Strategic Approaches to put Transboundary Integrated Water Management into practise

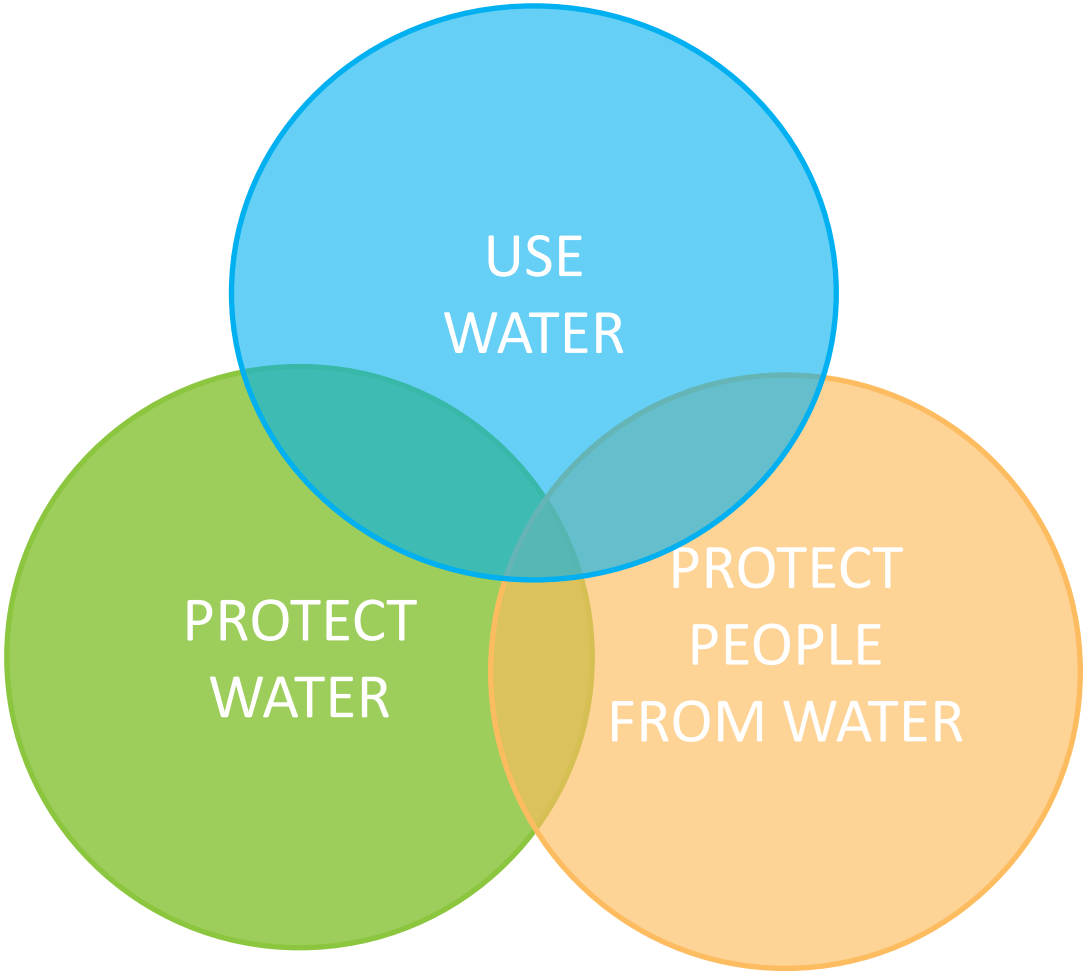
Why river basin wide approaches matter

The spatial question

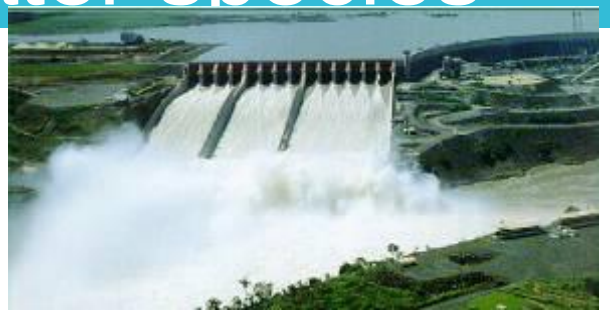
Lack of space is the main problem in mountain valleys

➔ not only expansion of buildings, but also transport routes

Conflicting interests



Fragmentation is the main cause for the decline of freshwater species



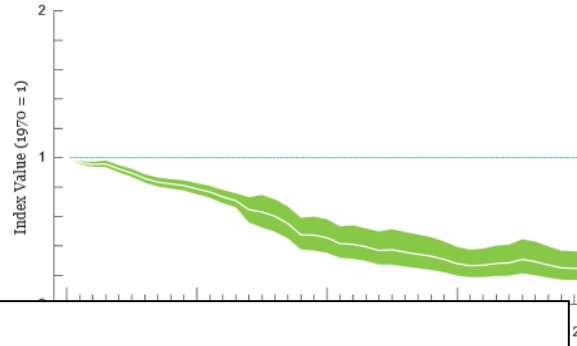
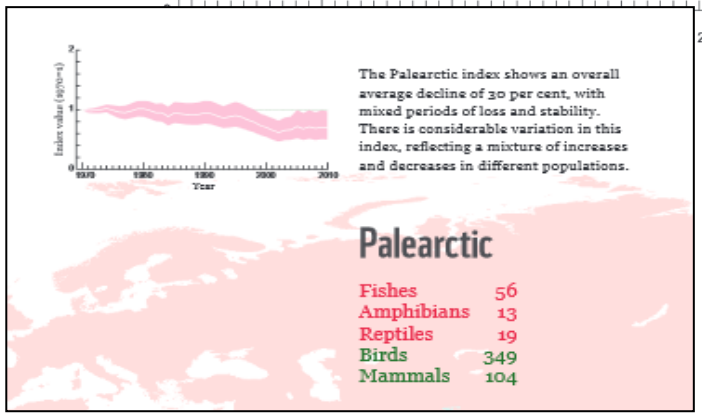


Figure 13: The freshwater LPI shows a decline of 76 per cent between 1970 and 2010
This is based on trends in 3,066 populations of 757 mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian and fish species (WWF, ZSL, 2014).



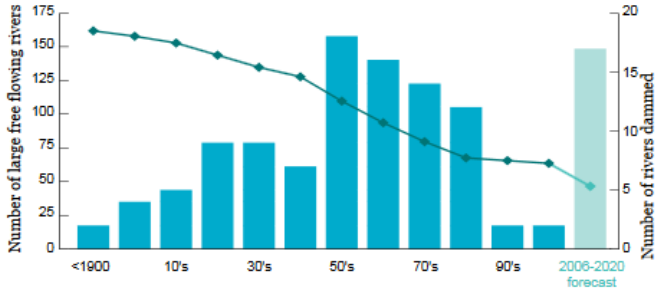
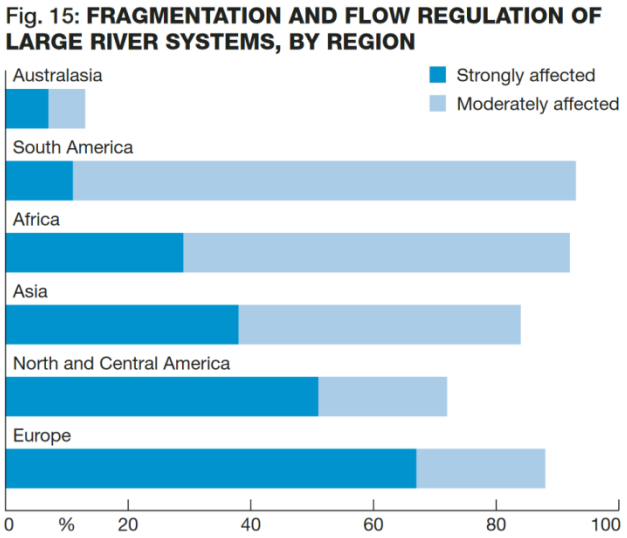


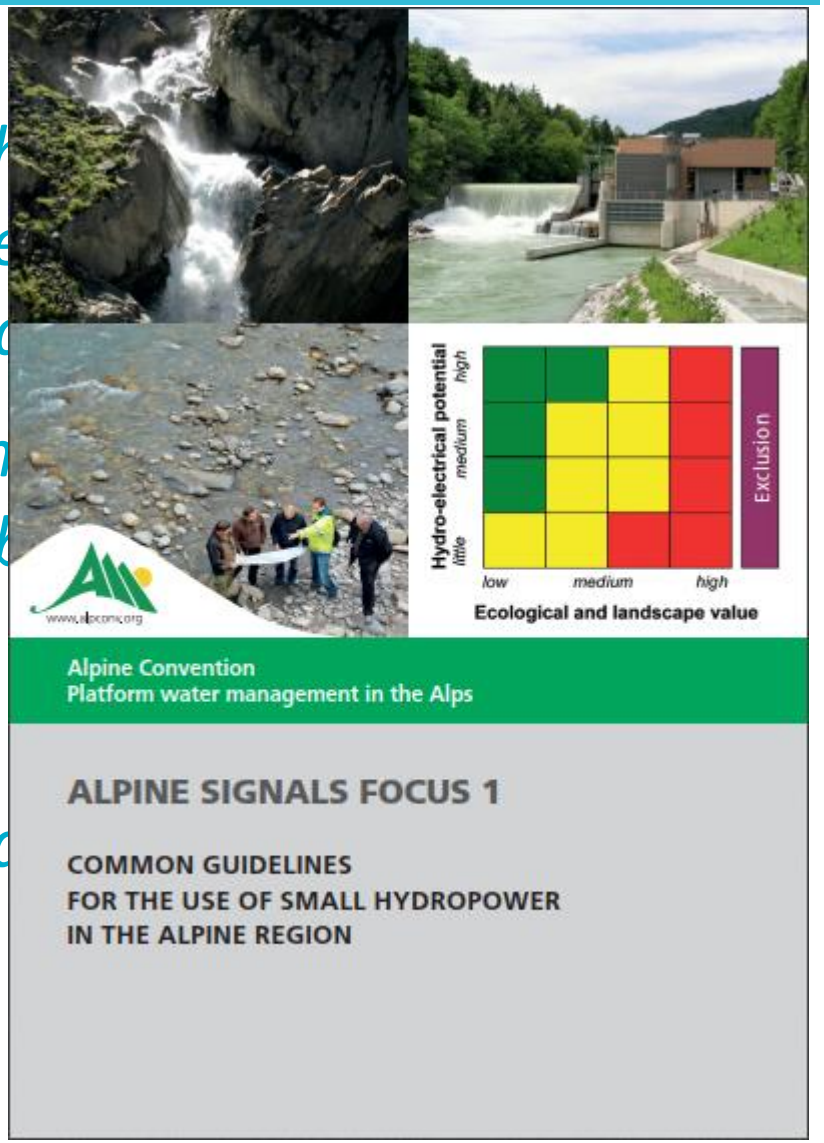
Figure 50: Trends in number of global free-flowing rivers greater than 1,000km in length
Trends from pre-1900 to the present day and estimated to 2020 (line), in comparison with the number of rivers dammed over time (bars) (WWF, 2006a).



(source: Living Planet Reports 2006 - 2014)

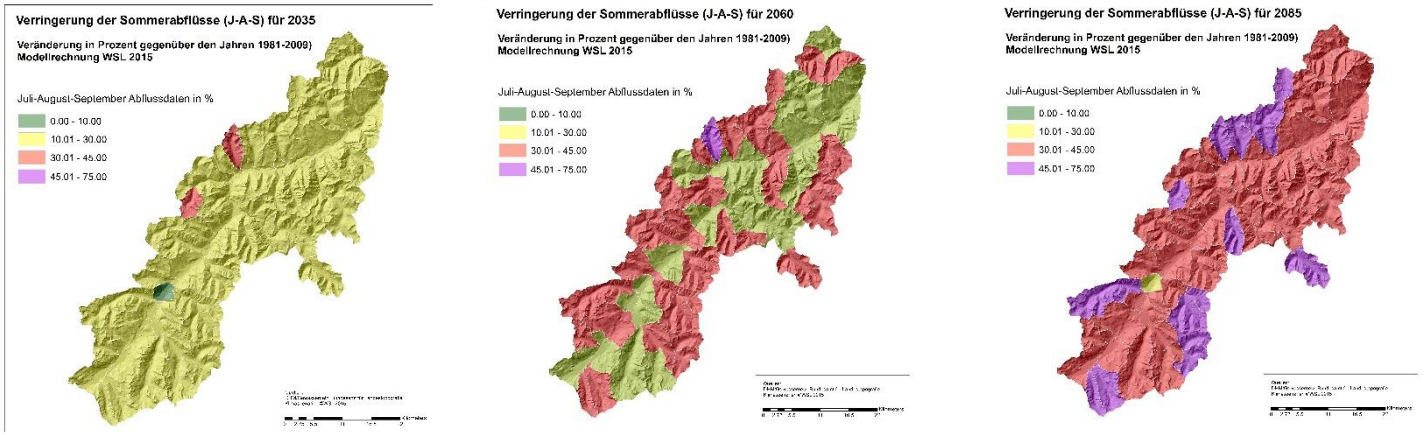
Key aspects for RBM I

- *If fragmentation is th decline of freshwate connectivity must be (pa*
- *Longitudinal, lateral an also important to stab household*
- *some water stretches transversal and longitud*

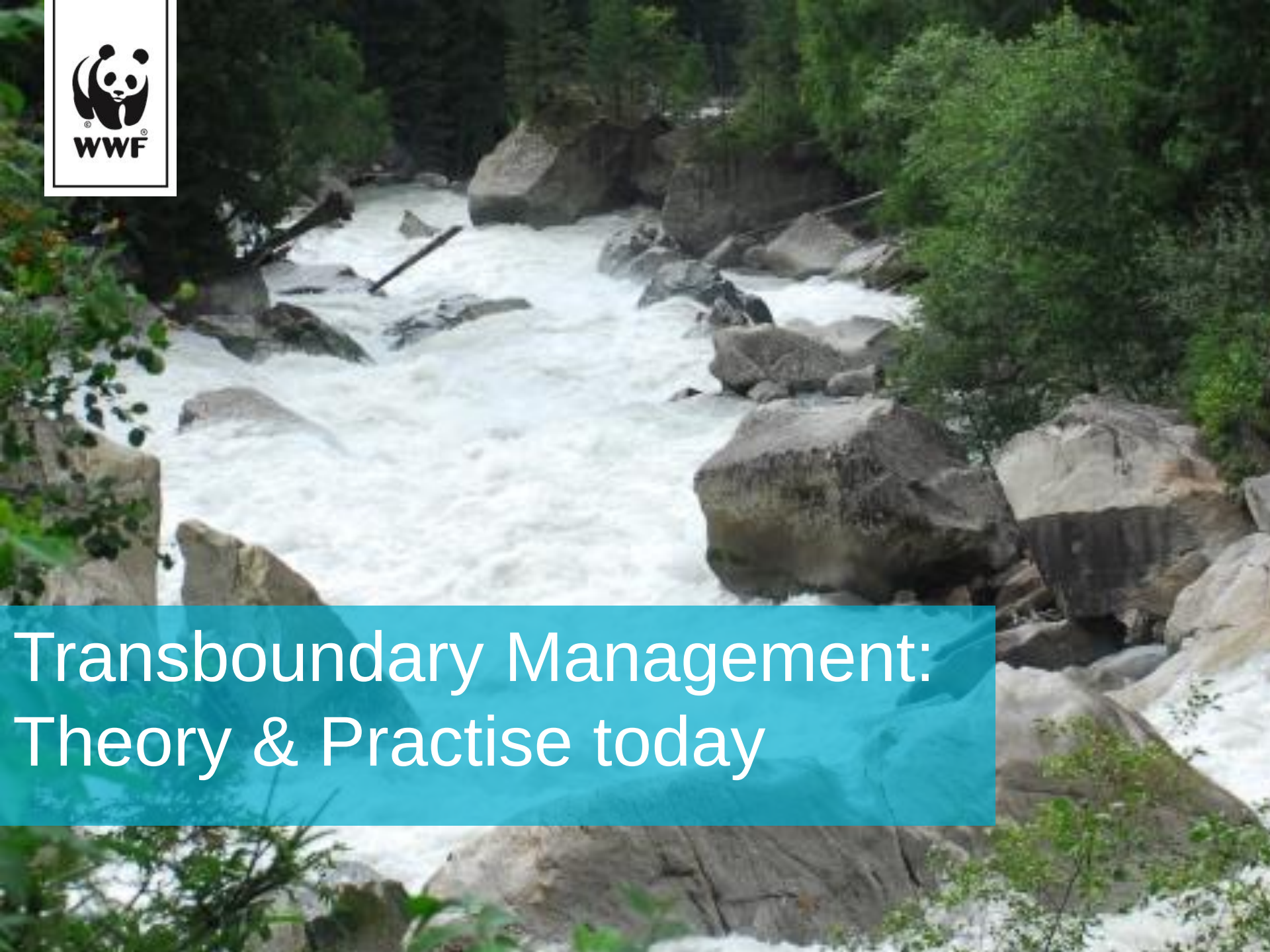


Key aspects for RBM II

➔ *In times of climate crisis, not only Cross-sectoral coordination, but also upstream-downstream coordination for water use and flood management gains even more importance*



Bernhard, L. et al (2015), Auswirkungen des Klimawandels auf den Wasserhaushalt des Engadiner Inns und seiner Teileinzugsgebiete, Eidgenössische Forschungsanstalt für Wald, Schnee und Landschaft (WSL)



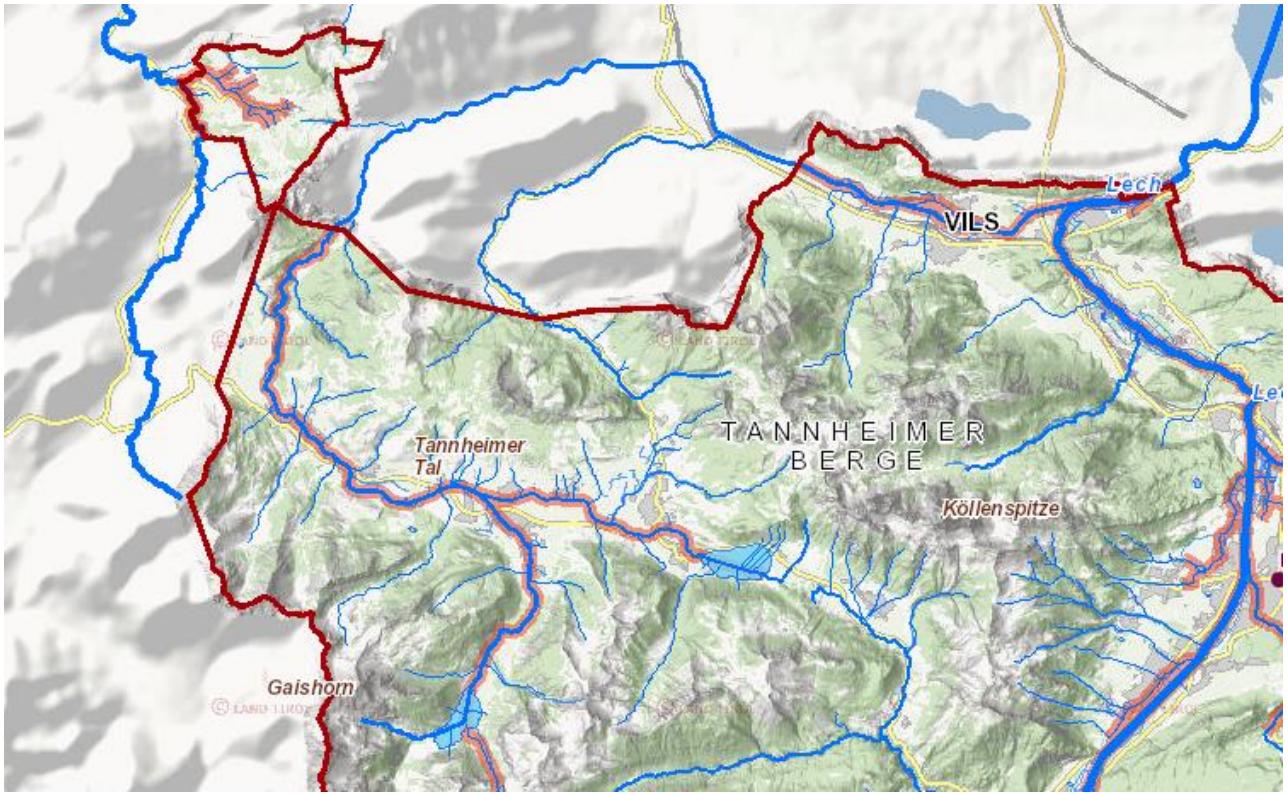
Transboundary Management: Theory & Practise today

The Theory:
e.g. EU Water framework directive

(35) Within a river basin where use of water may have transboundary effects, the requirements for the achievement of the environmental objectives established under this Directive, and in particular all programmes of measures, should be coordinated for the whole of the river basin district. For river basins extending beyond the boundaries of the Community, Member States should endeavour to ensure the appropriate coordination with the relevant non-member States. This Directive is to contribute to the implementation of Community obligations under international conventions on water protection and management, notably the United Nations Convention on the protection and use of transboundary water courses and international lakes, approved by Council Decision 95/308/EC (1) and any succeeding agreements on its application.

The „practise”: Integrated management of the Vils river

- Vils = river on the Austrian/German Border, approx. 35 km long, (1/6 in Germany, 5/6 in Austria)



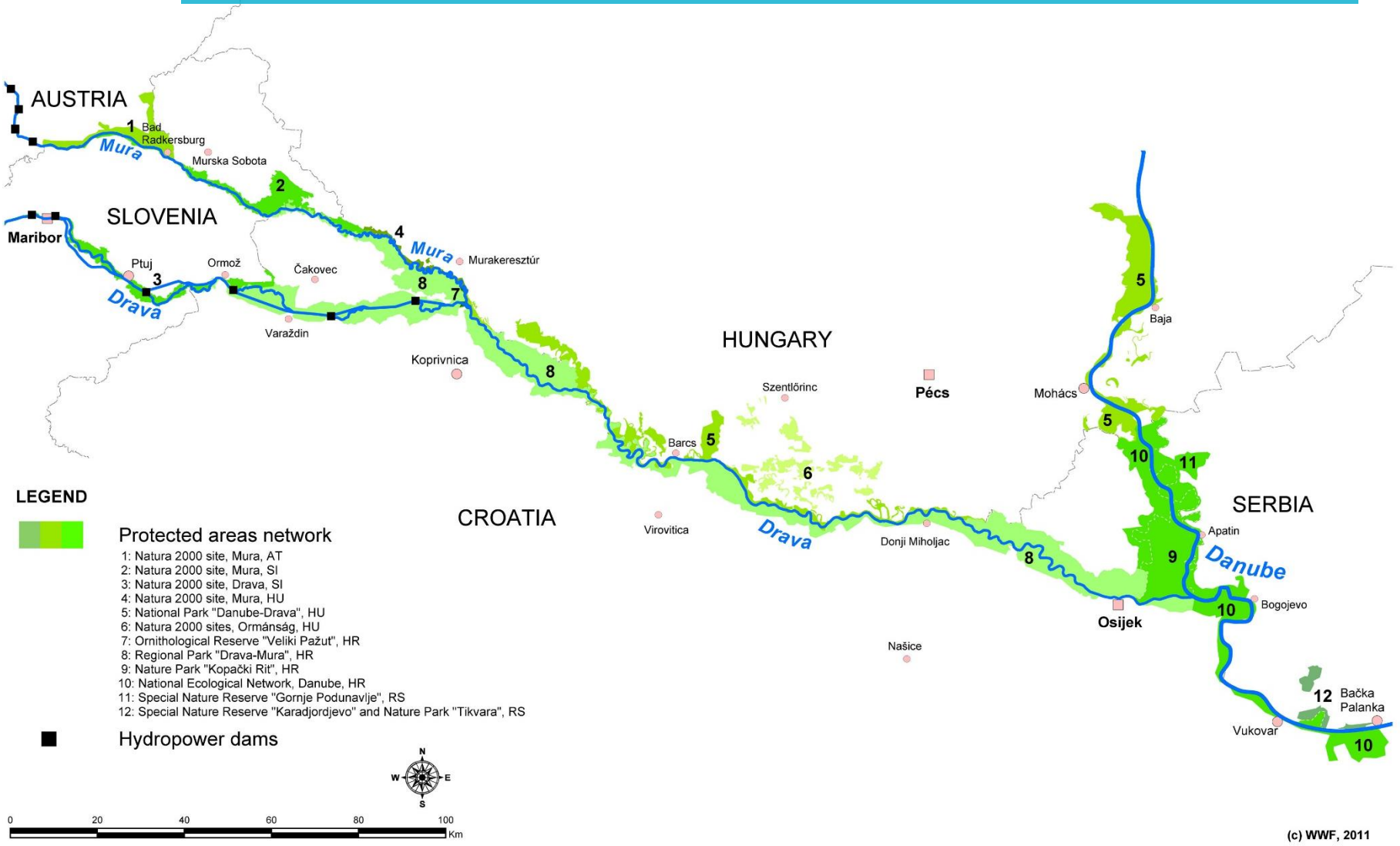
Transboundary Management: better practise for tomorrow

- *Transboundary and cross-sector work is a challenge, but the added value justifies the effort*
- *Take all sectors, interests and issues into account, even do you might to do it in separate "packages" in the beginning*
- *allow for enough time and resources for communication on all levels (and in all "languages")*

The vision I: MDD basin

3 free-flowing river stretches without dams, connecting five countries (AT, SI, HR, HU,RS) in the Heart of Europe!

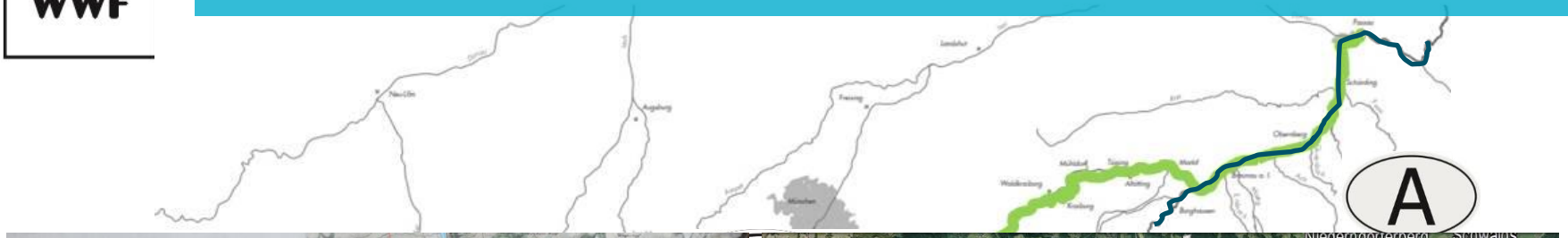
Building up a chain of 12 protected areas 1996-2011

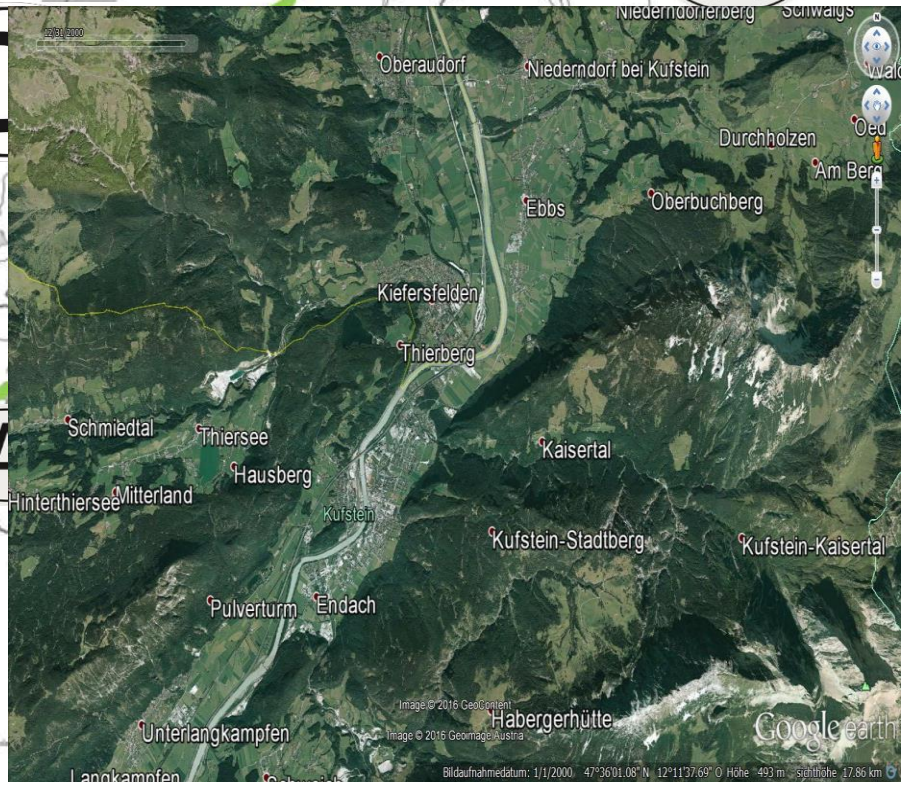


WWF Programme – a mosaic of actions

- **P1: 5-Country UNESCO designation**
- **P2: Transboundary harmonized management of protected areas**
- **P3: Species protection**
- **P4: River and wetland restoration**
- **P5: Campaigns against threats**
- **P6: Sustainable regional development**

The vision II: 3 countries for the Inn





Kufstein 1816 (Kriegsarchiv)

Kufstein 2016 (Google Earth)

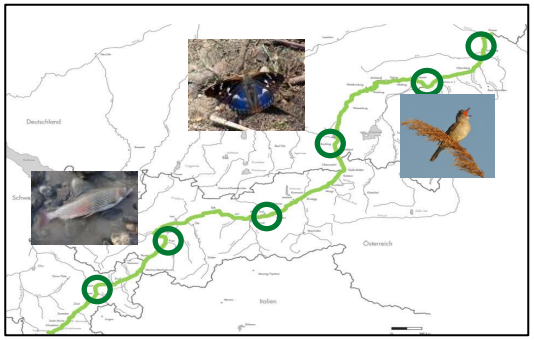
„River dialogue Inn“ 2017 - networking as a first step

Gefördert von tirol Unser Land

Interreg Österreich–Bayern 2014–2020

Europäische Union – Europäischer Fonds für Regionale Entwicklung

INN sieme



WWF

tirol Unser Land

universität innsbruck

Verbund

TFV Tiroler Fischereiverband

LAND OBERÖSTERREICH


Thank you!