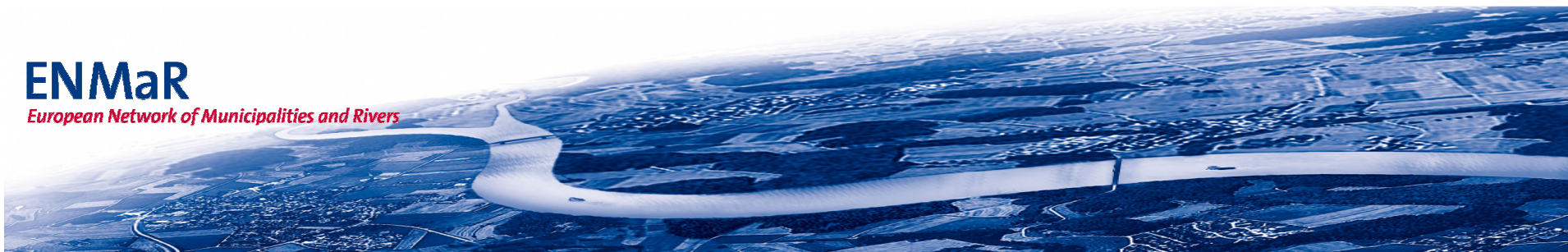


**ENMaR**

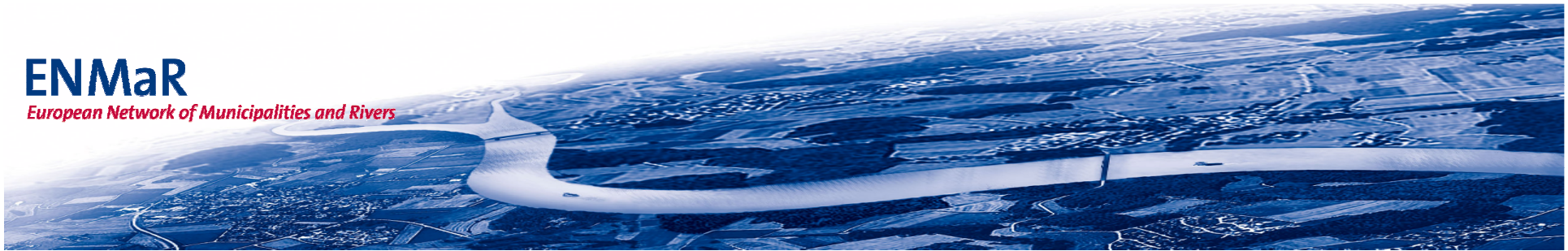
*European Network of Municipalities and Rivers*



# The hidden benefits of the WFD experiences from the ENMaR project

EWA Conference, Brussels November 7<sup>th</sup> 2006





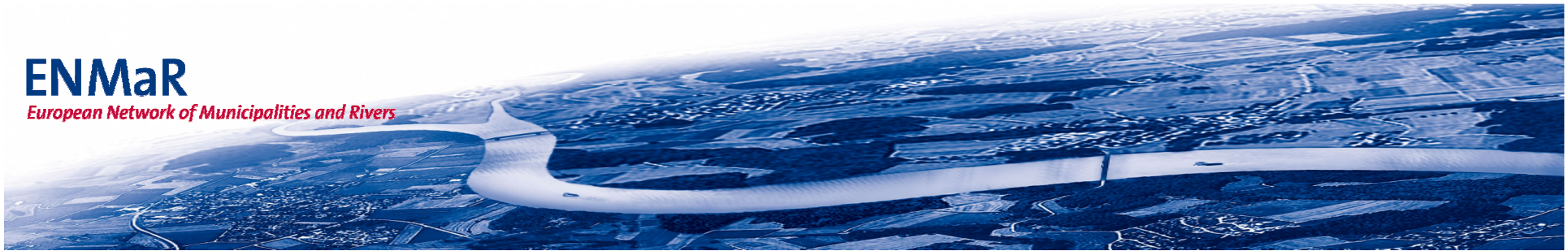
## At the beginning

- little interest and little knowledge concerning the WFD

### reasons:

- complicated and complex subject
- long-term implementation until 2015, 2027
- resistance against heteronomy from Brussels
- no municipal concern on first sight
- water related tasks are delegated to relevant associations
- up to now municipalities have hardly been integrated in the implementation process of the WFD

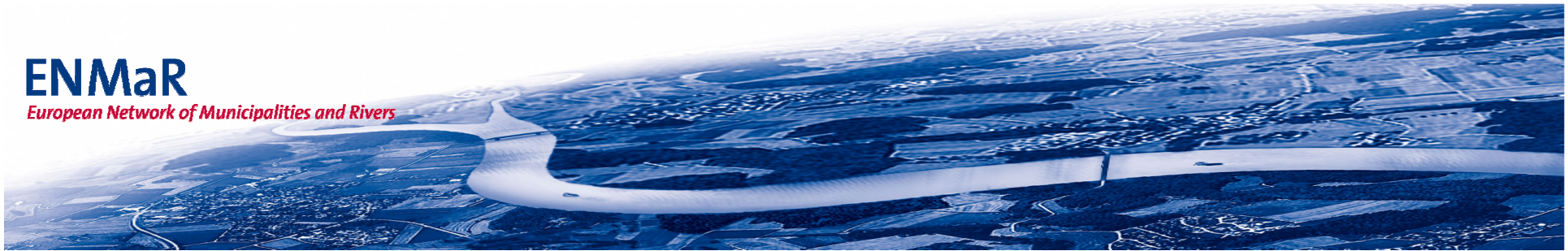




## Benefits „hidden“ within the reasons for setting up the directive (preamble)

- balanced development of the regions
- different specific solutions
- measures adjusted to regional and local conditions
- close cooperation on all levels and continuing dialogue
- integration into other fields of policy



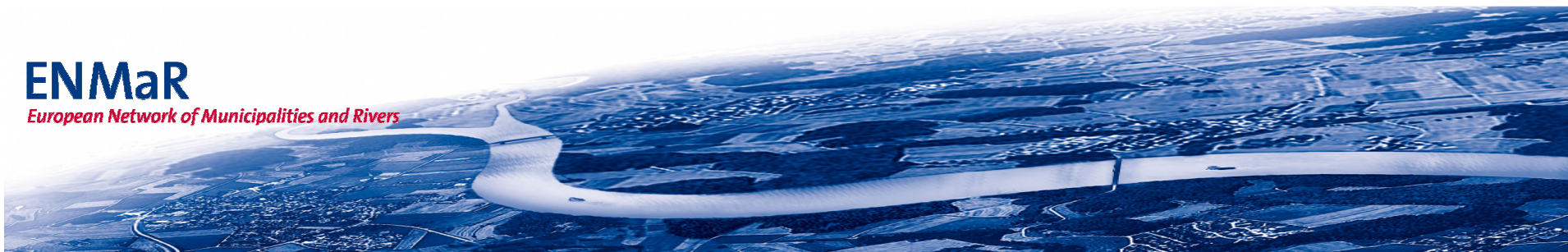


## Main benefit

- Long-term sustainable protection of the water resources as basis for living and
- Water body serving different uses as navigation, site for recreation, cooling water, etc.



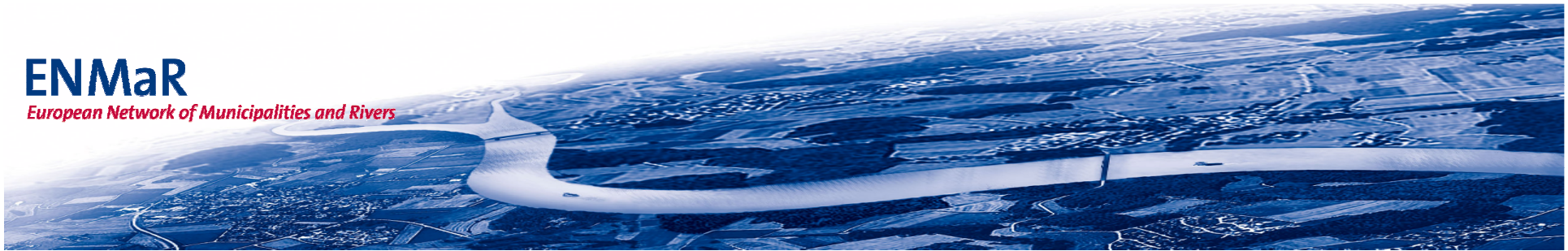




## Further benefits

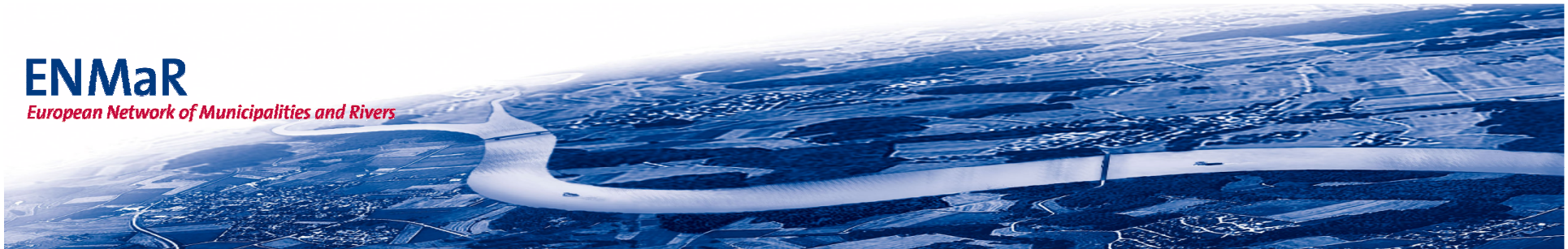
- Comparability throughout Europe
- Polluter pays principle
- Cost-recovery
- Public participation
- Proportionality



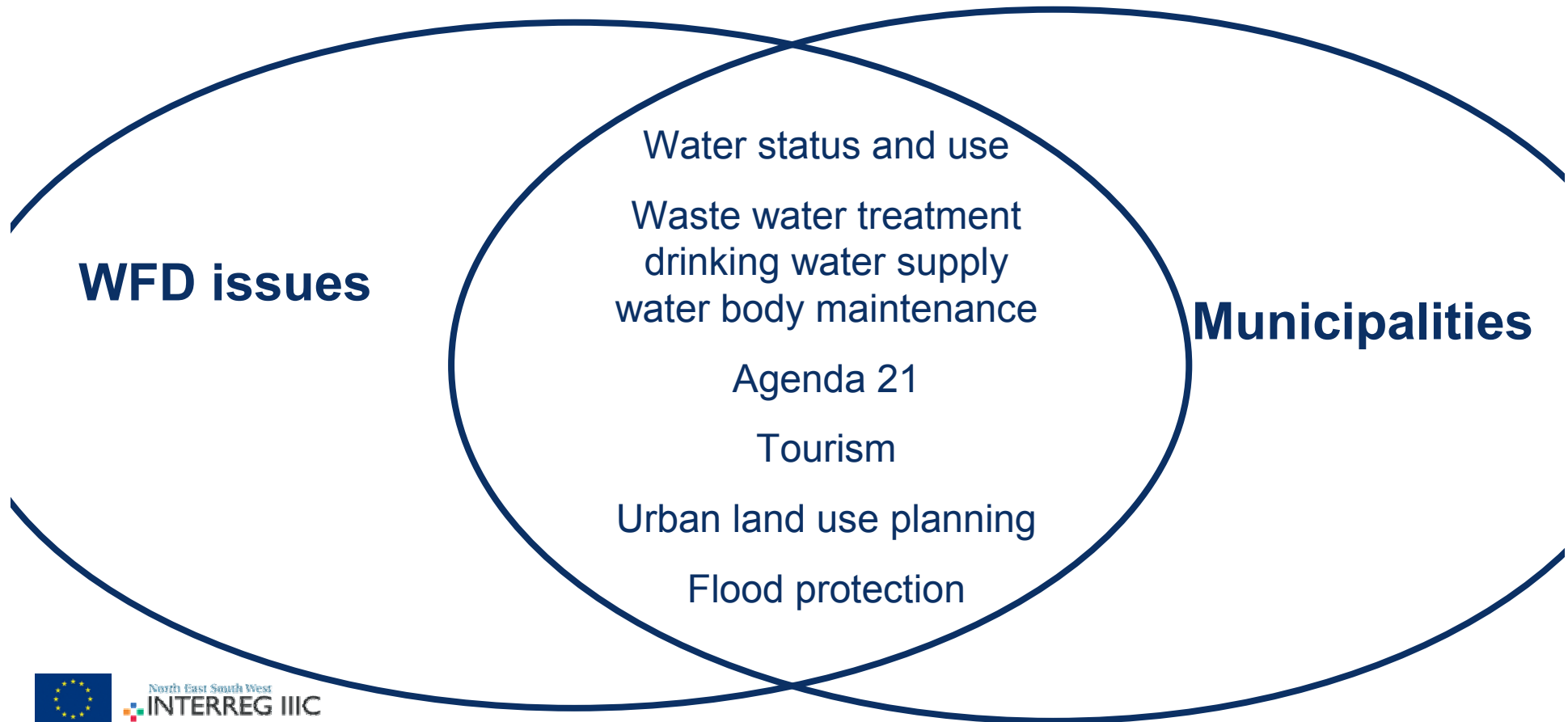


## Measures with benefits for the local level

- Building or modernising wastewater treatment plants
- Managing rainwater sustainably
- Improving the continuity
- Improving hydromorphology
- Giving more space to the rivers ⇒ flood protection



# Municipalities' concern





An aerial photograph of a landscape. On the left, a river flows through a lush green area with many trees. In the center, there is a large, flat, greyish-brown area, possibly a construction site or a large field. To the right, there are several buildings with grey roofs and some greenery. The overall scene is a mix of natural and built environments.

Spatial planning and WFD

Use of impact regulation to implement the WFD?

Link to Agenda 21?

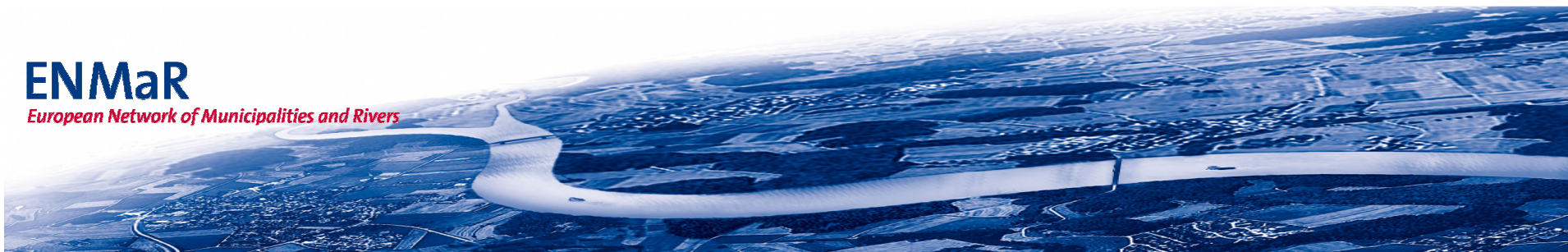
Combine with measures to support NATURA 2000?

Integrate into municipal concepts of tourism?

Use the SEA to facilitate the implementation of measures?

NLO 2001





## ENMaR project

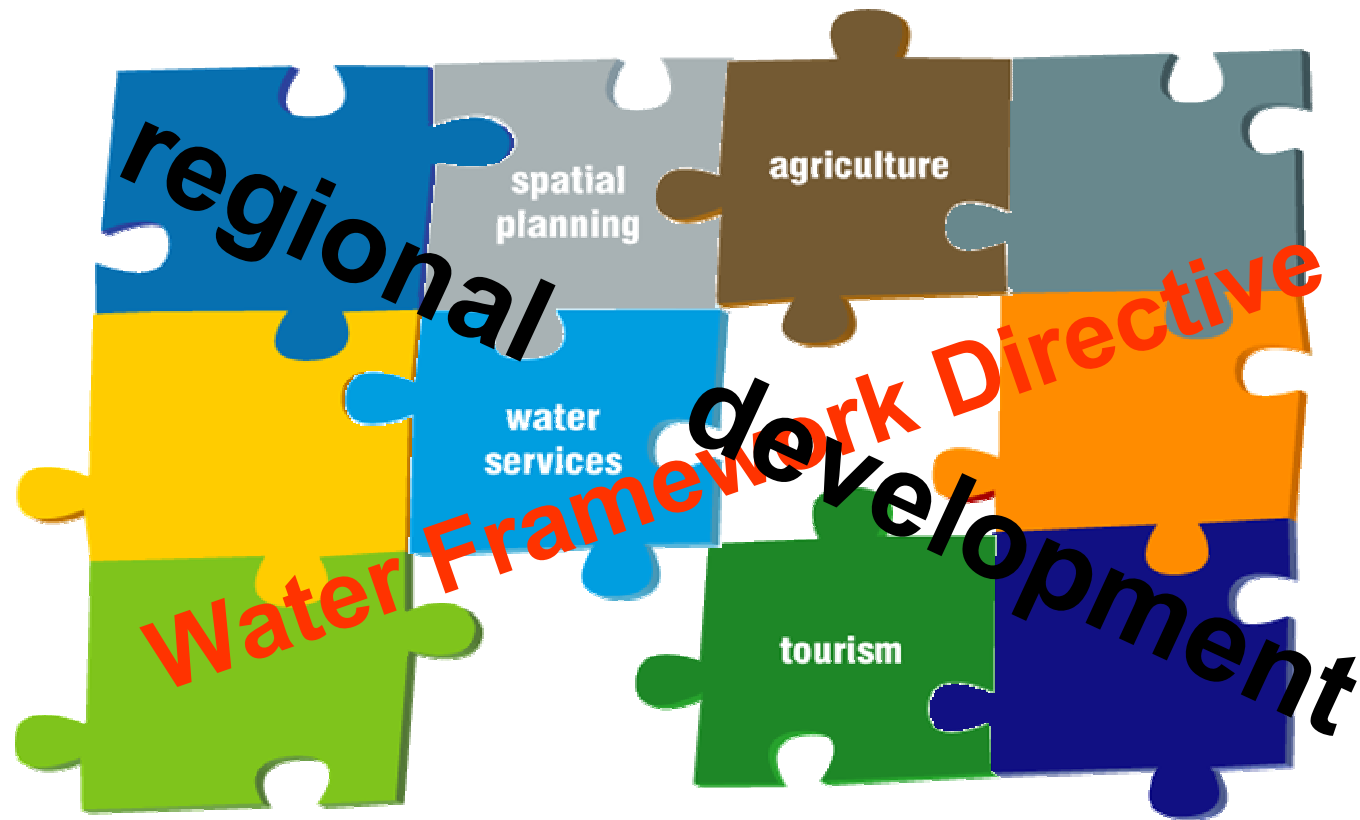
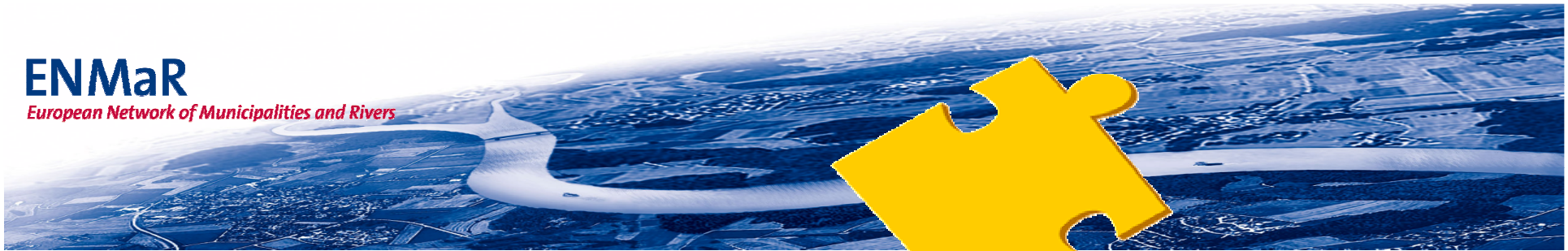
### Partners:

- Kommunale Umwelt-Aktion U.A.N.
- Oldenburgisch-Ostfriesischer Wasserverband OOWV
- Mersey Basin Campaign
- University of Manchester
- Universidad Santiago de Compostela
- Vides Projekti
- Emåförbundet



**ENMaR**

*European Network of Municipalities and Rivers*



North East South West  
**INTERREG III C**



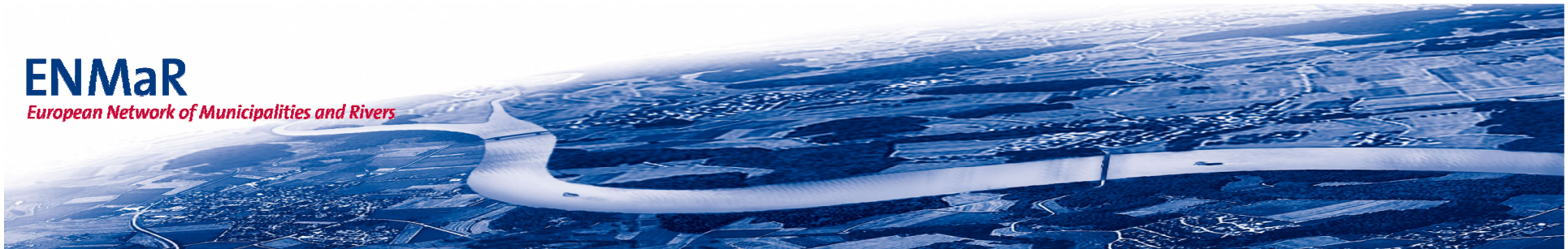
# ENMaR

European Network of Municipalities and Rivers

## Project regions



North East South West  
INTERREG III C



## Mersey

### Mersey Basin Campaign

objectives:

- to improve water quality
- to stimulate waterside regeneration
- to raise awareness
- to engage the public/business in the process of improvement

**4.700 km<sup>2</sup>**

**110 km**

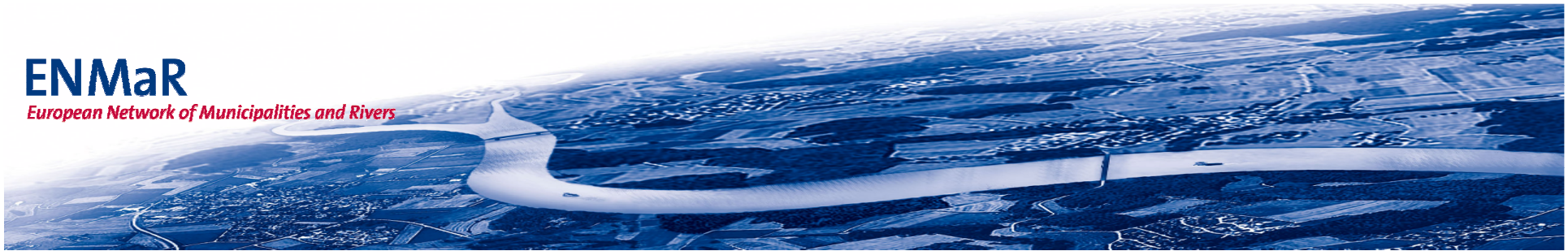
**1700 km**

**5 Mio. inhab.**

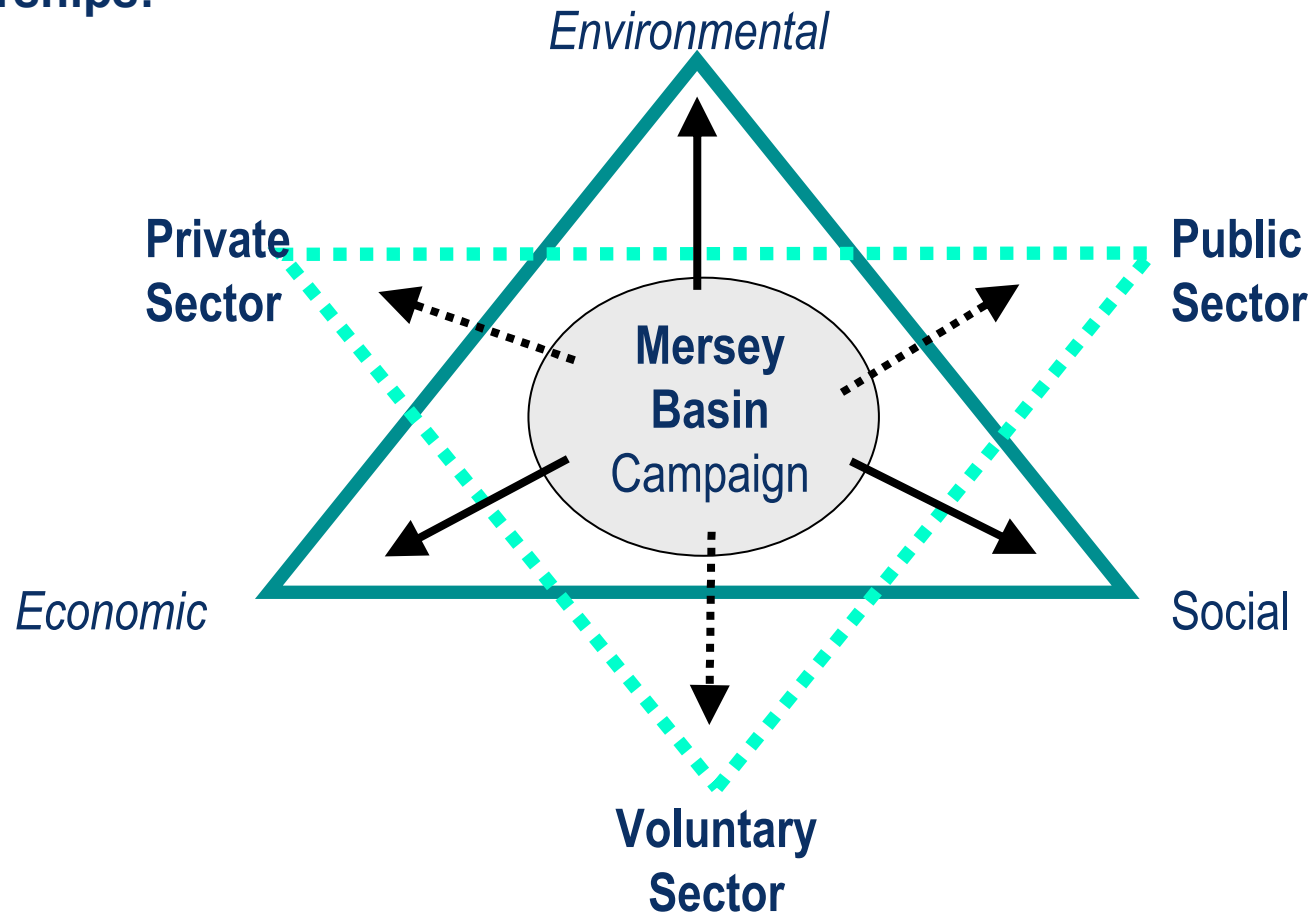
**Industry**

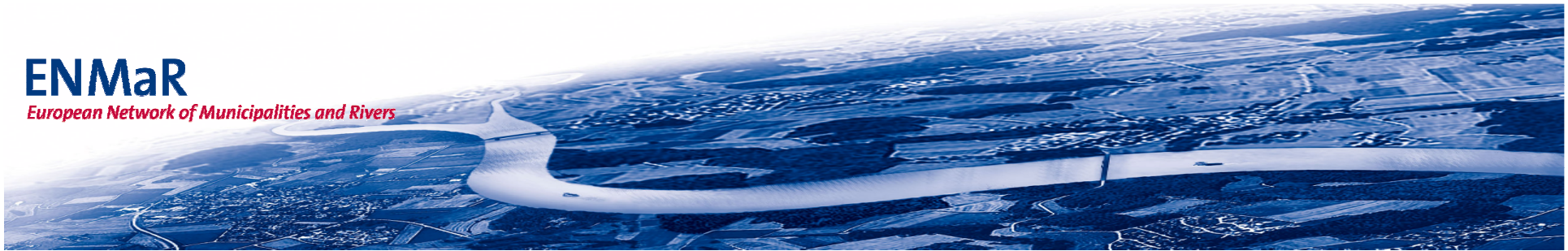






## Partnerships:





## Emån

### Emåförbundet:

- 8 municipalities,
- 2 counties (administration and council)
- Emån water board,
- national board of fisheries
- national road association
- European Union (structural funds; objective 5b)

⇒ 8 working groups: pollutants, nature and culture, fish and fisheries, stormwater, water management, business and tourism, agriculture and forestry, WFD

**4.500 km<sup>2</sup>**

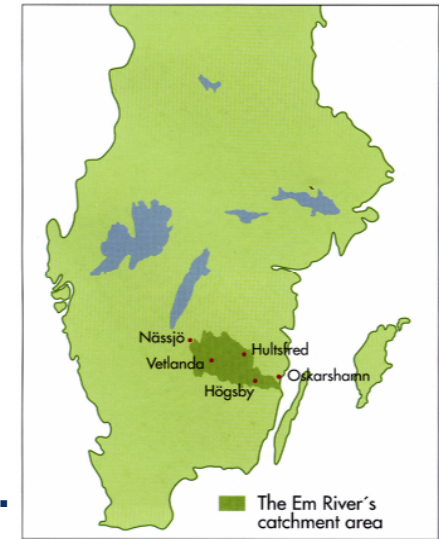
**220 km**

**800 km**

**950 lakes**

**81% forest**

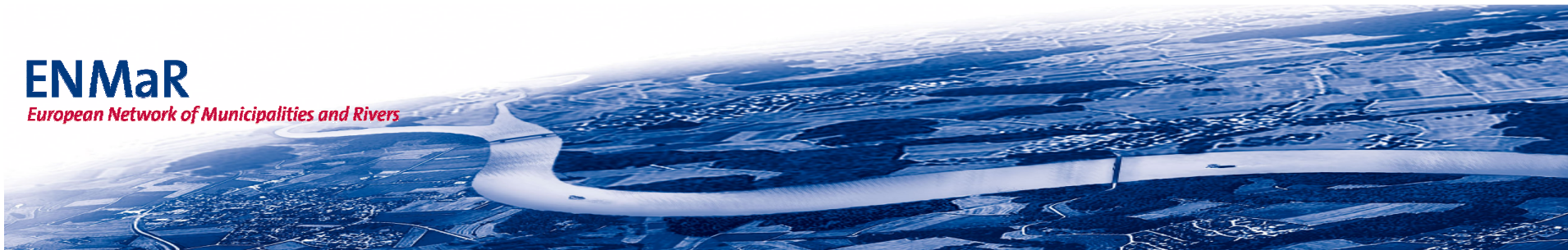
**100.000 inhab.**





# ENMaR

European Network of Municipalities and Rivers

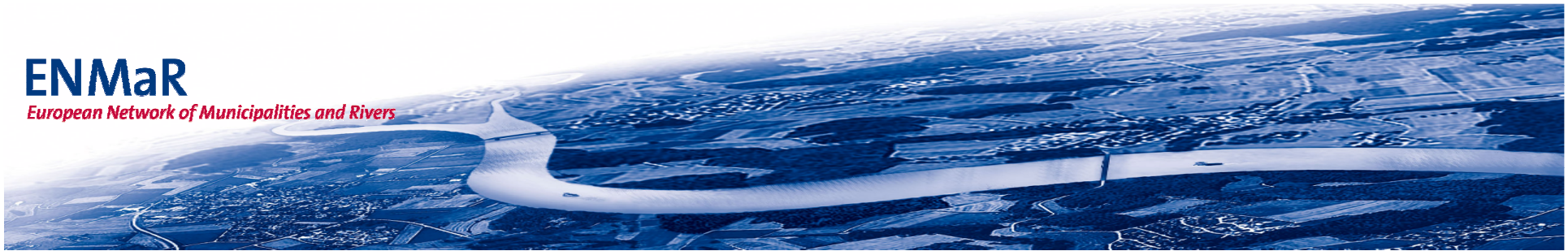


The rivers unique conditions as angling waters and untouched wildernes are important for tourism and outdoor recreation!



North East South West  
**INTERREG III C**



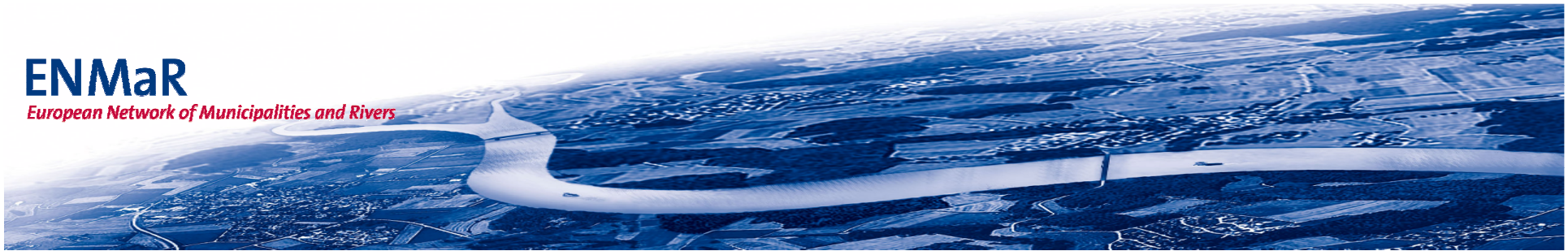


## Implementation in Lower Saxony - „basin co-operations“

- on sub-river basin level: 34 areas on surface water, 11 on ground water bodies, some put together lead to...  
28 basin co-operations
- water users are involved in implementation processes:  
=> local and regional aspects are integrated
- the federal state agency for water management, coastal protection and nature conservation (NLWKN) is responsible for the success



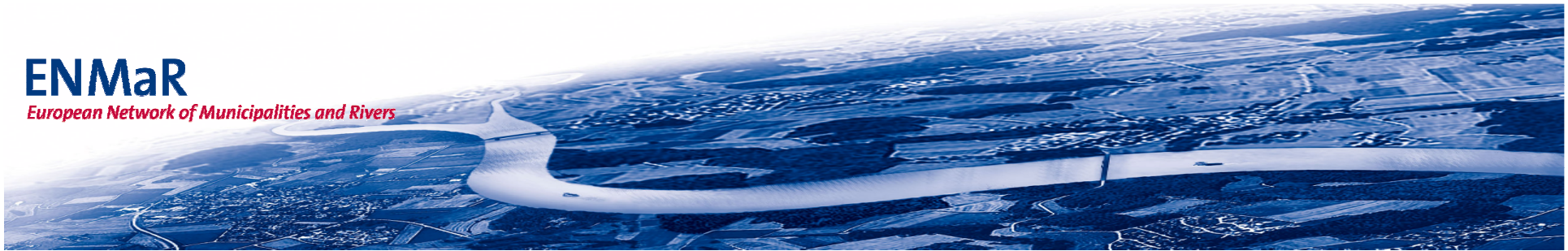




## Implementation in Lower Saxony - „basin co-operations“

- The basin co-operations are involved in all future steps to be taken by the WFD and therefore part of decision-making
- approx. 10 members:
  - Counties (1)
  - Municipalities (1)
  - Water maintenance boards (1)
  - Agriculture and/or forestry (2)
  - Water suppliers (1)
  - Industry (1)
  - Environmental assoc. (1)
  - NLWKN (2)





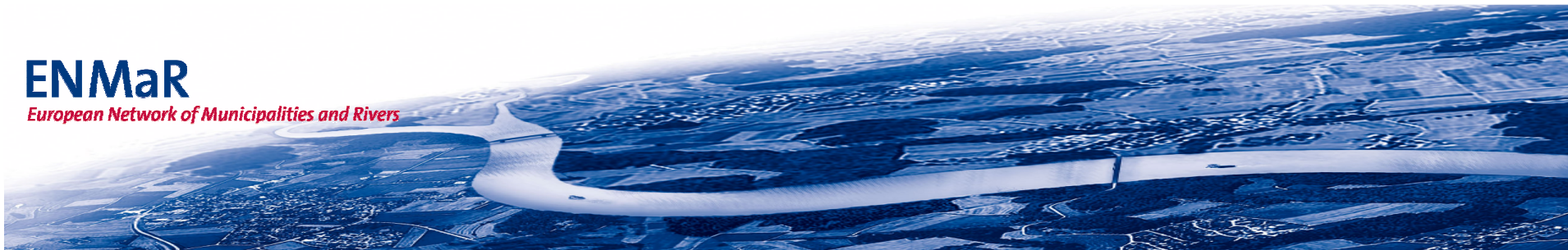
## Main topics

- Review of the risk assessment
- Information on relevant topics as e.g. economic analysis
- Discussion of monitoring concept
- Establishing a WFD data base
- First discussion on significant water management issues
- Proposals for measures



**ENMaR**

*European Network of Municipalities and Rivers*



## European Award **Our Waters**

– cost-effective measures to implement the  
water framework directive –



under the patronage of Mr. Stavros Dimas,



Niedersächsisches  
Umweltministerium

**Kommunale Umwelt-Aktion U.A.N.**

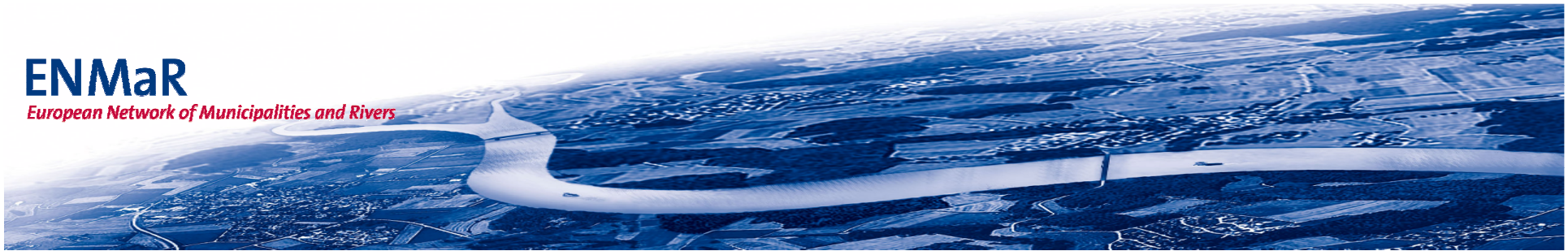
**Ministry of Environment of Lower Saxony**

**[www.ourwaters.net](http://www.ourwaters.net)**



North East South West  
**INTERREG III C**



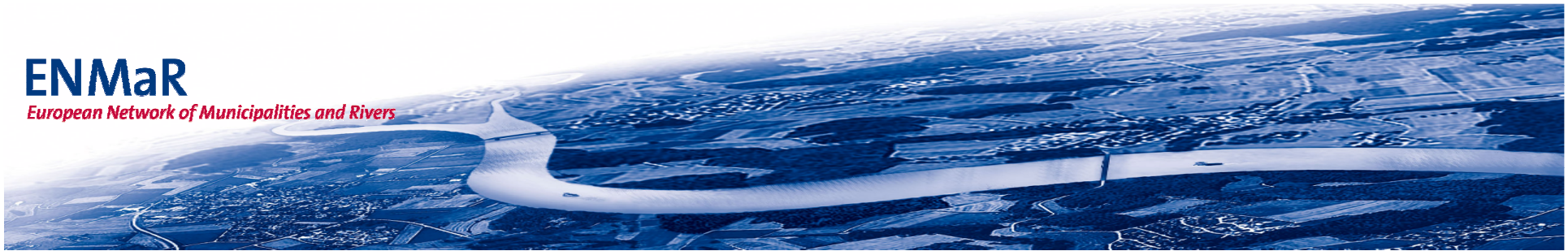


## Output from the regional ENMaR workshops

- Spatial planning plays a special role
- ⇒
- Local and regional plans have a strong potential to contribute to the implementation of the WFD
- Water needs to be seen as a core planning issue and should be given greater priority. It could lead to waterside regeneration, and water becoming the „lifeblood of landscapes“
- But planners need guidance on the WFD and how to implement it



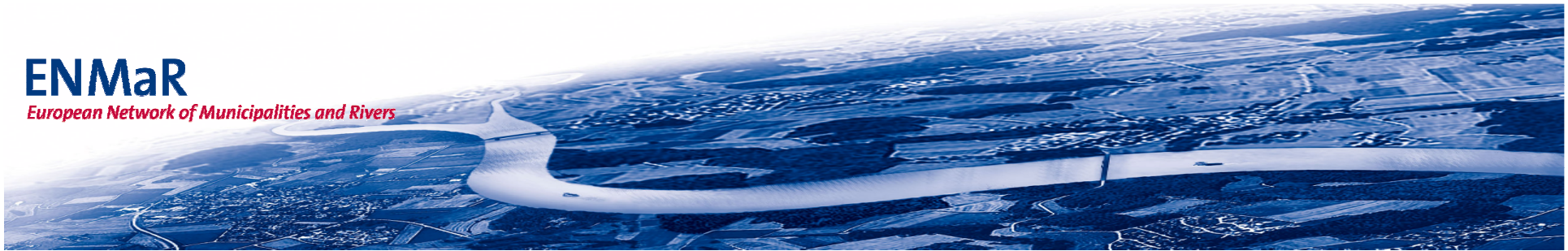




## Benefits for the municipalities would be

- Decrease the risk of floods for the building area
  - Upvaluation of the scenery with positive impacts for the residents
  - Completing the measures to improve water structure with elements supporting tourism as for example a cycle path
- Early and active involvement of the municipalities at the now starting measurement planning is important with the objective to....





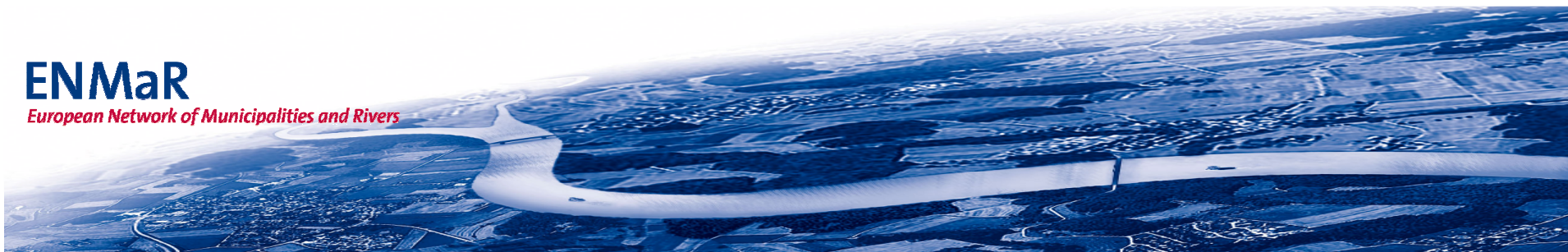
## Consider and use municipal interests, so that

- Ecological, economical and social aspects are regarded from the municipal point of view,
- Bureaucratic processes can be simplified through inter-municipal co-operation
- Better cooperation and coordination with other water management interests to enable public participation in the river basin planning process
- Win-win-situations are realised: benefits for the development of the municipalities and the implementation of the WFD



**ENMaR**

*European Network of Municipalities and Rivers*



**Thank you for your attention!**



**[www.enmar.org](http://www.enmar.org)**