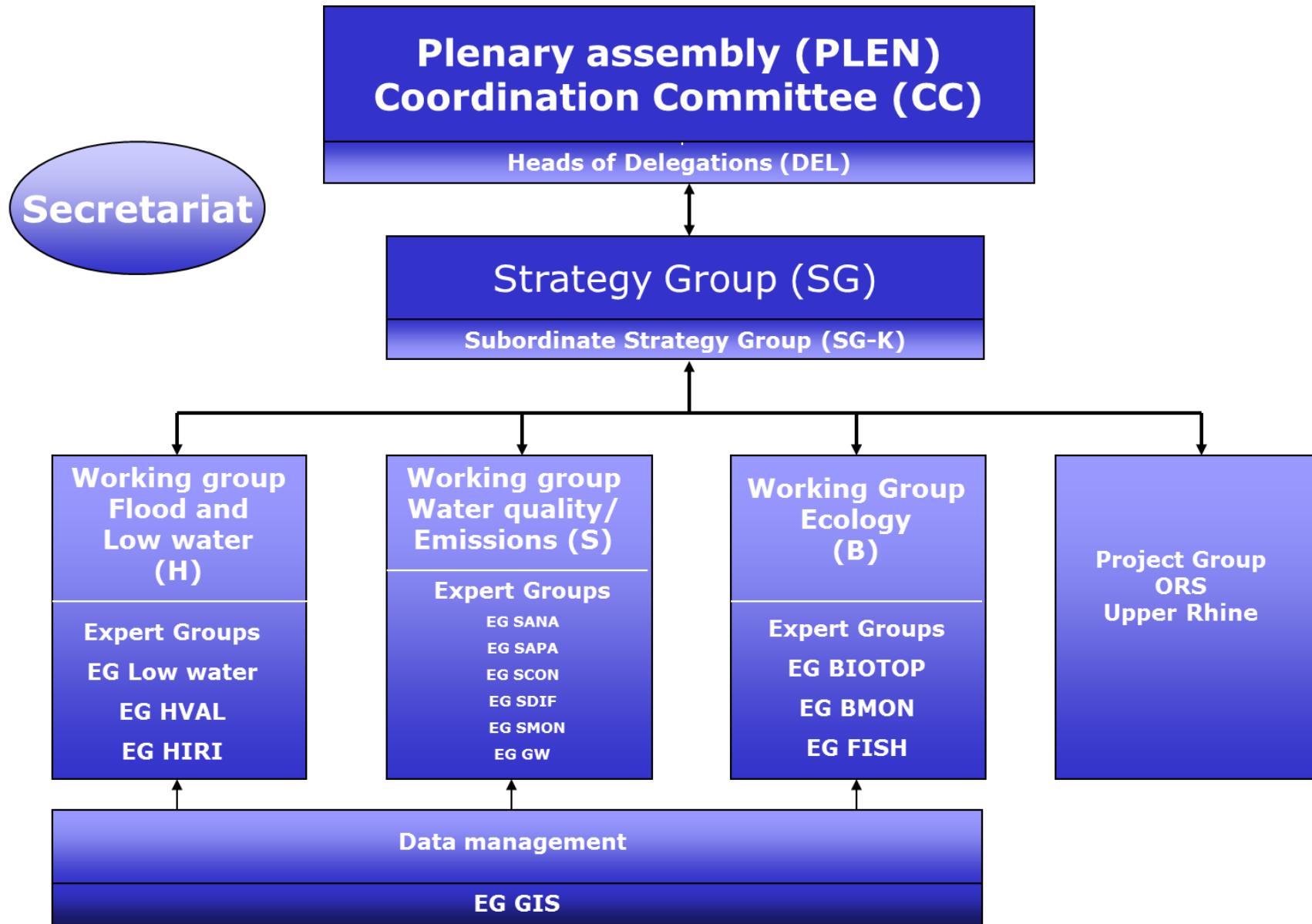




Internationale Kommission zum Schutz des Rheins
Commission Internationale pour la Protection du Rhin
Internationale Commissie ter Bescherming van de Rijn

ICPR Organigram and Mandates 2016-2021



Mandate Strategy Group (SG) 2016 - 2021

The Strategy Group (SG) is preparing decisions of the joint sessions of the Plenary Assembly and of the Coordination Committee Rhine (PLEN-CC) and of Conferences of Ministers. It co-ordinates, pilots and assesses all ICPR work based on technical work of working groups and expert groups as well as project groups. It assumes a perspective role with respect to future ICPR tasks.

Within the implementation of these tasks, the subordinate Strategy Group (SG-K) supports the Strategy Group (SG) and prepares its decisions. The SG-K assumes the role of a filter between the working groups and project groups on the one hand and the Strategy Group on the other.

As regards content of tasks, the Strategy Group is in charge of the permanent tasks resulting from the current Rhine Convention and the Programme "Rhine 2020" on the one hand and from the implementation of the EU directives: Water Framework Directive (WFD), priority substances (EQS), groundwater, Marine Strategy Directive (MSD)¹, Floods Directive (FD) and eventually further EU regulations concerning the river basin district Rhine (catchment > 2,500 km²) on the other hand. They comprise:

- a. Updating and further elaboration of management questions relevant for the entire Rhine area, if required.
- b. Adjustment and optimisation of surveillance programmes for the IRBD Rhine and checking the coherence of evaluation, eventually see to required adjustments.
- c. Coordination and updating of surveys and management programmes as well as flood risk management plans; exchange of information on measures relevant for the international river basin Rhine; agreement on further coordination requirement, e.g. within the further development of adaptation strategies concerning the impacts of climate change.
- d. Balance and evaluation of the implementation of international management plans and flood risk management plans and of measures relevant for the international river basin district Rhine.
- e. Eventually initiate new fields of activity in reaction to new developments or events (e.g. accidents, incidents or natural events) not covered by the above mentioned points.

For the SG, the following tasks result from this mandate:

I. Identification of products / job orders (including priorities) and work organisation

Horizontal agreement on and coordination of work on the working plans of working groups and project groups including (i) products to deliver and priorities, (ii) deadlines of delivery and (iii) organisation of work (e.g. whether expert groups should be set up).

II. Surveillance and piloting of achieving products / execution

Check on the state of work and achieving reports / products of working groups and project groups with respect to fulfilling mandates based on periodical reports of the presidents and control that deadlines set are respected.

¹ Within the scope of issues of the river basin Rhine.

III. Evaluation and approval of products

Upon recommendation of the SG-K see to the definite check of the reports/products mentioned above, approval and transfer to PLEN-CC, among others release for publishing the products.

V. Public relations work and exchange of information

1. Initiate and pilot the ICPR public relations work.
2. Determine the structure of the exchange of information with accredited non-governmental organisations (NGO) and with parties interested and concerned (see rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations of the ICPR, item 8).
3. Coordinate the exchange of information with the EU (Common Implementation Strategy) and other international commissions, in particular river basin commissions or OSPAR and exchange of information on the implementation of the Marine Strategy Directive, in particular for inland states in the IRBD Rhine.
4. Exchange of information and experience with respect to national experience and methods on public participation in implementing EU directives related to river basins and eventually drafting supplementary measures and concepts at an international level.

V. Budget and staff

Issues relating to budget and staff are discussed and resolved in separately summoned meetings of the heads of delegations. If required, these items / solutions are prepared in SG meetings.

Procedure

The „**Subordinate Strategy Group (SG-K)**“ is in charge of preparing contents and organisation of work and decision-making in the Strategy Group. SG-K is part of SG and may, if required, meet more often than SG.

Mandate

Working Group 'Flood and Low water' (WG H)

2016 - 2021

Based on the ICPR programme on the sustainable development of the Rhine, „Rhine 2020“ and the obligation of the EU states to coordinate the implementation of the Floods Directive (FD) and of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) in the international river basin district (IRBD) Rhine (part A; catchments > 2,500 km²) the Working Group 'Flood and Low water' (H) is entrusted with:

- The coordinated implementation of the Floods Directive (FD) in the IRBD Rhine (part A) in agreement with the ICPR bodies coordinating the implementation of the WFD;
- The coordinated follow-up and assessment of the Flood Risk Management Plan (FD-Plan)² in the IRBD Rhine
- The participation in work regarding the effects of and adaptation to climate change, taking into account the guidelines of the Floods Directive and of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy³ of the IRBD Rhine;
- The examination and assembly of new investigation results on climate change (in the IRBD Rhine) and eventual quantitative effects;
- The assembly of available knowledge on past events of Low water in the Rhine
- The assembly of existing national surveillance/monitoring, prevention and management activities concerning the issue of Low water; if required, prepare possible future activities at the level of the IRBD Rhine.

The president of the Working Group H regularly reports on the state of work and eventual problems to the Strategy Group SG and/or the subordinate Strategy Group SG-K. Among other things, this enables coordination with the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) in the Rhine catchment (second Management Plan for the IRBD Rhine) and eventually other EU Directives.

The individual tasks of the WG H concern:

I. Exchange of information and coordination when implementing the EC Floods Directive in the IRBD Rhine (catchment > 2,500 km², part A) including surveillance, implementation and assessment of the Flood Risk Management Plan in the IRBD Rhine (see Flood Risk Management Plan, Chapter 5)

The first Flood Risk Management Plan for the IRBD Rhine (part A) concerns the period 2016-2021.

Within its mandate and according to the FD:

- The WG H reviews the preliminary flood risk assessment and updates it as required until 2018; The likely impact of climate change on the occurrence floods shall be taken into account in the next review
- The WG H will review the flood hazard and risk maps by end 2019 and update them; if required, the WG H will also update the Rhine Atlas 2015 based on national findings in connection with the implementation of the Floods Directive. Minor updates may be made once a year.
- The WG H will take over the surveillance and evaluation of the coordinated implementation of the Flood Risk Management Plan and regularly check on progress due to measures taken within the Flood Risk Management Plan (see Chapter 5 of the Flood Risk Management Plan

² See FRMP [here](#)

³ See Climate Change Adaptation Strategy [here](#)

including Annex 2 and 8). Furthermore, the total effects of the measures of the Flood Risk Management Plan (see Chapter 4 of the Flood Risk Management Plan) are determined which are implemented in national responsibility within the 1st cycle of the Flood Risk Management.

- The WG H and its expert groups base the evaluation of the implementation of the Flood Risk Management Plan on existing methods and instruments, among others the recently developed instrument of the EG HIRI. Methods developed and first results for the quantification of the effects of implemented and planned measures have already been included into the first Flood Risk Management Plan for the IRBD Rhine (see Annex 2 and 8).
- On the basis of the afore mentioned work the WG H will draft the second Flood Risk Management Plan by December 22, 2021 (draft: 22 December 2020; period 2022-2027) and update the first Flood Risk Management Plan as required. When reviewing the Flood Risk Management Plan, the likely impact of climate change on the occurrence of floods shall be taken into account.

II. Effect of climate change and adaptation to climate change

- Plan and organise an ICPR workshop (presumably in 2017) presenting national investigations and eventual further development of climate scenarios and knowledge on the effects of climate change;
- If the ICPR considers it to be necessary, it will update the knowledge on the effects of climate change (discharge modifications, risks of floods and low flows) and the possibilities of reducing effects of climate change in the field of flood risk management and Low water risk management;
- When reviewing the preliminary assessment of flood risk and of the Flood Risk Management Plan, the WG H shall take into account the likely impact of climate change on the occurrence of floods which are described in the ICPR Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

III. Low water

The issue of Low water should be treated in the following steps:

1. Survey of knowledge on Low water in the IRBD Rhine
2. Establish a monitoring of Low water in the IRBD Rhine

Based on the above described hydrological work on the issue of Low water, the next relevant steps will be determined within the ICPR Strategy Group, in order to obtain a holistic consideration/assessment of Low water and its effects, including aspects of quality and use.

Procedure

When accomplishing the tasks in connection with flood risk management and Low water management, the WG H is being supported by different expert groups and an information platform (e.g. with representatives of flood forecasting centres).

Following decisions of the WG H, the below mentioned groups contribute to evaluating the implementation of the Flood Risk Management Plan and/or answer to technical questions of the WG H. The presidents regularly report to the WG H about the state of work and eventual problems encountered.

The WG H is supported by the following groups:

The **Expert Group „Flood Risks“ (HIRI)** works on

The analysis of the flood risk (Chapter 4.1 of the Flood Risk Management Plan) and the determination of the effectiveness of flood risk management measures mentioned in Chapter

4 (among others flood reducing measures). The EG HIRI contributes to examining the implementation of the Flood Risk Management Plan (see Chapter 6). For the activities mentioned, it may use the recently developed GIS instrument.

The **Expert Group „Validation“ (HVAL)** works on

Identifying the effectiveness of measures mentioned in Chapter 4.4 of the Flood Management Plan aimed at lowering the water table and, should the ICPR find it necessary, on implementing different hydrological and/or hydraulic analyses (modelling).

The **Flood Forecasting and Announcement Centres along the Rhine** work on the following issues:

Within a joint workshop the centres meet (at least) once a year for an exchange of information on the status of flood forecasting and announcement (see Flood Risk Management Plan, Chapter 4.3).

Within the participation in work in connection with the **Climate Change Adaptation Strategy but also with a view to improving knowledge on the effects of climate change** (see Flood Risk Management Plan, Chapter 4.2) and if the ICPR Strategy Group considers it to be required:

- In a first step, determine the necessity to revive the Expert Group KLIMA (EG KLIMA) by implementing an ICPR workshop presenting the national developments of scenarios of climate change;
- In a second step, eventually restore the **Expert Group KLIMA (EG KLIMA)** in order to update knowledge on climate change and its effects in the Rhine catchment.

With respect to **Low water**, special experts must be consulted to find the answers to present questions, which means that an **EG “Low water”** will be created within the WG H.

Mandate

Working Group Water Quality/Emissions (WG S)

2016 - 2021

Based on the objectives of the programme „Rhine 2020“ within the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine and the coordinated implementation of substance-based EU Directives (WFD, EQS, groundwater, Marine Strategy Directive (MSD)⁴) in the international river basin district (IRBD) Rhine (part A), the working group Water Quality/Emissions (WG S) is in charge of:

- a. Compiling, assessing and representing data on the development of the chemical water quality in the international river basin district Rhine;
- b. Regularly updating the survey of chemical water pollution;
- c. Compiling the technical basis for decisions to be taken at an international level;
- d. Exchange of information on measures relevant for the IRBD Rhine and reporting on their implementation, including an exchange of information on the Warning and Alarm Plan Rhine.

The president of the Working Group S regularly reports on the state of work and eventual problems to the Strategy Group SG and/or the subordinate Strategy Group SG-K.

For the Working Group S this mandate brings about the following topics of work:

I. Surveillance, updating, coordination, interpretation and representation of the physico-chemical status of surface waters (network of waters IRBD Rhine > 2,500 km²) and of the chemical and quantitative status of groundwater

- Annual updating of the Rhine Monitoring Programme Chemistry;
- Coordinate surveillance monitoring according to the EU Water Framework Directive; taking into account recent developments (e.g. climate change, implementation of programmes of measure according to WFD, new substances, requirements based on MSD);
- Coordinate the implementation of the Rhine monitoring programme chemistry and securing the coherence of surveillance monitoring (EU WFD and MSD) including delivery and compiling of data;
- Evaluate the Rhine Monitoring Programme Chemistry (including control of plausibility) and check the coherence of the surveillance monitoring results;
- Secure comparability of monitoring results for substances for which no standardised procedures are available;
- Draft coherent representations in form of maps and tables concerning the physico-chemical water quality of the Rhine, its tributaries, the transitional and coastal waters and of the quantitative and chemical status of groundwater as well as concerning the target-performance comparison of the Rhine Monitoring Programme Chemistry;
- Draft contributions to the report on the status of surface waters and groundwater for the 3rd Management Plan 2021.

II. Impact of climate change

- Exchange of information on the impact of climate change and drafting of contributions to adjustment strategies with respect to the physico-chemical water quality;

⁴ Within the scope of issues of the river basin Rhine.

III. Warning and Alarm Plan

Grant permanent functionality of the Warning and Alarm Plan Rhine, among others by practice alarms;

- Permanent improvement of the Warning and Alarm Plan Rhine;
- New or further development of the Rhine Alarm Model;
- Further development of the WAP Rhine into an internet-compatible system (Web-WAP) (including linking with the WAP-Moselle via R4);
- Further development of the WAP Rhine for new resp. unknown substances;
- Regular representation of the reports within the WAP.

IV. Preventive and aftercare measures in the event of exceptional pollutions

- Cooperate with the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine resp. CDNI in order to draft recommendations for reducing deliberate or accidental spills of pollutants from inland navigation;
- Exchange on pollutions determined and new substances determined via the Warning and Alarm Plan.

V. Survey of pollutions, exchange of information on the implementation of concepts of measures relevant for the IRBD Rhine (>2,500 km²) and of recommendations

- Update of the survey of physico-chemical pollution of waters in the Rhine catchment of point and diffuse origin (including thermal pollution and micro-pollutants) and of that on sediment pollution and biota, both according to EU-WFD and Rhine Convention;
- Update of the survey on the quantitative status and chemical pollution of groundwater according to EU-WFD and Rhine Convention;
- Accomplish the strategy on micro-pollutants;
- Balance of developments determined in the field of micro-pollutions and examination of joint measures.

Procedure

The Working Group S is working together with six expert groups:

The **Expert Group „Warning and Alarm System Rhine“ (EG SAPA)** is treating the following issues:

- Secure the permanent functionality of the Warning and Alarm Plan Rhine;
- Permanent improvement and updating of the Warning and Alarm Plan Rhine.

The **Expert Group „Monitoring“ (EG SMON)** is treating the following issues

- Updating, plausibility check of data, coordination, implementation of the interpretation and of the cartographic representation, tables and coherent presentation of the Rhine Monitoring Programme Chemistry and of the surveillance monitoring according to EU-WFD (including watch list);
- Updating of the list of Rhine substances.

The **Expert Group „Analytics“ (EG SANA)** is treating the following issues:

- Coordination in the field of non-target analytics.

- Secure comparability of monitoring results for substances for which no standardised procedures are available;

As required, the **Expert Group “Contamination of biota” (EG SCON)** is treating

- The plausibility check of data, coordination, interpretation and updating of the Rhine Monitoring Programme on the Contamination of Fish

Until the end of 2016, the **Expert Group “Diffuse Inputs” (EG SDIF)** will

- achieve the strategy on micro-pollutants from other (diffuse) sources based on the example of pesticides.

If required, the **Expert Group „Groundwater“ (EG GW)** works on the coherent representation in form of maps and tables of the

- Quantitative status of groundwater according to WFD
- Chemical status of groundwater according to WFD.

The Expert Group SEMI will not be reactivated before in 2018.

As of 2018, the **Expert Group “Emissions” (EG SEMI)** will work on the emission balance of

- pollutant inputs from point sources and diffuse sources
- nutrient inputs from point sources and diffuse sources.

Mandate Working Group 'Ecology' (WG B) 2016 - 2021

Based on the objectives of the programme „Rhine 2020“ within the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine and the coordinated implementation of the Water Framework Directive (EU-WFD) and the Marine Strategy Directive (MSD)⁵ in the international river basin district (IRBD) Rhine (part A), the Ecology working group (B) is in charge of:

- a. collecting, evaluating data and drafting a report on the ecological quality of waters and alluvial areas in the international river basin district Rhine;
- b. compiling national technical bases in connection with targets relevant for the Working Group B:
 - Improvement of the Rhine ecosystem including the habitat patch connectivity according to "Rhine 2020";
 - Restoration of the ecological continuity and increasing habitat diversity, an important management aspect according to WFD;
 - Harmonisation of uses of water with environmental targets; an important management aspect according to WFD;
- c. Collecting elements for a joint analysis and treatment of the most important management issues for the IRBD Rhine, eventually by implementing studies serving as basis for decisions for measures of international importance;
- d. The exchange of information on national implementations of recommendations and measures aimed at achieving the above mentioned objectives.

The president of the Working Group B regularly reports on the state of work and eventual problems to the Strategy Group SG and/or the subordinate Strategy Group SG-K.

For the Working Group B this mandate brings about the following topics of work:

- I. Updating, coordination, evaluation of the international biological monitoring programme Rhine and presentation of results (network of waters IRBD Rhine > 2,500 km²)**
 - Regular updating of the Rhine Monitoring Programme Biology
 - Coordination of surveillance monitoring according to the EU Water Framework Directive taking into account recent developments (e.g. climate change, implementation of programmes of measure according to WFD, requirements based on MSD, invasive alien species).
 - Coordinate the implementation of the international biological monitoring programme; supply of data and compilation of results of national biological monitoring programmes;
 - Evaluation of the international biological monitoring programme and examination of the coherence of the evaluation of surveillance monitoring for the biological quality components and the ecological state / the ecological potential taking into account the corresponding developments at EU level (e.g. intercalibration, MSD, regulation on invasive alien species, see above);
 - Exchange on the differentiation of fish regions / fish reference communities including temperature threshold values and migratory fish as a basis for the evaluation of the biological quality component "fish fauna" according to WFD;
 - Drafting of coherent maps and table presentations characterising the biological state of the Rhine, its tributaries, the transitional and coastal waters;

⁵ Within the scope of issues of the river basin Rhine.

- Drafting of contributions to reports on the biological/ecological status / ecological potential and on the environmental targets for the **3rd Management Plan** due **in 2021**.
- Exchange and agreement on the national implementation of the invasive alien species Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council of 22 October 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species which entered into force on 1st January 2015⁶;

II. Inventory and exchange of information on the implementation of recommendations and measures of importance for the IRBD Rhine

- Compilation of knowledge on the measures taken in the Member States within the implementation of the WFD (increase habitat diversity, restore continuity) and the programme Rhine 2020 (restore the habitat patch connectivity, e.g. reactivation of alluvial areas, reconnecting oxbow lakes, increasing the structural diversity of river banks, increase biodiversity) aimed at improving the Rhine ecosystem and on their effects;
- Draft contributions to the update of the survey according to WFD (2018, ev. publication) and to the 3rd Management Plan for the IRBD Rhine (Draft: 2020; final version: 2021)
- Compilation of data on national measures and their effects within the Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine, eventually recommendation for the definition of priorities concerning measures aimed at improving river continuity and habitats based on objectives of importance for the IRBD Rhine and determination of research requirements throughout the river basin aimed at a successful continued implementation of the Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine;
- Update of the "Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine" (2009) resp. of the Progress Report (2013) focussing on the representation of measures (improved up- and downstream fish migration and habitats, "best practice") and of their (measurable) effect on the stock of migratory fish;
- Development of new indicators for the success of the "Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine" (apart from the statistics of returning specimen), e.g. interpretation of available data on increased natural reproduction;
- Representation of the present state of implementation of the EC Eel Regulation in the states (see report no. 207, 2009) targeted at the surveillance of the stock of eel and at the coordination of measures in the Rhine catchment;
- Compilation of the state of knowledge on innovative techniques of fish protection and downstream fish migration at transverse structures;
- Support the work of the project group on the continuity of the Upper Rhine (PG ORS) by filtering and preparing technical information concerning the re-introduction of long-distance migratory fish in the Upper Rhine and migration routes from the sea to these areas;
- Representation of synergy effects and identification of items to harmonise with respect to the implementation of the WFD, the FD, the Habitats Directive, the Regulation on invasive alien species and the MSD.
- Coordination of the exchange of information between visitors' centres in the Rhine catchment in order to increase public attention for the coordinated measures of the Migratory Fish Programme

III. Future cooperation, interlinking with the Marine Strategy Directive, impact of climate change

More precise development of the targets of the Marine Strategy Directive (MSD⁷): Exchange of information on migratory fish

⁶ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32014R1143&from=EN>

⁷ within the scope of issues of the river basin Rhine.

After publication of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the IRBD Rhine (ICPR report no. 219):

- Continue the exchange of information concerning the impact of climate change on the Rhine ecosystem in order to update the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy as required;
- Description of the effects of expected temperature changes on the fish fauna, in particular in the programme waters of the "Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine" (for the update of the ICPR report no. 204).

Procedure

The Working Group B is working together with three expert groups:

The **Expert Group "Fish Fauna" (EG FISH)** is treating the following issues:

- Coordinated implementation of the "Master Plan Migratory Fish Rhine"
- Contributions to the Rhine monitoring programme biology resp. fish fauna
- Contributions to impacts of climate change on the fish fauna

If required, the Expert Group "**Biological Quality Components" (EG BMON)**" prepares the Rhine monitoring programme Biology, collects data and examines the coherence of results. It includes the contributions of the Expert Group FISH coherently into its products:

- Rhine Monitoring Programme Biology
- Surveillance monitoring according to EU WFD.

Based on the specified concept, the **Expert Group "Network of Biotopes on the Rhine" (EG BIOTOP)** is to carry out success control of the "Network of biotopes on the Rhine". The required comprehensive homogenous set of data will be compiled based on a German pilot project with data of the satellite Sentinel II. The EG BIOTOP is to assure the required expert guidance for this pilot project (period: 2016-2017). Afterwards (presumably in 2018), the pilot service for the analysis of freely available satellite pictures of the rest of the main stream of the Rhine could be used.

Furthermore, the EG BIOTOP works on the exchange and agreement concerning the national implementation of the EU regulation on invasive alien species related to water dependant issues in the Rhine catchment (see list of invasive alien species at EU level).

Mandate

Project Group Upper Rhine (PG ORS)

2015 - 2018

Based on the mandates given by the 15th conference of Rhine Ministers and successive discussions, the ICPR founded a Project Group ORS during the PLEN-CC15 and for the period 2015-2018.

Apart from the members designated by the delegations, the PG ORS can consult further technical experts and ask them to participate in meetings of the PG ORS if required.

On behalf of the ICPR, the Project Group ORS follows up on the implementation planning of an efficient fish passage system at the impoundments on the Upper Rhine located at Rhinau, Marckolsheim and Vogelgrün and adopts the role of an advisory information and discussion platform. Thus, the PG ORS contributes to provide the developer EDF with expert knowledge and technical support during the phases to plan for the studies and work launched by EDF on the Upper Rhine.

When carrying out this task it must be taken into account that it is closely linked to all further (implemented, ongoing and planned) measures of the Master Plan Migratory Fish in the downstream and upstream Rhine as well as in the programme waters.

- **Cooperation with the WG B and the EG FISH**

According to Article 8 Par. 1 d) of the Berne Convention, the task of the ICPR is to evaluate *the efficiency of the measures decided upon by the contracting parties*. In this light, the efficiency of construction measures adopted within the implementation of the Master Plan Migratory Fish should be evaluated as rapidly as possible in order to dispose of an up-to-date basis for the optimisation of future construction measures.

In order to be able to judge on the solutions proposed, the members of the PG ORS require all necessary planning documents, including plans of the navigation locks and of the hydropower plants. Certain documents made available by EDF and concerning security aspects are restricted to intern use within the PG ORS and are confidential.⁸

Since 2009, the measures aimed at implementing the Master Plan Migratory Fish in the Rhine and its programme waters are being collected and evaluated in the WG B and its EG FISH. Therefore, this work will be carried on in these groups with relevant expert members. If required, activities in connection with catches of returning salmon in the fish passages on the Upper Rhine are to be discussed with the PG ORS.

The WG B and its EG FISH are instructed to continuously and rapidly pass on new knowledge on existing fish passages in the Rhine and in programme waters or on those still to construct as well as evaluations of their effects to the PG ORS. This also applies to important measures relevant for sustainable continuity of the Upper Rhine. From that point of view, in particular measures in the confluence area and aimed at renaturing/river continuity of further rivers/alluvial waters along the Upper Rhine, the High Rhine and R. Aare and its tributaries are concerned, which only take effect if the sustainable river continuity for fish will be re-established in the Upper Rhine. In this connection, additional supporting arguments are required for the negotiations with the operators of hydropower plants on the Upper Rhine in order to make clear that in the sub-basins, the potential habitats are or will be accessible at the date fixed.

⁸ In practice, this means: These planning documents will only be made available to members of the PG ORS designated by the delegations and to the heads of delegation in the ICPR in a protected folder in Workplace, not to the NGOs. They may not be passed on to third parties.

Furthermore, the EG FISH has been working on joint stocking strategies for the Rhine and its programme waters and on genetic issues concerning the re-introduction of the Atlantic salmon for many years. A joint stocking strategy among others aims at achieving a sufficient occurrence of salmon in the existing (and planned) fish passages. The effectiveness of the strategies will be evaluated with the help of a total monitoring to be planned and implemented at the fish passages. Findings from this work must be continuously and rapidly passed on to the PG ORS, which will also pass on its own findings to the WG B and EG FISH.

If required, the WG B or its EG FISH can be instructed by SG to gather, compile and process further information relevant for the Upper Rhine.

- **During 2015 - 2018, the Project Group ORS shall conduct the following work closely related to the phases initiated for the construction measures and to EDF engineering work for the progression of fish passage constructions on the Upper Rhine (Rhinau to Vogelgrün) and concerning the implementation planning:**

I. Feasibility phase: 2015-2016

- (1) Follow-up of the feasibility check of the EDF during the 1st semester of 2015 for the fish passage at Vogelgrün (attraction current in the tailwater and both solution variants for the routing of the fish passage described in the document SG-K(4)14-05-01) including an evaluation of results. It is recommended to include those experts who presented relevant solutions during the workshop on the hydropower plant Vogelgrün in 2014. The PG ORS will be informed about the requirement specifications for the feasibility studies and the preliminary projects in due time;
- (2) Follow-up of the feasibility study for a classical fish passage at the Rhinau hydropower plant during the 1st semester 2016 taking into account the available knowledge on conditions for the attraction current in the tailwater at Vogelgrün and including an evaluation of results;
- (3) Follow-up of the feasibility study for a classical fish passage at the Marckolsheim hydropower plant during the 2nd semester 2016 taking into account the available knowledge concerning the conditions for the attraction current in the tailwater at Vogelgrün and including an evaluation of results;

II. Pre-project phase (i.e. until shortly before the authorisation is granted and cutting the first sod): 2017-2018/19

- (1) Follow-up of the pre-project to be developed by EDF during the 1st semester 2017 for the classical fish passage at the Rhinau power plant, for which investigations began in 2016, including an evaluation of results;
- (2) Follow-up of the pre-project to be developed by EDF during the 1st semester 2019⁹ for the classical fish passage at Marckolsheim, for which investigations began in 2016, including an evaluation of results;
- (3) Follow-up of the pre-project to be developed by EDF during the 1st semester 2018 for the new fish passage at Vogelgrün, for which investigations began in 2015, including an evaluation of results;

III. Smaller measures aimed at river continuity (before 2020)

Follow-up of the plans for pre-projects to draft and of the construction phase for several smaller measures aimed at river continuity or optimisation in the loops at the agricultural weirs (among other fish passage at the agricultural weir in Breisach), including an evaluation of results.

⁹ The availability of experts at EDF does not allow for the beginning and implementation of several projects at the same time. The work of the teams concerning the issues to be solved at Vogelgrün has priority over work on Marckolsheim.

IV. Reporting to SG

The PG ORS is instructed,

- (1) to regularly report on work, progress, eventual problems and the respect of the schedule to SG;
- (2) to present, as a result of the feasibility study, a table with all deadlines for the different planning and implementation phases for all fish passages on the Upper Rhine to SG by the end of 2016 .

V. Preparation of the next phase 2018-2021

In 2018, the ICPR will take new decisions concerning the next phase of the mandate for the period 2018-2021 and concerning an eventual adaptation of the mandate.

Data management and drafting of maps

2016 to 2021

I. Definition of tasks and products

If not already defined by EU „Reporting Sheets“ and the BfG in WasserBLIcK, the **Advisory Groups of the ICPR** define the conditions of data management and the maps expected (in particular legends, design), eventually of the further representation of results (e.g. calculations, tables, graphics, etc.) as well as deadlines for accomplishing work. The products (maps, representation of results) are part of the reporting of the states to the EU Commission within the implementation of EU Directives in the river basin district Rhine (catchment > 2,500 km²).

The ICPR working groups (B, S and H) or their respective expert groups clearly define the desired products for reporting within the EU Directives at an early stage (maps, tables, graphics, etc.). In cooperation with a representative of the BfG for WasserBLIcK, they clarify, whether the desired products can be achieved based on data existing or to be updated and the existing IT infrastructure.

The expert group GIS is in charge of determining and updating conditions for data exchange and for the solution of technical GIS-related problems or of clarifying questions related to the use of WasserBLIcK. If required, the Subordinate Strategy Group SG-K calls for a meeting of the GIS expert group.

II. Collecting and Compiling Data

The services of the states, regions and federal states in charge of GIS data input will normally directly feed their data by filling in existing masks in WasserBLIcK. To this end, the GIS contact persons of the national authorities in charge of this data feed are to be communicated to the ICPR and this information is to be kept up to date.

Eventually, existing masks are to be updated according to valid requirements and to be adapted to the needs of the ICPR. The BfG will recommend the corresponding new data standards, will present them to the GIS expert group, discuss them and implement them in WasserBLIcK, once the EG GIS has accepted them.

Data may also be compiled by the ICPR working groups and expert groups and transmitted to the BfG for (eventually preliminary) product draft (e.g. maps or other products).

The BfG will consequently and continuously develop the WasserBLIcK system according to the EU reporting requirements (Reporting Sheets and XML schemes) within the implementation of the WFD and the Floods Directive.

The BfG grants for the compatibility of WasserBLIcK with the systems used by other institutions (e.g. European Environmental Agency) and states (according to the regulations of the INSPIRE Directive).

III. Drafting of products (maps, tables ...) and checking the coherence of results

In co-operation with the BfG GIS experts (or national GIS experts) the ICPR advisory groups convene the desired drafting of maps or other representation of results for the coordinated implementation of the EU directives within the IRBD Rhine

The BfG sees to the access to the data set of the institutions delivering data via WasserBLIcK and secures access to the produced maps via MapExplorer for user groups defined within the ICPR (state, regional and local authorities in charge and further authorised groups).

The working groups and expert groups are in charge of checking the products (maps, tables, graphics, etc.) belonging to their technical scope, they check that the contents are correct and check the coherence of results. When checking the coherence the technical experts should be able to discuss with their respective GIS experts in order to eventually find joint solutions. If required, ad hoc meetings of technical experts, of representatives of the BfG and of GIS experts must be organised.