



# Evaluation of the sustainable use of pesticides Directive

**Dr Claudia Castell-Exner**

EurEau President

# Who we are

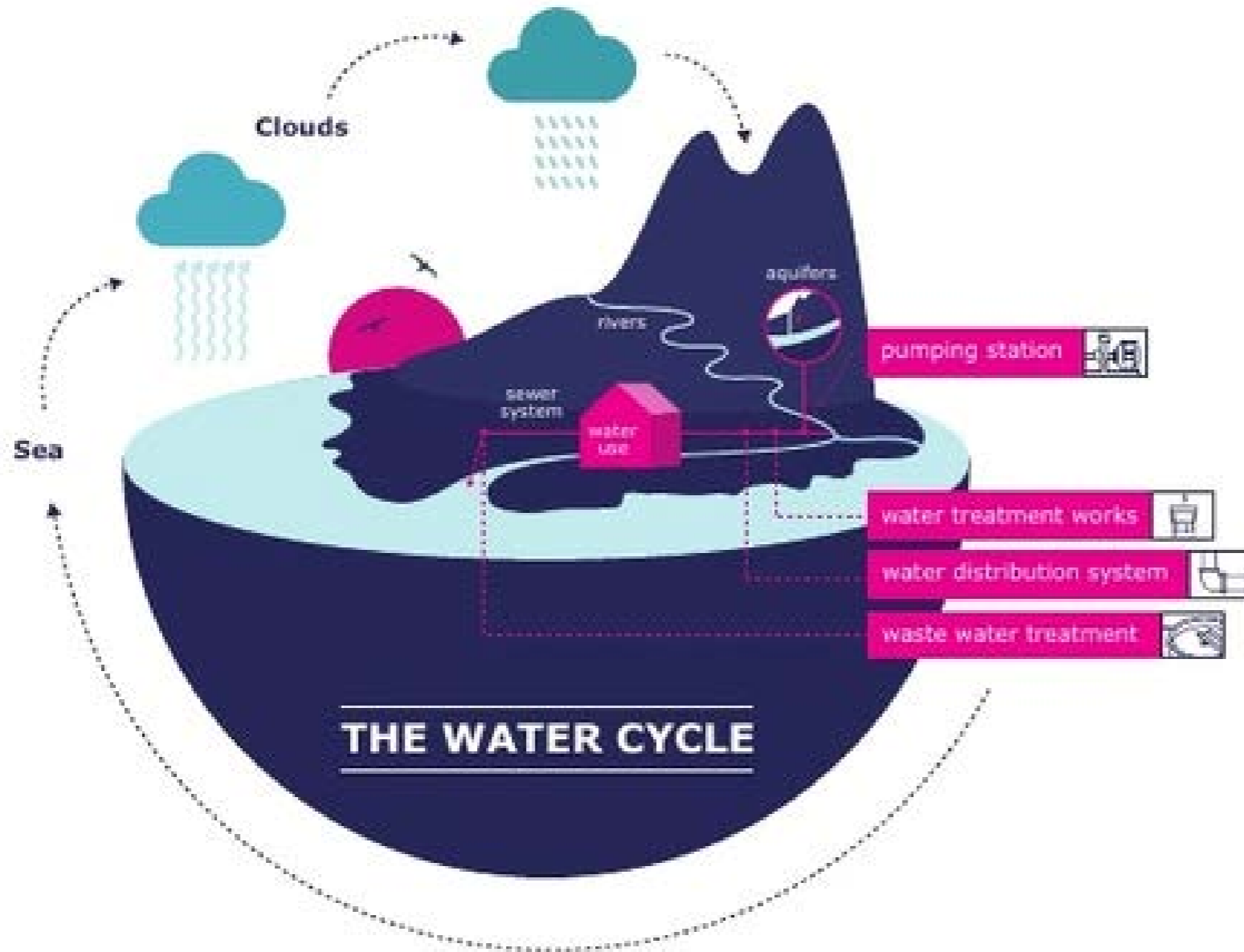
- ~ EurEau is the **European Federation of Water Services**
- ~ **34** national associations of **drinking and waste water operators** from **29** European countries
- ~ Providing “**essential services**”
- ~ Realising the **human right to water and sanitation**



**6** CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



# EurEau – Our mission

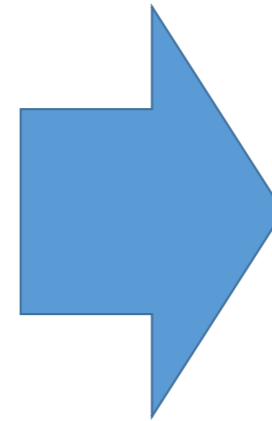


Protect the **health** and the **environment** by supplying clean and healthy **drinking water** and ensuring that **waste water** is returned safely to nature.

# Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union - Art. 191(2)

“the Union policy on the environment [...] shall be based:

- ~ on the precautionary principle and
- ~ on the principles that preventive action should be taken,
- ~ that environmental damage should as a priority be rectified at source and
- ~ that the polluter should pay.”

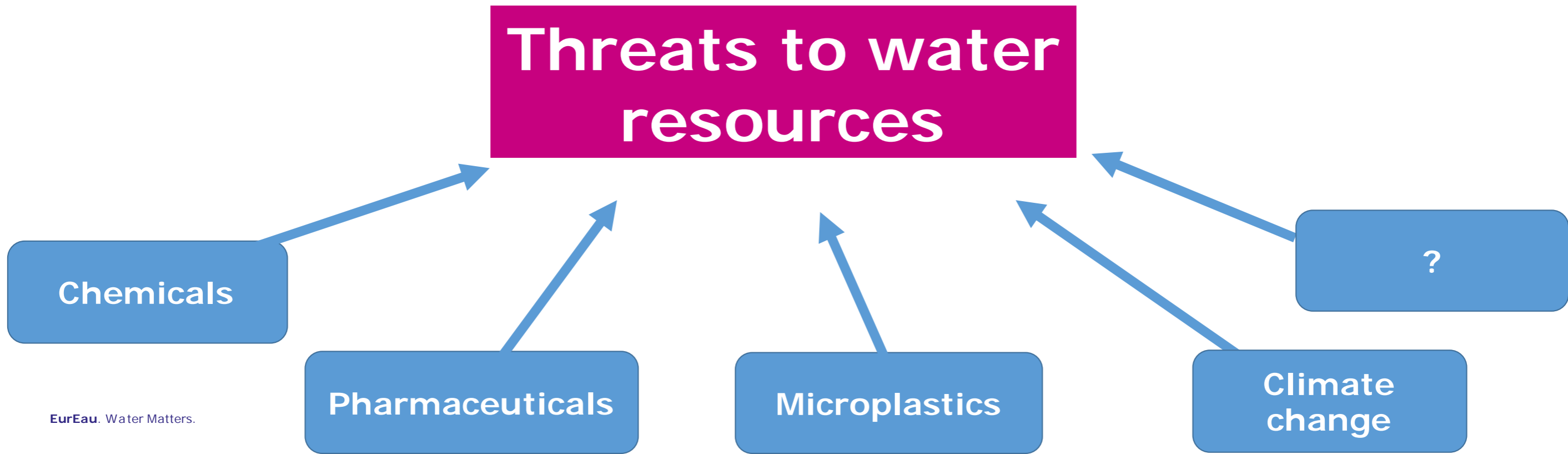


Fundamental guiding principles for:

- ~ EU Green Deal
- ~ F2F
- ~ Zero Pollution

# Protection of water resources

- ~ Prerequisite to fulfil our mission
- ~ Legal obligations: Art. 7.3 WFD + Art. 8 new DWD



# Legislative framework

## Water Framework Directive (WFD)

Control at source

Cost Recovery Principle

Polluter Pays Principle

The water consumer should not bear the cost of extra treatment, but the **polluter-pays principle should be applied.**

## Drinking Water Directive (DWD)

Pesticides: 0,1 µg/l



in active substances, metabolites and transformation products

The extra-treatment has been applied increasingly over the past 20 years to comply with the DWD – **consumers pay more.**

# Towards a new SUPD

- ~ National Action Plans (NAPs) weak and inefficient
- ~ NAPs lack ambition and enforcement measures to reduce the risks and impacts of pesticides on water resources
- ~ Starting point: full life cycle approach + source control
- ~ The **new SUPD should at EU level:**
  - ~ Define **clear targets** which can be monitored and evaluated and **ambitious timeframes** for implementation
  - ~ Establish a systematic approach for monitoring and evaluation of **actions and measures** taken
  - ~ **Oblige** Member States to **enforce and report** on the measures undertaken to meet the targets

# Additional recommended measures

- ~ PPPR: **implement existing withdrawal** for active substances in case of concentrations in water resources exceed the objectives set by the WFD and Daughter Directives
- ~ Opportunities to **link DWD with the revision of GWD & EQSD** (water resources protection)
- ~ Scope for the implementation of the **polluter-pays principle** (EPR schemes) to pesticides and other micropollutants





# Conclusions

- ~ Water operators first hand-experience that **SUPD is not delivering**
- ~ Member States' efforts to develop ambitious NAP are ineffective
- ~ Extra-treatment is:
  - ~ **Inconsistent** with WFD (art.7.3) and new DWD (art.8)
  - ~ **Unsustainable** residues management is a problem
  - ~ **Energy intensive** against the Green Deal carbon neutrality
  - ~ **Costly**
- ~ European Green Deal - Zero pollution - **Polluter-pays** principle should be applied
- ~ Water bills should continue to be **affordable** and **drinking water safe**

# Thank you for your attention

**Claudia Castell-Exner**

EurEau President



EurEau

---

Rue du Luxembourg 47-51,  
B-1050 Brussels, Belgium  
Tel: +32 (0)2 706 40 80  
[secretariat@eureau.org](mailto:secretariat@eureau.org)

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