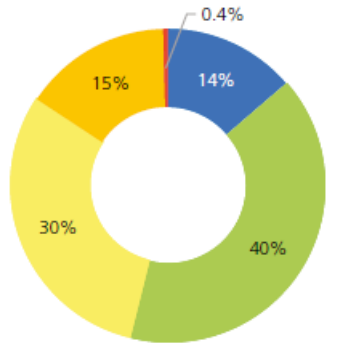
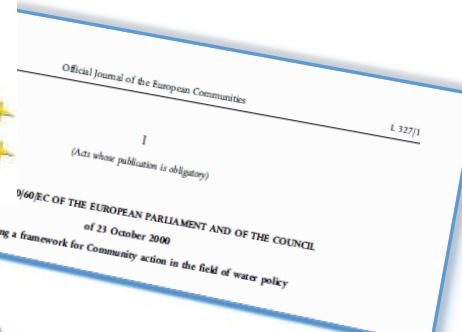


# Restoring our Freshwaters

Bernadette Connolly, SWAN

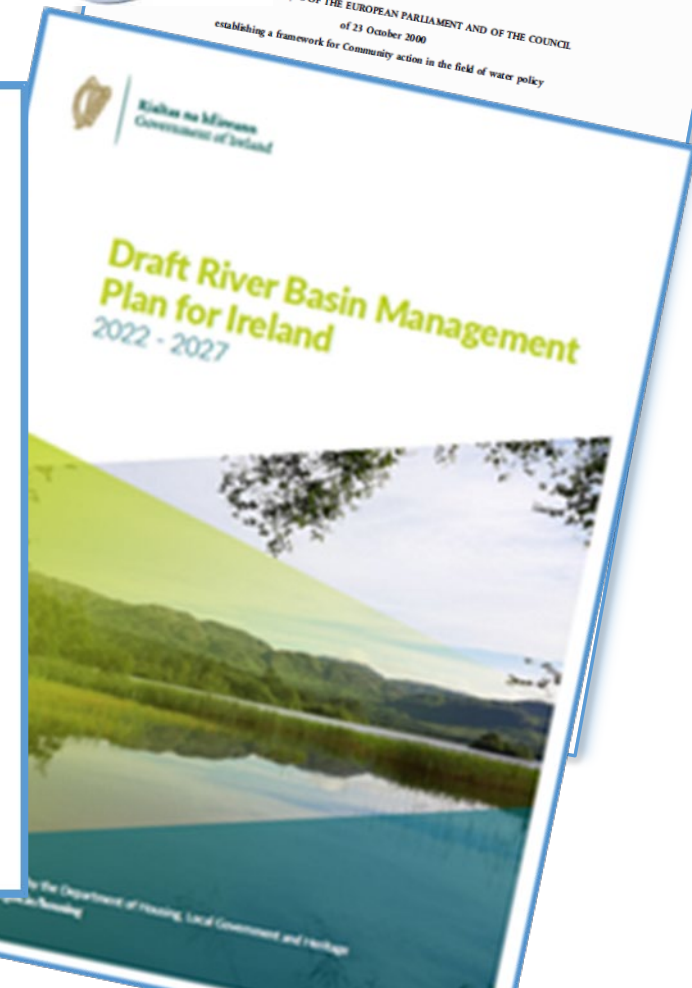
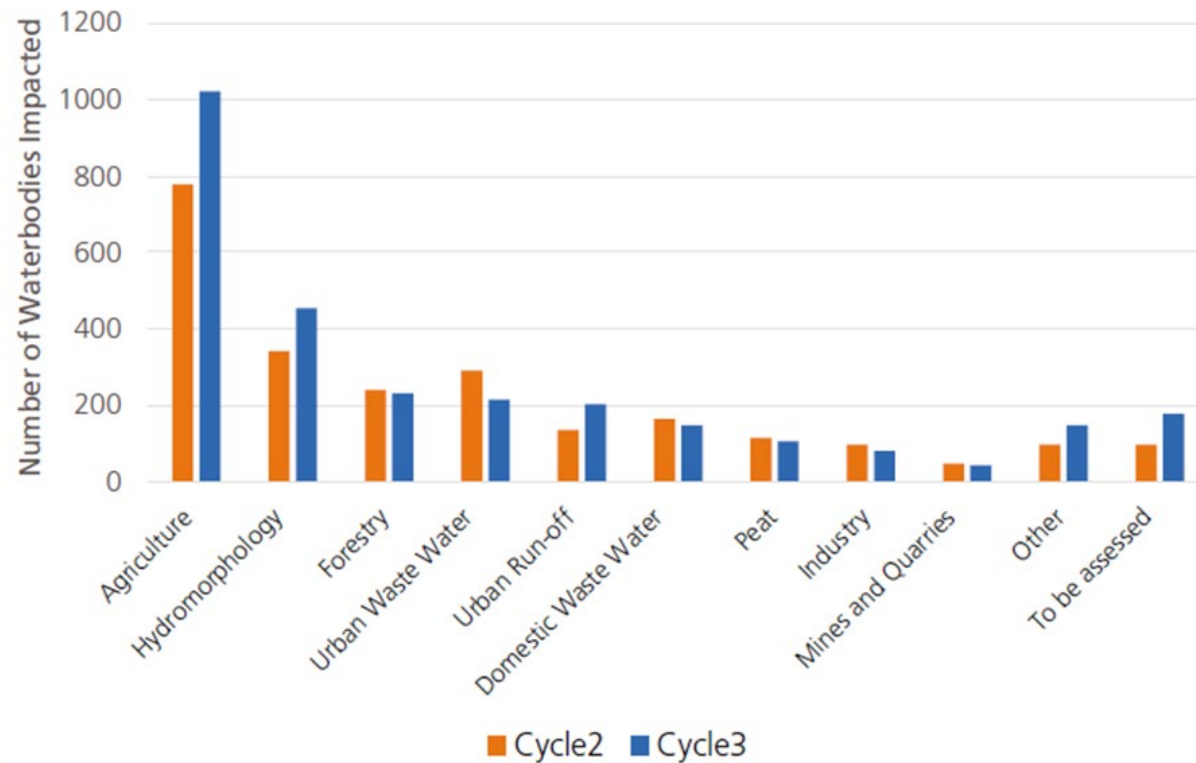
Citizens Assembly, November 4<sup>th</sup>

# State of our waters & what's causing the problem

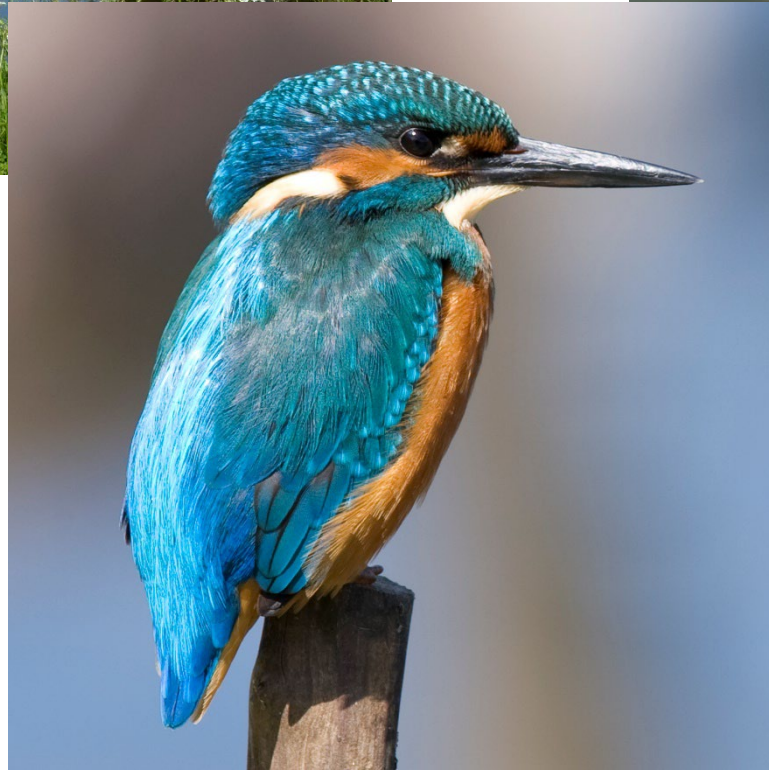


■ High ■ Good ■ Moderate  
■ Poor ■ Bad

Proportion of all surface water bodies in each ecological status class 2016-2021









# What needs to happen?

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1. Develop a national river, lake and **wetland restoration** programme
2. Prohibit **wetland drainage** and reform the Arterial Drainage Act 1945
3. All **forestry** operations must include a WFD-specific assessment before being permitted
4. **Agriculture**: Risk assessments for all intensive farms should be introduced through a permitting/licensing system
5. Measures to halt **sewage** discharges to 208 polluted waterbodies.
6. **The public** must be involved across the **46 catchments** and catchment groups resourced to ensure effective engagement



An underwater scene with a blue background, showing light rays and bubbles. A large, semi-transparent globe is centered in the lower half of the image. The text is overlaid on the scene.

WATER IS LIFE'S MATTER AND MATRIX,  
MOTHER AND MEDIUM.  
THERE IS NO LIFE WITHOUT WATER.

ALBERT SZENT-GYORGYI

*THANK YOU*