



Revision of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive



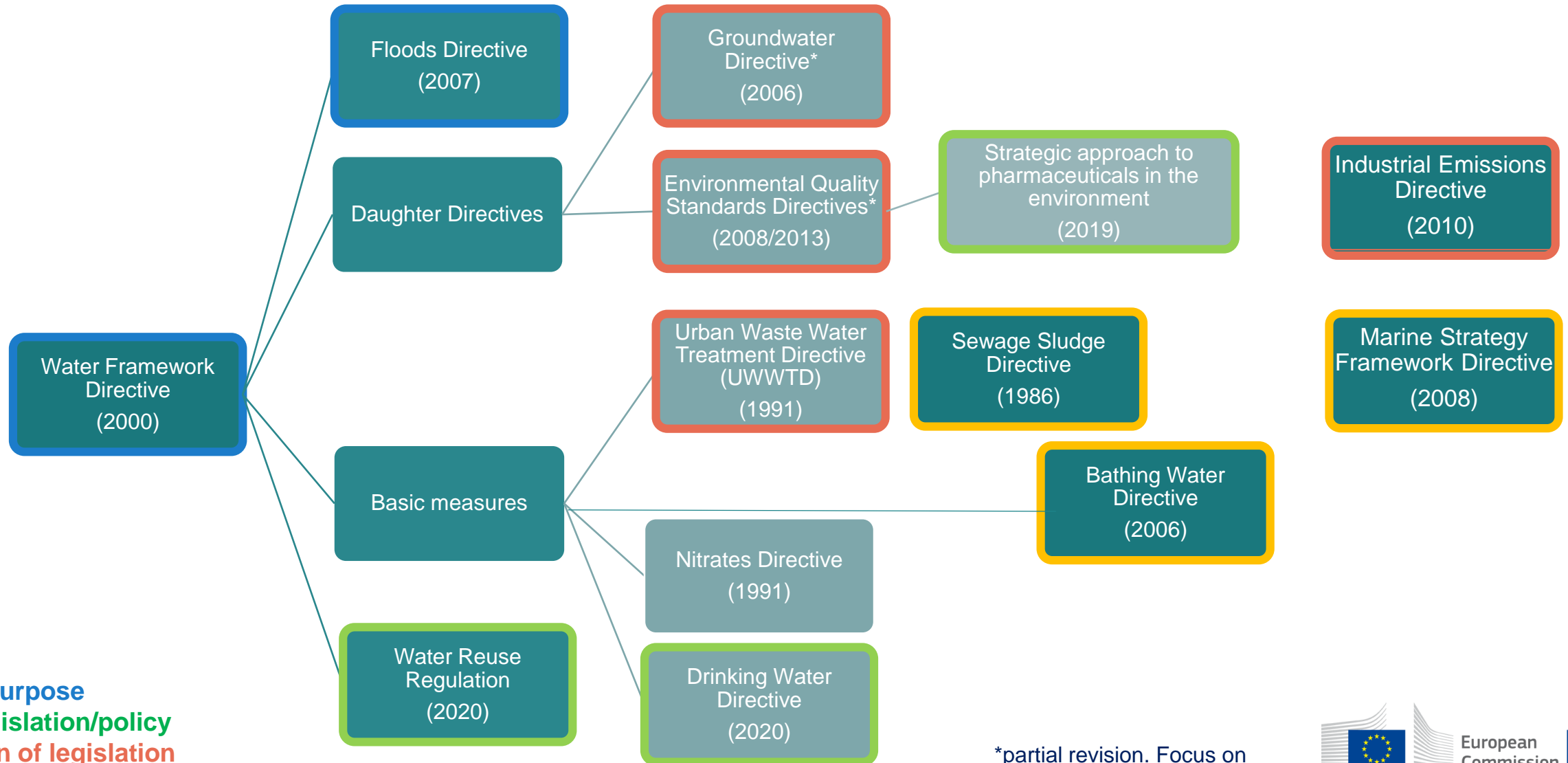
VELVA webinar

The Urban Water System in 2050: implications for the revision of the
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
30 March 2021

Disclaimer: The views expressed are purely those of the writer and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission.

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EU water legislation



Fit for purpose
New legislation/policy
Revision of legislation
Evaluation of legislation

*partial revision. Focus on substances

Starting point: results of the Evaluation

Lessons learnt

Effective tool – Tangible impacts

Simple and targeted instrument

Carrot and stick

Benefits >>> costs

Room for improvement

Remaining pollution

Eutrophication

Energy use, sludge management

Governance –transparency/reporting

Coherence with other legislation

Approach to the impact assessment

METHODOLOGY

- **OECD**
- Established models for impacts & costs
- 2 baselines: 2016 + full compliance
- **Expert engagement**

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

- Web-meetings
- Speed dates
- Stakeholder workshops
- Conference with **DE presidency**
- Online public consultation

DRAFTING

- In line with Better Regulation Guidelines
- Clarity regarding certainty of findings



PREPARATION

- **Draft policy measures**
- Consultation strategy
- Roadmap
- Externalized studies

DATA COLLECTION

- Evaluation
- Information from **Member States** & operators + consultation on modelling assumptions
- Literature review

ANALYSIS

- Quantification/modelling by **JRC**
- Triangulation of evidence

Preliminary ideas for policy measures*

Remaining pollution

- Integrated management plans for collecting systems
- EU standards/ Objectives for SWOs, small agglomerations, IAS
- Risk-based approach with derogations

Coherence with other legislation

- Nutrients**
 - "Pre-designated" sensitive areas
 - Stricter standards (N&P) to support meeting WFD objective
 - Risk-based approach with derogations
- Industrial discharges**
 - Pre-treatment
 - Permits for Small & Medium Enterprises

New pollution

- EU thresholds for performance indicator substances for large UWWTPs
- "Hot spot" approach
- Application of Extended Producer Responsibility

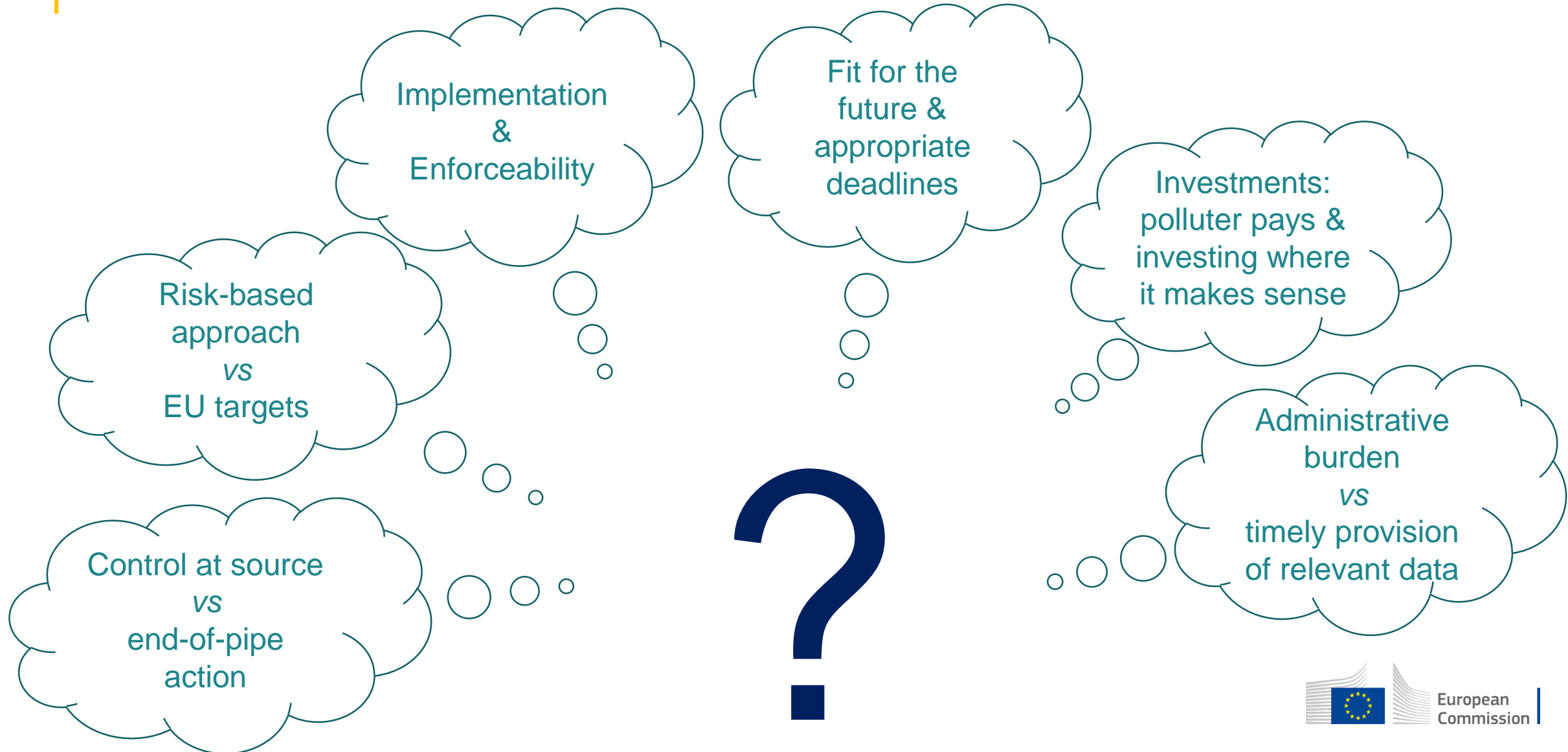
Fit for the future

- Energy**
 - Energy audits + reduction targets + production?
 - GHG targets
- Sludge**
 - Track & tracing to ensure clean sludge for agriculture
 - Minimum phosphorus recovery

Governance

- Planning obligations
- Reasonable deadlines
- Updated monitoring
- Reporting via national datasets
- Transparency

Some over-arching considerations



How to contribute?

Type	Topic // Result	Time
Roadmap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roadmap for impact assessment displaying first ideas for revision 	July-September 2020
Conference with DE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrients and micropollutants 	October 2020 (summaries and ppts available on CIRCABC)
Speed dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted input on draft ideas 	October 2020
Technical workshops*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint EEA-ENV reporting workshop • Joint sludge and waste water in the circular economy and climate change • Costs and benefits 	March-May 2020 (summaries and ppts available on CIRCABC)
Ongoing and upcoming stakeholder consultations		
Open public consultation	All topics // measures Contribute here: Have your say!	28 April -21 July 2021
Technical workshop	Integrated sewer management (<i>May TBC</i>)	22 June 2021
Stakeholder conference	Preliminary findings of impact assessment	October 2021

Thank you

Links for further information

- **Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (1991):** <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:31991L0271>
- **Website for the UWWTD review:** https://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-urbanwaste/evaluation/index_en.htm
 - **Including information about stakeholder consultations:** <https://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-urbanwaste/pdf/UWWTD%20IA%20consultation%20strategy%20final.pdf>
- **Evaluation of the Directive (2019):** <https://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-urbanwaste/pdf/UWWTD%20Evaluation%20SWD%20448-701%20web.pdf>
- **Roadmap for the launch of the Impact Assessment of the Directive (2020):** <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12405-Revision-of-the-Urban-Wastewater-Treatment-Directive>
- **Joint Research Centre Modelling Report supporting the Evaluation (2019):** https://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-urbanwaste/pdf/Evaluative%20study_final.pdf
- **OECD study on investment needs + Member State factsheets (2020):** https://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/economics/OECD_study_en.ht