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SEA and hydrological planning: two synergetic European Directives

Natalia Gullón Muñoz-Repiso



MINISTERIO
DE MEDIO AMBIENTE

OUTLINE

1. Introduction
2. The European Water Framework Directive
3. SEA and hydrological planning
4. Conclusions

1. Introduction

The Water Framework Directive

- **OBJECTIVE:** Protection of all waters:
 - inland surface waters,
 - transitional waters,
 - coastal waters,
 - and groundwater.

How?

RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

SEA



22-12-2003

21-07-2004

2009

2015

environmental objectives reached!!

WFD

+

SEA D

River Basin
Management Plans

complementary

2. The European Water Framework Directive

The Water Framework Directive

**Getting Europe's waters cleaner
Getting the citizens involved.**

- **OBJECTIVES:**

- Protection of all waters: inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters, and groundwater.
- Water management based on river basins.
- Sustainable water use.
- Achieving “good status” within 15 years: progressive reduction of pollution, protection of the aquatic environment...
- Mitigate effects of floods and droughts.
- Water pricing.
- Stakeholder and citizen involvement.
- 7 old directives to be repealed.

The river basin management plan



**RIVER BASIN
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

OBJECTIVES

ecological status:

-
-

quantitative status:

-
-

chemical status:

-
-

protected area objectives:

-
-

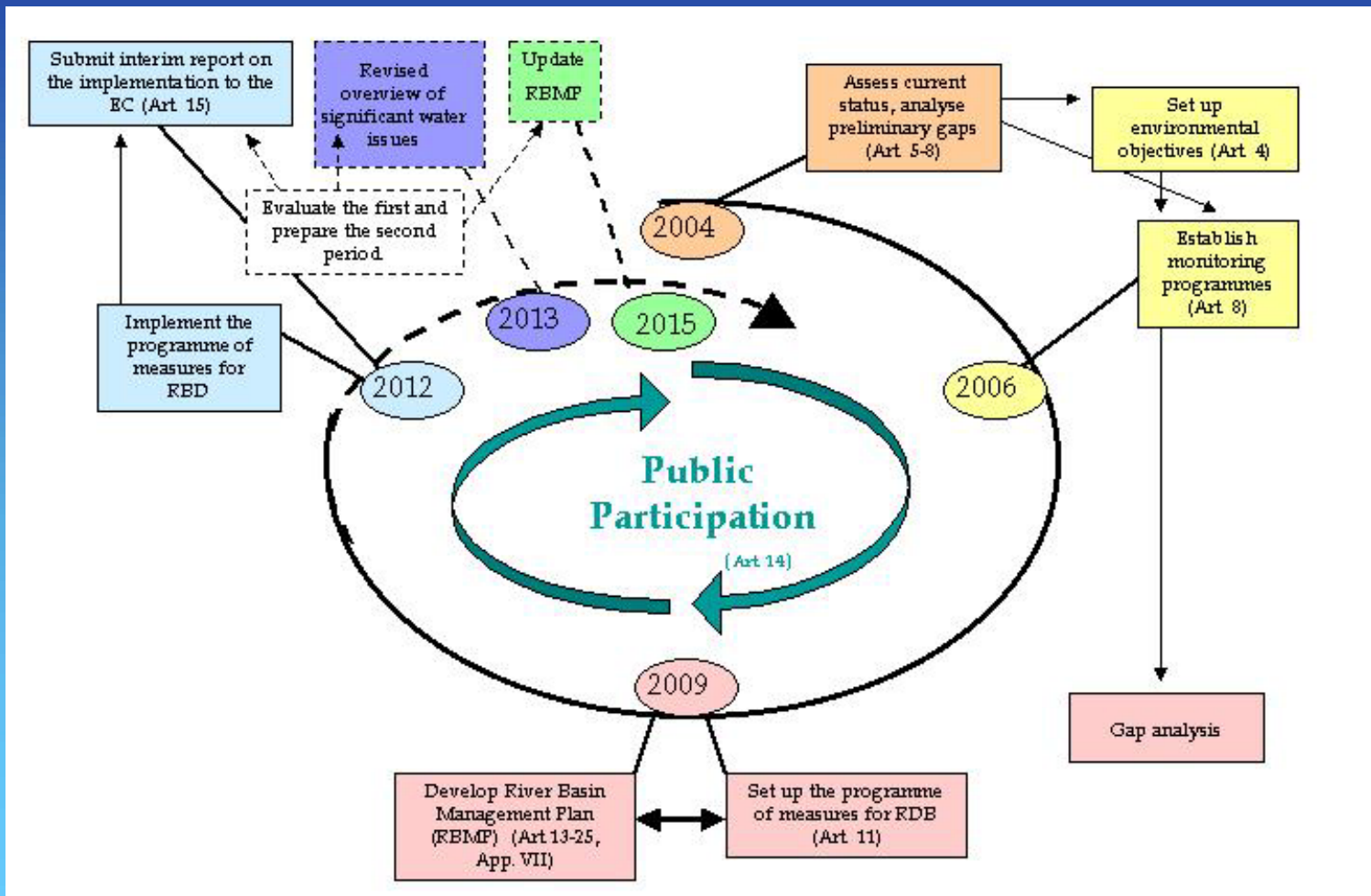


The river basin management plan

Contents:


1. **River basin's characteristics**
2. **Impact of human activity on the status of waters in the basin**
3. **Identification and mapping of protected areas**
4. Monitoring networks and results of programmes
5. **Environmental objectives** established for surface waters, groundwaters and protected areas.
6. **Economic analysis of water use.**
7. **Summary of the programme of measures**, including the ways in which the objectives are to be achieved.
8. Register of any more detailed programmes and management plans dealing with particular sub-basins, sectors, issues or water types.
9. **Summary of the public information and consultation measures taken, their results and the changes to the plan made as a consequence.**
10. List of competent authorities
11. The contact points and procedures for obtaining the background documentation and information.

Planning process



Source: EC – European Commission: Common Implementation Strategy for the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)

Application of the WFD: Milestones



| | |
|------|--|
| 2000 | Directive entered into force |
| 2003 | Transposition in national legislation Identification of River Basin Districts and Authorities |
| 2004 | Characterisation of river basin: pressures, impacts, economic analysis |
| 2006 | Establishment of monitoring network. Start public consultation |
| 2008 | Present draft river basin management plan |
| 2009 | Finalise river basin management plan including programme of measures |
| 2010 | Introduce pricing policies |
| 2012 | Make operational programmes of measures |
| 2015 | Environmental objectives reached! Starting a new 6 year cycle.... |
| 2021 | First management cycle ends |
| 2027 | Second management cycle ends, final deadline for meeting objectives |

Water Framework Directive: further information



- <http://www.chj.es/WEB/CISWFD/>
- http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html

3. SEA and hydrological planning

SEA Directive and WFD



SEA DIRECTIVE

Art. 1: “The objective of this Directive is to provide for a **high level of protection of the environment** and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting **sustainable development**, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.”



WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE

Art. 1: “The purpose of this Directive is to establish a framework for the **protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater** which:

- (a) prevents further deterioration
- (b) promotes **sustainable** water use
- (c) aims at enhanced protection and improvement of the aquatic environment
- (d) ensures the progressive reduction of pollution groundwater and prevents its further pollution, and
- (e) contributes to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts.”

Comparison: SEA Directive and WFD

DIRECTIVA DE EVALUACIÓN AMBIENTAL ESTRATÉGICA

1. Preparation of an environmental report (Art 5 and Annex 1)

- a) Contents, main objectives and relationship with other PPs.
- b) Current state of the environment.
- c) Environmental characteristics of areas likely to be affected.
- d) Environmental problems.
- e) Environmental protection objectives.
- f) Likely significant effects on the environment.
- g) Measures to prevent, reduce and offset adverse effects on the environment.
- h) Summary of the selection and assessment of alternatives.
- i) Measures concerning monitoring.
- j) Non-technical summary.

2. Public participation & transboundary consultations (Art 5, 6, 7)

3. Decision making process: environmental report and results of consultations to be taken into account (Art 8)

4. Information on the decision (Art 9)

5. Monitoring of environmental effects of the implementation of the plans (Art 10)

WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

1. Characteristics of the river basin district (RBD).

3. Identification and mapping of protected areas.

5. Environmental objectives for all waters and protected areas.

2. Significant pressures and impact of human activity on water.

Art 5

Annexes II and III

Art 14

6. Summary of the economic analysis of water use.

9. Summary of the public information and consultation, results and changes to the plan made as a consequence.

Art 14

Art 11 and 21



7. Summary of the programmes of measures adopted to reach the objectives.

The difference: SEA Directive requires also...

- Deeper analysis of the environment:
 - Current state
 - Environmental problems
 - Effects on population, human health, material assets, landscape, cultural heritage (architectural and archaeological) and interrelationship between factors;
- Consideration and evaluation of alternatives
- Relationship with other plans or programmes

4. Conclusions

Contribution of SEA to hydrological planning

- Consideration and evaluation of alternatives → reducing demand
- Integrate WFD into the PPs of other sectors through SEA
- Framework for future EIAs
- Holistic & territorial view



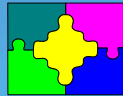
Contribution of SEA to hydrological planning



Integration of environment in planning process.



Define environmental objectives.



Integrated perspective.



Participation.



Transparency.

Conclusions

- ✓ Strategic environmental assessment: powerful tool for decision making
- ✓ Sustainability criteria from the very beginning of the planning process
- ✓ Integrate SEA and hydrological planning
- ✓ WFD and SEAD complementary

