

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region –Policy area Nutri

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Implementation of the EUSBSR

- ✓ 3 main objectives
- ✓ 14 interconnected Policy Areas

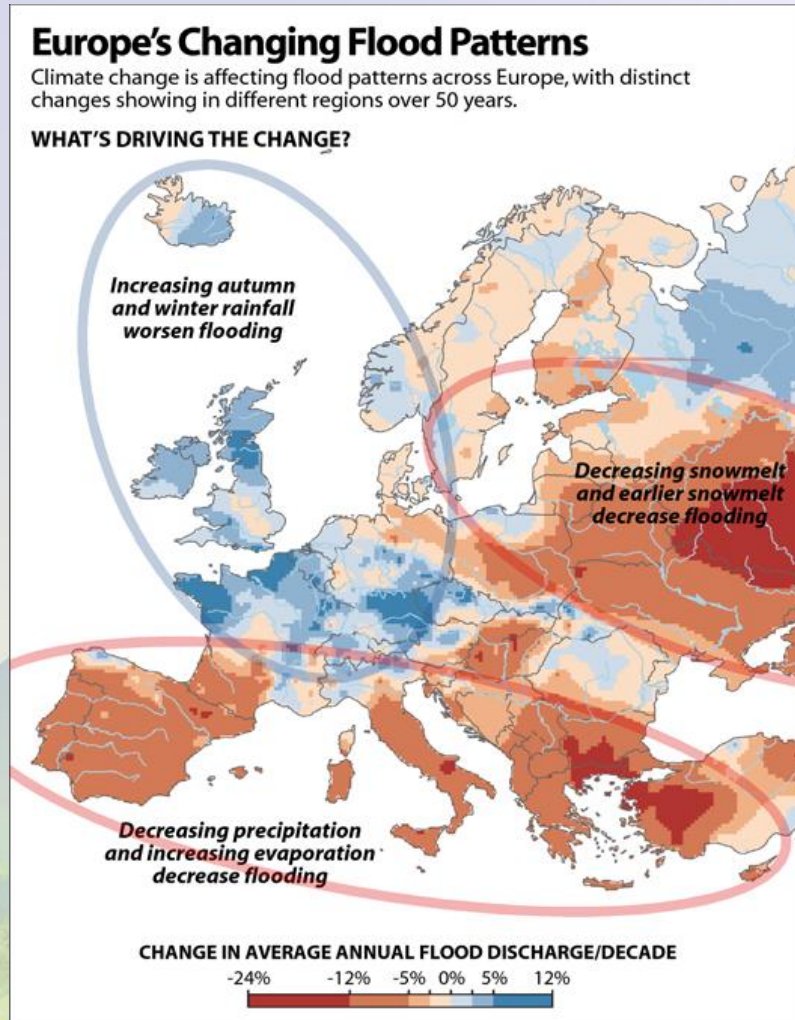
Climate change aspects and cooperation with neighbouring non-EU countries are mainstreamed into all 14 policy areas.



EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

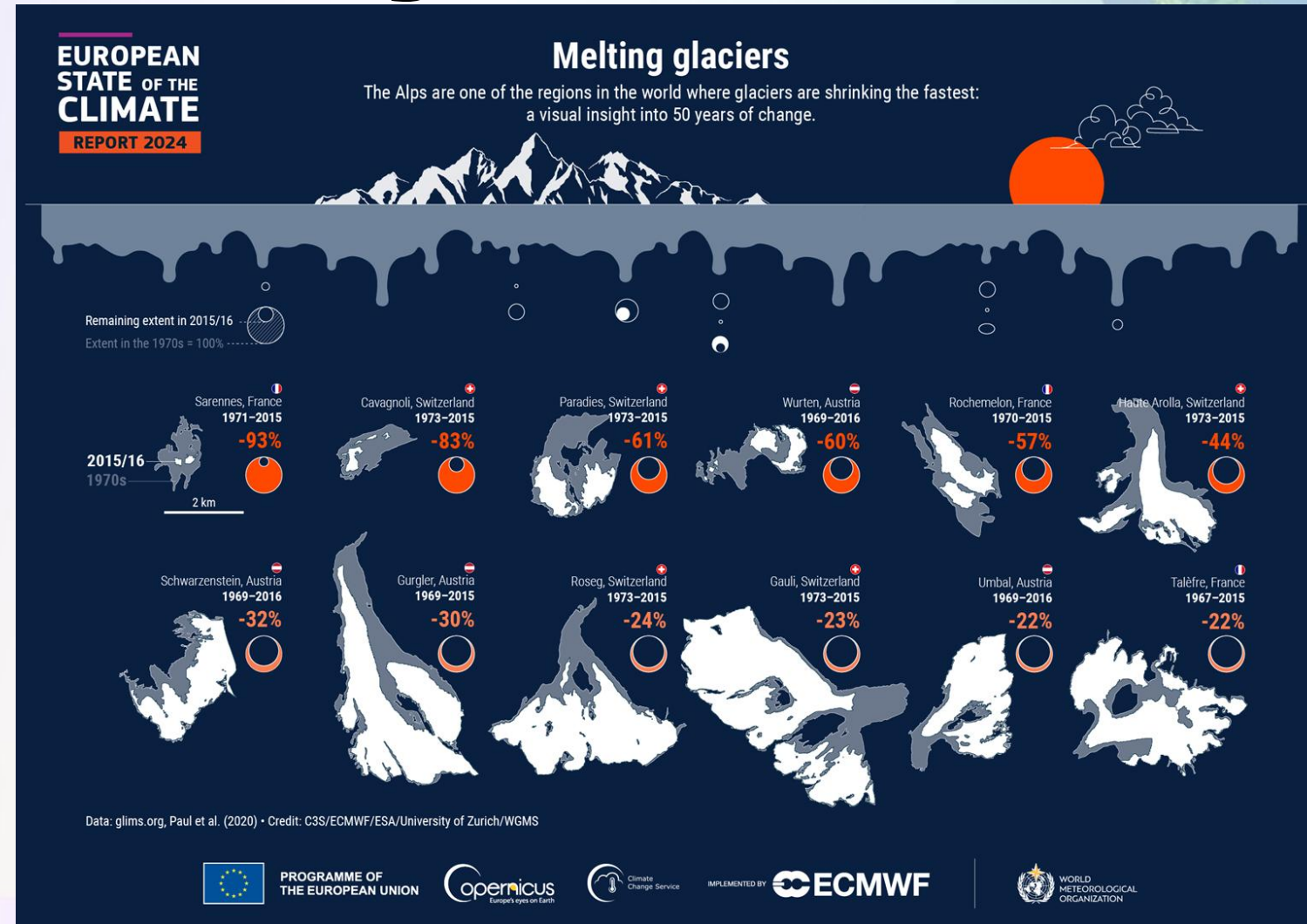


From EU-level to macro-regional level and back



SOURCE: Gunther Blöschl, et al.

InsideClimate News



Challenges in the Baltic Sea Region

Closed brackish sea,
heavy human impact.

Latest HELCOM
evaluations of its state
show positive direction,
but more still needs to
be done.

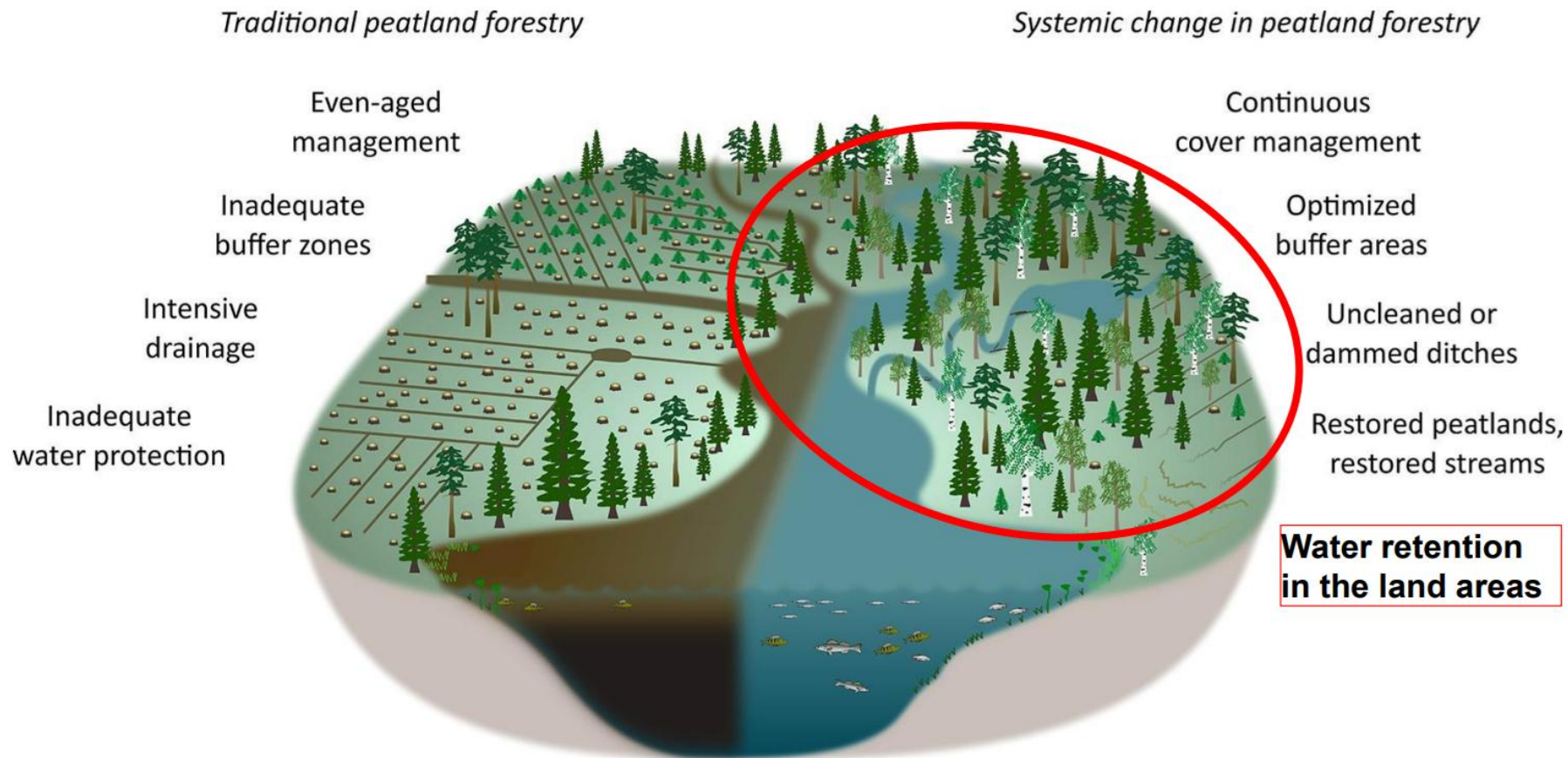


Challenges in the Baltic Sea Region

- “Sponge” from the catchments have been removed
□ higher peaks of floods, **stronger droughts**

□ Pressure on the Baltic Sea!

□ Eutrophication, browning of the waters, pollution



<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378112723000099#f0020> Härkönen et al. 2023

Cathment planning aims to realize synergies and improve effectiveness & use of resoures

State of waters

The status targets for waters cannot be achieved without measures in catchment areas to prevent and reduce loading.

Agriculture and forestry

Coordinated and cost-effective maintenance of drainage systems and water protection solutions.

Adaptation to climate change

Preparing for floods and drought as well as water storage and irrigation needs requires actions across land ownership and land use boundaries.

Climate change mitigation

Emission reductions from peatlands through extensive restoration and rewetting measures.

Biodiversity

Effectiveness of the restoration of small water bodies, coastal nature and mires as well as in fisheries management. Connectivity of habitats.

Storing and delaying water in catchment areas (wetlands, restoration of water)

Restoration of mires, peatlands and drainage areas, drainage based on the needs

Sustainable water management practices (nature-based structures, restoration and maintenance of channels, removal of migratory fish barriers, recycling of water)

**Coordinati
on of
needs and
actions**



Ongoing Interreg-projects

- Catchment planning
 - Watershed Safety Plan, WSSP / Interreg Central Baltic
- Nature based-solutions
 - City Blues / Interreg Baltic Sea Region
 - NBS and biodiversity measures in cities
 - NurseCoast II / Interreg Baltic Sea Region
 - NBS in wastewater treatment
- Catchment officers
 - The Baltic Catchment Officer Project / Interreg Central Baltic
- Water re-use
 - ReNutriWater / Interreg Baltic Sea Region
 - WaterMan / Interreg Baltic Sea Region

Policy Area Nutri adding value through cooperation

- Cooperation with HELCOM
- PA Nutri Talks –webinar on water management in rural areas
 - Exchange on new projects and policies in the region
- In 2026 possibly a Baltic Sea-wide event on catchment officers
 - Identified need to share experiences, offer a networking opportunity for officers
- Aims to coordinate a joint statement to EU's open consultation on climate resilience and risk management
 - Includes: policy messages from several ongoing projects and a joint synthesis/summary of the messages
 - Why?
 - Get more policy relevant results from projects
 - More visibility for projects
 - Making sure projects send their results ☐ improved policy reach and more value from ongoing projects
 - **Emphasize the challenges that are characteristic to our macro-region!**