

# Planning Ireland's Water Future

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Assistant Secretary

EPA National Water Event 2017  
21 June 2017



An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála,  
Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing, Planning,  
Community and Local Government

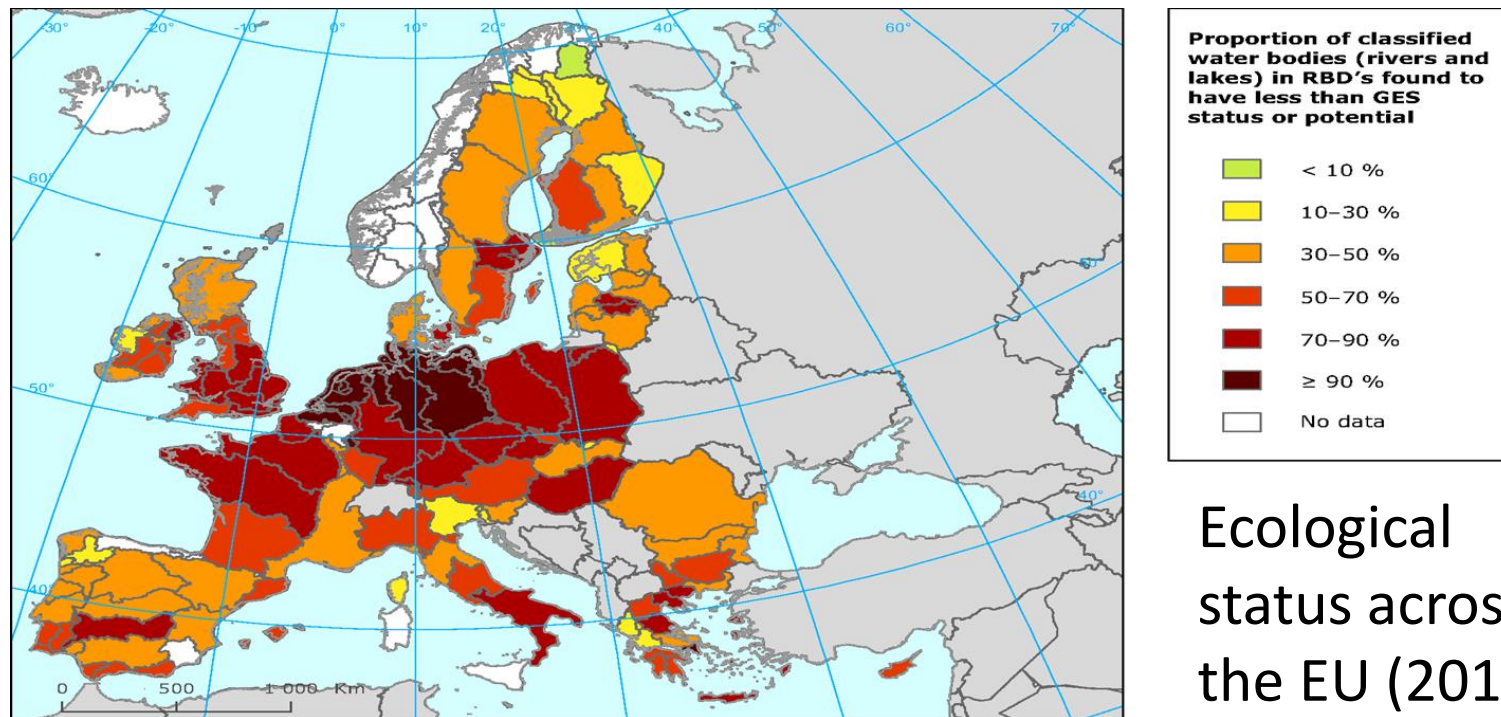
# Overview

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- Strategic context
- The approach and objectives
- Governance and engagement
- Road map to plan finalisation
- Building an enduring framework for water quality improvement.



# The challenge

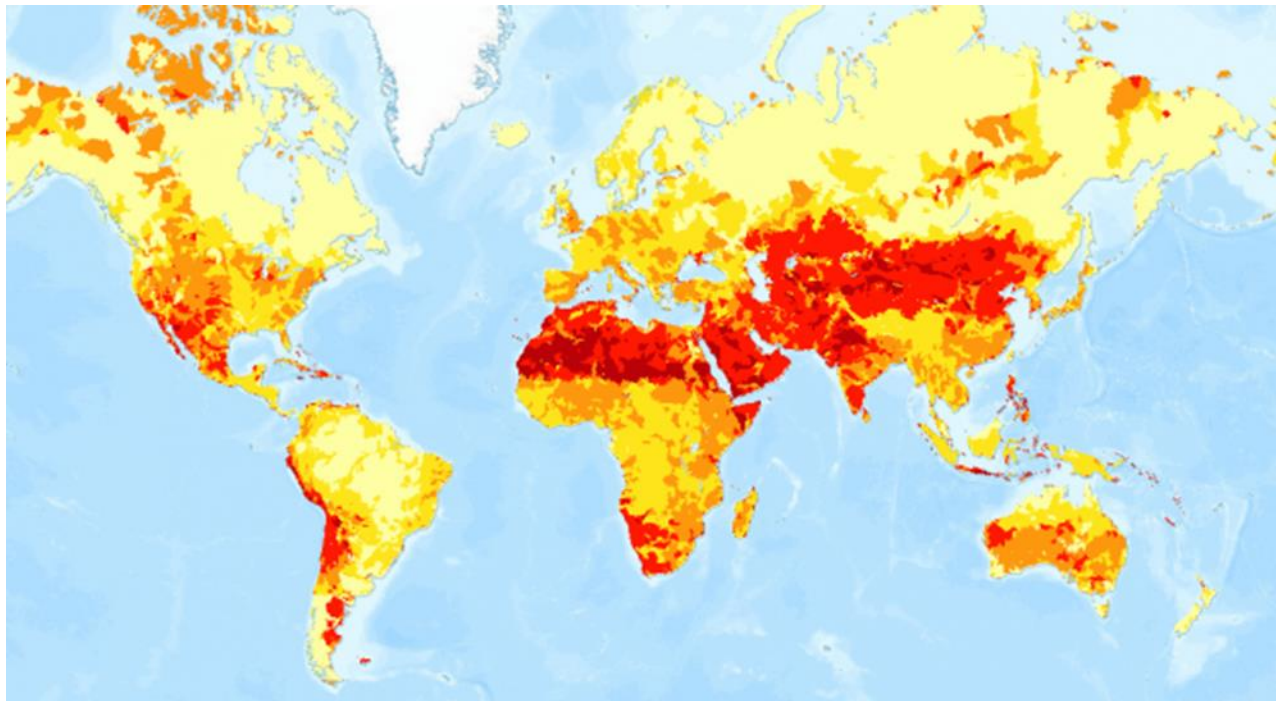


Ecological  
status across  
the EU (2012)



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# Challenge/Opportunity?

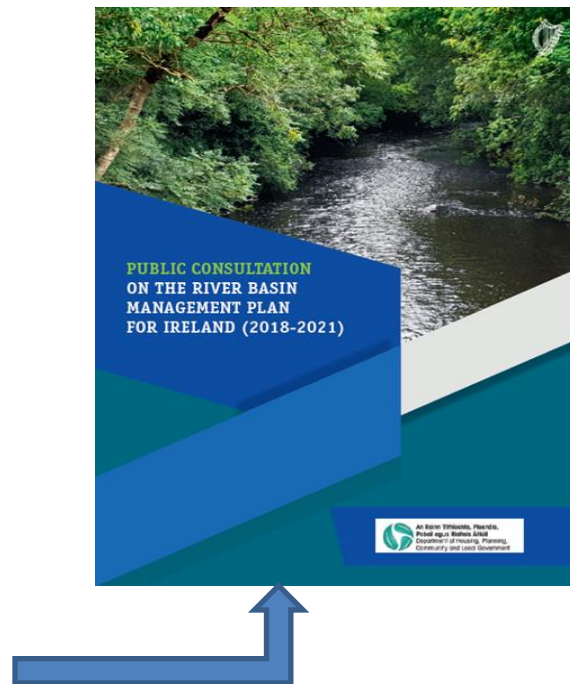
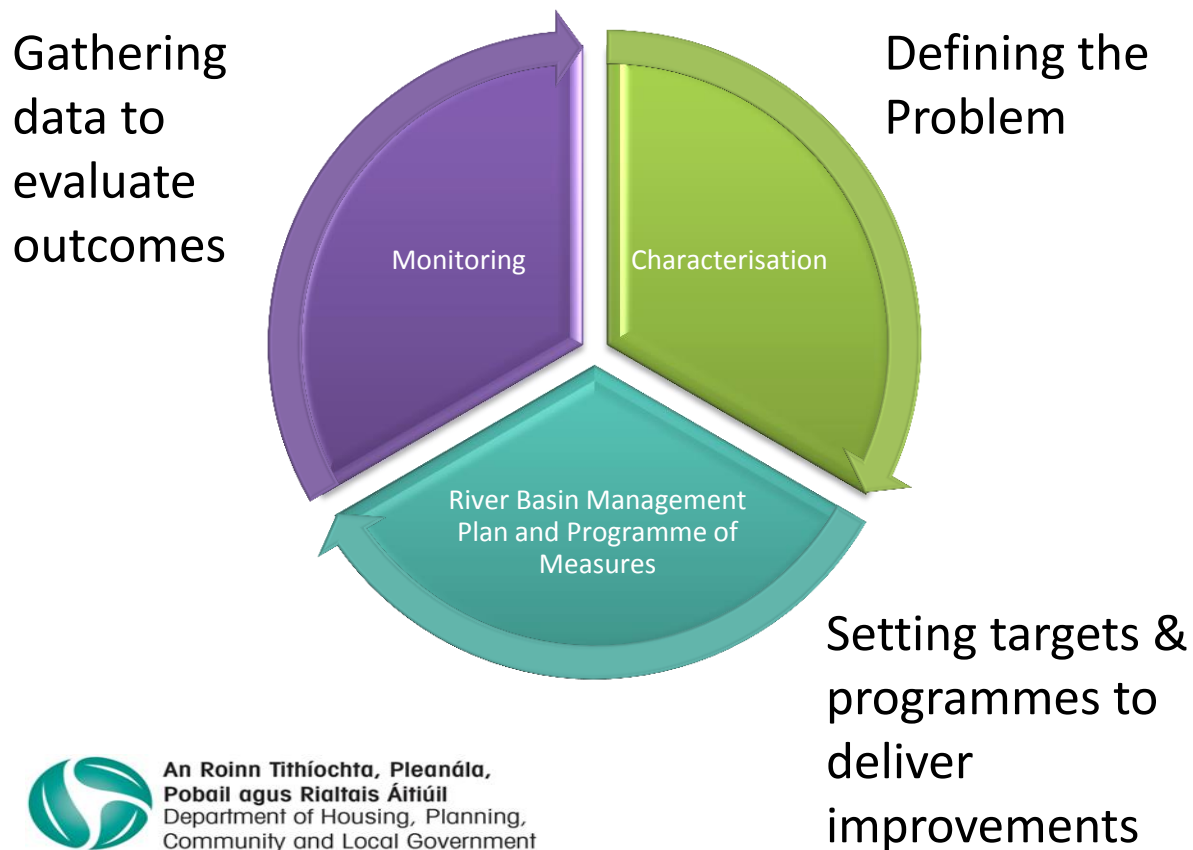


Current water  
risks - Source:  
World  
Resources  
Institute  
(2015)



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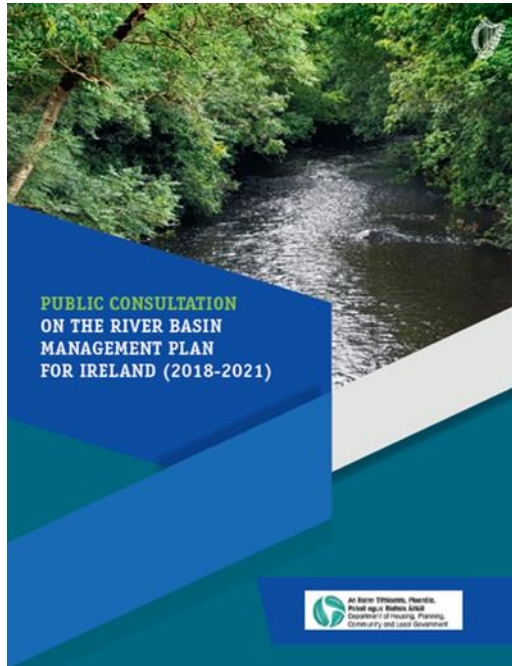
# Water Framework Directive – the Cycle



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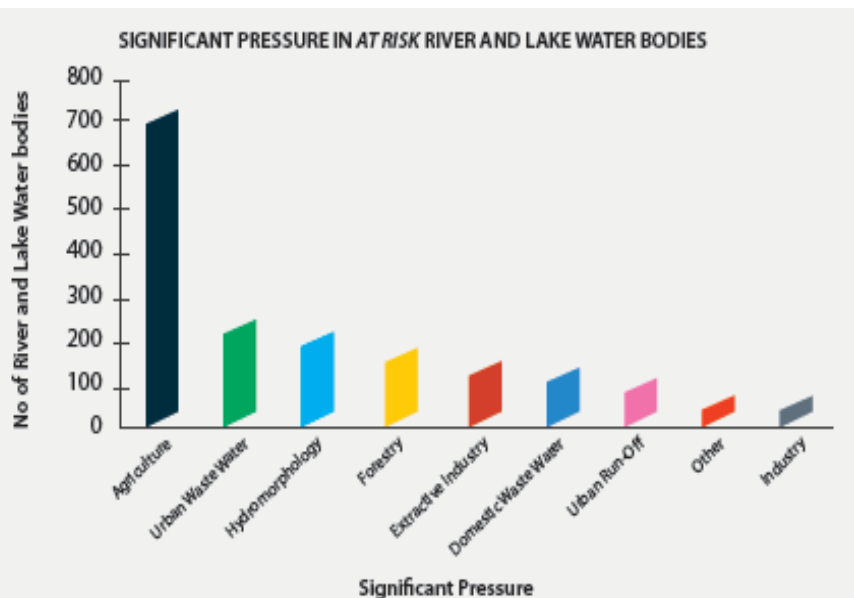


# Strategic Context



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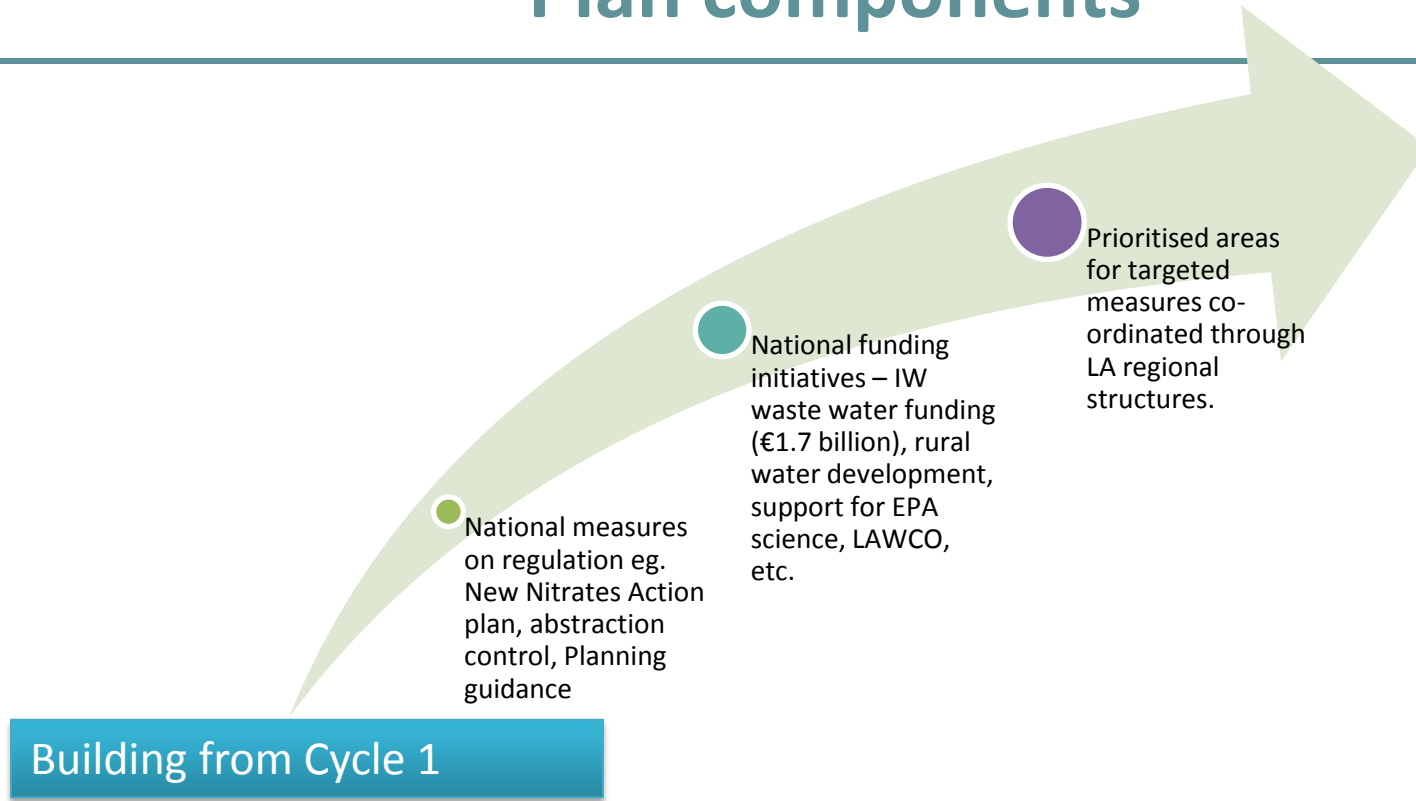
# High level objectives



- Ensure full compliance with relevant EU legislation
- Prevent deterioration
- Meet the objectives for designated protected areas
- Protect high status waters
- Implement targeted actions and pilot schemes in focus sub-catchments.



# Plan components





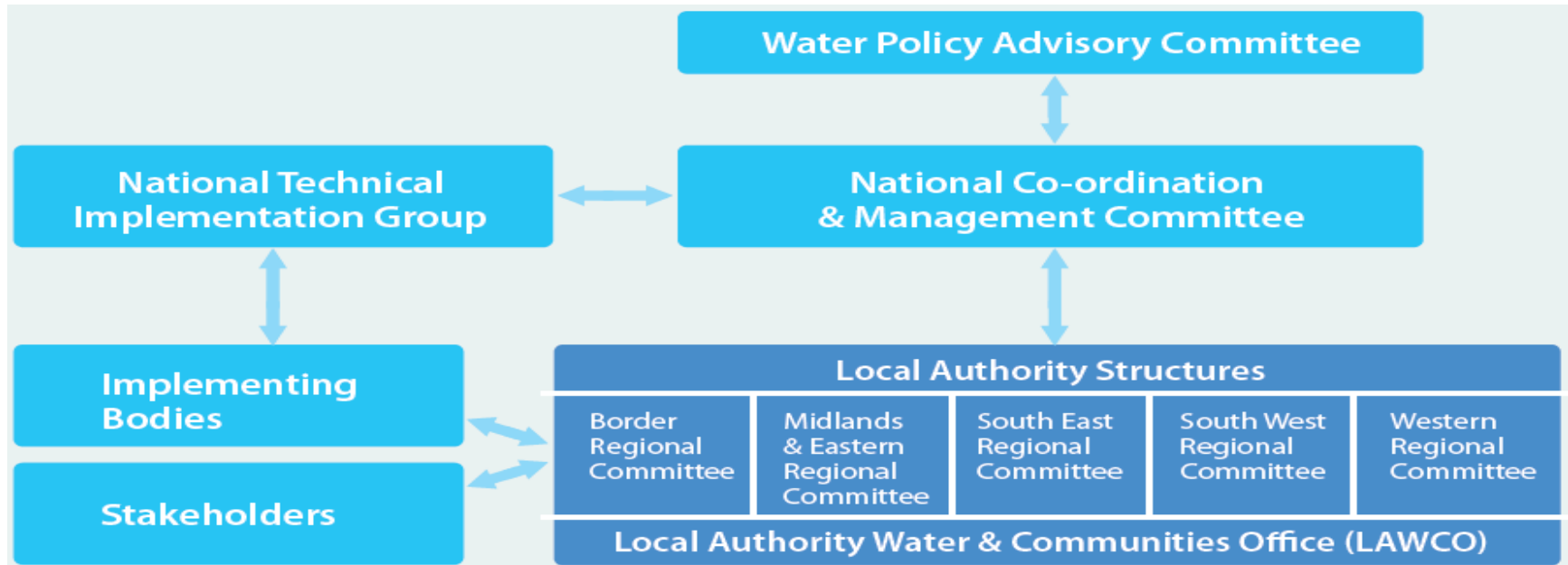
# In five years time....

## DRAFT - River Basin Management Plan

<b>Investment in urban waste water</b>	<p>Projects in 105 urban areas to achieve compliance with Urban Waste Water Directive</p> <p>6 non-compliant bathing waters &amp; 16 non-compliant discharges to nutrient sensitive areas will meet their requirements</p>
<b>Drinking water</b>	353 public drinking water source risk assessments will have taken place
<b>Water Quality</b>	150 water bodies to show improvement in status by 2021, as well as actions on a priority basis to prevent deterioration
<b>National Dairy sustainability Forum</b>	Industry led initiative to manage current pressures and support growth in the sector
<b>Measures in place to improve the physical condition of the water environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Substantially improved assessment methods and knowledge of physical condition</li> <li>National inventory of barriers to fish migration</li> <li>Enhance fish connectivity in the Shannon</li> </ul>
<b>Abstraction control</b>	Regime put in place in compliance with Water Framework Directive and to support water resource management
<b>Co-ordination between implementing bodies to deliver targeted supporting measures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dedicated LA staffing resource to support on the ground research and implementation of measures</li> <li>Guidance to better integrate land use planning and water management</li> </ul>
<b>Public engagement</b>	National Water Forum; Local authority Water community Office to drive bottom up public engagement

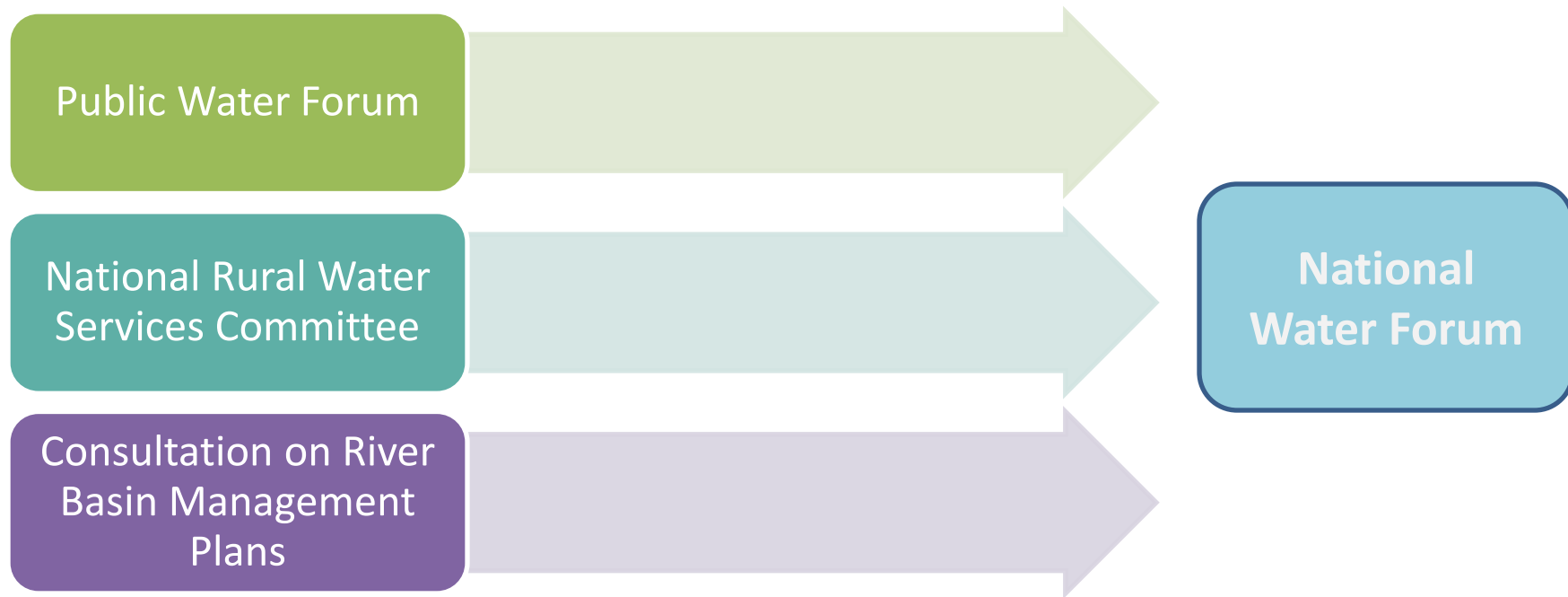


# Implementation Structures



# Public engagement

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# Road Map to finalising plan

## Current phase

Public Consultation (August 2017)

LAWCO public engagement

Regional characterisation workshops

## Autumn 2017

LAWCO & EPA produce report on supporting measure for regional consultation

LAWCO to host regional workshops to co-ordinate public consultation on regional prioritisation.

National Water forum to be briefed on outcome (October 2017)

LA regional committees to agree priorities

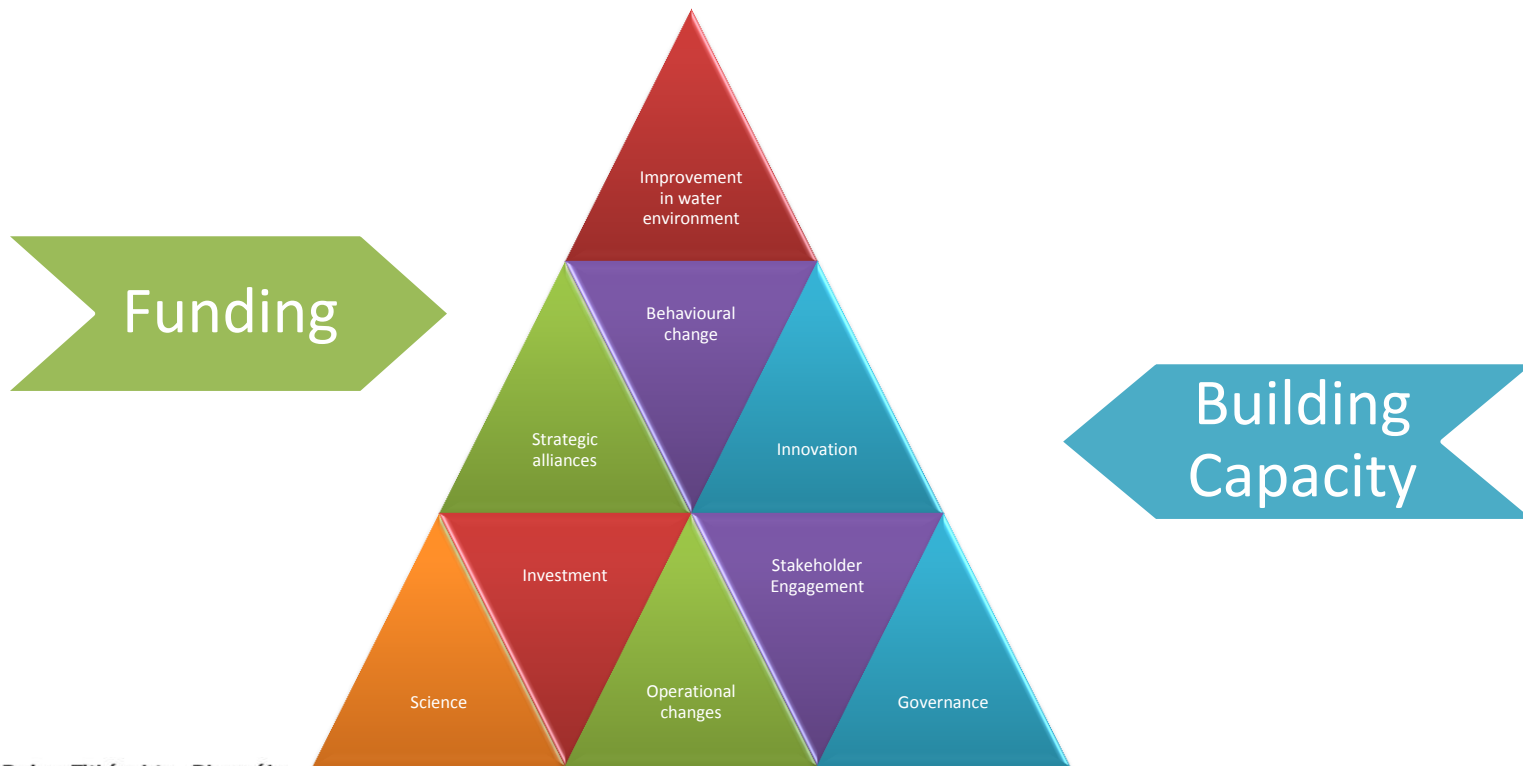
## Winter 2017/18

Department to finalise plan based on

- WPAC consideration
- Regional input
- Public consultation
- National Water Forum engagement.
- SEA & AA



# Framework for improving water quality



# From Source to Sea



‘Water is one of those resources, one of those issues, that can only be managed for the long-term. But it is a mistake to imagine that small things don’t matter or that big water issues aren’t manageable.’ (C. Fishman)



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Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness

