

# The implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive in Austria: Status as of 2005



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# ..... Austria / Europe



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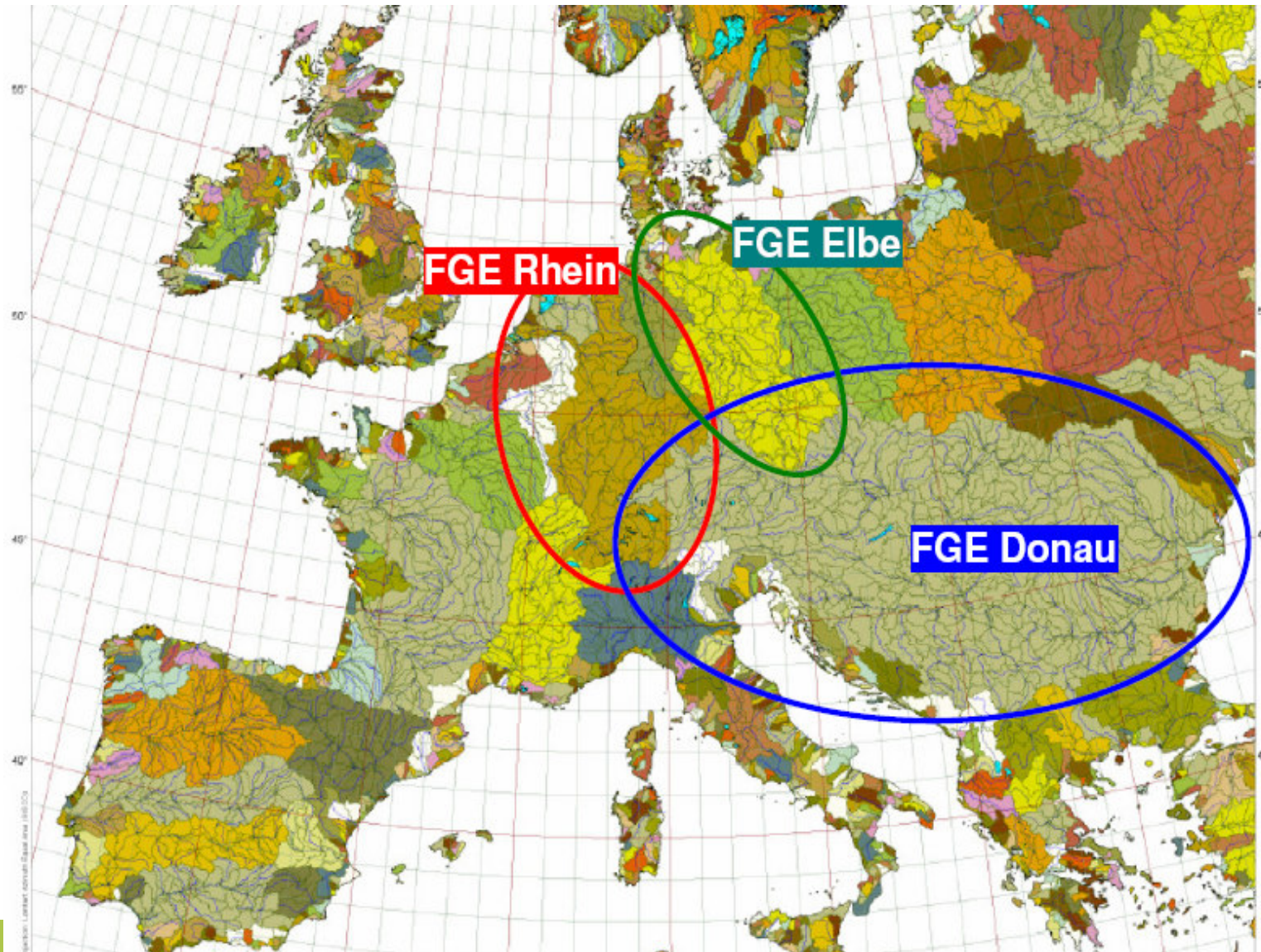




# Austrian territory discharges to three international river basin districts: Danube / Elbe / Rhine



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## Some Information on Austria



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- Size: officially 83,858 km<sup>2</sup>; in 2005 ~ 8.1 Mio. inhabitants.
- Gross domestic product in 2005 ~ 27,000 € per inhabitant and year
- Services followed by industry/trade furnish the main incomes
- Land use: 62% mountainous; arable land ~ 17%; pasture ~ 25%; forests ~ 47%
- Water in / from Austria in relation to the three international river basins:

River Basin	Size in River Basin	Precipitation	Evapo-transpiration	Run-off
	[km <sup>2</sup> ]	[mm/year]	[mm/year]	[mm/year]
<b>Danube</b>	80,565	1,090	500	575
<b>Elbe</b>	921	750	485	260
<b>Rhine</b>	2.365	1,880	470	1.385

- Federal Republic formed by 9 Länder (Provinces)
- Single Water Act valid all over, Provinces mainly charged with its implementation
- EU Water Framework Directive legally transposed into the Water Act in 2003



# Political and hydrologic boundaries within Austria



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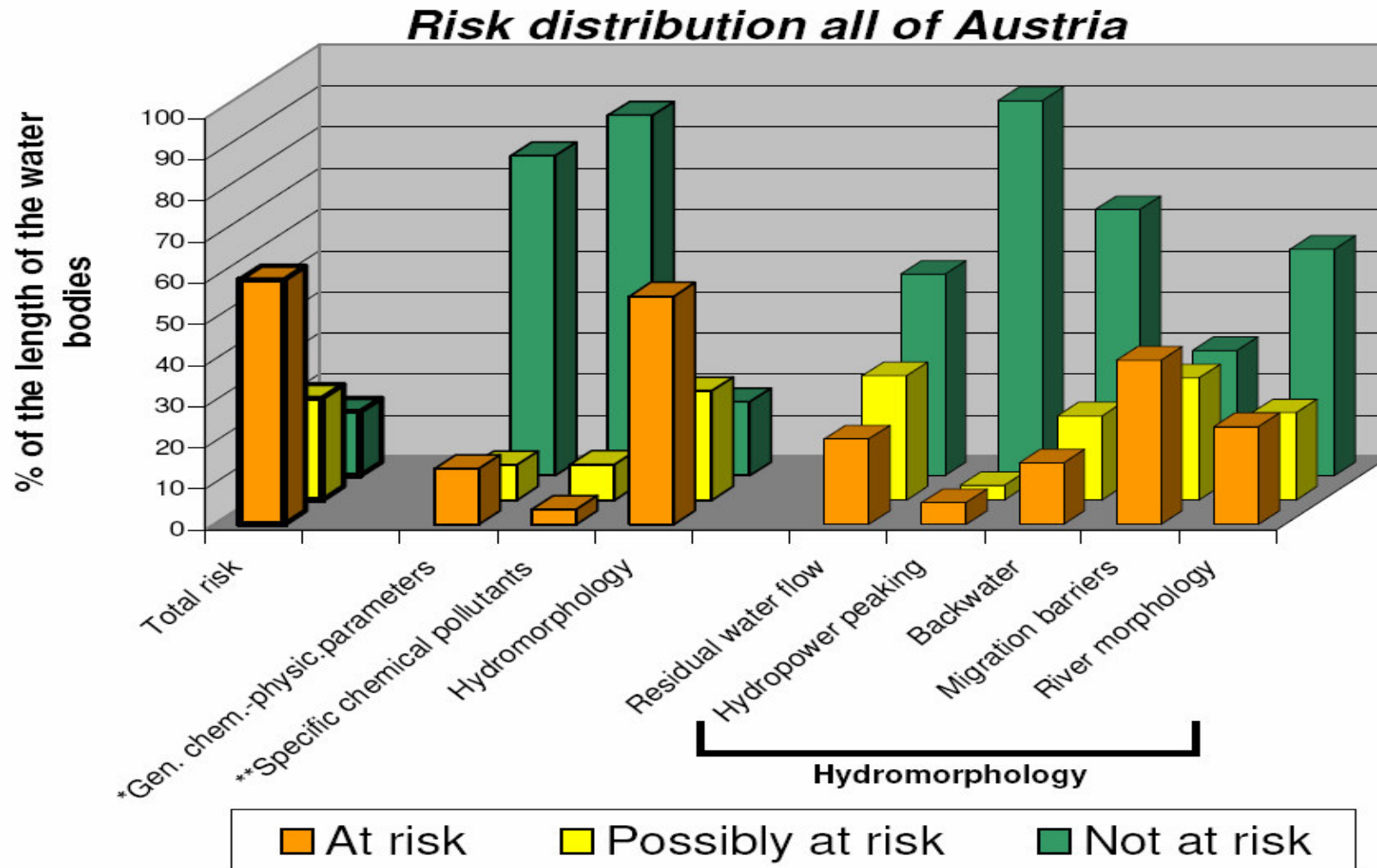
## Information on Austria and WFD Implementation

- Hydrologically allocated planning units are set up within Austria
  - Towards the River Danube Basin: 6 planning units
  - Towards the River Elbe and River Rhine Basins: 1 planning unit each
  - Co-ordination in river basin districts: bilaterally for smaller-scale tasks
  - In basin-wide bodies (e.g. ICPDR) for multi-lateral and basin-wide issues
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- The *river network within Austria for sub-basins > 100 km<sup>2</sup>*:
  - Holds ~ 12,000 km of river length; a total of ~ 1,000 water bodies (WB: ø12 km)
  - The *river network within Austria for sub-basins > 10 km<sup>2</sup>*:
  - Holds ~ 32,000 km of river length; water bodies are at present being allocated.
  - *Lakes and Groundwater Bodies (GWBs) with Austria:*
  - 62 lakes > 50 ha; 135 GWBs and groups of GWBs (50 to 1,000 km<sup>2</sup>)

# The risk of failing to reach good status for water bodies in rivers in Austria, based on the year 2004 conditions



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\* including saprobiological water quality

\*\* priority substances + substances of list I according to Dir. No 76/464/EEC and other pollutants acc. to WFD



# The Danube River Basin



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# Basin-wide issues at stake in the River Danube Basin District & co-ordinated at ICPDR level



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- ➔ **Removal of point source pollution** via the implementation of the EU Urban Waste Water Directive – quite differing situations exist in the States concerned  
Austria is lucky to have already invested into this field, including nutrient removal
- ➔ **Fulfilling the IPPC-requirements**, in Austria also solved to a large extent
- ➔ Undertaking all the steps necessary to **limit the non-point-source input of nutrients** (main target: protection of coastal waters in Black Sea)  
Approaches in Austria have started; work at EU level of main importance
- ➔ **Dealing with hydro-morphological alterations** inasmuch as they have to be co-ordinated at the basin-wide level  
Otherwise they have to be part of approaches at the national levels; for Austria see as shown before