

QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING THE STATE OF APPLICATION OF THE WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE 2000/60/EC

PARTNER

REGION

NAME OF THE INTERVIEWEE/PERSON FILLING IN QUESTIONNAIRE

JOB

ADDRESS

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INTRODUCTION

MAREMED – Maritime Regions cooperation for Mediterranean, is a project started in 2010 and co-funded by the MED Programme, that involves 15 partners among Regions and local administrations from France, Italy, Spain, Greece and Cyprus together with the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)

The project is dealing with the following themes: maritime policy governance, the integrated management of coastal and maritime areas, fisheries, adaptation to climate change in coastal areas, efforts to reduce pollution and data management.

Its objective is to develop tools for enhancing and coordinating regional, European and Mediterranean policies on these six thematic strategies

Within the first work phase (the present one) it will be carried out an overview of the policies implemented and their governance by the project partners. In the second phase will identify pilot coastal zones in which promote transnational management initiatives and share operational tools to aid in decision-making for the six thematic strategies.

PREPARATION AND AIM OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire has been elaborated by FEPORTS (Comunidad Valenciana, Spain) on the basis of the UE Water Framework Directive (WFD), with the advice of the Head of the Water Quality Service in the Environment Ministry of the Valencian Region and the responsible of environment issues of the Valencia Port Authority. It has been presented to the EC DG Environment and integrated after this consultation. The Questionnaire has been presented to the MAREMED partners in the meeting hold in Marseille the last 26th November and has been modified/integrated on the basis of the discussion.

This questionnaire aims at determining and comparing the current state of implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) from the point of view of the coastal waters in the regions involved in the project; to

gain an outline of the problems and obstacles hindering implementation; and to identify the parties involved and the bodies which are responsible for ensuring compliance with the WFD in each region. Also its intended to identify best practices and areas for improvement and to create synergies between the different regions involved which can help to overcome the obstacles encountered. Finally, a further goal is to be able to make recommendations and guidelines which will help to improve the level of implementation and compliance with the WFD and thereby meet the deadlines and objectives previously set.

The Questionnaire will contribute to create an informative framework useful for decision makers at regional, national and European level. Partners and voluntary regions are kindly asked to fill-in the questionnaire and send back it to FEPORTS before February the 28th in your language and before the March the 11th in English.

The WFD creates a legal framework to protect and restore clean water across Europe and ensure its long-term, sustainable use (its official title is Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy.)

The Directive establishes an innovative approach for water management based on river basins, the natural geographical and hydrological units, and sets specific deadlines for Member States to achieve ambitious environmental objectives to protect aquatic ecosystems. The Directive addresses inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater, and it establishes innovative principles for water management, including public participation in planning and economic approaches, including the recovery of the cost of water supply services.

Annex V of the Directive lists the quality indicator to be measured to determine ecological status. It also sets out a five-step classification of surface water bodies and calls for joint work on intercalibration.

Please, justify your answers and attach references to documents or Internet links if appropriate. Use the space you need but keeping in mind to be precise and clear in the explanations. You can modify/adapt the questionnaire to the context of your region if necessary and by consulting previously the coordinators of the WFD MAREMED working group:

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PART 1: GOVERNANCE

Please, address to the document “Diagnostic of Governance of Maritime Policies” in order to answer to questions relating to Governance of the WFD .

PART 2: OPERATIONS

- 1 - Have frameworks been developed for water planning been drawn up in your river basin district? Are there river basin management plans?

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) was fully transposed into Cyprus national legislation through the Water Protection and Management Law (N. 13(I)/2004). The competent authority is the Minister of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus.

According to Article 13 of the WFD, each Member State has to prepare a River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) for each River Basin District that lies within its territory. The whole island of Cyprus is considered as one River Basin District, thus a single RBMP has been produced. In view of the water scarcity conditions that prevail on the island, a Drought Management Plan has also been produced to support and supplement the RBMP.

- 2 - Has there been any kind of initial survey with regard to water planning in your river basin district? What framework or tool has been used for this?

Since EU accession in 2004, the Cypriot authorities have been working for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive provisions.

In accordance with the WFD, the water environment in Cyprus was divided into units or water bodies, with regards to rivers, lakes, coastal waters and groundwater. Some of these water bodies were identified as Artificial or Heavily Modified when they have been entirely created or substantially modified by humans. Such cases include dams constructed on a river or ports constructed on a coastal body. A joint economic and environmental analysis was then undertaken to identify water bodies at risk of not achieving the 2015 target. The significant pressures and impact of human activity on the status of surface water and groundwater were also analysed. Monitoring programmes were then set up to monitor the status of identified water bodies.

In order to achieve the environmental objectives set by the WFD, a draft Programme of Measures was set up, composed of basic measures to be implemented in accordance with community and/or national legislation, as well as of supplementary measures, in cases where the basic measures were not sufficient to achieve environmental objectives.

At the same time, the cost of water services was estimated and appropriate water pricing policies were developed, according to article 9 of the WFD.

Based on the above assessments, a draft River Basin Management Plan and a draft Drought Management Plan were prepared. A six-month public consultation followed, where the public and stakeholders had the opportunity to actively participate in the decision making process and influence the preparation of the final RBMP, Drought Management Plan and Programme of Measures.

Given the complex and specialised nature of the above process, the Cypriot Authorities collaborated with external consultants through public tenders.

All relevant information is on the Water Development Department website (www.wfd.wdd.moa.gov.cy).

- 3 - What is the current status of the planning process in your region? Has it finished?

The Cyprus River Basin Management Plan, Programme of Measures and Drought Management Plan have been finalised, following the completion of the six-month public consultation and a strategic environmental impact assessment.

The final Plans and Programme of Measures will soon be submitted to the Council of Ministers for adoption.

- 4 - Are the WFD implementation deadlines being met? What operational difficulties have been encountered?

Cyprus has met all WFD deadlines up to the end of 2007.

Cyprus was not able to meet the December 2008 deadline for the preparation of the draft RBMP and the March 2010 deadline for the submission of the final RBMP to the European Commission, due to legal issues that had arisen in relation to the award of the tenders with external consultants for the implementation of articles 11, 13 and 15 of the WFD. The issues were resolved in December 2008 and since then the relevant authorities have been making every effort to expedite the process.

The Plans and all relevant information are expected to be submitted to the European Commission, by the end of April 2011.

- 5 - Have the river basin district(s) which your region belongs to been the subject of a study regarding the impact of the pressures of human activity on the water in the maritime and port areas?

Studies have been conducted according to the provisions of the Articles 5 and 6 of the WFD

- 6 - Does your region have a register of the maritime protected areas? What kind of control is carried out on them?

Yes and it concerns marine protected areas within the “Natura 2000” network, as well as the Lara/Toxeftra Protected Area. For the latter, there are specific Management Measures, whereas for Naturas 2000 management plans are being prepared.

- 7 - Does your region differentiate between bodies of coastal water depending on their chemical or ecological state? Are the waters in port areas given special consideration?

No. Port areas have been characterized as Heavily Modified water bodies, according to the guidelines of the WFD

- 8 - Has your river basin district taken part in intercalibration¹ exercises for its coastal waters? Does your river basin district belong to a network of intercalibration points?

Cyprus is actively participating in the Intercalibration Exercise for coastal waters within the Mediterranean Geographical Intercalibration Group (MedGIG). Cyprus has completed successfully the 1st phase of the IC Exercise for 3 of the 4 BQEs and the corresponding national assessment methods have been included in the EC Decision of 2008. Currently Cyprus is participating in the 2nd phase of the IC Exercise. Cyprus coastal waters belong to a network of intercalibration points.

- 9 - In your district, has any network been set up to monitor the chemical quality of coastal waters and their ecological potential? If so, specify its structure.

Chemical quality of coastal waters is being monitored at the same station-network which is used for the monitoring of the biological quality elements (ecological status)

- 10 - What parameters are considered by the monitoring networks? How often does monitoring take place?

Monitoring considers the 4 Biological Quality Elements defined by the WFD, physico-chemical parameters and certain priority substances. Monitoring frequency varies between 1/ month to 1/year, depending on the quality element.

- 11 - Are the following issues monitored in coastal and port waters in the geographical district in which your region is located?

(next page)

¹ For the purpose of the project, only the geographical intercalibration group in the Mediterranean will be taken into account.

<p>a) State of biodiversity</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, partially <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If so, what kind of monitoring:</p> <p>Monitoring of the 4 BQEs within the WDF and Protected Species and Habitats within the implementation of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)</p>
<p>b) Disturbance of marine ecosystems, the presence of foreign species</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, partially <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If so, what kind of monitoring: The presence of alien and alien/invasive species is recorded as part of the above-mentioned monitoring</p>
<p>c) The commercially exploited fish and shellfish populations</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, partially <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If so, what kind of monitoring: No commercially exploited shellfish populations exist in Cyprus. Monitoring is conducted for all the commercial fish species (landings and fishing effort) and in more detail for the most important species (biological data collection: length, maturity, sex, aging)</p>
<p>d) The stability of the sea bed</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If so, what kind of monitoring:</p>
<p>e) Concentration of pollutants in the water</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, partially <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If so, what kind of monitoring: Certain priority substances are monitored in the sea water within the WFD and in <i>Mullus barbatus</i> within MEDPOL</p>
<p>f) Presence of marine waste</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If so, what kind of monitoring:</p>

12 - In order to comply with the WFD planning, the ecological potential and chemical quality of the waters should be in the process of being classified. Has such classification been carried out for coastal waters, including those in port areas? If not, what is the current status of this classification?

An ecological and chemical status classification of the coastal waters has been conducted

- 13 - What difficulties have been encountered in your district with regard to the implementation of monitoring networks? Technical, operational, financial...?

Lack of personnel and financial expenses

- 14 - In your river basin district, are there any special differences in the implementation of these networks for inland waters and those for territorial coastal waters? What are they?

Vague question. 2 different types of monitoring networks

- 15 - Is there a database which records the pressures on coastal and transitional waters, so that the bodies of coastal waters in your region can be identified and quantified? State its name and who is responsible for it.

Vague question.

- 16 - Does your region or district have a census or register of all the coastal or maritime waters from which water is taken for different uses?²

There is information on the different uses (e.g. aquaculture, desalination plants) of the coastal waters

- 17 - Do you have any recommendations or methodologies for the integrated management of bodies of water in coastal and/or port areas in your country, region or river basin district? If so, specify the legal or administrative framework which this tool forms part of.

PART 3: ECONOMIC ISSUES

- 18 - Is there any devoted budget for the establishment of the WFD policy in your region?

The cost for the implementation of the basic and supplementary measures of the Programme of Measures has been estimated and it will be included in the future Government Budgets.

- 19 - Has your region been the subject of an economic analysis or study concerning the use of coastal waters or those of port areas?

There has not been any economic analysis or study specifically for coastal water and port areas.

- 20 - Do these studies analyze the economic impacts and how industrial development is conditioned by the requirements of the WFD regarding maintaining water quality? Specify these.

- 21 - Have cost-benefit analyses been carried out regarding the implementation of the WFD in coastal waters? Specify which studies they are and their availability.

² Industrial uses, fish farms, desalination to produce drinking water, etc.



22 - What are the main economic barriers that have been encountered in your region or district hindering compliance with the WFD?

The main economic barriers that hinder the WFD compliance include the high implementation cost of the water related legislation and the cost arising from the persisting water scarcity and drought conditions in Cyprus.

Signature _____

Place _____ Date _____, 20__