



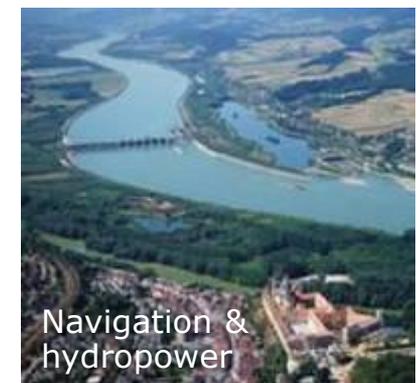
EU Water Framework Directive and EU Floods Directive

Key tools for integrated water resource management

Copernicus for Water Management workshop
Brussels, 29 May 2018

Joaquim Capitão
Clean Water Unit, DG Environment, European Commission

Water: Diversity of uses, aspirations, pressures and impacts



European Water Policy: Legal context

- **Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)**
- **Completing the framework:**
 - Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)
 - Environmental Quality Standards/Priority Substances Directive (2008/105/EC) as amended by Directive 2013/39/EU
- **Extending the scope:**
 - **Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)**
 - Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)
- Urban waste water treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)
- Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)
- IED, Plant Protection Products, etc.
- Drinking water Directive (98/83/EC)
- Bathing water Directive
 - New (2006/7/EC)
- Repealed by the WFD, such as quality of fish and shell fish waters, quality of waters used for drinking water abstraction, discharges of dangerous substances



The Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC

The River Basin Concept

- **Holistic approach:**
Protection and sustainable management of all surface and groundwater, including transitional and coastal waters
- Covering **all pressures and impacts**
- Water management at **river basin level**
- **River Basin Management Plans:** basic instrument to implement WFD



WFD objectives (Art. 4.1)

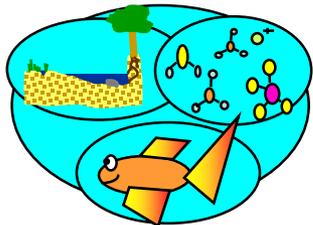
Goal is to achieve, by 2015, **good status or potential** of all waters concerned:

- Surface waters: Good **Chemical** and Good **Ecological** status/potential
- Groundwater: Good **Chemical** and Good **Quantitative** status

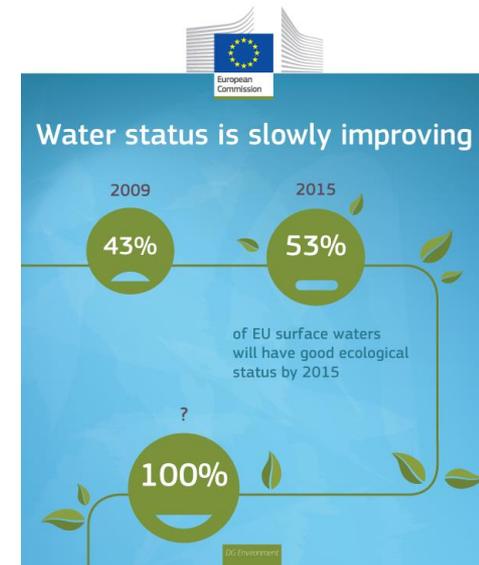
– while

Preventing deterioration of water status/potential,

...to protect human health, water supply,
natural ecosystems and biodiversity



***Steady trend of improvement
but more is required.***



Ecological status (examples of parameters)

- *Composition and abundance of aquatic flora*
- *River continuity*
- *Nutrient conditions*
- *Transparency*

Chemical status (examples of substances)

- *Benzene*
- *Mercury and its compounds*
- *Polyaromatic hydrocarbons*
- *Dioxins and dioxin-like compounds*

WFD Exemptions (Art. 4.4 - 4.7)

- the **extension of the deadline** (good status must be achieved by 2021 or 2027) – Art. 4.4
- the **achievement of less stringent objectives** under certain conditions – Art. 4.5
- the **temporary deterioration of the status** in case of natural causes or "force majeure" – severe floods, prolonged droughts, accidents – Art. 4.6
- **new projects/modifications** to the physical characteristics of a surface water body or alterations to the level of bodies of groundwater, or failure to prevent status deterioration of a body of surface water – Art. 4.7

The DPSIR approach: 6-years cycle

- Agriculture
- Urbanisation
- Energy
- Industrial dev.

Driving Forces

- Water abstraction
- Wastewater discharges
- Diffuse pollution
- Physical alteration of water bodies

Pressures

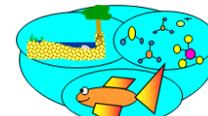
State

- Organic enrichment
- Eutrophication
- Altered habitats
- Reduced connectivity
- Loss of ecosystem services
- Socio-economic impacts

Impacts

Responses

- Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
- Nitrates Directive
- Industrial Emissions Directive
- WFD basic measures (regulation of abstraction, discharge, modification)
- RBMP planning process



HIGH	↓
GOOD	↓
MODERATE	↓
POOR	↓
BAD	↓

Non-deterioration ↑
Restoration ↑

The WFD Timetable

Entry into force	Dec 2000
Transposition into national law	Dec 2003
Analysis of characteristics, assessment of human impacts, economic analysis	Dec 2004
Monitoring programmes	Dec 2006
River basin management plans (RBMPs) and programmes of measures (PoMs)	Dec 2009
Water pricing policies in place	Dec 2010
Measures operational at the latest	Dec 2012
Updated RBMPs and PoMs (6-year cycles)	Dec 2015-2021-2027-...

Monitoring

From the 2012 WFD Implementation Report:

- *"A clear gap in monitoring emerges from the information reported to the Commission"*

Recommendation to Member States in the same report:

- *"Improve and expand monitoring and assessment tools to ensure a statistically robust and comprehensive picture of the status of the aquatic environment for the purpose of further planning"*



The Floods Directive 2007/60/EC

The Floods Directive

It creates a framework for the **assessment, mapping and management** of flood risks, for **reducing** the adverse **consequences** for human health, economic activity, the environment, and cultural heritage.

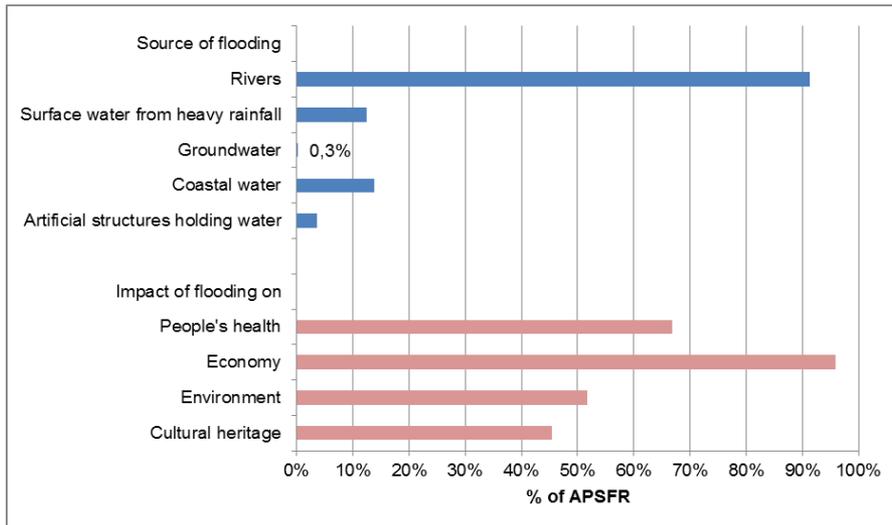
Coordination across the river basin, including requirements for trans-boundary coordination!



Key principles of the Floods Directive

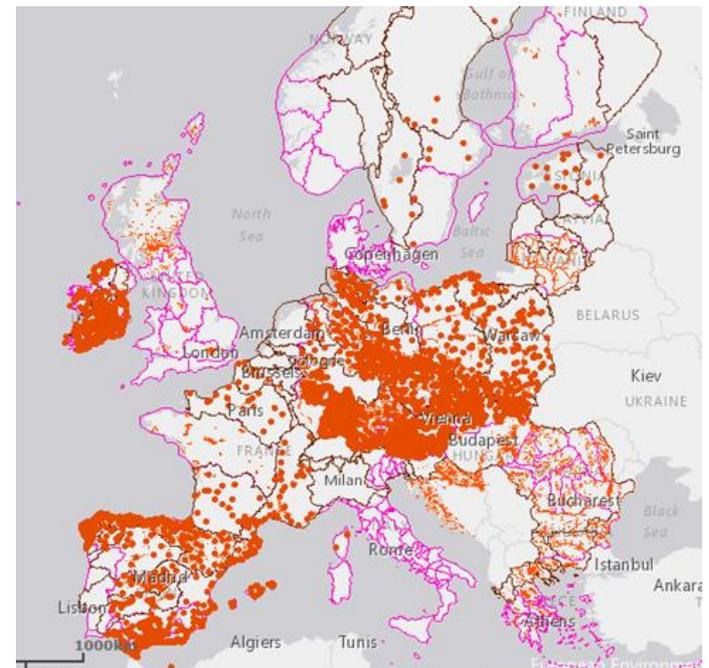
- Focus on **prevention, protection and preparedness**
- **Integrated river basin management:** Refraining from taking measures which significantly increase the risk of flooding elsewhere
- **Coordination and exchange** of information for cross-border river basins
- Member States (MSs) **define objectives, measures and their prioritisation** based on local and regional circumstances
- Consideration of **spatial planning** policy, giving **room to the river**, natural **water retention** and **climate change**
- Active **involvement** of all interested parties

Flood Risk Management - Some numbers and graphs



MS reporting suggest that more than **20 million people** potentially affected by medium probability fluvial flooding in the EU

Almost **four and a half thousand industrial installations** potentially affected by fluvial floods



The FD Timetable

Entry into force	Nov 2007
Transposition into national law	Nov 2009
Comp.Auth./Unit of management	May 2010
Preliminary flood risk assessment	Dec 2011
Flood hazard and risk mapping	Dec 2013
Flood Risk Management Plans (6-years cycles)	2015-2021-2027



The Common Implementation Strategy

Common Implementation Strategy (CIS)



WFD Guidance Documents

Guidance documents and technical reports have been produced to assist stakeholders. Guidance Documents are intended to provide an overall methodological approach for specific circumstances of each EU Member State.

List of published CIS Guidance Documents available on [CIRCABC](#)

- [N° 1 - Economics and the Environment - The Implementation Challenge](#)
- [N° 2 - Identification of Water Bodies](#)
- [N° 3 - Analysis of Pressures and Impacts](#)
- [N° 4 - Identification and Designation of Heavily Modified and Artificial](#)
- [N° 5 - Transitional and Coastal Waters - Typology, Reference Condition](#)
- [N° 6 - Towards a Guidance on Establishment of the Intercalibration Net Intercalibration Exercise](#)
- [N° 7 - Monitoring under the Water Framework Directive](#)
- [N° 8 - Public Participation in Relation to the Water Framework Directive](#)
- [N° 9 - Implementing the Geographical Information System Elements \(GIS\)](#)
- [N° 10 - Rivers and Lakes - Typology, Reference Conditions and Classification](#)
- [N° 11 - Planning Processes](#)

- The EU Member States (MS), EFTA countries and the Commission addressing challenges in a co-operative and coordinated way since 2001
- Enlargement countries invited to actively participate as well
- CIRCABC - the Information Exchange Platform
- Work Programme 2016-2018



European
Commission

Thank you!