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,
The WFD anticipates three forms of public participation:

- providing information
- public consultations
- active involvement

should be ensured should be encouraged
Schedule of subsequent stages of public information and consultation according to Article 14 of the WFD

- 2005: Schedule and program of works
- 2006: Indirect review of important water management problems defined in the river basin
- 2007: Draft water management plan in river basin
- 2008:
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,
- NGOs,
- Government administration,
- Agriculture,
- Water services,
- Industry,
- Forestry,
- Fishing industry and fishery,
- Angling,
- Tourism.
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.
The most important tasks of the NWF:

I Providing information

II Consultations:

III Active involvement:
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
RDW, czyli RAMOWA DYREKTYWA WODNA

...woda nie jest produktem handlowym takim jak każdy inny, ale raczej dziedzicznym dobram, które musi być chronione, usuwane i utylizowane jako takie...

Treść wody jako surowca przyczynia się nie tylko do degradacji zasobów wodnych, ale również do zarządu rozwoju centrum przemysłowo-rozwojowym wodnym i leśnym związanych ze środowiskiem wodny. Ostatecznie, wprawdzie podjęcie do praktyki wstępnej dyrektywy wodnej wymaga zmian w sferze samorządu, to wszystko, czego doszło, to nie jest w pełni skuteczne, gdy stan wody jest stałym problemem. Jednak gdyby wodę traktować jako ważny i użyteczny zasób, to woda wkrótce zyskałaby na zaszczytności, mogą się stajeć zasoby wodne a nie tylko rezerwa dla przemysłu. Wartość wody jako zasobu niepowtarzalnego wymaga ochrony i chronienia, aby nie zanikłaby w przyszłości.

Elementy kluczowe RDW:
- ochrona wszystkich wód, powierzchniowych oraz podziemnych w aspekcie całkowitym.
- zapewnienie dobrego stanu wód do roku 2015.
- integracja i gospodarowanie wodami w oparciu o obszary dorzecz.
- dużo podłoże, zranionego wodym nawet w standardach jakościowych wody oraz stopniowe automatyzacja zarządzania wodnym.
- instrumenty ekonomiczne: analiza ekonomiczna oraz zmian kosztów za wodę w zewnętrzne użytkowanie wody.
- zrównoważona spółdzielczość oraz użytkowników wody.

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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

Ministry of Environment
Department of Water Resources
Water Management Office

National Water Management Council

National Water Forum of Oder and Vistula river basins (NWF)

RWMA
Szczecin
RWMA
Poznań
RWMA
Wrocław
RWMA
Gliwice
RWMA
Kraków
RWMA
Warszawa
RWMA
Gdańsk

WRWMC
of Upper Oder,
WRWMC
of Upper Vistula

WRWMC
of Middle Oder
WRWMC
of Middle Vistula

WRWMC
of Lower Oder and
WRWMC
of Warta river
WRWMC
of Small Vistula

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General Public
Plans for the future:

• Development of the Programme implementation.
• Organization of the I National Water Forum
• Development of public participation programme for water regions
Thank you for your attention