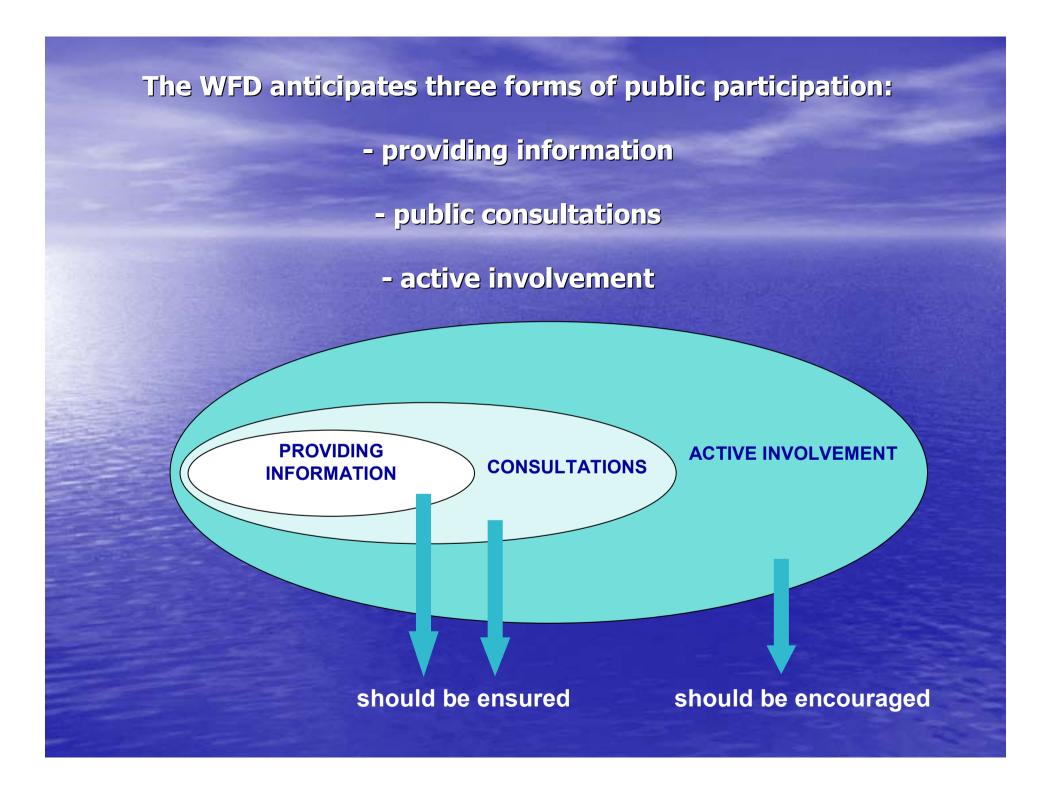


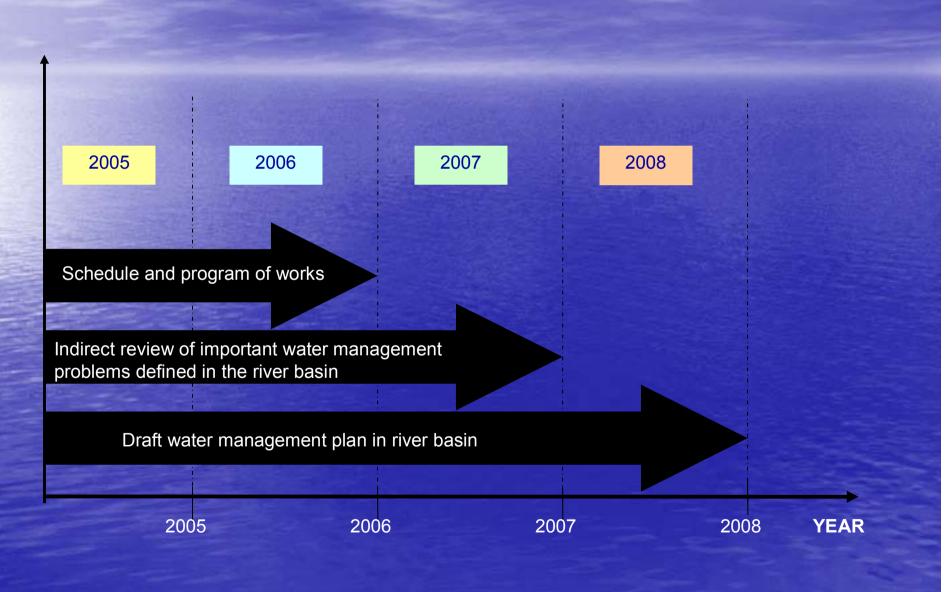
Public participation in implementation of the Water Framework Directive in Poland

Łukasz Legutko Water Management Office www.bgw.gov.pl Basic documents that ensure public access to information on water resources and public participation in decision making:

- Constitution of the Republic of Poland,
- the Law on environment protection,
- Aarhus Convention,
- the Water Law,
- Water Framework Directive.



Schedule of subsequent stages of public information and consultation according to Article 14 of the WFD



Public participation in Poland: - Team of Public Participation in the WFD implementation by the DWR of the ME - "Programme of public participation in implementation of the Water Framework Directive in Poland"

"Programme of public participation in implementation of the Water Framework Directive in Poland"

The Programme adjusts requirements of the Water Framework Directive regarding public participation to Polish conditions of water management planning within the revier basin and provisions of law being in force in Poland.

It includes detailed guidelines concerning organisation of public participation process at the national level - Oder and Vistula river basins, and at the level of water regions.

The Programme identifies and selects social groups that should be involved in implementation of the Water Framework Directive, national and local government institutions responsible for ensuring public participation, forms, methods and tools necessary for the process, and costs of public participation process are estimated.

Addressees of the Programme of public participation in implementation of the Water Framework Directive are institutions responsible for the WFD implementation in Poland.

Institutions responsible for organisation and maintenance of public participation process in implementation of the Water Framework Directive in Poland:

- · National level (of two river basins):
 - At the national level the Water Management Office under supervision of the Minister of Environment, with Department of Water Resources acting on his behalf, plays coordinative role for public participation process.
- Regional level (water regions):
 - Regional Water Management Administrations.

The Programme distinguishes the following basic social groups (participants of the public participation process):

- Local government administration,
- o NGOs,
- Government administration,
- Agriculture,
- Water services,
- Industry,
- Forestry,
- Fishing industry and fishery,
- Angling,
- Tourism.

National Water Forum (NWF)

The NWF will contribute to democratisation of decision making process, that is connected with gaining social acceptance for decisions made in scope of water management.

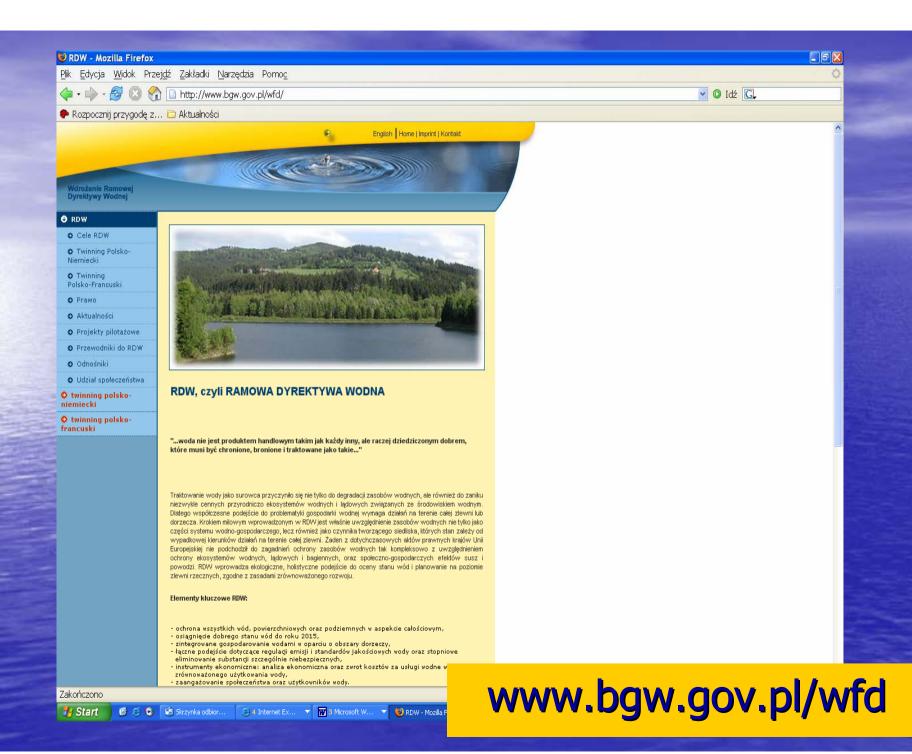
Organisations participating in the National Water Forum will represent full spectrum of public interests and private water usage.

The Forum's activity should be received by possible broadest public, and encourage it to participation in solving significant water management questions.



Organisation of the NWF's work:

- Number of participants: 100 130 persons,
- Duration: 1 to 2 days (depending on the discussed topics),
- Form of meeting: plenary session and work in workgroups (discussion panels),
- · Schedule of meetings: once or twice a year spring, autumn,
- Media: meetings open for the representatives of media,
- Internet: creation of the website devoted to the NWF at the Water Management
 Office's server, containing information about organisation of next meetings,
 program and summary of each convention along with resolutions or problems to
 be solved,
- Interactive Internet-based forum



Level of water regions

At the regional level the institutions responsible for ensuring public participation

are Regional Water Management Administrations.

Process coordinator at the level of water regions is

the Water Management Office

Instruments of public participation at the level of (water regions): Water Regions Water Management Councils: Constant Commissions of Public Participation formed by Water Management Councils, · Internet, • Media (cooperation with local media).

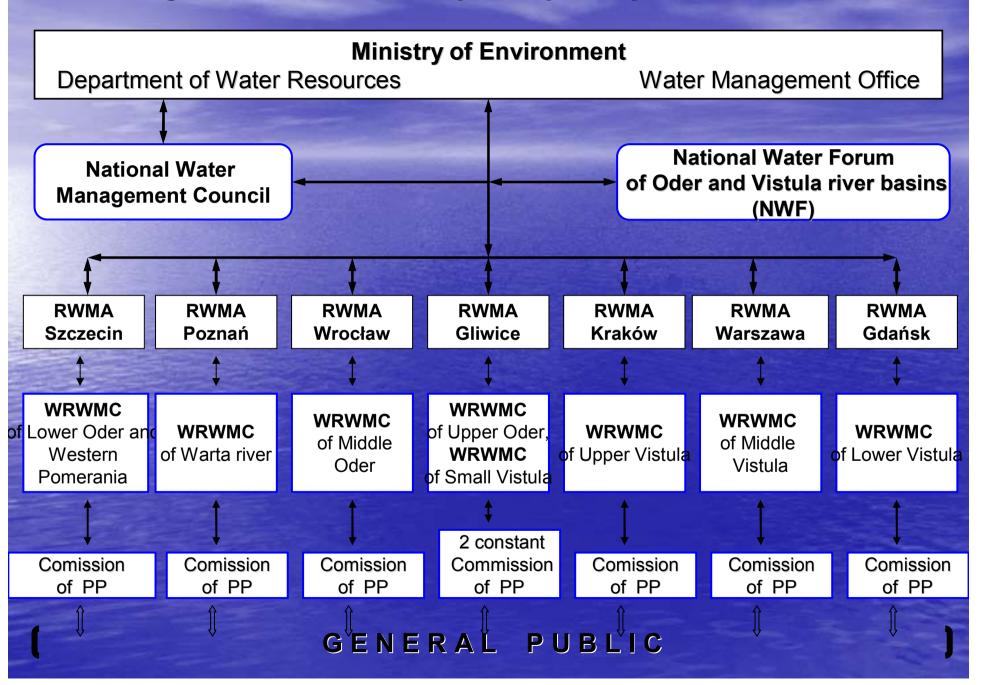
Commission of Public Participation by WRWMC:

- in order to obtain an optimal representation of basic social groups interested in water management at the scale of a water region

The Commission activity fields:

- providing information about the aims of the WFD and the process of its implementation, about water management organisation in the water region,
- discussing and commenting on effect of the reports required by the WFD,
- discussion and making remarks for documents presented at three stages of public consultations,
- making remarks in respect to organisation of the public participation process in the water region.

Organisation scheme of public participation in Poland



Plans for the future:

- Development of the Programme implementation.
- Organization of the I National Water Forum
- Development of public participation programme for water regions

