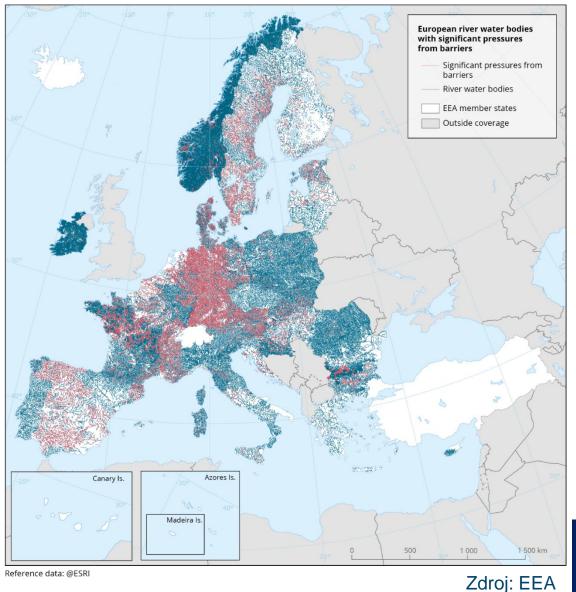


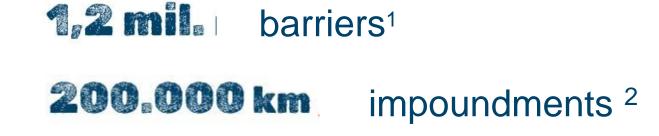
Restoring rivers and removing barriers

Katarína Mravcová, Water Research Institute, Slovakia

13th EUSDR Annual Forum, Vienna, 20-21 June 2024







Ca 13% no socio-economic use but negative ecological impact (156.000)

Min. 11.000+ obsolete barriers

S decline of migratory fish populations since 1970 ³

Failure to achieve GES in WFD 2000/60/EC, fresh water biodiversity loss

¹ de Leaniz, C. G. et al, 2021 ²Parasiewicz, P. et al., 2023 ³Deinet et. al (2020)

















Dams, weirs ,sluices, culverts Longitudinal barriers Lateral barriers Hymo alterations



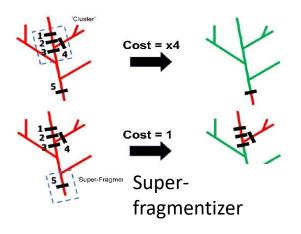


Impacts

- Loss of habitats and free flowing rivers
- Fragmentation 68% barriers < 2 m, 0,1 % > 15 m
- Fish migration upstream, downstream
- Continuity of biota, sediments, nutrients

Climate change

- Water regime change
- Water and sediment quality
- Eutrophisation
- Temperature, Oxygen regime
- Flood protection?
- Investments needed (old dams)
- Socio-economic impacts





Solutions

Nature restoration law , Biodiversity strategy 2030

 $25.000 \,\mathrm{km}$

Free flowing rivers

Dam removal

DAM Removal Europe

Mapping, esp. obsolete

Priorities

Mitigation

Barriers in people`s minds



Mouchlianitis F.A. (2024). Dam Removal Progress 2023. World Fish Migration Foundation



Our contribution 2023-2032

Implementation of RBMP in Slovakia in selected sub-basins

15 barriers removed/modified

13,6 km side-

side-arms

3268 ha biotopes

www.livingrivers.sk



Thanks for attention



