



XARXA PER UNA
NOVA CULTURA
DE L'AIGUA

DAMMING THE EBRO RIVER

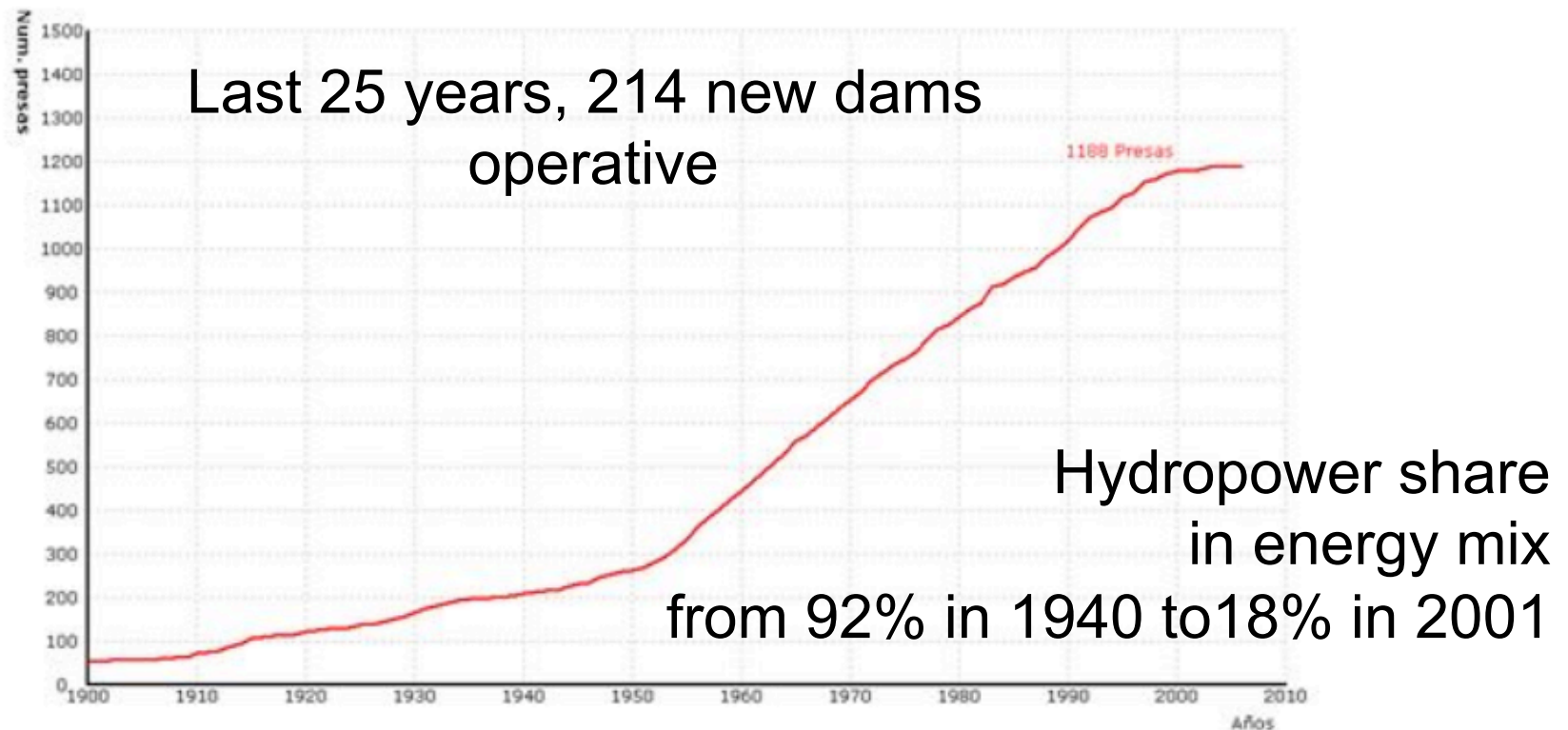


Annelies Broekman
Paris, 05 december 2015



Scope

1.226 dams in Spain (2013)



**Figura 1.- Evolución del número de presas
(Fuente: Inventario de Presas 2006. MMA)**

Source: iAgua.es



Drawned



- During francoism around 515 dams were build in Spain
- Water reserve capacity of Spain
increased from 4 000 million m³ to 36 600 million m³
- 57% of Spanish water is regulated
- Around 500 towns drawned: Tiermas, Ruesta, Esco, Jánovas, Mediano, Itoiz, Artozki,... – more than 4 000 displaced in Aragón.



DAMMED Culture?

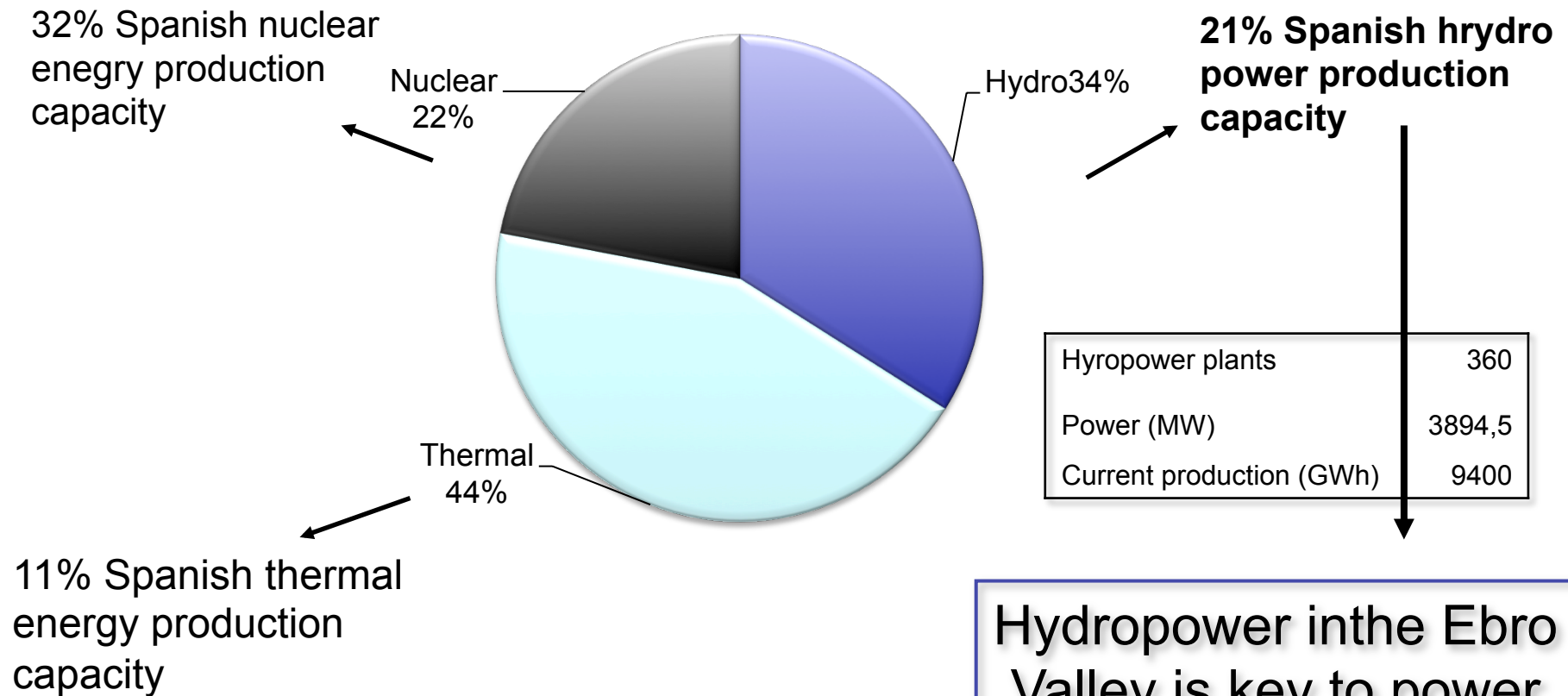


AD in a Spanish fisher's blog describes this landscape as a "Fishing paradise"



Ebro's energy

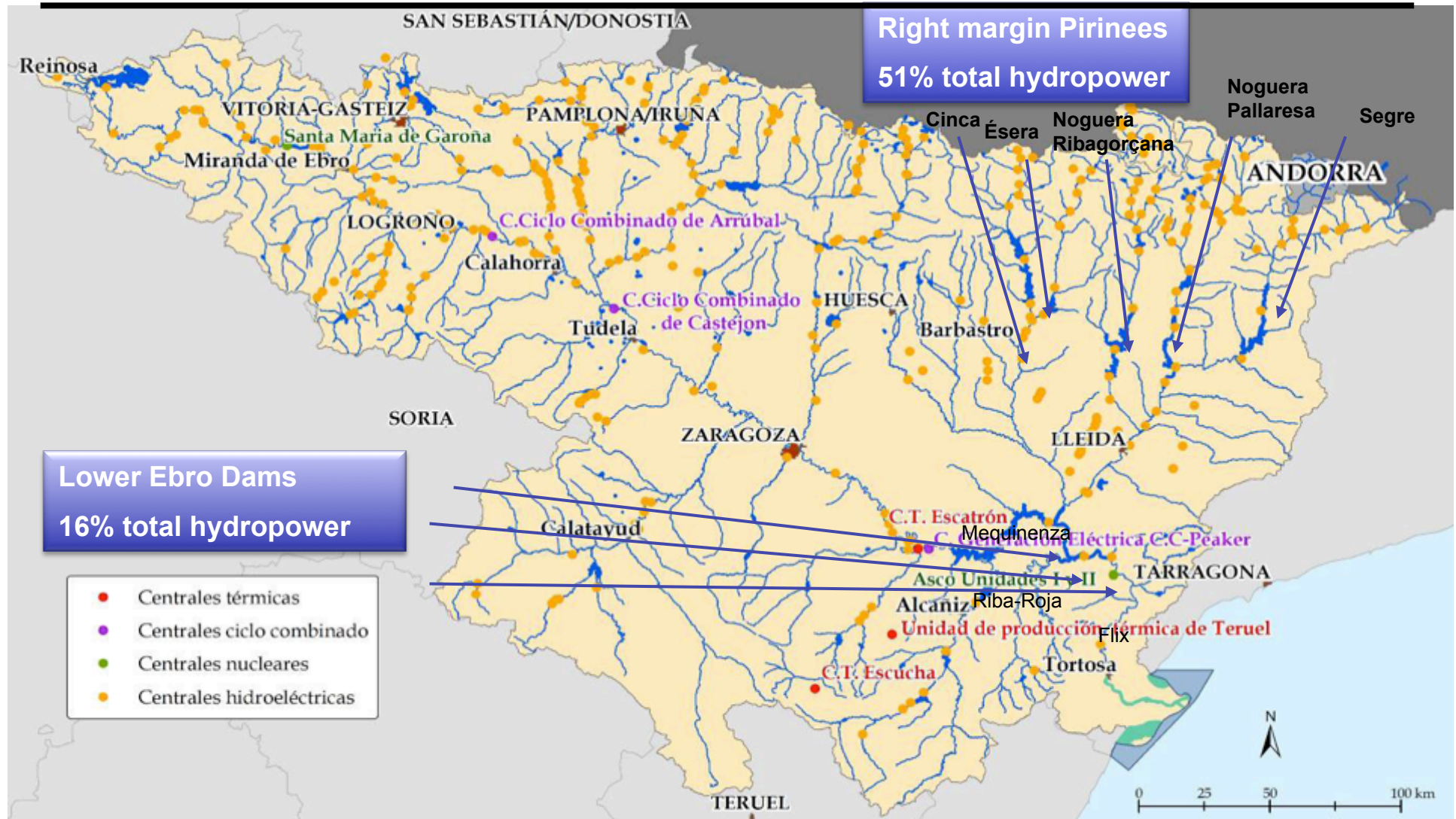
POWER INSTALLED IN THE EBRO BASIN (MW)



Hydropower in the Ebro Valley is key to power north east Spain

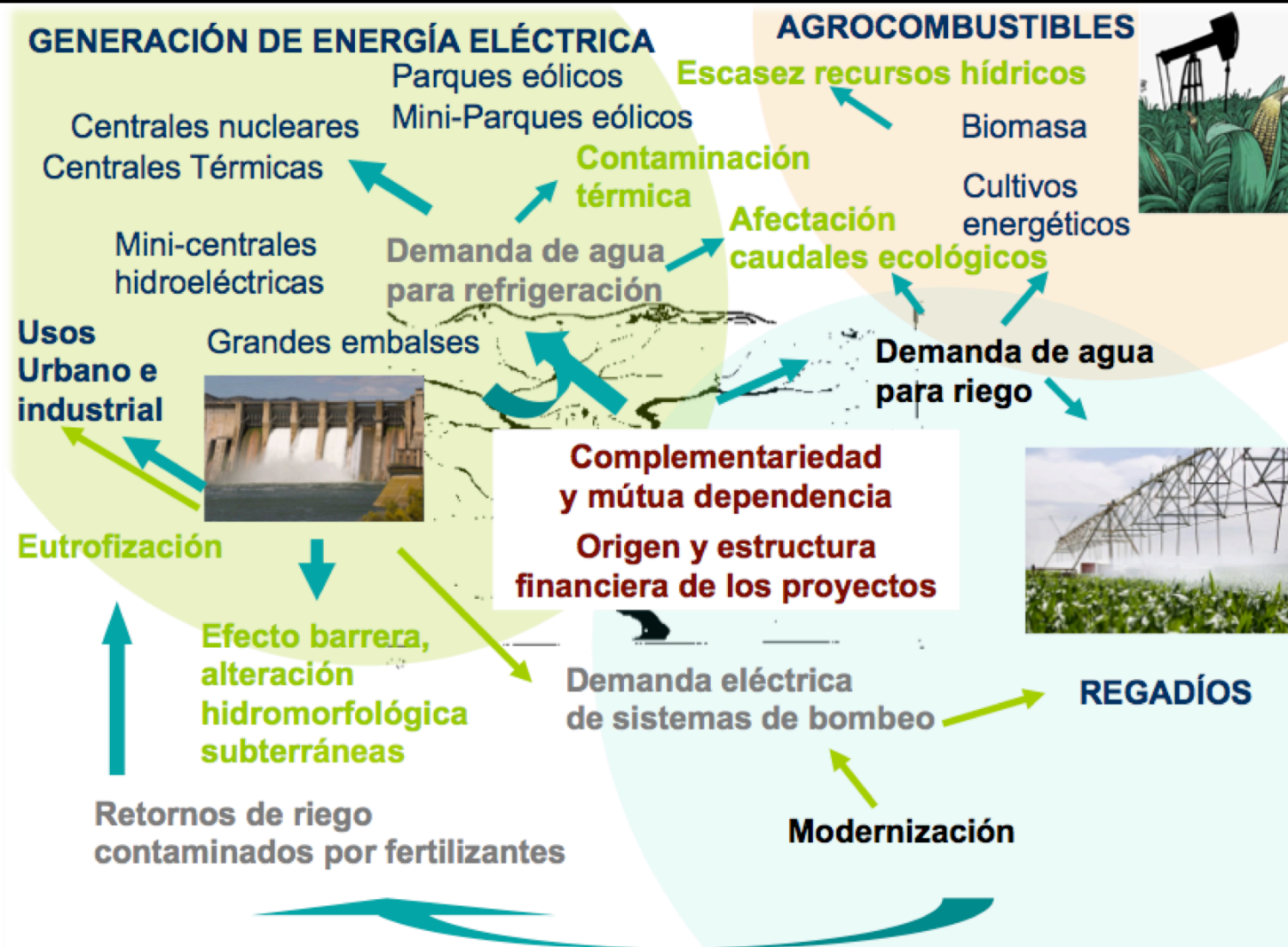


DAMMED Ebro



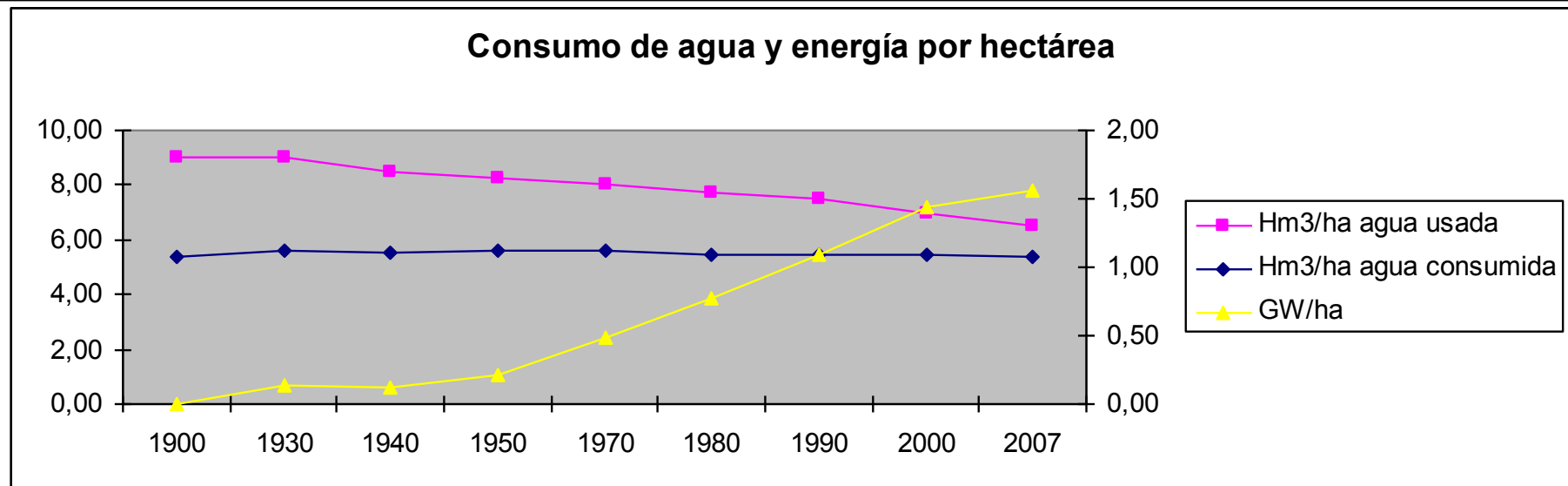


Water, agriculture & energy





Water, agriculture and energy



1950 – 2007 Irrigated land & water consumption doubled

1995 – 2007 Energy consumption increased by 45%



DAMMING the Ebro

New RBMP plans to build 56 **new** dams & refurbishments
&
463 700 Ha - 3 115 Hm³/year **new** irrigation demand



From 14 623 hm³/year natural flow regime



only 3 010 hm³/year arrive to the delta



NO WATER, NO SEDIMENTS,... NO DELTA



1990	—
2004	—
2015	—
2025	—
2035	—
2045	—

Regression of the delta coastal area under different climate change scenarios.

200 dams retain 95% of the sediments.

Source: www.irta.cat



Global change?



Environmental flow regimes offer the best resilience to global change



Resistance

Plataforma en Defensa de l'Ebro
www.ebre.net



Platform in Defense of the River Ebro

National legal fight

- More than 4500 submissions to new RBMP (2015-2021)
- Motivated negative vote in water council
- Judicial actions accepted by Spanish supreme court
- County councils motions
- Municipal motions
- Catalan Parliament validated the environmental flow proposal developed by citizen commission (CSTE).





Platform in Defense of the River Ebro



- Judicial complaint to the EC
- EC strong response to Spain on RBMPs (Ebro pilot case)
➡ **No correct plans, no cohesion funds** ←
- PETI committee process successful



Platform in Defense of the River Ebro

Next steps:

- Complaint to the Spanish constitutional court
- New judicial complaint to the EC
- MEPs visiting the Ebro Delta in February 2016
- 7th February 2016 BIG DEMO!





Alliances...

... WITH ALL DAM
RESISTANCE
MOVEMENTS



CUENCA AZUL

Red de organizaciones en Defensa de la Cuenca del Ebro



Thanks for listening!

