From Danube to Ganga:
Lessons learned for sustainable river restoration

Asia focus – Towards a healthy Ganges
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Dr. Fritz Holzwarth

Senior Advisor Ganga Rejuvenation, Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

f-holzwarth@t-online.de

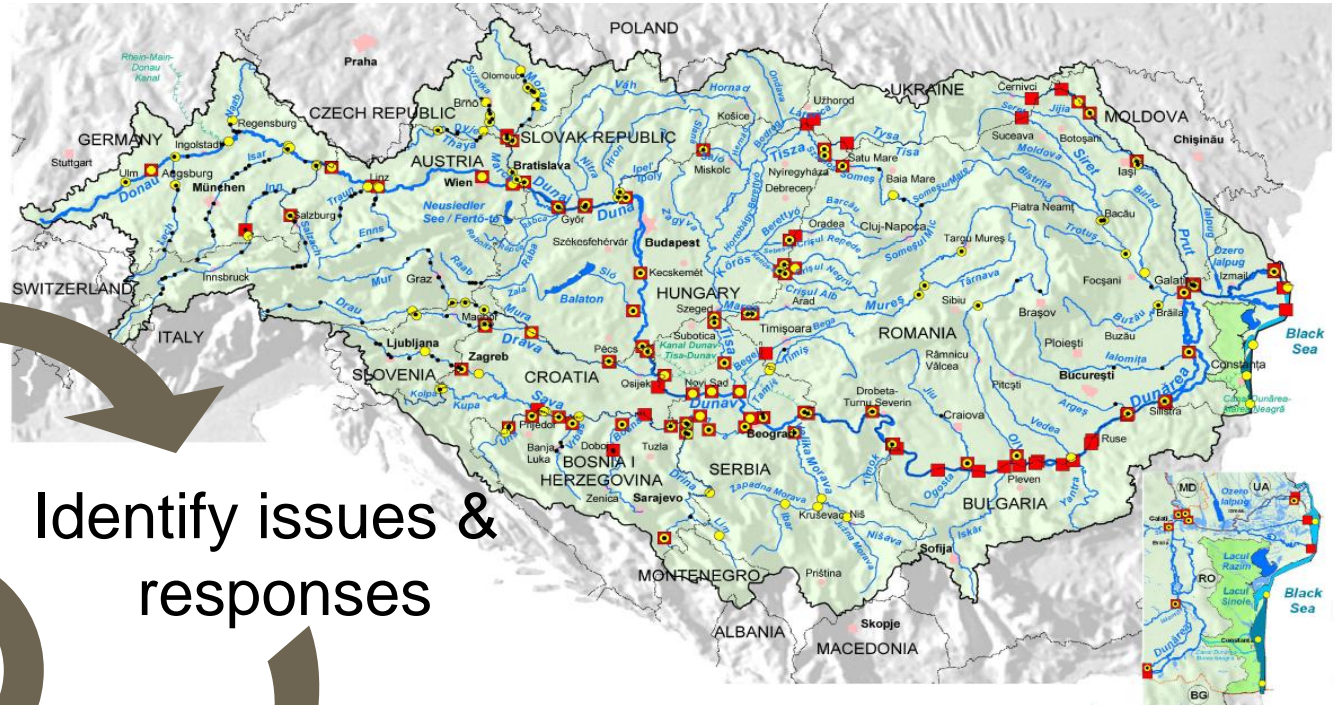# Lessons can be learned from European River Basins, like the Danube, but there is no European Blueprint

- River Basin Planning and Implementation need to include all stakeholders and their interests

- River Basin Mangement needs a governance structure that integrates: Central Government, State Governments and Stakeholders

- Parameters to be recognized: Water Quality, Water Quantity, Hydromorphology, Ecosystems

- Point of Departure: Baseline scenario, identifying the pressures and impacts, make actions measurable

- Alternative Actions/Measures/Effect scenarios to be defined as basis for identifying impediments and leading to policy advice for decision options

- No action without economic considerations

- No single issue approach: all sector needs to be recognized

Ensure operationalization through action plan / road map

- Set priorities for measures and investments following hotspots

- Develop results chains which relate measures, outputs, outcomes, final goal.

- Specify detailed actions, actors, available resources, timelines.

- Develop implementation monitoring based on defined indicators (potentially as part of result chain).

- Envisage evaluation mechanisms at crucial timelines.
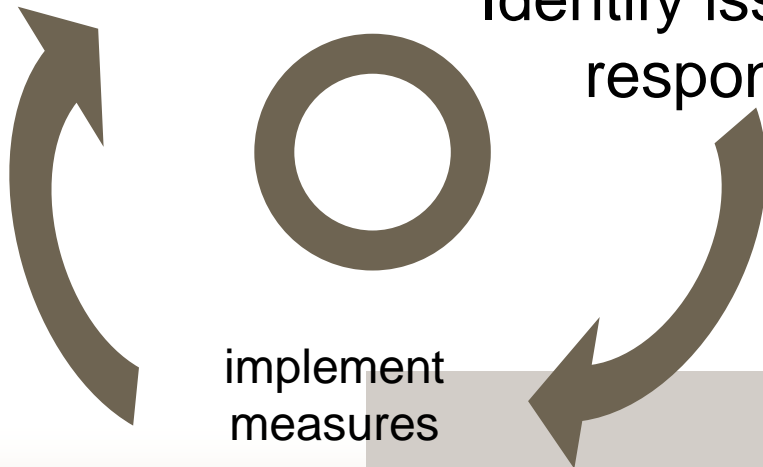
TNMN: Monitoring Waters

collect data

Identify issues & responses

implement measures

A River Basin perspective will make a difference on the ground

- NMCG = excellent point of departure for dialogue and governance

- Perfection leads to no action: Data and knowledge available are sufficient to start

- Stakeholder involvement started but establish participatory processes 'on the way'

- Stepwise approach to develop an agreed River Basin Management Plan but start now with an agreed immediate action program

- Responsibilities have to be clear

Thank you for your attention!