# Tackling the water management issues due to agricultural activities in Romania

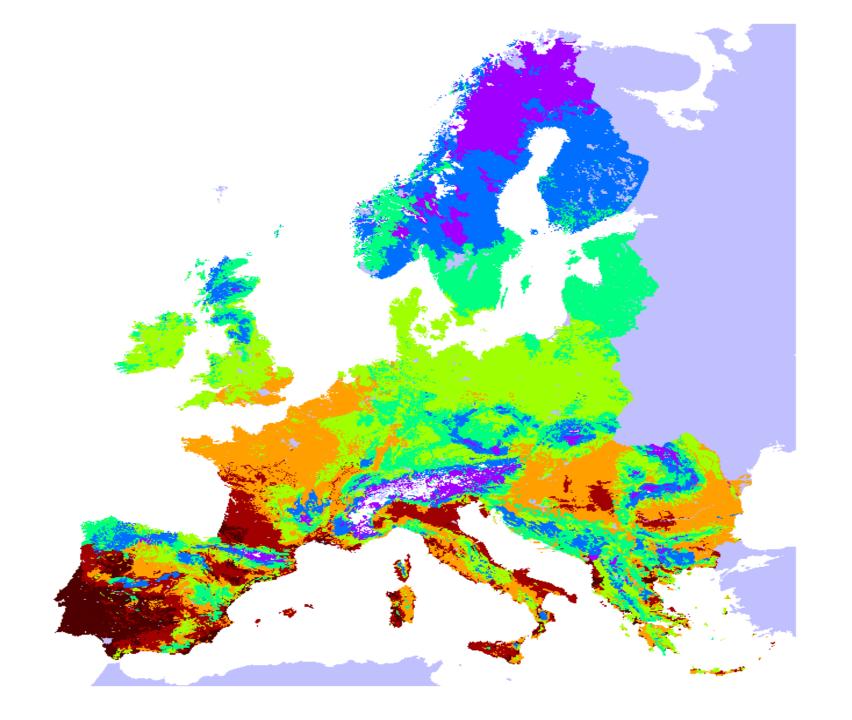
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Europe –INBO 2021

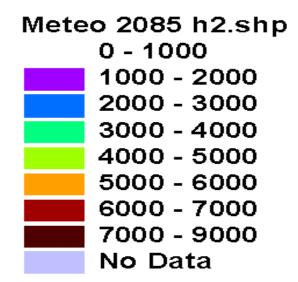
19<sup>th</sup> International Conference for the implementation of the European Water Directives 8-10 December 2021

## Water management and agricultural activities

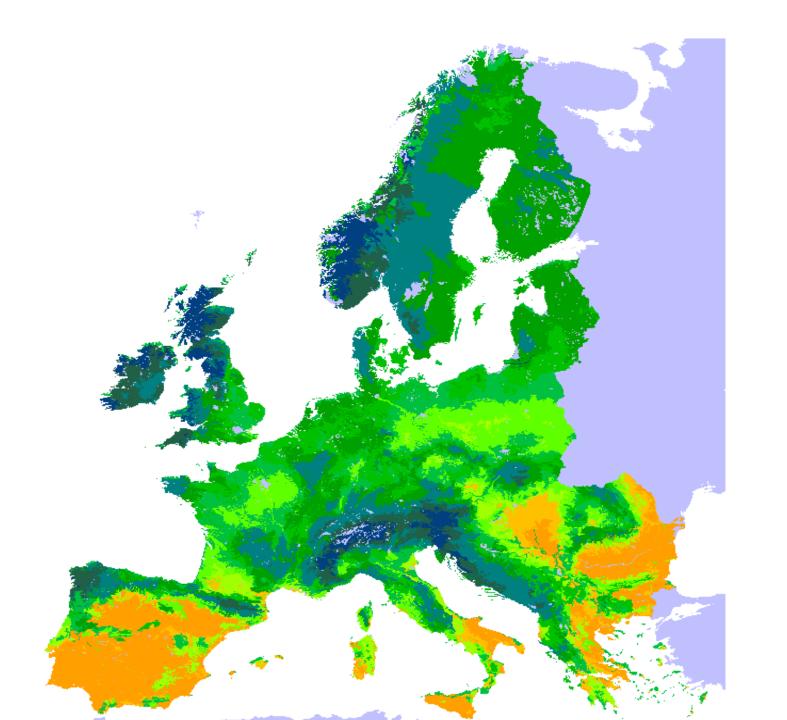
- Agriculture is an important economic sector for Romania
- An important water use and main source of diffuse pollution
- Large number of very small farms –about 3 millions
- Decrease of water use comparing with 1990
- Water use for agriculture influenced by the energy price
- Climate change is a huge challenge
- Agriculture has to adapt to climate change and EU environemental directives



# Sum T>0 All Year

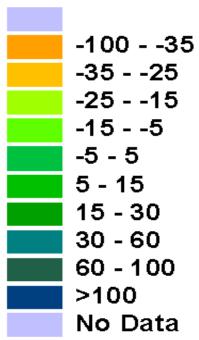






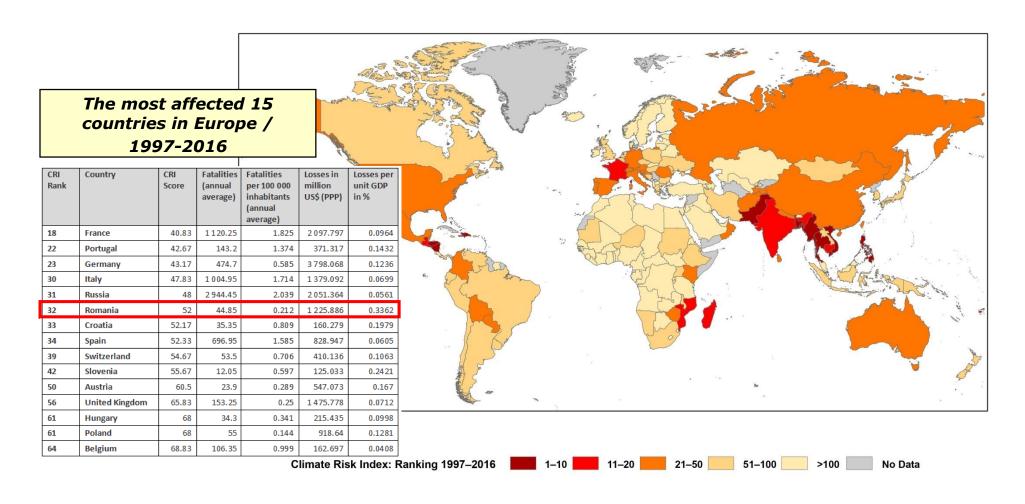
#### Average Yearly Rain Excedent Soil Drainage included

#### Meteo 2085 h2.shp



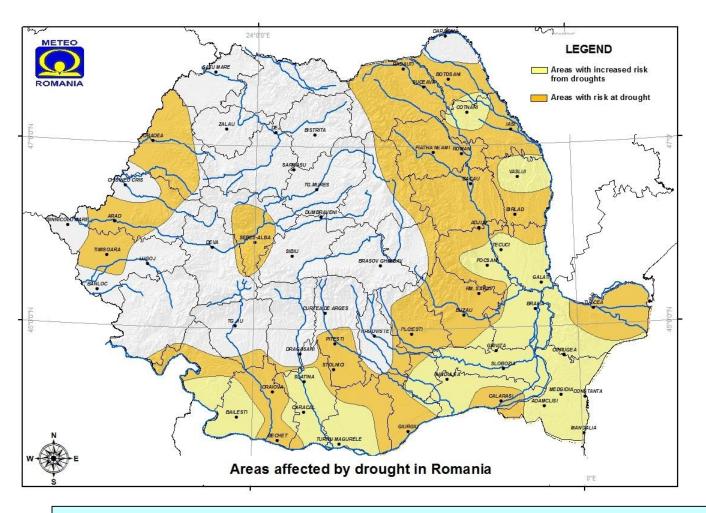


#### CLIMATIC RISK INDEX (CRI) / 1997-2016



(Source: The Global Climate Risk Index – 2018 / Germanwatch, www. germanwatch.org/en/cri German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development - BMZ

## DROUGHT INDICATORS / agrometeorological operational use and research activities



THE SOUTH,
SOUTH-EAST
AND EAST OF
ROMANIA ARE
THE REGIONS
WITH RISK OF
WATER
SCARCITY AND
DROUGHT



**Climatic indicators**: SPI, Aridity index, etc

**⊃agrometerological indicators**: Soil moisture, heat waves, etc

**Satellite-derived products:** Normalized Difference Water Index (NDWI), Leaf area Index (LAI); Fraction of Absorbed Photosynthetic Solar Radiation (fAPAR)

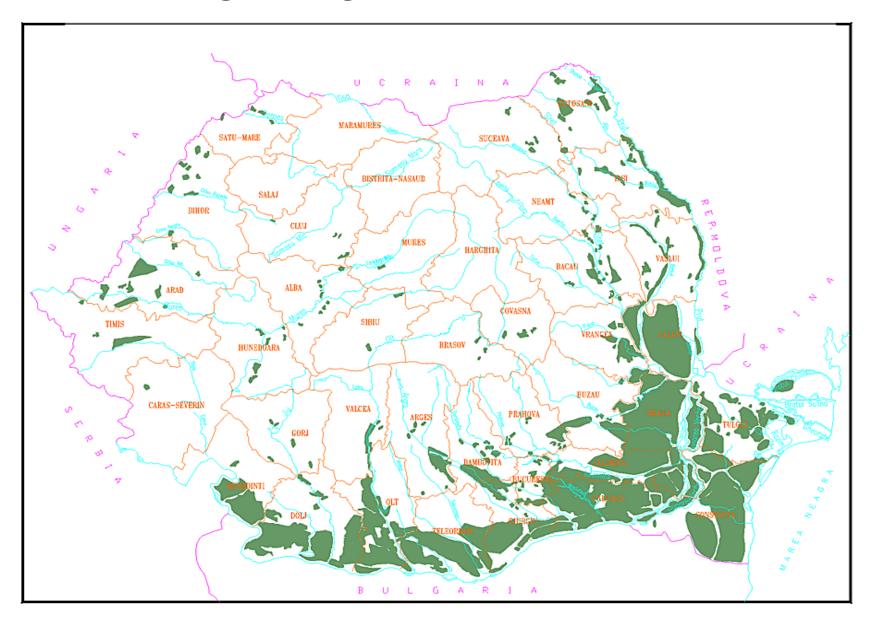
#### Target – small farmers

#### **Challenges:**

- Polarised agricultural sector: small farming and large intensive farms
- Scattered farms, mozaik pattern of villages and plots
- Limited available space for building a modern stable or an individual manure storage
- Need of further awerness and knowledge transfer
- Aged population and depopulation or rural areas
- Decrease trend of the number of animals in extensive management – already very limited livestock density at national level (0.4 LSU/ha)



### Arranged Irrigated areas in Romania



#### Establishment and implementation of the adaptation measures (1)

#### Non- structural measures

- Creation of a water saving culture/new technologies
- Better forecast of water regime
- Use of economic instruments/right price on water
- Improve land use planning
- Optimization of the water management
- Re-use of water

#### Establishment and implementation of the adaptation measures (2)

- Afforestation
- Extensions and rehabilitation of the water supply networks
- Modernization of the irrigation systems
- Rehabilitation of the wetland areas
- Developing new water sources (wells)
- Improving waste water treatment
- Recharge of aquifers
- Waste Water reuse for irrigation

# Promotion of green infrastructure for adaptation of the water management

- Started after 1990 with masive reconstruction in the Danube Delta
- Establishment of the Lower Danube Green Corridor in 2000 which include territories in Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova, and Ukraine
- Development a strategic planning after the floods on Danube in 2006 for the rehabilitation of the Romanian Danube Floodplain
- Hydromorphological restoration measures included in the River Basin Management Plan
- Implementation of the Green Deal in the water sector

# Rehabilitation project of agricultural area applied in the Danube Delta







Abandoned agricultural area



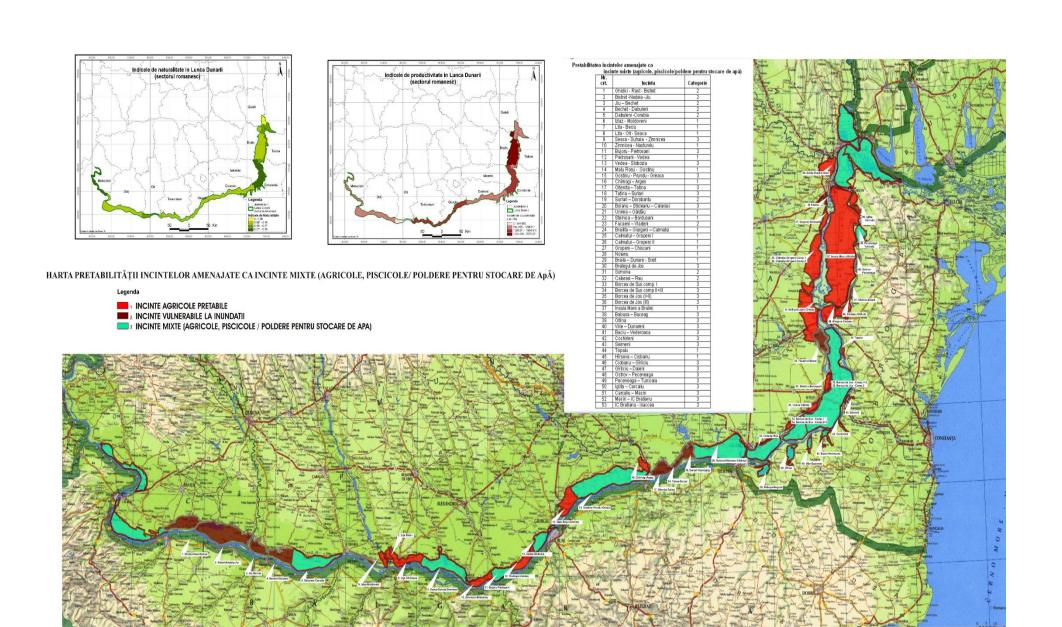
Performing the breach for flooding



The success of the reconstruction works

# Ecological Rehabilitation in the Danube Delta





#### Conclusions

- Agriculture is one of the main water uses which should adapt to the climate change
- Need for innovation and technology to reduce water demand —"More crop per drop"
- Awarness and training important for adaptation of the new technologies
- Use of green infrastructure is a win-win measure
- Economic intruments are very important for change in behaviour for the water sector

