

#### Question 3.1.4.1

What are the new developments (Base line, planning and scenarios) that serve transboundary cooperation and/or the design, improvement and implementation of basin management plans or master plans, including risk and disaster management, and how is it possible to prepare and implement realistic programmes of measures and investments for each basin?

*Provocative reaction from reacting speaker A.Lefébure: The new developments concern the European water framework directive, which asks a coordinated approach by hydrographical district, most of them being transboundary, yet the reporting and implementation is asked by member states: how can any plan, any tool answer to this antinomic situation?*

*The coordinated implementation of the European directives allow large transfer of expertise, prospective developments and balanced measures avoiding double costs or conflicting actions. Though it asks additional work to the delegates, new user-friendly products, like Internet cartographic sites, common data bases, alert and prevention systems based on Internet developments and automatic data processing allow often to save time. Internally it brings within comprehensive common plan motivation and arguments to more sustainable global development.*

#### Answer to question 3.1.4.1

1. International implementation of the Water Framework Directive in the Scheldt/Meuse districts:  
the WFD is implemented at international level in the commissions of the Scheldt/Meuse, the developed products are for each district

- one roof analysis report
- key questions and major goals at the district level
- one roof management plan
- a common work plan: coordination of implementation's schedules of the parties
- Internet public and members cartographic sites
- a catalogue of measures

2 successive Interreg Project in the Scheldt's district to test the guidance documents then to develop pilot products with transboundary effects

- Interreg project SCALDIT (2004-2008)
- Interreg project SCALDWIN (2009-2012)

Main coordinated themes:

- Analysis
- Monitoring's programmes
- Programme of Measures
- qualitative and quantitative environmental targets
- Plan Planning mechanism
- decreasing floods and droughts effects

2. Flood directive

- Potential risk
- Areas' risk maps
- Flood risk reduction plan
- Coordination with Water framework directive

3. Climate change

AMICE: 'Adaptation of the Meuse to the Impacts of Climate Evolutions'  
Transnational study from 2009-2012) of climate change impacts on the Meuse basin and the proposition of a strategy of adaptation in water management.

The project is based on the following statements :

- Climate change impacts on water should be studied at basin's level,

- Long-lasting protection works should be designed to take into account both the future climatic context and the future needs of the basin's population ("climate-proofing"),
- Preparedness to and Prevention of water hazards should be promoted as cost-efficient complementary actions

AMICE = 17 partners The partnership originated from the CIM's team of water managers in charge of the coordination of the Floods Directive, and opened to Universities and NGOs from the Meuse basin to create a transnational network of experts. All countries of the Meuse basin are represented and have significant missions in AMICE.

3 important conditions for an international basin's project:

- ⇒ Find a topic that is relevant for the whole basin and that is important to all water managers (e.g. climate change, floods, droughts, fish migration, water pollutants, ...)
- ⇒ Build the partnership from an already existing and cooperative team
- ⇒ Look for financial support from an international program or organisation (Interreg, LIFE, Development banks, ...)

#### Question 3.1.4.2

**Who will fund transboundary cooperation initiatives and integrated water resources management in basins? Do we have efficient and realistic financing mechanisms and tools (national budget, tariff strategy, water taxes, financial transfers...) at our disposal? What about the implementation of the "user- polluter- pay" principles and systems?**

*Provocative reaction from reacting speaker A.Lefébure: the estimate cost of the implementation of the WFD is higher than any national water policy before the WFD in all the member states. Is it realistic, in the World crisis to fund also transboundary cooperation initiatives?*

*Most of transboundary financment are recognized as added value to the parties, allowing cheap transfer of experiences and know-how as well as economy of scale from upstream to downstream.*

#### Answer 3.1.4.2

1. Plans and programmes: Parties have their own funding (national budgets). No transfer.
2. A very small amount is commonly used to create a small technical secretariat. (Main task: facilitate the coordination mechanism in the International Meuse / Scheldt Commission)
3. the Homogeneous monitoring databank of the Scheldt is managed by the French water agency
4. AMICE is funded by the 17 partners in the Meuse district plus partly by the European Interreg IV B Program which supports transnational and innovative projects in North-West Europe.
5. ScaldWIN is funded by 7 partners in the Scheldt district plus partly by the European Interreg IV B Program which supports transnational and innovative projects in North-West Europe.
6. side events of the commissions (symposium, workshop, plenary sessions,...) are funded by Parties

#### Question 3.1.4.3

**How is it possible to exchange data, information and knowledge between institutions to create efficient basin information systems to follow the implementation of management plans and to enhance transboundary cooperation?**

*Provocative reaction from reacting speaker A.Lefébure: because of sustainability, most of the member states have their own politic targets and therefore have developed their own and single methodologies. Most of the data are then simply transboundary no compatible and putting them together is like mixing apples with pears.*

*Yet, tools like homogeneous monitoring network, common data banks, develop specific transboundary protocols or bridges between different sort of data thanks to common objectives. It takes time and money however it allows often, among the parties, intern simplification, intern reorganization and therefore more efficiency as well as a general improvement of knowledge.*

### **Answer 3.1.4.3**

In general:

1. Need of a formal frame :
  - international treaty of the Scheldt/Meuse
  - bilaterale conventions to echange flow's data,..
2. Need to develop formal datas exchange systems
  - Water and alarm system
  - First roof plan contains maps and tables, one of the partners provides the GIS and mapping facilities.
  - Homogeneous Monitoring network
3. creation of a work's organization with
  - different implementation levels (political, technical, participative)
  - different working groups with clear mandates and products to deliver
  - permanent secretariat

First roof plan contains maps and tables

The WFD 6 year cycle should provide a possibility to evaluate developments and to assess progress achieved.

WISE – European wide system. Built on national data, not yet on basin-scale.