



Highlights from Hydropower Europe project - achieve a research and innovation agenda and a technology roadmap for the hydropower sector

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Dams (ICOLD)**

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**International Conference on Fishfriendly Hydropower
FIThydro final Conference, 17 – 18 March 2021**



The HYDROPOWER EUROPE Forum is supported by a project that has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 826010

www.hydropower-europe.eu

Hydropower at the source of the development of Europe in the last century

Advantages of hydropower

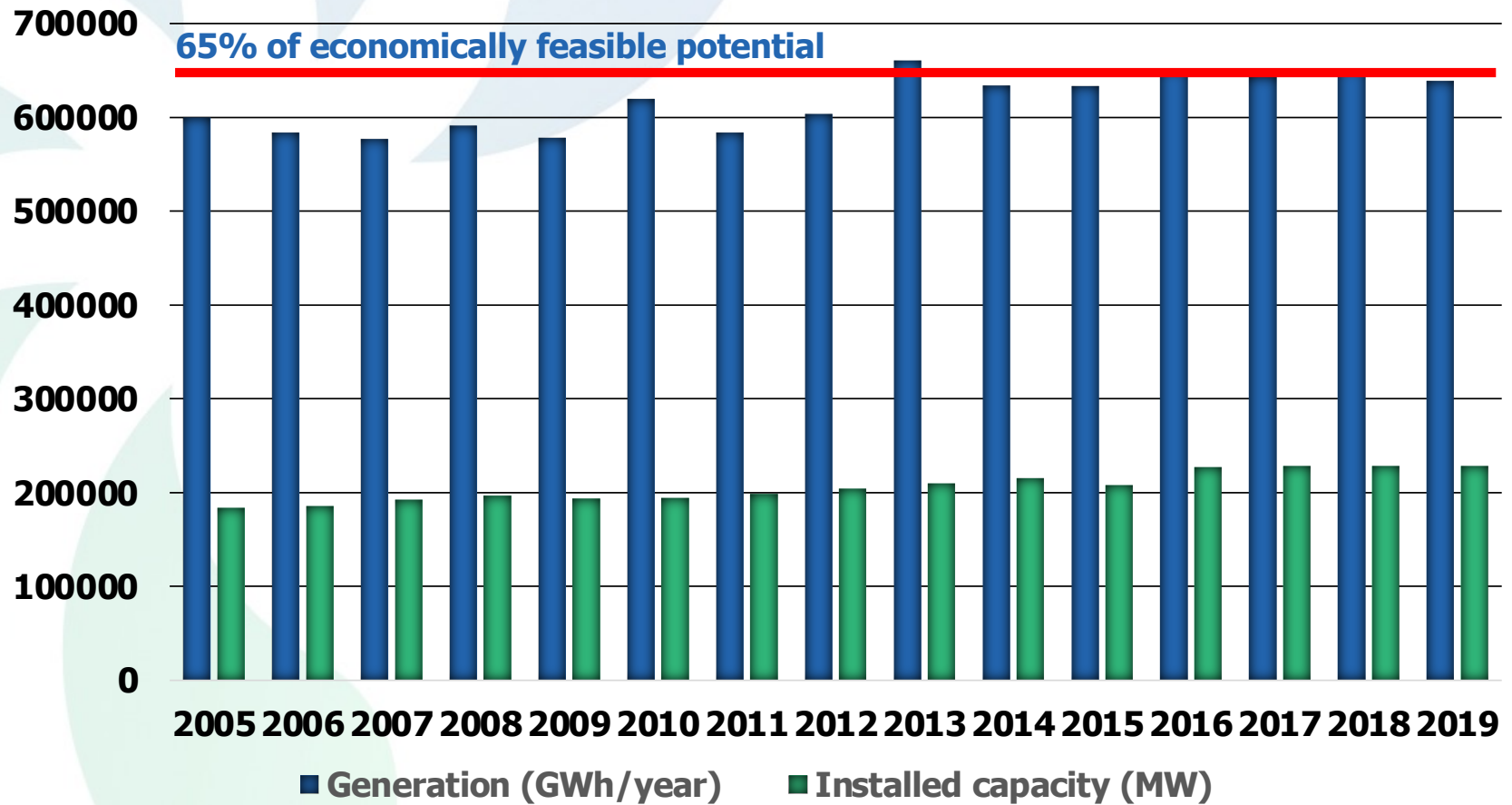
- **Renewable energy without direct emission of CO₂, excellent energy gain or pay back factor**
- **Excellent efficiency, production can be easily adapted to the demand (flexible peak energy)**
- **In-country energy creating jobs and financial resources in remote areas (taxes and concession fees)**
- **Improvement of infrastructures and touristic attractiveness**
- **Strong contribution to flood and drought protection**



Thissavros Dam, Greece, 172 m

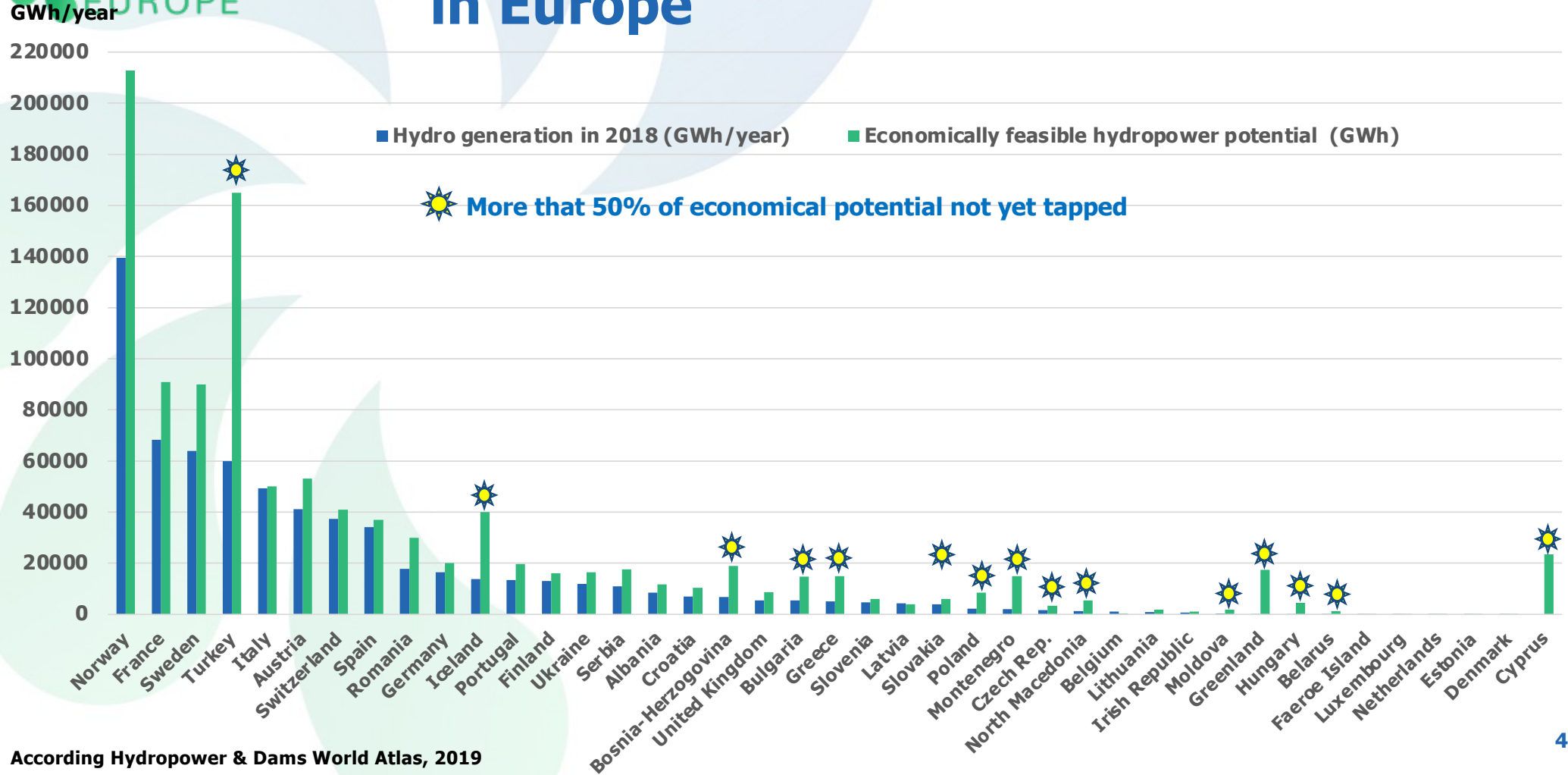
Hydropower at the source of the development of Europe in the last century

Situation of Hydropower in Europe (with Turkey)



According Hydropower & Dams World Atlas 2020

Generation and Potential of Hydropower in Europe



According Hydropower & Dams World Atlas, 2019



H2020 objectives for Hydropower: Hydropower Europe Forum

➤ **ICOLD Leader**

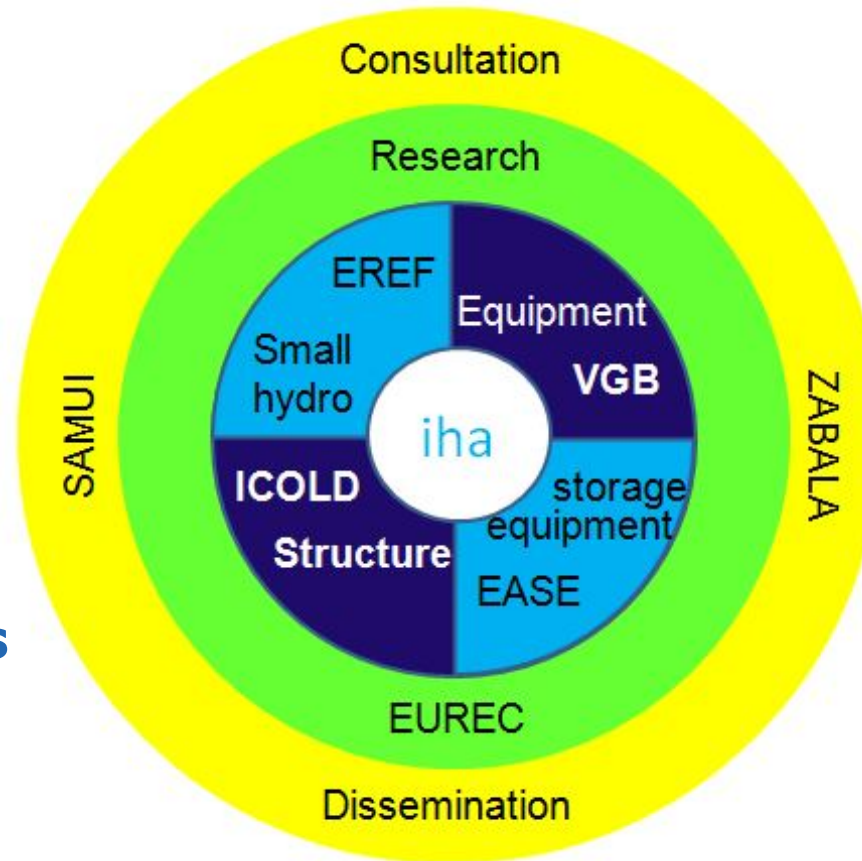


➤ **Coordinators:**

- Jean Jaques Fry
- Anton J. Schleiss

➤ **+ 7 core partners**

➤ **+ 5 third linked Parties**



EASE - European Association for Storage of Energy

EREF - European Renewable Energies Federation

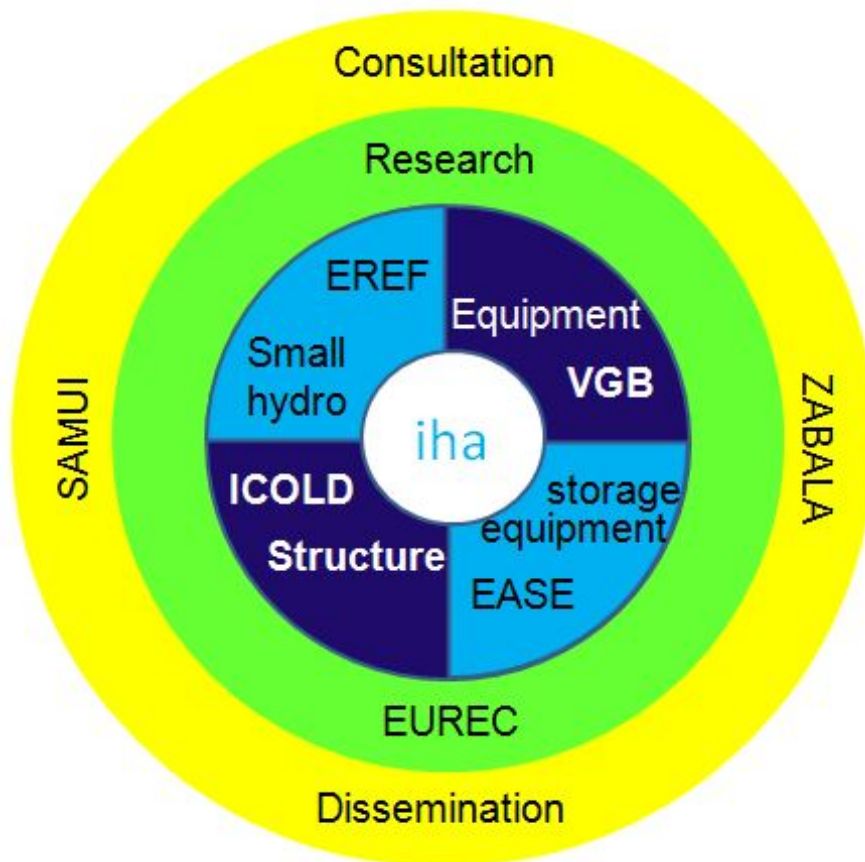
EUREC - Association of European Renewable Energy Research

ICOLD - International Commission on Large Dams

IHA – International Hydropower Association

VGB - International Technical Association for Generation and Storage of Power and Heat

H2020 objectives for Hydropower: Hydropower Europe Forum

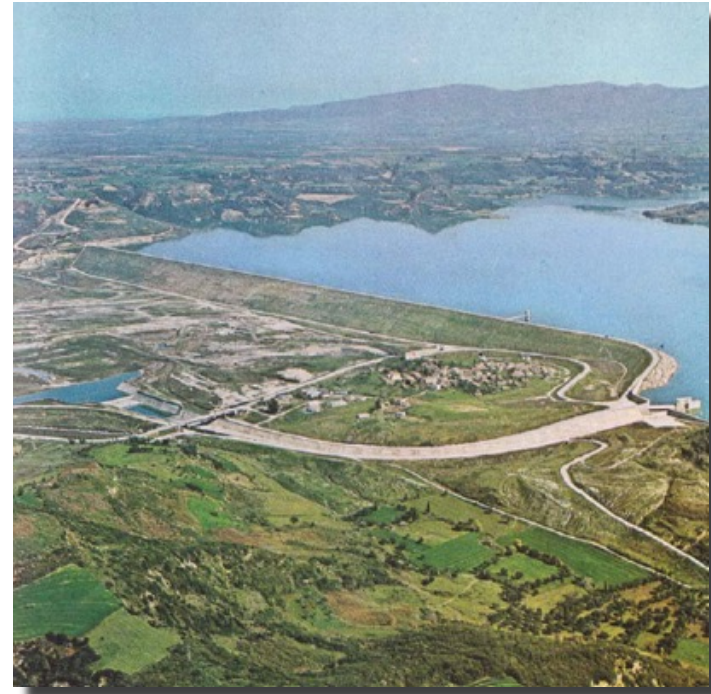


The forum is producing
Strategic Industrial Roadmap (SIR)
and
Research and Innovation Agenda (RIA)
for the hydropower sector in Europe, targeting an **energy system with high flexibility and renewable share.**”

Hydropower as a catalyst for the energy transition in Europe

VISION "Hydropower Europe"

- 1. Increasing hydropower production** through the implementation of new environmental friendly, multipurpose hydropower schemes and by using hidden potential in existing infrastructures.



Pinios Dam, Greece, 50 m

Hydropower as a catalyst for the energy transition in Europe

VISION "Hydropower Europe"

2. Increasing the flexibility of generation from existing hydropower plants by adaptation and optimization of infrastructure and equipment combined with innovative solutions for the mitigation of environmental impacts.



Moiry Dam, Switzerland, 148 m

Hydropower as a catalyst for the energy transition in Europe

VISION "Hydropower Europe"

3. Increasing storage by the heightening of existing dams and the construction of new reservoirs, which have to ensure not only flexible energy supply, but which also support food and water supply and thus contribute to the Water-Energy-Food NEXUS and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

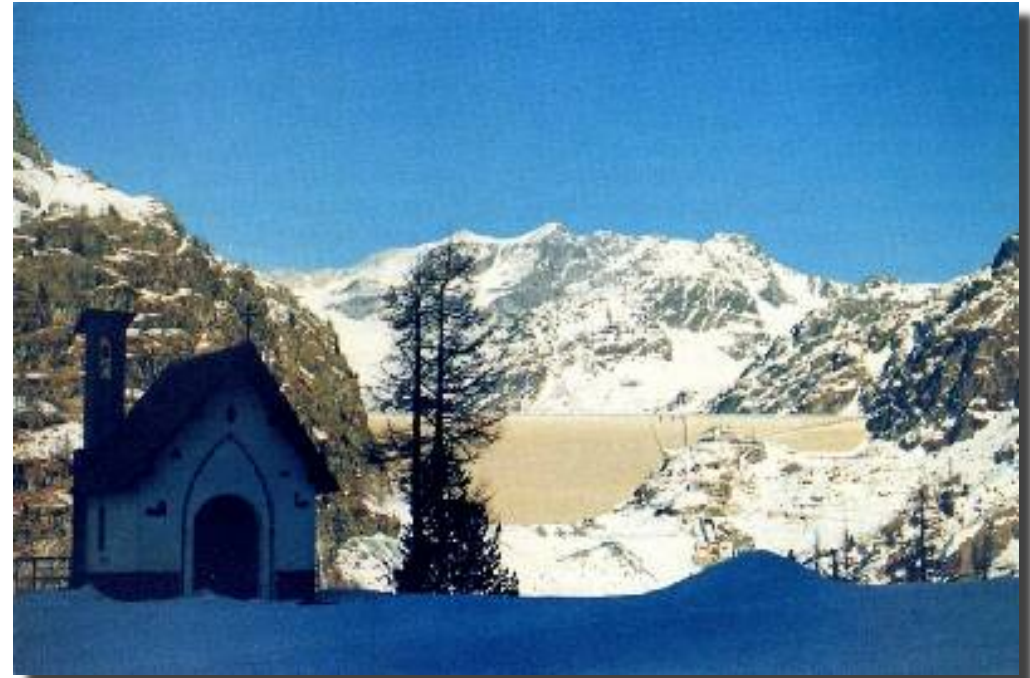


Tignes Dam, France, 180 m

Hydropower as a catalyst for the energy transition in Europe

VISION "Hydropower Europe"

- 4. Strengthening the contribution of flexibility from pumped-storage power plants by developing and building innovative arrangements in combination with existing water infrastructure.**



Alpe Gera Dam, Italy, 172 m

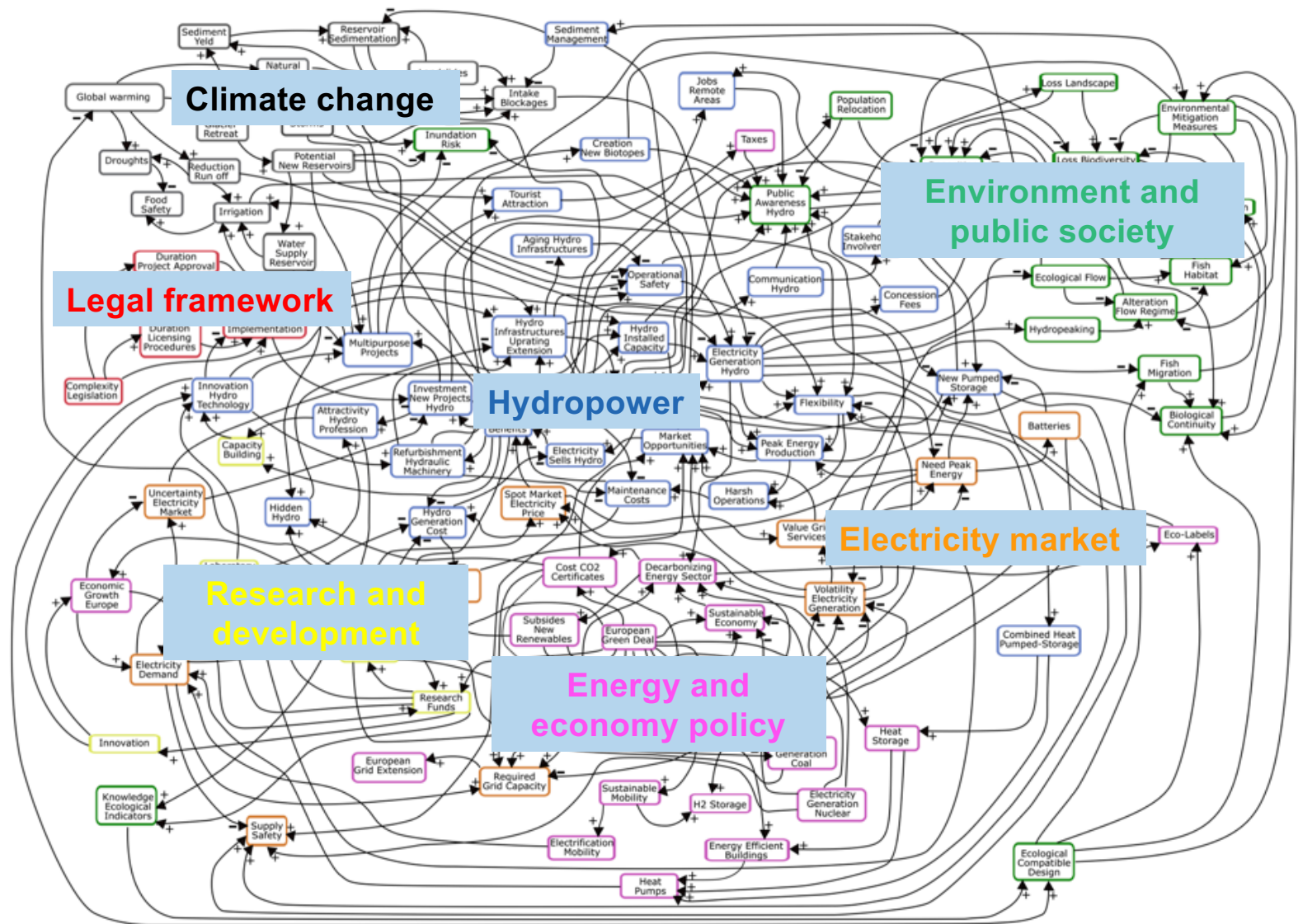
Hydropower in Europe in a complex world

A global system analysis approach as a supporting tool for evaluating strategic actions and research directions



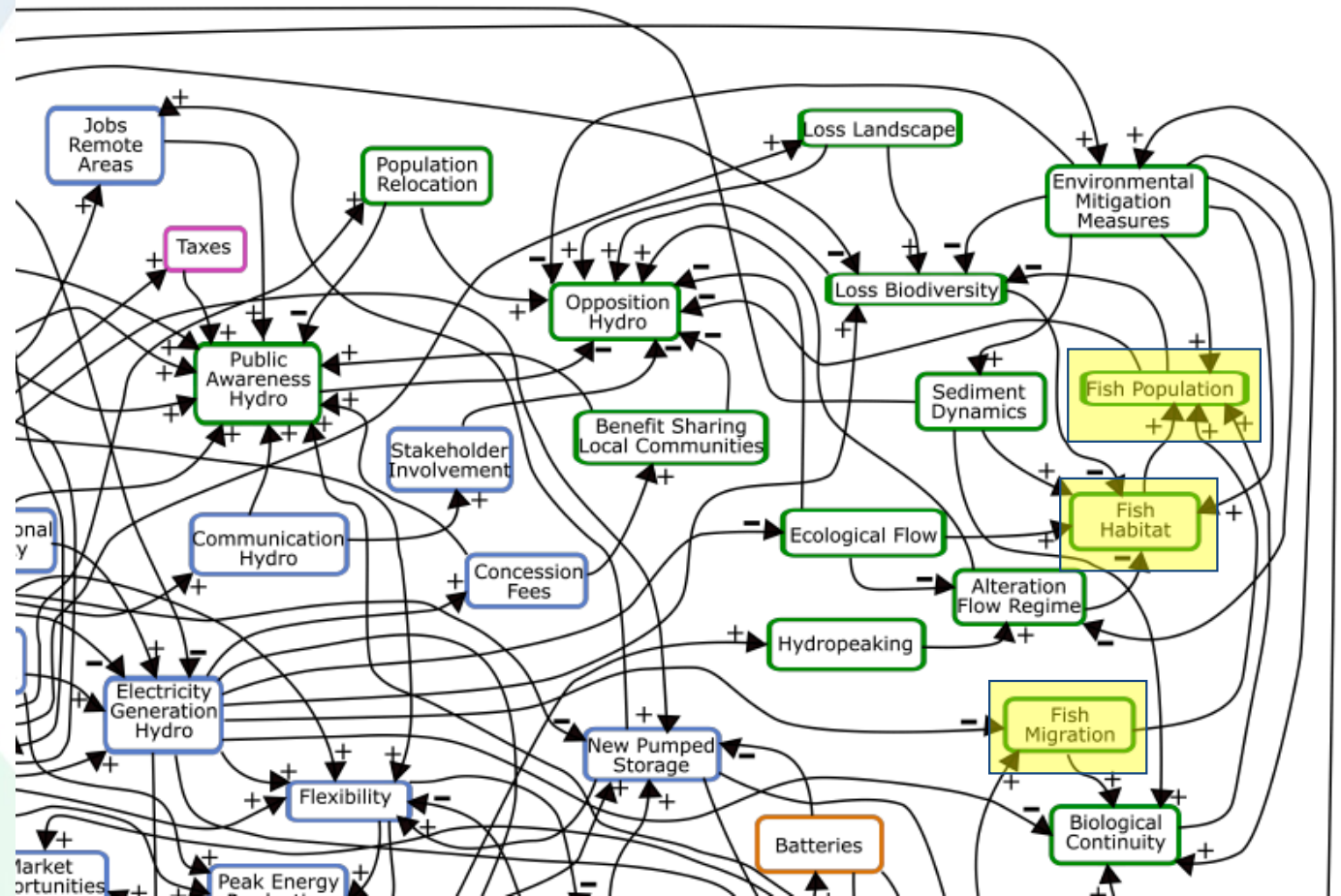
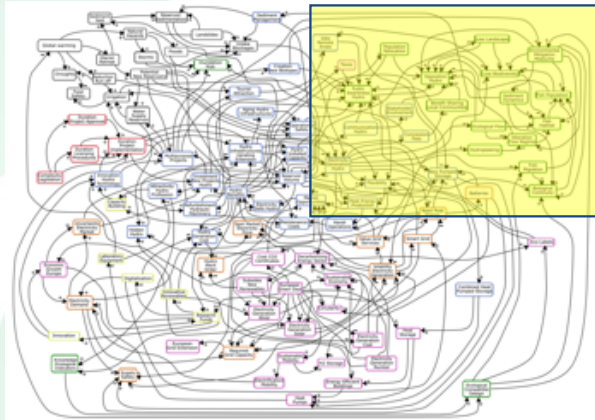
Ruppoldingen run-of-river power plant on Aar River in Switzerland

Network of 103 factors representing the sectors
 Hydropower (blue),
 Energy and economy policy (pink),
 Electricity market (orange),
 Environment and public society (green),
 Research and development (yellow),
 Legal framework (red) and
 Climate change (black).

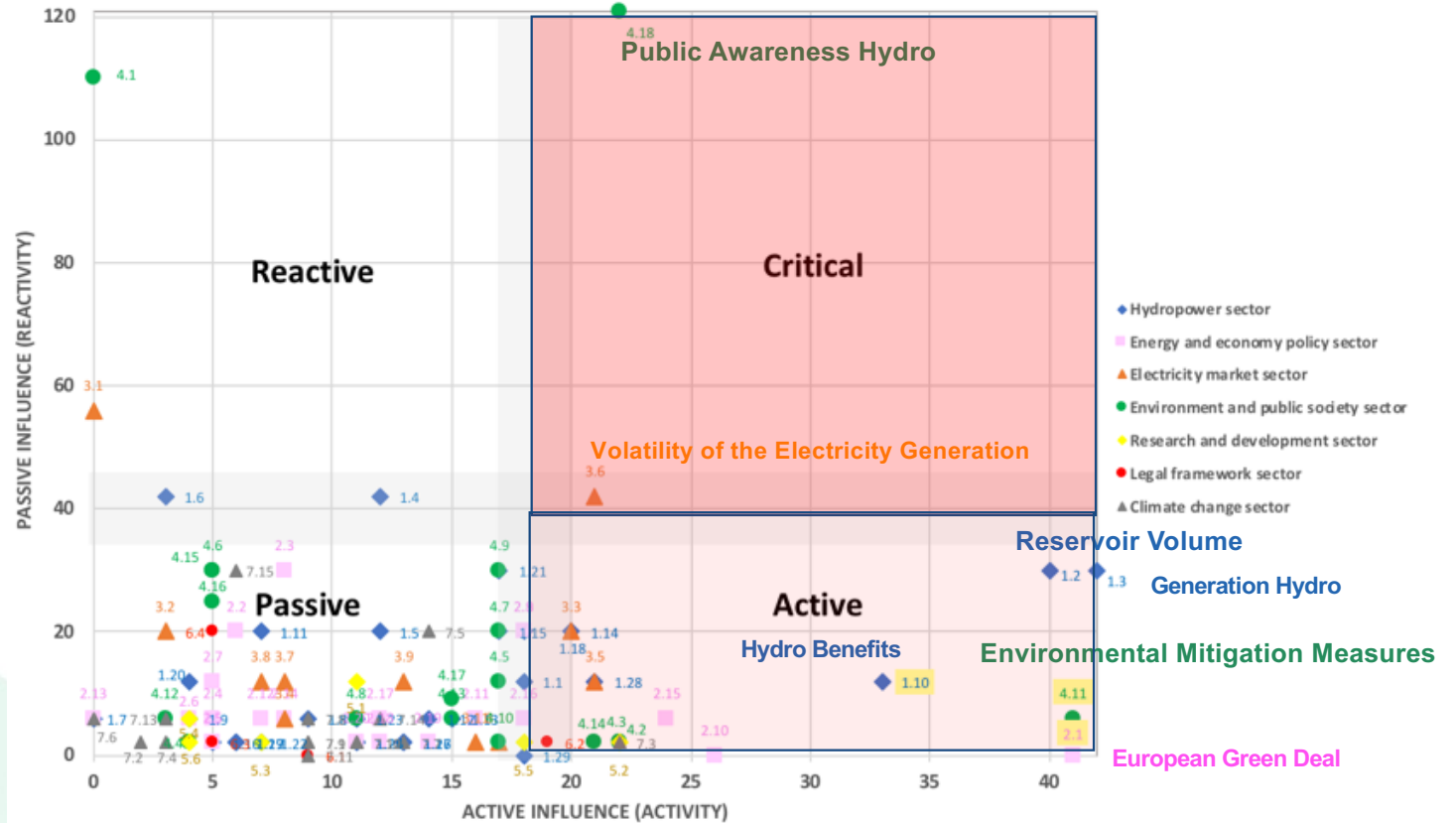


Environment and public society

Focuss on Fish



Result of matrix analysis considering second degree of influences (connections)



1st highest activity

- **Communication Hydro** (1.17/4.18)
- **Reservoir Volume** (1.2)
- **Environmental Mitigation Measures** (4.11)

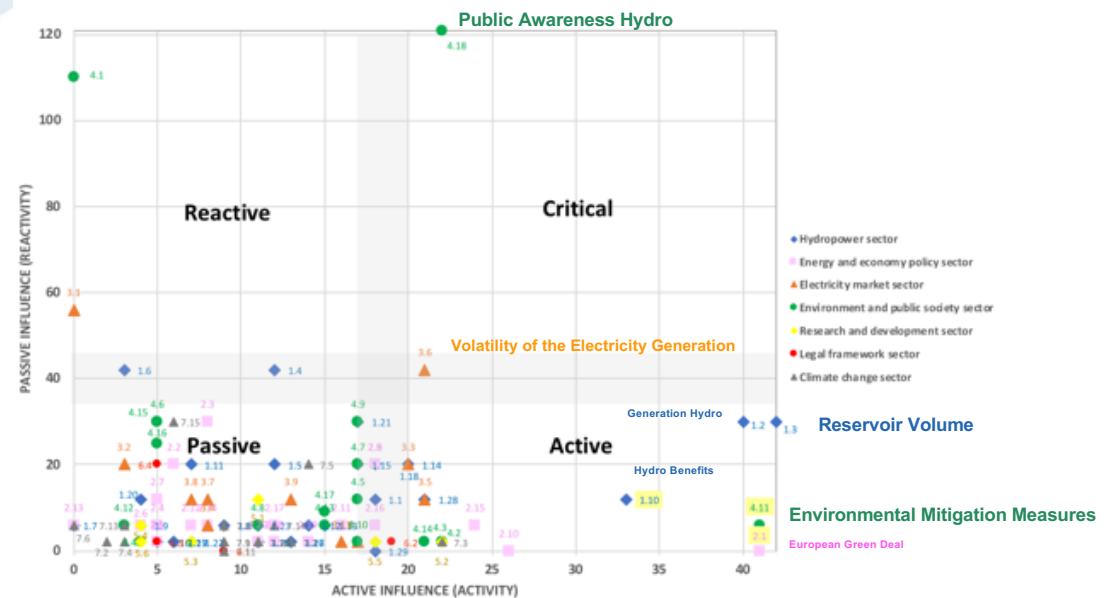
2nd highest activity

- **Benefit Sharing Local Communities** (4.2)
- **Ecological Flow** (4.3)
- **Population relocation** (4.14)
- **Innovation Hydro Technology** (1.28)

3rd highest activity

- **Hydro Installed Capacity** (1.1)
- **Multipurpose Projects** (1.18)
- **New Pumped-storage** (1.21)
- **Sediment Management** (1.29)
- **Eco-labels** (2.16)
- **Fish Habitat** (4.6)
- **Loss Biodiversity** (4.9)
- **Loss Landscape** (4.10)
- **Digitalization** (5.5)

Ranking of of controllable active factors



The controllable active factors can be used as a lever to improve the hydropower situation in the system and therefore they are important for the prioritization of any strategic actions and research directions.

The consultation process

How the Hydropower Europe Forum (HPE) is working to approach the

VISION:

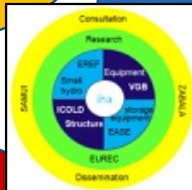
“Hydropower as a catalyst for the energy transition in Europe”?



The outcomes of HPE Forum

R&I
Priorities

Barriers



RIA
Recommendations

14 research themes – 110 topics

SIR

Steps to new hydro deployment
11 strategic direction – 40 detailed actions



560 registered on consultation platform - 185 participants on the second on line consultation

High priority research themes

Developing new designs and concepts for distributed pumped storage systems and improving feasibility and cost-efficiency of underground PSP

**Storage
Flexibility**

New simulation tools for new harsher operation conditions in conjunction with the material properties of the machine sets

**Peak Energy
Flexibility**

Integrating storage and pumped storage with other generation such as wind, (floating) PV and water services such as desalination

**PSP
Integration
REN**

Measures and approaches to protect fish populations

Biodiversity

Investigation inter-regional potential of reservoirs mitigating floods and long dry periods including the combination of these reservoirs with hydro to mitigate volatile renewable energy production

**Storage
Climate Change**

High priority strategic actions

Collect a catalogue of best practice of successful multi-purpose projects creating a win-win situation between all stakeholders

**Multi-
purpose**

Develop innovative approaches to address environmental issues and biodiversity protection with comprehensive approaches allowing compromises

Biodiversity

Increasing awareness of European citizens for the importance of hydropower

**Public
awareness**

Sustainable sediment management strategies for ensuring sustainable reservoir capacity and sediment dynamics in rivers

Sustainability

Develop a more stable regulation framework which promotes green renewable power with a fair price, tax policy and subsidy model designed for a level playing field among different technologies, based on a comprehensive analysis of the carbon footprint and life cycle

**Regulation
Market
design**



**Thank you for your
attention**

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