Implementing the Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive

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WFD Implementation 2015 Report

• **Communication** assessing progress in implementing WFD Programmes of Measures (PoMs) and the FD

• **2 CSWD** providing EU-wide detailed analysis + MS specific recommendations

• **25 MS in-depth assessments** of WFD PoMs

• **5 MS reports** assessing the River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) of BE, EL, ES, HR and PT (pending since 2012)
Milestones

- **2012**: *Water Blueprint* with COM assessment of MS RBMPs

- **2012**: *MS reports* on the implementation of PoMs

- **2013-14**: COM assessment of MS reports on PoMs

- **2013-14**: *bilateral meetings* with 28 MS to discuss RBMPs
Achievements

• **Expected result:** 53% of EU waters in good status by 2015 if MS PoMs deliver (up from 43% in 2009)

• **WFD and "daughter" directives** have contributed to **improving water protection in EU**

• **Effective dialogue with MS** to improve implementation (CIS)

• **Increased trans-boundary cooperation** in water management

**But still a lot to do...**
Findings & Recommendations - WFD

- **PoMs**: MS included what is in place, in the pipeline or feasible rather than what is necessary
  - Base PoMs on assessment of pressures to design cost-effective measures
  - Provide appropriate justification for exemptions
- **Water Abstraction**: insufficient measures to control abstraction and ecological flow
  - Review permits to ensure sustainable use
  - Improve monitoring and enforcement
- **Water pricing** and **cost recovery** not applied across sectors & MS (e.g. lack of metering)
  - Adjust inadequate pricing of water resources
• **Agriculture**: still many gaps to address diffuse pollution
  - Better control fertilizers use
  - Create incentives for more water efficient irrigation
  - Better use of EU Funds (i.e. RDF)

• **Industry**: no systematic consideration of WFD objectives in the review of discharge permits
  - Review existing permits to ensure good water status

• **Household**: too slow planning and financing infrastructure investment (collection & treatment)
  - Better use of EU Funds (i.e. Regional & Cohesion)
Key Findings - FD

- Significant progress in the implementation (most MS have done Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment)

- Flood Hazard and Risk Maps provide a wealth of info on flood risks in EU

- Good basis to develop Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs - by 12/2015)

- Need to ensure better coordination between FD and WFD (i.e. use of Natural Water Retention Measures)
Next steps

- **CIS** continuation in 2016-2018
- **Assessment of 2nd RBMPs and FRMPs**
- **Integrated assessment** (how other policies contribute to the achievement of WFD objectives)
- **Economic study** on value of water/water services and the cost of non-implementation
- **Evaluation/REFIT**
- **WFD and FD Review**