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Leibniz-Institut für Gewässerökologie
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Science Service at the Policy Interface

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Legal framework for the protection of biodiversity in freshwater systems

Germany as an example

- Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC),
- Habitats Directive(92/43/EEC)
 - Species Protection Ordinance, EC
- Eel Protection Regulation (EC Nr. 1100/2007)
- Federal Nature Conservation Act
- Federal Water Act
- Animal Welfare Act
- Fisheries laws and regulations (Federal states)

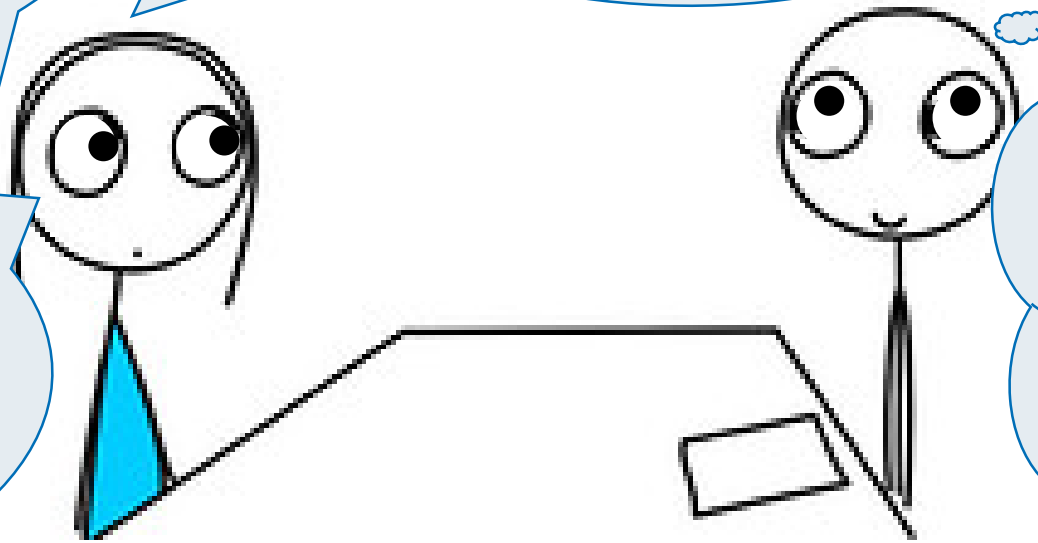
Knowledge transfer

In aquatic systems, the WFD calls for re-establishing the historical situation, which was characterized by permanent interconnection of most floodplain waters.

All Member States are expected to contribute towards reaching the goal to restore at least 25,000 km into free-flowing rivers by 2030!

Exemptions can be given by reasons of public interest, social or economic that outweigh the interests of European species protection. But only if there are no reasonable alternatives and the status of species populations will not deteriorate.

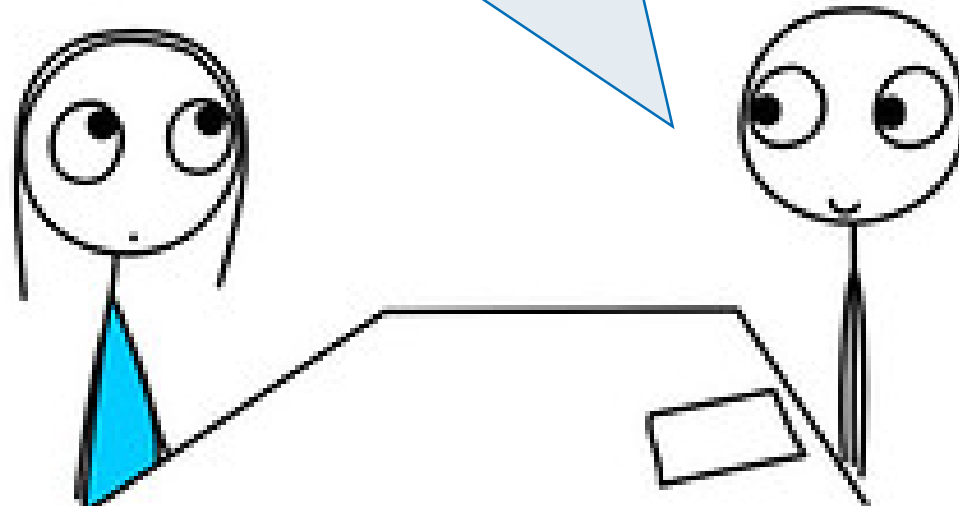
Blah blah blah...
Exemptions can be given! ...bla bla bla
bla



To overcome major shortcomings in the implementation of the legal framework new integrative approaches are urgently needed at the policy, administrative and practical implementation level

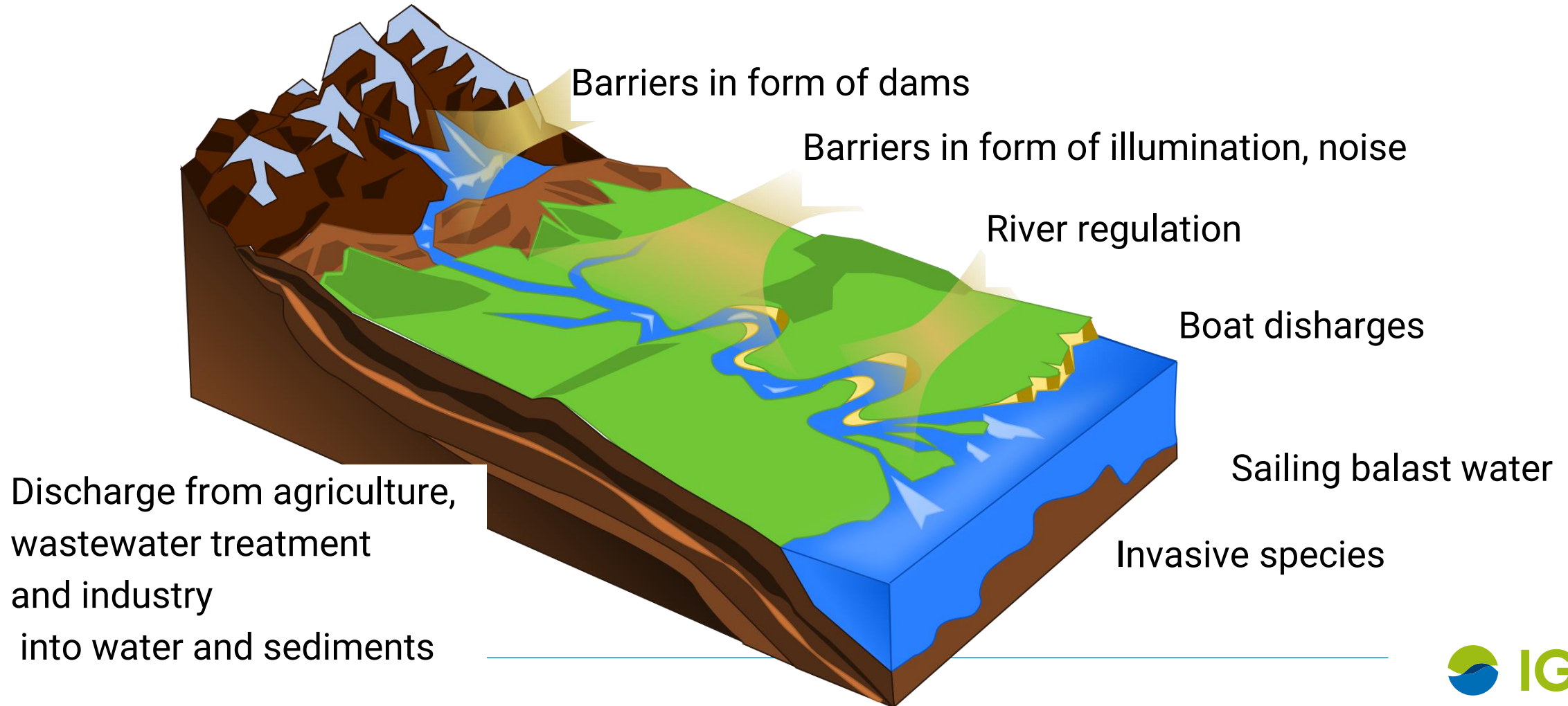
Knowledge transfer works best if the stakeholder / actor is urged to know

How can we best invest into eco-friendly management, considering to the EU legal framework?



Freshwater case study

Drivers of biodiversity decline in rivers and implementation of the WFD



Actors

The actors are the key for implementation, we have to think beyond the typical parties!



Freshwater case study

- Map the rivers
- Map the actors

Analyse the gaps for

- creating more space for flowing waters
- restoring the continuity of watercourse systems and increase connectivity
- reducing water pollution and defining the economic value
- developing an integrative strategy for water management
- better implementing existing environmental legislation
- making data and information on water biodiversity available to the actors

This demonstration case is one pilot study out of four from various disciplines.

BioAgora

Develop a Science Service for Biodiversity



- Provide the scientific pillar of the EU's Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity (KCBD)
- Analyse the existing landscape of science-policy interfaces
- Assessing the policy tools and the current status of biodiversity knowledge in Europe
- Design tailored pathways on how to better orchestrate science-policy interactions
- Empower the EU community of decision-makers and knowledge providers by capacity building and transformative change for biodiversity
- Actively engage with a broad range of actors such as policymakers, scientists, business, and citizens

Thank you very much for your attention!

If you have any questions, please contact:

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