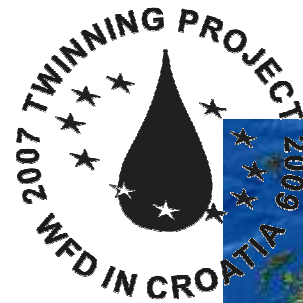


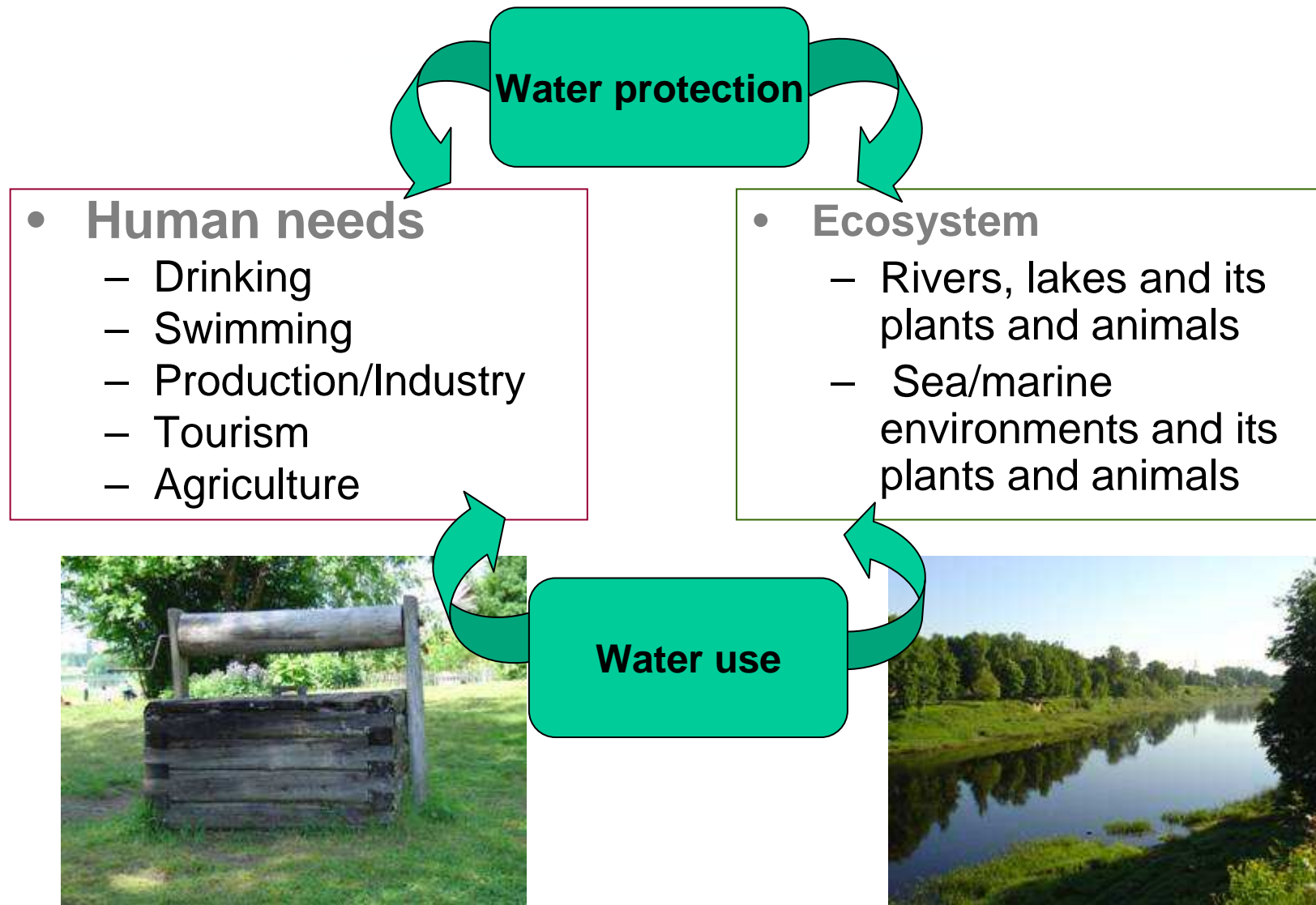


Twinning Project

Implementation of the Water
Framework Directive in Croatia

The EU WATER POLICY

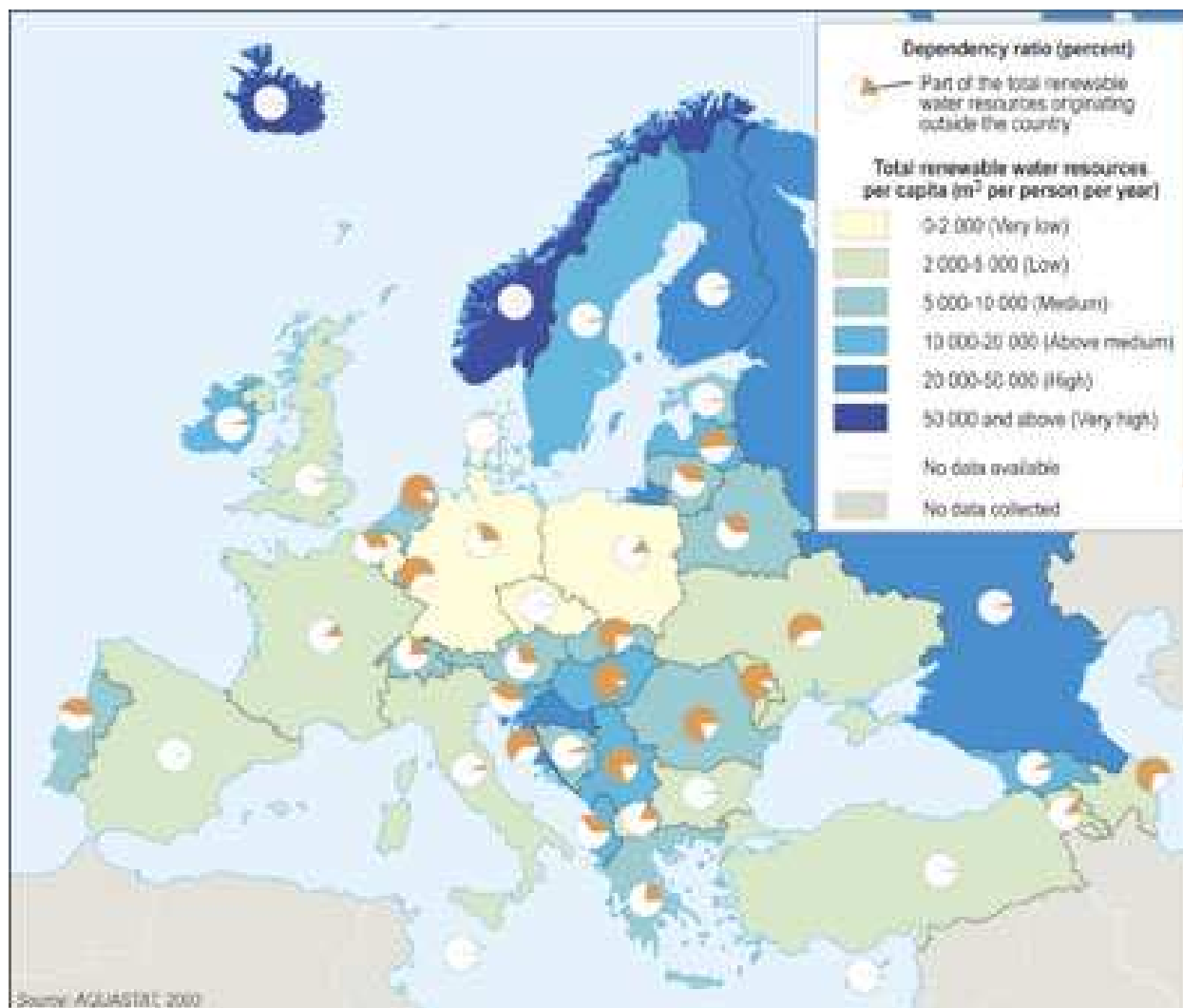






There is water enough...

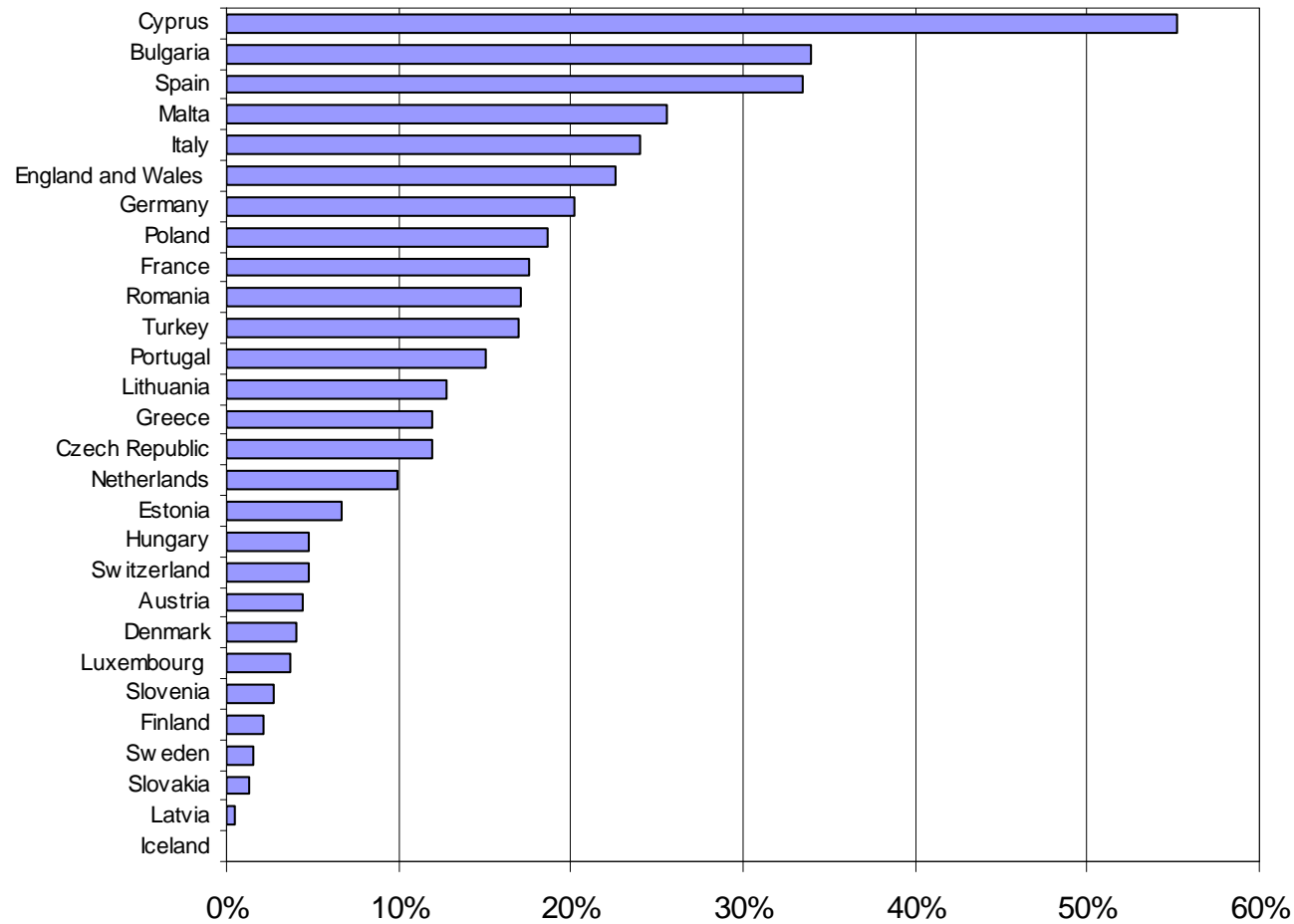
renewable water resources





Water exploitation index

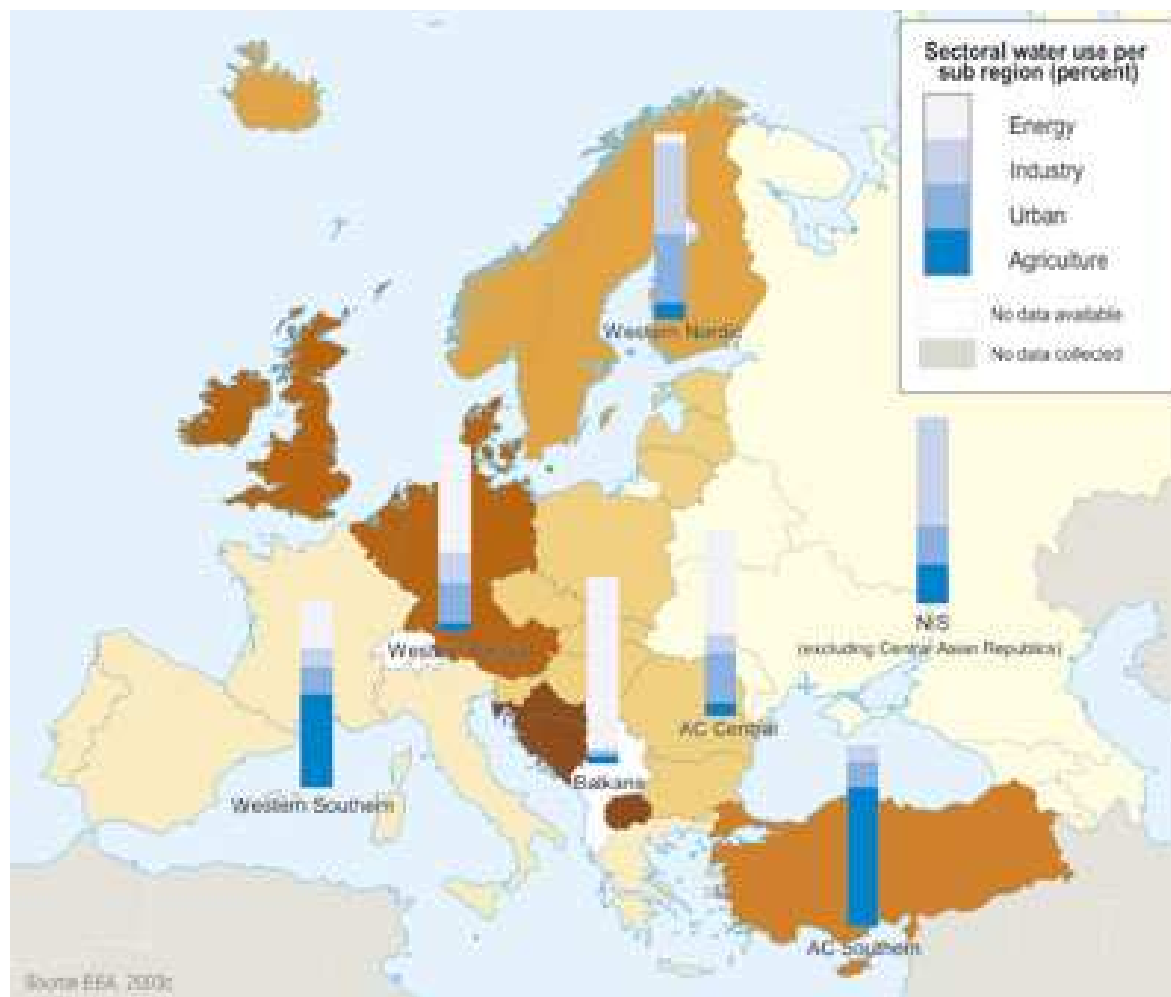
Total water abstraction per year as % of long-term freshwater resources, 2002
[data source: EEA]





Water use in Europe by sectors

Energy, Industry, Public needs, Agriculture





Setting of EU water legislation

One of the first EU environmental policy areas (from 1973) due to the problem of water pollution and deterioration of resources

One of the most complicated fields of environment:

- ✓ Often high costs required for implementation
- ✓ Sensitive areas of “public health” and “environmental protection”



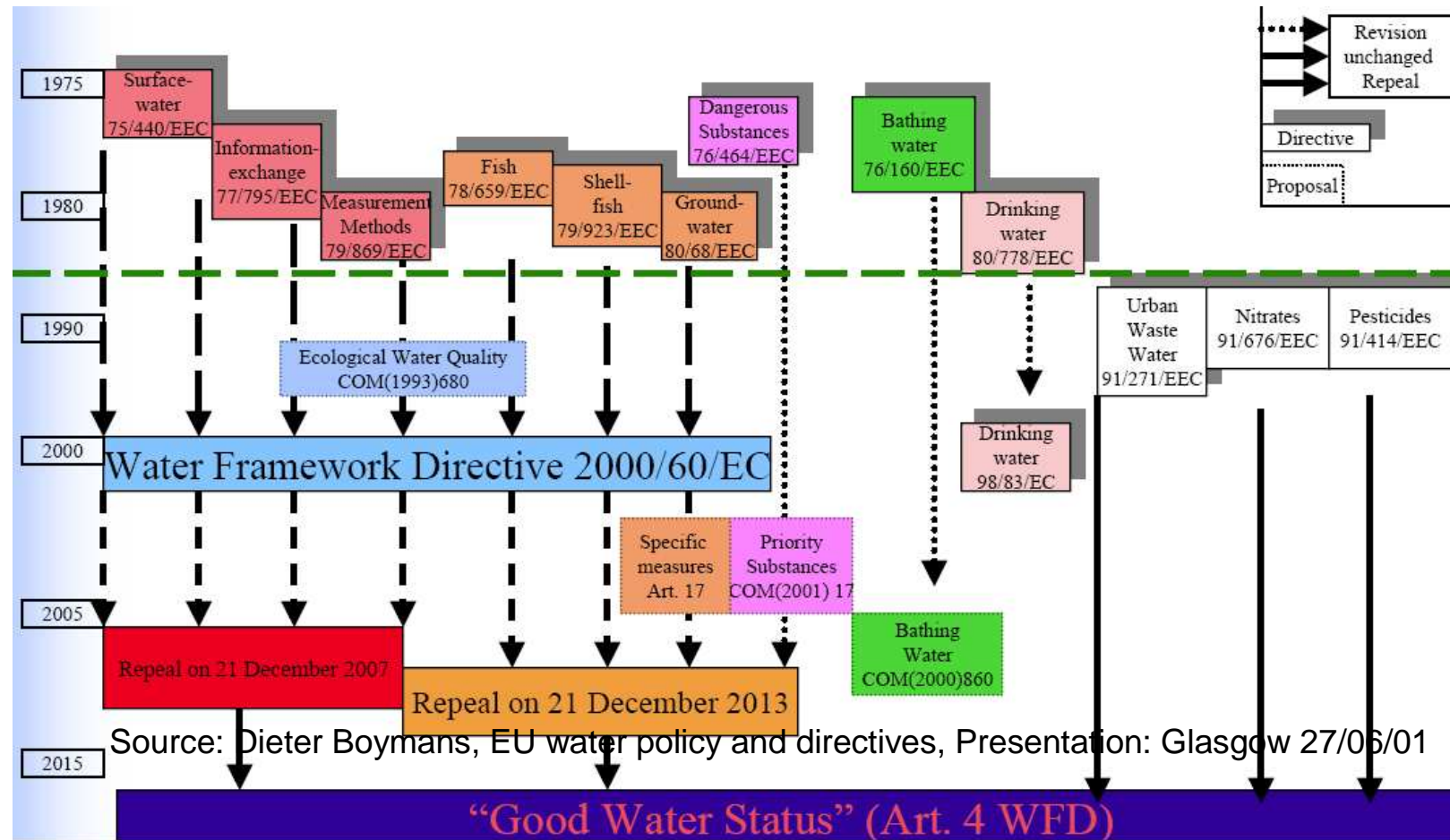


Water legislation stages

- ❑ Early water legislation
 - ✓ Setting standards for waters of particular uses
 - ✓ Aiming to control discharges of particular harmful substances
- ❑ Second wave of legislation
 - ✓ Reconciling different needs and priorities
- ❑ Towards the Water Framework Directive setting a new model in water policy
 - ✓ Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (WFD)



Revision of the EU water legislation



"Good Water Status" (Art. 4 WFD)



Water Framework

- ❑ **Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC):**
 - ✓ can be looked as an operational tool, setting objectives to water protection for the future
 - ✓ key aim of achieving a “good status” of all waters by a set deadline

- ❑ **Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/.../EC):**
 - ✓ to achieve or maintain good environmental status in the marine environment



Other essential directives for achieving good water status

- ❑ Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC):
 - ✓ Aimed to protect the environment from the adverse effects of discharges of waste water from urban areas and industry
- ❑ Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC):
 - ✓ Aimed to reduce and prevent water pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources
 - ✓ In WFD are incorporated several aspects from this directive (e.g., nitrates vulnerable zones as protected areas under WFD)
- ❑ Directive on protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration (2006/118/EC)



Important Water Directives

- ❑ Water and health:
 - ✓ Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC), currently in transposition process by the MS
 - ✓ Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EEC), currently stakeholder consultation process for revision of the directive
- ❑ Water quantity:
 - ✓ Directive on the assessment and management of flood risks (2007/60/EC)
 - ✓ Communication on water scarcity and draughts



Linking the water sector with other sectors

impact of other components	water services	impact on other components
agriculture, spatial planning, tourism	drinking water supply	agriculture, regional development, tourism
regional development, tourism	waste water treatment	regional development, tourism
agriculture, forestry, spatial planning	flood defence	agriculture, tourism, regional development
agriculture	water course maintenance	agriculture, tourism



Role of municipalities

- Municipality – closest institution to inhabitants
- Municipalities – implementing plans and programs of measures at their territories
- In many countries municipalities are responsible for organizing of water supply and waste water treatment at their territories
- Municipalities are setting local development plans

- New aspect in the EU water policy – integrate water sector and development planning



Challenges for municipalities

- ❑ Implementation of the RBMP and measures that may have financial and planning impacts
- ❑ Ensuring effective combination of local knowledge with the specialized knowledge of experts
- ❑ Municipalities need support, so that:
 - ✓ They are actively and genuinely involved (interest from the municipalities is needed as well!)
 - ✓ Ecological, economic and social interests are considered
 - ✓ Win-win situations are established favorable for the development processes for municipalities and for the WFD
- ❑ Inter-linkage and relevance of important water directives