



Hydromorphology of rivers and floodplains – What is at stake and how does REFORM contribute?





REFORM 4th national stakeholder workshop "Elementi di novità a supporto dell'attuazione della DQA"

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Rome, 10 September 2015





Hydromorphological pressures in European surface waters

- 127 000 surface water bodies
 - 82% rivers
 - 15% lakes
 - 3% coastal and transitional waters
- HYMO pressures affecting ...
 - 40% river and transitional waters
 - 30% lakes
- Causes
 - Hydropower
 - Navigation
 - Agriculture
 - Flood protection
 - Urban development

Source: EEA report 8/2012 European waters – assessment of status and pressures





How do we share expertise on river restoration?

Examples of EU funded River River restoration projects

AWARD	
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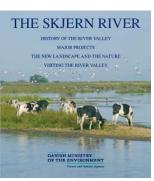
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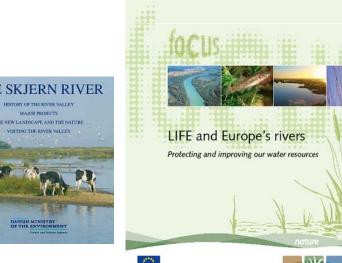
		-		
-	Count of ProjectName	Programme		
ď,	Global objective	INTERREG LIFE		Grand Total
YI	Flood management	20	1	21
Juage	Integrated River Basin Management	26	1	27
Fai	River & floodplain restoration	17	114	131
Veri	Water quality improvement	4	1	5
	Species conservation and management	14	55	69
	Grand Total	81	172	253

environment



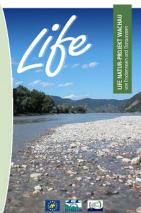
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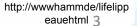












http://wwwnaturstyrelsendk/Naturoplevelser/B eskrivelser/Vestjylland/SkjernEnge/Skjern_Riv er_Wetlandshtm





November 2011 – October 2015

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REFORM 4th national stakeholder workshop

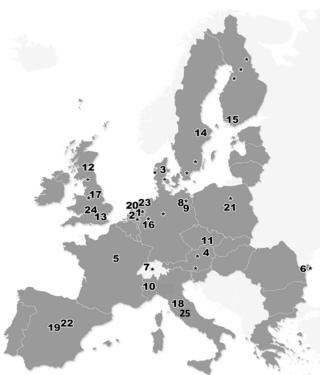
"Elementi di novità a supporto dell'attuazione della DQA"

Rome, 10 September 2015





Partners



26 partners from 15 European countries

	No Name	Short name	Country
	1Stichting Deltares	Deltares	Netherlands
	2Stichting Dienst Landbouwkundig Onderzoek	Alterra	Netherlands
	3 Aarhus University	AU-NERI	Denmark
	4Universitaet fuer Bodenkultur Wien	BOKU	Austria
	5Institut National de Recherche en Sciences et des Technologies pour l'Environnement et l'Agriculture	IRSTEA	France
	6 Institutul National de Cercetare-Dezvoltare Delta Dunarii	DDNI	Romania
	7Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology	EAWAG	Switzerland
	8 Ecologic Institut Gemeinnützige Gmbh	Ecologic	Germany
	9Forschungsverbund Berlin E.V.	FVB.IGB	Germany
	10Joint Research Centre- European Commission	JRC	Belgium
	11Masaryk University	MU	Czech Republic
	12 Natural Environment Research Council - Centre for Ecology and Hydrology	NERC	United Kingdom
	13 Queen Mary University of London	QMUL	United Kingdom
	14Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	SLU	Sweden
	15 Finnish Environment Institute	SYKE	Finland
	16Universitaet Duisburg-Essen	UDE	Germany
	17University of Hull	UHULL	United Kingdom
	18Universita Degli Studi Di Firenze	UNIFI	Italy
	19Universidad Politecnica de Madrid	UPM	Spain
1	21Warsaw University of Life Sciences	WULS	Poland
	22 Centro de Estudios y Experimentacion de Obras Publicas	CEDEX	Spain
	23 Dienst Landelijk Gebied	DLG	Netherlands
	24Environment Agency	EA	United Kingdom
	25 Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale	ISPRA	Italy
	26Norsk Institutt for Vannforskning	NIVA	Norway
	27Stichting VU-VUmc	VU-Vumc	Netherlands





Objectives of REFORM

APPLICATION

- 1. Select indicators for cost-effective monitoring
- 2. Improve tools and guidelines for restoration

RESEARCH

- 1. Review existing information on river degradation and restoration
- 2. Develop a process-based hydromorphological framework
- 3. Understand how multiple stress constrains restoration
- 4. Assess the importance of scaling on the effectiveness of restoration
- Develop instruments for risk and benefit analysis to support successful restoration

DISSEMINATION

1. Enlarge appreciation for the benefits of restoration





Cooperation with ...







Lourdes Alvarellos, Gary Brierley, Johan Kling, Margaret Palmer, Hervé Piégay, Peter Pollard, Ursula Schmedtje, Bas van der Wal



make use of earlier research projects (e.g. REBECCA, WISER, FORECASTER)

RESTORE (LIFE+ Information & Communication)

European Centre for River Restoration (ECRR)

WFD Implementation: common implementation strategy (CIS)

Advisory Board of REFORM

Connecting to new research projects (e.g. MARS)





EVENTS

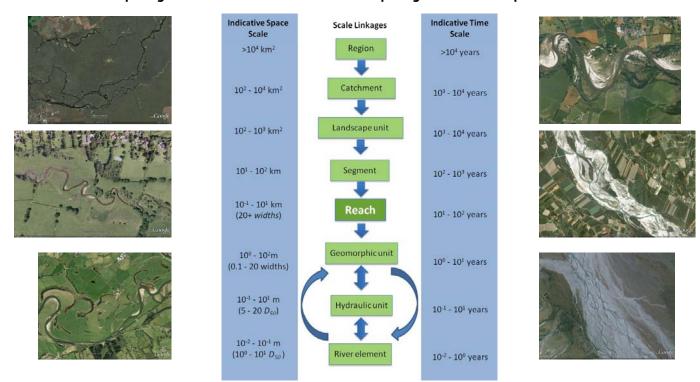
- European stakeholder workshop Brussels February 2013
- National stakeholder workshops
 - Zutphen, the Netherlands November 2013
 - York, UK May 2014
 - Seville, Spain June 2014
 - Rome, Italy September 2015
- Thematic workshops
 - Role of groundwater for river ecosystems Biebrza, Poland September 2014
 - Linking E-flows to sediment dynamics Rome, Italy September 2015
 - ECOSTAT Hydromorphology Oslo, Norway October 2015
- Summer school Wageningen, Netherlands June 2015
- Scientific conference Wageningen, Netherlands June 2015





Take the catchment perspective

Awareness to relevant spatial and temporal aspects beyond river restoration project boundaries and project life span



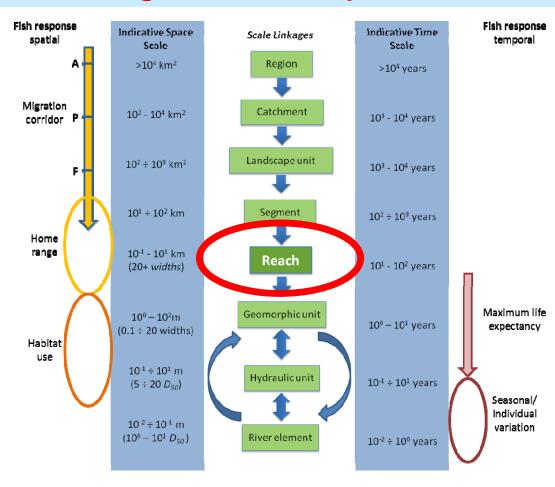
Grabowski, R.C., N. Surian and A.M. Gurnell (2014) Characterizing geomorphological change to support sustainable river restoration and management. WIREs Water. doi/10.1002/wat2.1037

Gurnell, A. et al (2014)Multi-scale framework and indicators of hydromorphological processes and forms. REFORM deliverable 2.1





Connecting biota to multiple scales



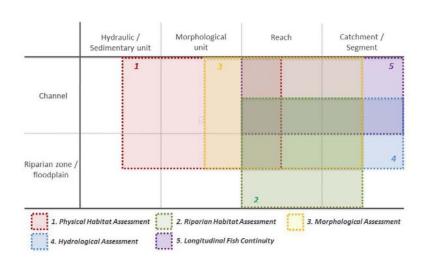
Garcia de Jalon, D., Wolter, C. et al. (20140 Influence of natural hydromorphological dynamics on biota and ecosystem functioning. REFORM deliverable 2.2 part 2





Consider physical processes

most applied hydromorphological methods do this insufficiently



Rinaldi, M., B. Belletti et al. (2013) Review on eco-
hydromorphological methods. REFORM deliverable 1.1

Belletti, B., Rinaldi, M., Buijse, A.D., Gurnell, A.M., Mosselman, E (2015) A review of assessment methods for river hydromorphology. Environmental Earth Sciences 73:2079–2100

	Categories of methods						
		1. Physical habitat	2. Riparian habitat	3. Morphologi cal assessmen t	al	5. Fish continuity	тот
	Europe	40	5	13	4	13	75
	Austria	6				1	7
	Belgium	2				2	4
	Czech Republic	1		1			2
	Denmark	5					5
	England & Wales	4		4		2	10
	France	3		2		2	7
	Germany	5				1	6
ı,	Ireland	1		1			2
<u>a</u>	Italy	2	1	1	1	1	6
ıntr	Ireland Italy Netherlands Poland	2				1	3
ō	Poland	3		1			4
U	Portugal	1					1
	Scotland			2	1	1	4
	Slovakia	1					1
	Slovenia	1					1
	Spain	2	4	3	2	2	13
	Sweden	2					2
	US	24	5	8	4	5	46
	Australia	4	2	1			7
	Switzerlan d	1					1
	Others*	4	2	2	2	2	12

^{*}South Africa, Canada/Quebec, China, New Zealand, Ukraine

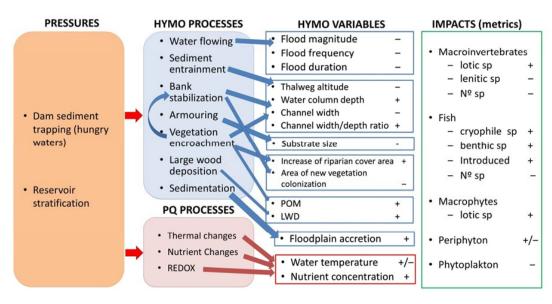




Beware of gardening, don't restore the past, rivers respond

Conceptual DIAGNOSIS pressure – process – impact framework

Large Dam & Reservoir



- 18 most significant HyMo pressures reviewed that impact aquatic biota
- Diagnosis helps to identify appropriate restoration measures

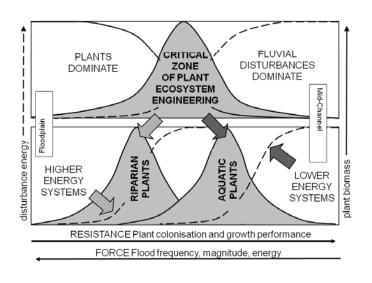
Garcia de Jalon, D. et al. (2013) Review on effects of pressures on hydromorphological variables and ecologically relevant processes. REFORM deliverable 1.2

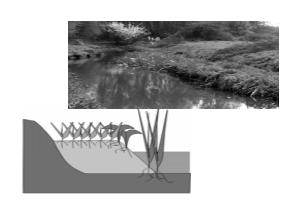
Wolter, C. et al. (2013) Review on ecological responses to hydromorphological degradation and restoration. REFORM deliverable 1.3



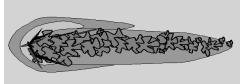


Vegetation as ecosystem engineer for river restoration is too often insufficiently taken into account











Gurnell, A. et al. D2.2 (2014) Influence of natural hydromorphological dynamics on biota and ecosystem functioning. REFORM deliverable 2.2 part 1

Gurnell, A.M. (2014) Plants as river system engineers. Earth Surface Processes and Landforms 39: 4–25





REFORM enhanced insights in the relation between HYMO and biota

- Fish and macrophytes appear better suited to assess HyMo degradation than diatoms and benthic invertebrates
- Terrestrial and semi-aquatic species benefit most from restoration
- Restoration resulted in a higher number of individuals but few new species
- Restoration affected specific species or traits rather than increasing the mere total number of species

Friberg, N. (2014) Impacts and indicators of change in lotic ecosystems. WIREs Water 2014 doi/10.1002/wat2.1040

Friberg, N., M. O'Hare & A.M. Poulsen [eds.] (2013) Impacts of hydromorphological degradation and disturbed sediment dynamics on ecological status. REFORM deliverable 3.1

O'Hare, M. et al. (2015) Understanding biological responses to degraded hydromorphology sediment dynamics and multiple stress. REFORM deliverable 3.2

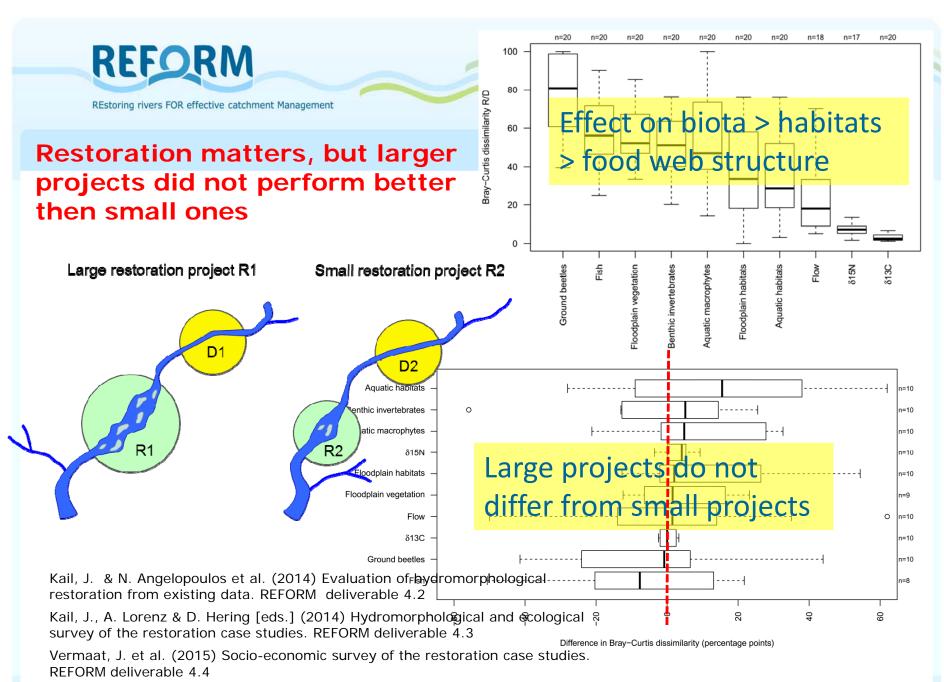
Verdonschot, P. et al. (2015) Evaluation of candidate indicators for case studies including uncertainty. REFORM deliverable 3.3





Standardised sampling of restored reaches across mid-sized rivers in Western, Central and Northern Europe

Mid-sized mountain rivers Mid-sized lowlands rivers Where? Where? Who? Who? UDE Em / Mörrum SLU Ruhr / Lahn EAWAG/UDE Skjern / Stora Thur / Töss **NERI** Regge / Dommel / Alterra Drau / Enns **BOKU** Dinkel Spree / Lippe IGB Becva / Morava MU Narew / Warta WULS Kuivajoki/Vääräjoki SYKE



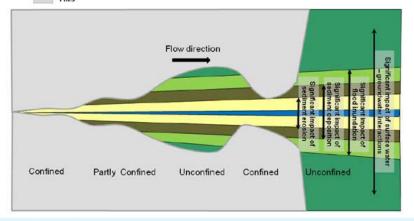




Existing EU Directives provide a too limited legislative framework for riparian zones and floodplains



- 1. Perenially inundated
 - 2. Fluvial disturbance dominated (coarse sediment erosion & deposition)
- 3. Fluvial disturbance dominated (finer sediment deposition)
- 4. Inundation dominated
- 5. Soil moisture regime dominated
 - Hills



- Hydromorphological impacts can take years to fully manifest themselves
- Riparian and floodplain ecosystems are not subject to extensive monitoring
- Plant diversity alone cannot be considered a valid and exhaustive indicator to assess the health of a river system and its functioning
- A generic framework is recommended for assessing the impact on floodplain and riparian ecosystems

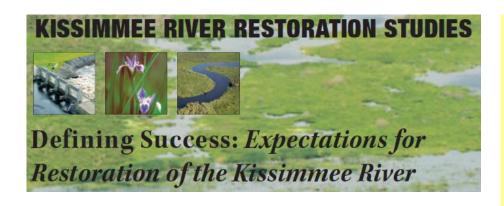
Baattrup-Pedersen, A., M. O'Hare et al. (2015) Guidance on how to identify impacts of hydromorphological degradation on riparian ecosystems. REFORM deliverable 3.4





Good planning and management

Restoration projects should have well-defined success criteria



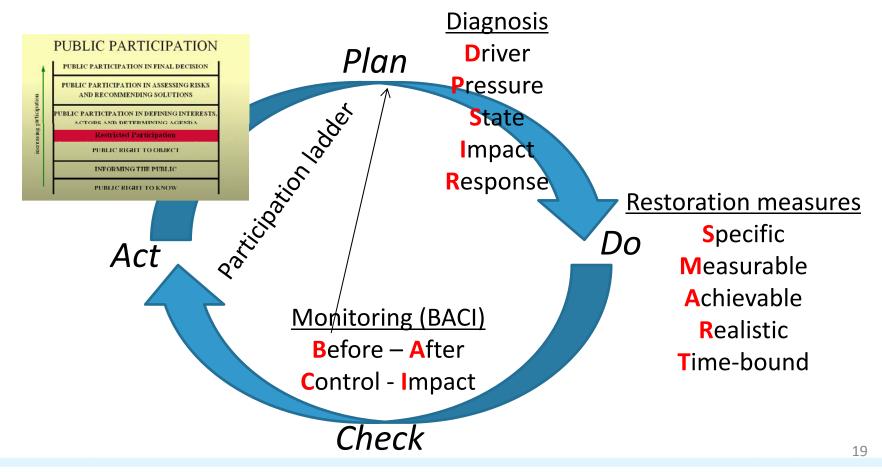
- •Nine expectations describe abiotic responses for hydrology, geomorphology, and water quality.
- •Five expectations describe changes in plant communities in the river channel and floodplain
- •Six expectations describe invertebrate and amphibian and reptile communities.
- •Five expectations describe anticipated changes in fish and bird communities.





Good planning and management

Application of existing management tools can substantially enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of restoration







Cost data are too scarce hampering cost-benefit analysis

Measure	Germany	Spain	UK	Netherlands
Flow Quantity (1)	1%	0%	0%	0%
Sediment Flow Quantity (2)	4%	29%	5%	23%
Flow Dynamics (3)	1%	0%	0%	0%
Longitudinal Connectivity (4)	21%	32%	7%	55%
Depth and Width Variation (5)	13%	0%	53%	9%
In-channel Structure and Substrate (6)	27%	7%	19%	9%
Riparian Zone (7)	4%	11%	7%	5%
Floodplains/Lateral Connectivity (8)	29%	21%	9%	0%
Total of Measures	453	228	45/55	30

Conclusions & Recommendations

- Incorporating cost information into decision making is a prerequisite to increase river restoration efficiency -> more effort needed
- Difficult to determine ecosystem benefits and services from restoration projects both individually and as a whole



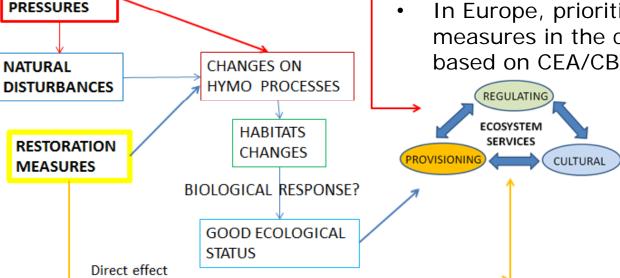
HYMO



REstoring rivers FOR effective catchment Management

Cost-Benefit Analysis aids in prioritizing restoration measures and plans . Manuals and quidelines for the

- Manuals and guidelines for the economic analysis of river restoration projects do not yet exist
- Important guidelines on the economics of water management in general offer valuable advice
- In Europe, prioritization of restoration measures in the context of the WFD based on CEA/CBA is still very limited



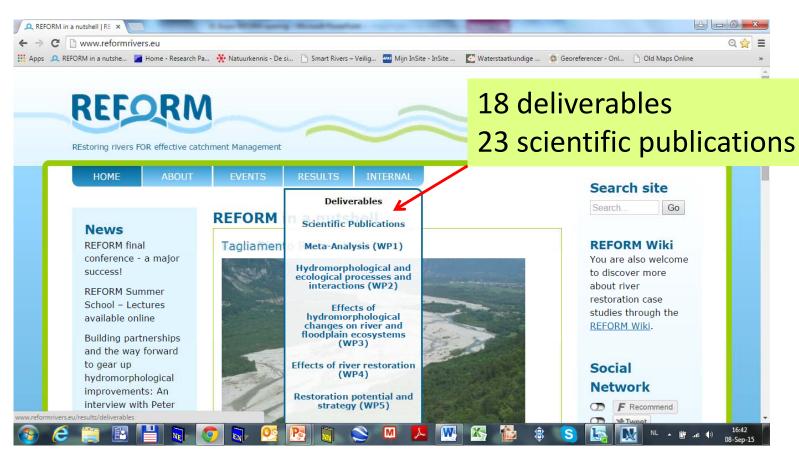
Direct effect

Brouwer, R., H. Gerdes, P. Reichert et al. (2015) Valuing the ecosystem services provided by European river corridors – an analytical framework. REFORM deliverable 5.2





website: WWW.REFORMRIVERS.EU



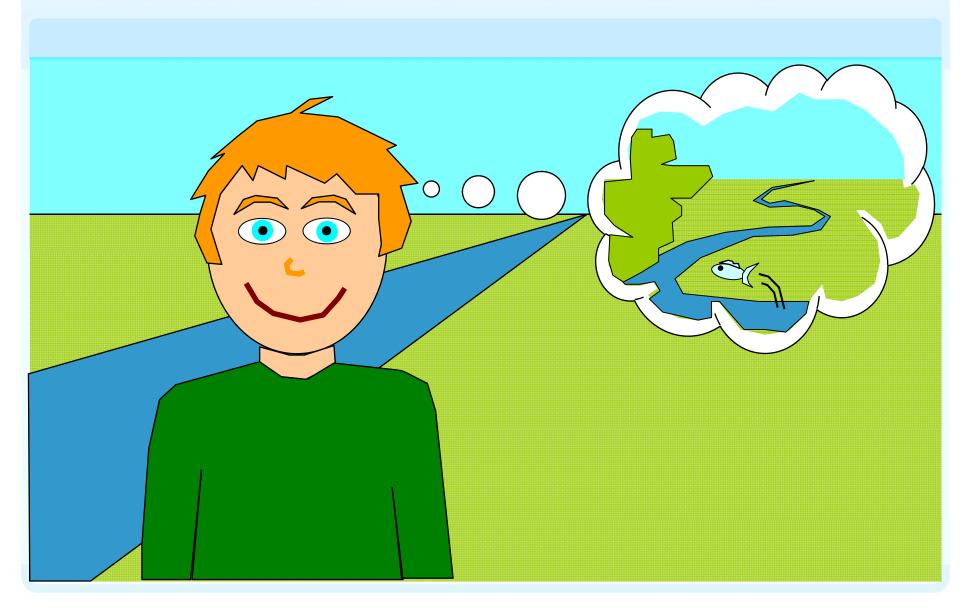
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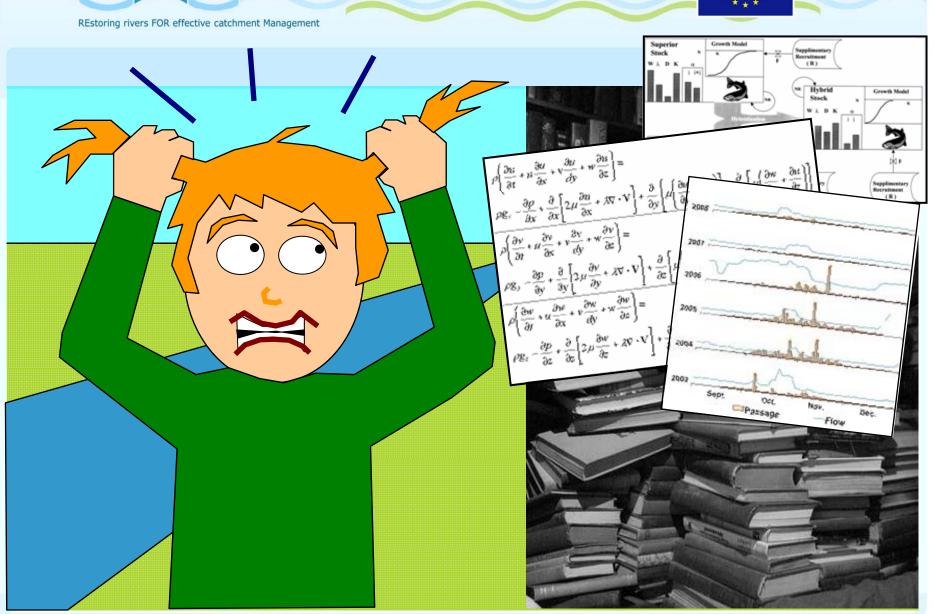








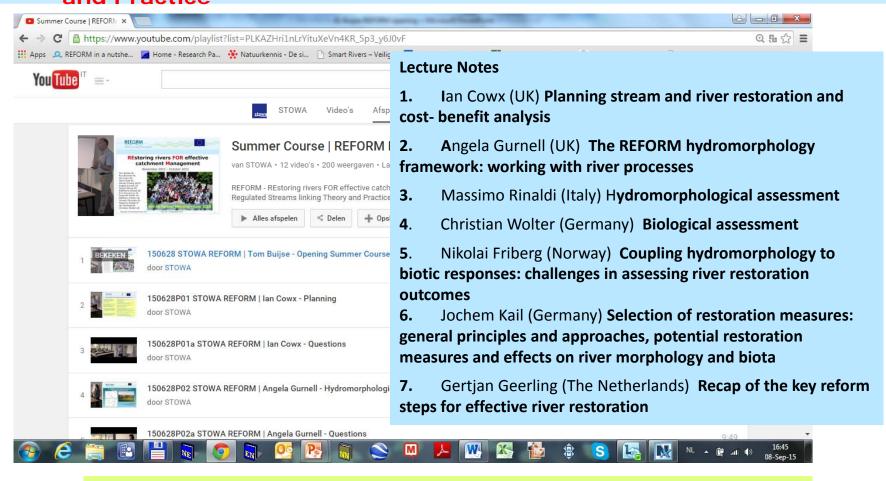








Summer school "Restoring Regulated Streams linking Theory and Practice"



http://www.reformrivers.eu/events/summer-school





Guidance and tools - REFORM WIKI

ecology. Processes operate at different scales,

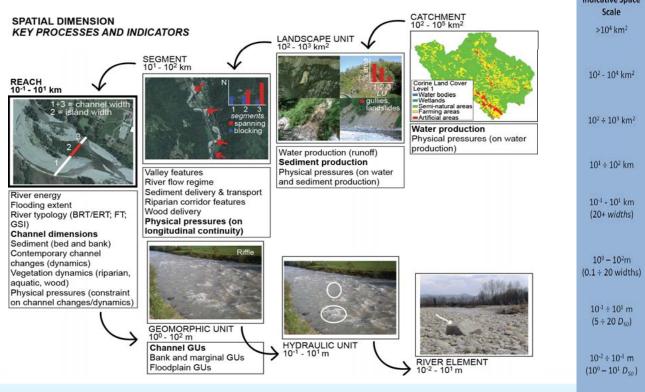
How does my river age work? River characterisation How does river work? . How does my rive What's wrong? How can we improve? work? River condition Identifying potential · Introduction to characterisation measures Hydromorphology Guidance sessment and physical Driver – Pressure – · Role of vegetation in Europe · Ecosystem services State - Impact Response is currently being overha Models prove contents and our landing What's wrong? · What's wrong? storation · Hydromorphological Hydromorphology an Quality Flowing water, inundation, e imentation ... · Biological Quality These are key processes for i dplain Pressures ecosystems from the · Hydromorphological **Programme of** the European Water assessment tools attention to hydron measures why the European (How can we project for improvi **Implementation** improve? hydromorphologica . How can we improve? guides the practitio · Restoration planning Project cycle Measures Why this wiki? · Case studies Plan - Do - Check -Successful river res · Planning tools Act the complex systems Extra

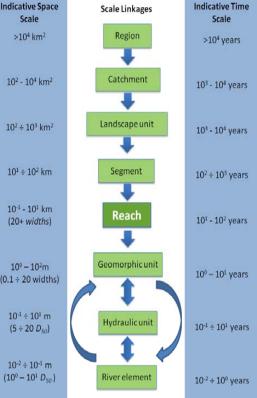




How does my river work?

Multiscale hierarchical framework for hydromorphological river characterization





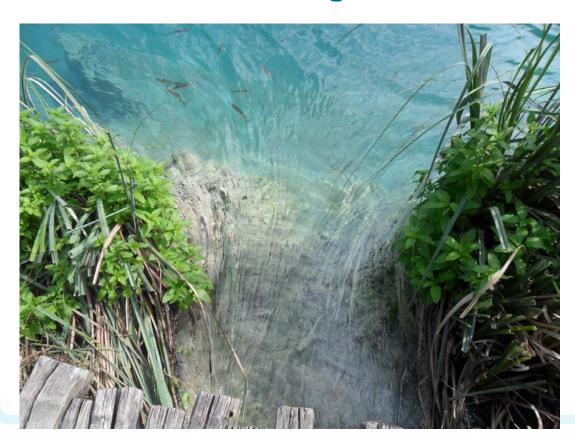




How does my river work?

Insights in interactions of water and

sediment with vegetation









How does my river work?

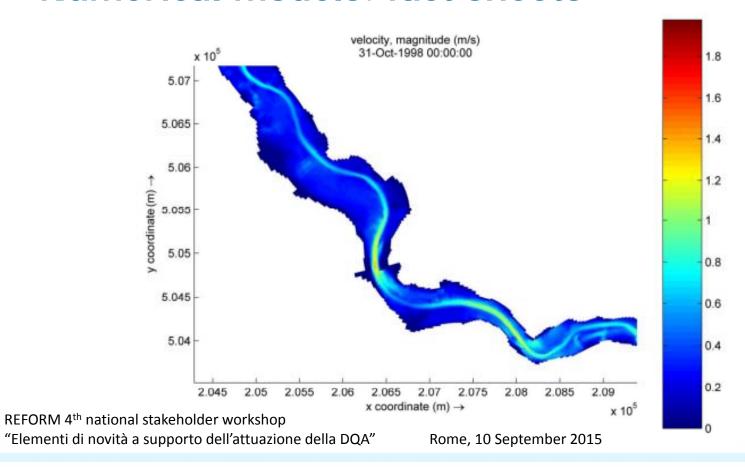






How does my river work?

Numerical models: fact sheets

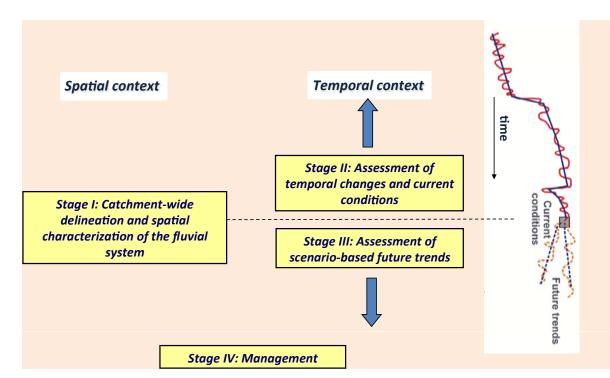






What's wrong?

Assessment and monitoring of hydromorphological conditions











What's wrong?

Biological quality indicators to detect HyMo impacts





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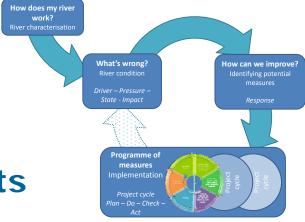


How can we improve?

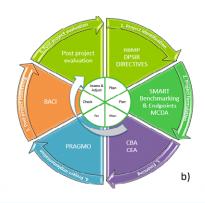
Planning at catchment scale

- River characterization
- 2. River condition
- 3. River restoration potential
- 4. Programme of measures
- 5. Project identification

Planning of individual projects







PDCA cycle





How can we improve?

View source

View history

REFORM river restoration wiki

- · Main page
- . What's in this wiki?

How does my river work?

- . How does my river work?
- · Introduction to characterisation
- Hydromorphology
- · Role of vegetation
- · Ecosystem services
- · Models

What's wrong?

- . What's wrong?
- · Hydromorphological Quality
- · Biological Quality
- · Pressures
- · Hydromorphological assessment tools

How can we improve?

- . How can we improve?
- · Restoration planning
- Measures
- · Case studies
- · Planning tools

Extra

- · Multi-lingual glossary
- · Methods and tools
- · EU Directives
- · Database
- Related Sites
- . The REFORM project

Category: Measures

Aims & Measures



River restoration and rehabilitation projects are implemented to achieve given objectives which are translated in the physical environment into Aims for improving hydromorphological and/or ecological conditions in the river system. The methods or activities used to achieve these Aims are usually called Measures.

For example:

- · Aim: Longitudinal connectivity improvement
- · Measure: Installation of a fish pass

In this web-based tool information from sixty restoration and rehabilitation measures have been compiled from the River Basin Management Plans of the countries represented in the FORECASTER consortium and information provided by the Environment Agency of England and Wales [2].

The measures have been organized according to their aims into the 9 measure groups indicated below as Subcategories. Click in the subcategory to see the measures contained in it. The complete list of measures is presented at the bottom of the page under Pages in category "Measures"

References:

- 1. † Environmental Issues, Dams and Fish migration. Neste River, France #
- 2. ± Royal Haskoning. 2007. Hydromorphology and the Water Framework Directive. Work package 6 of the Environment Agency WFD Hydromorphology Project

Subcategories

This category has only the following subcategory.

- . 01. Water flow quantity mprovement
- . 02. Sediment flow quantity Improvement

0 cont.

- . 04. Longitudinal connectivity
- . 05. River bed depth and width variation improvement
- . 03. Flow dynamics improvement . 06. In-channel structure and substrate improvement

0 cont.

- . 07. Riparian zone improvement
- 08. Floodplains/off-channel/lateral connectivity habitats improvement
- . 09. Other aims to improve hydrological or morphological conditions





How can we improve?

- 1. PDCA cycle: Plan Do Check Act
- DPSIR framework: Driver Pressures State Impact Response
- 3. WISE conflict and resolution matrices
- 4. Decision matrix
- 5. Benchmarks and endpoints
- 6. Setting SMART project objectives
- 7. Problem tree analysis and tree of objectives
- 8. Logical framework approach
- 9. Risk and uncertainty analysis
- 10. Multiple-criteria decision analysis (MCDA)
- 11. Monitoring design
- 12. Cost-benefit analysis (CBA)
- 13. Cost-effectiveness analysis (CEA)





wiki.reformrivers.eu

How does my river work?

- How does my river work?
- characterisation
- Hydromorphology
- · Role of vegetation
- · Ecosystem services

Housels

What's wrong?

- · What's wrong?
- Hydromorphological Quality
- . Righton a supplier
- Pressures
- Hydromorphological
 - assessment tools

How can we improve?

- . How can we improve?
- Restoration planning
- Measure
- Case studies
- · Planning tools

Extra

- · Multi-lingual glossary
- · Methods and tools
- EU Directives
- Database
- · Related Sites
- · The REFORM project

How does my river work?

What's wrong?

Evaluation of status

How can we improve?

Programme of measures

Multi-lingual glossary

Methods and tools



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Thank you for your attention







COLLABORATIVE PROJECT
LARGE SCALE INTEGRATING PROJECT

ENV.2011.2.1.2-1 HYDROMORPHOLOGY AND ECOLOGICAL OBJECTIVES OF WFD

GRANT NO. 282656



Our project website is our display window www.reformrivers.eu



