Public participation is an important aspect of the European Water Directive.

The authorities encourage active involvement of interested citizens and agencies in drafting, reviewing and updating the Water Framework management plans.
2. Public participation in the International Scheldt Commission

- A national or regional competence (**subsidarity**).
- Since 2003, ISC welcomes intergovernmental and non-governmental **observers in all technical work meetings and plenary**.
- Stakeholders and civil society are implementing **together** ISC task
3. The Youth, ourselves and our future

a) WHY?

• A young (18-26) => 3 generations (him+ classes, Parents-WE, Future=his children)

• active & IT ambassadors for water

• Preparation for global change, water governance and adaptation to climate change

• transmit know-how and values for water (water culture)
3. The Youth, ourselves and our future

b) Actions:
- Involve young in participatory management: projects, twinning, ...
- Encourage exchanges through various consultative bodies
- Strengthen partnership with elected people
- Enable young people to get a water culture, to express themselves
- Innovate to meet the water stakeholders needs of today
- To train tomorrow’s water elite ► eg Pilot: Young Water Solutions
4. The Parliament of the young citizens of the Schelde (PJCE)

a) Quick history of the Scheldt Youth Parliament

- Exists since 2007, fruit of a partnership with the Water agency Artois-Picardie, NGO Goodplanet Belgium and the International Commission of the Scheldt.

Goals: Develop citizenship, common identity & environmental awareness

How? Educational projects, meeting decision makers, support youths in projects
4. The Parliament of the young citizens of the Schelde (PJCE)

b) Realisations: Support youths’ projects

- WAW: Water Awareness Solutions
- Water, a vital resource
- Step By Step
- Escaut à la carte
- Young Water Solutions
- ➔ identify, encourage and connect youths to develop their own projects
5. A spreading tool

The youth authorities: a successful tool!

Regional Youth Parliament for water,
- bassin Artois-Picardie Created in 2003

The European Youth Parliament for Water
- Network created by GOODPLANET/GREEN & Solidarité Eau Europe 1998

- "To make the voice of youth for water heard in international conferences dedicated to water."

American, south-Asia, North-African,...Youth Parliaments
- Created after World Water Forum of Marseille
CONCLUSIONS

SOME ADDED VALUES OF the Youth parliaments bring:

• A **MULTILEVEL** ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
• **ENERGY** to Everyone
• A **RENEWAL** of our way of thinking/doing
• A **BETTER** UNDERSTANDING of waterpolicy
• A **FUTURE** for our water policies
• The **FUTURE WATER ELITE**

=> **A MORE SUCCESSFUL & SUSTAINABLE PARTICIPATION**
Questions?
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

www.isc-cie.org