



The Water Framework Directive

- integrated river basin management for Europe

JASPERS Networking Platform

**DG REGIO-JASPERS CBA Forum meeting on
Environment sectors**

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Criteria for fulfilment

In sectors supported by the ERDF and the CF, the Member State has ensured a contribution of the different water uses to the recovery of the costs of water services by sector consistent with the first indent of Article 9(1) of Directive 2000/60/EC having regard, where appropriate, to the social, environmental and economic effects of the recovery as well as the geographic and climatic conditions of the region or regions affected.

- The Member States has undertaken the economic analysis described in Annex III of the Directive 2000/60/EC. This analysis should establish the contribution of all the three sectors (households, agriculture and industry) to the recovery of the costs of water services, taking into account potential cross-subsidisation.
- A water pricing policy as required by Article 9 paragraph 1, first indent of Directive 2000/60/EC is in place. This policy should take into account:
 - the overall economic analysis (mentioned above);
 - the principle of cost recovery and, in the sectors supported by the ERDF and the CF, adequate contribution of the different water uses to the costs of water services at a rate determined in the approved river basin management plan for investment supported by the programmes;
 - where appropriate, the social, environmental and economic effects of the recovery of the costs of water services as well as the geographic and climatic conditions of the region or regions affected;
 - the polluter pays principle.

The adoption of a river basin management plan for the river basin district consistent with Article 13 of Directive 2000/60/EC.

- The Member State has adopted river basin management plans covering the territories covered by OPs which include water investment priorities.
- The assessment will focus on whether the plans adequately address the following elements extracted from Annex VII of the Directive, which details the minimum requirements of the river basin management plans (RBMP). Therefore, each of the RBMP should include:
 - A map of the monitoring networks established for the purposes of Article 8 and Annex V, and a presentation in map form of the results of the monitoring programmes carried out under those provisions for the status of surface water (ecological and chemical); groundwater (chemical and quantitative); and protected areas. With no monitoring in place, water status is unknown and no measure can be implemented.
 - A list of environmental objectives established under Article 4 for surface waters, groundwater and protected areas, including in particular identification of instances where use has been made of Article 4(4), (5), (6) and (7) (see in Annex to this fiche), and the associated information required under that article. If this is not done, it is not possible to see how a proposed project will fit into the picture.
 - A summary of the measures taken under Article 11(5) for bodies of water which are unlikely to achieve the objectives set out under Article 4. Indeed, if a project concerns an area in which the objectives for the water bodies are unlikely to be achieved, it is necessary to see how such project fits in the MS plans to address the problem.

Water: Diversity of uses, aspirations, pressures and impacts



European Water Policy: Legal context

- **Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)**
- **Completing the framework:**
 - Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)
 - Environmental Quality Standards/Priority Substances Directive (2008/105/EC) as amended by Directive 2013/39/EU
- **Extending the scope:**
 - Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)
 - Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)
- Urban waste water treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)
- Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)
- IED, Plant Protection Products, etc.
- Drinking water Directive (98/83/EC)
- Bathing water Directive
 - New (2006/7/EC)
- Repealed by the WFD, such as quality of fish and shell fish waters, quality of waters used for drinking water abstraction, discharges of dangerous substances

The River Basin Concept

- **Holistic approach:**
Protection and sustainable management of all surface and groundwater, including transitional and coastal waters
- Covering **all pressures and impacts**
- Water management at **river basin level**
- **River Basin Management Plans:** basic instrument to implement WFD



WFD objectives (Art. 4.1)

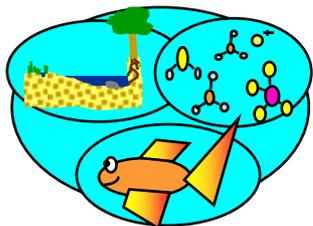
Goal - to achieve, by 2015, **good status or potential** of all waters concerned:

- Surface waters: Good **Chemical** and Good **Ecological** status/potential
- Groundwater: Good **Chemical** and Good **Quantitative** status

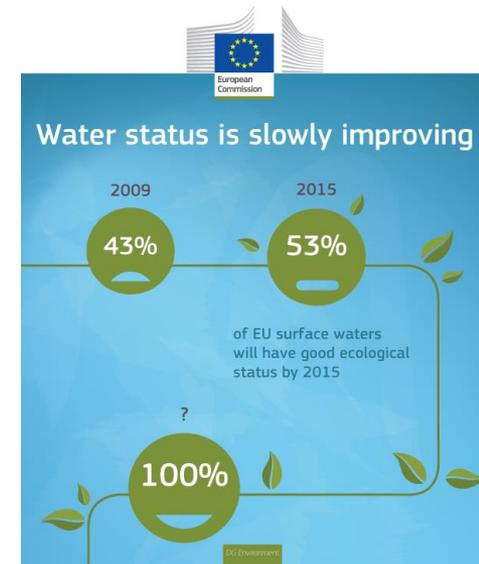
– while

Preventing deterioration of water status/potential,

...to protect human health, water supply,
natural ecosystems and biodiversity



***Steady trend of improvement
but more is required.***



The DPSIR approach: 6-years cycle

- Agriculture
- Urbanisation
- Energy
- Industrial dev.

Driving Forces

- Water abstraction
- Wastewater discharges
- Diffuse pollution
- Physical alteration of water bodies

Pressures

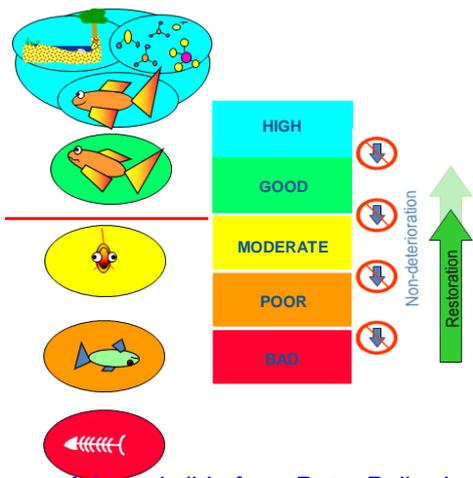
State

- Organic enrichment
- Eutrophication
- Altered habitats
- Reduced connectivity
- Loss of ecosystem services
- Socio-economic impacts

Impacts

Responses

- Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
- Nitrates Directive
- Industrial Emissions Directive
- WFD basic measures (regulation of abstraction, discharge, modification)
- RBMP planning process



Adapted slide from Peter Pollard, Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Programme of measures (Art. 11)

- Basic measures

Measures under existing legislation

Article 11.3 (a)

- Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)
- Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)
- Industrial emissions Directive (2010/75/EU)
- Birds and Habitats Directive (79/409/EC and 92/43/EC)
- Etc.

Additional WFD basic measures

Article 11.3 (b-l)

- **Cost recovery**
- **Safeguarding drinking water**
- **Controls over abstraction**
- **Emission controls for point and diffuse sources**
- **Controls over hydro-morphological alterations**
- **Prohibitions on direct discharges to groundwater**
- **Eliminating/controlling pollution by priority substances and reducing pollution by other substances**

- Supplementary measures

Supplementary measures

Article 11.4

- Those measures designed and implemented **as needed on top of** the basic measures, with the aim of achieving the objectives established pursuant to Art.4. To be defined by Member States.

WFD Exemptions (Art. 4.4 - 4.7)

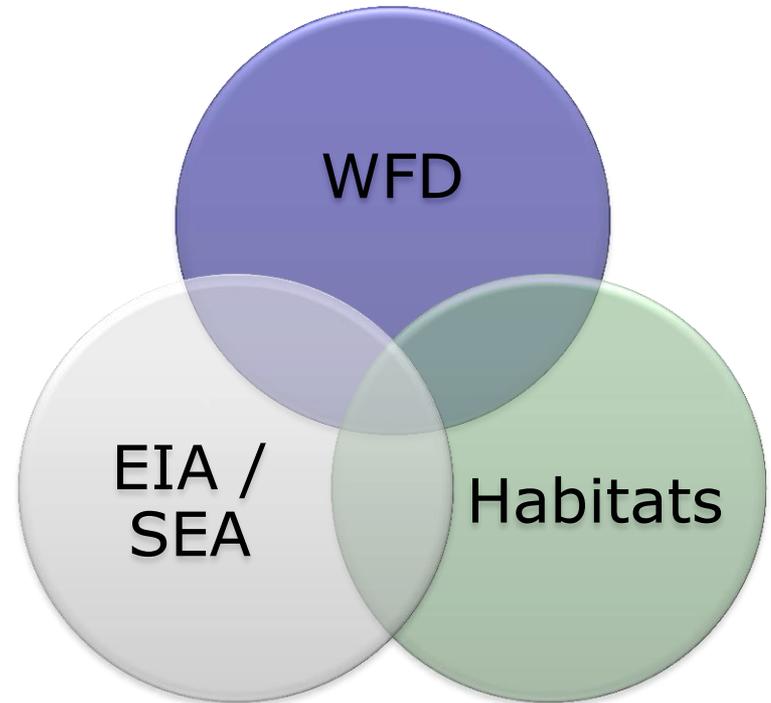
- the **extension of the deadline** (good status must be achieved by 2021 or 2027) – Art. 4.4
- the **achievement of less stringent objectives** under certain conditions – Art. 4.5
- the **temporary deterioration of the status** in case of natural causes or "force majeure" – severe floods, prolonged droughts, accidents – Art. 4.6
- **new projects/modifications** to the physical characteristics of a surface water body or alterations to the level of bodies of groundwater, or failure to prevent status deterioration of a body of surface water – Art. 4.7

Infrastructure development - Exemptions from WFD no-deterioration principle (WFD Art. 4.7)

- New modifications **preventing** the achievement of **good ecological status** and/or **leading to deterioration** are **allowed** under the following **conditions**:
 - a) All practicable mitigation measures are taken
 - b) The project and the reasons for it are reported in River Basin Management Plans
 - a) The benefits of the development outweigh the benefits of achieving the WFD objectives / the development is of overriding public interest
 - b) There are no significant better environmental options

Infrastructure development cont.

- Completing an EIA does not guarantee the fulfilment of the WFD obligations, a specific assessment needs to be carried out
- Potential procedural synergies with EIA/SEA and Habitats Directive are significant and MS are encouraged to exploit them at national level (e.g. data collection, consultation processes)



Legal requirement to co-ordinate the implementation of the FD and the WFD (FD Art. 9 FD)

Consider the introduction of **Nature-based solutions** that can be **cost-effective** in reducing damages caused by floods while being **beneficial** to the wider environment.

e.g. **Natural Water Retention Measures**



Re-meandering



Wetland restoration



Floodplain restoration



- **Reduce** flood peak and delay downstream arrival
- **Support** the achievement of WFD objectives

Economic Analysis

(WFD Art. 5, Annex III)

- Key in "characterization" of each river basin district
- Provides data to make WFD economic principles operative, taking account of long term forecasts of supply and demand for water in river basin district and, where necessary:
 - estimates of volume, prices and costs associated with water services, and
 - estimates of relevant investments including forecasts of such investments.
- Supports cost-effectiveness analysis of measures to be included in the programme of measures

Cost Recovery (Art. 9.1)

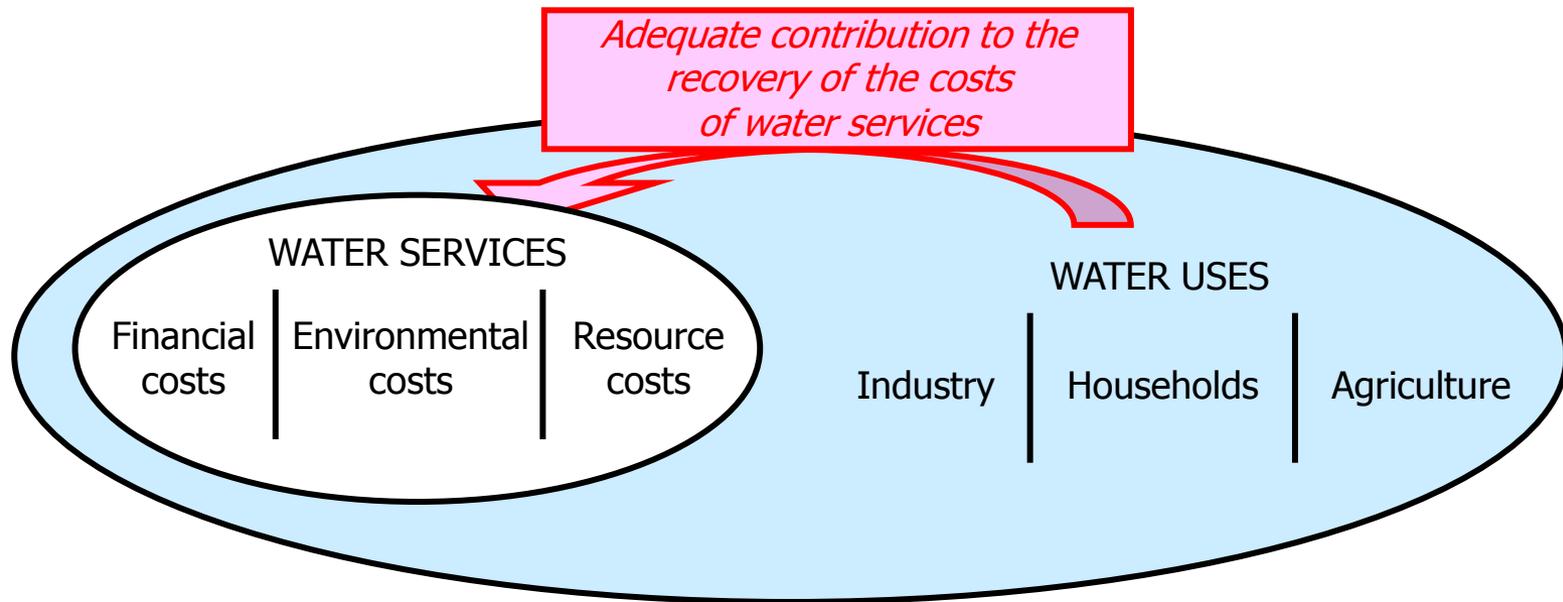
"Member States shall take account of the principle of recovery of the costs of water services, **including environmental and resource costs** having regard to the economic analysis conducted according to Annex III and in accordance in particular with **the polluter pays principle**.

Member States shall ensure by 2010:

- that water-pricing policies provide **adequate incentives for users to use water resources efficiently**, and thereby contribute to the environmental objectives of this Directive,
- an **adequate contribution of the different water uses, disaggregated into a least industry, households and agriculture**, to the recovery of the costs of water services, based on the economic analysis conducted according to Annex III and taking into account polluter pays principle.

Member States may in doing so have regard to the social, environmental and economic effects of the recovery..."

Cost recovery: who pays and how much?



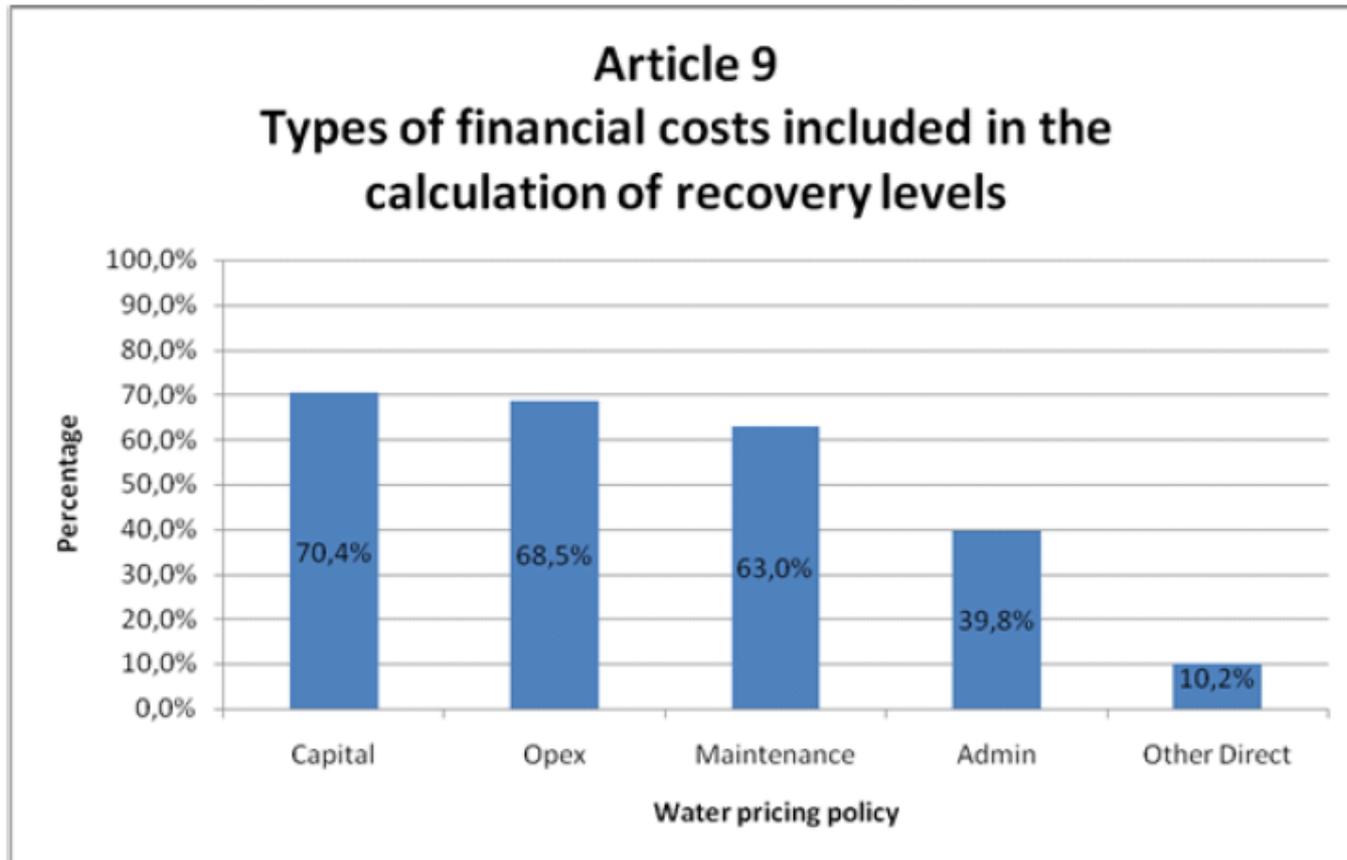


Figure 8.15.1: Percentage of RBMPs in which financial costs (by type of costs) were reported to be included in the cost recovery calculation

Source: RBMP Assessment

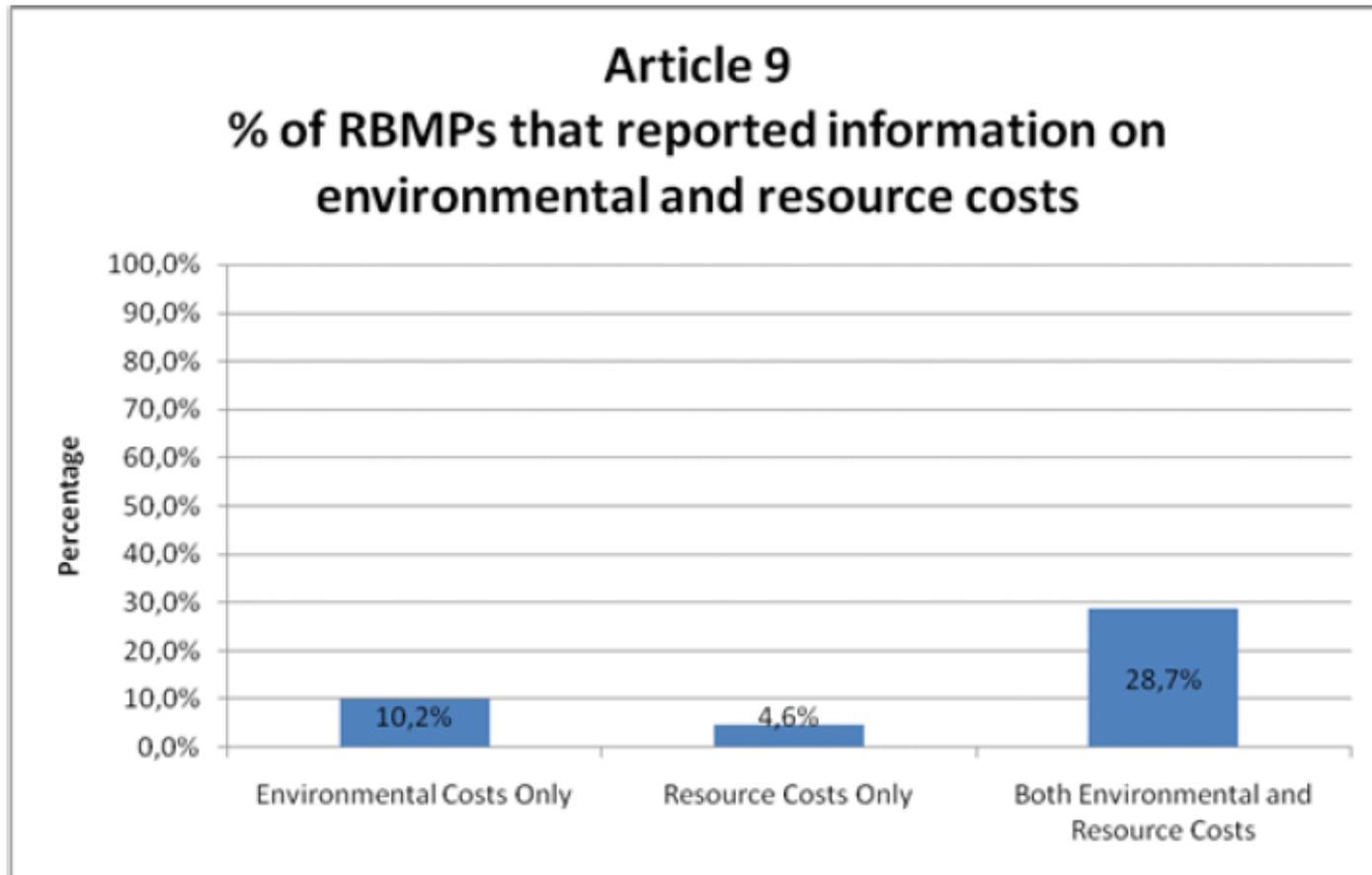


Figure 8.15.2: Percentage of RBMPs in which environmental and resource costs were reported to be included in the cost recovery calculation. It does not mean that the calculation is transparent and that the implementation is effective

Source: RBMP assessment

WFD Implementation Reports



ENVIRONMENT

European Commission

European Commission > Environment > Water > Water Framework Directive

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Water
Blueprint
River Basin Management
Water Framework Directive
WFD: what is it about?
Implementation Reports
Status of adoption of R-DMPS

WFD Implementation Reports

The Commission has assessed the progress in the implementation of the WFD in certain international European Parliament, the Council and the public about the results of its assessments (see A

- [1st implementation report on the Programmes of Measures \(March 2015\)](#)
- [2nd implementation report on the River Basin Management Plans \(November 2012\)](#)
- [2nd implementation report on monitoring networks \(1 April 2009\)](#)
- [1st implementation report on the first stage of implementation \(22 March 2007\)](#)

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/impl_reports.htm

Common Implementation Strategy - CIS



WFD Guidance Documents

Guidance documents and technical reports have been produced to assist stakeholders. Guidance Documents are intended to provide an overall methodological approach for specific circumstances of each EU Member State.

List of published CIS Guidance Documents available on [CIRCABC](#)

- [N° 1 - Economics and the Environment - The Implementation Challenge](#)
- [N° 2 - Identification of Water Bodies](#)
- [N° 3 - Analysis of Pressures and Impacts](#)
- [N° 4 - Identification and Designation of Heavily Modified and Artificial](#)
- [N° 5 - Transitional and Coastal Waters - Typology, Reference Condition](#)
- [N° 6 - Towards a Guidance on Establishment of the Intercalibration Net Intercalibration Exercise](#)
- [N° 7 - Monitoring under the Water Framework Directive](#)
- [N° 8 - Public Participation in Relation to the Water Framework Directive](#)
- [N° 9 - Implementing the Geographical Information System Elements \(GIS\)](#)
- [N° 10 - Rivers and Lakes - Typology, Reference Conditions and Classification](#)
- [N° 11 - Planning Processes](#)

- The EU Member States (MS), EFTA countries and the Commission addressing challenges in a co-operative and coordinated way since 2001

- CIRCABC - the Information Exchange Platform:
<https://circabc.europa.eu/>

**Thank you for your
attention**

<http://water.europa.eu/policy>



For info or further questions on this seminar and the activities of the JASPERS Networking Platform, please contact:

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