



Groundwater in Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the Groundwater Directive (GWD)

Set-up and phasing of implementation

Kees Meinardi



Obligations derived from WFD, Art. 5

- Member States take care that for each Stream Basin District (or part of it) in their countries :
 - ✓ an analysis of the characteristics;
 - ✓ an evaluation of human activities on the status of surface water and groundwater;
 - ✓ an economic analysis of water use.
- is carried out for groundwater (in our case for the first 2 aspects, following the procedures and technical specifications of the WFD according to the Annexes and the EC “Horizontal Guidance's”
- Ready before the end of 2004



Time schedule of the WFD

- 2004 Reporting by MS on designation of GWB, first characterisation and risk assessment;
- 2006 Monitoring programme in operation;
- 2009 Stream Basin Management Plan ready;
- 2012 Reporting by EC on the State of Affairs;
- 2015 Reaching satisfactory groundwater status for quantitative and qualitative aspects



Necessary actions to fulfil WFD, Art.5

- Identification and designation of Groundwater Bodies (GWB)
- Initial characterisation of GWB
- Risk assessment
- Installation of surveillance monitoring
- Further characterisation of GWB at risk
- Composition of River Basin Management Plans (RBMP)
- Activities to implement the Groundwater Directive



Identification and designation of GWB

- Water management aspects (GWB in only one river basin district (RBD). NB this is the prominent factor)
- Limited number of GWB in one RBD (management)
- Hydrogeological differences
- Impacts and pressures differences
- Quality variation and protection



Initial characterisation based on existing data

- Quantitative aspects
- Qualitative aspects

- Conceptual model is helpful



Installation of surveillance monitoring for areas at risk after the initial characterisation

- ✓ Observation wells in sandy GWB
- ✓ Observation of springs (Quantity and Quality) in hardrock and karst GWB
- ✓ Observation of surface water (e.g. tile drains) in clay GWB



Implementation of GWD

- Background (basic values)
- Threshold values
- Further elaboration