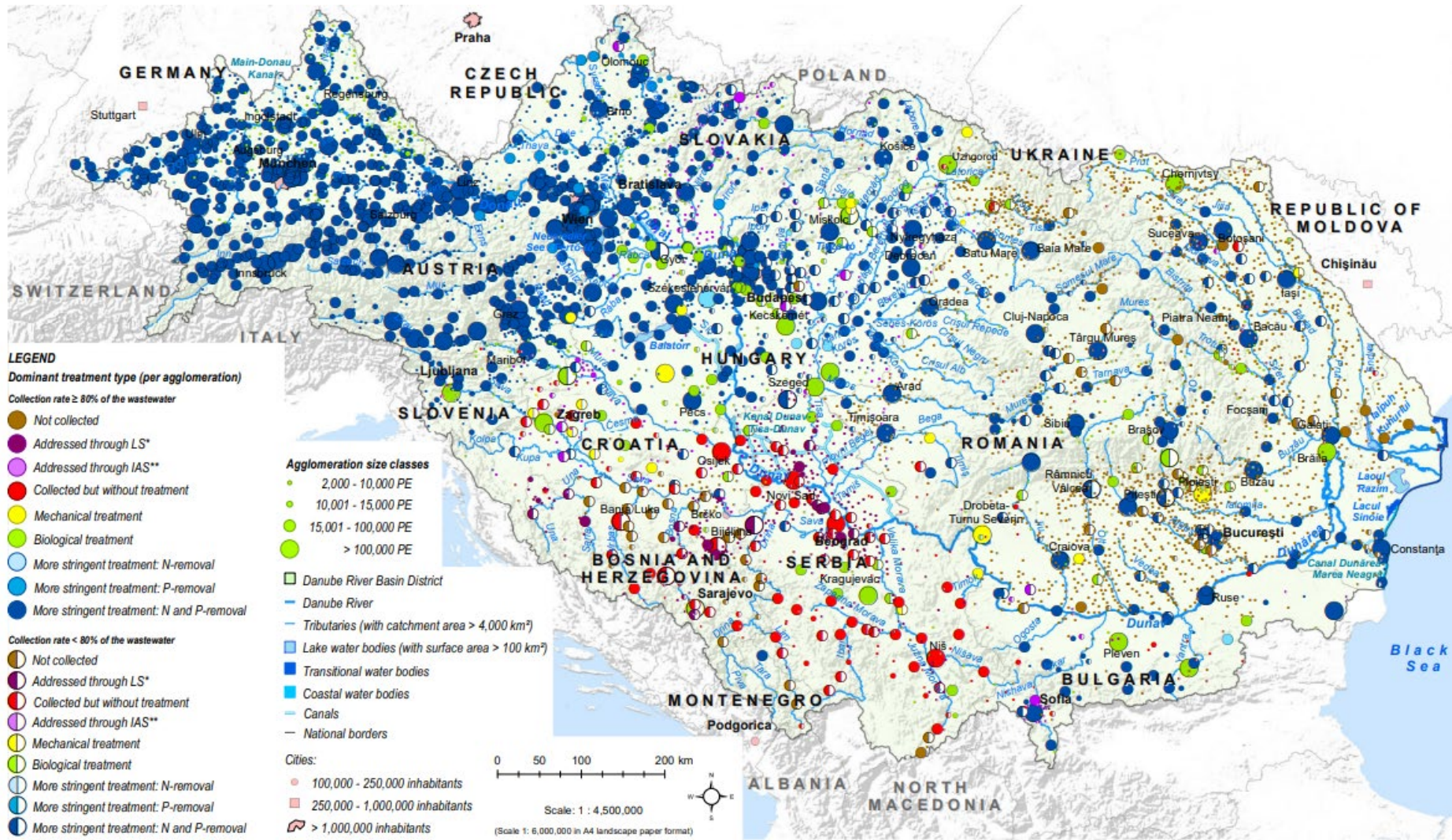
127
fish migration aids
constructed

58
river restoration
projects completed

60%
Nitrate Action
Programmes



Cleaner Danube: Treating Wastewater



UNECE



WATER ACTION DECADE 2018-2028



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Healthier Danube: River restoration



UNECE



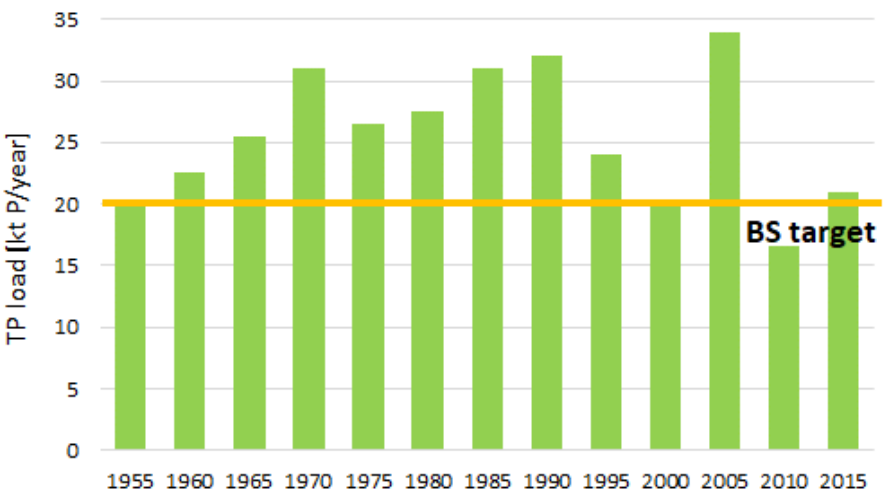
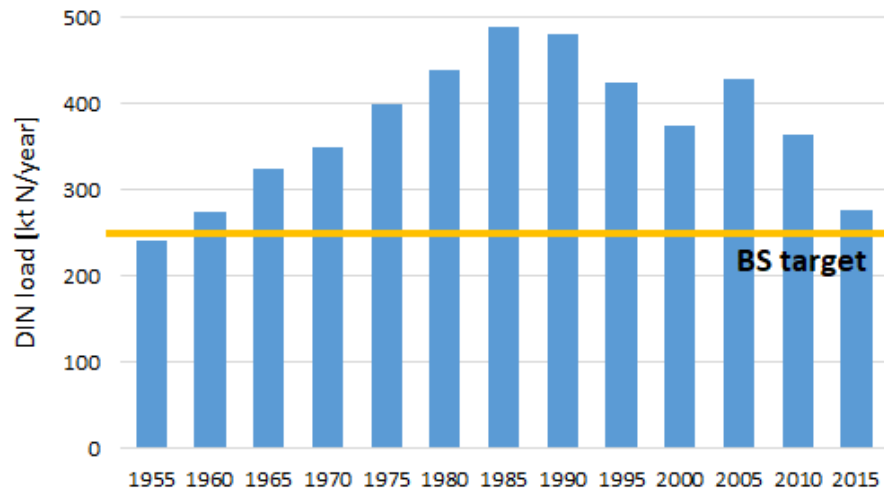
WATER ACTION DECADE 2018-2028



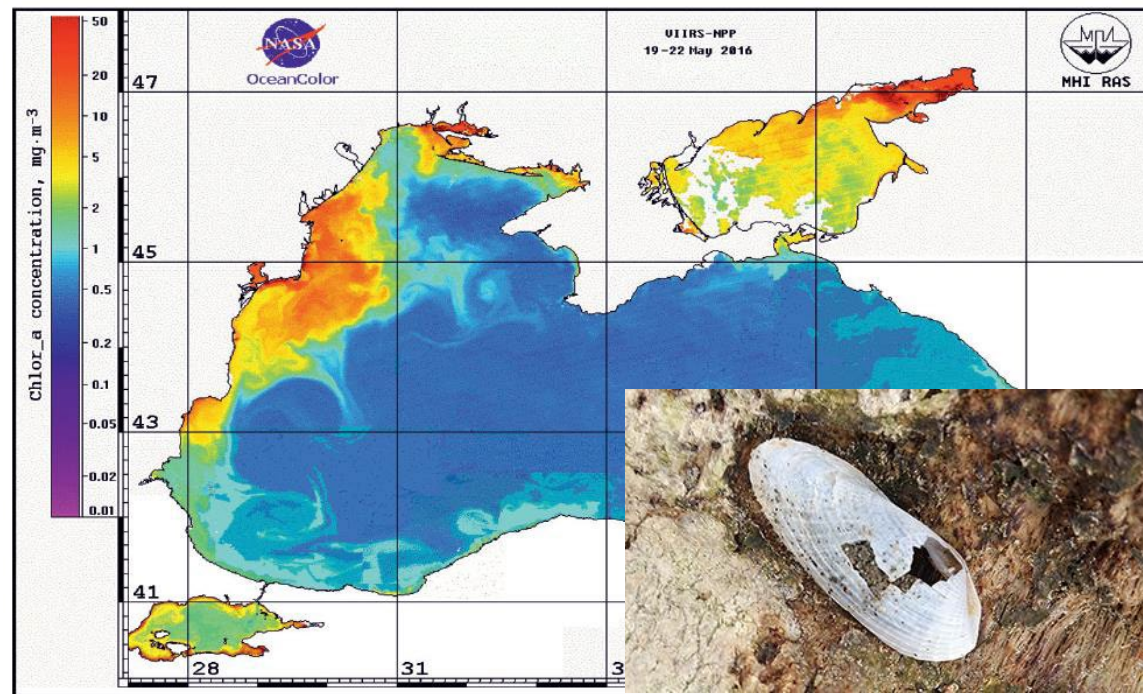
15 LIFE ON LAND



Protecting the Black Sea



Nutrient river loads to the Black Sea



Chlorophyll-a concentration (May 2016)



THE OCEAN CONFERENCE
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, 5-9 JUNE 2017

Voluntary commitment

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



Lessons learned and future challenges

Lessons

- **Legal international mandate** and well-structured cooperation among riparian countries
- **Coordinated and collaborative** technical work and policy-making
- **Reliable, mutually verified and trusted data** and transparent assessment tools
- **Close cooperation with observers**, intersectoral activities and public outreach

Challenges

- **Science-policy gap** at national level
- **Limited dialogue** with certain economic sectors
- **Lack of funding** for specific transboundary projects



Thank you for your kind attention!



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