

# Chinese – EU cooperation on water - Partnerships on Water Challenges

2014 CEWP High Level Conference, 4th December 2014

### **Marta Moren Abat**

**DG ENVIRONMENT,** International, regional and Bilateral relations Unit EUROPEAN COMMISSION



- 1. Water challenges
- 2. Water as opportunity for growth
- 3. EU FAC Council Conclusions July 2013
- 4. European Water Policy Legal Context
- 5. China and EU joining efforts



## 1. Water challenges

## A growing challenge

Water scarcity, inefficient water use and water pollution are a constraint on economic growth

- Urbanisation, industry, energy, agriculture
- **Scarcity and sustainable management**
- Plans risk being derailed by inter-regional disputes. Sound and cooperative governance plays a role
- **Transboundary** water issues and conflicts
- River Basin Commissions, EU Common ImplementationStrategy

### **Private sector involvement**

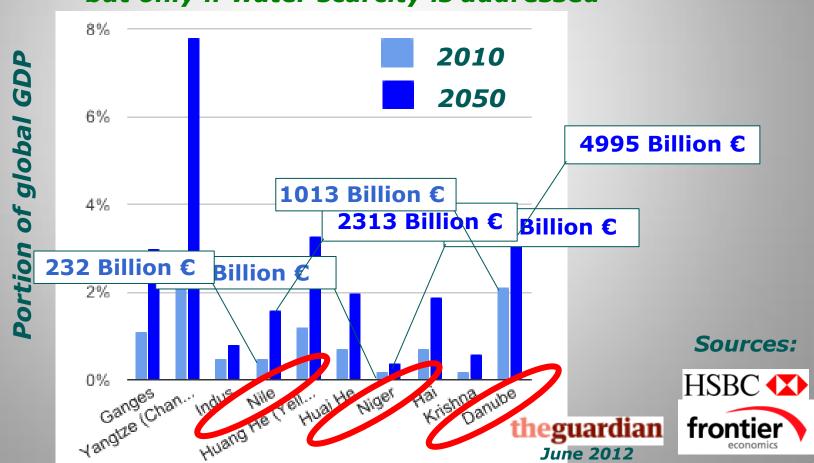
 Water pricing, involvement of private sector and stakeholders



## 2. Water as opportunity for growth

Economic output of the world's ten most populous river basins will exceed that of the USA, Japanese and German economies combined

but only if water scarcity is addressed





## **Building synergies within watersheds**

- Address the water-intensity of our economies to close the gap between projected future water demand and current supply
- Match availability and demand of water in terms of competing objectives of the different sectors
- Look at the implications of water resources allocation and water security

**Agriculture** 



**Environment** 



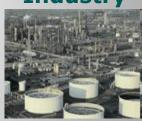
**Tourism** 



**Energy** 



**Industry** 



**Drinking water** 





## 3. EU FAC Council Conclusions July 2013

The EU has a substantive commitment to address the root causes of water challenges, particularly through its work on development and environment



- An EU policy promoting water co-operation across the world can be built on the long tradition of co-operation and vast experience and knowledge of the management of transboundary waters in Europe
- **Encourages the promotion of international agreements** on water co-operation, the relevant UNECE and UN Conventions



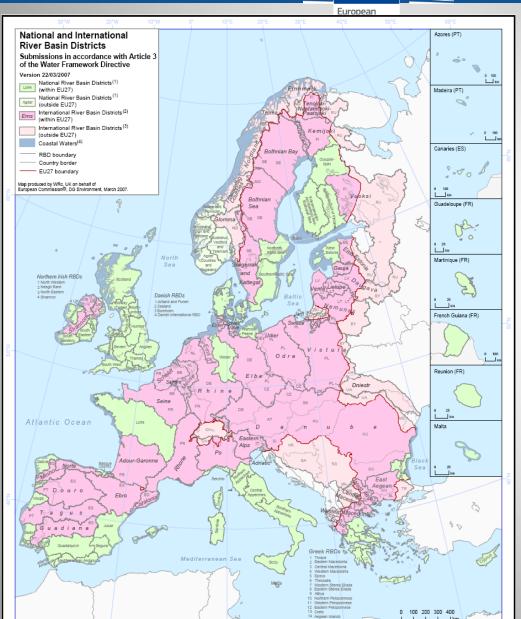


## 4. European Water Policy - Legal Context

- Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
  - Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)
  - Priority SubstancesDirective (2008/105/EC amended in 2013)
- Extending the scope:
  - Floods Risk ManagementDirective (2007/60/EC)
  - Marine Strategy Directive (2008/56/EC)

- Urban waste water treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)
- Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)
- Drinking water Directive (98/83/EC)
- Bathing water Directive
  - New (2006/7/EC)
  - Old (76/160/EEC)
  - Industrial Emissions,
     Plant Protection
     Products, Biocides,
     REACH, etc.



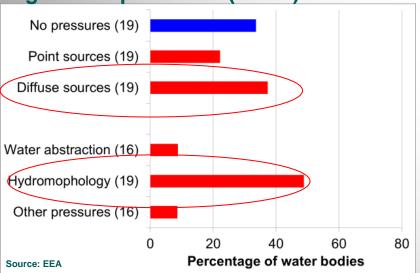


Diversity of river basins in Europe!

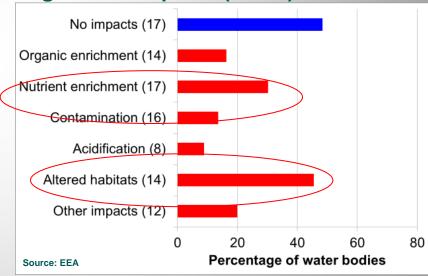


## WFD Implementation: A lot has been achieved, but challenges remain





#### Significant impacts (rivers)





## What does the WFD bring?

- Improved governance
  - Working together for sustainable water management
  - Planning process
- Integrated river basin management
  - Transparent decision making to balance environmental protection and sustainable development
- Technical challenges
  - Comprehensive assessment of water environment and socio-economic needs
- Programme of measures
  - Abandoning unsustainable practices and repairing damage
  - Restoration



# 5. China and EU joining efforts:EU – China Cooperation on Water

### CEWP

- 1. 3 Pillars: Research, Governance and Business
- 2. Supported by PDSF
- 3. Represent EU interest
- 4. Concrete work program

### Support from EC

- 1. PDSF
- 2. EU Horizon 2020 supporting PIANO research project
- 3. PI Instrument



## 5. Road ahead of China EU Cooperation on Water

## Agreement on a solid EU China Work Program

- Detailed Work Program: specifying objectives, implementation, concrete (useful) deliverables, actors involved, financial resources and commitment from the EU and China.
- Strategic objectives on the benefit of China and EU
- Involvement of private sector and stakeholders
- Ownership and commitment
- Urbanisation challenges