



Twinning Project

Implementation of the Water
Framework Directive in Croatia

Preparing the Water Administration for the Water Framework Directive (WFD)

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Overview

- Introduction
- The special features of the WFD
- Organisation
- Human resources
- Information Technology
- Pilot projects
- WFD/IWRM)



The Importance of the WFD

As different from earlier EU-Directives which are restricted to specific areas of water management the WFD „establishes a framework for community action in the field of water policy“.



The Special Features of WFD

- Water as part of the ecosystem and a natural resource
- Water as a social and economic good
- Catchment basin approach comprehending both surface and groundwater
- Integration of land use and nature conservation



Special Features con't

- Identification and protection of sources of freshwater supply
- Sustainable and rational water use
- Participatory policy-making and decision-making process
- Emphasis on institutional, legal and financial instruments



Water Use and Water Protection

The WFD deals with water use and water protection at the same time. Consequently, water use and water protection should not be separated organisationally.



Organisation con't

- Considering the river basin approach
- Establishing a mechanism for coordination with other sectors such as land use and nature conservation
- Giving one organisational unit the lead for the implementation of the WFD (coordination)
- Introducing a Critical-Path-Method or at least a project-management to meet the deadlines
- Identifying stakeholders and developing a mechanism to involve them > reducing potential conflicts



Human Resources

- ❑ Staff: different professionals such as engineers, biologists, environmentalists, agriculture experts, lawyers, economists, ...
- ❑ Training in different areas of the WFD which are new to the staff such as the economic analysis and ecological standards
- ❑ Improving the ability of the staff to communicate within the Directorate for Water and with other institutions and the ability to compromise



Introducing New IT-Communication and Information Systems

- ❑ Abundance of technical, economic and social data
- ❑ Many stakeholders to be informed and their opinion to be taken into consideration
- > Introduction of new internet platforms at EU (CIRCA), national and river basin level



Pilot Projects

Pilot projects in sub basins in order to gain
experience > Sava River Basin, ...



The WFD and IWRM

The WFD does not only have to be applied in the 25 Member States of the European Union. It has become kind of „State of the Art“ of modern water management world-wide. The WFD corresponds to a large extent with the internationally acknowledged concept of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM).