



Working with Nature to reduce climate risk

3 reasons and 1 challenge

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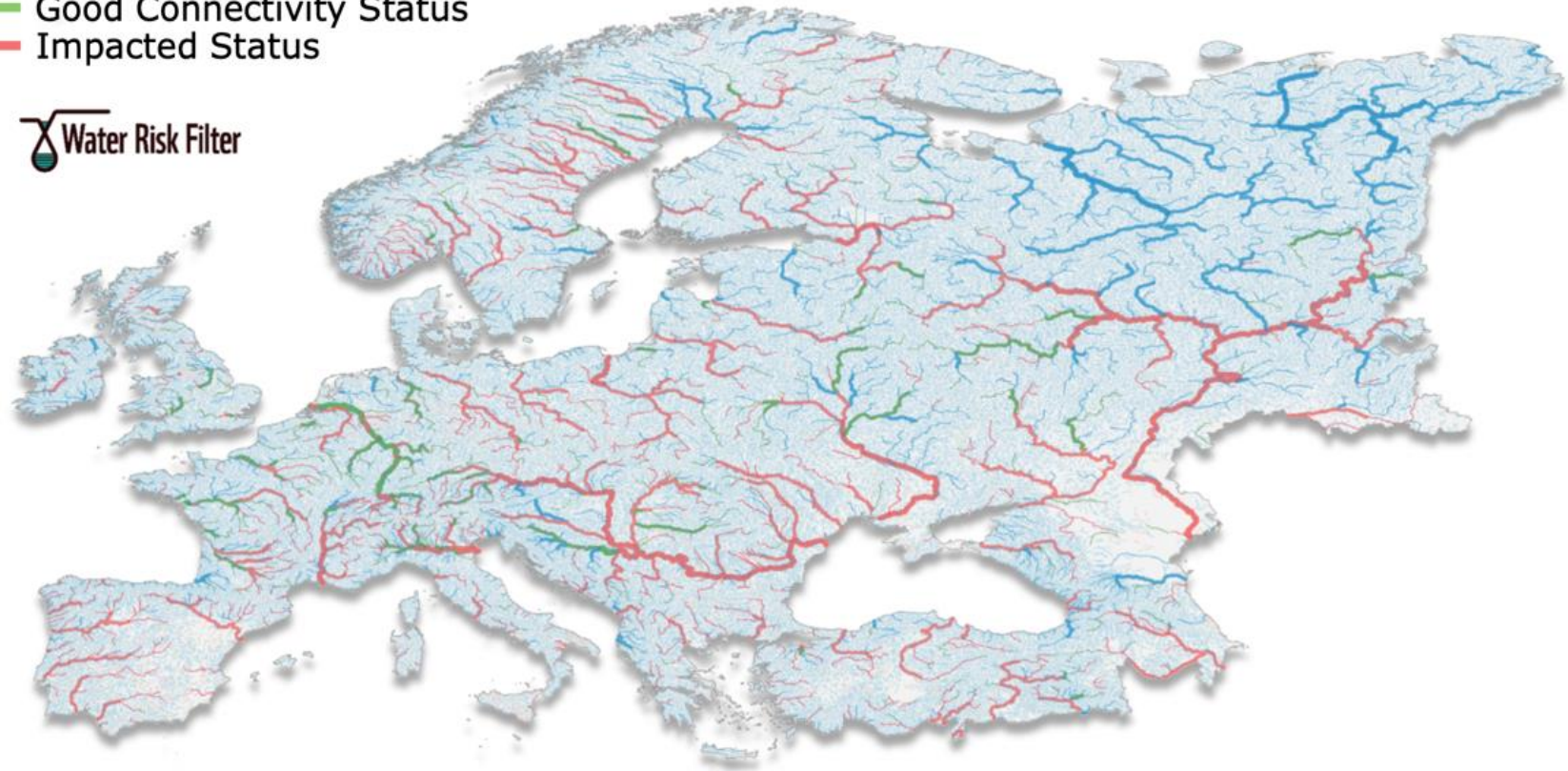
Reason 1:

We cannot afford BaU

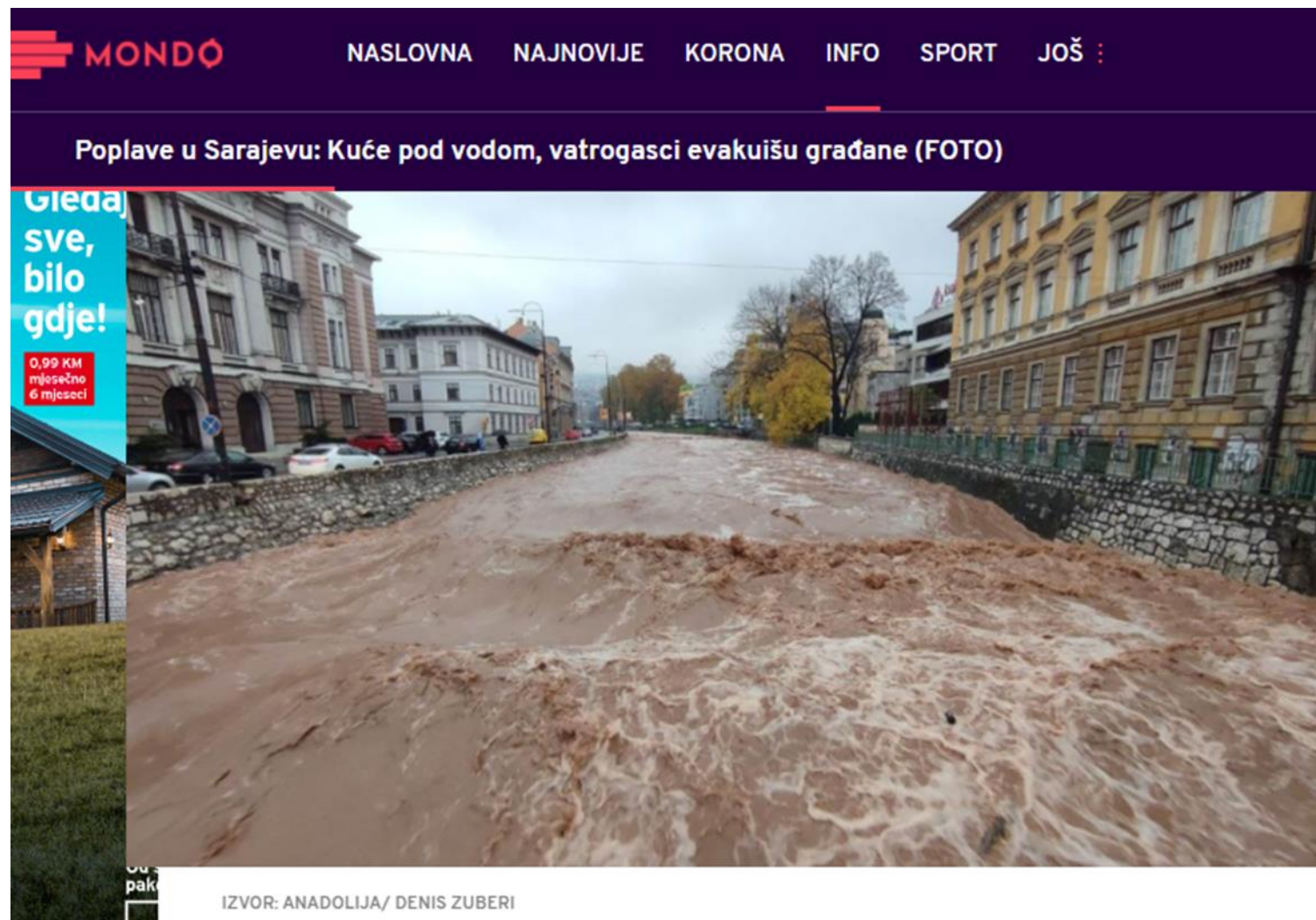
**7000 large dams
and 1 million
obstacles**

**90% floodplains
transformed**

- Free Flowing Status
- Good Connectivity Status
- Impacted Status



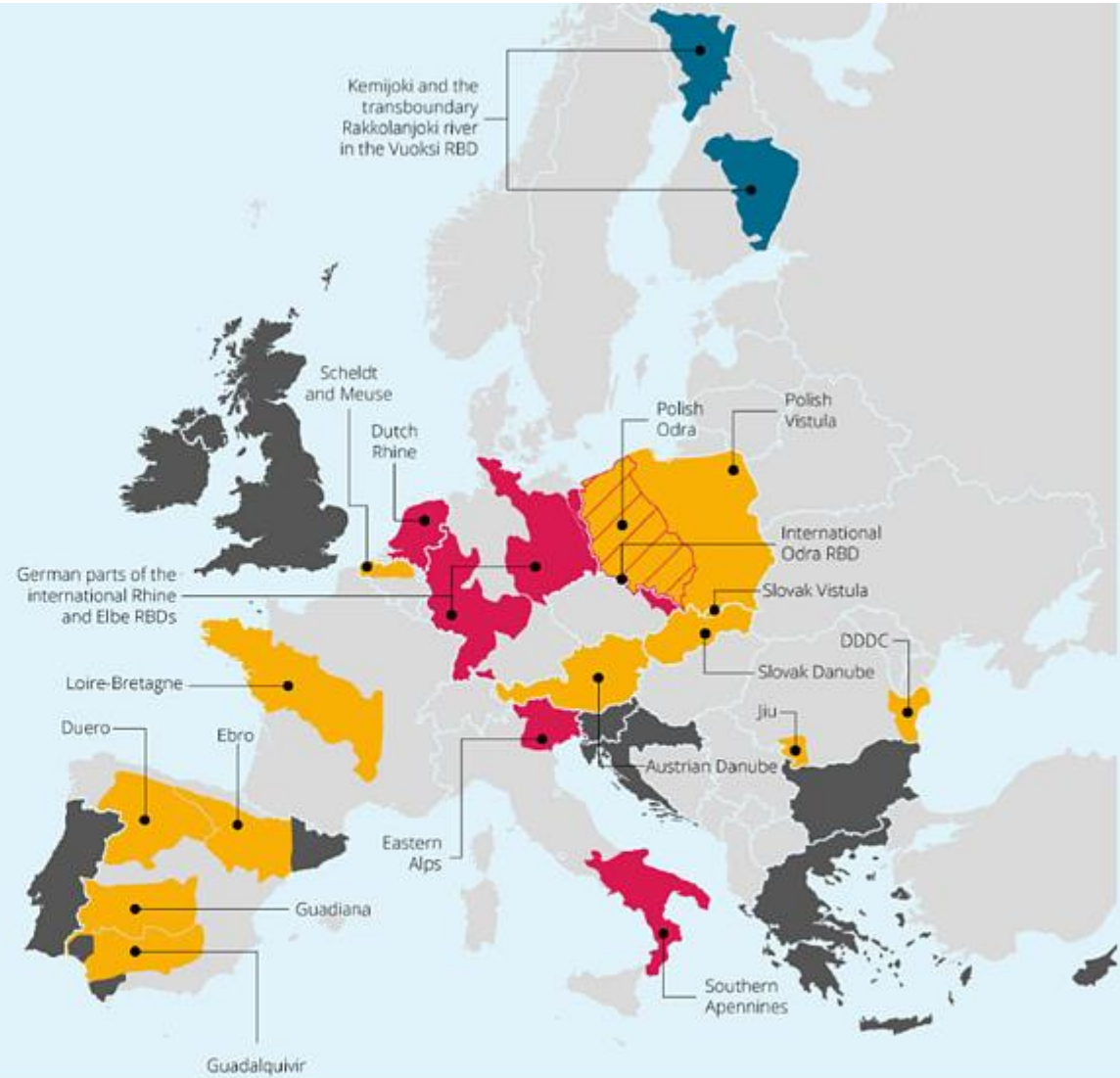
Climate Change is happening



Draft RBMPs assessed in this report and their overall performance score:

- High
- Good
- Moderate
- Poor
- Draft RBMPs not available
- Draft RBMPs not assessed in this report

Countries are not facing the problem



**Reason 2:
Nature works,
it is effective and efficient**



LÖDDERITZ, MIDDLE ELBE

Germany

Floodplain restoration to
increase infiltration buffers:

- Floods
- Droughts
- Heat waves



Lower Danube and Danube Delta

BUSINESS AS USUAL

Short term measures of dike building and maintenance

- **€ 572 million per year.** Cost to preserve the current flood protection level in the lower Danube by **maintaining degraded embankments**
- **€ 3,3 billion.** Spent in total by year 2100 in **additional flood protection measures** due to increased climate change-related risks
- **Higher risk.** The Danube's floodplains use will remain largely agricultural and little diversified, making the **model sensitive to economic and climatic shocks** – already yields are declining due to salinization and aridification

NATURE-BASED SOLUTION

Large-scale restoration 4000 km² floodplains

- **€ 230 million per year.** **Cost reduction in flood risk** protection measures as floodplain restoration will reduce flood risk in the long term
 - **€ 1,36 billion.** Spent in total by year 2100 in additional flood protection measures due to increased climate change-related risks
- The resulting ecosystem services will support **diversification of the economy** bringing benefits to many sectors:
- **€ 1,15 billion in tourism**
 - **€ 140 million in fisheries**
 - **250,000 short term jobs**



INKOO, INGARSKILA AND SIUNTIONJOKI

Finland

Wetland restoration to reduce
nutrient and sediment load



SOUTPANSBERG

South Africa

Elimination of invasive
vegetation to improve water
availability



HARINGVLIET

The Netherlands

Estuary restoration to reduce
impact of sea level rise

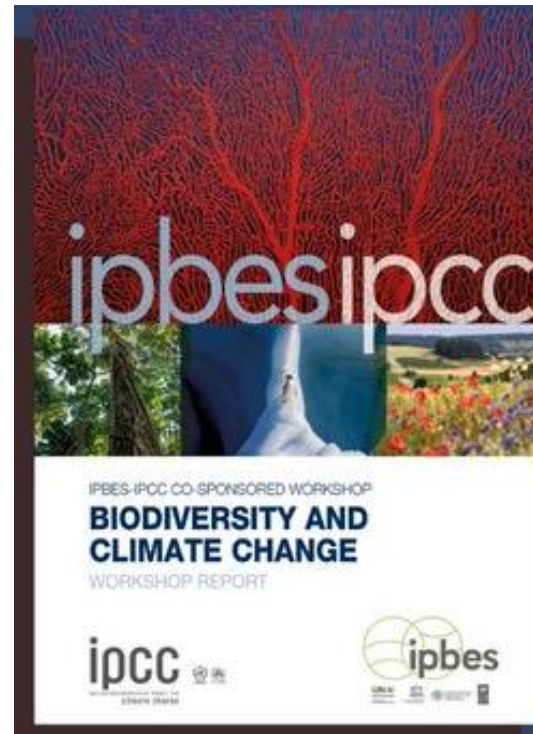
Effect of measures	Beneficiaries
Increased fish stocks	Professional fishing companies
Improved drinking water quality	Increased health; citizens Drinking water company
Improved recreational opportunities in catchment	Tourism / Recreation sector
Improved habitat provision , biodiversity, nutrient retention, improved water quality	Authorities responsible for good ecological status
conservation of biodiversity in the river ecosystem	Local population : those who value preservation of biodiversity

Nature provides multiple benefits

Reason 3: The World is ready

FEATURE STORY | AUGUST 5, 2021

Investing in Nature Unlocks Development Benefits



1 Challenge: Nature-based Solutions are multisectoral

Challenges multiply

- Different challenges for different sectors
- Different ways of perceiving the same challenges
- Different interests and trade-offs
- Different metrics
- Different policies
- Different timelines
- Different landownership/rights...

A call to action to practitioners

- Define a standard clear **methodology for cost-benefit or cost-efficiency analyses of investments that allows to show the various benefits of Nature-based approaches**
- **Use nature to integrate policies:** Include Nature-based Solutions as key measures in national and regional plans on water, climate, disaster risk reduction, energy, agricultural and transport sectors, ensuring cross-sectoral coordination
- Develop **engaging participatory processes** to ensure the most relevant societal challenges are being considered when looking for solutions to specific problems and to identify trade-offs

A call to action to EU decisions makers

- **Ambitious legally binding targets in new Restoration law** (650,000 ha of land/water by 2030)
- **Phase out harmful EU subsidies** to sectors and activities which counteract the deployment of Nature-based Solutions
- **Introduce a “nature-based” requirement to EU funds** earmarked for investments in water, climate, disaster risk reduction, energy, agricultural and transport sectors
- (And **enforce existing regulations**)

MEDLIN

MERLIN

PEATLANDS
AND WETLANDS

SMALL STREAMS
AND BASINS

LARGE
TRANSBOUNDARY
RIVERS



Geographical
location
and scale





Thank you

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