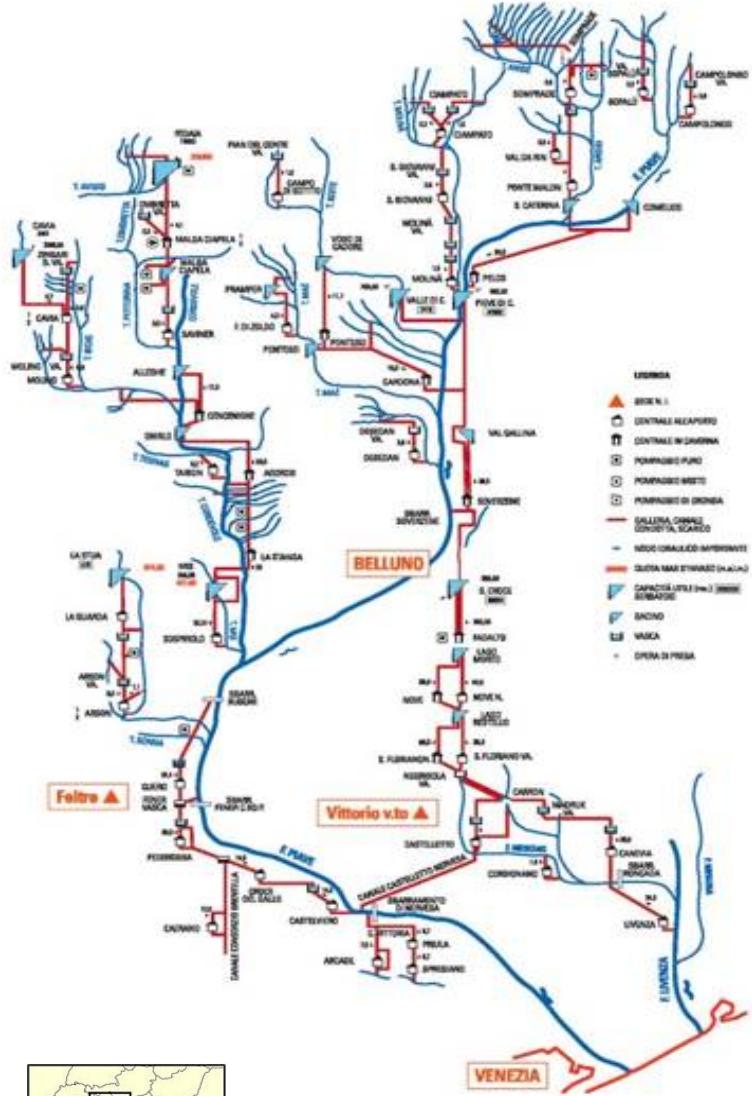


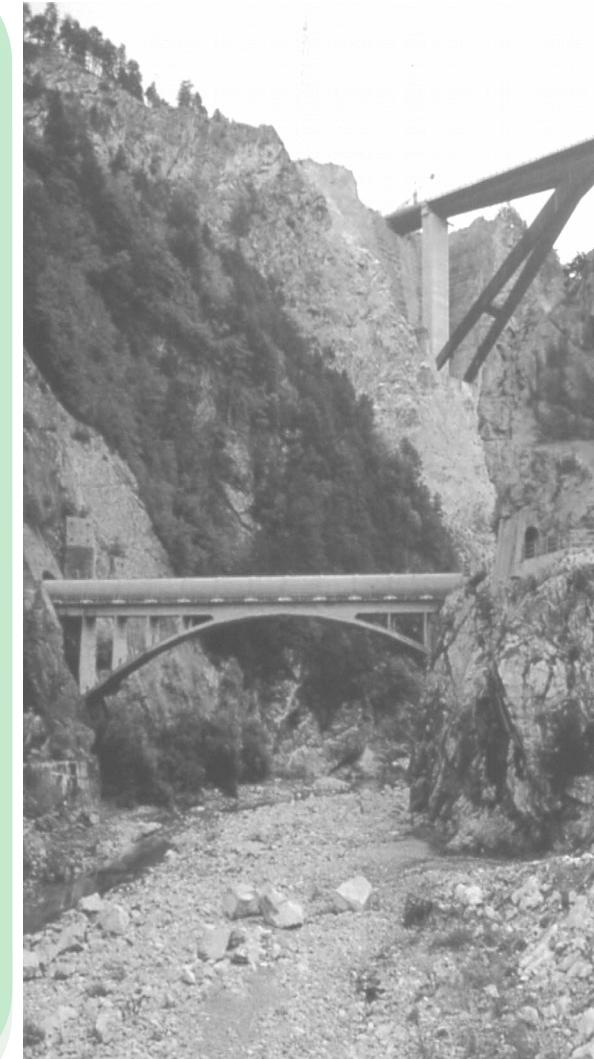


the blue  
heart  
of Italy





Belluno Province  
has been largely  
exploited since  
the beginning of  
19th century,  
till the Vajont  
disaster  
(October 1963)



**Piave river: 80% of its waters flow in pipes and canals**





## Vajont disaster (1963): 2000 dead



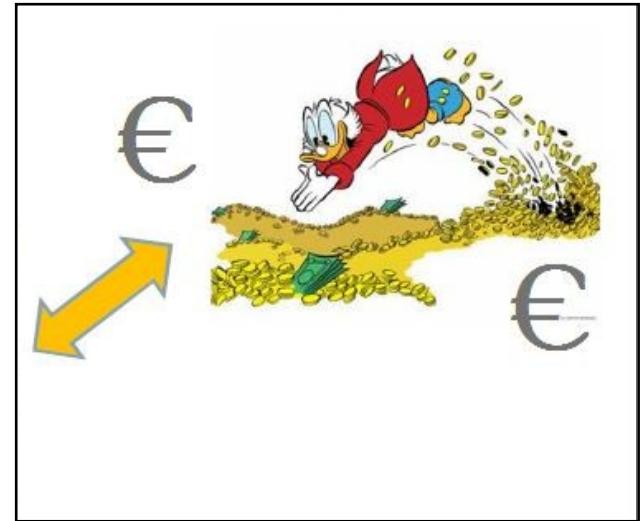
after the disaster  
stop in the construction of  
dams  
for 40 years



Since the beginning of 2000, the exploitation of the few remaining natural watercourses has started again



**... the reason lies in the state aid**



Since 2009 each kwh produced by a new hydropower plant  
is paid **3 times the market price for 20 years**

**1 billion euro per year for 20 years in state aid**

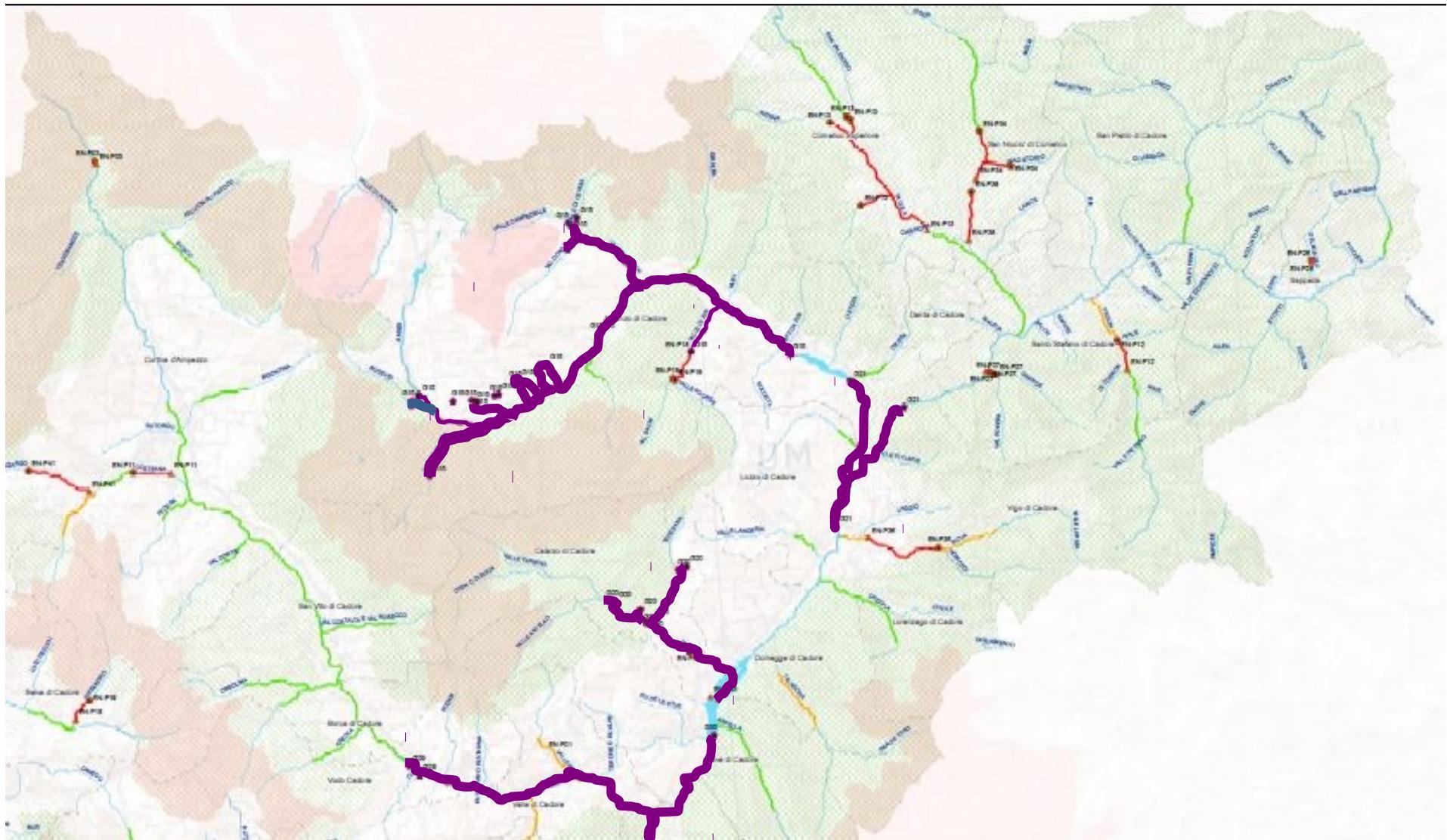


**Lack of territorial planning + state aid = unprecedented exploitation of water courses.**



**One plant after  
the other**

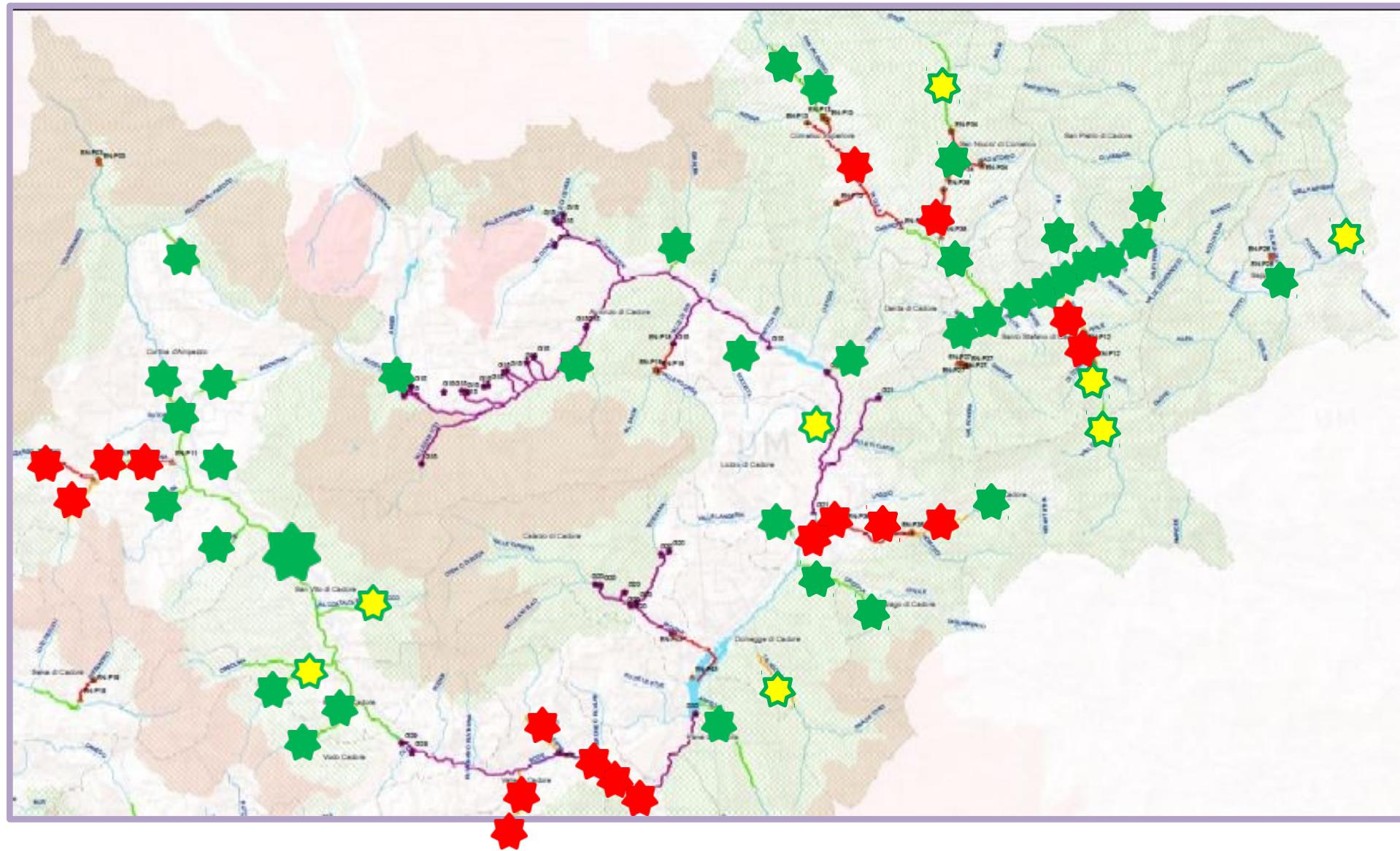
# Province of Belluno - upper part: (in purple) rivers exploited by large hydropower plants and dams before 2009



# Province of Belluno - upper part: new projects of hydropower plants (after 2009)



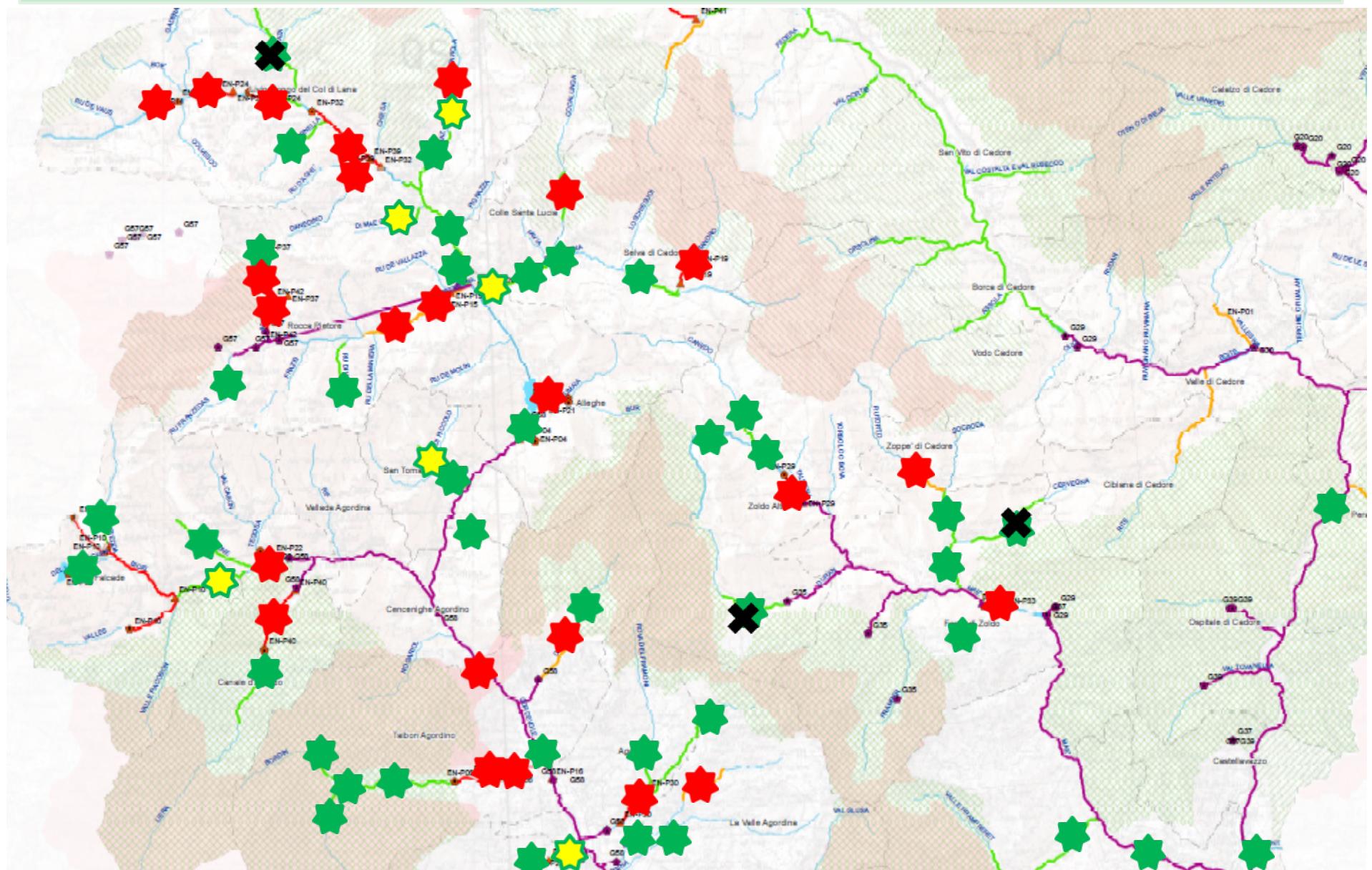
Realized  
Approved  
Under scrutiny



# Province of Belluno - middle part: new projects of hydropower plants (after 2009)



Realized  
Approved  
Under scrutiny



# “mini”?



# About production in Italy (2014)

<b>Annual gross energy consumption</b>	<b>118,60 Mtep</b>
Annual electric energy consumption	26,80 Mtep
Hydroelectric energy production (normalized)	3,94 Mtep
Hydroelectric energy production from <b>2034</b> small plants, P <1 MW	0,19 Mtep

# the action of the committees

- inform people through public meetings, publications and campaigns
- create awareness of the emergency so that communities can resist the new plants and the degradation of their rivers
- make network with other associations at alpine and national level
- make legal actions on cases of particular importance
- seek political support



# the action of the committees



# the action of the committees



# the action of the committees



# the action of the committees

**2013: Complaint to the European Commission**

**2014: EU Pilot 6011/2014 Envi  
the European Commission opened a pre-  
infringement procedure**



# where are we now?

- Increased awareness
- Network of associations
- New national guidelines on project evaluation
- New national guidelines on ecological flow



While waiting for the new rules to come into force and be truly effective, which will take years, we kept asking the Government **to eliminate the state aid to hydro plants on natural watercourses, as the only way to cope with this environmental emergency.**



# Good news for our rivers!

Finally the Italian Government has recognized the problem: the draft of the new decree on renewable energy 2018-2020 cuts out state aid to hydropower plants in natural watercourses!

Within a few months the new decree will be effective, and we will fight for it so that it does not undergo any negative changes.

**Hydropower in natural watercourses should no longer be considered as GREEN**

**Renewable is not always equivalent to sustainable**

