

The European Union's Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

Regional Environmental Network for Accession (RENA)

*First training workshop “Basic
measures: role of the WFD”
WG 3 – Activity 3.2*

Istanbul, Turkey (8 – 10 March 2011)



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Human Dynamics KG

RENA Working Group 3 – Cross-border Cooperation and Multilateral Agreements.

Sub-group on Water Management

Report on the first training workshop “Basic measures: role of the WFD”, held in Istanbul, March 8-10, 2010

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First training workshop “Basic measures: role of the WFD”

Istanbul, March 8-10, 2010

1. Background

Water Management sub-group is one of 19 activities in RENA. It is one of four major activities under the Working Group 3 – Cross-border cooperation and Multinational agreements.

Water Framework Directive (WFD), which encompasses cross-border co-operation in itself, is the piece of EU legislation, in the frame of which the training of this RENA sub-group is formed. The capacity building programme is developed in such a way that all major steps related to the preparation of a River Basin Management Plan were covered. The first training on the so called “basic measures” was the first in the series of workshops. It is foreseen that during the period 2011 and 2012 the training will include six two/three-days training workshops on all major steps required for the River Basin Management Plan development.

The agenda is given in Annex 1, presentations of all speakers in Annex 4, training evaluation summary in Annex 2. List of participants makes up Annex 3.

2. Training Materials

Presentation materials were made available via RENA web site: www.renainetwork.org

Presentations were given in English.

Links to relevant web sites and documents (guidelines on reporting under EU directives, examples of reports) were provided in the presentations of the speakers. The participants were encouraged to contact the speakers and obtain a digital copy (files) of the documents.

3. Course Content

The agenda is given in Annex.1, presentations of all speakers in Annex 2.

3.1. Training session on UWWTD related measures and their incorporation in overall Programme of Measures

The training session was started by presentation from EU Commission on the requirements of the Directive and implementation experiences in EU countries (Mr. Helmut Blöech).

Dr. Simonas Valatka presented Lithuanian experience in implementation of the Directive including designation of sensitive areas, wastewater standards, EU approximation, costs for implementation and challenges faced during the implementation. Dr. Valatka also explained the link between the UWWTD and WFD programme of measures, provided examples when UWWTD may not be sufficient to reach the good status of surface waters. Simonas Valatka also provided an overview of the reporting requirements under the UWWTD directive, demonstrated reporting software and examples of the reports on Eionet. Special attention was paid to answer the questions raised by the Turkish delegation; examples from reporting guidance were presented to illustrate designation of agglomerations.

Philip Mellen presented Denmark’s implementation of the UWWTD. Denmark’s experience shows the merits of an ambitious approach. Assigning a national Expert Working Group to draft Denmark’s Water Environment Action Plans provided the scientific basis for it. The designation of all of Denmark as a “sensitive area” requiring advanced wastewater treatment with nutrient removal was thus established. Public concern about fish kills supported these big public works investments. The resulting quality of Denmark’s receiving waters is internationally recognised, and focus on advanced technologies created an important export market for Denmark. Denmark’s decentralised institutional framework was recognized as a valuable feature for efficient implementation, also for financing through local taxes, and setting in place a comprehensive tariff structure.

Main problems in the UWWTD implementation in a host country (Turkey) were precisely presented as well.

3.2. Training session on DWD related measures and their incorporation in overall Programme of Measures

The training session was started by presentation from EU Commission on the requirements of the Directive and implementation experiences in EU countries (Mr. Helmut Blöech).

Dr. Simonas Valatka presented Lithuanian experience in implementation of the Drinking Water Directive, including country specific problems, implementation challenges, institutional set up, financing and strategy for the development of the sector in the future. Dr. Valatka explained a link between the DWD and WFD programme of measures and reporting requirements under the Drinking water directive. The presentation was followed by a short discussion and comments from the participants.

Philip Mellen presented Denmark's experience implementing the Drinking Water Directive. Denmark's abundant supply of good quality groundwater and its decentralised framework for providing water services to all the population were noted. Full cost recovery (including environmental services), and the break even (non-profit) business model allow financially and environmentally sustainable water services. Denmark's difficulties in addressing growing pressures on its groundwater from agricultural sector pollution (pesticides, nitrates), as well as Denmark's recent administrative reforms (municipal and water sector reforms) were also discussed.

3.3. Training session on Nitrates directive related measures and their incorporation in overall Programme of Measures

The training session was started by presentation from EU Commission on the requirements of the Directive and implementation experiences in EU countries (Mr. Helmut Blöech).

Dr. Simonas Valatka presented Lithuanian experience in implementation of the Nitrates Directive. Overview of the agriculture sector in Lithuania was used to illustrate the basis for decision to designate the whole national territory as a Nitrate vulnerable zone. Dr. Valatka also presented contents of the action programmes under the Nitrates Directive, and described a link between the Nitrates Directive and EU Water Framework directive.

Philip Mellen presented Denmark's experience implementing the Nitrates Directive. As with the other Directives, Denmark's measures preceded the Directive. Milestones on the path to gaining EU approval of Denmark's implementation of the Nitrates Directive in 2002 were noted. To understand the challenges and policies adopted, Danish agriculture was put in historical context, noting the dramatic changes it has undergone in a relatively short period, and the major challenges faced today, pitting the sector's economic interests against the country's sustainable development goals. This conflict has delayed issuance of river basin plans required by the Water Framework Directive, violating the directive's deadlines, and leading to a referral to the European Court of Justice.

3.4. Training session on Bathing waters directive related measures and their incorporation in overall Programme of Measures

The training session was started by presentation from EU Commission on the requirements of the Directive and implementation experiences in EU countries (Mr. Helmut Blöech).

Dr. Simonas Valatka presented Lithuanian experience in implementation of the Bathing Waters Directive. Study from Turkey was used as an illustration of possible costs under the Bathing Water Directive.

Philip Mellen presented Denmark's experience implementing the Bathing Water Directive. The synergies between effective implementation of EU water directives and Denmark's economic interests (e.g., tourism, quality of life) were noted. Denmark's water quality monitoring network was described. The importance of data flows and public access to information in Denmark and at the European level (the European Environment Agency's water information system for Europe, WISE) were noted. The benefits resulting from Denmark's engagement with the Blue Flag Programme were explained.

4. Feedback and Response. Conclusions

The training was very successful and well received. Summary of training evaluation forms shows that in most cases the training organisation and trainers themselves were evaluated as "excellent". Summary responses to all training evaluation questions are provided in Annex 2.



Participants of the training on the first step of the River Basin Management Plan preparation were active and claimed that the training provided useful knowledge and exchange of experiences in the field of implementation of UWWTD, DWD, Nitrates and Bathing waters directives, which measures implementation is considered to be “basic measures” implementation according to WFD. The contributions of the trainers and other speakers were excellent and especially contributed to the better understanding of some specific requirements of the mentioned directives.

AGENDA

Basic measures: role of the WFD

Regional Environmental Network for Accession First Training of the Water Management Sub-Group

Place: Nippon hotel, Topçu Caddesi No: 6 34437, Taksim - Istanbul / TÜRKİYE

Date: March 8-10, 2011

Target group: Water experts from Ministries of Environment and line ministries responsible for UWWT, Drinking water, Nitrates and Bathing water directives.

1st Day, March 8.	
09:00 – 09:30	Registration, coffee
09:30 – 10:00	Welcome. Introduction. Objectives of the workshop Elif C. Torcu, representative of the EC Delegation to Turkey Francois Delcucillerie, Team Leader for Enlargement in Unit E 1 - International Relations and Enlargement Daiva Semėnienė, Key expert, RENA
10:00 – 10:30	EU requirements for the preparation of Programmes of Measures in accordance with the WFD Helmut Bloech, Deputy Head Unit D2 - Water
10:30 – 11:00	Lessons learned in the Netherlands during preparation of Programmes of Measures in accordance with the WFD Johan Heymans, water expert, Netherlands, representative of DABLAS
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 12:00	NGOs role in the preparation of Programmes of Measures (focusing on basic measures) in accordance with the WFD Tanay Sidkı Uyar, representative of Environmental Forum
12:00 – 12:30	Experience of a host country (Turkey) in the preparation of Programmes of Measures (focusing on basic measures) in accordance with the WFD Nermin ÇİÇEK, Representative of MoEF of Turkey
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
1st Day, March 8. Afternoon training session on UWWTD related measures and their incorporation in overall Programme of Measures (PoM)	
13:30 – 14:00	Main problems and questions of a host country (Turkey) in the implementation of the UWWTD Buğçe Doğan, representative of MoEF of Turkey
14:00 – 14:40	UWWTD implementation related measures, main problems in the implementation of the directive. Commission's recommendations. Helmut Bloech, Deputy Head Unit D2 – Water Questions.
14:40 – 15:20	Experience of the UWWTD implementation in Lithuania. Development of the implementation plan. Reporting. UWWTD measures in WFD PoM. Simonas Valatka, water expert, Lithuania Questions.
15:20 – 15:50	Coffee break
15:50 – 16:30	Experience of the UWWTD implementation in Denmark: Approach and strategy, milestones and lessons learned. Philip Mellen, water expert, Denmark Questions.
16:30 – 17:30	Comments. Discussion
	Dinner

2nd Day, March 9	
Morning training session on UWWTD related measures and their incorporation in overall Programme of Measures	
09:00 – 09:30	Presentation of DABLAS programme Johan Heymans, water expert, Netherlands, representative of DABLAS
09:30 – 10:30	Comments, discussion continued. Summary of the session.
Morning training session on DWD related measures and their incorporation in overall Programme of Measures	
10:30 – 11:00	DWD implementation related measures, main problems in the implementation of the directive. Commission’s recommendations. Helmut Bloech, Deputy Head Unit D2 – Water Questions.
<i>11:00 – 11:30</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30 – 12:00	Experience of the DWD implementation in Lithuania. Development of the implementation plan. Reporting. DWD measures in WFD programme of measures. Simonas Valatka, water expert, Lithuania Questions.
12:00 – 12:30	Experience of the DWD implementation in Denmark: Approach and strategy, milestones and lessons learned. Philip Mellen, water expert, Denmark Questions.
<i>12:30 – 13:30</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
2nd Day, March 9	
Afternoon training session on Nitrates directive related measures and their incorporation in overall Programme of Measures	
13:30 – 14:10	Nitrates directive implementation related measures, main problems in the implementation of the directive. Commission’s recommendations. Helmut Bloech, Deputy Head Unit D2 – Water Questions.
14:10 – 14:50	Experience of the Nitrates directive implementation in Lithuania. Development of the implementation plan. Reporting. Nitrates directive measures in WFD programme of measures. Simonas Valatka, water expert, Lithuania Questions.
14:50 – 15:30	Experience of the Nitrates directive implementation in Denmark: Measures, challenges and current status. Philip Mellen, water expert, Denmark Questions.
<i>15:30 – 16:00</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Comments. Discussion.
	Dinner

3^d Day, March 10	
Morning session on Bathing waters directive related measures and their incorporation in overall Programme of Measures	
09:00 – 09:30	Bathing waters directive implementation related measures, main problems in the implementation of the directive. Commission’s recommendations. Helmut Bloech, Deputy Head Unit D2 – Water Questions.
09:30 – 10:00	Experience of the Bathing waters directive implementation in Lithuania.



	Development of the implementation plan. Reporting. Bathing waters measures in WFD programme of measures. Simonas Valatka, water expert, Lithuania Questions.
10:00 – 10:30	Danish experience implementing the Bathing Waters Directive. Philip Mellen, water expert, Denmark Questions.
10:30 – 11:30	Comments. Discussion.
11:30 – 12:30	Conclusions and wrap up.
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
3^d Day, March 10	
Afternoon session, if needed, on bilateral discussion	

POST-TRAINING EVALUATION
First Water Management sub-group training workshop. Basic measures: role of the WFD
Istanbul, March 8-10, 2011
1. Your Expectations

Please indicate to what extent specific expectations were met or not met:

2.

My Expectations in	My expectations were met		
	Fully	Partially	Not at all
1. Overview, better understanding and implementation of Water Directives	8	2	
2. Sensitive area		1	
3. To define and understand agglomerations	2	1	
4. Having a general idea about water sector	1		
5. Especially understanding of basic measures		1	
6. Content of workshop	1		
7. To hear experience and challenges and solutions of the same problem from other countries	5	5	
8. To make new contacts	3		
9. To get more knowledge and learn	1	1	
10. To hear more about possible obstacles	1		
11. Practical experience		1	
12. Introduce NGOs view	1		
13. Answer from Commission	1		

3.

4. Training and Presentation

Aspect of Training	Excellent	Good	Average	Acceptable	Poor	Unacceptable
1 The training achieved the objectives set	14	11				
2 The content of the training course was well suited to my level of understanding and experience	13	11	1			
3 The training was interactive	18	6	1			

4 The duration of this training course was neither too long nor too short	9	12	4		2 Travel	
5 The logistical arrangements (venue, refreshments, equipment) were	20	3	2			
Session 1 on UWWTD	Excellent	Good	Average	Acceptable	Poor	Unacceptable
Trainer was well prepared and knowledgeable on the subject matter	13	3				
Helmut Bloech	20	2				
Johan Heyman	12	7	1	2		
Philip Mellen	13	9				
Simonas Valatka	17	5				
Session 2 on DWD	Excellent	Good	Average	Acceptable	Poor	Unacceptable
Helmut Bloech	17	3				
Philip Mellen	13	7				
Simonas Valatka	14	6				
Session 2 on Nitrates directive	Excellent	Good	Average	Acceptable	Poor	Unacceptable
Helmut Bloech	14	3				
Philip Mellen	11	5				
Simonas Valatka	13	3				
Session 2 on Bathing waters directive	Excellent	Good	Average	Acceptable	Poor	Unacceptable
Helmut Bloech	18	1	1			
Philip Mellen	18	1		1		
Simonas Valatka	17	2		1		

5. Comments and suggestions

I have the following comment and/or suggestions in addition to questions already answered:

Training Session:

Maybe a little bit too long first two days, everything else was excellent;

Overall it would have been better if the sessions were more concentrated on UWWTD since, for example, in Turkey, different departments are dealing with different Directives and it turned out to be impossible to have all of them participate;

It was very interesting and important for us, we need to know other experiences;

I would like to hear more about practical issues on implementation of Directives;

Well prepared;

UWWTD and BWD- if we had one lake and that lake we use for drinking water but using for bathing water (it is not allowed but people do) What is your suggestions? What we can do?

Trainer:

Excellent approach;

The trainers gave us the deep study about relevant Directive and their good experience;

All of them were excellent;

Excellent from Commission, for other countries have to be more specialized in specific field;



Training level and content:

*Appropriate at all;
Good content;
I am satisfied with it;
More about Bathing water, for lake.*

Other:

*Before if Training contents share then it is good;
Related persons attended the meeting from Turkish side. This workshop very fruitful for us. My idea next workshop should be the same;
Excellent organization, presentation and etc.;
Maybe it must be mentioned other projects and programs links with those problems- NEDPOL;*

Name and Surname of the evaluator: