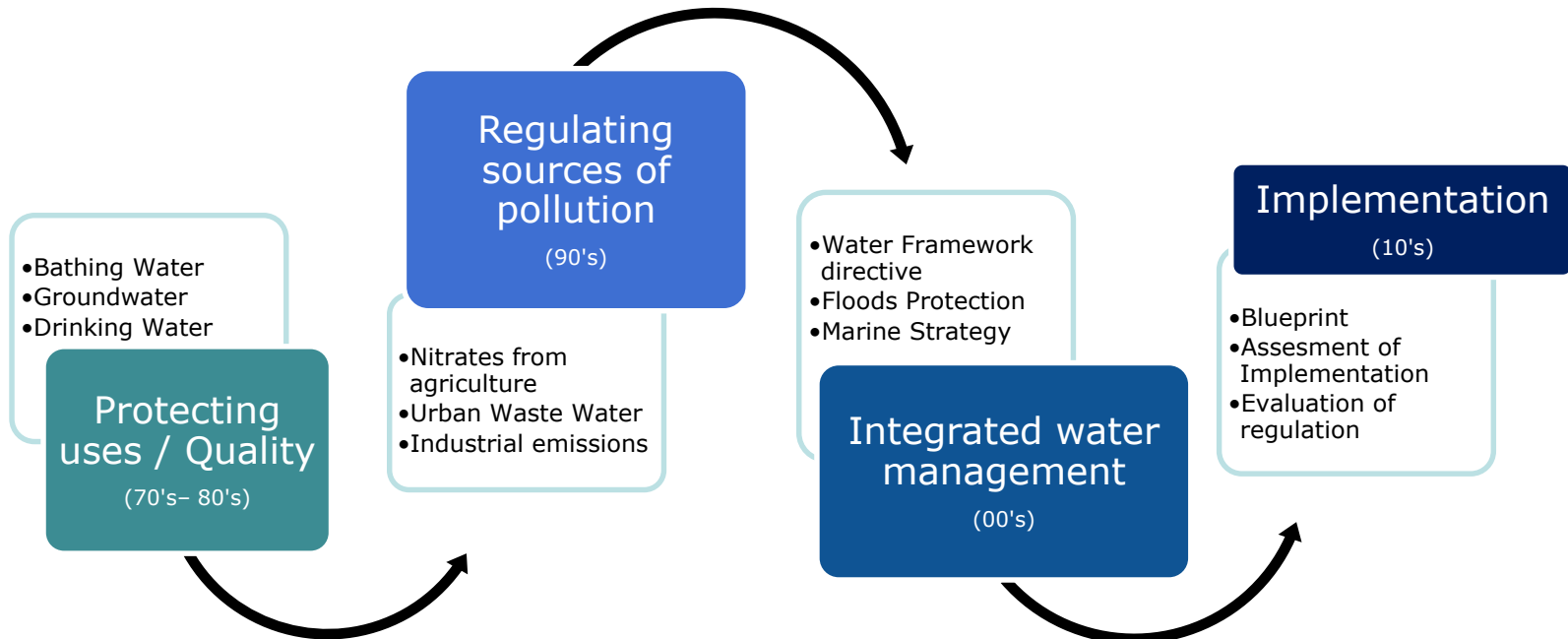




Marta Moren Abat

**EU Water Legislation from past to Future challenges
DG Environment, European Commission**

Development in EU water legislation and policy



Water Framework Directive



Drinking Water Directive

Nitrates directive

Groundwater Directive

Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive

Industrial emissions

Bathing Water Directive

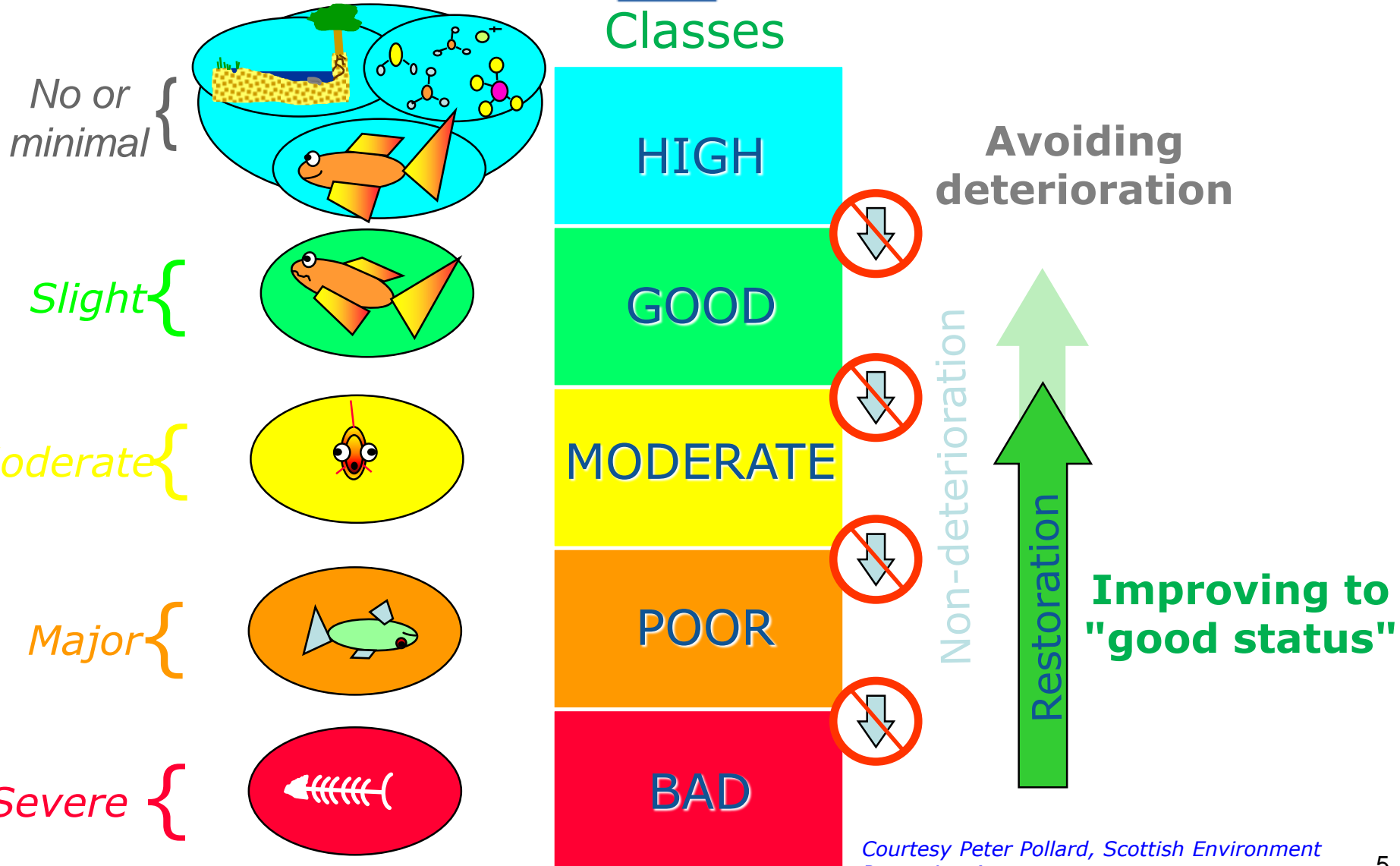
Good status in European waters

- The fish and biota in EU waters is the canaries for the water status and in reality the wellbeing of people and industry in EU.*



The fish dies and mutates before humans; that's one of the reasons we have to observe the european waters and change direction (implement new measures).

Classes



Preliminary Findings – by main topics

Governance:

broad participation and active involvement of stakeholders mostly ensured

Knowledge of causes:

much better knowledge of current status, main reasons for failure to achieve good status, interaction between pressures and needed measures. However, justification for excluding some pressures should be improved and drivers behind some hydromorphological alterations still need to be better understood

Monitoring:

Monitoring networks and their coverage have been revised. However, still some gaps, including on monitoring frequency. Measurement of Priority Substances very diverse across the EU

Preliminary Findings – by main topics



Hydromorphology

- measures in place and link with economic sectors better understood;
- more progress needed on defining and implementing minimum ecological flows



Economic analysis

- limited number of Member States upgraded water pricing policies;
- significant gaps remain in translating analysis into concrete measures



Protected areas

- Additional efforts still required to ensure appropriate protection and management (drinking water, nature, shellfish production areas, bathing waters, etc.).



Droughts

- Considered relevant in about half of Member States; not all relevant basins have Drought Management Plans

Challenges - examples

- *Main pressures on the water resources*
 - **For example from cities, agriculture, waste treatment, industry, inland navigation and electricity production.**
- *Lack of clear governance structure*
 - **Often determined by history (previous legislation, corporation, link to other sectors etc.)**
- *Lack of financing*

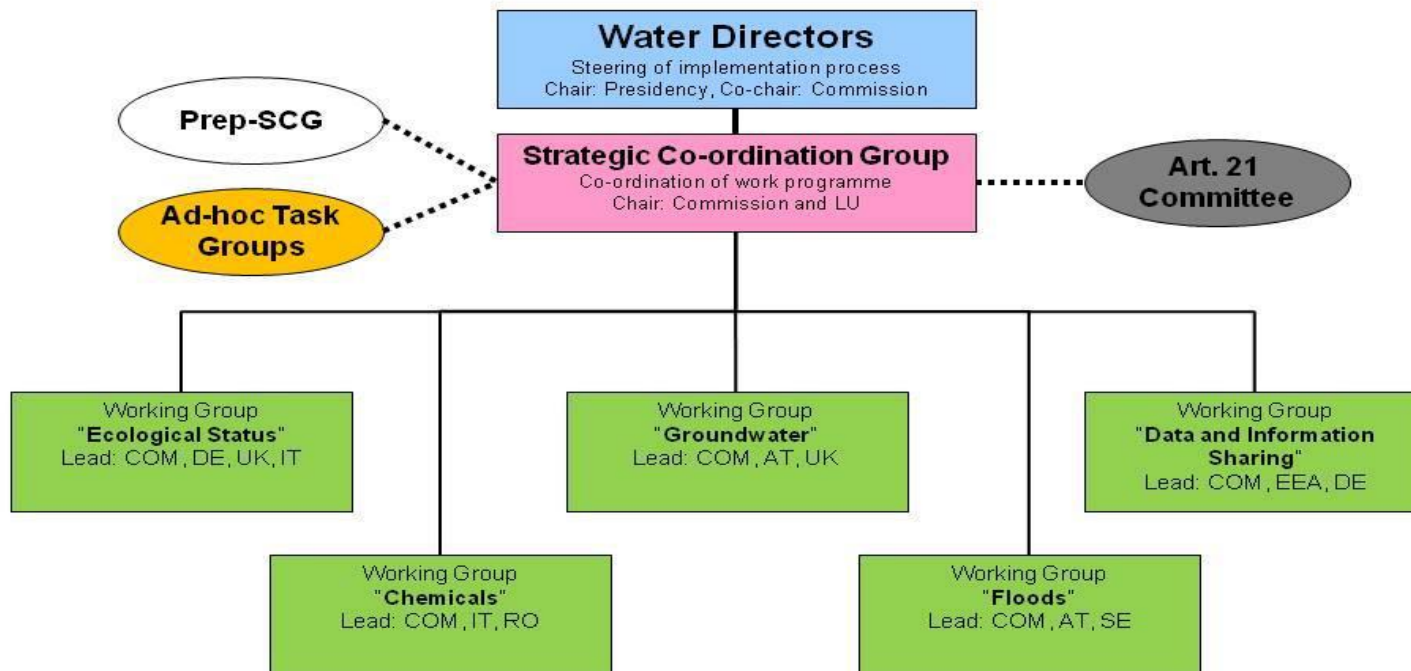


Implementation support initiatives

- ✓ *Enforcement strategy (infringements)*
- ✓ *Common Implementation Strategy WP 2016-2018 (including Guidance on Article 4(7))*
- ✓ *Water ENV-AGRI cooperation (AGRIFISH Council 2017)*
- ✓ *Pharmaceuticals in the environment (2018)*
- ✓ *Investment needs - OECD*
- ✓ *European Innovation Partnership on Water*
- ✓ *Launch of the European New Urban Water Agenda 2030*
- ✓ *Water reuse standards (2018)*

Common Implementation Strategy

CIS Organisation 2016-2018



The Floods Directive (FD)

It creates a framework for the **assessment, mapping and management** of flood risks, for **reducing** the adverse **consequences** for human health, economic activity, the environment, and cultural heritage.



**Updated/new
Parameters**
→ **Based on
WHO Report**

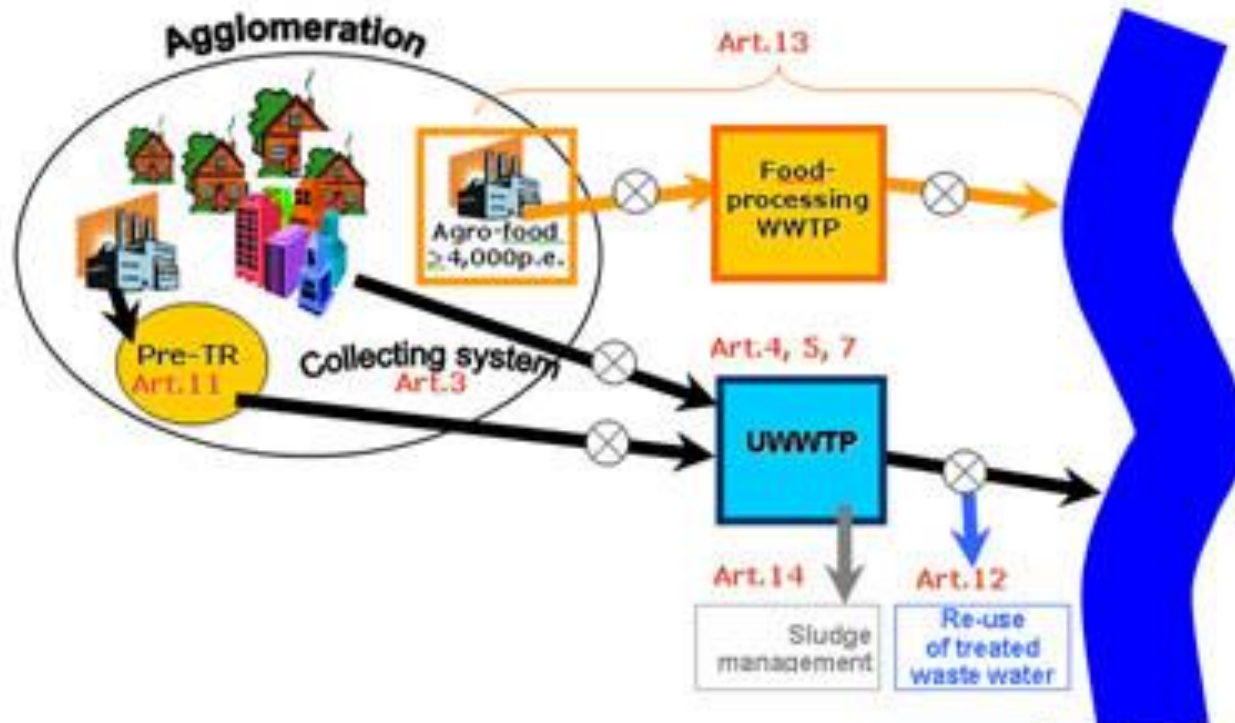
Recast of the drinking water directive

**Risk-based
approach**
→ **Monitoring only
where substances
are detected**

**Improved
health**
protection
Limited costs
for water
suppliers

**Better alignment with Water
Framework Directive**

Urban Waste Water Treatment



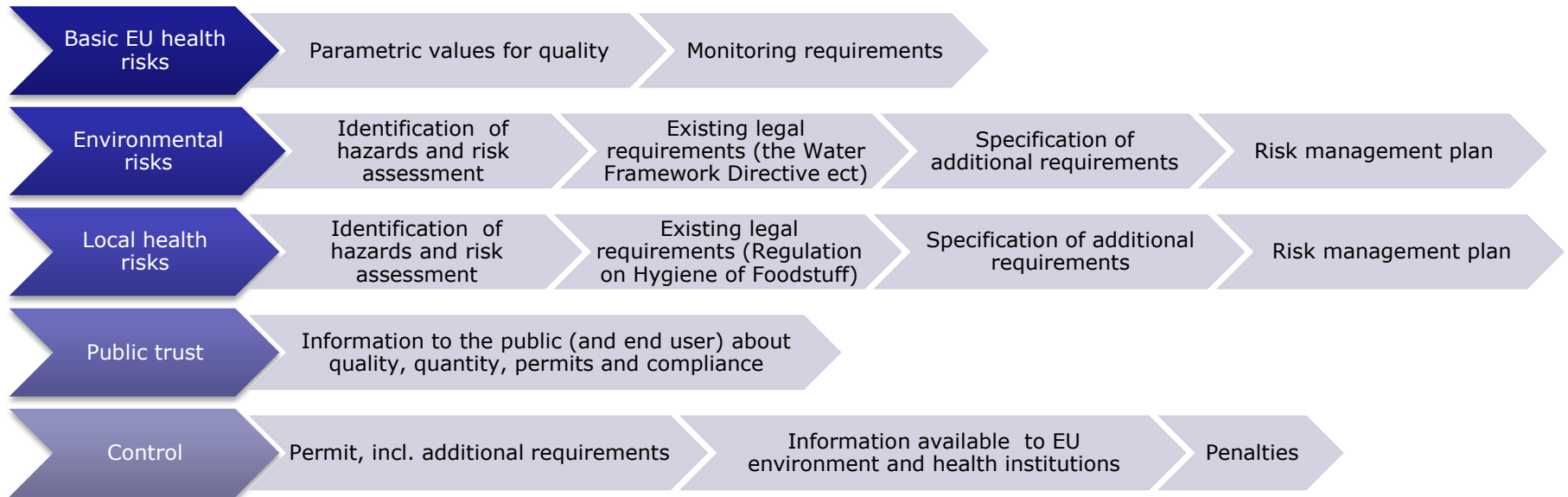
Legend:

Pre-TR	= pre-treatment
Agro-food	= food-processing industries
UWWTP	= urban waste water treatment plant
Agro-food >4000p.e.	= food-processing industry
Art. 3, 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14	= articles of the Directive 91/271/EEC

Receiving areas:
sensitive area, catchment of
sensitive area, normal area,
less sensitive area

Draft Regulation on water reuse

Introducing **EU-level minimum requirements for water reuse** in agricultural irrigation in order to protect environment and health

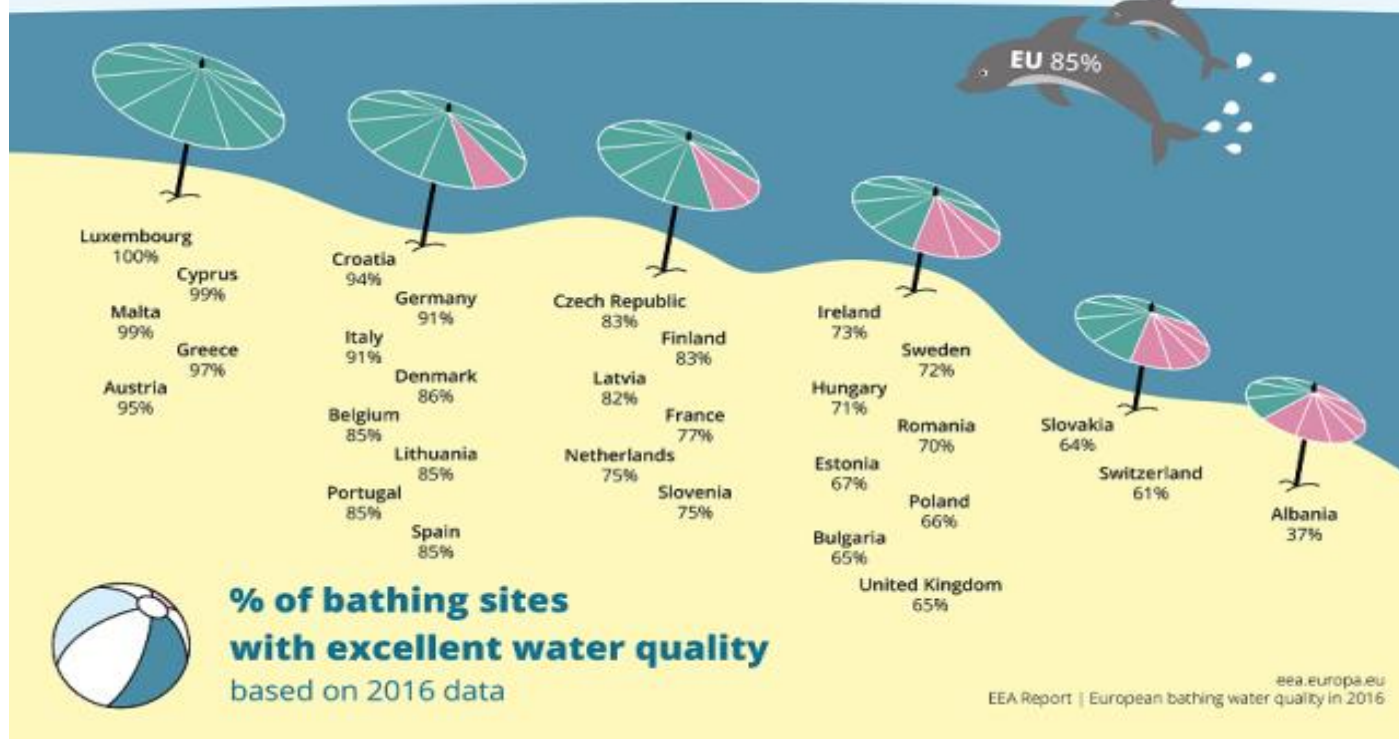


The Bathing Water Directive

Bathing water quality in Europe

Bathing water quality in Europe continues to improve. In 2016, more than 85% of Europe's coastal and inland bathing water sites met the most stringent 'excellent' water quality standards, while more than 96% of the sites met the minimum requirements set out under the EU rules.

European Environment Agency





Thank you for your attention

<http://water.europa.eu/policy>

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