

Overview of the relevant European Union policies and directives in the River Basin Management Plan development

Gheorghe Constantin
Director
Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests

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How was the EU water policy built?

- ▶ The starting point of the EU water policy is the Paris conference of 1972,
- ▶ Mid-70s the Commission and the Member States have adopted two different types of water legislations (directives)
- ▶ Environmental protection legislations:
 - ▶ Quality of Surface Water Directive (75/440/EEC)
 - ▶ Urban Waste Water Directive (91/271/EEC)
- ▶ Health protection legislation:
 - ▶ Drinking Water Directive (80/778/EEC)
 - ▶ Bathing Water Directive (75/160/EEC).

Main EU present policy in the environmental field

- Green growth
 - developing integrated policies that promote a **sustainable environmental framework**
- Protecting nature
 - safeguard natural resources and halt the decline of endangered species and habitats
- Safeguarding the health and wellbeing of people living in the EU
 - guarantee **safe drinking and bathing water**
 - improve **air quality** and reduce noise
 - reduce or eliminate the effects of **harmful chemicals**.
- Global challenges
 - air, oceans and other water resources are kept clean
 - land and ecosystems are used sustainably
 - climate change is kept to manageable levels.

Main EU legal and policy framework for water management

- Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
 - protecting **all** waters (surface & groundwater: streams, rivers, estuaries, and coastal waters);
 - good quality ('good status') to be achieved, as a rule, by 2015;
- Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)
 - Risk assessment, mapping and flood risk management plans
- Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)
 - Good environmental status of the EU's marine waters by 2021 (including coastal waters)

Blue Print for Safeguarding European Waters

- The objective is to ensure that a sufficient quantity of good quality water is available for people's needs, the economy and the environment throughout the EU.
- Outlines actions that concentrate on better implementation of current water legislation, integration of water policy objectives into other policies, and filling the gaps in particular as regards water quantity and efficiency
- The Water Blueprint's time horizon is closely related to the EU's 2020 Strategy and to the 2011 Resource Efficiency Roadmap

Blueprint objectives: where we want to be

- Goal
 - Ensure sustainability of all activities that impact on water, thereby securing the availability of good-quality water for sustainable and equitable water use
- Objectives (something better, more and new)
 - Better implementation
 - More integration
 - Few new legal proposals to complete current framework

Blueprint and EU2020

- Clean water is part of the natural capital on which health, well-being, and our economy depend
- The Blueprint contributes to EU2020 and growth and jobs by reinforcing the natural capital foundation of our society
- The Blueprint is the milestone for water on the Roadmap for a Resource Efficient Europe

Tools for implementation – financial resources 2007-2013

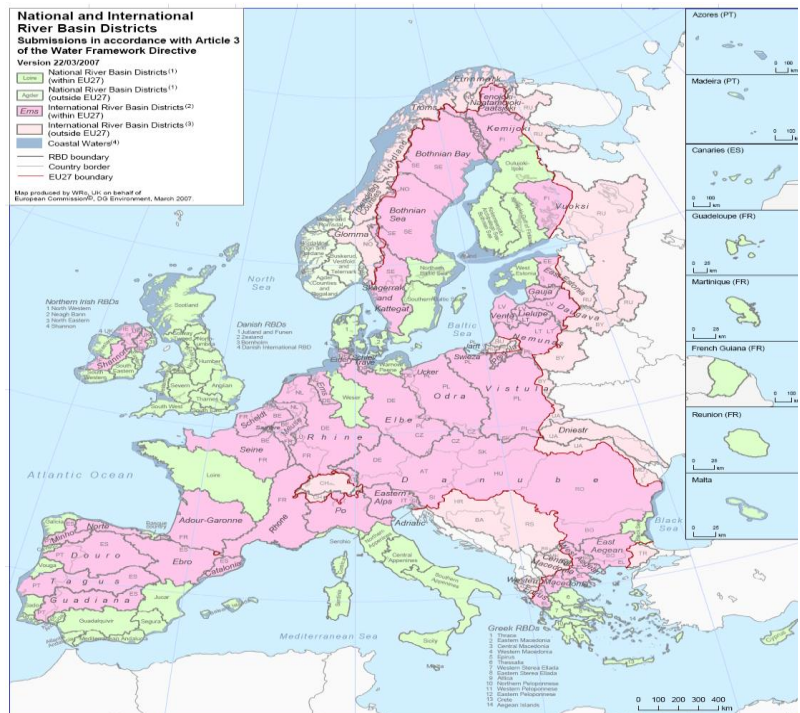
- Cohesion Policy – transnational program for South-East Europe
- Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA) including Cross-border cooperation programs
- European Neighborhood Policy Instrument (ENPI)



Water Framework Directive

- Main objective is to achieve good water status/good chemical status/maximum ecological potential for all waters (surface, underground, coastal, transitional)
- Brings together in a common framework a diversity of previous directives dealing with water issues (Shellfish Waters, Bathing Waters Nitrates, Dangerous Substances, Urban Urban Waste Water Treatment)
- Requires water management at the River Basin level. In the understanding of WFD river discharging the water into the sea/ocean

River Basin Districts into EU



Water Framework Directive

Key Principles

- **Integrated management**, taking into account and addressing all pressures and impacts
- **Management unit** is the hydrological **river basin**
- Achievement of **environmental objectives** (*good water status/potential*) is a **legal requirement**
- Development of the **River Basin Management Plans** including **Programme of Measures** for the achieving WFD objectives
- **6 years** management cycles
- **Public participation** requirements

What does the WFD bring?

- **Improved governance**
 - Working together for sustainable water management
 - Planning process
- **Integrated river basin management**
 - Transparent decision making to balance environmental protection and sustainable development
- **Technical challenges**
 - Comprehensive assessment of water environment and socio-economic needs
- **Programme of measures**
 - Abandoning unsustainable practices and repairing damage
 - Restoration of water bodies

WFD: *One* management frame for all water-related legislation



Main provisions of the Drinking Water Directive

- Ensure that drinking water quality is controlled through standards based on the latest scientific evidence;
- Secure an efficient and effective monitoring, assessment and enforcement of drinking water quality;
- Provide the consumers with adequate, timely and appropriately information;
- Contribute to the broader EU water and health policy;

Application of the Directive

- Distribution systems serving more than 50 people or supplying more than 10 m³/day;
- Drinking water from tankers;
- Drinking water in bottles or containers;
- Water used in the food-processing industry

Main measures for Drinking Water

- Improvement of the drinking water monitoring
- Improvement of the analytical capacity of the drinking water producers
- Improvement of the technologies and extension of the water treatment
- Extension of the drinking water distribution network
- Replacement of the domestic distribution systems
- Ensuring the protection areas around water intakes

Requirements of the UWWTD

- The collection and treatment of waste water in all agglomerations of >2000 population equivalent (i.e.);
- Secondary treatment of all discharges from agglomerations of > 2000 i.e., and more advanced treatment for agglomerations >10 000 population equivalent in designated sensitive areas and their catchments;
- A requirement for pre-authorisation of all discharges of urban wastewater, of discharges from the food-processing industry and of industrial discharges into urban wastewater collection systems;
- Monitoring of the performance of treatment plants and receiving waters; and
- Controls of sewage sludge disposal and re-use, and treated waste water re-use whenever it is appropriate

Main Measures for UWWT Directive

- Building new urban wastewater treatment plants
- Upgrading the existing urban wastewater treatment plants
- Upgrading the existing local industry wastewater treatment plants
- Rehabilitation of the existing urban sewerage
- Building and/or extension of the urban sewerage.

REQUIRMENTS OF NITRATE DIRECTIVES

- Assessment surface water and groundwater quality
- Establishment of the Nitrate Vulnerable Zones
- Reduction of nitrate pollution coming from agricultural sources by:
- Development of the Action Plans
- Proper manure management
- Implementation of the Code of Good Agricultural Practices
- Limitation of fertilizers application to 170 Kg N/ha (210 kg N/ha)

Measures for the Nitrate Directives

- Interdiction periods for applying manure based on the interval between earliest freezing of the soil (autumn) / latest freezing (spring)
- Evaluation of minimum storage volumes based on animal type, grazing conditions and interdiction period for applying manure application of the Code of Good Agriculture Practices
- Building storage capacity for manure
- Nutrient management plans for small households
- Evaluation of the land for manure spreading from animal complexes (if any)
- Establishment of grass strips around the surface waters
- Measures to prevent soil erosion and run-off differentiated according with land use and slope

Requirements of the Bathing Directive

- Monitoring and classification of bathing water quality
- Management of bathing water quality
- Provision of information to the public on bathing water quality

Measures for the Bathing Directive

- Improvement of the monitoring systems
- Establishment of the bathing waters
- Improvement of the waste water treatment (microbiological pollution)
- Phase out discharges of priority substances
- Public consultation and information

The Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)

Main provisions:

- Groundwater quality standards to be established by the end of 2008;
- Pollution trend studies to be carried out by using existing data and data which is mandatory by the WFD (referred to as "baseline level" data obtained in 2007-2008);
- Pollution trends to be reversed so that environmental objectives are achieved by 2015 by using the measures set out in the WFD;
- Measures to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater to be operational so that WFD environmental objectives can be achieved by 2015;
- Reviews of technical provisions of the directive to be carried out in 2013 and every six years thereafter;
- Compliance with good chemical status criteria (based on EU standards of nitrates and pesticides and on threshold values established by Member States)

Priority substances for water (1)

- Based on Article 16 of the WFD which sets out "Strategies against pollution of water"
- By Decision 2455/2001/EC it was defined a first list of priority substances which became Annex X of the WFD
- Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and the Council on environmental quality standards in the field of water policy, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directives 82/176/EEC, 83/513/EEC, 84/156/EEC, 84/491/EEC, 86/280/EEC and amending Directive 2000/60/EC

Priority substances for water (1)

The EQSD established:

- in Annex I, limits on concentrations of the priority substances in surface waters of 33 priority substances and 8 other pollutants
- the list of 33 priority substances in Annex II as Annex X of the Water Framework Directive (WFD);
- the possibility of applying EQS for sediment and biota, instead of those for water;
- the possibility of designating mixing zones adjacent to discharge points where concentrations of the substances in Annex I might be expected to exceed their EQS;
- a requirement for Member States to establish an inventory of emissions, discharges and losses of the substances in Annex I;
- an obligation to review the list of priority substances by 13 January 2011.
- Amended by Directive 2013/39/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 August 2013 amending Directives 2000/60/EC and 2008/105/EC as regards priority substances in the field of water policy

Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks

- Its aim is to reduce and manage the risks that floods pose to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity
- The following stages are covered by the implementation process:
 - Preliminary risk assessment
 - Flood mapping
 - Flood risk management plans
- Implementation shall be carried out in coordination with the Water Framework Directive, by flood risk management plans and river basin management plans being coordinated, and through coordination of the public participation procedures

Measures for the Flood Directive

- Measures to reduce existing risks
- Measures to avoid new risks
- Strengthening resilience
- Raising awareness
- Promoting solidarity principle

Links of the Flood Directive with the Water Framework Directive

- Administrative units shall be the same for the two Directives, ie the Floods directive shall be implemented on the level of the *river basin districts* (which includes not just river basins and sub basins but also associated coastal areas) identified in the WFD article 3
- Competent authority responsible for the WFD shall also be responsible for the flood risk management actions
- Principles for coordination within the river basins are the same
- Implementation cycles and reporting mechanisms shall be synchronised as regards the timetables
- Public participation and information mechanisms of the WFD – synergy on reporting

Initiative on Water Scarcity and Droughts

- Based on the periodical Follow-up results, assessment of the River Basin Management Plans and further information, a Policy Review for water scarcity and droughts has been completed in November 2012, which is part of the "Blue Print for Safeguarding European Waters" adopted by the European Commission on 14 November 2012
- In the next implementation cycles of the WFD this need to be ensured along with further integration of water quantity issues into sectoral policies.
- Integrating water quantity issues more fully into the overall policy framework.

Marine Strategy Framework Directive

- The objective of the Directive is to achieve or maintain **good environmental status** in the marine environment by the year **2020** at the latest.

Implementation of the directive imply:

- An initial assessment of the current environmental status of the marine waters;
- A determination of what Good Environmental Status means for those waters;
- Targets and indicators designed to show whether a Member State is achieving GES;
- A monitoring programme to measure progress towards GES;
- A programme of measures designed to achieve or maintain GES.

Main requirements of the MSFD

- Sets out a common framework, based on co-operation, between Member States to ensure the sustainable use of marine goods and services by current and future generations;
- Each Member State must achieve or maintain Good Environmental Status in their marine environment by 2020;
- Strong focus on regional cooperation using existing regional seas conventions like Black Sea Convention where appropriate;
- Require an ecosystem approach

Pesticides legislation

- Regulation (EC) no 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC
- Directive 2009/128/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for Community action to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides
- Regulation (EC) no 1185/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistics on pesticides
- Directive 2009/127/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2006/42/EC with regard to machinery for pesticide application

Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (replacing IPPC Directive)

- Main EU instrument regulating pollutant emissions from industrial installations
- Aims to achieve a high level of protection of human health and the environment taken as a whole by reducing harmful industrial emissions across the EU, in particular through better application of Best Available Techniques (BAT)
- Activities listed in Annex I of the IED are required to operate in accordance with a permit (granted by the authorities in the Member States). This permit should contain conditions set in accordance with the principles and provisions of the IED.

Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions

Based on several pillars:

- integrated approach,
- use of best available techniques,
- flexibility,
- inspections
- public participation

Through the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR) emission data reported by Member States are made accessible in a public register

The next steps: full integration in sectoral policies outside of the water box

- Implementing the Commission 2009 adopted white paper: "Adapting to climate change: Towards a European framework for action"; water has an important role to play
- Promote cross compliance of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) to help deliver on the policy targets of the Water Framework Directive
- Coordinate with Marine strategy aligned on the WFD
- Coordinate with Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources 2009
- Develop a possible new directive on water reuse standards mainly agricultural uses



Thank you for attention !