

# **EurEau views on EU legislation affecting waste water management**

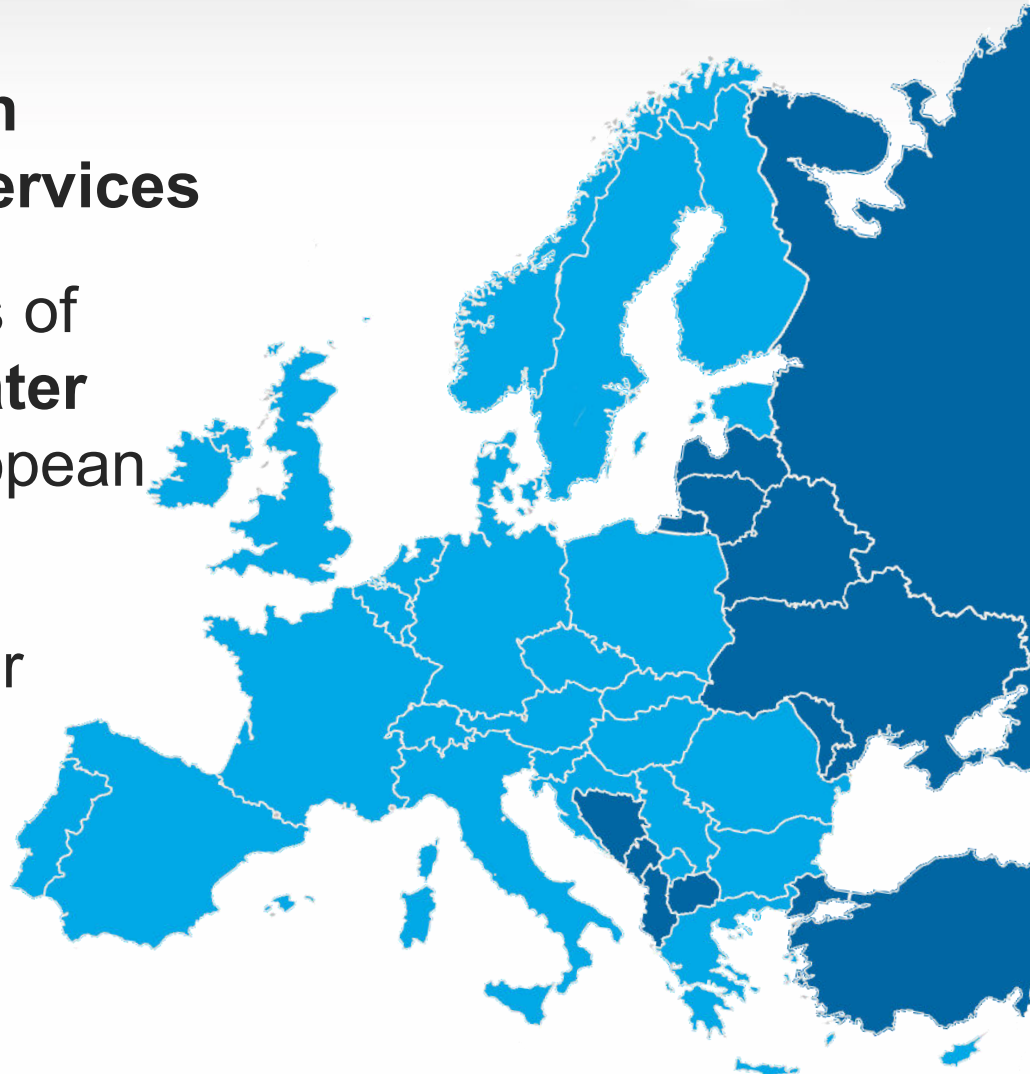
**Oliver Loebel**  
**Secretary general, EurEau**

## Contents:

- EurEau – Who we are
- Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
- Water Framework Directive
- Fertiliser Regulation
- Water Reuse Regulation
- Single-Use Plastics Directive
- Others

## Who we are

- EurEau is the **European Federation of Water Services**
- 32 national associations of **drinking and waste water operators** from 29 European countries
- Public and private sector
- 500,000 direct jobs



# **Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD) Evaluation**

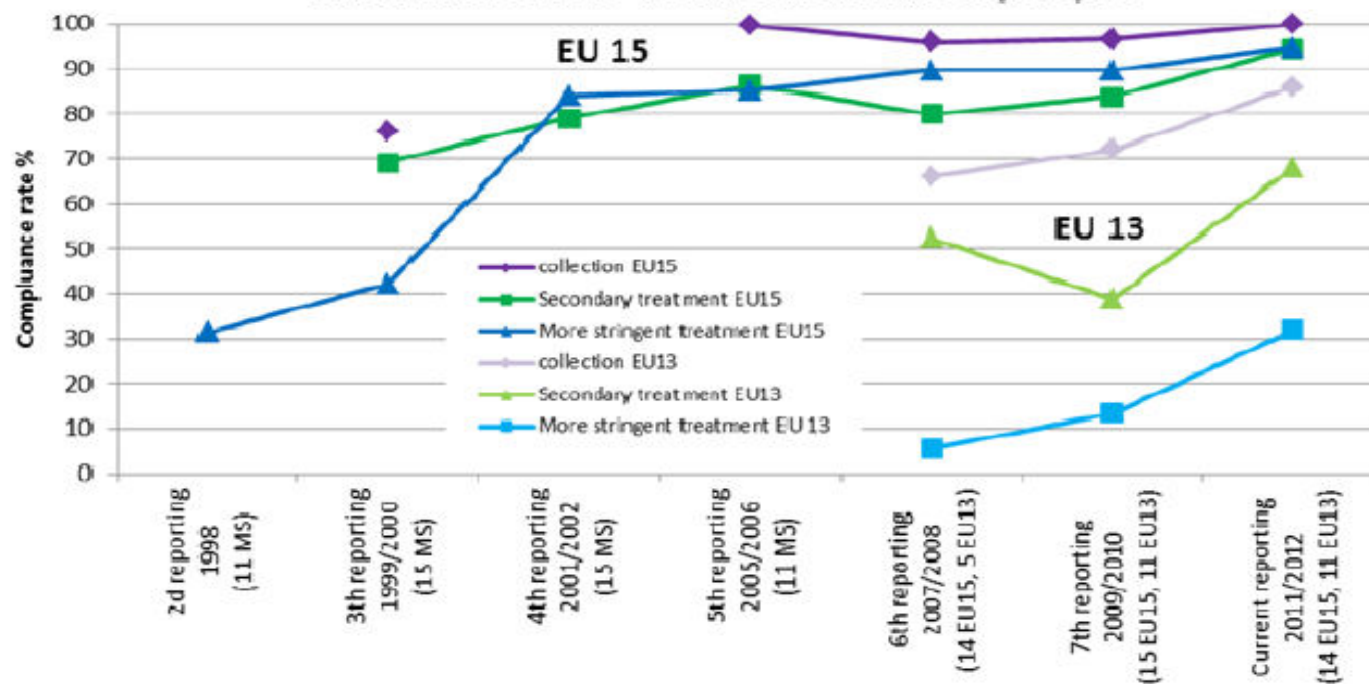
2018

**86%** of EU  
citizens  
connected of  
WW services

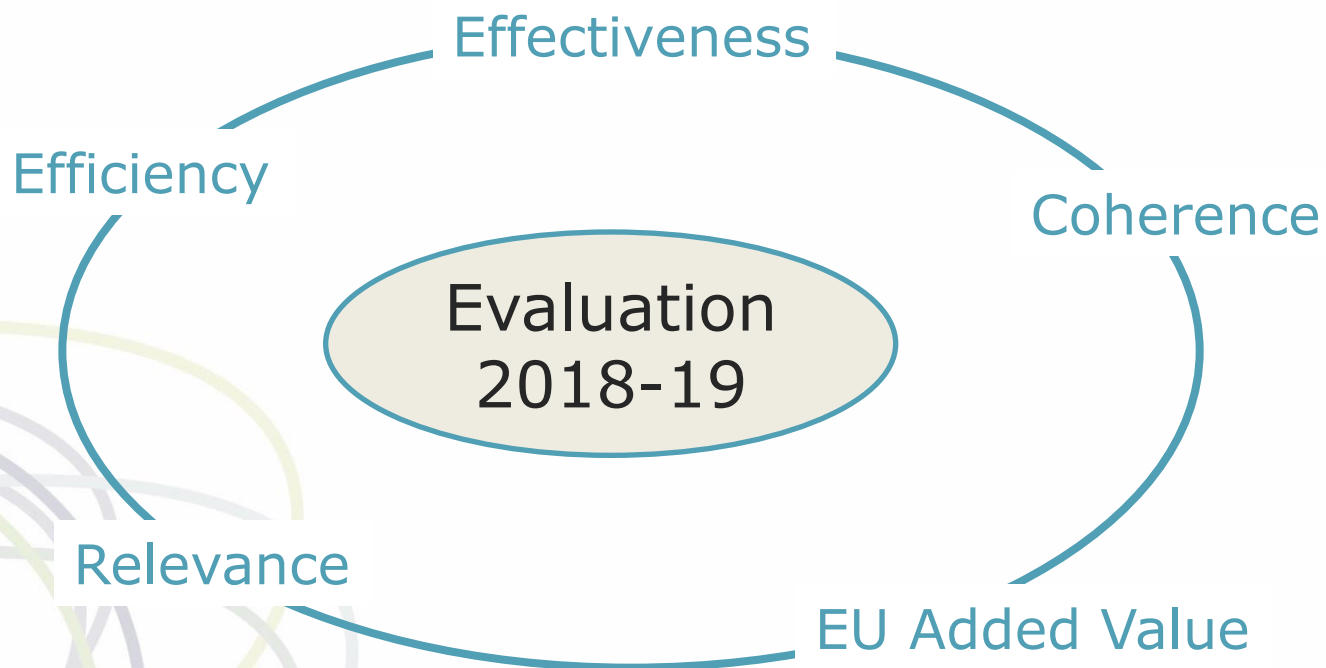
**97%** of  
those are  
connected to  
a WWTP

### Historical evolution of the compliance rate

Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive 91/271/EC



## Evaluation areas





## Specific evaluation topics

### Addressed in the ongoing public consultation

- Indicators and thresholds
- Individual systems
- Integration in urban planning
- CSO
- Circular economy principles
- Information needs to the public
- Pharmaceuticals in WW
- Endocrine disruptors in WW
- Microplastics in WW



**NEW**

## Next steps

- Public consultation until 19 October 2018
- 3 stakeholder workshops will be organised to complete the input of the public consultation
  - Emerging pollutants - 24 October 2018
  - Storm water overflows and Individual or Appropriate Systems - 25 October 2018
  - Cost and benefits of the UWWTD - 8 November 2018
- End of evaluation: mid-2019



# Water Framework Directive (WFD)



## Europe's waters today

- Success of European water policy
- UWWTD: reducing pollution from households
- EEA European Waters Report (2018):
  - **Point sources:** only **18 %** of pressures (38% for diffuse sources)
  - **40% of surface waters** in good ecological status (**little change** since first cycle)
  - **38%** bodies in good chemical status (**97%** if ubiquitous priority substances (mercury) not taken into account)

## Implementation not complete

### Art. 7 (3) Water Framework Directive

(Waters used for the abstraction of drinking water)

- “[...] *avoiding deterioration in their quality to reduce the level of purification treatment [..]*”

### Art. 9 (1) Water Framework Directive

(Recovery of costs for water services)

- “[...] *take account of the principle of recovery of the costs of water services, including environmental and resource costs, and in accordance ... with the **polluter pays principle** [..]*”
- “[...] *An adequate contribution of the different water uses, disaggregated into at least **industry, households and agriculture**, to the recovery of the costs of water services [..]*”

## What do we want?

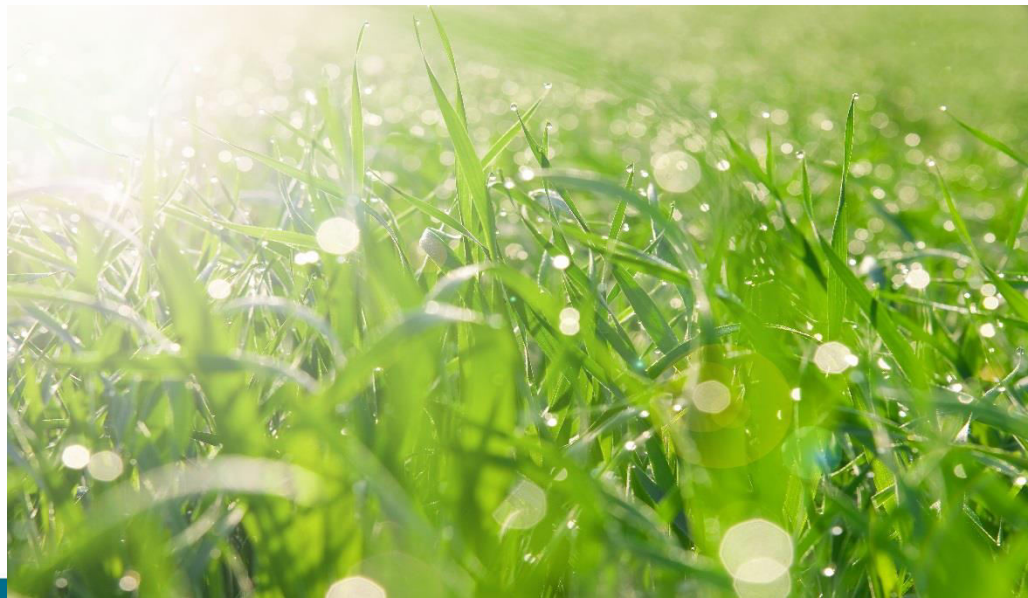
- Maintain objectives / ambition of the WFD beyond 2027
- Improve communication of progress
- Take account of climate change and its impact
- to avoid end-of-pipe solutions, ensure holistic approach to water pollution based on 'source control' measures.
- Effective policy coordination with relevant EU legislation.
- Consider an extension of the deadline beyond 2027.

## Next steps

- Public consultation to be launched ahead of the Vienna Conference
- Vienna EU Water Conference 20-21 September
- REFIT evaluation report by mid-2019
- Revision? Up to the next European Commission

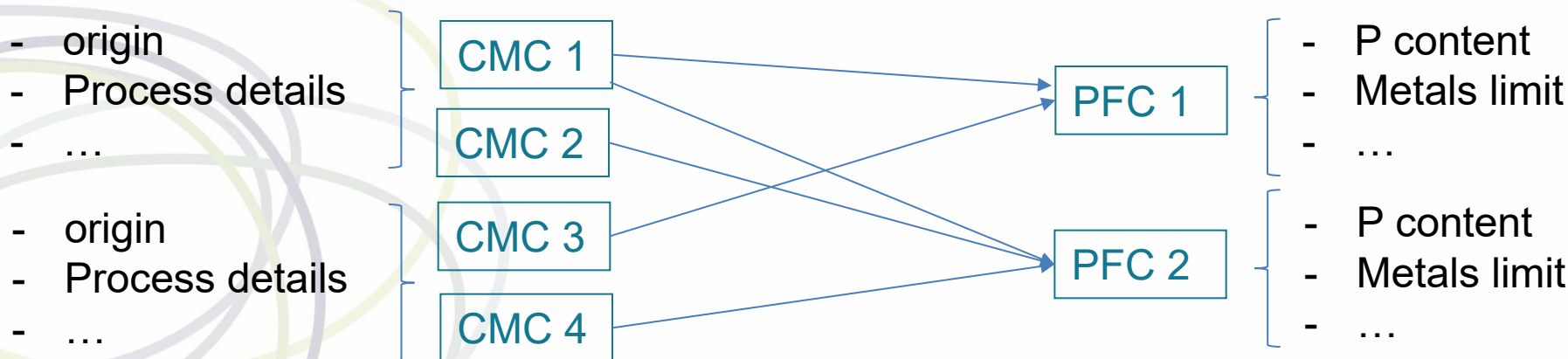


# Fertiliser Regulation (FR)





- Goal: Open EU market to organic fertiliser
  - Definition of quality for different Product Function Categories (PFC) (fertiliser, soil improvers...)
  - PFC to be made of Component Material Categories (CMC) (Raw material, compost, digestate...)
  - For the moment sewage sludge is excluded



- Products recovered from sewage sludge might be accepted as new CMC:
  - Struvite
  - Ash-based product
- Currently:
  - Trilogue (EU Parliament, Council, European Commission → Cd discussion is critical
  - STRUBIAS: report by the end of the year
- Adoption expected before EU elections

# Water Reuse Regulation (WRR)



- Proposal: end May 2018
- Scope: irrigation only
  - Define the minimum requirements (PoC, quality, risk assessment, permit, control, information to the public)
  - No obligation
  - Possibility to enforce the minimum
- Issues:
  - All responsibility on the operator
  - Validation of the process

## Next steps

- 25 September 2018: Report of the EU Parliament to be submitted
- 25 October: Amendments
- January 2019: Committee vote (Parliament)
- Feb-March 2019: Plenary vote (Parliament)
- Adoption: Probably after the elections due to low interest in Council



# Single-Use Plastics (SUP) Directive





- Goal: Reduction of environmental impact of SUP
- Included: wet wipes
  - Labelling
  - Awareness raising campaigns
  - Extended producer responsibility
- EurEau: include impact on WW infrastructure

## Next steps

- 10-11 October 2018: Committee vote (Parliament)
- End October: Plenary mandate (Parliament)
- Until January 2019: Trilogue with Member States

**We need your help**

**CCIS - CPU**



**EurEau position**



**Slovenian  
ministry and  
Permanent  
Representation**



**Slovenian  
MEPs**

# Other topics



- Pharmaceuticals in the environment
- Microplastics



# Together we can make a difference

## Thank you!



**Oliver Loebel**

Rue du Luxembourg 47-51,  
B-1050 Brussels, Belgium  
Tel: +32 (0)2 706 40 80  
Fax: +32 (0)2 706 40 81  
BE 0416 415 347  
[secretariat@eureau.org](mailto:secretariat@eureau.org)  
[www.eureau.org](http://www.eureau.org)

**EurEau. Water Matters.**  
[www.eureau.org](http://www.eureau.org)

