



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
COURT OF AUDIT

# AUDIT REPORT

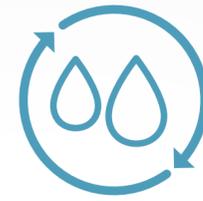
## Efficiency of long-term drinking water resources conservation

**Performance audit**

Audited period: 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2017



# Drinking water resources in Slovenia



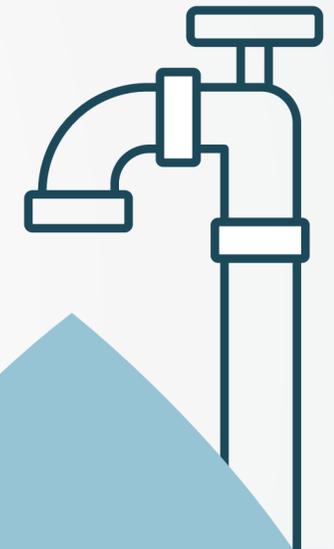
Although **surface water bodies** provide only for **3 %** of drinking water **supply**, **all water bodies must be protected due to water circulation.**



**155**  
surface water  
bodies

**21 =**  
groundwater  
bodies

**97%**  
of drinking  
water supply



# State of waters in Slovenia



**62** out of **155**  
surface water bodies are  
**holding poor water status**

(assessment does not include the level of mercury in organisms)



**Ministry of the Environment**  
by state monitoring **gathered**  
**data for water status**  
**assessment** which is made  
**every 6 years.**



**All substances harmful to waters**  
due to human activity **cannot be**  
**detected by monitoring**



**3** od **21**  
groundwater bodies are  
**holding poor water status**

(Savinjska kotlina, Dravska kotlina  
and Murska kotlina basins)



**Monitoring of deep aquifers**  
(also thermal) **is insufficient**

# Surface water stress – important impacts



**Ministry of the Environment identified main threats**

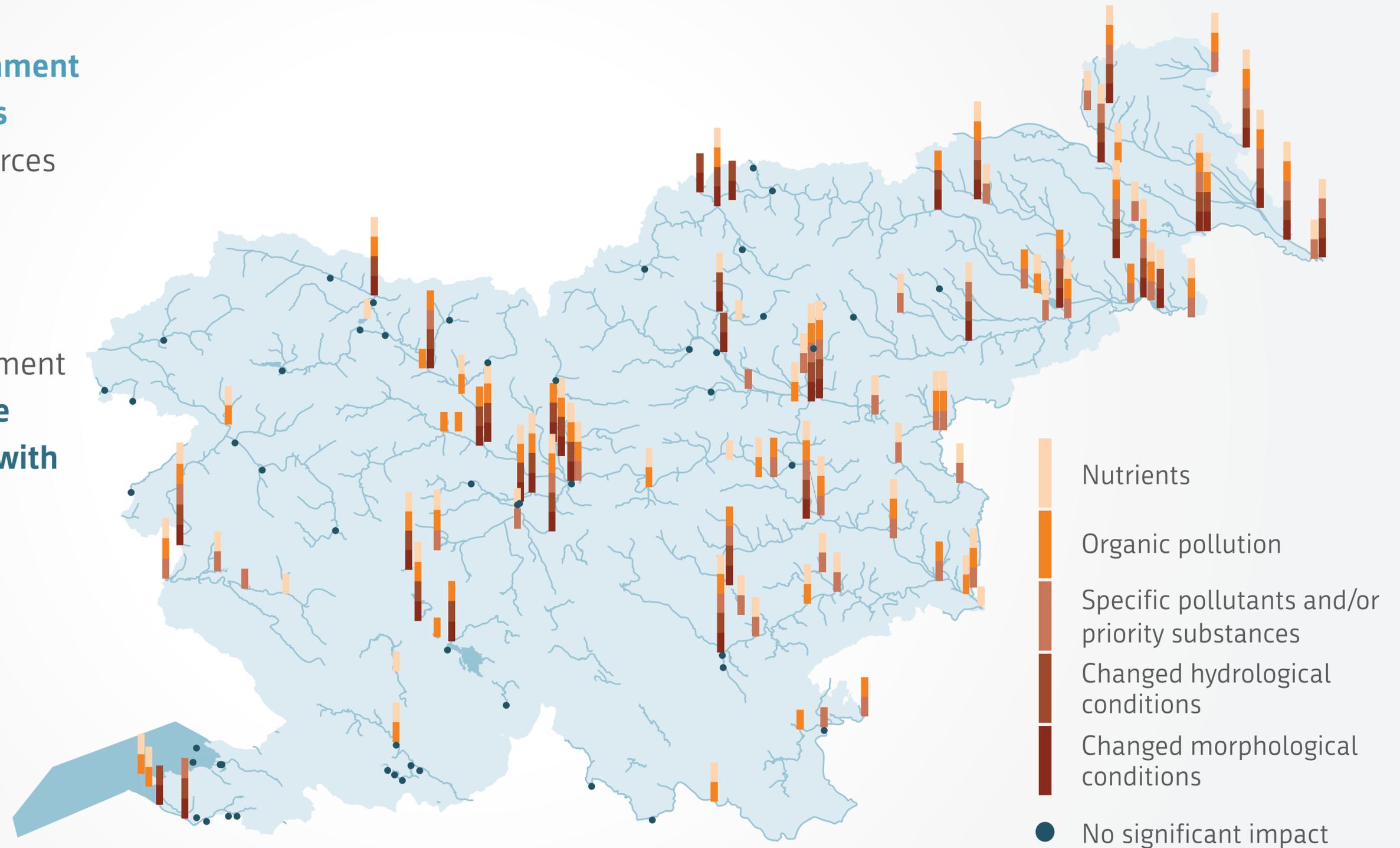
to drinking water resources  
(due to human activity)



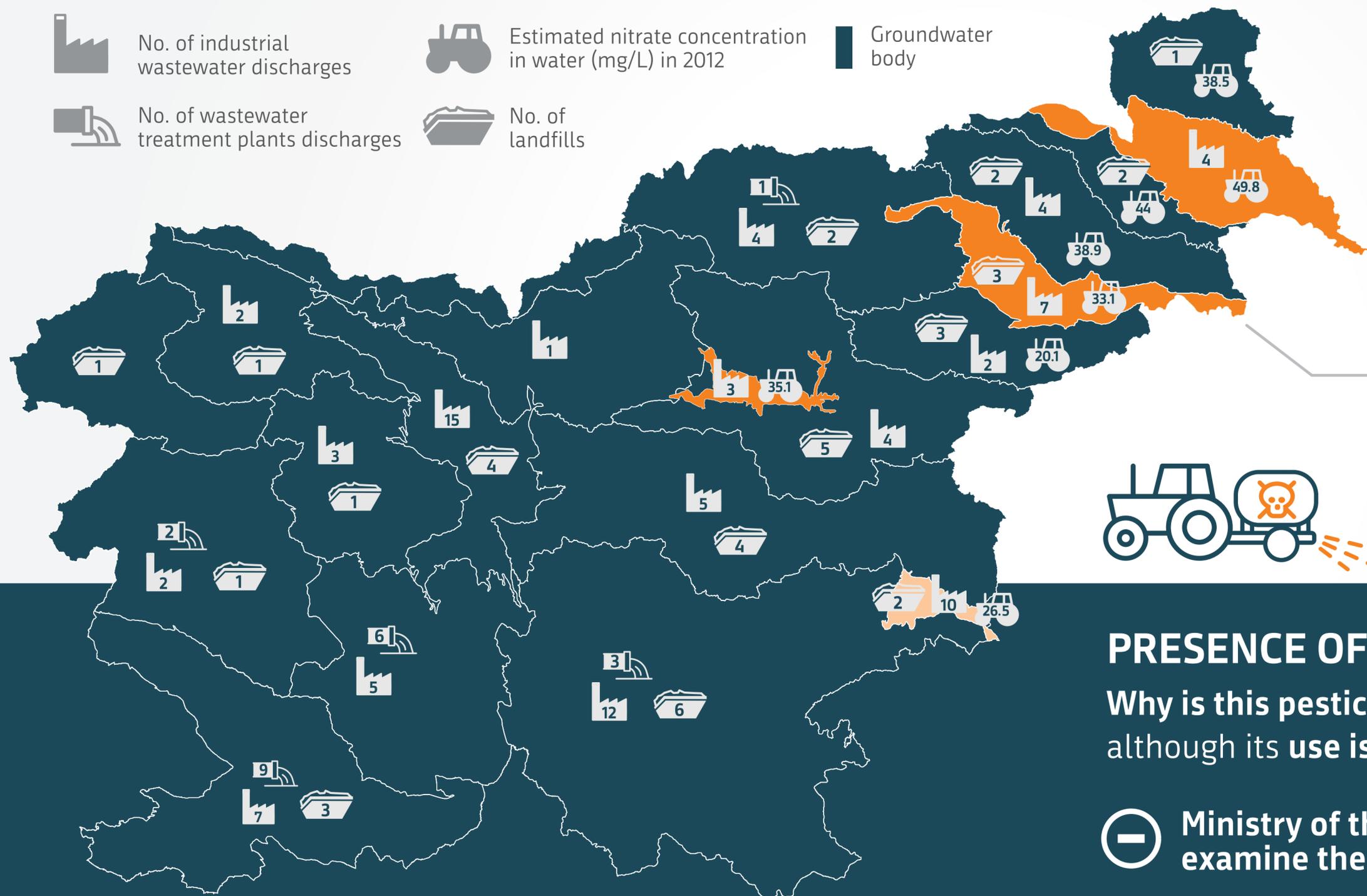
Ministry of the Environment **mostly failed to ensure comparability of data with previous years**



**Actual water stress may be even higher than estimated**



# Groundwater stress – important impacts



In the period of 20 years the nitrate concentration registered in some monitoring stations increased up to **84%** of permitted.



## PRESENCE OF ATRAZINE

Why is this pesticide still present in groundwater although its use is prohibited since 2002?

⊖ Ministry of the Environment did not examine the reasons.

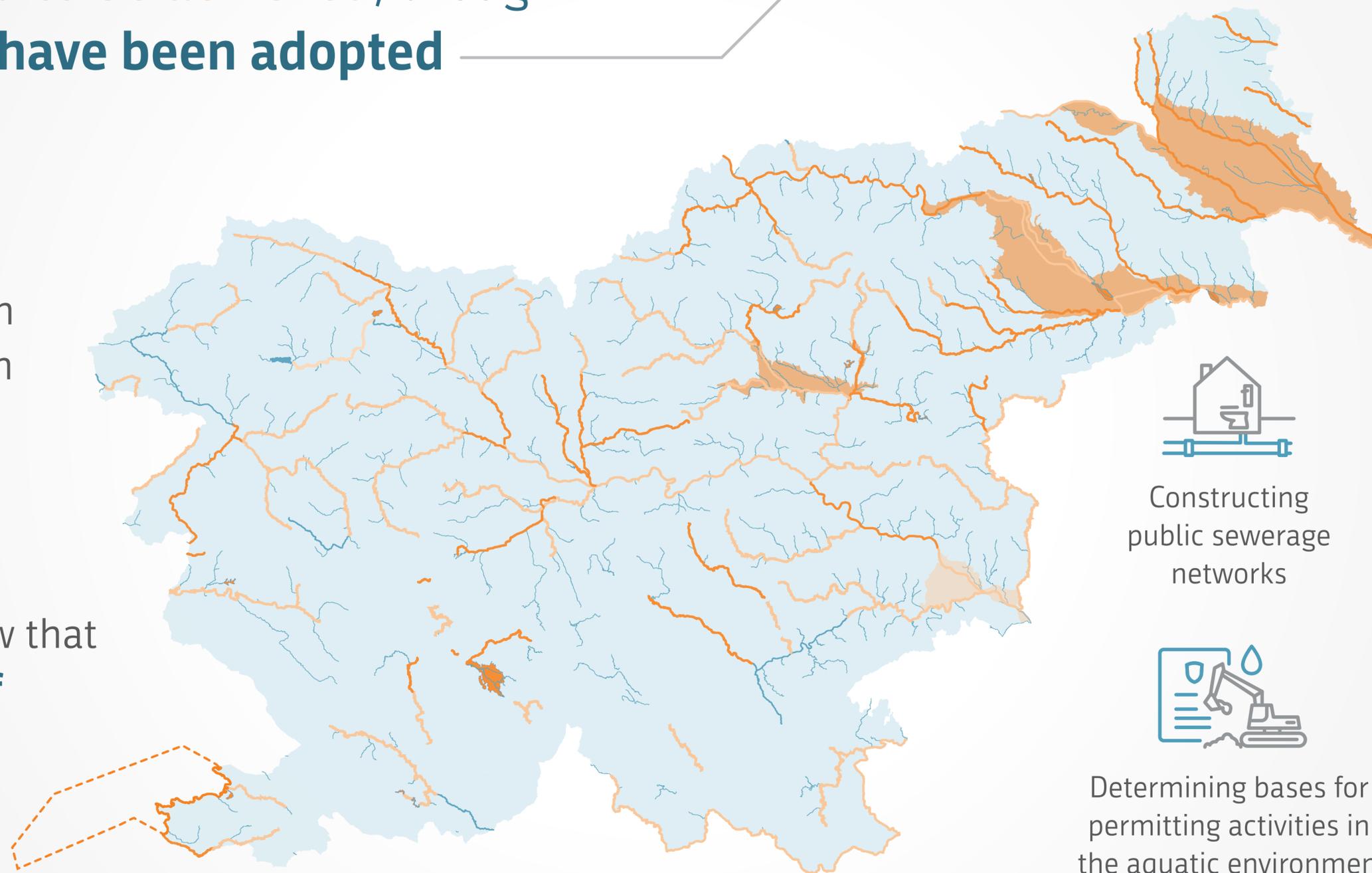
# OBJECTIVE – good water status by 2021

is not expected to be achieved, though the measures have been adopted

## MEASURES

Partial reporting on the implementation of measures

Available data show that implementation of measures is less effective than planned



Adapting agricultural practices



Constructing public sewerage networks



Designation of water protection areas

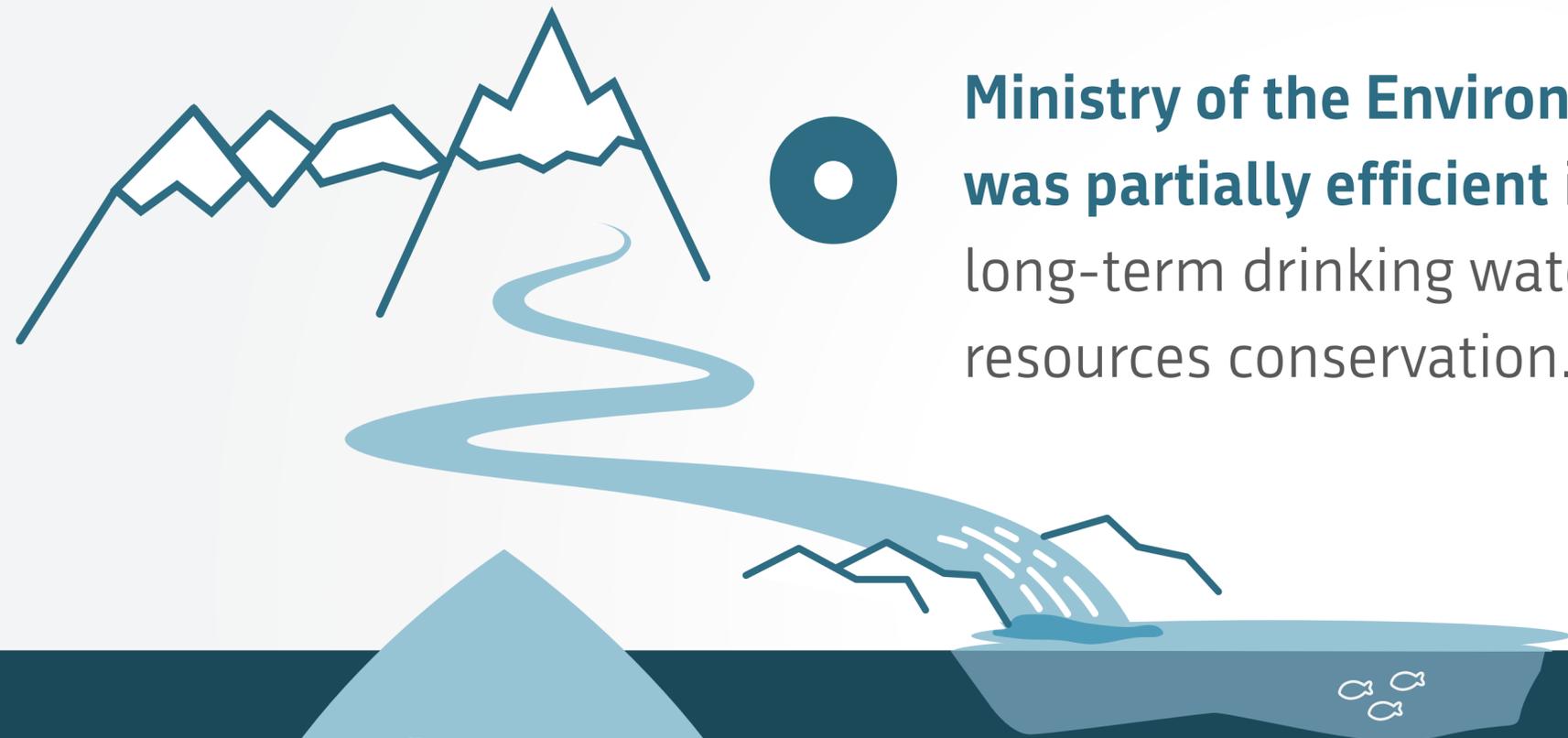


Determining bases for permitting activities in the aquatic environment



Strengthening inspection

# OPINION OF THE COURT OF AUDIT



**Ministry of the Environment was partially efficient** in long-term drinking water resources conservation.

## Concern

### for clean water

is the responsibility of every single one of us – **let us not wait for tomorrow.**

## OUR NEXT STEP

After the completion of the audit, the Court of Audit **decided to carry out a new audit** at the **Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food and Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning on the effectiveness of reducing the level of nitrates** from agricultural resources in waters.

## DEMANDS



Ministry of the Environment must ensure that the condition of **deep aquifer** of Dravska kotlina basin shall not deteriorate



Ministry **must examine the reasons for the unallowed presence of atrazine in groundwater**

## RECOMMENDATIONS

to the Ministry of the Environment



**To consider possible regional water scarcity** when drawing up water management plan



**To ensure comparability of water stress analyses** with previous years



**To propose additional measures for reducing the level of nitrates** from agricultural resources in waters



**To define indicators** for establishing efficiency of measures