





Neža Posnjak, Dam Removal Europe

Recovering healthy and resilient rivers
- it is already happening in Europe



CONNECTING FISH RIVERS & PEOPLE

 WORLD FISH MIGRATION
FOUNDATION
FOUNDED IN 2014



RIVERS FULL OF FISH

PROVIDING A SOURCE OF FOOD
FOR WILDLIFE AND PEOPLE



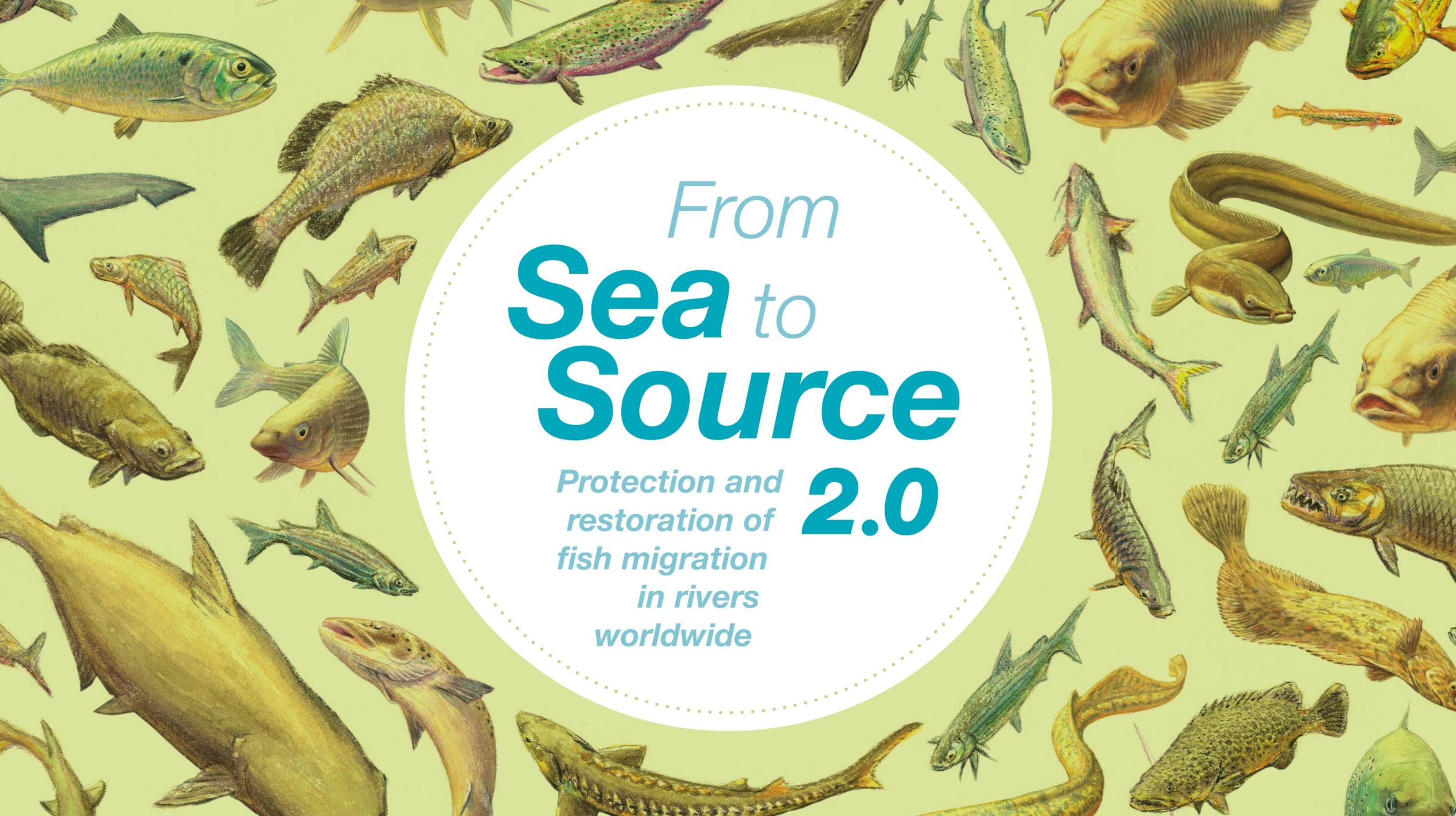
WORLD FISH
MIGRATION DAY

‘The more people we can make aware of the problems faced by fish, the more chance we have to find solutions.

Jeremy Wade (River Monsters)

Ambassador WFMD

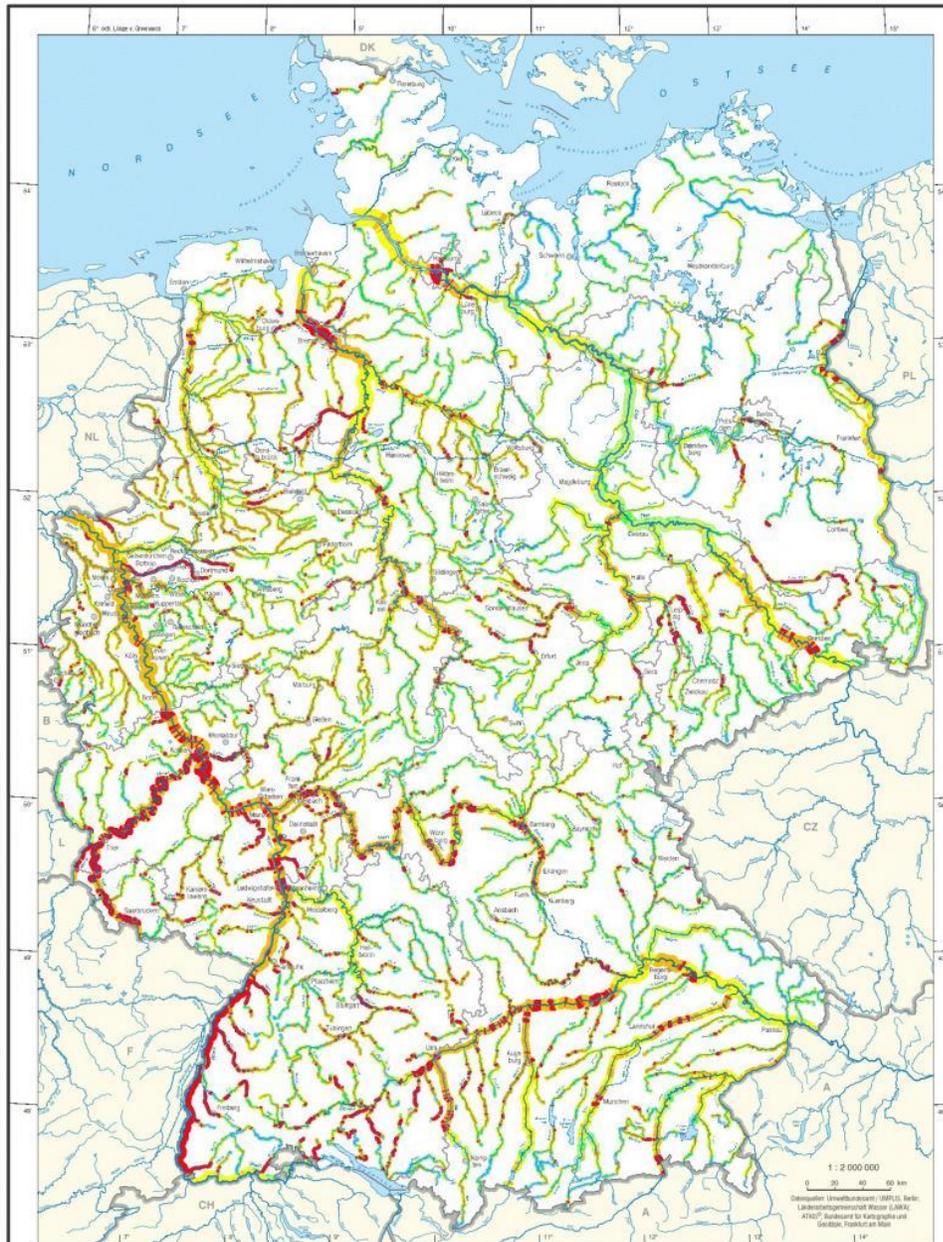




From
Sea to
Source

*Protection and
restoration of
fish migration
in rivers
worldwide*

2.0



Gewässerstruktorklassen (Kanäle nicht bewertet)

- 1 unverändert
- 2 gering verändert
- 3 mäßig verändert
- 4 deutlich verändert
- 5 stark verändert
- 6 sehr stark verändert
- 7 vollständig verändert

Abflussmaßstab für MND

0 - 10 m³/s
10 - 100 m³/s
> 100 m³/s

HYDROLOGISCHER ATLAS VON DEUTSCHLAND
Herausgegeben vom Sachverständigenrat für Umwelt-, Naturschutz und Risikoforschung

7.10 Gewässerstruktur (2001)

Autoren: Länderarbeitsgemeinschaft Wasser (LAWA) in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Umweltbundesamt (UBA), Wasserbauhinstitut (AWB) Baden-Württemberg, Gewässerbauamt Karlsruhe, Fachhochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft (FTW) Berlin

Kartograph: Umweltbundesamt Berlin
Karte für Hochaufl. Umweltatlas: B

Quelle: Landesagentur Wasser (LAWA)

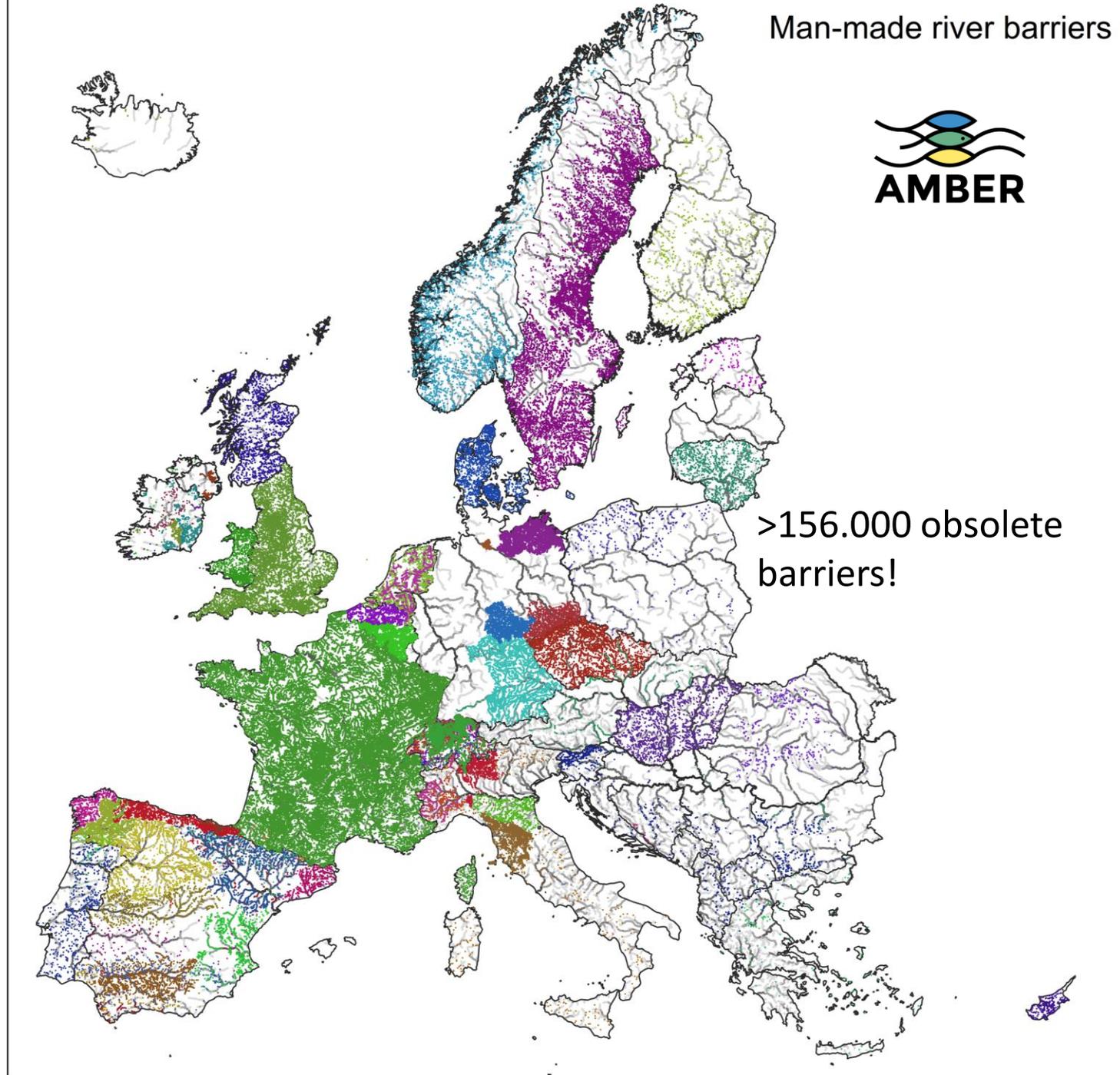


THE WORLD'S RIVERS ARE STUFFED WITH BARRIERS

629.000 records compiled

>1.2 MLN

**ESTIMATED BARRIERS
IN EUROPE ALONE**





Track barriers
with the barrier
and help restore
European

AMBER Citizen Science
LET IT F



FINN
VANDRINGSHINDRE
I DIN ELV

LOKALISER OG BIDRA TIL Å GJENÅPNE !

BLI MED I DAG, OG BIDRA TIL BEDRE FLYT I ELVENE I NORGE !

Tusenvis av dammer, terskler, kulverter og andre barrierer i europeiske elver hindrer sammenhengende leveområder i elvene. Med BARRIER TRACKER appen tar vi sikte på å få den første oversikten over hvordan det står til med sammenhengene i vassdragene i Europa, og synliggjøre hvor det er størst behov for restaurering.



SCAN THE CODE TO
START TRACKING BARRIERS!
OR VISIT AMBER.INTERNATIONAL



DAMS DOWN
CITIZEN SCIENCE &
HERMEN



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 689682.

WHY?

**MIGRATORY FISH IN RIVERS
UNDER PRESSURE**

**FISH STOCKS DROPPED
OVER 90% IN EUROPE**

SCALE OF THE PROBLEM

EVERY KM A FISH
IS BOUNCING ITS HEAD

© Petteri Hautamaa

DROWNING RIVERS

THE SOLUTION DAM REMOVAL

STARTING WITH
>150.000 OBSOLETE &
OLD BARRIERS
IN EUROPE

OPPORTUNITIES IN EUROPE



30.000 HYDROPOWER SITES

>150.000 OLD & OBSOLETE BARRIERS



UNIQUE MOMENTUM FOR DAM REMOVAL

GROWING MOVEMENT
NEW EU BIODIVERSITY POLICY
25.000km FREE FLOWING RIVERS



SUPPORTED BY

NETWORKING

CONNECTING

INSPIRING

PROMOTING

ORGANIZING



SUSTAIN EUROPE



Pedro Brufao Curiel
Prof and dr. in Administrative Law
University of Extremadura





COORDINATE
DAM REMOVAL
EUROPE COALITION

SCALING UP DAM
REMOVAL

WORKING
TOGETHER &
SHARING
RESOURCES TO
RESTORE RIVERS



WWW.DAMREMOVAL.EU



OUR STRATEGY

BUILDING A MOVEMENT OF PROUD
RIVER PRACTITIONERS & ENABLE
THEM TO REMOVE DAMS

"I really value your amazing events, and work.. and the fantastic community you have established for knowledge sharing and support."

Tania White, Environment Agency (UK)

OUR VALUES

Passion

Committed

Positive

Inclusive

Connecting





PLAN 2022-2025

CREATING THE BIG SHIFT

KEY RESULTS (2015-2021)

- GROWING INT. NETWORK WITH **7** FULLY BOOKED SEMINARS, **100+** PRESENTATIONS;
- INSPIRING DRE PARTNERSHIP WITH **7** PARTNERS & GROWING
- POLICY REPORT & DRE DATABASE WITH **>5.000** REMOVED OBSTACLES
- CROWDFUNDING: CATALYSED **>20** DAM REMOVALS;
- PROVEN POLICY CHANGE IN **3** COUNTRIES (FINLAND, LITHUANIA & SWEDEN);
- WEBSITE WITH **>40** SHOWCASE PROJECTS, **100+** REPORTS & ARTICLES;
- DRE MOVEMENT: **>3.000** PERSONS AND STRONG CONNECTION WITH USA NETWORK



DEV

BOW



GERMANY

Leucherhof weir – River Baunach

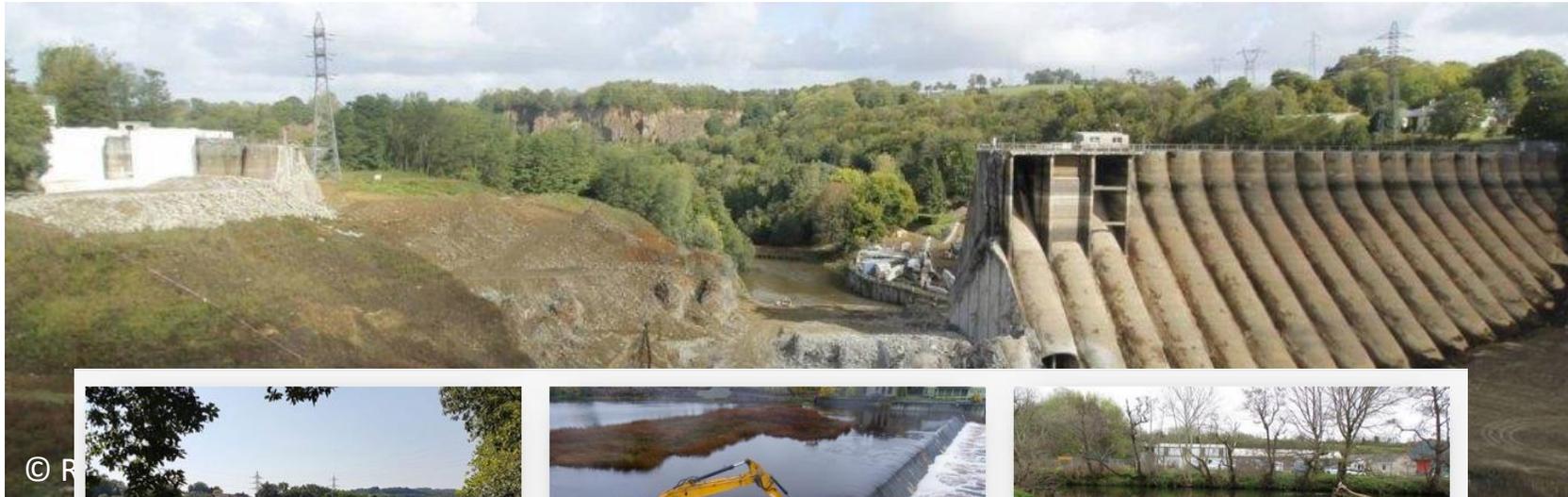


REMOVED AFTER DRE SEMINAR: DRE GOES ALPS

ESTONIA



Vezins Dam (Normandy, France)



Dam
es at
->
ES



FRANCE







DENMARK

REMEANDERING: YES

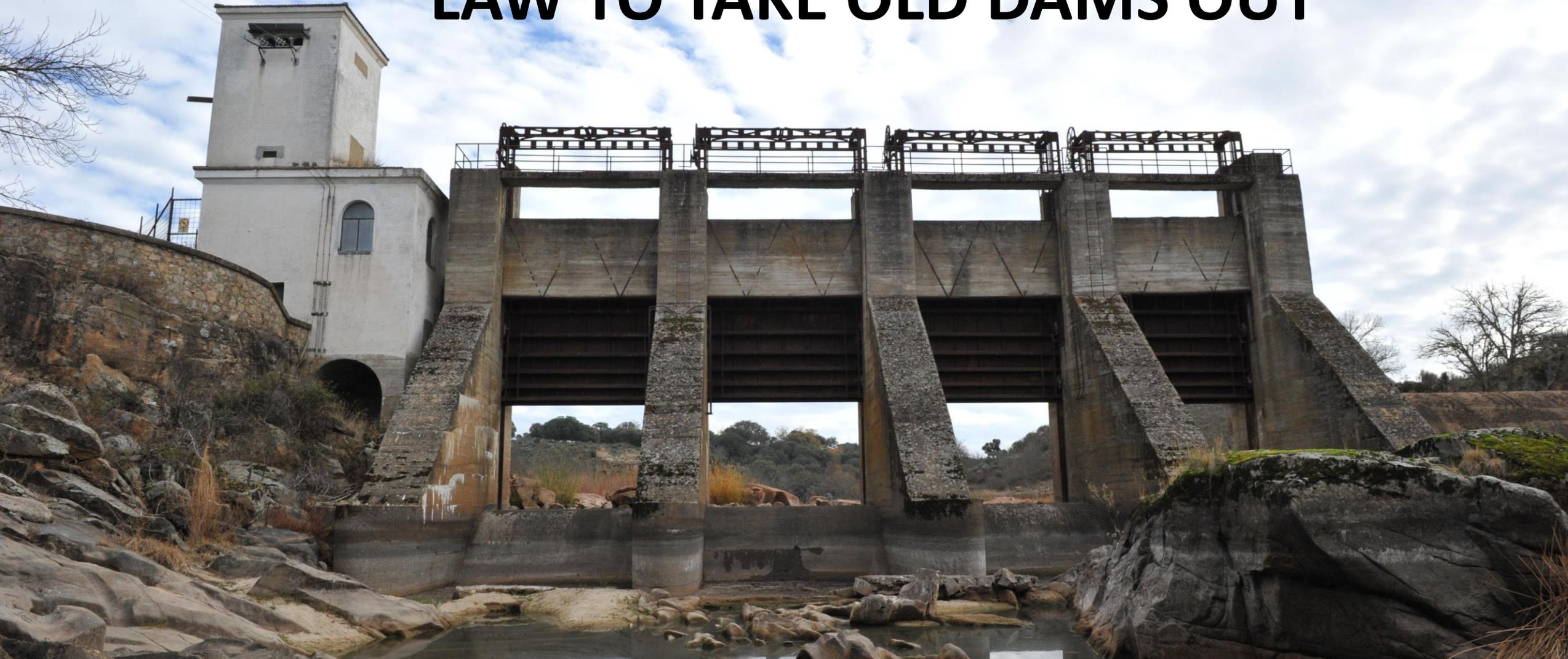
DAM REMOVAL: YES

FISHWAYS: NO

COMMUNICATION: NOT MUCH

SPAIN

LAW TO TAKE OLD DAMS OUT



SWEDEN



NEW HYDROPOWER STRATEGY

1 BILLION FUND

2022 FOCUS

INITIATE INTERNATIONAL

PRESS ATTENTION

- UITBOUWE

AVE UNIQUE O TELL

Search jobs Sign in Search International edition

The Guardian
News website of the year

Record number of dams removed from Europe's rivers in 2021

More than 200 barriers were taken down last year, helping to restore fish migration routes and boost biodiversity and climate resilience



NEWS FEATURE

THE DAM BUSTERS

Across Europe, hundreds of rivers are blocked by dams, dykes, locks and levees. But a movement is gathering pace to remove these barriers and restore water flow.

Report by Graeme Green

30 882W/416

August 2021

August 2021

BBC WILDLIFE MAGAZINE

I ADVIES GEVEN



The Gloriettes dam in southwestern France, on the Gave d'Estaube. Dams and smaller structures clog Europe's rivers, wreaking ecological havoc on native species.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDIA, UNIVERSAL IMAGES GROUP/GETTY IMAGES

ENVIRONMENT

European rivers are littered with barricades, but a movement grows to remove them

Norway blows up
hydro dam to
restore river
health and fish
stocks









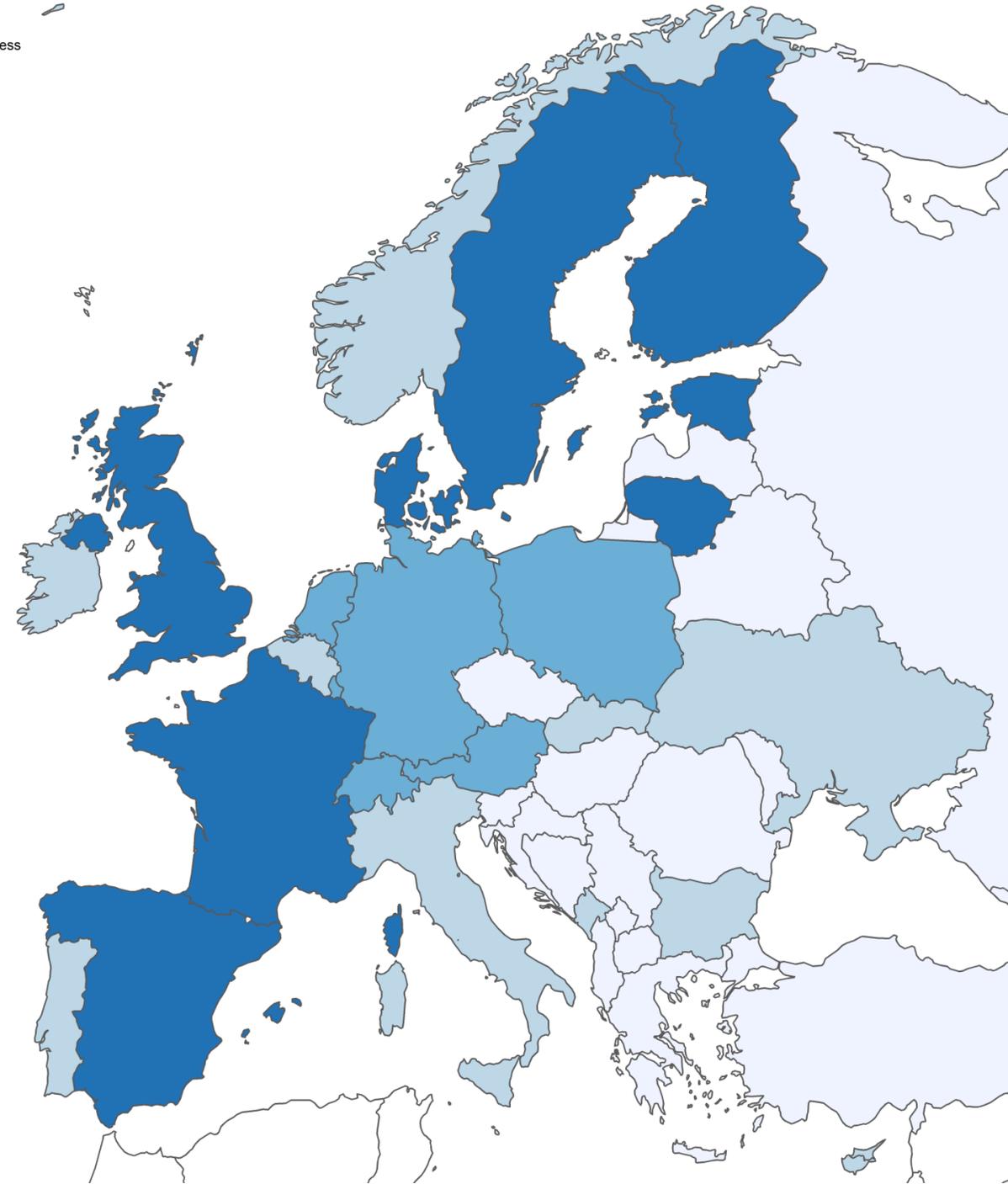
STATUS IMPLEMENTATION DAM REMOVAL

7 COUNTRIES IMPLEMENTED DAM REMOVAL AS A RIVER RESTORATION TOOL

Controversial topic!

Quote from expert in Portugal:

"I think that Dam Removal is not in the mental agenda in Portugal, yet. It's a long and hard way to go".



UPSCALING COUNTRY BY COUNTRY

- 1. IDENTIFY POTENTIAL CHANGEMAKERS**
→ Initiate network, select the frontrunners to take action,
- 2. (INTER)NATIONAL SEMINAR/WORKSHOPS**
→ Knowledge impulse, excitement, need for dam removal, roadmap
- 3. SET UP PILOT PROJECTS**
→ Select quick wins, support prioritization, funding & policy process
- 4. REMOVE DAMS BY PRACTITIONERS**
→ Proof that it works, proud practitioners, international showcases
- 5. CELEBRATE TOGETHER**
→ Highlight projects, proud people, recognition/movement

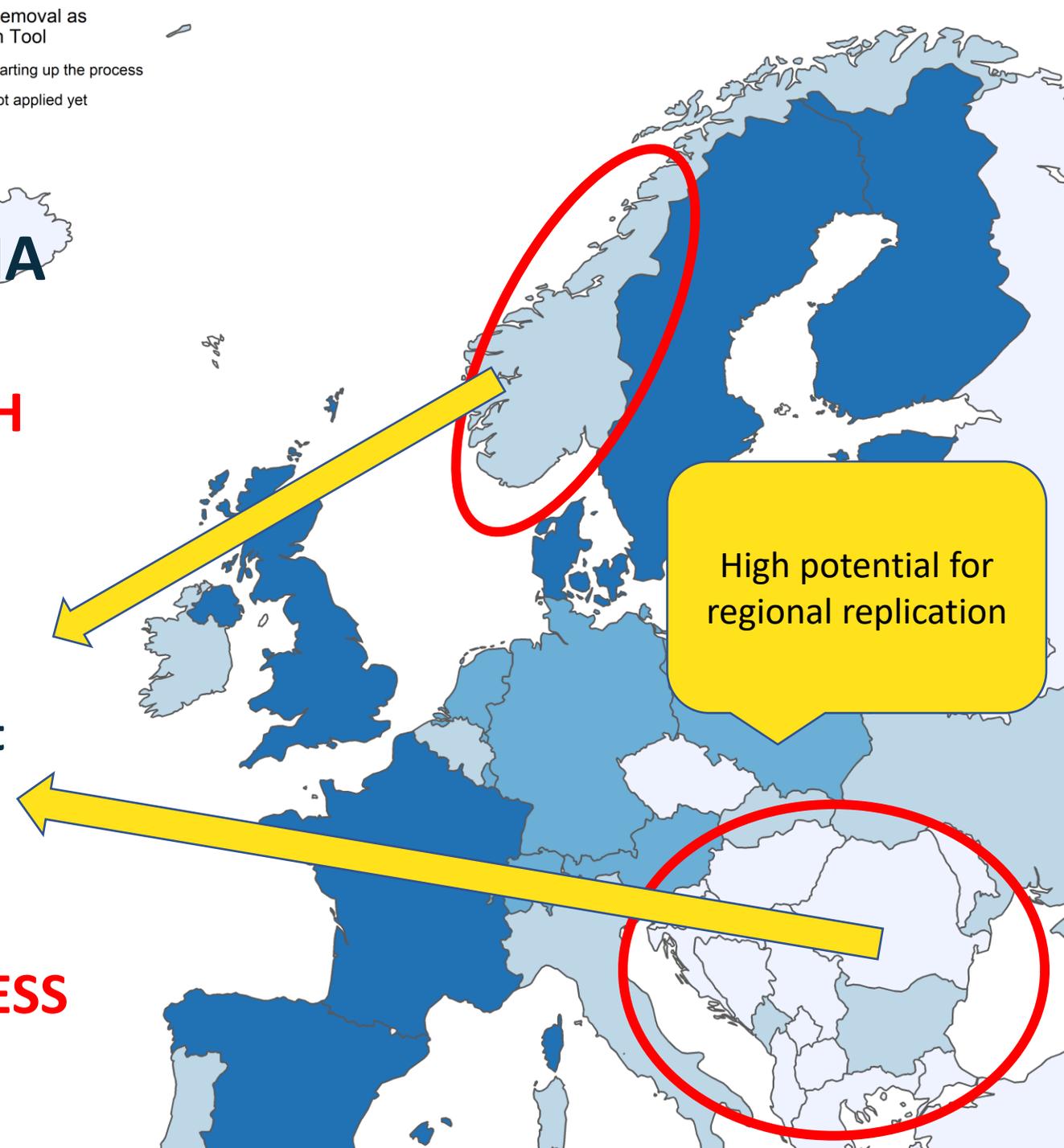


UPCOMING EXAMPLES: ROMANIA, NORWAY & BULGARIA

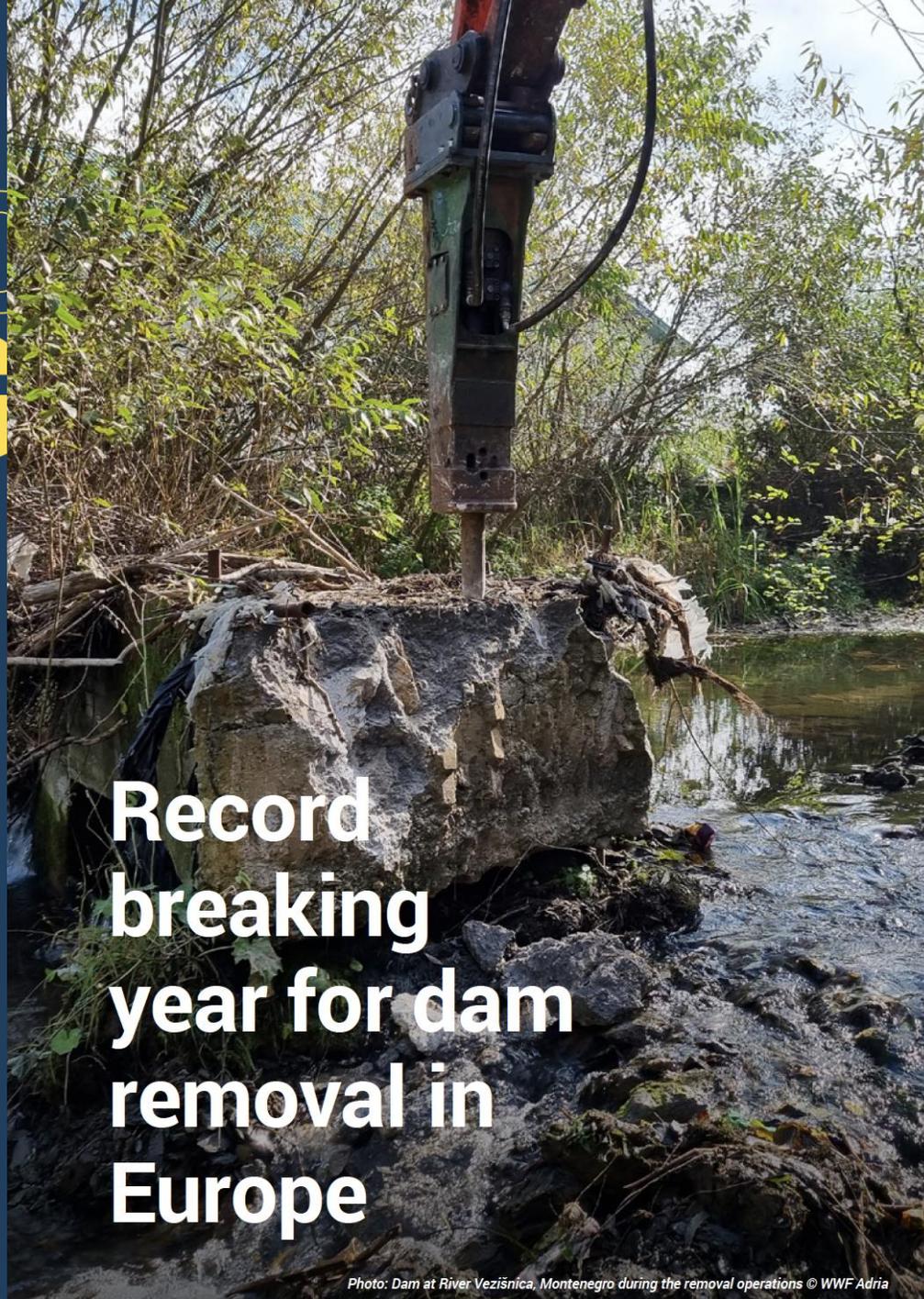
STARTING-UP COOPERATION WITH TEAMS ON THE GROUND:

Fauna & Flora Int. (RO),
Global Water Partnership (BU),
Trøndelag regional water management
authority (NO)

DRE PROVIDES SUPPORT AND
EXPERTISE DURING FOR THE PROCESS



DAM REMOVAL PROGRESS



Record
breaking
year for dam
removal in
Europe

Photo: Dam at River Veznišnica, Montenegro during the removal operations © WWF Adria

DAM REMOVAL PROGRESS 2021



SHARE RESOURCES & TEMPLATE PROCEDURES

HELP DESK – contact us!

MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS/SOCIAL MEDIA
COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE - SHOWCASES

(INTER)NATIONAL SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

ENGAGING WEBINARS / LIVE REMOVALS

DAM REMOVAL CAFES

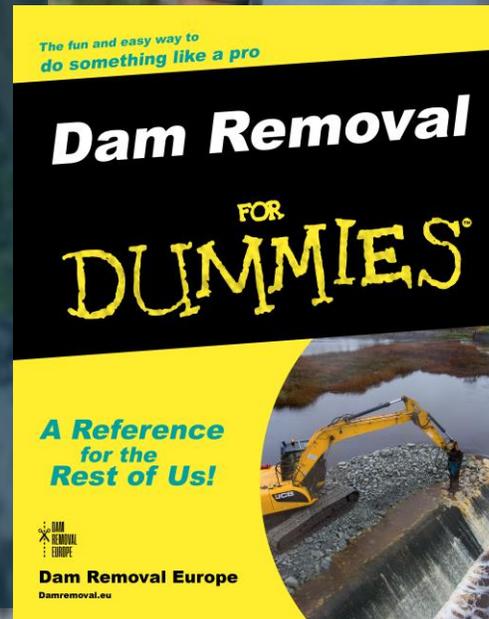
TAILOR MADE COURSES

FREE FLOW CONFERENCE (2022)



BE A DAMBUSTER!

1. SCOPING STUDIES
2. PLANNING & FEASIBILITY
3. DESIGN & PERMITTING
4. CONSTRUCTION/REMOVAL
5. MONITORING/ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT



ACTION: REMOVE DAMS / CREATE SHOWCASES



MOST ACTIVE DRE PARTNERS



€42,5 millions to demolish riverine barriers

A wide banner image showing a river winding through a lush green valley with mountains in the background. The text 'Open Rivers Programme' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Open Rivers Programme

Restoring endangered European rivers.

<https://openrivers.eu/>

ACTION:
**DEVELOP FUNDING
MODELS**

**REVOLVING FUND
TOURISTIC ATTRACTIONS
REWILDING ADVENTURES
FLY FISHING, RAFTING, CANOEING**

MOST ACTIVE DRE PARTNER



ACTION:
BUILDING THE MOVEMENT

MAKING PRACTITIONERS PROUD

DAM REMOVAL AWARD 2021

Nominate your project
for a chance to win 10.000 euro.

More information:
www.damremoval.eu/events



DAMBUSTERS DOCUMENTARY



**#DAMBUSTERS ON TOUR
JUNE 2022- DECEMBER 2023**

**HIGHLIGHTING EUROPEAN HEROES
STRONG ADVOCACY TOOL**

**NATIONAL PREMIERES
TV SCREENING - FILM FESTIVALS**

**FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED BY WWF, DUTCH
POSTCODE LOTTERY, TNC, EAA, EU LIFE
AND WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL.**



Thank you for your attention!