

WEBINAR. 23 September 2025 – 11:00 to 13:00 CEST



OPEN RIVERS PROGRAMME

lessons learnt and best practices from barrier removal projects in Southeastern Europe

© Bruno D'Amicis - barrier at Giovenco River - Italy

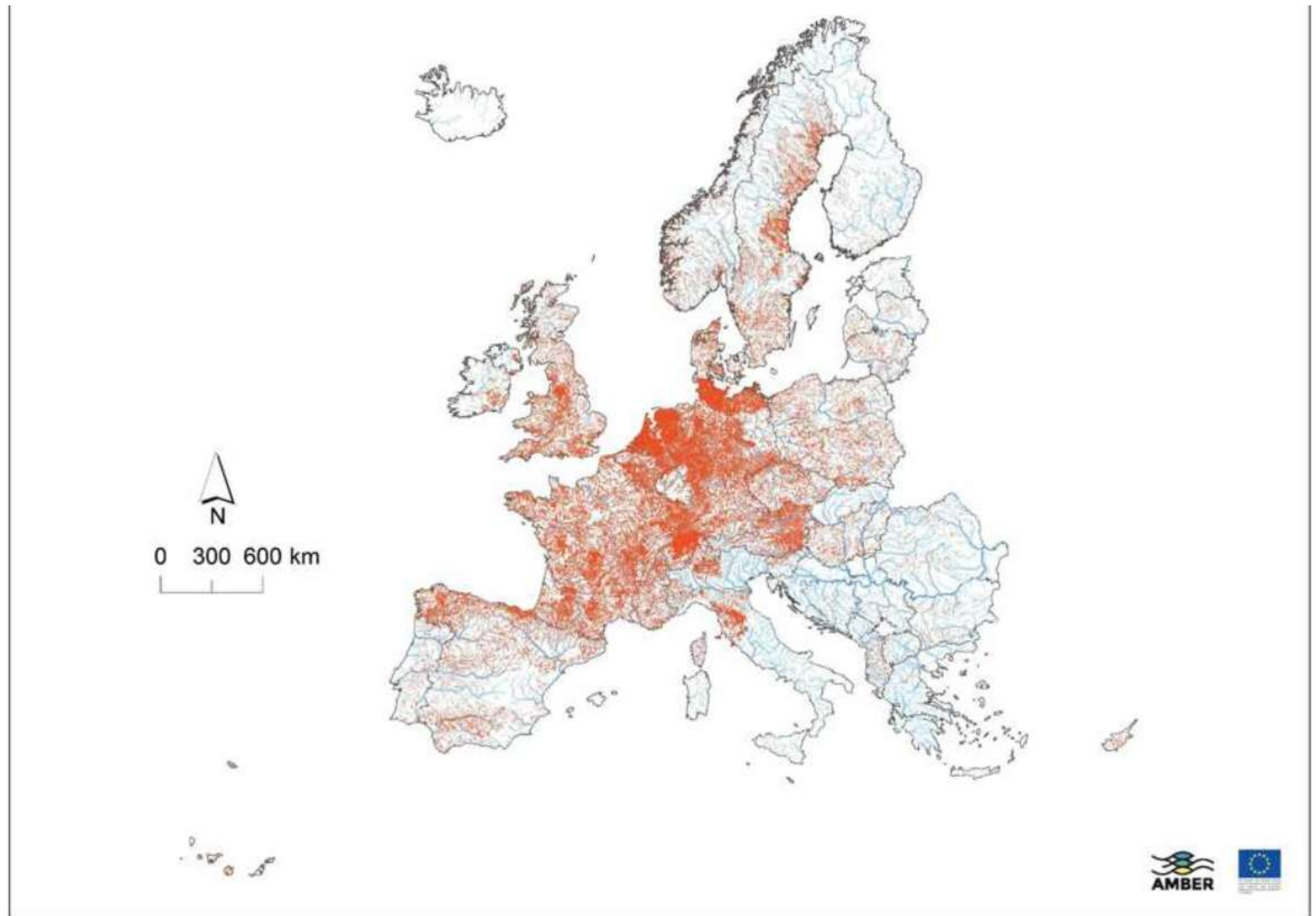
Organised by



Supported by



**+1.2 millions
barriers
estimated in
Europe and
10%
obsolete**



Map from : AMBER, Belletti et al 2020. Nature. 588, 436-441

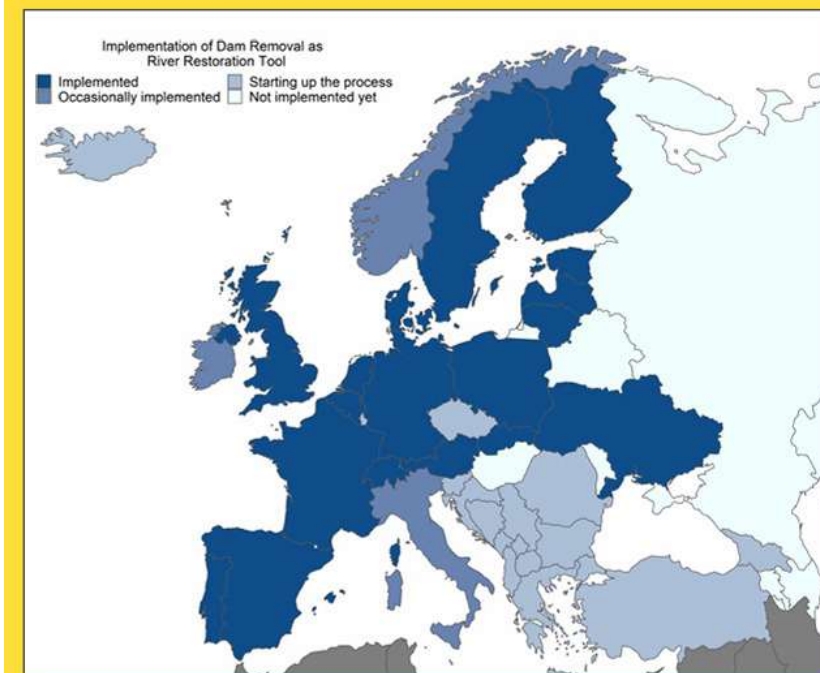
Pan-European Atlas of Obstacles in Rivers, 630,000 obstacles identified and 1 million estimated, of which 100,000 are obsolete or unused,

AMBER 2020

**More than
8,000
barriers
removed
in Europe**

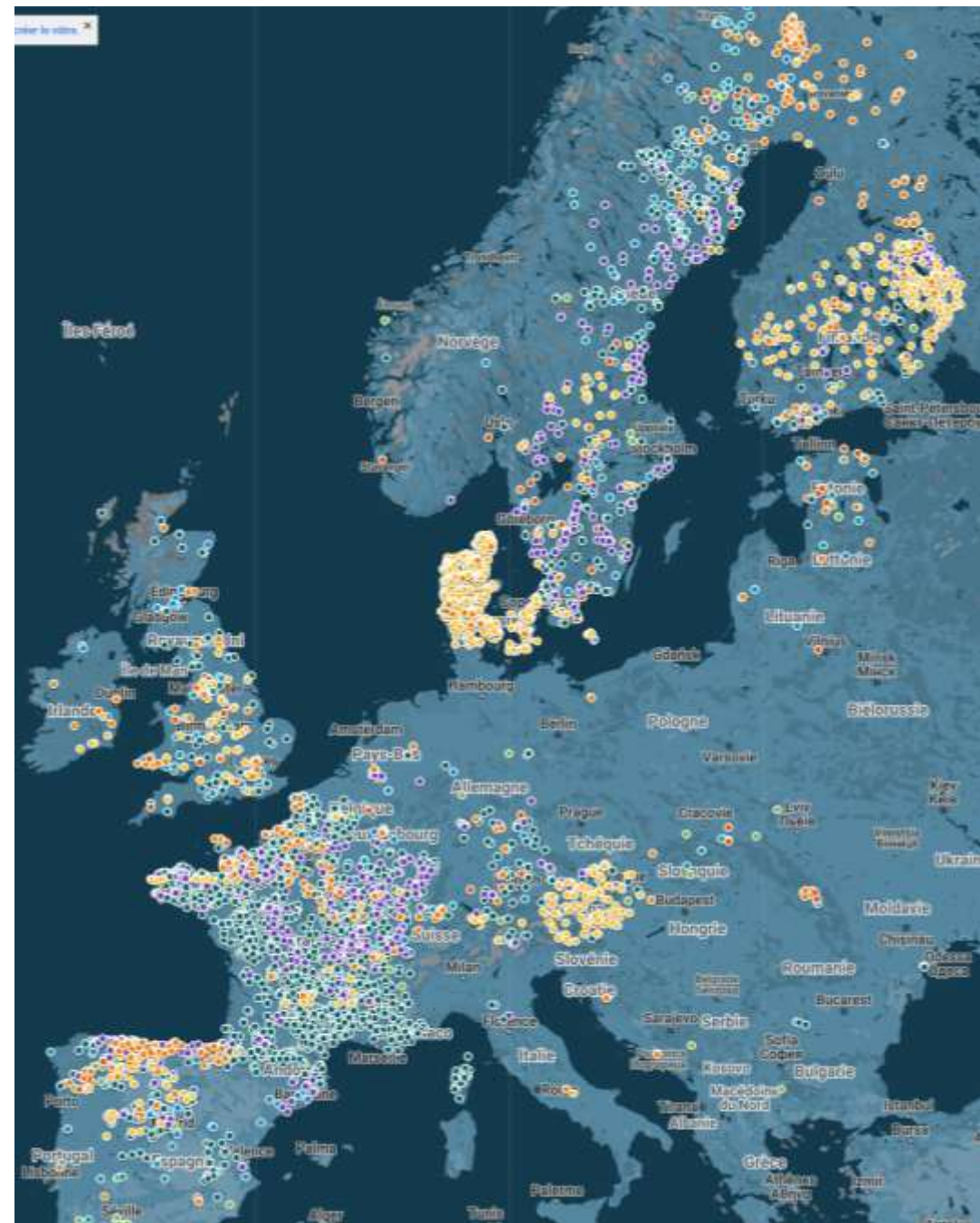
**542
barriers
removed in
2024 in 23
countries**

YEAR	NUMBER OF REMOVED BARRIERS	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES
2020	101	11
2021	239	17
2022	325	16
2023	487	15
2024	542	23



Images issues de Mouchlianitis F.A. (2025). Dam Removal Progress 2024

[Télécharger le rapport 2024](#)



Updated August 2025

Norwegian Sea



**OPEN
RIVERS
PROGRAMME**

- 174 projects supported
(32 countries)
- €13,9 million awarded to
projects across Europe
- 95 barriers removed (162 when all
currently supported projects
complete)



What can be funded?

Category A Programme supported dam removals

- A1 – Barrier identification and prioritisation
- A2 – Dam removal: pre-demolition
- A3 – Dam removal: demolition
- A4 - Demolition: preparatory works previously funded by the programme

Category B Enabling others to remove dams

- Support preparatory work.
- Dam removal (demolition) sourced from an alternative funder

Next ORP Call: 31 October deadline

WINTER 2025 CALL

Open call for applications	10th February, 2025 13:00 CET
Q&A webinar with the Programme's team	19th February, 2025 13:00 - 14:00 CET
Deadline to submit applications	14th March, 2025 13:00 CET
Application outcome	Early July, 2025
Expected project start date	End of July, 2025

SUMMER 2025 CALL

Open call for applications	9th June, 2025 13:00 CEST
Q&A webinar with the Programme's team	18th June, 2025 13:00 - 14:00 CEST
Deadline to submit applications	4th July, 2025 13:00 CEST
Application outcome	First half of November, 2025
Expected project start date	Second half of November, 2025

AUTUMN 2025 CALL

Open call for applications	6th October, 2025 13:00 CEST
Q&A webinar with the Programme's team	15th October, 2025 13:00 - 14:00 CEST
Deadline to submit applications	31st October, 2025 13:00 CET
Application outcome	Mid-March, 2026
Expected project start date	Second half of March, 2026

WINTER 2026 CALL

Open call for applications	16th February, 2026
Q&A webinar with the Programme's team	25th February, 2026
Deadline to submit applications	13th March, 2026
Application outcome	End of June, 2026
Expected project start date	Early July, 2026

Need help? Join the DRE Helpdeskbootcamp for ORP proposals