The 2019 review of the Water Framework Directive

WRRL-Verbändeforum
18 November 2016

Jorge Rodríguez Romero
Deputy Head of Unit Water
Directorate-General Environment
Status of European Waters 2009

Percentage of surface water bodies with different ecological status:

- **Good Ecological Status** (Blue)
- **Unknown Ecological Status** (Gray)
- **Exemptions** (Red)

Source: EC - WFD Reporting
Main achievements 2000-2015

- Transboundary cooperation
- Comprehensive basin-wide picture of the water situation
- Integrated approach: all water categories, pressures and impacts
- Ecological dimension
- Economic instruments
- Stakeholder involvement
- Water Directors and CIS process
Shortfalls of RBMPs 2010-2015

- Often insufficient monitoring and deficient analysis of pressures
- Programmes of measures not ambitious enough
- The WFD intervention logic not always followed
- Frequent and non-transparent use of exemptions
- Agriculture and hydromorphology main challenges
- Only partial application of cost recovery
- Expected improvement of the water status – less than 10%

Status of adoption of 2\textsuperscript{nd} RBMPs

- Source: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/participation/map_mc/map.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/participation/map_mc/map.htm)
- Note: Cyprus and Slovenia should be green!
Estimated timetable of the WFD review assuming there will be a legislative follow-up

This timetable is tentative and has not yet been formally validated by the European Commission
Evaluation and review of EU water policy

• Drinking Water Directive (2016)
• Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (tbc)
  o Environmental Quality Standards Directive
  o Groundwater Directive
• Floods directive (2019)
Preparation for the review

Studies / assessments

- Assessment of 2nd RBMPs and 1st FRMPs
- Integrated assessment
- Economic study on value of water/water services and the cost of non-implementation
- EU-wide hydro-economic modelling (JRC)
- Water governance assessment (JRC)
- Study on priority chemicals and a new approach (JRC)

Deliverables / process

- WFD/FD Implementation Reports (late 2017)
- Public consultation (spring-summer 2018)
- REFIT/Evaluation report (spring 2019)
- Legislative proposals (2021-2022)
Implementation support initiatives

- Enforcement strategy (infringements)
- Common Implementation Strategy WP 2016-2018
  - Hydromorphology
  - Support to review of priority substances and new tools
- Water Taskforce ENV-AGRI (AGRIFISH Council 2017) and Water-Agriculture Directors meeting (2017)
- Bilateral discussions on RBMPs (2017-2018)
- Water reuse standards (late 2017)
- Pharmaceuticals in the environment
- Investment instruments (water innovation facility and water investment platform)
- Launch of the European New Urban Water Agenda 2030 (Porto, September 2017)
- European Innovation Partnership on Water
Thought starter by 11 Water Directors (June 2016)

1. What will be beyond 2027?
2. Communication on progress
3. Public participation
4. Cost recovery
5. Chemicals
6. Clever monitoring and integration with other directives
7. Harmonisation of directives

See Thought Starter document at: https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/b3bb8819-a93d-4af7-bf95-59e3104db638
Thank you for your attention

http://water.europa.eu/policy

WFD and CIS information on CIRCABC

Jorge.Rodriguez-Romero@ec.europa.eu