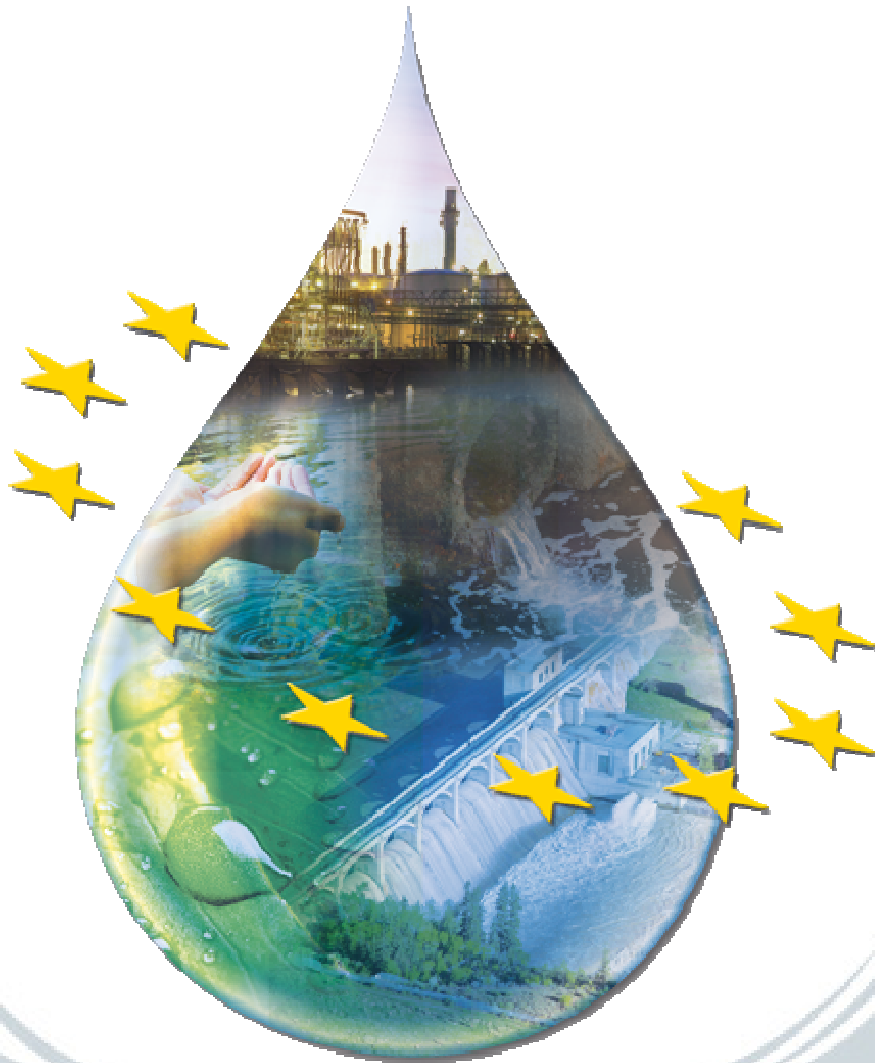


EU water management and environmental protection

Vienna – 3rd follow-up
meeting - Joint Statement
5-6 April 2011

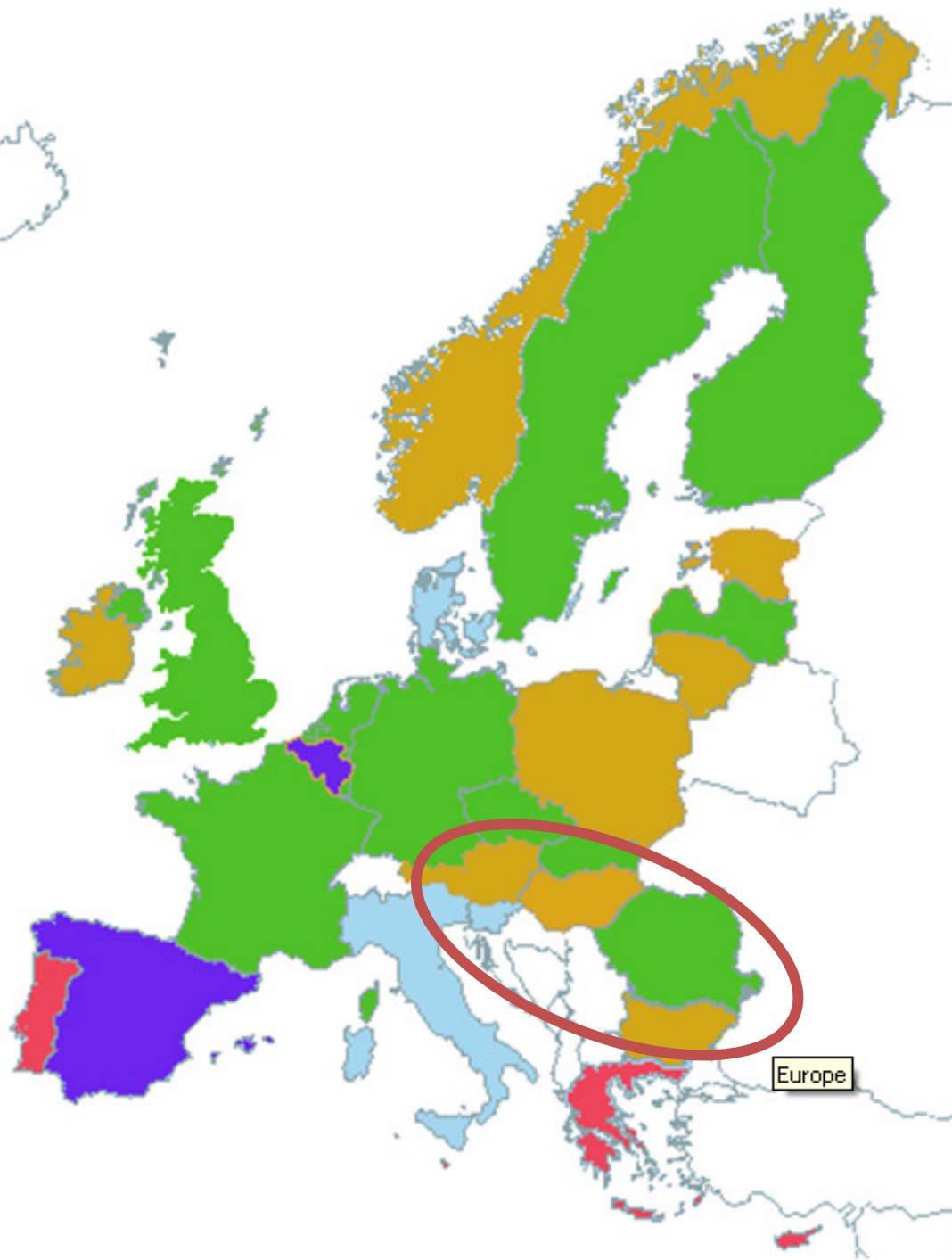
Marieke van Nood
WFD Team – Water Unit
DG Environment, European Commission



Content

- Assessment river basin management plans
- 2012 Blueprint to safeguard EU Waters
- Commission Guidance Document on Sustainable Inland Waterways / Working Group on Rivers
- Initiative on Green Infrastructure





MARCH 2010

GREEN - River Basin Management Plan established

ORANGE / YELLOW - consultations finalised, but plans not yet published.

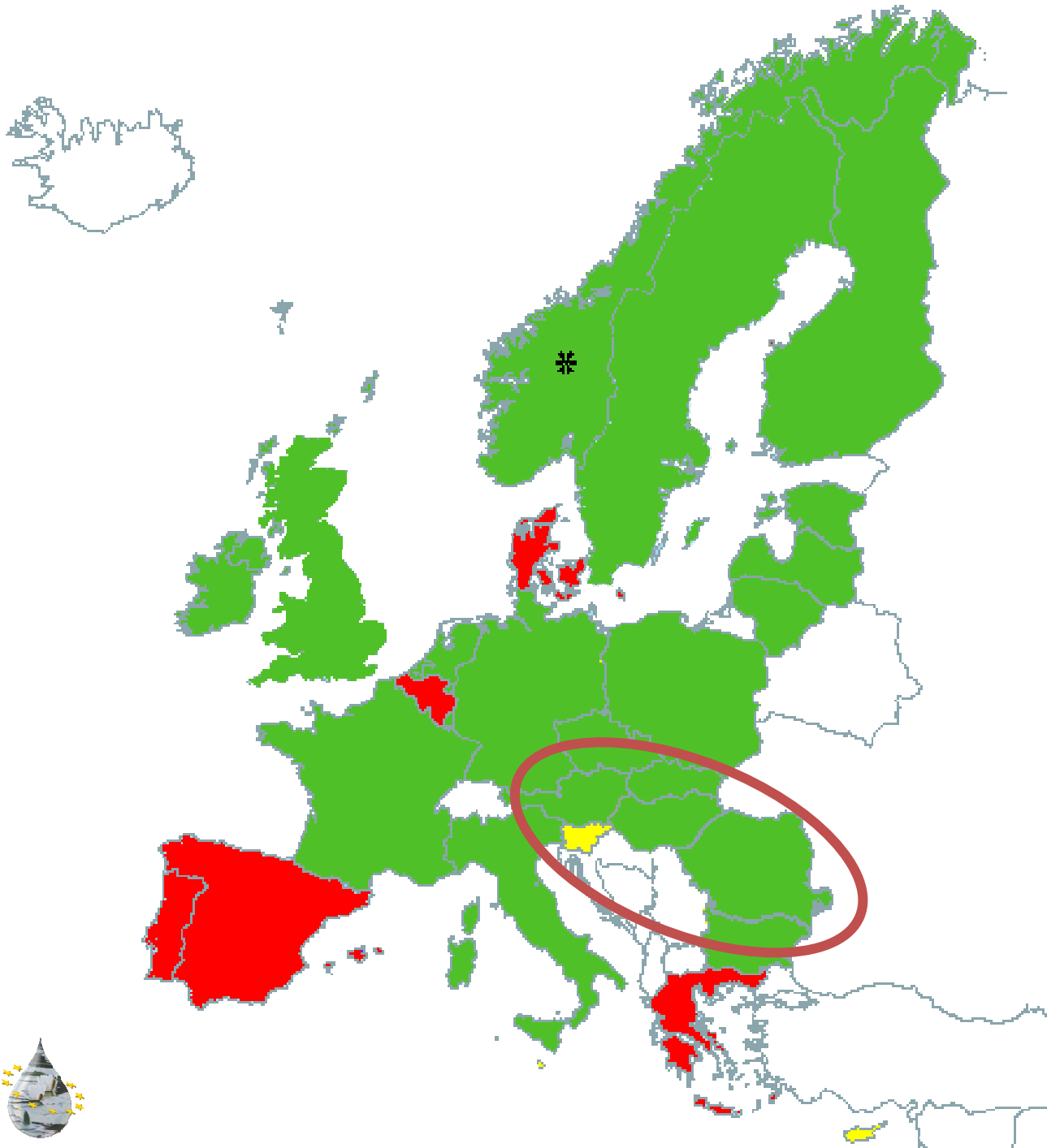
BLUE - consultations ongoing

PURPLE - consultations not started or ongoing in a part of the country

RED - consultation have not yet started

Europe





MARCH 2011

GREEN - River Basin Management Plan established

ORANGE / YELLOW - consultations finalised, but plans not yet published

RED - consultation have not yet started



ropa.eu



Assessment European Commission

- Screen all RBMPs (170) regarding 17 topics, e.g.:
 - Classification of ecological status
 - Designation of Heavily Modified Water Bodies and setting of Good Ecological Potential
 - Application and justification of exemptions, including new modifications
 - Measures related to hydromorphology



2012 Blueprint to safeguard EU Waters

- The Blueprint will include:
 - Assessment of river basin management plans
 - Review of the Strategy for Water Scarcity and Droughts
 - Review of the vulnerability of water and environmental resources to climate impacts and man-made pressures.
- It will examine:
 - The effectiveness of current policies, and the need for further policies or measures necessary to strengthen the resilience of EU water policy
 - The balance between water demand and the supply of clean water, taking account of the needs of both human activities and of natural ecosystems



2012 Blueprint to safeguard EU Waters

- Policy options will be defined regarding a.o.:
 - Land use and Green Infrastructure: measures and policy instruments to accelerate their implementation
 - EU wide application of payments for ecosystem services
 - Further integration of policy objectives, e.g. in Structural Funds
- Stakeholder event in May/June 2012 in Brussels
- Publication of Blueprint in November 2012



Guidance Document on IWT and HBD

- Title: **Sustainable inland waterway development and management in the context of the EU Habitats and Birds Directive**
- First draft shared with Working Group end 2010
- Comments received from MS and stakeholders
- New draft available for meeting on 6 May 2011
- New draft will be more 'practical'
- Intention is to finalise document end 2011



Guidance Document on IWT and HBD

- Contents:
 - Policy background on Inland Waterway Transport and Habitats and Birds Directives
 - Potential impacts of IWT on Nature and Wildlife and specific river information
 - The importance of integrated planning
 - Step by step procedure for IWT plans/projects likely to affect a Natura2000 site
 - Relevance of and links with other EU environmental legislation



Guidance document on ports & estuaries

- **The implementation of the Birds and Habitats Directives in estuaries and coastal zones**
- Commission Staff Working Document: **Integrating biodiversity and nature into port development**

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/guidance_en.htm



Initiative on Green Infrastructure

- Aim: increase the resilience of ecosystems, by
 - improving functional and spatial connectivity
 - Increasing ecological coherence
 - improving landscape permeability
- IWT can play a role
- Priority in EC Communication on 'Regional Policy contribution to Sustainable Growth in Europe 2020'
- Important element of the upcoming 2020 Biodiversity Strategy, and of the future financial perspectives



Thank you for your attention

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment>



water.europa.eu

