

Some issues to bear in mind

On content (1)

- **Public participation and a higher awareness** among policy makers and the public is a *must* for a successful uptake and performance of NWRM.
- There's a clear need to build an **explicit link with the WFD** (and discussions about art. 5 are a fertile space for that).
- One may still find controversies about the **typology of measures**. The current typology will still be streamlined.
- The need to make the **best use out of available information**. Evdokia Achilleos (EC DG ENV) expressed yesterday from Brussels: “the project is ‘meta analysing’ and drawing from available knowledge and studies. The purpose at the end of the day is to have useful factsheets (and data) on the measures that can be used at different levels (policy implementation and technical)”.

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On content (2)

- Riparian issues did not receive much attention in the WFD but they did in the FD, the Birds or the Habitats Directive. All Directives need to be taken into account at the same time. Demand for a more complex (though not necessarily more complicated) approach.
- Combined benefits of NWRM are critical. The rationale for NWRM is mainly provided by their multiple objectives / benefits. Not only benefits are specific of NWRM – opportunity costs are.
- While it is acknowledged that case studies encompass a combination of measures, the possibility to extract (and store) some information on ‘individual measures’ (from case studies or from research studies that have specifically investigated a given measure) is one the project team is also committed to.

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On content (3)

- Water bodies (central to the WFD) might be hindering a good approach to NWRM, which clearly demands a less restrictive scope (and more relevance for hydromorphological issues), including land-use concerns, spatial development, biophysical flows of ecosystem services... with the **catchment** as the (likely) relevant scale.
- Being aware of **trade-offs** according to the local value of water.
- **Evidence on effectiveness** mostly refers to design conditions. Few projects assessed against their contribution to solve water policy objectives.
- The purposes of NWRM for water management are **outstanding opportunities for a better coordination of different sectoral policies** including spatial development, rural development, agricultural policy, climate change adaptation,...

Some issues to bear in mind

On content (4)

- **Subsidiarity should not be disregarded.** The EC and the project consortium work on the development of guidance documents but Member States specificities and decisions are critical to the process.
- Despite the EU-wide nature of this project, **regional diversity and the recognition of disparities and asymmetries** is one of the main features of the project and its outputs.