COORDINATION BETWEEN EC WATER POLICIES AND CAP - THE CASE OF SOIL LOSS.

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Seville, 19th October
Revision of the Water Framework Directive (WFD): improve coordination with other European Directives (THE CASE OF EROSION IN BASINS)

- DIRECTIVE 200/60/EC DWM
- DIRECTIVE 2007/60/EC FLOODS
- COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC HABITATS
- RURAL DEVELOPEMENT POLICY (CAP)
Legal framework,


- (33) The objective of achieving good water status should be pursued for each river basin, so that measures in respect of surface water and groundwaters belonging to the same ecological, hydrological and hydrogeological system are coordinated.
Legal framework,


1.1. Quality elements for the classification of ecological status

- 1.1.1. Rivers
  - Biological elements
  - Composition and abundance of aquatic flora
  - Composition and abundance of benthic invertebrate fauna
  - Composition, abundance and age structure of fish fauna
  - Hydromorphological elements supporting the biological elements
  - Hydrological regime
  - Quantity and dynamics of water flow
  - connection to groundwater bodies
  - River continuity
  - Morphological conditions
  - River depth and width variation
  - Structure and substrate of the river bed
  - Structure of the riparian zone
  - Chemical and physico-chemical elements supporting the biological elements
  - Thermal conditions
  - Oxygenation conditions
  - Salinity
  - Acidification status
  - Nutrient conditions
  - Specific pollutants
  - Pollution by all priority substances identified as being discharged into the body of water
  - Pollution by other substances identified as being discharged in significant quantities into the body of water
Legal framework,

European Directive 2007/60/EC on the "Assessment and management of flood risk"

- Assessment of potential risks
- Reduction of adverse consequences for human health, environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods

Floods are a natural phenomena which cannot be avoided

However, some human activities contribute to an increase in the likelihood and adverse impact of flood events

Human settlements in floodplains

Reduction of the natural water retention by land use
Second pillar of the CAP: rural development policy

As the second pillar of the common agricultural policy (CAP), the EU’s rural development policy is designed to support rural areas of the Union and meet the wide range of economic, environmental and social challenges of the 21st century. A higher degree of flexibility (in comparison with the first pillar) enables regional, national and local authorities to formulate their individual seven-year rural development programmes based on a European ‘menu of measures’. Contrary to the first pillar, which is entirely financed by the EU, the second pillar programmes are co-financed by EU funds, and regional, national or local funds.

Legal basis
• Articles 38-44 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);
• Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013) (common provisions concerning the European Structural and Investment Funds);
• Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013) (support for rural development);
• Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013) (financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy);
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- **FLOODS DIRECTIVE**
  - REDUCTION OF POTENTIAL DAMAGES OF FLOODS

- **WATER FRAMEWORK**
  - ACHIEVE GOOD WATER STATUS

- **HABITATS DIRECTIVE**
  - FAVORABLE CONSERVATION STATUS OF NATURAL SYSTEMS

- **CAP.**
  - SUPPORT RURAL AREAS
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EROSION CHALLENGES

- LOSS OF FERTILITY OF SOILS
- INCREASES COSTS OF CHANNEL MAINTENANCE
- REDUCES RESERVOIRS OF DAMS
- INCREASES DAMAGES OF FLOODING
- RUINS CROPS FIELDS
- REDUCES BIODIVERSITY IN RIVERS
What about wide fields?

How their use is related with flow in rivers?
SPAIN HAS 1,225 BIG DAMS - EUROPE’S LARGE IN NUMBER OF DAMS 5TH IN WORLD
- ALMOST 3% OF TOTAL GROUND OF SPAIN IS NATURAL WATER FLOWS, LAKES OR OTHER WATER SURFACES.
- MANAGED BOTH BY HYDROGRAPHIC CONFEDERATIONS

HUGE COSTS OF MAINTENANCE DUE EROSION.
ONLY MANAGES IN RIVERS
Reduction of the natural water retention by land uses

- Important surface of bare soil in some farming systems (olive groves) → Soil erosion, lack of infiltration
- Destruction of riparian vegetation → Erosion of the river bed, lack of flood abatement
- Lack of vegetation cover in some Mediterranean environments → lack of infiltration, little water retention, high peak flows
- Increased risk of flash floods

Challenges in rural areas
Flash flood: RIOFRIO- GRANADA province 14TH SEPTEMBER 2018

Impredictible

Devastating

No possibility of defense by dams

From 0.40 to 2.50 in less 15 min
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Barley crops in olive groves

Weed control by grazing

Integrated production methods

Reduction of the natural water retention by land use.

Measures to be enhanced by agricultural and environmental policies:
• Vegetation cover in crop fields all year round

Crops in platforms
Reduction of the natural water retention by land use.

Measures to be enhanced by agricultural and environmental policies:
 Enhance infiltration in crop fields

Vernal ponds
Infiltration ditches
Reduction of the natural water retention by land use.

Measures to be enhanced by agricultural and environmental policies:
   Enhance riparian vegetation

Specific challenges in mediterranean rivers!!
Reduction of the natural water retention by land use.

Measures to be enhanced by agricultural and environmental policies:
- Natural vegetation cover

1. BASIN AND RIVERS ARE INTIMATELY RELATED. POLITICS IN WATER MUST BE ABLE TO ACT IN BASINS SUCH AS RIVERS

2. RURAL POPULATION COULD HELP TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM RECOVERING OLD LAND USES, SUCH RETEMPTION WEIRS, AND OTHERS

3. RECOVER FIELDS CROPS DECREASING INTENSIVE HERBICIDES

4. CAP MUST CHASE THE OBJECTIVE OF SUSTAINABILITY OF SOILS

5. BOOST ECOLOGIC AGRICULTURE, VALUE ADDED IN DEPRESSED AREAS

JUAN LLUCH
Seville, 19th October 2018

ENHANCE FUTURE OF RURAL PEOPLE