



# **EU environmental policies relevant for inland navigation – latest developments**

**10<sup>th</sup> Meeting on the Follow-up of the  
Joint Statement on Guiding Principles on the  
Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental  
Protection in the Danube River Basin**

**11-12 September 2019, Budapest**

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# Water Framework Directive

- **Scope**

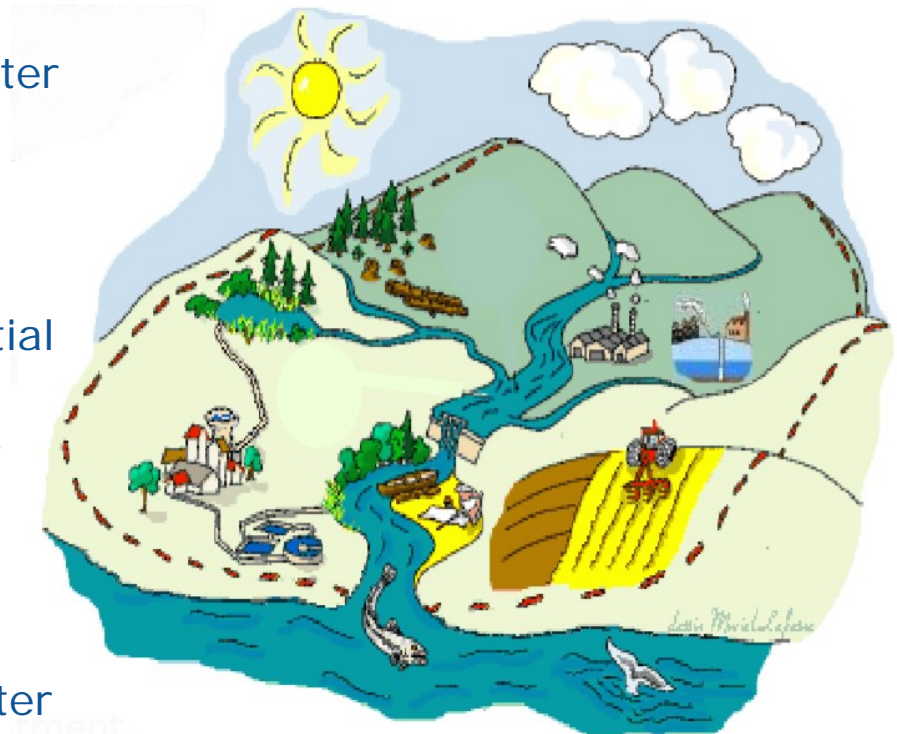
- Protection and management of all waters, including rivers, lakes, transitional-, coastal- and groundwater
- Covering all impacts on waters

- **Objectives**

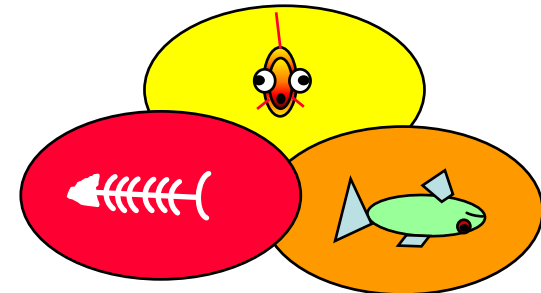
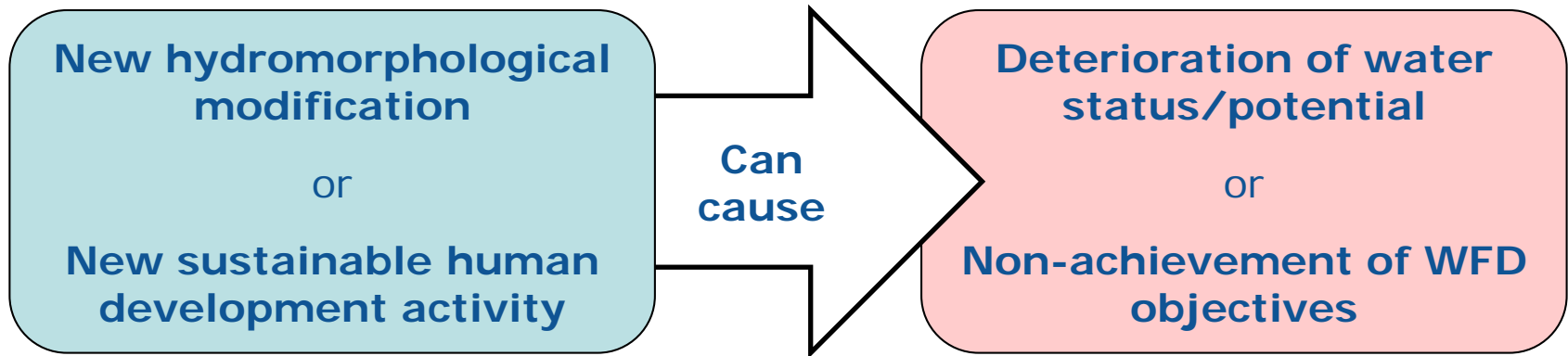
- Protect and enhance water bodies - Achievement of good status / potential
- No deterioration
- Exemptions under certain conditions

- **Tools**

- River Basin Management Plans and Programmes of Measures
- Existing legislation: urban waste water treatment, nitrates from agriculture, habitats, etc. - Public participation



# New (navigation infrastructure) projects



- ➔ Requires exemption from WFD "no deterioration principle"
- ➔ Project cannot be authorised in case conditions not fulfilled

**New modifications preventing** the achievement of **good water status** and/or **leading to deterioration** are only allowed under the following **conditions** (WFD Article 4.7):

- All practicable mitigation measures are taken
- There are no significantly better environmental options
- The benefits of the development outweigh the benefits of achieving the WFD objectives / the development is of overriding public interest
- The project and the reasons for it are set out and explained in the River Basin Management Plans

→ **Need for strategic approach**



## Resources available

### COMMON IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR THE WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE AND THE FLOODS DIRECTIVE



#### Guidance Document No. 36 Exemptions to the Environmental Objectives according to Article 4(7)

New modifications to the physical characteristics of surface water bodies, alterations to the level of groundwater, or new sustainable human development activities

*Document endorsed by EU Water Directors at their meeting in Tallinn on 4-5 December 2017*

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/facts\\_figures/guidance\\_docs\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/facts_figures/guidance_docs_en.htm)



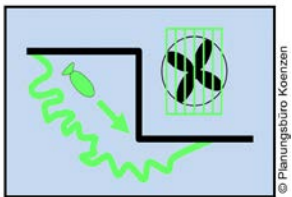
### Water Framework Directive Project assessment checklist tool



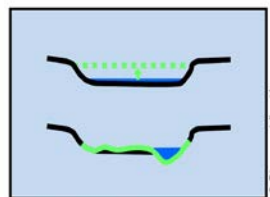
<http://jaspersnetwork.org/plugins/servlet/documentRepository/searchDocument?category=Environmental%20issues>

## Existing infrastructure: Modernisation and improvement of ecological performance

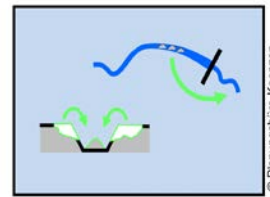
- If good status not achievable: water body should be designated as heavily modified water body – Good Ecological Potential should be defined
- Need for **ecological restoration measures** to achieve "good status/potential"
- Some example of mitigation measures



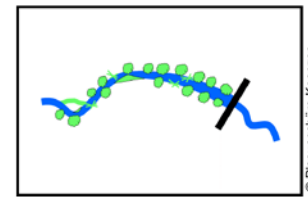
Fish migration aids



Environmental flow



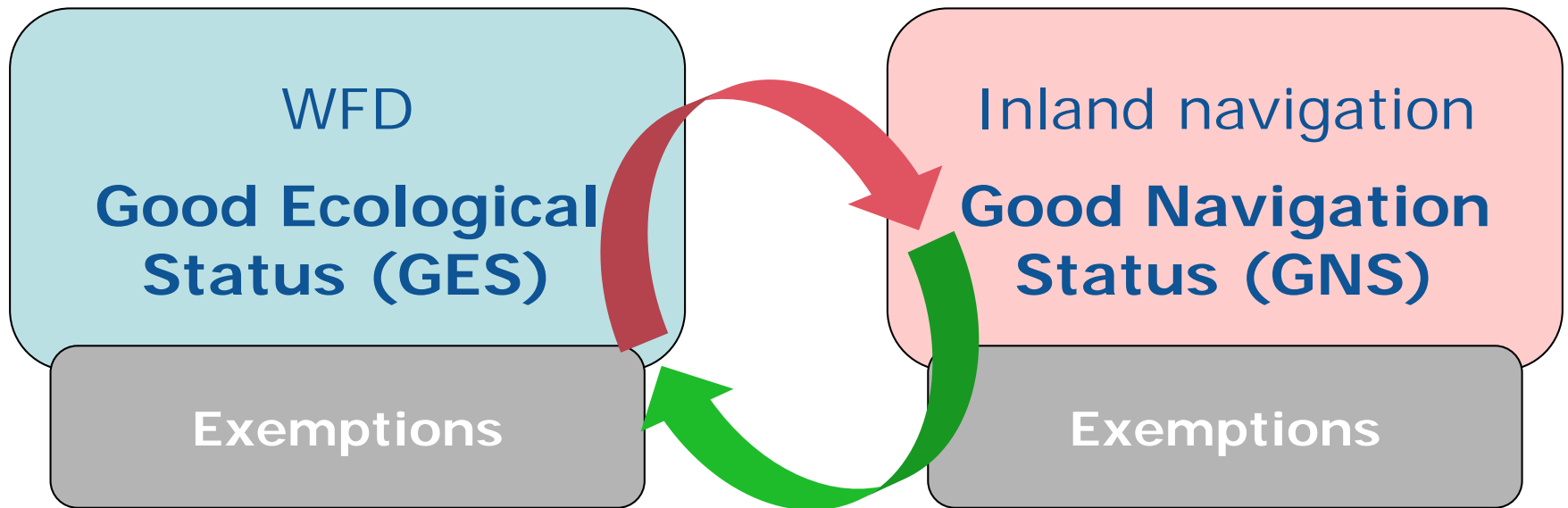
Sediment  
management



Improvement of in-  
channel facility

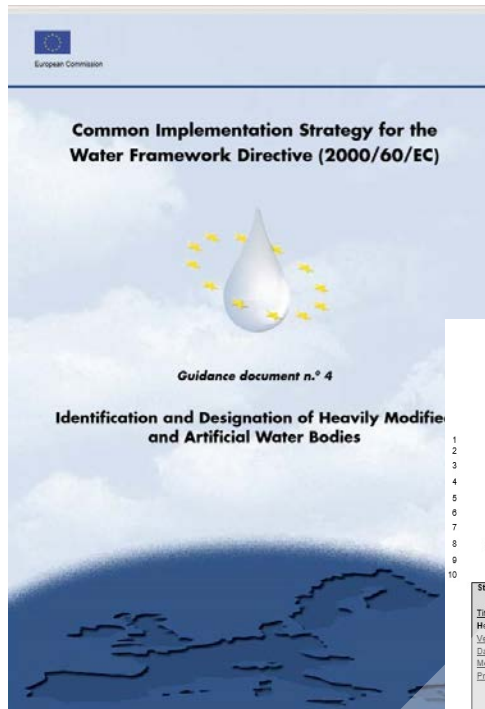
# Inter-relation

## Good Ecological Status (GES) – Good Navigation Status (GNS)





# Resources available



Includes a European library of measures

Appendix to the guidance on the definition of good ecological potential

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<b>Status box</b>
<b>Title:</b> Steps for defining and assessing ecological potential for improving comparability of Heavily Modified Water Bodies. This is a preparatory document to CIS Guidance Document no 4.
<b>Version no.:</b> 2.0
<b>Date:</b> 4 September 2012
<b>Meeting:</b> 38 <sup>th</sup> ECOSTAT meeting
<b>Proposal:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The present version will be discussed during the 38<sup>th</sup> ECOSTAT meeting</li> <li>• The final version will be adopted at the end of the meeting</li> <li>• The final version will be adopted at the end of the meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Disclaimer:</b>
This technical document has been developed through a collaborative framework (the Common Implementation Strategy (CIS)) involving the Member States, EFTA countries, and other stakeholders including the European Commission. The document is a working draft and does not necessarily represent the official, formal position of any of the partners.
To the extent that the European Commission's services provided input to this technical document, such input does not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission.
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Workshop on mitigation measures and GEP for Inland Navigation (2017)

Presentations and report available

viadonau

Mitigation Measures and GEP for inland navigation water use

Mitigation Measures along the Austrian Danube

Gerd Friik – Verbu  
Workshop 29-3

Mitigation measures and GEP from the perspective of Europe's most important shipping lane



Laura Gangi

International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR)

Mitigation measures and GEP for inland navigation water use  
Workshop on 29-30 June 2017, Brussels



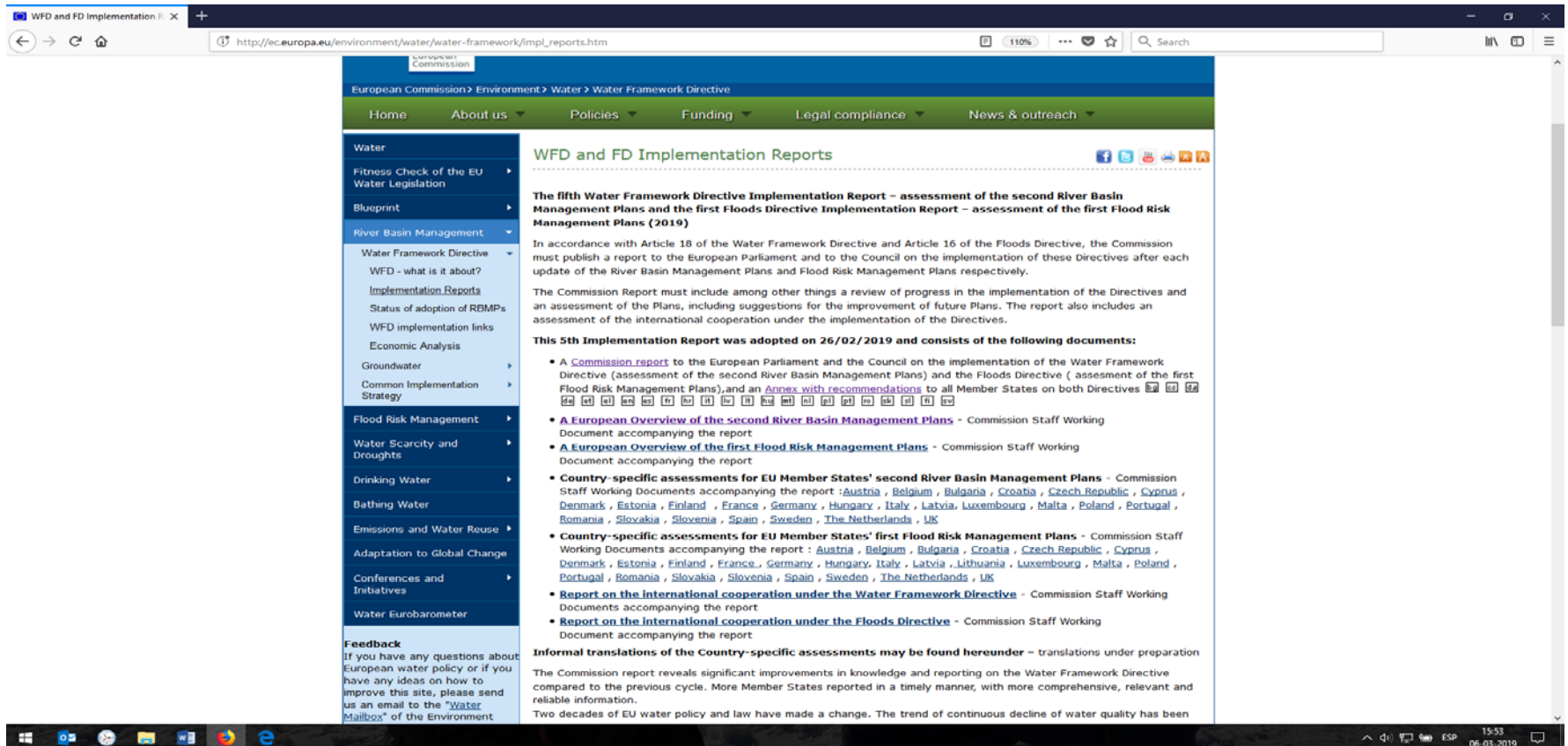


# CIS Work Programme 2019-2021

## **Hydromorphology: ongoing and planned activities**

- 1. Finalisation of the guidance on Good Ecological Potential**
- 2. Intercomparison of good ecological potential** – on the basis of the method provided in the guidance
- 3. Development of a guidance on sediment management**
- 4. Hydromorphology in Rivers** - workshops are planned on : ecological and environmental flows, measures
- 5. Hydromorphology in Lakes** — work on hydromorphological assessment methods
- 6. - Hydromorphology in transitional and coastal waters** - workshops on: hydromorphological methods, measures

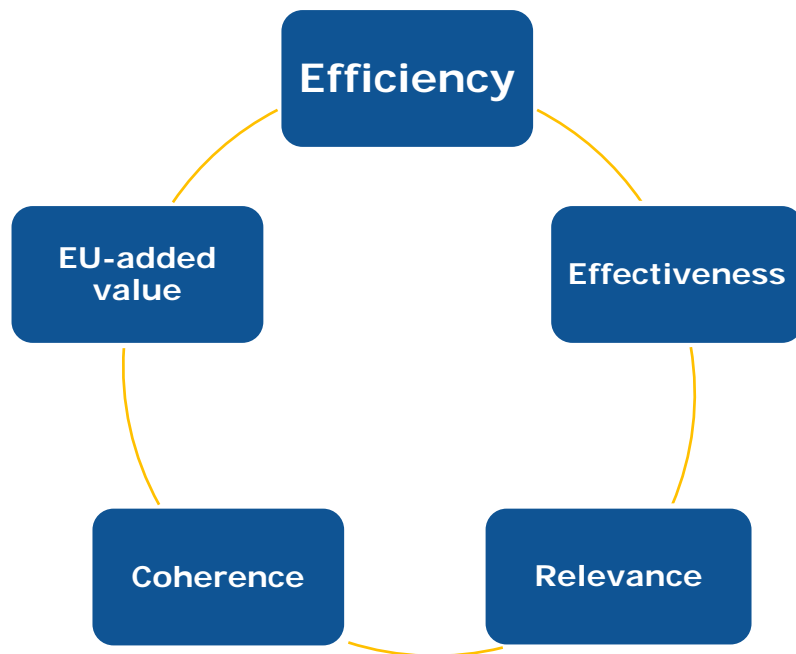
# Publication of the 2<sup>nd</sup> RBMPs assessment



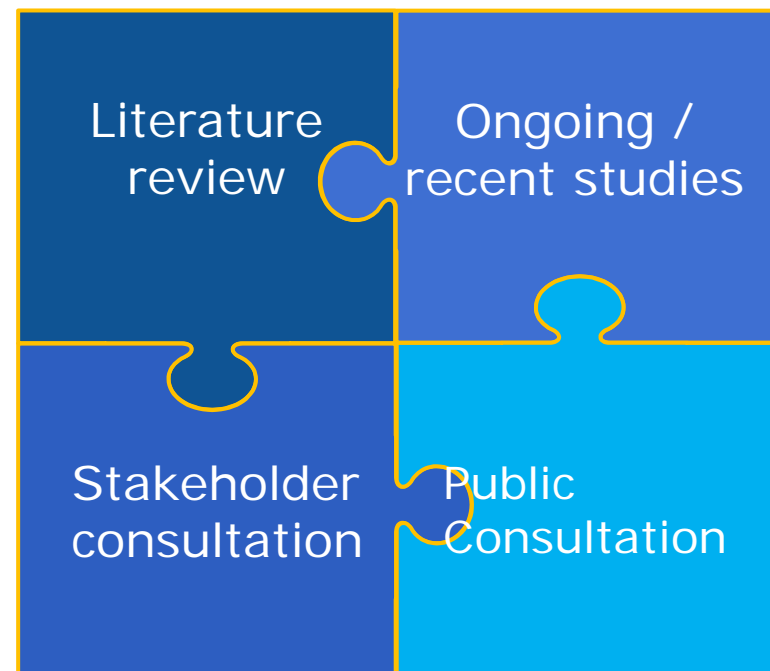
The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the European Commission's website. The address bar shows the URL: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/impl\\_reports.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/impl_reports.htm). The page title is "WFD and FD Implementation Reports". The main content area features a heading "WFD and FD Implementation Reports" followed by a sub-heading "The fifth Water Framework Directive Implementation Report – assessment of the second River Basin Management Plans and the first Floods Directive Implementation Report – assessment of the first Flood Risk Management Plans (2019)". The text explains that the Commission must publish a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of these Directives after each update of the River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans respectively. It also states that the Commission Report must include a review of progress in the implementation of the Directives and an assessment of the Plans, including suggestions for the improvement of future Plans. The report also includes an assessment of the international cooperation under the implementation of the Directives. The page lists the documents included in the 5th Implementation Report, which was adopted on 26/02/2019. The documents include: a Commission report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (assessment of the second River Basin Management Plans) and the Floods Directive (assessment of the first Flood Risk Management Plans), and an Annex with recommendations to all Member States on both Directives; a European Overview of the second River Basin Management Plans - Commission Staff Working Document accompanying the report; a European Overview of the first Flood Risk Management Plans - Commission Staff Working Document accompanying the report; country-specific assessments for EU Member States' second River Basin Management Plans - Commission Staff Working Documents accompanying the report; country-specific assessments for EU Member States' first Flood Risk Management Plans - Commission Staff Working Documents accompanying the report; a Report on the international cooperation under the Water Framework Directive - Commission Staff Working Document accompanying the report; and a Report on the international cooperation under the Floods Directive - Commission Staff Working Document accompanying the report. The page also mentions that informal translations of the country-specific assessments may be found hereunder - translations under preparation. The Commission report reveals significant improvements in knowledge and reporting on the Water Framework Directive compared to the previous cycle. More Member States reported in a timely manner, with more comprehensive, relevant and reliable information. Two decades of EU water policy and law have made a change. The trend of continuous decline of water quality has been

# Fitness check

## Evaluation questions



## Methodology





# Fitness check

October 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Publication of roadmap</li><li>• Finalisation of ToR</li></ul>
April 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Launch support study – Fitness Check</li></ul>
September 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Launch of public consultation – until 11 March 2019</li><li>• Launch of targeted consultation and experts workshops</li></ul>
October 2018 –April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Targeted consultation with relevant stakeholders (ongoing – until 29 March)</li><li>• Workshops</li></ul>
End 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finalisation of support studies</li><li>• Commission report on Fitness Check</li></ul>



# Thank you!

## **More information**

**CIS Guidance Documents:** [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/facts\\_figures/guidance\\_docs\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/facts_figures/guidance_docs_en.htm)

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