

Business as usual



MERLIN

Working with rivers



# Vision for European rivers

**Nature-based Solutions** (NbS) are actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore ecosystems. In European rivers they are ...

- addressing societal challenges effectively and adaptively, **benefiting people**
- enhancing ecosystem functions, **benefiting nature**

## Large transboundary rivers

The goals of NbS in large rivers focus on reducing unnatural water level fluctuations, which have arisen due to past river regulation. These concern both low (left) and high water (right) situations. They reduce the probability and duration of desiccation of floodplains and the hinterland and the risks of flooding. Nature, agriculture, shipping, freshwater supply and flood safety are thereby served.


### Benefits for both people and nature

- minimised flood risk
- improved navigability
- drought resilience & carbon storage
- recreation & fisheries
- wetland habitats
- biodiversity

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