

EU Integration and Water Management – Legal and Institutional Chalengies

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Water management (sustainable water management) requires actions from different levels and sectors of government, directly and indirectly, and from different stakeholders.





Legislation



- Process of approximation of the water acuqis
 - old systems that were more traditional (comand and cotrole)
 - some functions were more focused on water use than water management

• Opportunities:

- Build up new legislation that is based on the same principles and provides the same legal ground for actions and regional cooperation

Challenges:

- Incorporate existing experience into new concept of water management



Institutions

- Adapting old institutions for the implementation of the legislation:
 - Central
 - Local (regional)
- Creating new institutions
- Introducing new principles of governance:
 - regulatory
 - voluntary
 - both



WFD

- Provides bases for establishment of joint management of trans-boundary water bodies:
- identification of qualitative and quantitative characteristics of waters
 - monitoring
 - protection
 - water management plans and programes
 - stakeholders participation in decision making process
 - cooperation with neighbouring states





Trans-boundary cooperation



- Select functions
- Build up joint knowledge
- Identify and include stakeholders
- Build trust between intuitions
- Build "social trust" between stakeholders will reduce conflicts over competing uses and controversial policies



Stakeholders

Identify stakeholders according to their impact to the water bodies (art.5 WFD – review of impact of human activities)

Empowering municipalities and engaging non-state actors will improve the implementation of water management programs

Improved transparency will increase political legitimacy

Implement EIA and SEA procedures as routine practices



National implementation

- Implementation should start at national level
- Creating capacity for performing national functions of water management and linked-side functions that contribute to water management:
 - IPPC
 - Waste Management
 - Policies development integration
 - Nature protection protected areas (article 6 FWD)
- Establishment of water licence system (art. 9 FWD recovery of costs) for discharge and water use
- Capacity building of administration



Regional Implementation

- Trans-boundary cooperation is a key element that one country can employ in its own national water management strategy
- Without cooperation with its neighbouring countries it is difficult to believe that national strategy can achieve its set goals
- Create regional links at different level of government and with different stakeholders involved in water management
- Create national intitutions that will foster regional cooperation
- Regional cooperation forms an essential part of the process of integration of the candidate and potential candidate countries into the European Union.



Challenges

- Discuss with stakeholders the differences and similarities of responsibilities between upper stream and down stream riparian (neighbouring) country (party)
- Establish indicators for good water management (make difference between upper and down stream countries and last country down the river – responsibility)
- Create or adapting institutions administration that will have ownership of both national and trans-boundary water management
- Establish joint bodies based on principles of accountability, fairness and of shared governance that involves a wide range of actors in decision making process
- Regional institutions and mechanisms may facilitate the achievements in water management



Thank you for your attention!

