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WATER RESOURCES AND AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT IN A CHANGING CLIMATE - River restoration and integrated river management, the experience of CIRF and the HyMoCARES project

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CIRF – Italian Centre for River Restoration: since 1999 fostering more sustainable river management and ecological restoration





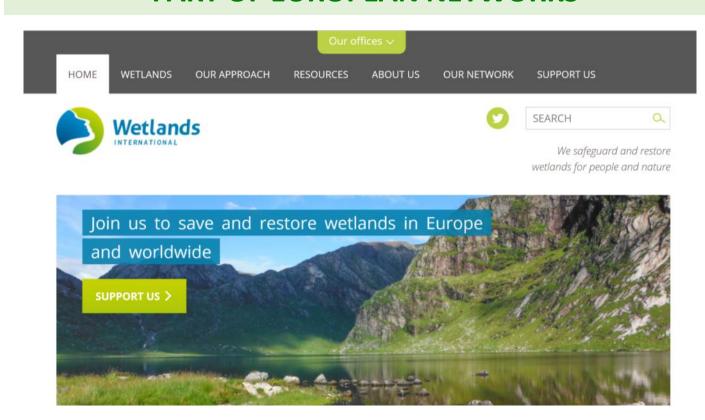








PART OF EUROPEAN NETWORKS



https://europe.wetlands.org/



www.ecrr.org



Ecological RR: improving river ecological conditions

Physico-chemical quality





Biological quality







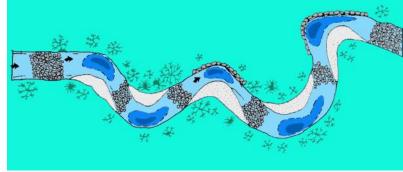
Hydromorphological quality







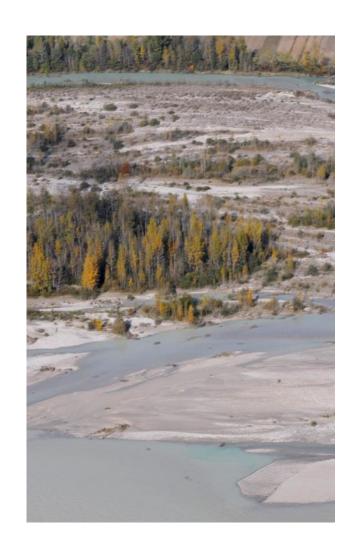


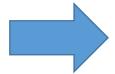


...other quality elements beyond the WFD



Ecological RR provides crucial Ecosystem Services!









A KEY ECOSYSTEM SERVICE: MITIGATION OF FLOOD RISK





reporter it

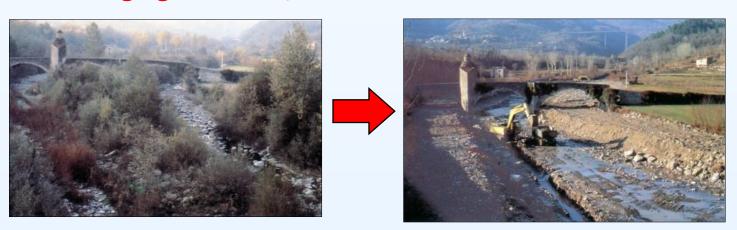
Traditional "grey" flood protection approaches have been insufficient to ensure "safety", they have caused severe environmental impacts and have even contributed to increase risk at catchment scale



Riverbed dredging

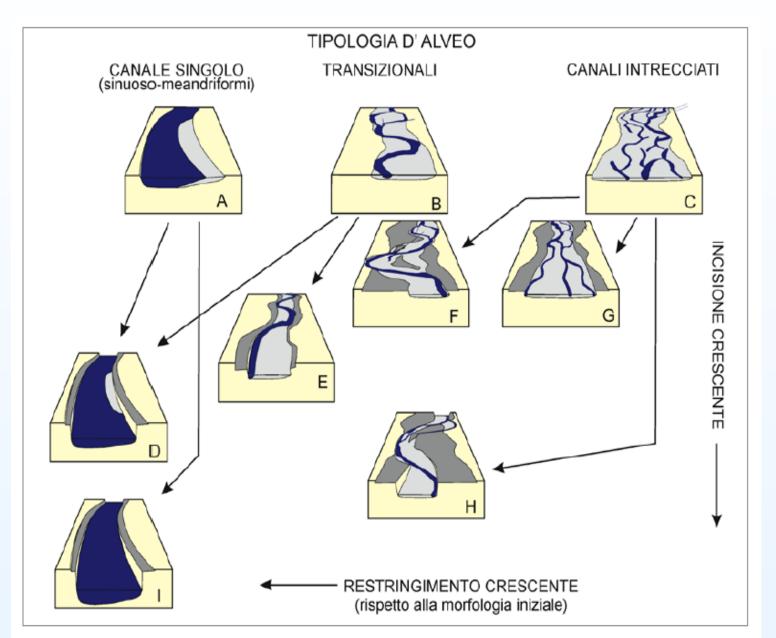


Embankments, channelization, bank protections, riverbed stabilization



Systematic removal of riparian and instream vegetation

Morphological alteration of riverbeds

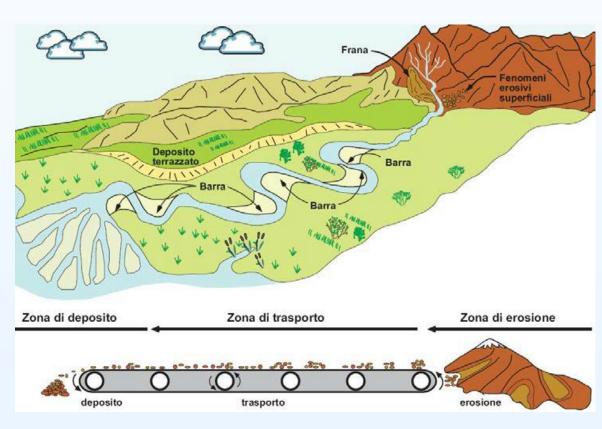


Rinaldi et al., 2014

We need to integrate the traditional flood protection approach with nature-based solutions/river restoration

- Give back space to rivers / reconnect floodplains (and preserve those still connected!)
- Restore more natural river hydromorphological processes (ecological flows, sediment continuity...)







Removal of embankmentes / bank defences / floodplain reconnection to restore natural retention areas



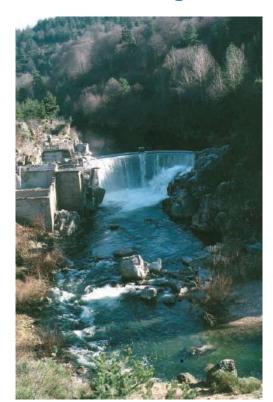


Removal of embankmentes / bank defences / floodplain reconnection to restore natural retention areas





Removal of dams /weirs and improved sediment management of reservoirs

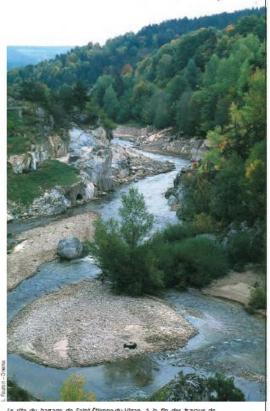


Saint-Etienne du Vigan, river Allier, Loire basin, 1998



La démolition du barrage de Saint-Étienne-du-Vîgan à la dynamite en juin 1998. Le cours d'eau est détourné en rive droite.





Le site du barrage de Saint-Étienne-du-Vigan, à la fin des travaux de reclauration octobre 1998

Sediment recharge:







Deculverting





Ondaine (France):
Deculverting as
part as an urban
restoration project
in a former
industrial area







Important legislative advances on this in Italy



2014 (Sblocca Italia)
Obligation to give priority to integrated measures, reducing flood risk AND improving ecological conditions of river corridors



2015 (Collegato Ambientale)
Obligation to manage sediments
based upon management plans at
catchment scale





Need to monitor, evaluate and disseminate the benefits in terms of ES and to provide operational tools to all subjets involved in river basin planning and management





13 CASE STUDIES

















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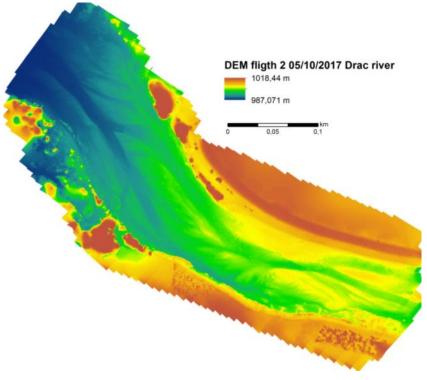
- Largest gravel reintroduction in the EU: 450 000 m3 (390 000 from adjacent alluvial terraces, 60 000 transported from other sources, mainly tributaries)
- Creation of a new wide and shallow channel, leaving the river free to recreate a braided morphology



Monitoring with several techniques and evaluation of effects also in terms of ES









River Buëch (EDF hydropower plant)

- Mechanical reintroduction of gravel (berms)
- Flushing when Q > Qlim
- Monitoring and evaluation

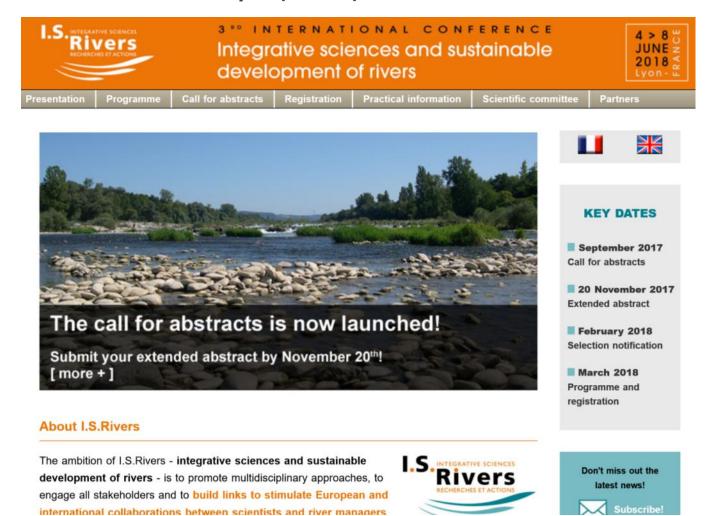








To know more... come to the mid-project workshop on 4 June 2018 at the ISRivers Conference – Lyon (France)



...or to the 4th Italian Conference on River Restoration, 23-26 October 2018 – Bologna (Italy)

