Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (recast)

Evaluation

The 1991 Directive

- **Collection**
- **Treatment**
- **Monitoring & Reporting**

Lessons learnt

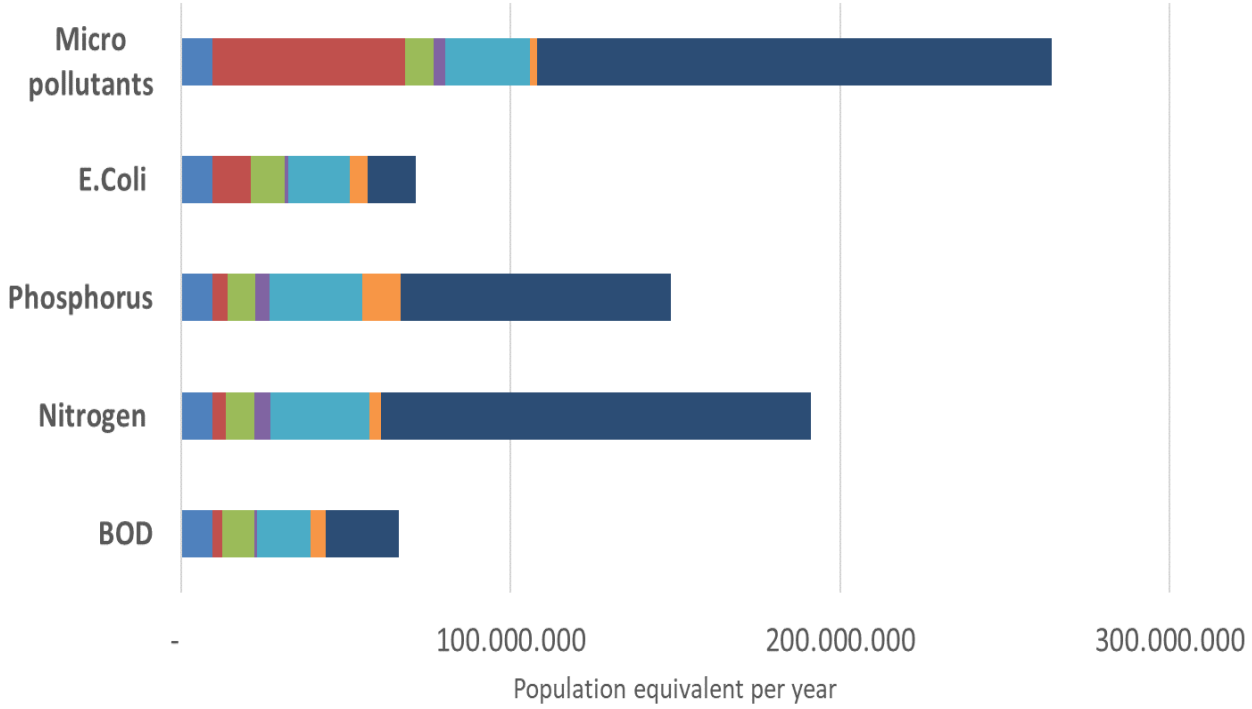
- Effective tool – Tangible impacts
- Simple and targeted instrument
- Carrot and stick
- Benefits >>> costs

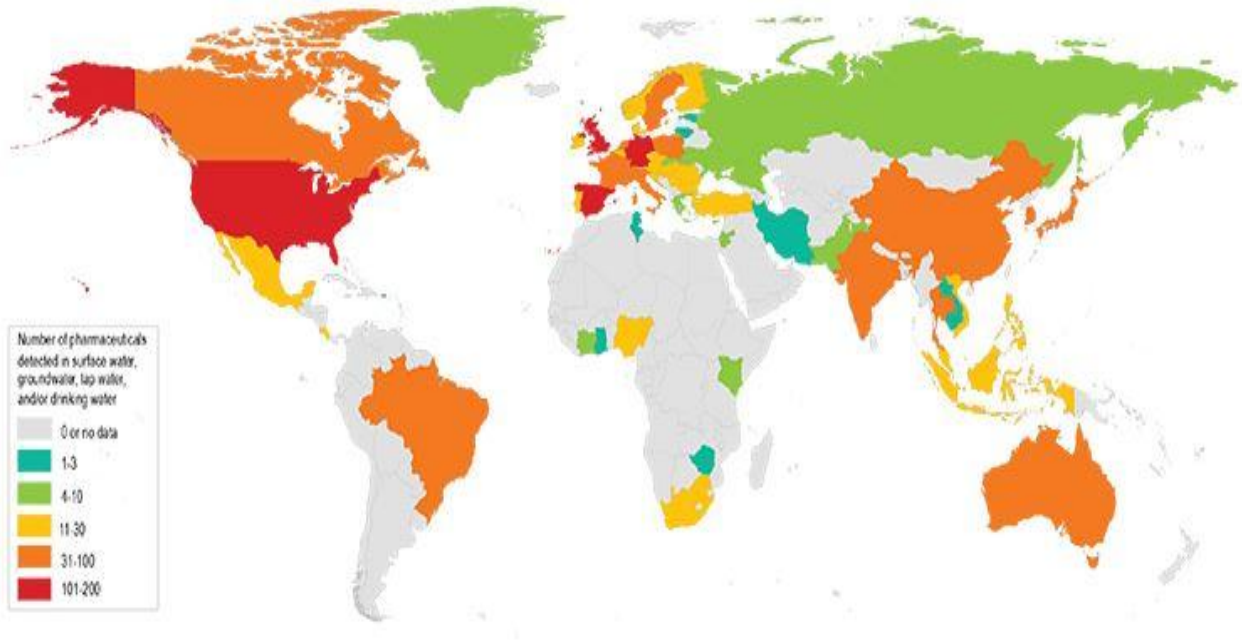
Room for improvement

- Remaining pollution
- Eutrophication
- Energy use, sludge management
- Governance – transparency/reporting
- Coherence with other legislation

Source: European Commission, 2019, UWWTD Evaluation

Remaining pollution





Number of pharmaceuticals detected in surface, ground or drinking water. *Source: Aus der Beek et al., 2015*

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Approach to the impact assessment

METHODOLOGY

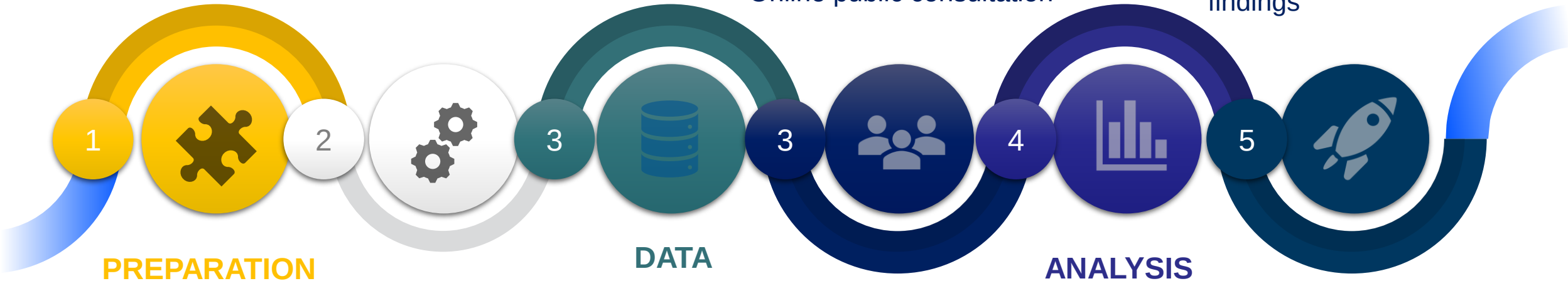
- **OECD**
- Established models for impacts & costs
- 2 baselines: 2016 + full compliance
- Expert engagement

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

- Speed dates
- Stakeholder workshops (2)
- Conference with **DE presidency**
- Online public consultation

DRAFTING

- Close cooperation with other DGs
- Better Regulation Guidelines
- Clarity regarding certainty of findings



PREPARATION

- Draft policy options
- Consultation strategy
- **Roadmap**
- Externalized studies

DATA COLLECTION

- Evaluation
- Information from Member States & operators
- Literature review

ANALYSIS

- Quantification by **JRC**
- Triangulation of evidence

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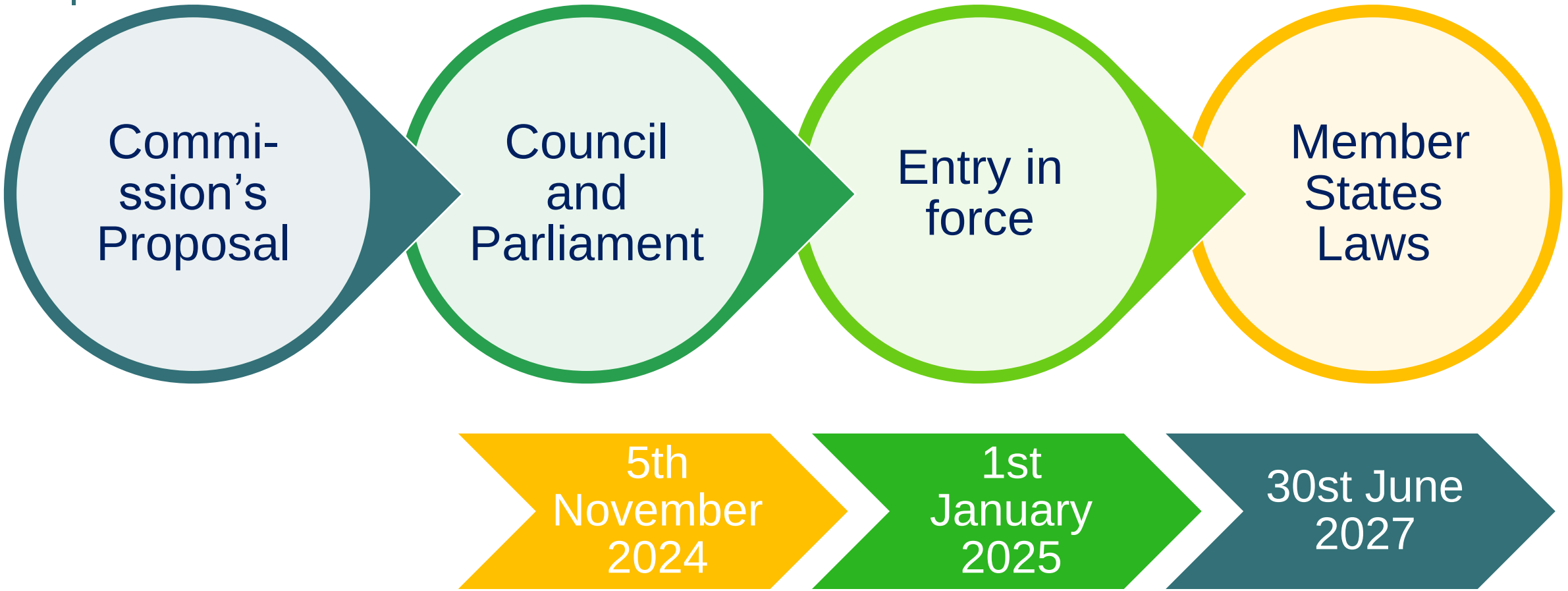
Implementation



Remaining pollution

Integrated water plans (Article 5, annex 5)

- Quantities and quality
- Indicative target of 2%
- Hierarchy of action – prevention first
- By 2030 (>100.000 p.e.) and 2039 (>10,000 p.e.)

Small Agglomerations (Articles 3 and 6)

- From 2.000 to 1.000 pe
- Conditional time derogations

Individual systems (Article 4)

- Minimum requirements for design, maintenance and inspection
- Implementing act - 36 months

Level of treatment

Secondary Treatment

(Article 6)

- ✓Secondary treatment in all facilities
- ✓ Conditional time derogations

12 years for coastal/less sensitive areas, 20 years for specific cases (Madeira, Mountains and Cold cases)

Nutrients (N/P) Micropollutants

(Articles 7 and 8)

- ✓Stricter standards for N/P, new standards for micro pollutants
- ✓Removal in all facilities >150.000 p.e. by 2036 (N/P) and 2045 (micro poll.)
- ✓Risk-based >10.000 p.e. by 2045
- ✓Interim targets from 2033 to 2045

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

NEW

Harmonised Rules
(Art 9 & 10)

- Pharma and cosmetics with exonerations
- Recognition procedure of PROs
- Clear definition of costs to be covered
- Contributions linked to quantities/hazardouness
- PROs controlled by MS & independent auditors

Producers – incl. Importers

› Declaration of products placed on the market
› Pay contributions

Producer Organisations (PROs)

› Implement EPR for their members
› Fix level of contributions
› Contracts with operators

Wastewater Operators

› 4th treatment
› Monitoring and reporting

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Energy and GHG emissions (Article 11 and 21)

Energy audits

Energy neutrality by 2045

GHG monitoring and reporting by 2030

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Governance

Transparency

(Art. 24)

- ✓ Improved access to information
- ✓ Performance indicators

NEW

Health

(Art. 17)

- ✓ Mandatory coordination between health and wastewater authorities
- ✓ Compulsory monitoring during pandemics
- ✓ AMR monitoring (Delegated act on method)

NEW

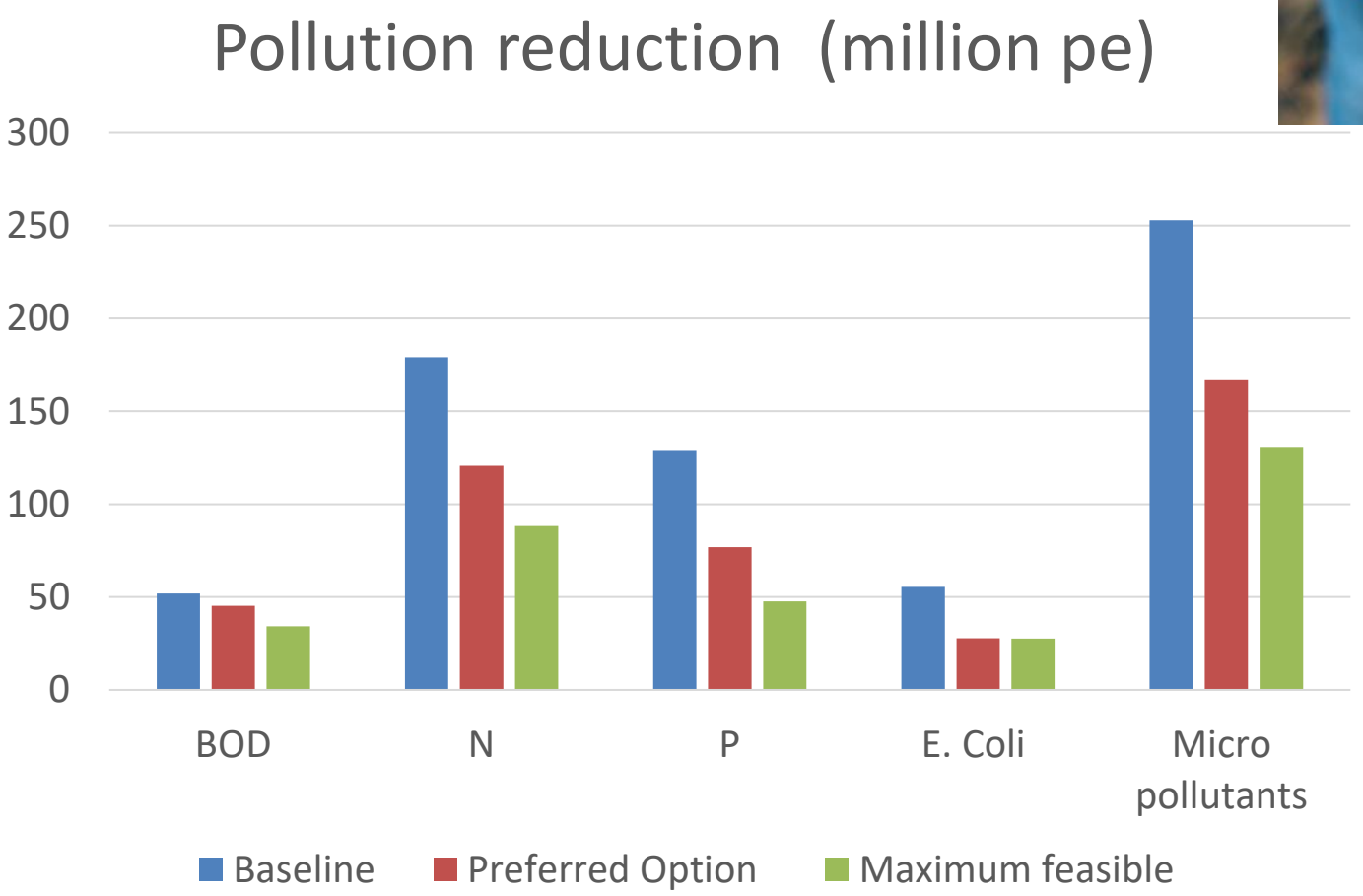
Access to sanitation

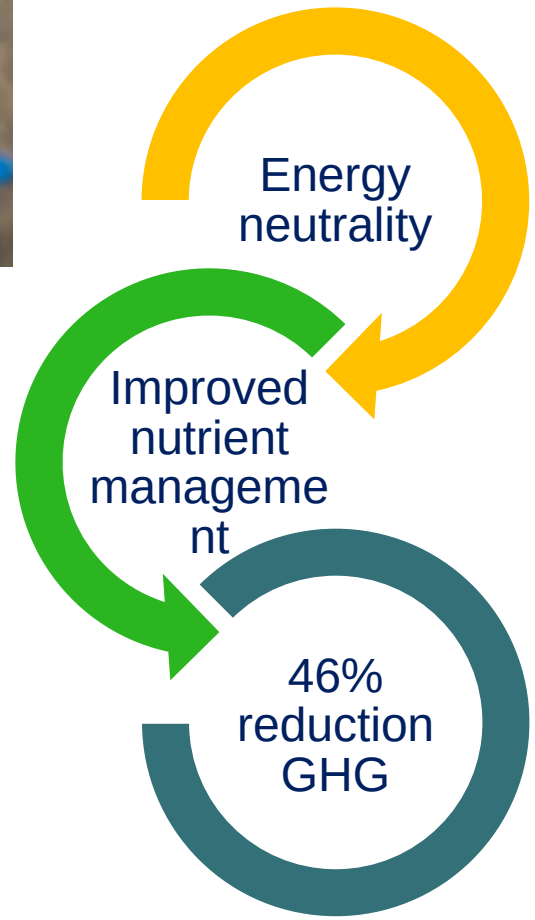
(Art. 19)

- ✓ Ensure access to sanitation (vulnerable)
- ✓ Encourage access to sanitation in public buildings or for free/low fee in restaurants etc.

Impacts

- 9 % micro plastics





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Cost coverage, affordability

Now: 70% water tariffs and 30% public budget
Proposal: 3 sources of financing

Costs
3,8 € bn/year in 2045

Benefits
6,6 € bn/year in 2045

Water tariffs

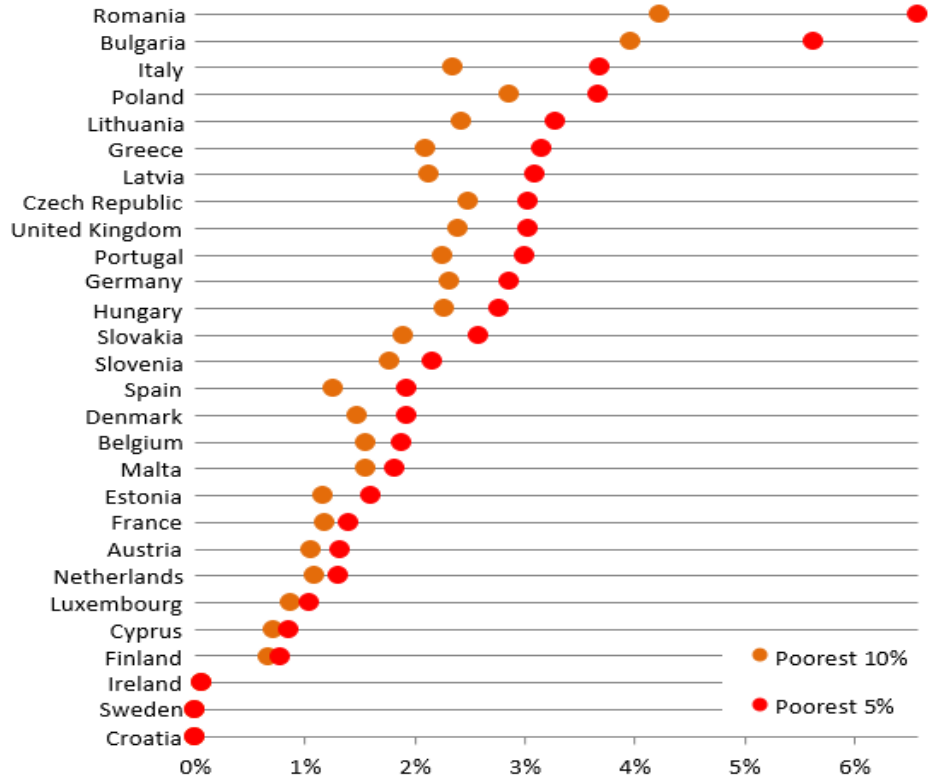
- **1,8 bn €/year by 2045**
- Average increase **2,3%** in **2045**
- **Affordability not endangered**

Public Budget

- **0,8 bn € /year by 2045**
- EU funds for water: EUR 2 bn/year
- Average public budget for water: EUR 30 bn/year

Producer responsibility

- **1,2 bn €/year by 2045**
- 0,5 to 0,9% max reduction of profit margins
- OR 0,6% max of annual expenses (**EUR 2,7 year/person max**)



Share of water expenditures in households' disposable income (2011-2015 average) *Source: OECD based on Eurostat*

	2030	2033	2035	2036	2037	2039	2040	2045
Collection & secondary treatment (Art 3 & 6)			**31/12** all agglo. > 1.000 p.e. (derogations)		**31/12** secondary in coastal/non sensitive areas			
Tertiary Treatment (Art 7)		**31/12** 30% > 150.000 p.e. and 20% > 10.000 pe at risk (*)		**31/12** 70% > 150.000 p.e. and 40% > 10.000 p.e. at risk (*)		**31/12** all > 150.000 p.e. and 60% > 10.000 pe ‘at risk (*)		In all agglo. ‘at risk’
Quaternary Treatment (Art 8)		**31/12** 20% > 150.000 p.e. & 10% agglo > 10.000 p.e. ‘at risk’		**31/12** 30% agglo > 10.000 p.e. ‘at risk’		**31/12** 60% > 150.000 p.e. & agglo > 10.000 p.e. ‘at risk’		**31/12** all > 150.000 p.e & all agglo > 10,000 pe ‘at risk’
Energy neutrality (Art 11)	**31/12** 20% renewable		**31/12** 40% renewable				**31/12** 70% renewable (derogation)	**31/12** 100% renewable (derogation)

(*) % of facilities NOT having tertiary treatment in place on 01/01/2025

Implementing & Delegated acts

Technical

- Design, operation, maintenance and regular inspections of individual systems - 36 months
- Methods to define measures to be included in integrated water management plans – 36 months
- Alternative indicators to verify the indicative objective of 2% - 36 months
- Criteria on exoneration from producer responsibility for products not creating micropollutants – 24 months
- Minimum reuse and recycling rate for phosphorus from sludge and treated water - 36 months
- Calculation on energy neutrality, no deadline

Monitoring

- Antimicrobial resistance - 18 months
- PFAS – 24 months
- Microplastics (sludge/water) - 30 months
- Micro pollutants – no deadlines
- GHG monitoring - 30 months

Reporting

- New parameters – 31 dec 2028
- Format integrated plans – 30 months
- Risk assessment micro pollutants – no deadline

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Thank you for your attention !