



# **Implementing the Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive**

**INBO 2015, Thessaloniki, Greece, 21-24 October 2015**

**Pavel MISIGA**

**Head of Unit Water**

**DG Environment, European Commission**



# WFD Implementation 2015 Report

- **Communication** assessing progress in implementing WFD Programmes of Measures (PoMs) and the FD
- **2 CSWD** providing EU-wide detailed analysis + MS specific recommendations
- **25 MS in-depth assessments** of WFD PoMs
- **5 MS reports** assessing the River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) of BE, EL, ES, HR and PT (pending since 2012)



# Milestones

- **2012: Water Blueprint** with COM assessment of MS RBMPs
- **2012: MS reports** on the implementation of PoMs
- **2013-14: COM assessment** of MS reports on PoMs
- **2013-14: bilateral meetings** with 28 MS to discuss RBMPs



# Achievements

- *Expected result: 53% of EU waters in good status by 2015 if MS PoMs deliver (up from 43% in 2009)*
- *WFD and "daughter" directives have contributed to improving water protection in EU*
- *Effective dialogue with MS to improve implementation (CIS)*
- *Increased trans-boundary cooperation in water management*

***But still a lot to do...***



# Findings & Recommendations - WFD

- **PoMs**: MS included what is in place, in the pipeline or feasible rather than what is necessary
  - Base PoMs on assessment of pressures to design cost-effective measures
  - Provide appropriate justification for exemptions
- **Water Abstraction**: insufficient measures to control abstraction and ecological flow
  - Review permits to ensure sustainable use
  - Improve monitoring and enforcement
- **Water pricing** and **cost recovery** not applied across sectors & MS (e.g. lack of metering)
  - Adjust inadequate pricing of water resources



- **Agriculture:** still many gaps to address diffuse pollution
  - Better control fertilizers use
  - Create incentives for more water efficient irrigation
  - Better use of EU Funds (i.e. RDF)
- **Industry:** no systematic consideration of WFD objectives in the review of discharge permits
  - Review existing permits to ensure good water status
- **Household:** too slow planning and financing infrastructure investment (collection & treatment)
  - Better use of EU Funds (i.e. Regional & Cohesion)



# Key Findings - FD

- Significant progress in the implementation (most MS have done **Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment**)
- **Flood Hazard and Risk Maps** provide a wealth of info on flood risks in EU
- Good basis to develop **Flood Risk Management Plans** (FRMPs - by 12/2015)
- Need to **ensure better coordination** between FD and WFD (i.e. use of Natural Water Retention Measures)



# Next steps

- **CIS continuation in 2016-2018**
- **Assessment of 2<sup>nd</sup> RBMPs and FRMPs**
- **Integrated assessment (how other policies contribute to the achievement of WFD objectives)**
- **Economic study on value of water/water services and the cost of non-implementation**
- **Evaluation/REFIT**
- **WFD and FD Review**