Peer-Review Mechanism

for the Improvement of Water Framework Directive Implementation

Contents

- Reminder on Peer Review Process
- Current implementation
- Data Management workshop
Purpose of the peer-review

The **objective** is to set up a simple, voluntary and targeted system to allow mutual learning between peers about WFD implementation and participative river basin management planning.

**Who?**

Practitioners from River Basin Districts involved in the implementation of the WFD.

Establishment of a Peer-Review Mechanism
The peer-review tool

How?

1- Peer review missions dedicated to issues selected by Receiving Competent Authorities (RCAs) and implemented by selected volunteer reviewing experts. They were carefully organised in line with precise Terms of References and online preparatory meeting gathering the mission participants before and after the mission.

2- Hands-on workshops on most discussed issues during the missions
### Project activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 2014</td>
<td>• Launch of the Peer review Secretariat project for 2 years</td>
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<td>November 2014</td>
<td>• Establishing the protocol to perform the peer-reviews, &quot;manual of procedures&quot;</td>
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<td>January 2015</td>
<td>• Initial call for expression of interest for both RBDs and experts launched</td>
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Project activities:

- **February-June 2015**
  - Elaboration of ToRs with RCAs and first webinars

- **August 2015**
  - First Peer Review missions

- **Sept. – Oct. 2016**
  - 4 Peer Review workshops

- **Up to Nov. 2016**
  - Finalisation of Peer-review missions

- **Up to Dec. 2016**
  - Final assessment and report
Geographic distribution of reviewing experts

- 70 candidate reviewing experts from 15 MS
RBDistricts candidates for a PR mission

16 Expressions of Interest from 11 MS

- South Baltic Water District, Sweden
- Tiber Basin Authority, Italy
- Duero River Basin Authority, Spain
- Jucar River Basin Authority, Spain
- Water Management Agency, Luxembourg
- Catalan Water Agency, Spain
- Autorità di Bacino dell'Alto Adriatico, Italy
- River Basin District of River Kokemäenjoki - Finland
- Rhine-Meuse Water Agency - France
- Miño-Sil River Basin Authority - Spain
- Northern Baltic Sea Water District Authority - Sweden
- Danish Water Agency - Danemark
- Malta
- Ministry of the Environment – Estonia
- Glomma River Basin District – Norway
- Environment, geology and meteorology centre - Latvia
## Establishment of a Peer Review Mechanism

### Process results

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Peer-Review Project: Missions' schedule</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<td>RCA</td>
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<td>Water Management Agency, Luxembourg</td>
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<td>River Basin District of River Kokemäenjoki, Finland</td>
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<td>Duero River Basin Authority, Spain</td>
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<td>Ministry of the Environment - Nature Agency, Denmark</td>
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<td>Environment, geology and meteorology centre, Latvia</td>
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**Legend:**
- **Online meeting/exchanges for the preparation of the mission**
- **Peer Review mission**
- **Mission report**
Preliminary outcomes and messages

- Target for 20 Peer Review missions, but timing at the turn of the RBM Planning cycle not very favourable.
- Good participation from MS (RCAs and experts) to join the process. Nordic countries appreciate in particular this opening to different experiences. Older member states have less used the mechanism.
- Satisfied participants who gained experience and extra motivation in improving their daily work.
Establishment of a Peer-Review Mechanism

Preliminary outcomes and messages

Missions evaluation

Overall satisfaction
Very satisfied
Fairly satisfied
Fairly dissatisfied
Very dissatisfied

Travel

Communication

Organisation

Global
Hands-on Workshops

- **Groundwater** on 8-9 September at the South Baltic RCA in Kalmar (Sweden)
- **Data management** on 5-6 October near Nice (France)
- **PoM** on 18 October in Lourdes (France) before the annual EUROPE-INBO conference
- **Lessons learned** for the peer review instrument for good practice exchange on WFD implementation between member states on 26 October afternoon before the SCG in Brussels (Belgium)
Hands-on Workshops

PoM:
- Before the EUROPE-INBO conference in Lourdes, 19 - 22 October 2016, focusing on:
  - Water Governance in transboundary basins
  - Adaptation to climate change: resources managements and flood risks
  - 2019 WFD review

Hands-on Workshops

- Lessons learned:
  - Marks the end of the first phase of the program and analyses the lessons learned from the Peer Review missions and the 3 previous workshops
  - Makes suggestion for the evolution of the tool based on the results of the inquiry
  - The workshop is held the day before the SCG meeting so that a communication can be made on the conclusion of the workshop.
Peer review Workshops

☐ Objectives:

- Compare issues, practices and practical experiences of Member States and basin organisations regarding WFD implementation
- Promote the exchange of questions and solutions in this domain
- Address the need for explanatory elements of strategies followed by the Members States and identify the best practices

☐ Outcomes:

- Workshop report gathering the main information
- Presentation of the main recommendations at the "Lessons Learned" workshop and final Peer Review project report
All materials related to the Peer review mechanism can be found on the project website:

www.aquacoope.org/peer.review/

For any further information feel free to contact the Peer review secretariat at the following email address:

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