

Dam Removal

**A viable option to regenerate
European rivers**



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World Fish Migration Foundation

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WORLD FISH MIGRATION
FOUNDATION

SAVE MIGRATORY FISH IN RIVERS

© Jeremy Shelton

A photograph of a fish trap in a stream. The trap is a rectangular wooden structure with a fine mesh netting. It is positioned in a narrow section of the stream, creating a barrier. Several fish, likely trout or salmon, are visible inside the trap. The water is clear, and the surrounding environment appears to be a natural, wooded stream bed. The text "GETTING STUCK IN SWEDEN" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font at the bottom of the image.

GETTING STUCK IN SWEDEN

A close-up photograph of a brown trout leaping out of a waterfall. The fish is in mid-air, its body arched, with its head pointing towards the left. The waterfall is composed of dark, wet rocks, and the water is cascading over them, creating white foam and spray at the base. The background shows a river flowing into a pool, with trees and a grassy bank under a blue sky with scattered clouds.

HEAD BANGING ALL OVER THE GLOBE

© Petteri Hautamaa

DROWNING RIVERS

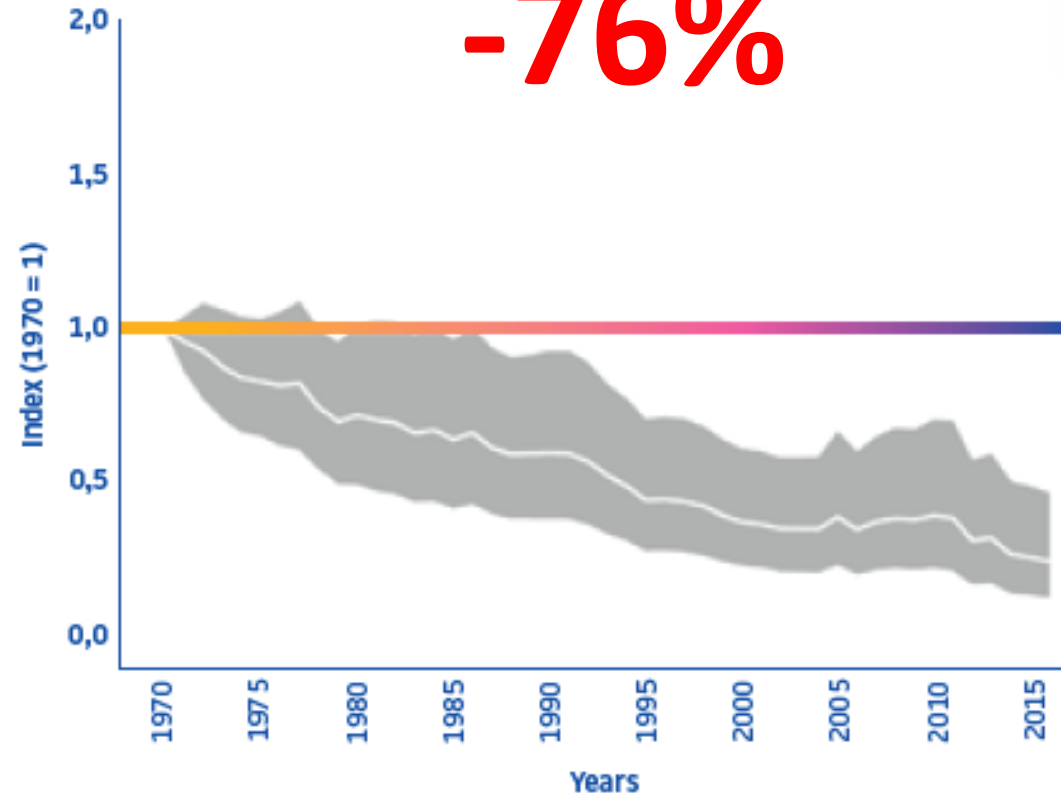
An aerial photograph of a large dam and power station. The dam is a long, dark structure with many vertical supports, spanning a wide river. Below the dam is a power station with two large, white, curved-roof buildings. The river flows from the top of the image, through the dam, and continues down towards the bottom right. The surrounding landscape is green and hilly, with some trees showing autumn colors. A small village is visible on the left side of the image.



LIVING PLANET INDEX MIGRATORY FISH



-76%



*'We want people to realize
what's at stake,
understand what we've lost,
and work together
to protect and restore
populations of these
amazing and life
sustaining fish'*

**Zeb Hogan
Host Monster Fish
NAT GEO WILD**



RIVERS FULL OF FISH

BETWEEN SEA AND THE SOURCE



FROM NEW
ZEALAND TO
HAWAII



CELEBRATE SUCCESS STORIES & CHALLENGES TOGETHER



OPENING UP RIVERS AROUND THE WORLD

MAKING PEOPLE PROUD



GLOBAL MOVEMENT

OCTOBER 24





‘The more people we can make aware of the problems faced by fish, the more chance we have to find solutions.

Jeremy Wade (River Monsters)

Ambassador WFMD





2013 ELWHA RIVER

© US NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



2016

MOVEMENT TO SUPPORT

PRACTITIONERS



MISSION

SAVE FREE FLOWING RIVERS IN EUROPE



PROVIDE TOOLS
AWARENESS
CONNECT, SHARE & INSPIRE
LOBBY
CATALYSE FUNDING



Iron Gate Dam, Danube River, Romania



**We are NOT trying
to remove the
Iron Gate Dam**
*(well maintained, iconic,
multiple purposes)*

**We ARE stimulating
the removal of
abandoned, obsolete,
unsafe, in-efficient,
sediment filled dams**



Yecla de Yeltes dam, Spain

REMOVED BARRIERS

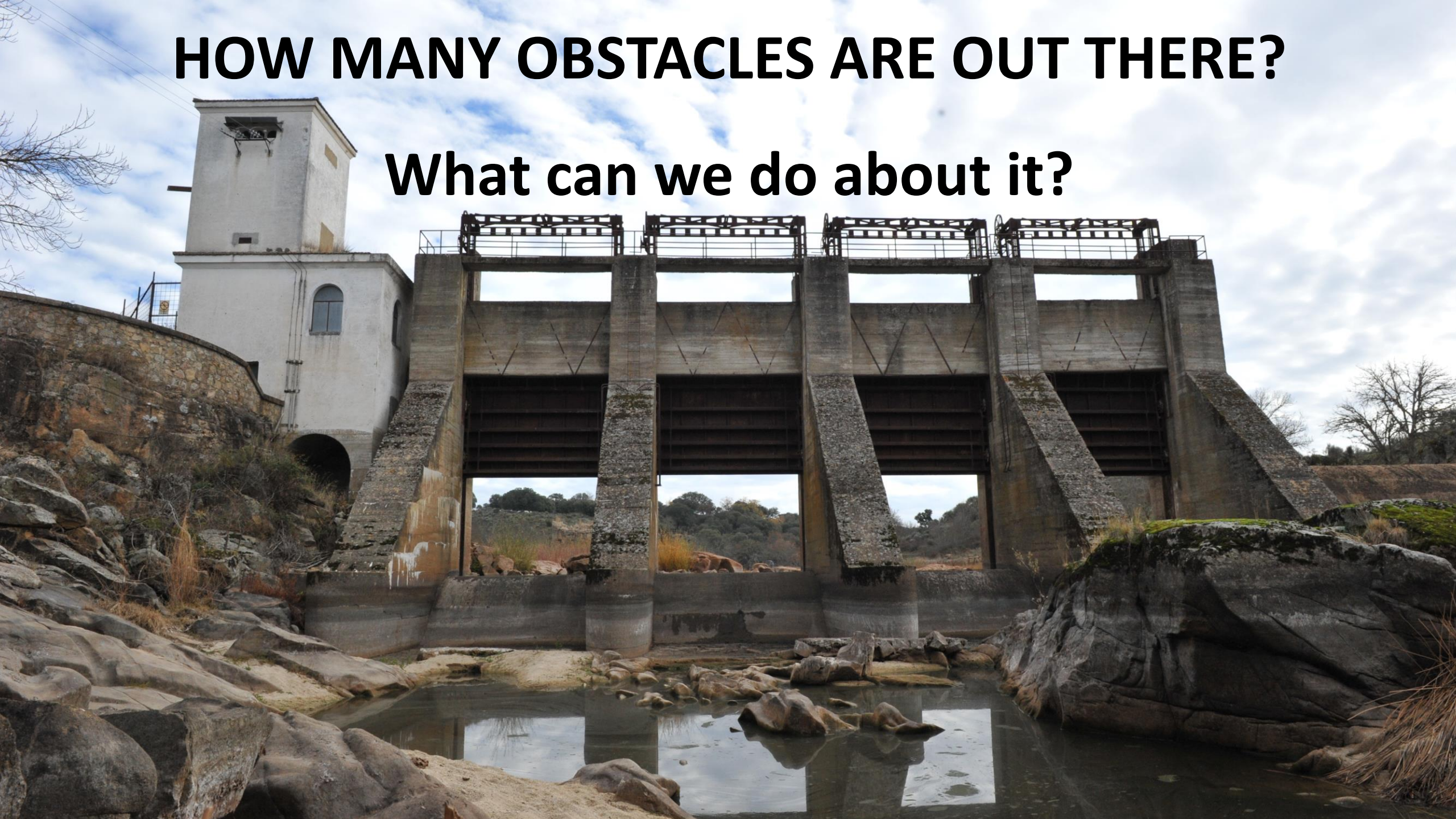


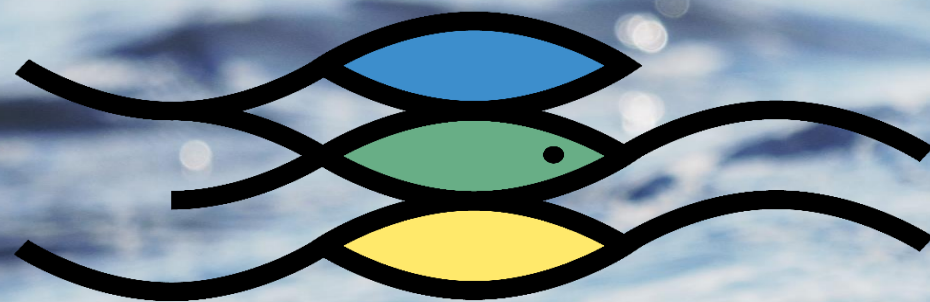
© Duero River Basin Authority

FRANCE:	>2.400
SWEDEN:	>1.600
FINLAND:	>450
SPAIN:	>200
UK:	>130
NETHERLANDS:	>50
ESTONIA:	>5
SWITZERLAND:	1
NORWAY:	?
GERMANY:	tbd

HOW MANY OBSTACLES ARE OUT THERE?

What can we do about it?





AMBER

Adaptive Management of Barriers in European Rivers

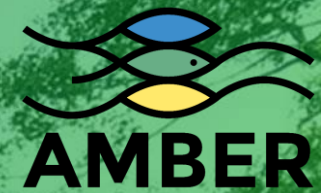
A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT FOR GUIDANCE ON BARRIER
LOCATION, REMOVAL AND MITIGATION IN EUROPE

www.amber.international



Horizon 2020

BARRIER TRACKER



Reconnecting European rivers, the smart way

LET IT FLOW



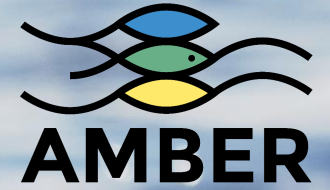
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App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

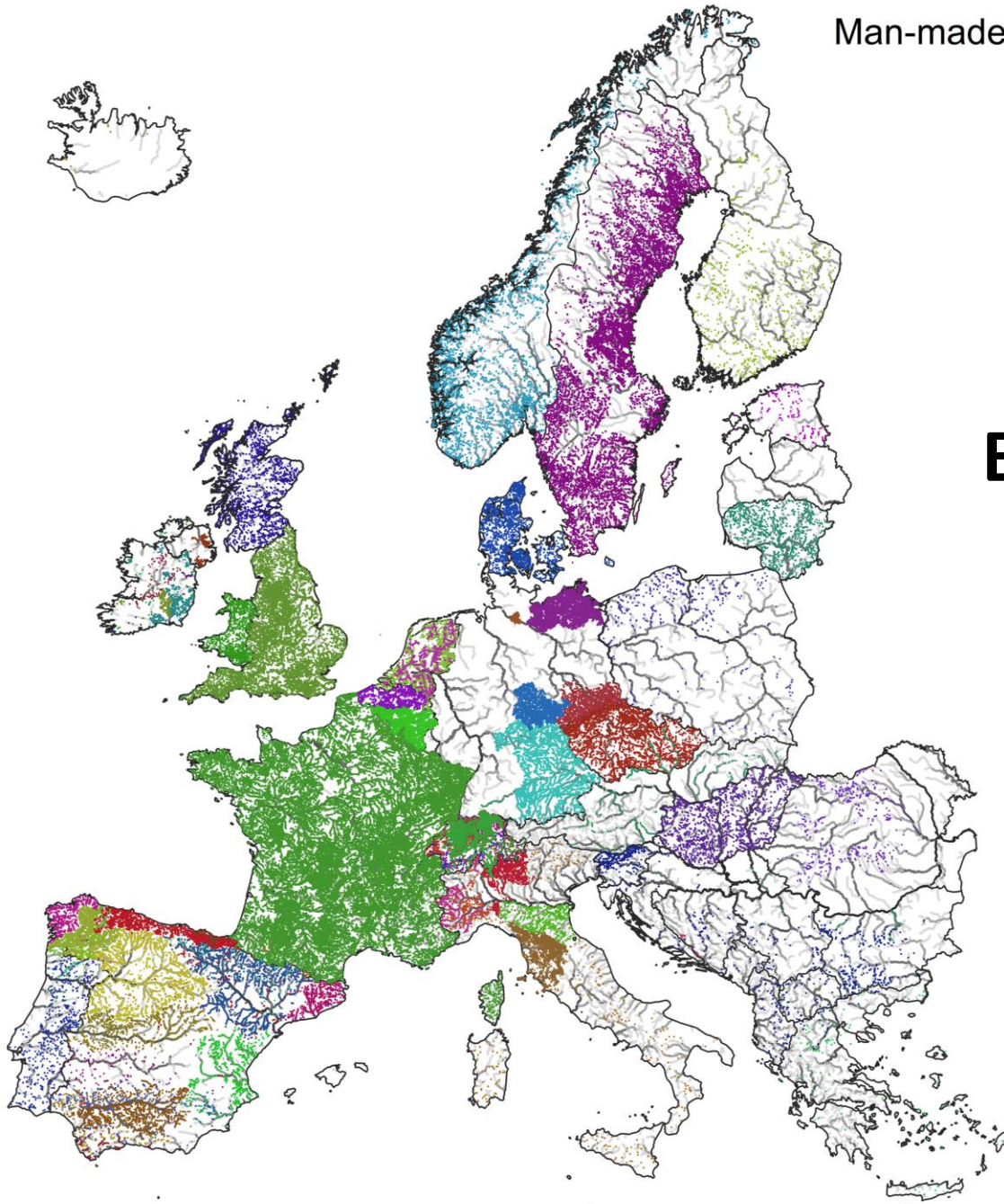
11 LANGUAGES

Man-made river barriers included in the AMBER Atlas
(November 2018)



650.000
BARRIER RECORDS

>1 MLN
ESTIMATED
BARRIERS

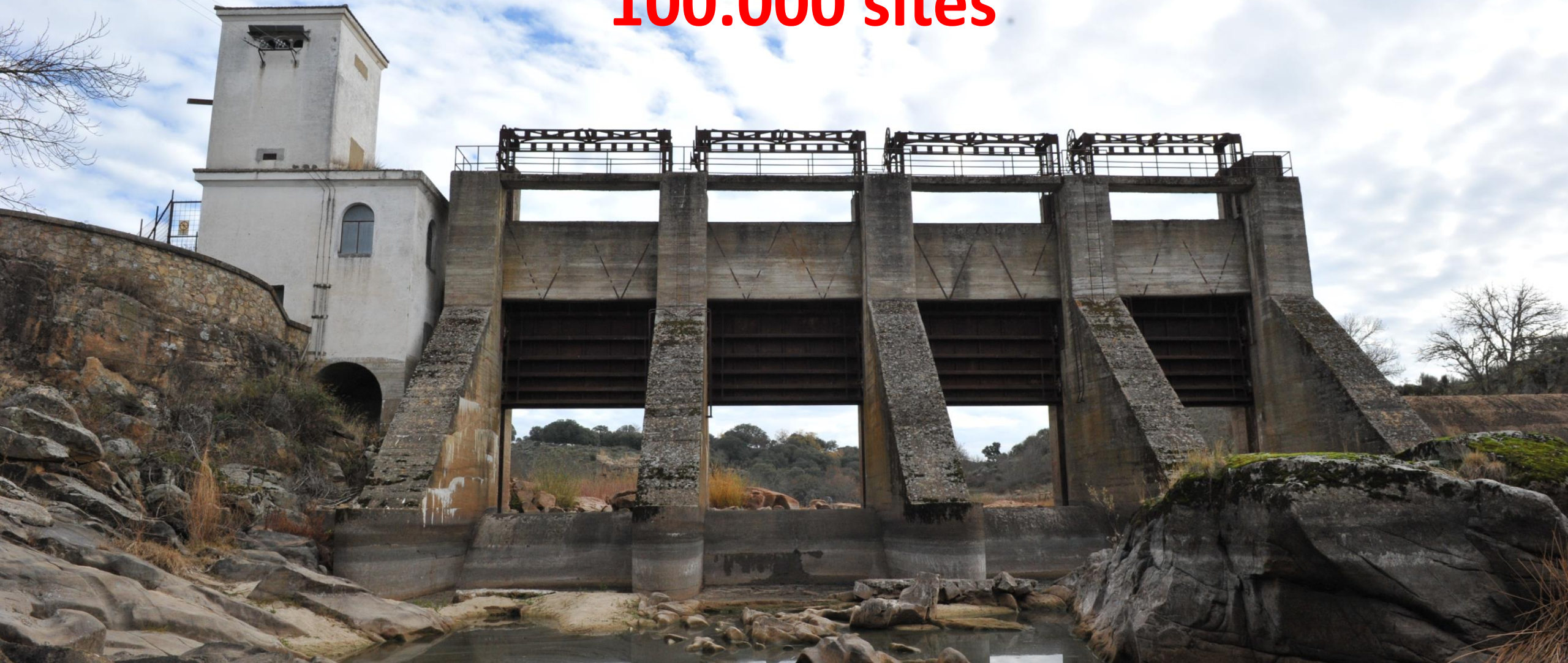


0 205 410 820 km



OLD & OBSOLETE

100.000 sites



RELICENSE HYDROPOWER?

30.000 sites

TO BE OR NOT TO BE REMOVED ?

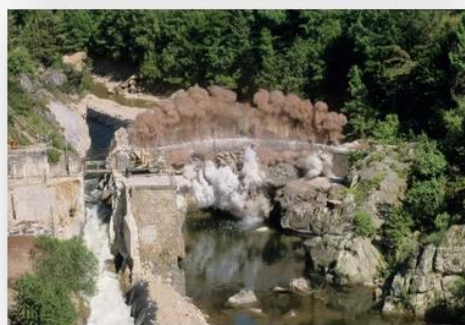
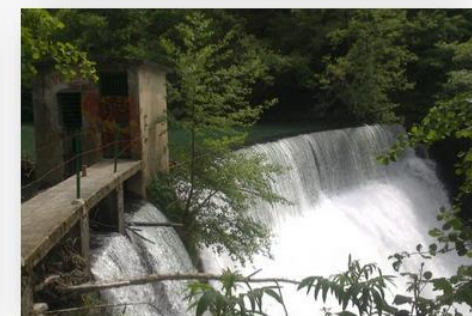
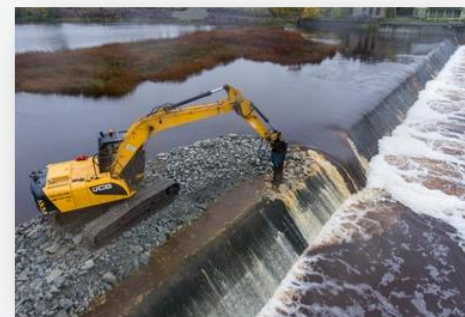
FIRST SEMINAR LEON (SPAIN) 2016

EXCITEMENT



CASE STUDIES

<https://www.damremoval.eu/case-studies/>





DRE SHOWCASES

ESTONIA



THE BIGGEST



ESTONIA



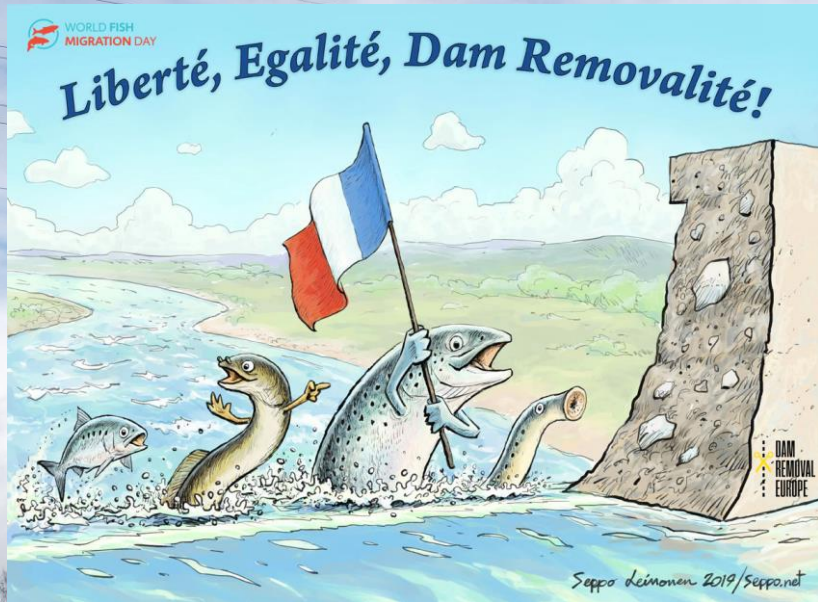
© ERN

FRANCE

ESTONIA



FRANCE







SPAIN

DAM REMOVAL LAW

© Confederación Hidrográfica del Duero (Spain)

A photograph of a stone dam with a bridge over it, surrounded by autumn trees. The dam is made of dark stone and has a wide, flat top. Water is flowing over the dam, creating a white, foamy waterfall. The bridge is made of dark stone and has a metal railing. The trees are in autumn, with yellow and orange leaves. The sky is overcast.

DAM REMOVAL POLICY FROM 2019 IN FINLAND

RE-THINKING HYDROPOWER SWEDEN







CROWD FUNDING 15 DAM REMOVALS

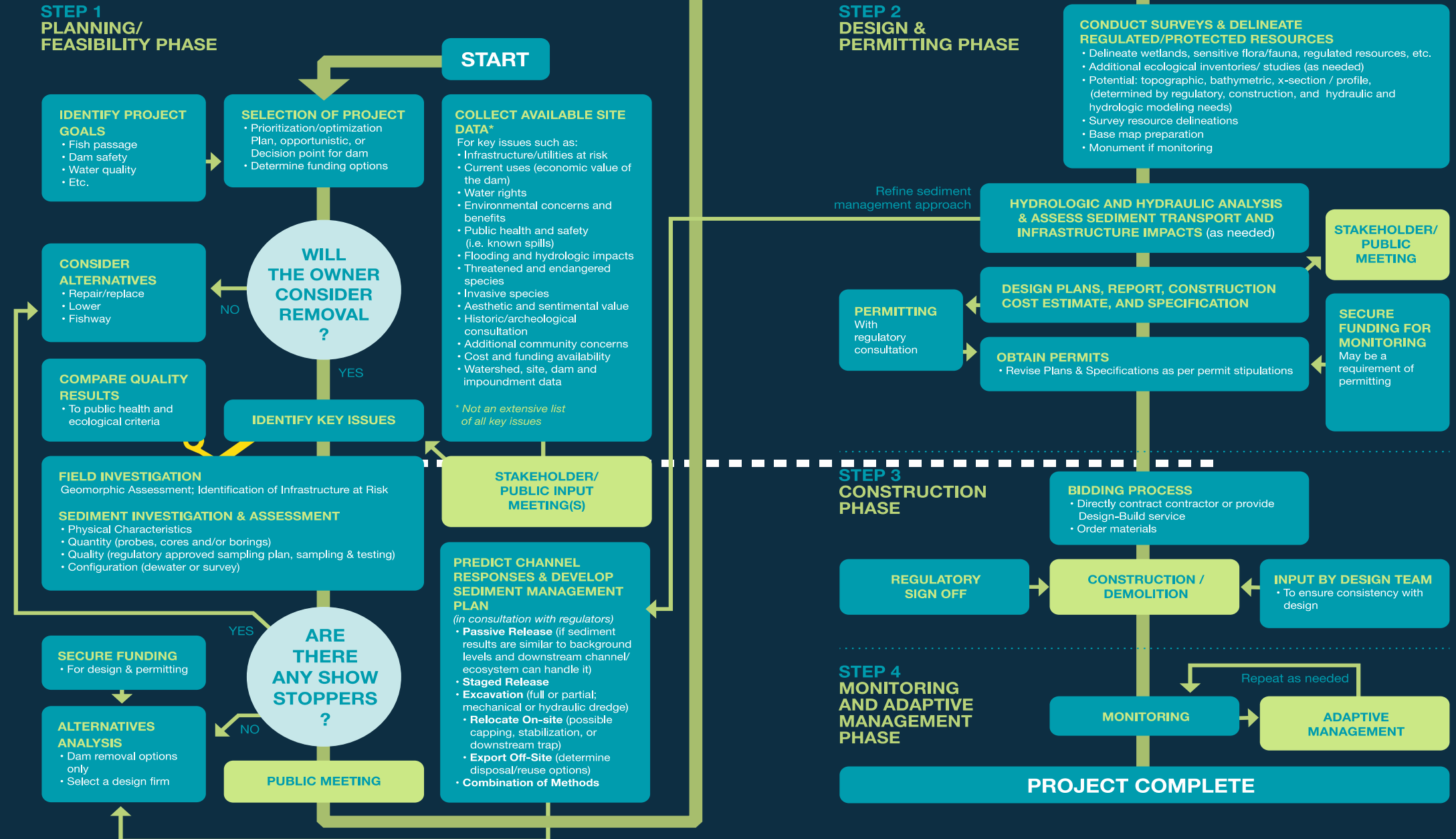


SHARE EXPERIENCES USA-EUROPE

**DAM REMOVAL
TOOL KIT
(TNC)**



TOOLS





KEY RESULTS (2015-2020)

- GROWING INT. NETWORK WITH **7** FULLY BOOKED SEMINARS, **100+** PRESENTATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA LEADING TO A LIST OF **200+** REMOVABLE DAMS;
- INSPIRING DRE PARTNERSHIP WITH **7** PARTNERS & **24** SUPPORTERS
- POLICY REPORT & DRE DATABASE WITH **>5.000** REMOVED OBSTACLES
- CROWDFUNDING: CATALYSED **>15** DAM REMOVALS;
- PROVEN POLICY CHANGE IN **3** COUNTRIES (FINLAND, LITHUANIA & SWEDEN);
- WEBSITE WITH **>30** SHOWCASE PROJECTS, **100+** REPORTS & ARTICLES;
- DRE MOVEMENT: **>1.400** PERSONS AND STRONG CONNECTION WITH USA NETWORK



Large hydro-electric dams continue to be planned and built in Africa, Asia and South America. In Western Europe and the US they're tearing them down. Peter Gibbs wants to know why.

Available now

🕒 30 minutes

These wonders of engineering...

[Show more](#)

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Wed 25 Apr 2018

21:00

BBC RADIO 4

PREVIOUS

**Undiscovered
Colombia**



NEXT

Antarctic Assault



See all episodes from Costing the Earth

Best Nature Documentaries



WHAT'S NEXT

STRATEGY 2021-2025

REPLICATE/SCALING



DAM
REMOVAL
EUROPE

STRATEGY
2020
2030

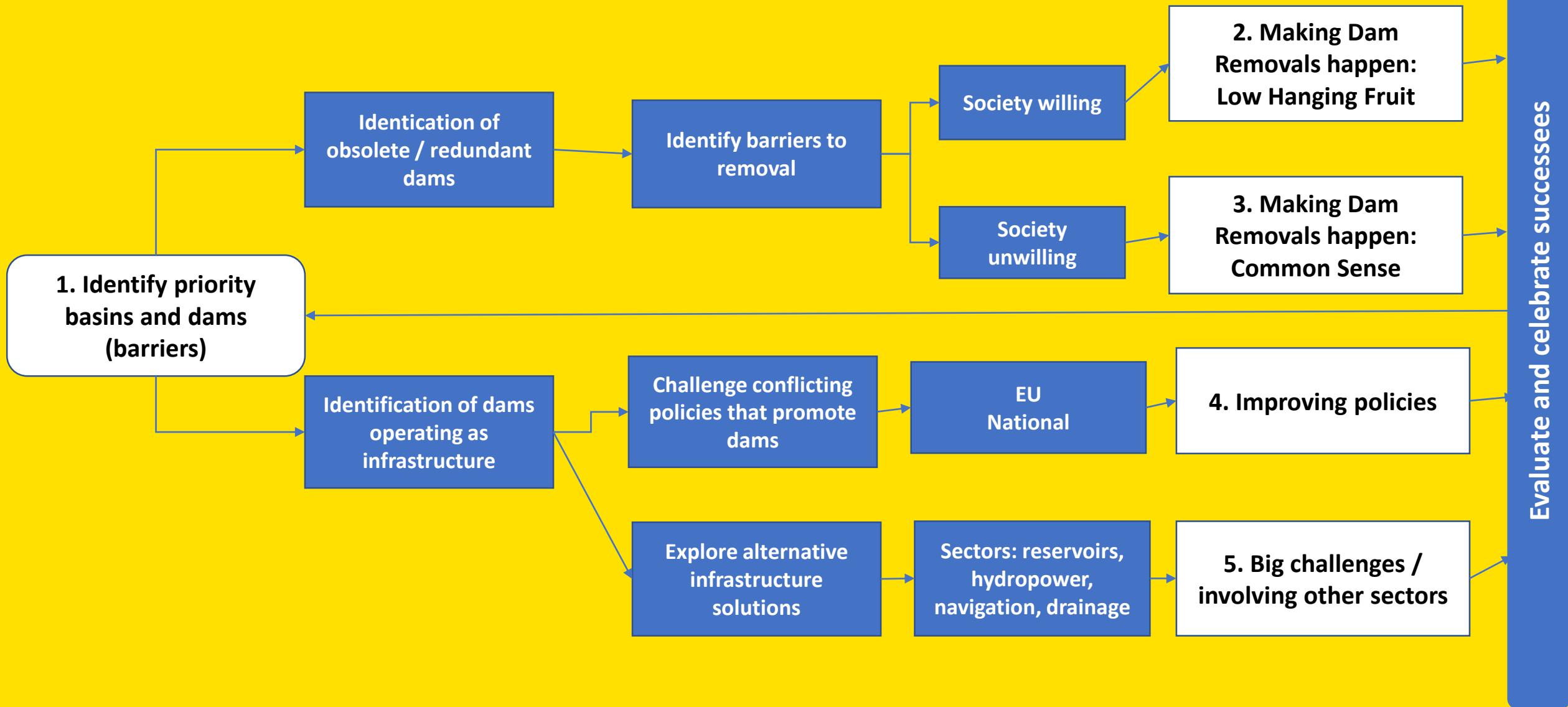


25.000 km
FREE-FLOWING
RIVERS

EU-BIODIVERSITY
AMBITION

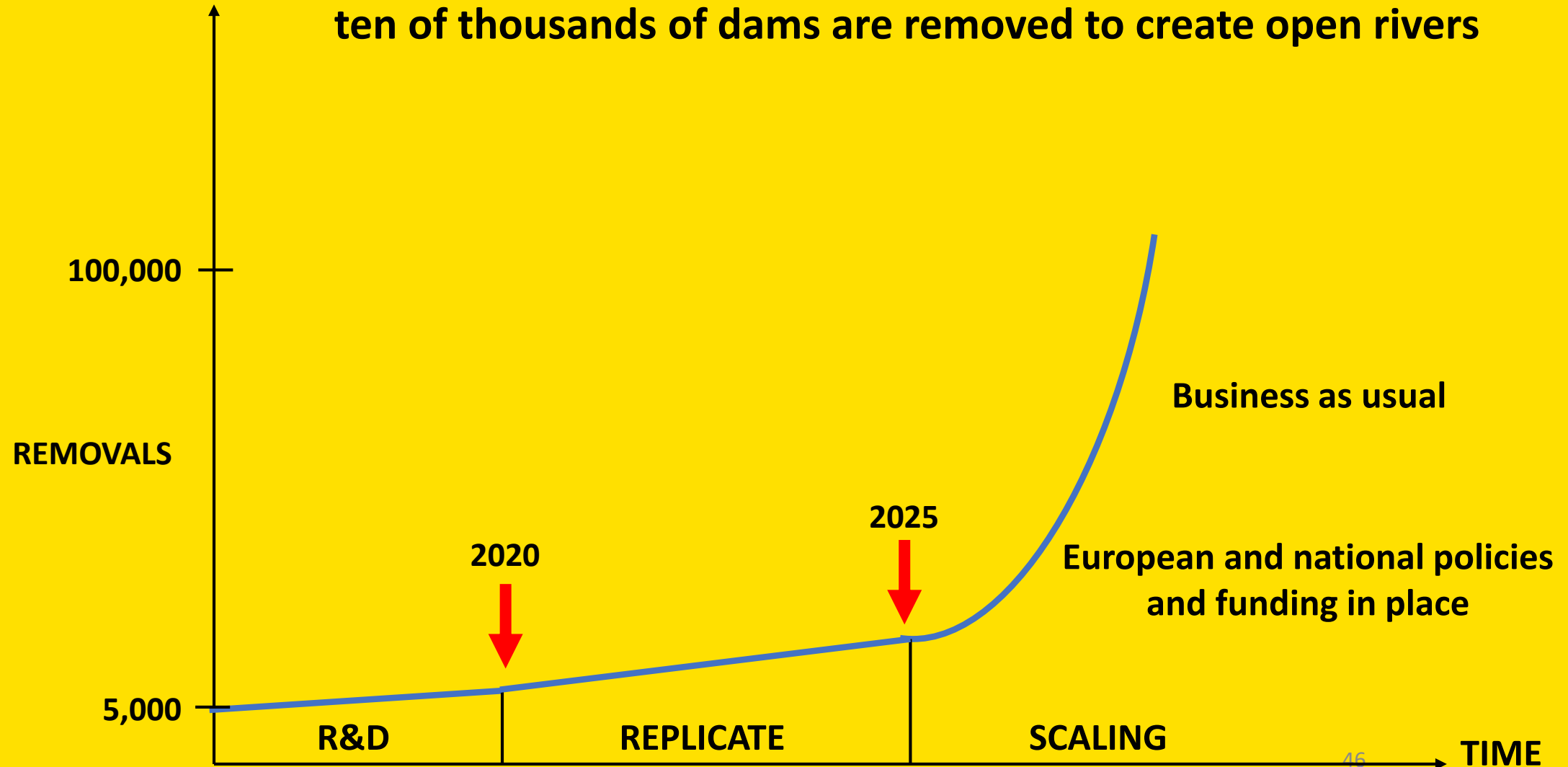
WWW.DAMREMOVAL.EU

Five strategies following critical pathways



REPLICATE PHASE

Speeding up the policy cycle, providing tools and funding mechanisms so ten of thousands of dams are removed to create open rivers





THANK YOU