



Commission's activities

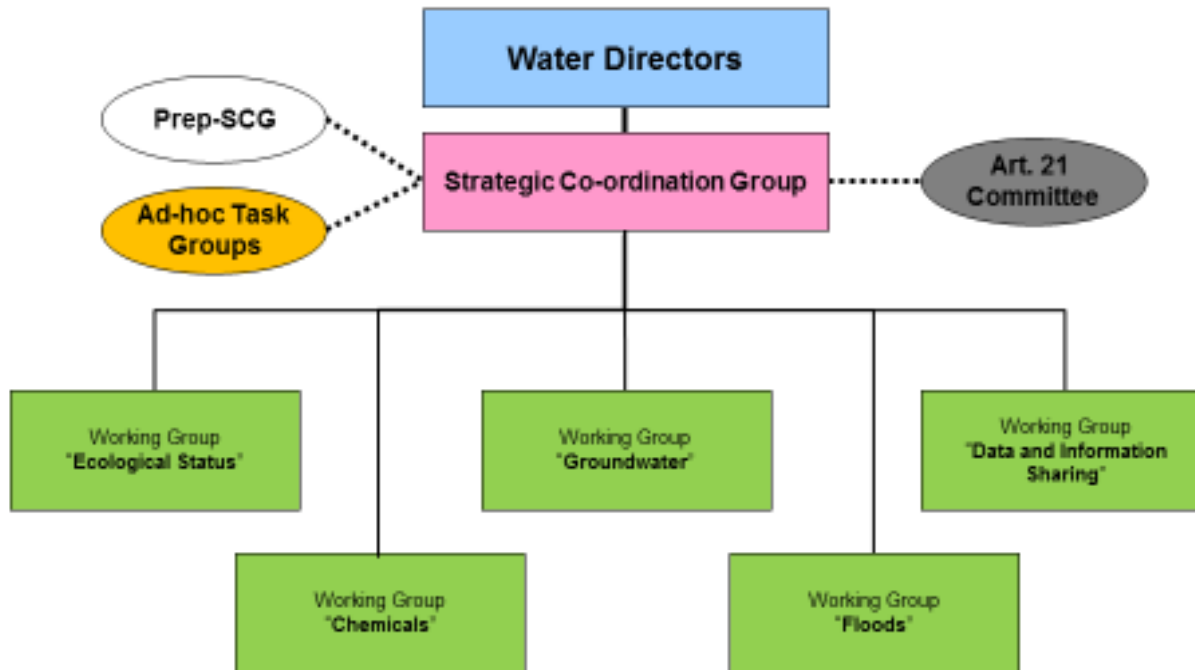
Working Group Groundwater

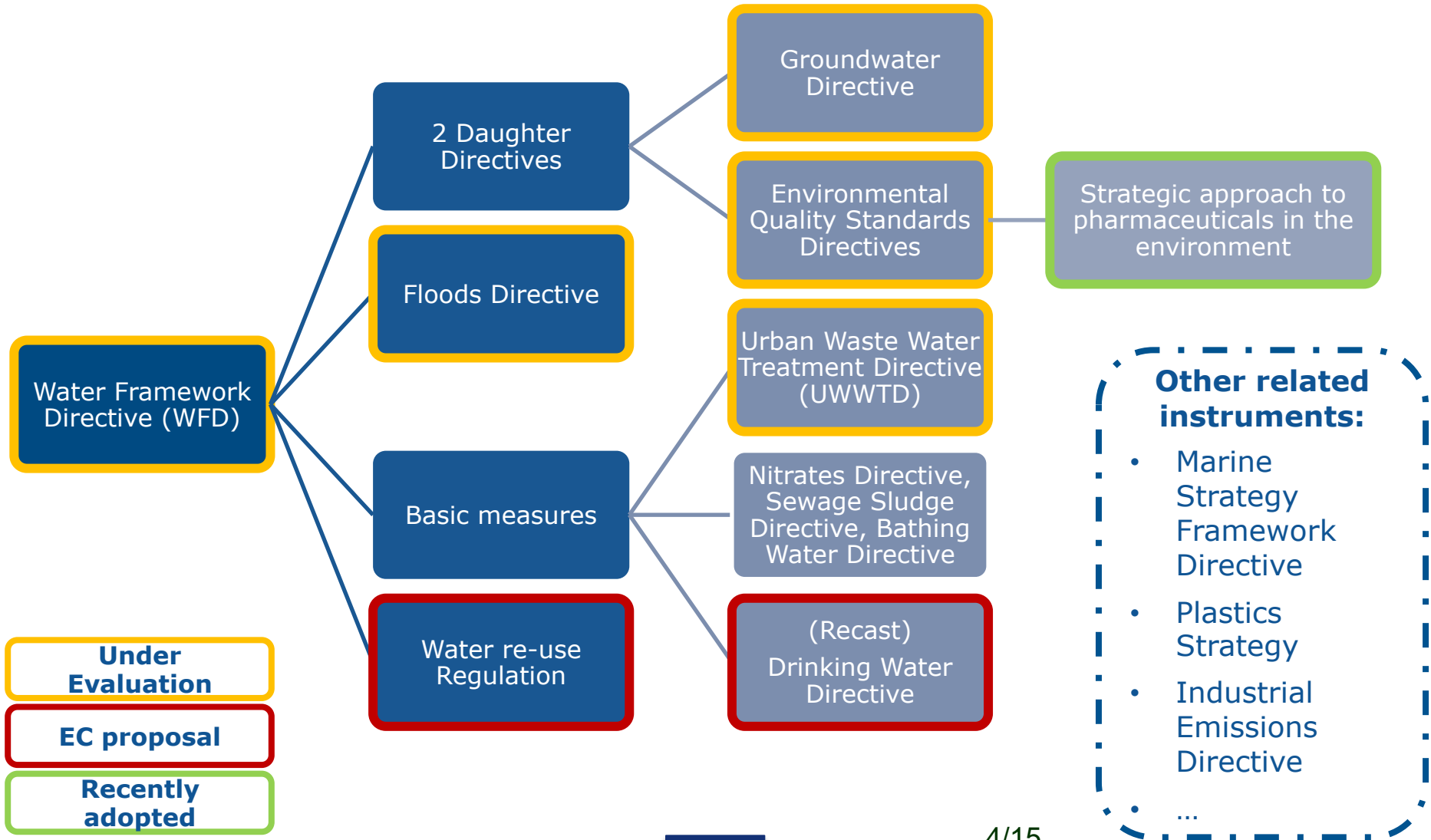


Elisa Vargas Amelin
Policy Officer
DG Environment

WFD Common Implementation Strategy

CIS Organisation 2019-2021





Water acquis evaluations

Directive	In Fitness Check 2012	In Fitness Check 2019	2016	2017	2018	2019	Comment
Water Framework (incl. Groundwater and Environmental Quality Standards Directives) (ENV-C1)	Yes	Yes					WFD review required by end 2019 - Article 19.2
Floods (ENV-C1)	Yes	Yes					Linked to the WFD implementation (coordination of management plans)
Urban Waste Water Treatment (ENV-C2)	Yes	No*					* Separate Evaluation
Drinking Water (ENV-C2)	No	No					Evaluation finalised Currently under ordinary legislation procedure
Bathing Water (ENV-C2)	No	No					Evaluation foreseen for 2020, based on Article 14(3)
Marine Strategy Framework (ENV-C2)	No	No					Not yet scheduled MSFD review required by 2023 - Article 23



5th WFD Implementation report adopted on 26/2/2019

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WFD and FD Implementation Reports



The fifth Water Framework Directive Implementation Report – assessment of the second River Basin Management Plans and the first Floods Directive Implementation Report – assessment of the first Flood Risk Management Plans (2019)

In accordance with Article 18 of the Water Framework Directive and Article 16 of the Floods Directive, the Commission must publish a report to the European Parliament and to the Council on the implementation of these Directives after each update of the River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans respectively.

The Commission Report must include among other things a review of progress in the implementation of the Directives and an assessment of the Plans, including suggestions for the improvement of future Plans. The report also includes an assessment of the international cooperation under the implementation of the Directives.

This 5th Implementation Report was adopted on 26/02/2019 and consists of the following documents:

- A [Commission report](#) to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (assessment of the second River Basin Management Plans) and the Floods Directive (assessment of the first Flood Risk Management Plans), and an [Annex with recommendations](#) to all Member States on both Directives
- A [European Overview of the second River Basin Management Plans](#) - Commission Staff Working Document accompanying the report
- A [European Overview of the first Flood Risk Management Plans](#) - Commission Staff Working Document accompanying the report
- Country-specific assessments for EU Member States' second River Basin Management Plans** - Commission Staff Working Documents accompanying the report : [Austria](#) , [Belgium](#) , [Bulgaria](#) , [Croatia](#) , [Czech Republic](#) , [Cyprus](#) , [Denmark](#) , [Estonia](#) , [Finland](#) , [France](#) , [Germany](#) , [Hungary](#) , [Italy](#) , [Latvia](#) , [Luxembourg](#) , [Malta](#) , [Poland](#) , [Portugal](#) , [Romania](#) , [Slovakia](#) , [Slovenia](#) , [Spain](#) , [Sweden](#) , [The Netherlands](#) , [UK](#)
- Country-specific assessments for EU Member States' first Flood Risk Management Plans** - Commission Staff Working Documents accompanying the report : [Austria](#) , [Belgium](#) , [Bulgaria](#) , [Croatia](#) , [Czech Republic](#) , [Cyprus](#) , [Denmark](#) , [Estonia](#) , [Finland](#) , [France](#) , [Germany](#) , [Hungary](#) , [Italy](#) , [Latvia](#) , [Lithuania](#) , [Luxembourg](#) , [Malta](#) , [Poland](#) , [Portugal](#) , [Romania](#) , [Slovakia](#) , [Slovenia](#) , [Spain](#) , [Sweden](#) , [The Netherlands](#) , [UK](#)

- Commission report to the European Parliament and the Council
- European overviews
- Country-specific assessments
- International cooperation reports

Findings on groundwater from the RBMPs assessment

Key messages, quantitative status

- *Groundwater quantitative monitoring improved with increasing coverage of groundwater bodies.*
- *About 89% of the total groundwater body area is achieving good groundwater quantitative status. The status situation improved as did the confidence in the status results (re-delineation and improvements in status assessment methodologies).*
 - ❖ *Only 1% of the area with unknown status*
- *Water balance and groundwater associated and dependent ecosystems are almost fully considered in status assessment which testifies a significant improvement since the previous River Basin Management Plan.*



Findings on groundwater from the RBMPs assessment

Recommendations, quantitative status

- *While there have been important improvements, many Member States need continue improving quantitative monitoring programmes, and work toward completing quantitative status assessment for all groundwater bodies.*
- *In some Member States additional efforts are required for harmonisation of status assessment methodologies (across regions and river basin districts).*
- *Grouping methodologies for monitoring purposes are not always clear and should be better described in river basin management plans.*

Findings on groundwater from the RBMPs assessment

Key messages, chemical status

- *Most groundwater bodies have been assessed, and for only very few the chemical status is unknown. Overall, the confidence in the status results is relatively high.*
- *Comparison between cycles needs to be made carefully (re-delineation, change in assessment methods).*
- *The overall groundwater chemical monitoring situation deteriorated. Many Member States reduced the coverage of groundwater bodies by chemical monitoring. Overall, monitoring of the five WFD core parameters is partly implemented or low in some cases.*
- *About 74% of the total groundwater body area is at good groundwater chemical status and the improvement since the previous plans is very small.*
- *The consideration of groundwater associated aquatic and groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems improved significantly as did the assessment of chemical trends.*
- *Not all MS have established TVs for all substances posing risk of failing good status.*

Findings on groundwater from the RBMPs assessment

Recommendations, chemical status

- *Operational monitoring must be ensured for all groundwater bodies identified at risk.*
- *Monitoring of core parameters must be reported by Member States.*
- *Grouping methodologies for monitoring and status assessment is not always clear, and thus the absence of monitoring sites cannot be justified.*
- *Member States should set threshold values for all substances/indicators posing a risk of failing good status, and should clearly describe how natural background levels have been considered in their establishment.*
- *Some Member States still need to develop and apply trend reversal methodologies.*