

Regional Workshop on Strategic Planning in Water Sector

3 – 4 June 2015

ECRAN 59649

Requirements for national planning documents as
part of the Acquis

River basin management plans in line with WFD



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Structure of the presentation

WFD – new water policy

WFD – legal requirements

Water planning process

WFD challenges and solutions

WFD – integration with other EU policies

Capacity building



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WFD: new EU water policy

The **WFD objectives** by 2015, 2021 or 2027 (*if exemptions can be justified*) is for all European water bodies to achieve and maintain 'good ecological status' (GES) or 'high ecological status' (HES).

WFD offers the possibility to MS to engage into two further 6 - year cycles of planning and implementation of measures!

The Directive establishes a framework for the protection of all waters (including inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater) which:

- Prevents further deterioration of water resources
- Promotes sustainable water use
- Measures for the reduction of discharges, emissions and losses of PS
- Ensures the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater
- Contributes to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts.



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WFD legal requirements

- Take a new approach to water protection – the **integrated river basin approach** - basin-wide scale, addressing all **pressures and impacts** (Article 5, Article 6, Annex II, Annex III)
- Use **ecological health** as the **indicator of success** (Article 2 (22), Annex V)
- It covers **all water categories**; rivers, lakes, groundwater as well as coastal and transitional waters
- To make operational the **monitoring networks** by 2006 (Article 8)
- To identify by 2009 a **PoM for achieving the WFD objectives cost-effectively** (Article 11, Annex III)
- To **produce and publish RBMPs** for each RBD including the designation of heavily modified water bodies, by 2009 (Article 13, Article 4.3)
 - To implement **water pricing policies** by 2010 (Article 9)
 - To make the measures of the **programme operational** by 2012 (Article 11)
 - To implement the PoM and **achieve the environmental objectives by 2015** (Article 4).



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Planning proces: to remember

- (1) The WFD planning process need to be precise and consider:
 - the complexity of the WFD and its implementation
 - the necessity to anticipate the obligatory deadlines
 - the numerous interlinked tasks
 - the obligation of involvement of a large number of stakeholders
 - the integration of several levels : EU, national, districts and basins
- (2) Perfect understanding of the planning and management requirements of the WFD facilitate the establishment of RBMP and the PoM, and hence contribute to the establishment of WFD overall environmental goals
- (3) The river basin planning process is followed by PoM implementation
- (4) The planning process together with the implementation of the PoM is referred to as river basin management.



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WFD approach for water planning

The planning process includes following main components:

- Setting the scene
- Assessment of the current status and analyze preliminary gaps
- Setting up of the environmental objectives
- Establishment of monitoring programmes
- Gap analysis
- Setting up of the programme of measures
- Development river basin management plans
- Implementation of the programmes of measures and prepare the interim report on the implementation
- Evaluation the first and the second period
- Information and consultation of the public, active involvement of interested parties.

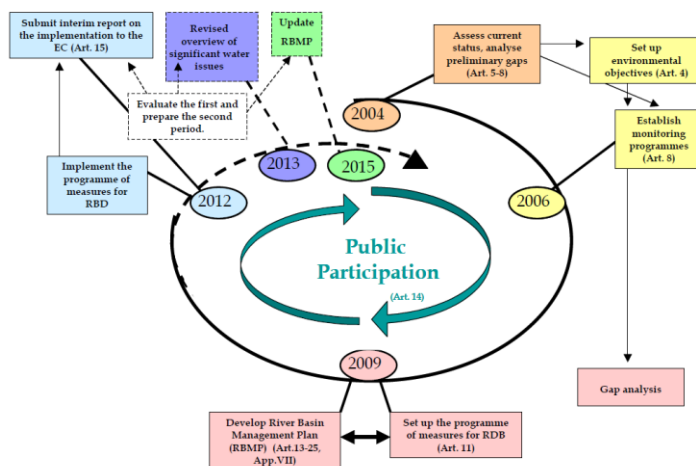


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1st Planning Cycle



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Year	River Basin Planning Requirements
2003	Transpose Directive Identify river basin districts and the competent authorities
2004	Characterisation and risk assessment Economic analysis of water use Register of protected areas
2006	Monitoring programmes Work programme for first River Basin Management Plans
2007	Interim overview of the significant water management issues
2008	Publish draft River Basin Management Plans for consultation
2009	Finalise and publish first River Basin Management Plans
2012	Measures fully operational Work programme for second River Basin Management Plans
2013	Review characterisation and risk assessment Review economic analysis of water use Interim overview of the significant water management issues
2014	Publish second draft River Basin Plans for consultation
2015	Achieve environmental objectives in first Basin Plan Finalise and publish second River Basin Plans

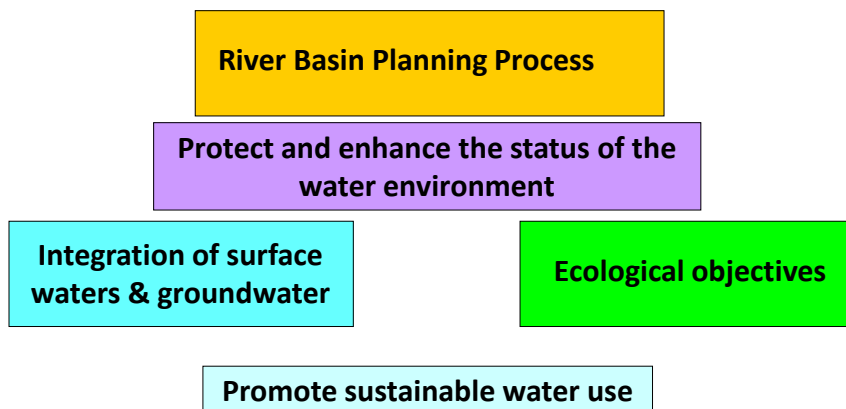


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River Basin Planning Process



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RBMP – strategic planning document

- It is a **strategic planning document** and an **operational guide** to implement PoM within a River Basin District for a period of six years.
- It serves as a **basic inventory and documentation mechanism** for information gathered according to the directive including, e.g.:
 - environmental objectives for surface waters and ground waters;
 - information on quality and quantity of waters;
 - information on main impact of human activity.
- It **co-ordinates programmes of measures** and other relevant programs concerning the area of river basin district.
- It is developed in **consultation with the public**.
- It serves as **main reporting mechanism of river basin district authorities to EC**.



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Contents of the RBMP

- General description of the **characteristics of the river basin district**, including maps.
- **Summary of significant pressures and impact of human activity** on the status of surface water and groundwater, including estimations of point source pollution, diffuse source pollution, and an analysis of other impacts of human activity.
- Map identifying protected areas.
- Map or the monitoring network with results of the **monitoring programmes** showing the ecological and chemical status of surface water, the chemical and quantitative status of groundwater and the status of protected areas.
- List of the **environmental objectives** established for surface waters, groundwaters and protected areas, including where use has been made of the derogations.
- Summary of the **economic analysis of water use**.
- Summary of the **programme or programmes of measures**.
- Register of any more detailed programmes and management plans and a summary of their contents.
- Summary or the **public information and consultation measures** taken, their results and the changes to the plan as a consequence.
- List of **competent authorities**, contact points and procedures for obtaining background documentation and information, including actual monitoring data.



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WFD challenges

Scientific

Multidisciplinary

Scale issue

Technical

Tight deadlines

New approaches, methodologies, techniques, methods

Socio economic, political

Large financial efforts

Social learning, commitment and public enabling



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WFD challenges: solutions

In the case of transboundary water bodies, this needs **co-operation between countries**

- Appropriate coordination with relevant non-EU Member States shall be endeavoured for achieving WFD objectives” - WFD Art 3(5)

- “Member States may identify an **existing national or international body** as competent authority for the purposes of this Directive”- WFD Art 3(6)

Include the views of stakeholders (Article 14)

Requiring water pricing policies based on the “user pays” principle

Balancing the interests of the environment with those who depend on it.



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Learning from the obstacles following the first analysis

- Data collection process - lack of data and information on pressures and impacts, need for criteria for defining the significant pressures, need for a translation between pressures and impacts, need for the baseline scenario before estimating the forecasted impacts, need to know the 2015 objectives to assess the risk of failure for WFD objectives
- Data on RC prerequisite for assigning ecologically relevant typology
- Need to start monitoring potential RC sites before monitoring programmes are operational
- Need for monitoring data from intercalibration sites
- Typology, reference conditions and class boundaries not available. Draft register based on expert judgment and limited available data



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Relevant thematic issues of integration in Drina River Basin

- Integration environmental, economic, social objectives
- Integrated information sources
- Spatial integration – land use planning
- Cross sectoral integration
- Priority for Quality and quantity (water, sediments..)
- Application of EIA and SEA for water investments in relation to WFD objectives
- Institutional interplay – responsibilities, competencies (water, agriculture, environment,..)
- Policy integration of those sectors having a spatial impact - urban, agricultural, ..., considering that the SEA is a strong driving force for policy integration
- PoM and climate changes: “climate proof” measures
- Flooding, draughts
- Role of economic instruments in achieving the WFD objectives through integration of policies
- PoM – prioritization of investments



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Proposed concept for capacity building

- Discuss principles on integration
- Case studies, lessons learned
- Clarification of the legal relationship between the WFD, especially the RBMP and the PoM (Article 11), and the assessment under the other directives
- Discussion on the similarities and overlaps (extent, nature) between the WFD, EIAD/ SEAD, FD, MSFD, others
- Examination of those potential duplications which are possible and synergy/coordination needs between authorities managing RBMPs, within river basins
- Identification of joint solutions to overcome different related problems
- Select 2-3 case studies, each with the potential to underline different sets of interlinkages, synergies and actions and overlaps between the WFD and other Directives.



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Thank you!



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