
(*) EWFD
European Water Framework Directive (EWFD) enacted in 2000, asks 27 member states to implement a strict and structured approach of the policy for preservation of water resources.

By 2015, following 4 goals should be reached:

1. Non degradation of waters;
2. Achievement of good status, or good potential for each water bodies;
3. Removal of hazardous substances;
4. Observance of other Directives (nitrates,…).
EWFD = seeking results instead of setting up practical means (previous practice).

Strict implementation schedule:

- identifying river basin districts by 2003;
- diagnosis by 2005;
- public consultation in 2006 & 2008;
- enforcement of measures by 2009;
- constant reporting on efforts made.

Possible adjustment as long as it is justified:
- deadlines can be postponed;
- derogatory measures for some waters;
The River Basin Agency achieved diagnosis:

• water bodies have been classified according to possible status *(good status, or other)*;

• planning and scheduling is on the way thru a river basin management plan;

• economical analysis for cost recovery thru polluter payer principle *(level for tariff)*;

• Public consultation develops public awareness *(and involvement)* about water policy…
A selection of **major issues** (among 13 identified) for Rhone He basin:

- **Water and spatial planning** should be connected;
- **Hydroelectricity** facing 2 objectives: renewable energy as well as aquatic ecosystem preservation;
- Significant effort required for **pesticides** removal;
- **Water & public health** to deal with prevention + risk management;
- Necessity to constantly **evaluate efficiency of every action** strategies.
To conclude: enjoying a river basin structure has been of a big help;

Remaining questions:

• Standardization between 27 European states;
• Should surface & groundwaters be jointed?
• Too many toxic substances to be considered!
• Which priority given to wastewater directive?
• Which policy for agriculture?
• Who can afford control of flooding risk?
• Integration within each member State policy.