

# What is Europe Doing Better?

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SMWG Beneficial Use Workshop



# Common Themes

- › Regulatory flexibility
- › Policies that support BU of contaminated sediment
- › Sustainability and social cost in analysis
- › Opportunities for BU
- › Change of perception



Source: Sednet - Moving Sediment Management Forward - The Four SedNet Messages



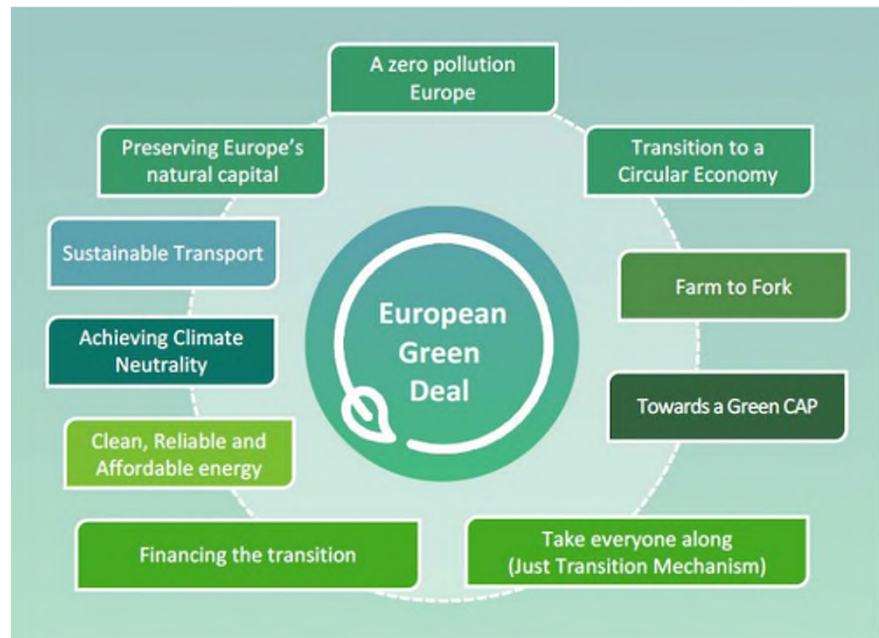
Figure 7: Stakeholder influences on beneficial use projects (image by WG 214 authors)

# EU and the Green Deal

## › Governing principles

- 1) climate adaptation,
- 2) climate mitigation,
- 3) circular use of natural resources,
- 4) zero pollution,
- 5) healthy water ecosystems, and
- 6) biodiversity.

› Developing a more circular economy and undertaking critical climate adaptation measures are consistent with beneficial use of sediment. Circular economy and climate adaptation concepts are driving interest, inquiry, and potentially innovation in beneficial use.

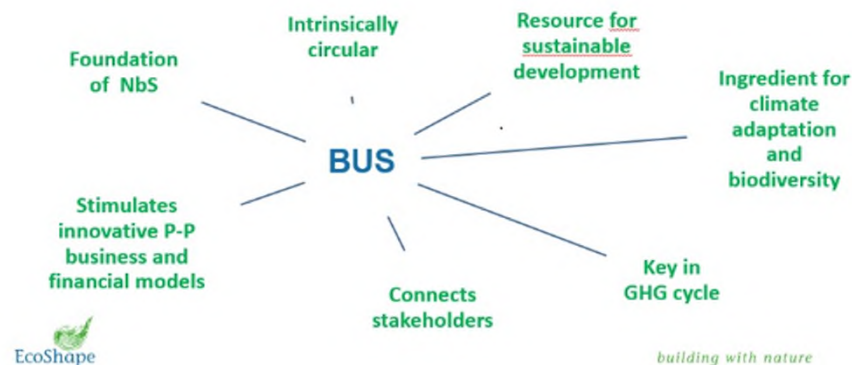


Source: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/the-european-green-deal-must-be-at-the-heart-of-the-covid-19-recovery/>

# Opportunities and Proof-of-Concept

- EcoShape Beneficial Use of Sediments (BUS) Table: brings together partners and guest organizations with a shared ambition of mainstreaming and maximizing the beneficial (re)use of sediments towards 100% reuse, through Building with Nature.
- SEDI.PORT.SIL project demonstrated pilot treatment plan for BU. Assessed that the plant could be successfully scaled-up and applied.
- Interreg – Sullied Sediment: develops and tests new tools to assess, treat and prevent contamination in sediments

## BUS – links to international ambitions



# Sustainable *ex-situ* remediation of contaminated sediment: A review (Zhang et al. 2021)



# What can the US do?

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- › Develop a more integrated view on sediment management and shift to more field- and full-scale applications
- › Develop platform to share knowledge and project details
- › Promote technology development with cost and risk-sharing programs
- › Identify and share end-use opportunities
- › On the right track:
  - › In 2023, US Congress directed USACE ERDC to develop a public-private partnership focused on R&D and implementation of solutions for the assessment and management of contaminated sediments.
  - › WEDA is partnering with PIANC to work cooperatively developing a report on beneficial use of dredged material. PIANC's Environmental Commission (EnviCom) recently formed Working Group 214 (WG214)
  - › Regional Sediment Management (RSM) addresses sediment issues and supports sustainable solutions to meet the needs across the Corps missions and has project information online.



# integral

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