

# DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLANS IN SPAIN

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# Drought management as emergency situation

Spanish Water Law (TRLA), in **article 58**, foresees in extraordinary drought situation the adoption, by the Government, of necessary measures to overcome these situations, related to the use of the public water domain.

Additional decrees for urgent extraordinary measures are used.

# Policy bases for drought planned management

Law 10/2001, July 5, of the Hydrological Water Plan, establishes the bases for the drought planned management.

#### Article 27. Drought management

Section 1. The Ministry of Environment, for the intercommunitary basins, in order to minimize environmental, economic and social impacts of eventual drought situations, will establish a **global hydrologic indicators system** that will **allow foreseeing these situations**, and will serve as general reference for river basin authorities for the **formal declaration of emergency situations and eventual drought**. This declaration will imply the entry into force of Drought Management Plans (DMP).

Section 2. **Basin Organizations** will develop (in 2 years) <u>drought</u> <u>management plans</u> (DMP) for alert situations and <u>eventual drought</u> (exploitation rules and measures)

#### **DMPs**

**Entities in charge:** River Basin Authorities

**Legal Framework**: Law 10/2001, of the Hydrological National

Plan and Directive 2000/60/CE -Art. 4.6-

**Objective**: Minimize environmental, social and economic impacts of drought situations

**Placement within the planning process**: It's a specific plan within the River Basin Management Plans.

#### **DMPs**

#### **Summary of their content**

#### **Diagnosis:**

- Identify and characterize territorial and environmental elements. Zonification
- Analysis of historical droughts and drought characterization
- Definition of indicators, thresholds and drought phases

#### **Program of Measures (POM):**

• Definition of general measures and specific ones for each area to be applied in each drought phase

#### Management and follow-up system:

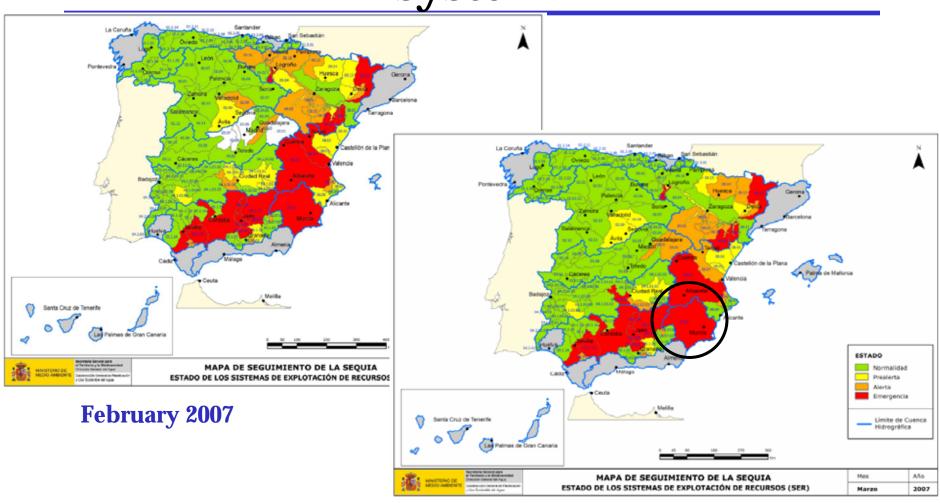
- Organization and management systems
- Definition of indicators for the implementation follow-up and effects

## **Indicators system**

#### Indicators selection criteria

- Identification of the origin areas of resources associated to specific demand units.
- Selection of indicators types according to their representativity in the resources supply.
  - Precipitation
  - River inflows in natural regime
  - Stored volume in surface reservoirs
  - Piezometric levels in aquifers

Hydrological status, global indicator system



**March 2007** 

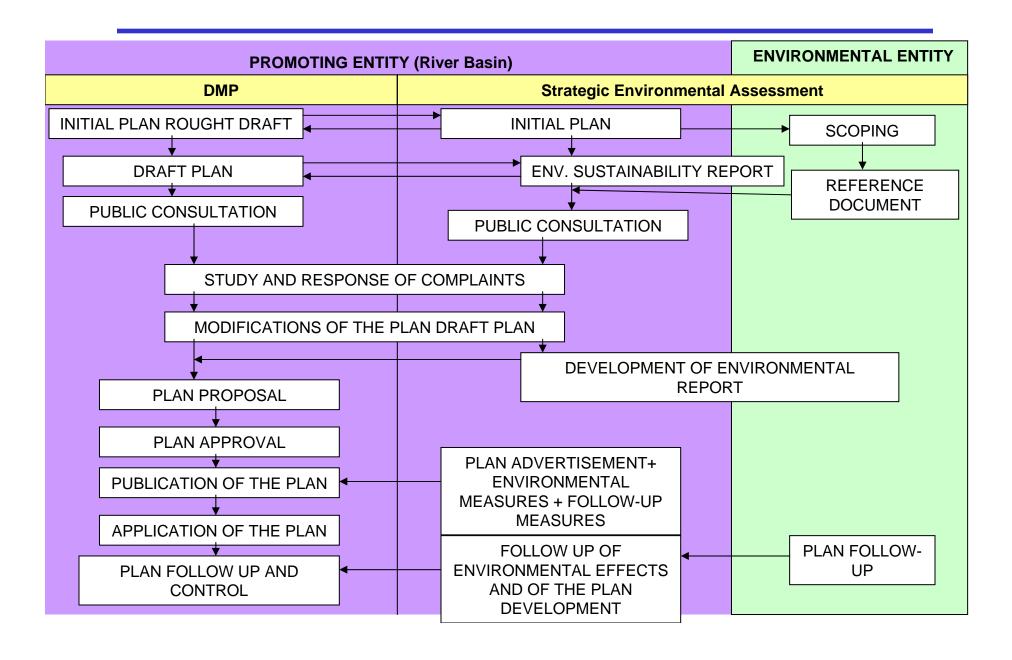
## Mitigation drought measures

TYPES OF MITIGATION MEASURES							
Indicator	1-0.5	0.5-0.4	0.4-0.3	0.3-0.2	0.2-0.15	0.15-0.1	0.1-0
Status	Normal	Pre-alert		Alert		Emergency	
Objective	Planning	Information- control		Conservation		Restrictions	
Type of measure	Strategic			Tactics		Emergency	

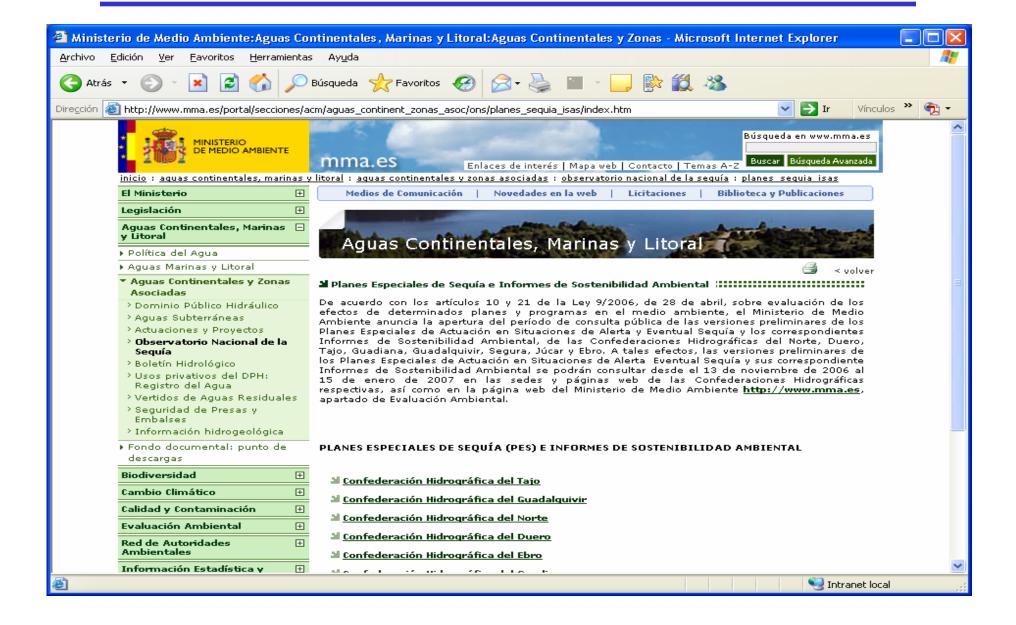
## Main measures to apply during drought situation

- Management rules, savings and use restrictions
- Joint management of surface water and groundwater: drought wells
- Increase non-conventional resources: reuse of treated wastewaters in agriculture
- Water markets.

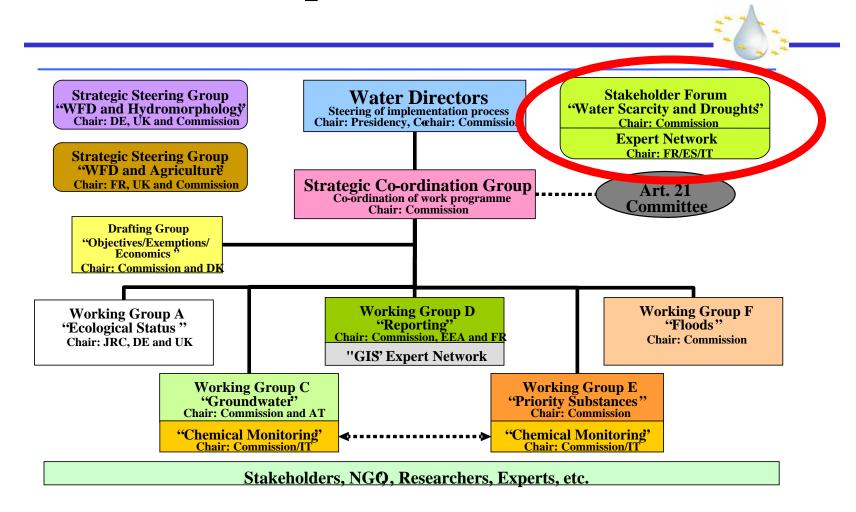
## **Development process of the DMPs**



## **National Drought Observatory**



### Works at European level –WFD CIS



Expert Network on Water Scarcity and Droughts is co-leaded by <u>FR, IT and ES</u>. A final report on Drought Management Plans will be presented to European Water Directors by the end of 2007.