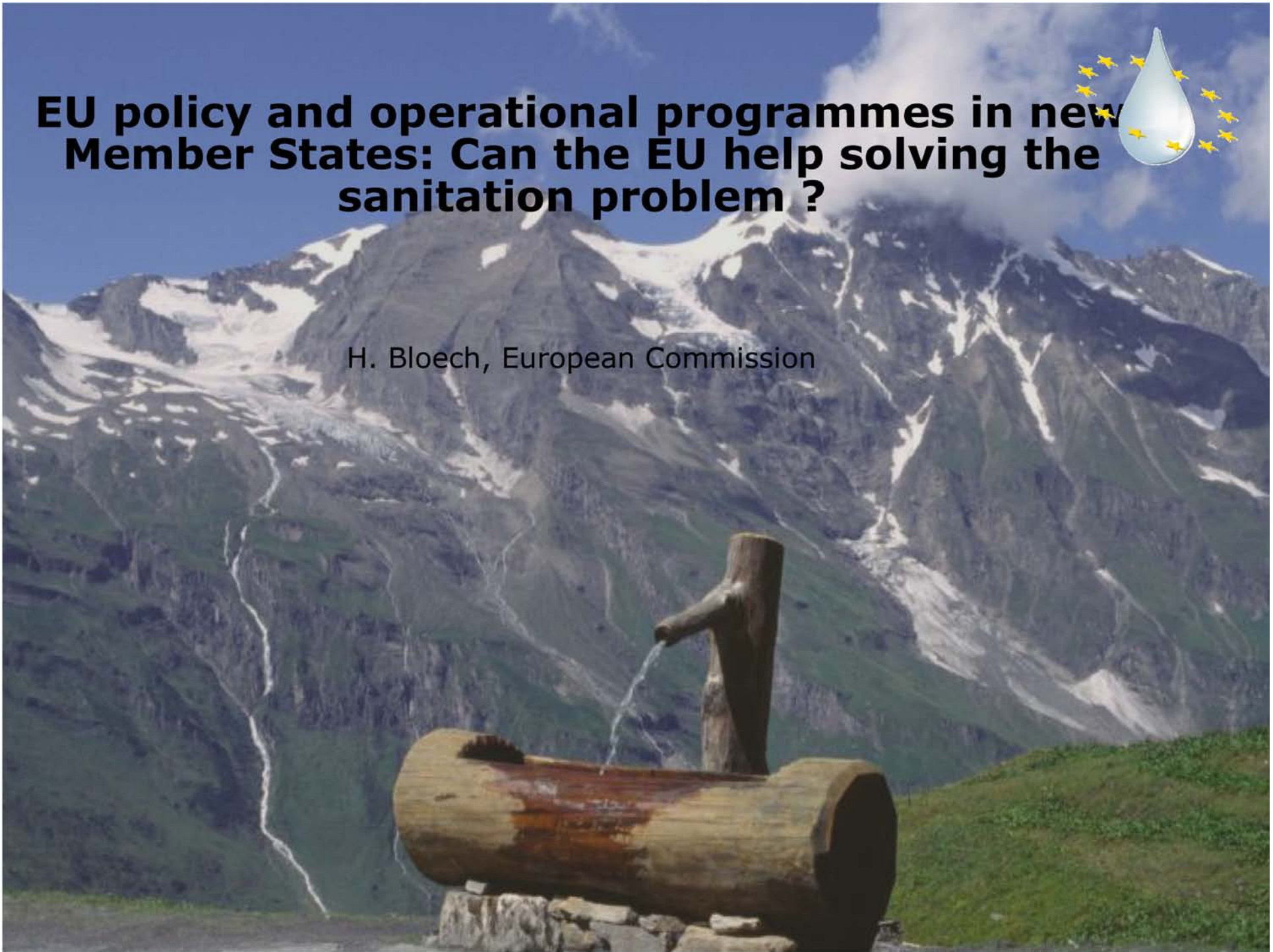


# **EU policy and operational programmes in new Member States: Can the EU help solving the sanitation problem ?**



H. Bloech, European Commission







**Diversity of  
regions and  
their waters**



# Our waters

Multitude of uses, aspirations, pressures and impacts on our groundwaters and surface waters





# Sanitation at different scales



# **Needs and framework for achieving safe sanitation**



- **Policy objectives and orientations for protection of health of citizens and the environment**
- **Financial support tools, from data collection to involvement of citizens to planning and operational measures**
- **Further research and exchange of knowledge and experience**
- **Good governance and encouragement of action at local and regional level**

## **EU policy and legislation**



- **Water Framework Directive**
- **Drinking Water Directive**
- **Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive**
- **Directive on Nitrates Pollution from Agriculture**

## **EU funding tools**

- **Cohesion Fund**
- **European Regional Development Fund**
- **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development**
- **EU research programmes**

# Water Framework Directive



- **Protection of all waters (rivers, lakes, coastal waters and groundwaters)**
- **Obligation to achieve good water quality as a rule by 2015; values on nitrate in groundwater = drinking water value**
- **Plans and programmes for achieving good quality due by Dec 2009, drafts due by Dec 2008**
- **Information and consultation of citizens, local municipalities, NGOs mandatory for the development of the plans and programmes**

# Groundwaters currently not in line with 'good status'

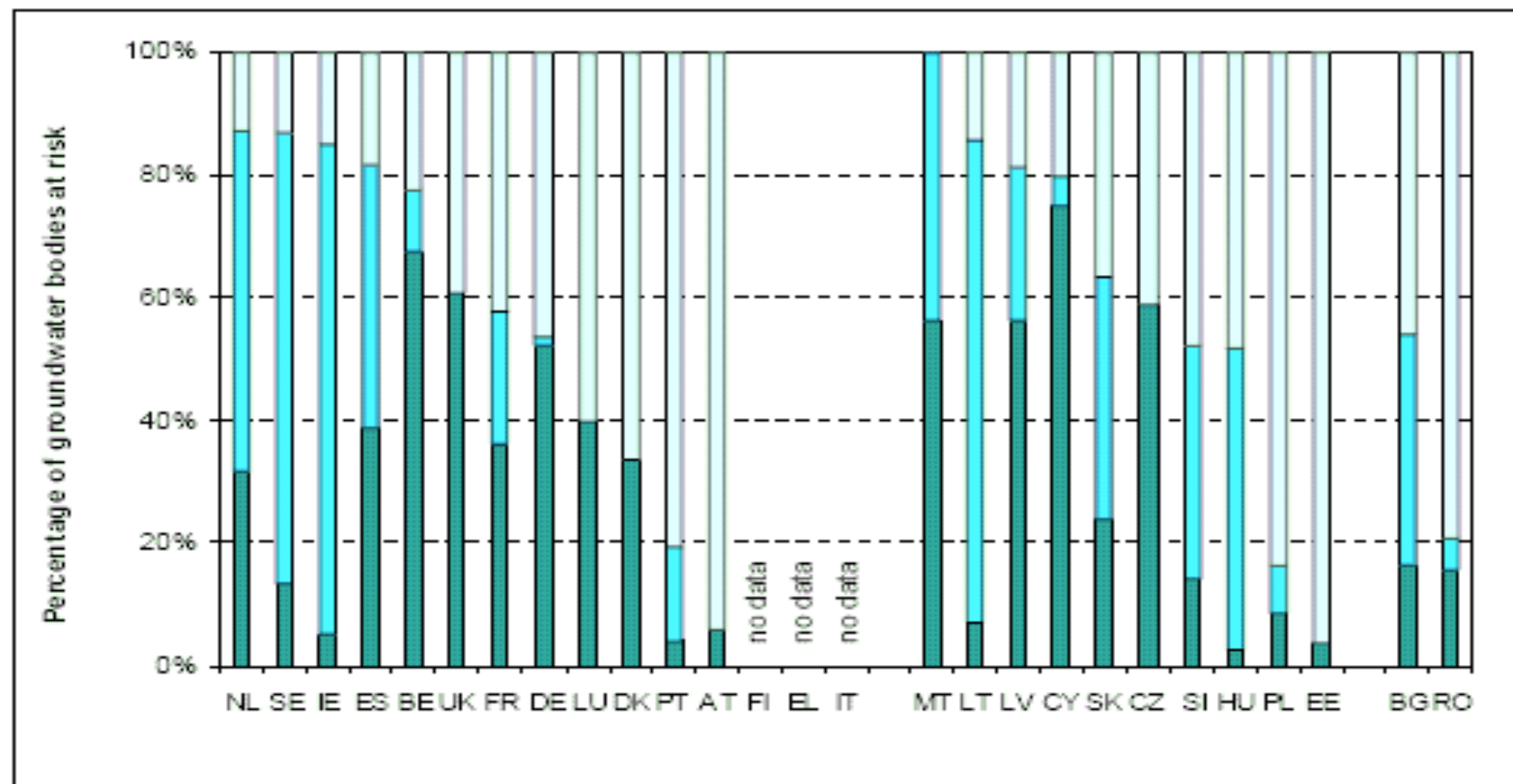


Figure 7: Percentage of groundwater bodies at risk of failing WFD objectives per Member State - ■ = 'at risk', ■ = 'insufficient data', ■ = 'not at risk' (based on data reported by Member States).



## Surface waters currently not in line with 'good status'

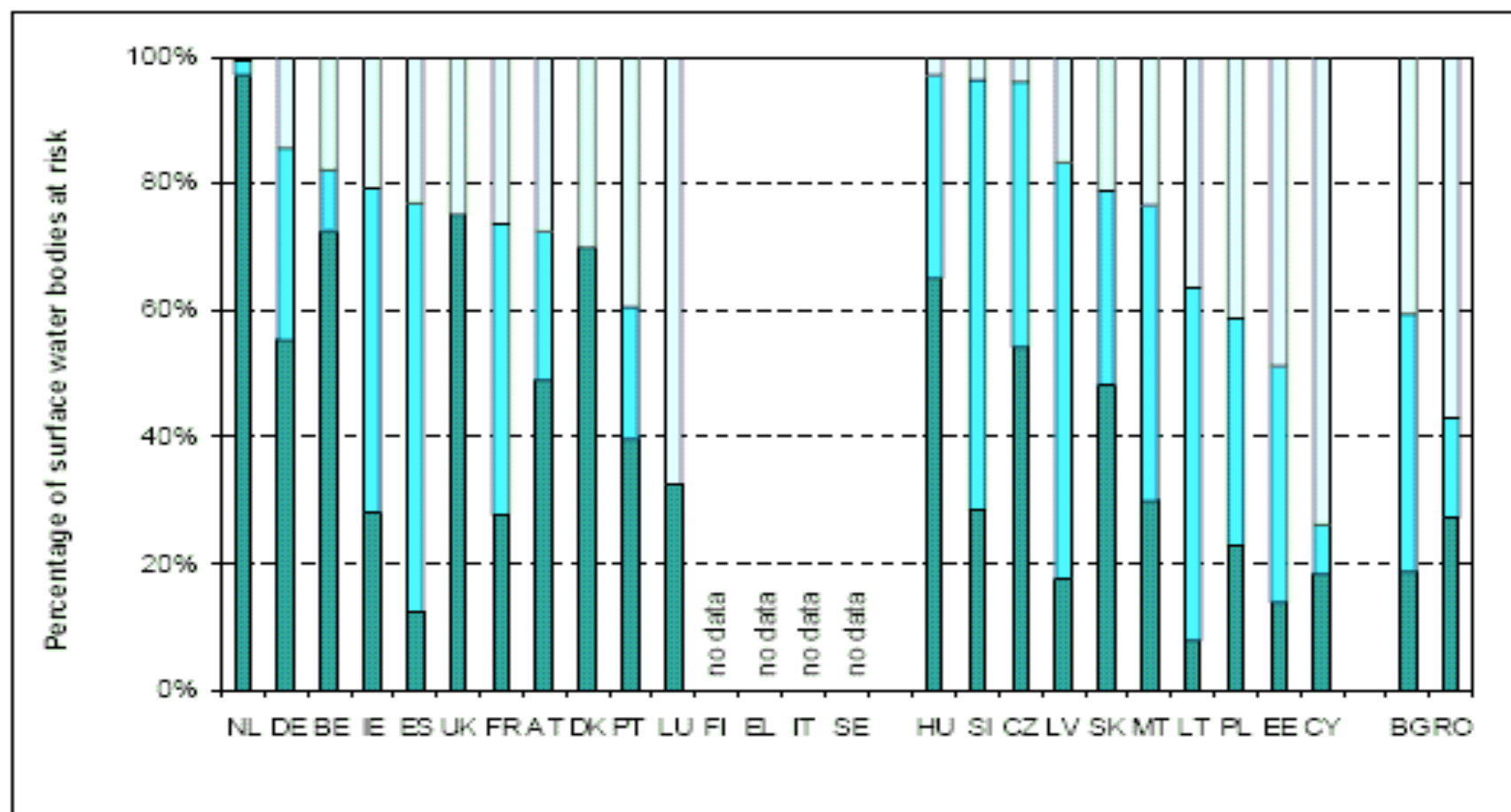


Figure 6: Percentage of surface water bodies at risk of failing WFD objectives per Member State - ■ = 'at risk', ■ = 'insufficient data', ■ = 'not at risk' (based on data reported by Member States).

# Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive



- **applies to settlement areas >2000 inhabitants\*)**
- **minimum standards for waste water treatment**
- **fully flexible on the means to achieve the objective, thus open to - and encouraging - innovation and alternative solutions**
- **alternative solutions to centralised sewerage systems permitted even in urban areas, if same level of environmental protection is achieved**

\*) smaller settlement areas covered by the objective of the Water Framework Directive ('good quality for all waters, as a rule by 2015')

# Drinking Water Directive



- **applies to drinking water supply systems for >50 people or supplying >10 m<sup>3</sup> per day**
- **health-oriented quality standards (microbiological and chemical parameters)**
- **obligation to regularly monitor drinking water quality and to inform citizens about the quality of their drinking water**
- *but: no obligation to construct drinking water supply systems*



# EU funding tools



- **Cohesion Fund**
- **European Regional Development Fund**

All measures, from data collection and assessment to involvement of the civic society, planning and construction are eligible; however, responsibility of the countries to choose amongst the eligible measures their priorities and projects;

- **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development**

Regulation (EC) 1698/2005, article 30: „Infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry. Support provided for in Article 20(b)(v) (*= improving and developing infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry*) may cover notably operations related to access to farm and forest land, land consolidation and improvement, energy supply and water management.“

## Good Governance



- **making available instruments work, for the benefit of the people involved and affected, and with them;**
- **if more and earlier efforts to be made to address the challenge of safe sanitation – better common understanding, changing attitudes by all, and reconsidering priorities and hearts in the countries will be required;**
- **promoting Good Governance by projects like WCEF „Sustainable Development for All“, as well as this World Water Week seminar.**



**Thank you for your attention.**

**Your involvement, your experience is needed.**





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[http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/env/wfd/library?l=/framework\\_directive&vm=detailed&sb=Title](http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/env/wfd/library?l=/framework_directive&vm=detailed&sb=Title)

