



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of the Environment,
Transport, Energy and Communications DETEC

Federal Office for the Environment FOEN

Species, Ecosystems, Landscapes Division

Species, Habitats, Ecological Networks Section

Incentives and other financing sources for ecosystem restoration in Switzerland

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CBD capacity building workshop – Isle of Vilm, 2 - 6 June 2014



Example 1: Financing by the Confederation

- Confederation – federal acts and ordinances
- 26 Cantons – implementation and application
- 2396 Communes – some delegated tasks





Example 1: Financing by the Confederation

- The cantons:
 - Plan restoration work
 - Carry out restoration projects
- The Confederation:
 - Proposes priorities
 - Pays subsidies
 - Monitors success



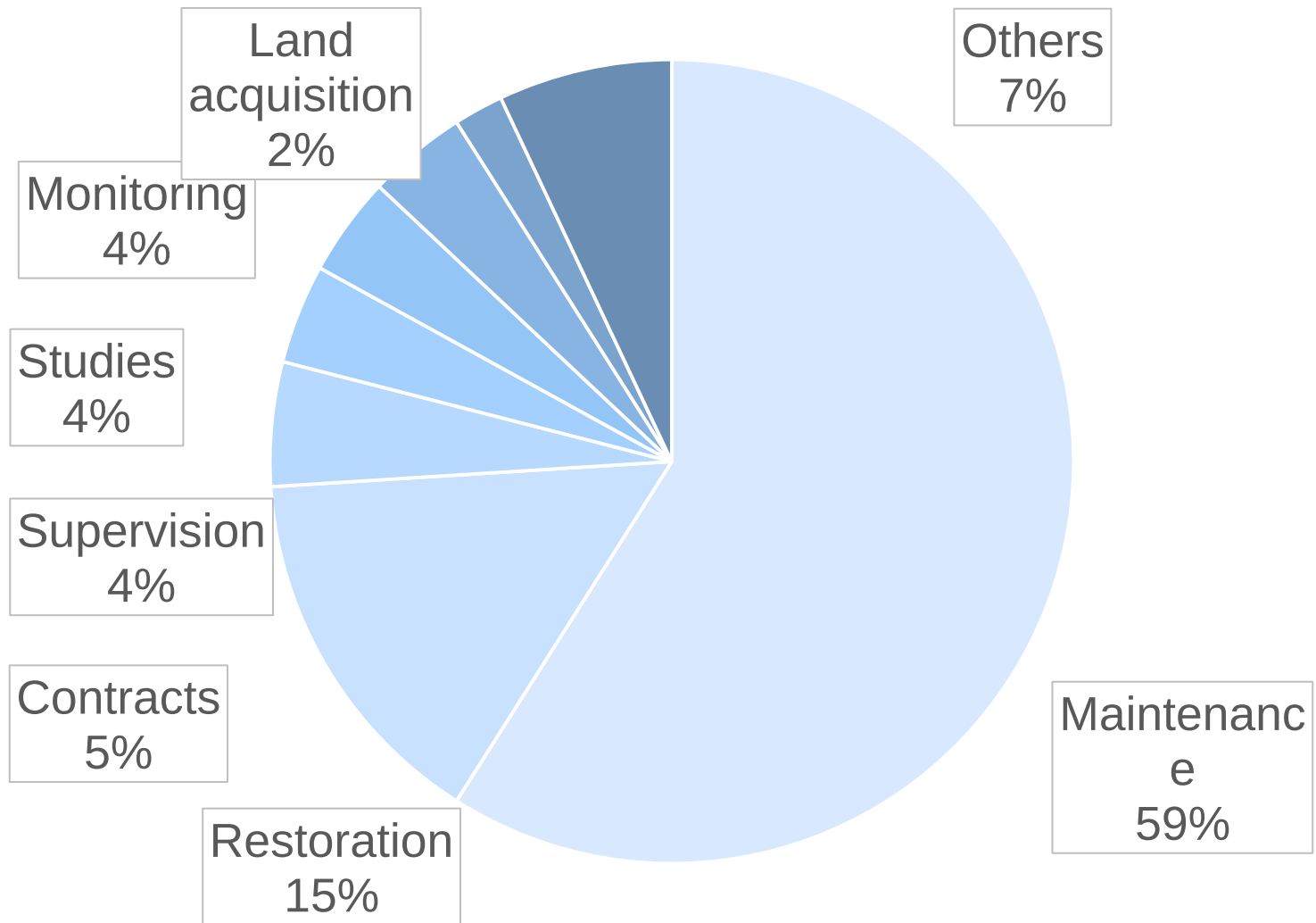
Example 1: Financing by the Confederation

- Convention program between Confederation and each Canton
- Confederation pays up to 65% of subsidies on projected costs.
- Cantons, communes and sometimes other stakeholders come up for the rest of the costs.





Example 1: Financing by the Confederation





Example 2: The new law on water protection

Changes to Water Protection Act (WPA) and Water Protection Ordinance (WPO) aim to:

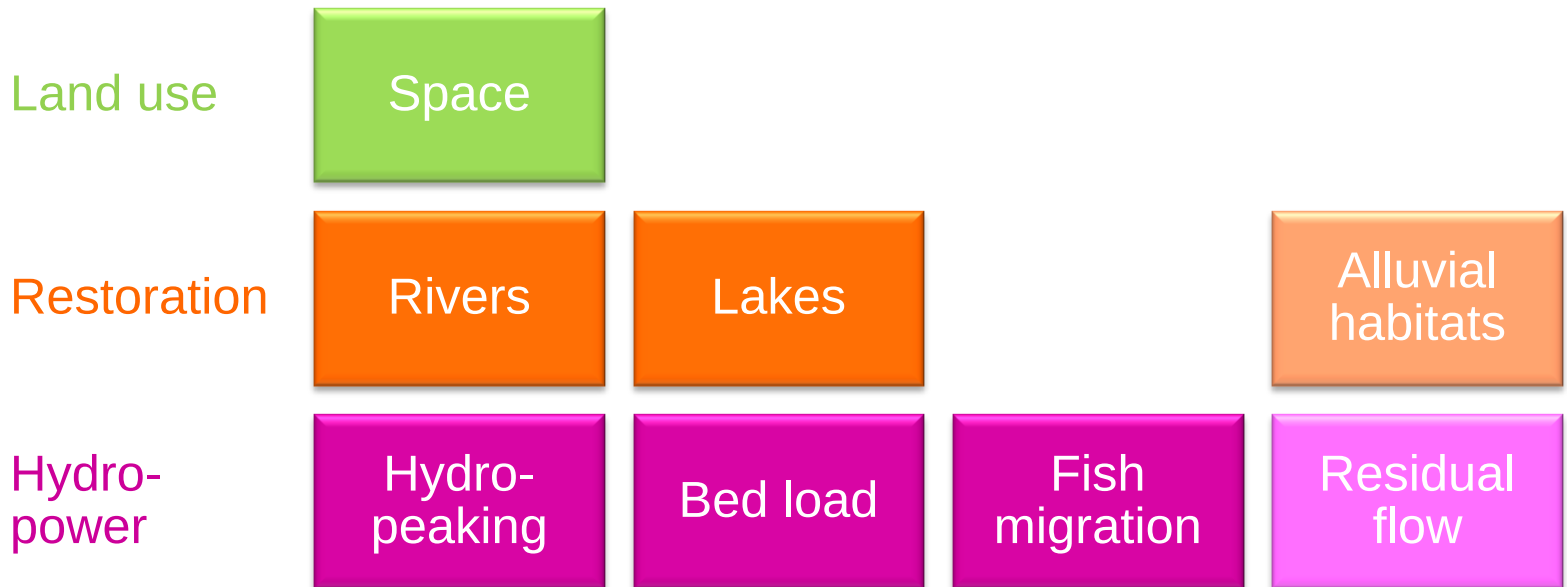
- Restore water bodies
- Minimise negative impacts of hydropower plants





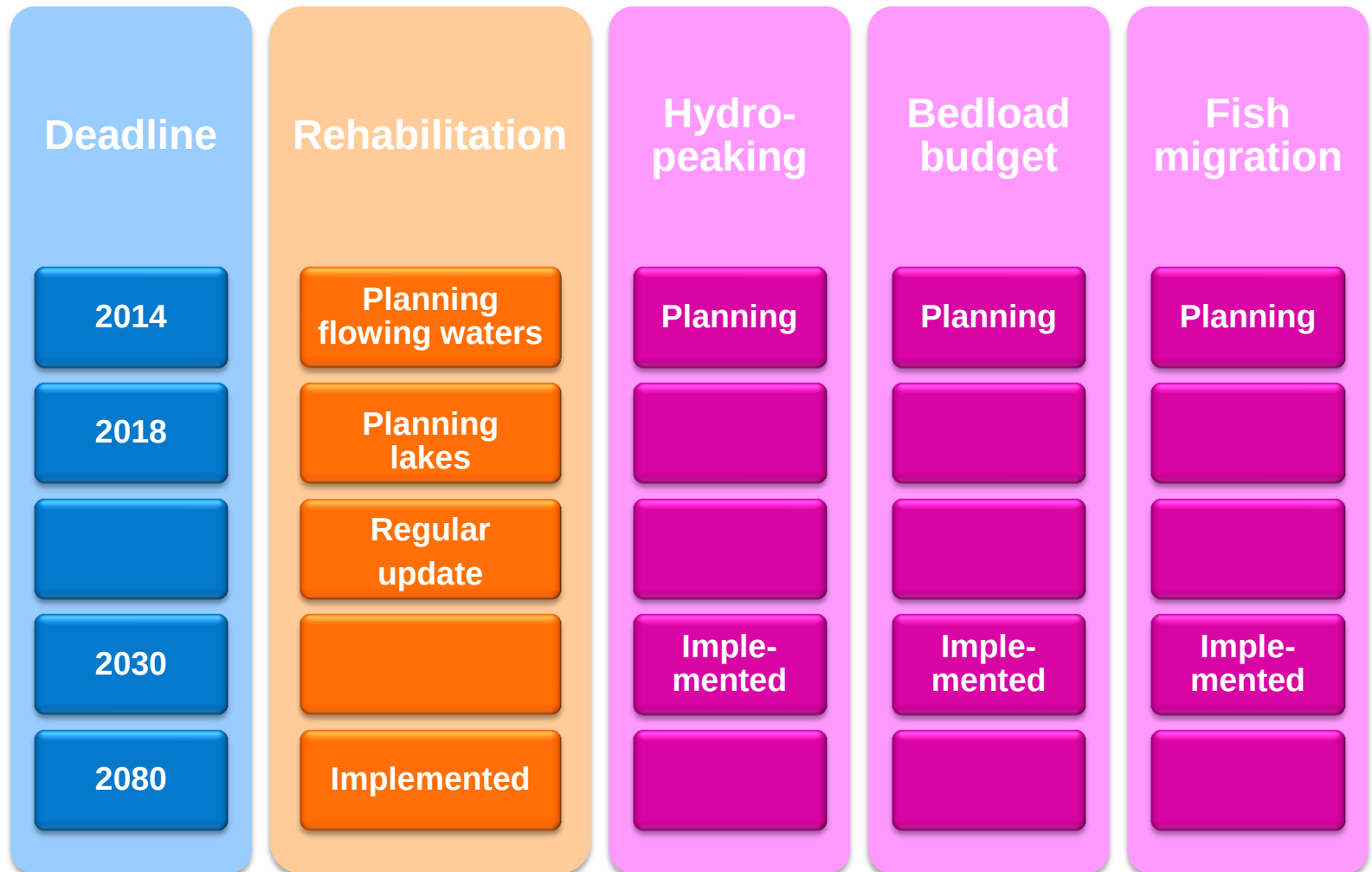
Example 2: The new law on water protection

- Six different aspects are treated by new WPA / WPO
- Other aspects are already well established





Example 2: Time schedule





Example 2 Funding

Domain	Compensation	Who	Until
Space	20 Mio CHF/a	Agricultural subsidies	2018
Morphology	40 Mio CHF/a	Federal subsidies	2080
Hydropower	50 Mio CHF/a	Swissgrid	2030



Example 3: The Bernese Revitalisation Fund

- Voted by the population in 1997
- Fed by 10% of the yearly income from hydropower licences → 4 Mio CHF (3.3 Mio €)
- Helps cover the costs in addition to federal subsidies or for projects without subsidies



Example 3: The Bernese Revitalisation Fund

- 815 projects in 15 years
- Total amount 43 Mio CHF (36 Mio €)
- An average project lasted several years and was supported with 53'000 CHF (44'000 €)



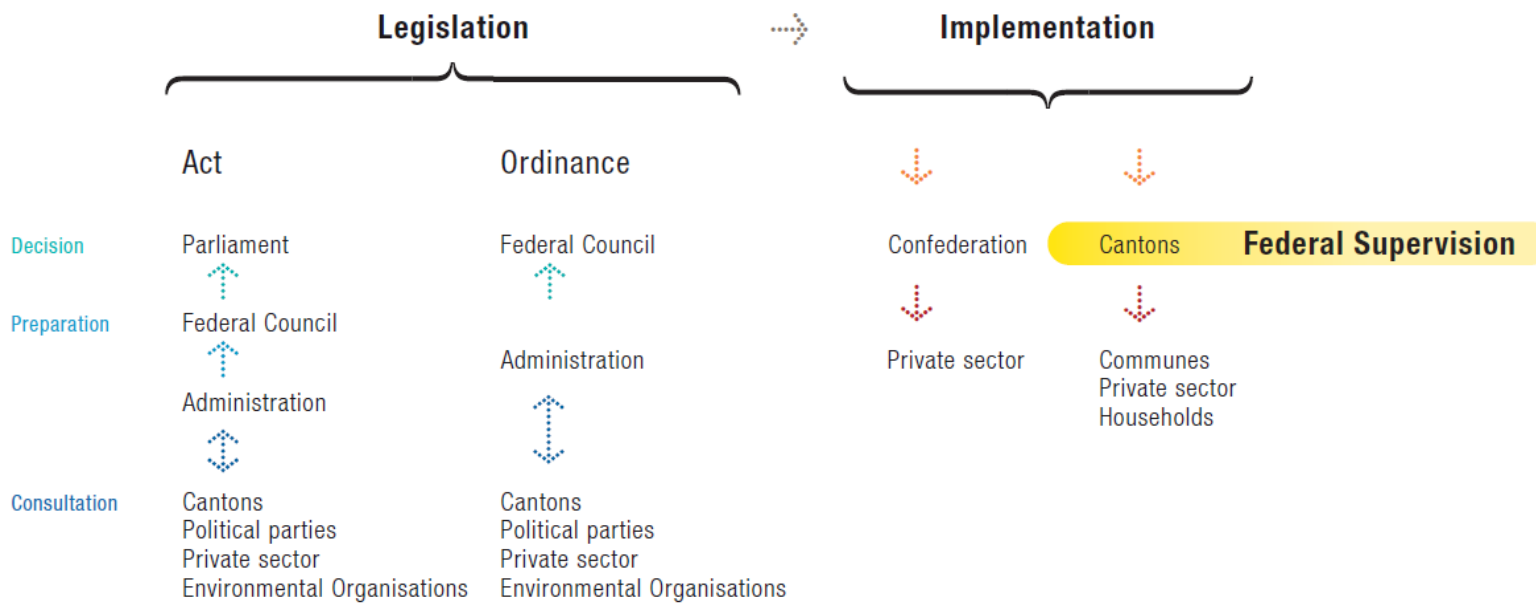


Other possibilities

- Compensation for infrastructure construction
- Restoration funds of hydropower producing Companies
- NGO projects
- Agricultural direct payment system



Thank you for your attention!





Current situation

- Barriers: $\sim 88'000 \geq 50 \text{ cm}$
- Hydropower: 566 plants $\geq 300 \text{ KW}$





Current situation

- Water quality OK
- Channelling for flood protection and land use
- Hydropower





Current situation

- Space: ~ 40% without enough space
- Morphology: ~ 45% (below 600 m asl) in a bad state; total 15,000 km





Swiss legislation on water protection

Space: Art. 36a para. 1 WPA

The cantons, shall stipulate the spatial requirements for surface waters in order to guarantee the following functions:

- a) natural functions of the waters
- b) flood protection
- c) water use

Morphology: Art. 38a para. 1 & 2 WPA

The cantons shall ensure that waters are rehabilitated. They take account of the benefits to nature and the landscape as well as the economic consequences of the rehabilitation. They shall plan the rehabilitation measures and specify the time schedule.



Swiss legislation on water protection

Hydropeaking: Art. 39a para. 1 WPA

Those responsible for hydropower plants must prevent or eliminate **by means of civil engineering measures** short-term artificial changes in the water flow on a body of water (hydropeaking) that cause **serious harm to the indigenous flora and fauna as well as their habitats.**

Bedload budget: Art. 43a para. 1 WPA

The bed load budget in the body of water may **not be changed by installations** to the extent that they cause **serious harm to the indigenous flora and fauna, their habitats, the groundwater regimen and flood protection.**



Swiss legislation on water protection

Fish migration: Art. 9 para. 1 BGF (new installations)

Ensure favorable conditions for aquatic animals in respect to: minimal flow by water abstractions, **free migration of fish**, natural reproduction, **injury prevention**, water depth, water velocity, temperature, etc.

Fish migration: Art. 10 BGF (existing installations)

Renovation of existing installations following the measures mentioned under Art. 9 para.1 BGF as far as these are **economically affordable**.