



NATURA 2000 and Water Framework Directive - Implementation in Greece

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Heraklion, 23.10.2018

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2. Water Framework Directive (WFD)
3. Implementation Problems -
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7th Environment Action Program to 2020

“Living well, within the limits of our planet”

Decision, 20.11.2013

In line with the multiannual financial
framework 2014 -2020

Biodiversity protection and
Water protection are top priorities

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7th Environment Action Program to 2020

Top priorities:

to maximize the benefits of the Union's
environment **legislation**

the **Efficient implementation** of the EU
Environment Legislation

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1. NATURA 2000 - Directives 92/43 and 79/409

The largest coordinated network of protected areas in the world

Greece an important role -
has a rich natural environment

Endemic and indigenous species

more than 5.500 plant species have been recorded

a large number of them are

endemic species

Nearly all mammal species recorded are indigenous

as well as 85% of freshwater fish species

- 27,9% of the Greek land area is covered by Natura 2000 (EU average 18,1%)
- 6,12% of Greek territorial waters

Greek list of NATURA 2000 sites

241 Sites of Community Importance (SCI)
202 Special Protection Areas (SPA).

32 Marine Protected Areas (2017)

Greek legislation

- Law 1650/1986 “on the protection of the environment”
- Law 3937/2011 “on the protection of biodiversity”
- Biodiversity Strategy 2014

Greek legislation

- Law 4519/2018 Management Bodies of Protected Areas
- Ministerial Decision 50743/2017 Extending Protected Areas (32 marine areas)

2. Water Framework Directive 2000/60

Sets:

- **The obligation** to achieve the objective of “**good ecological status**” by **2015**
- **Long term objectives**,
to be gradually implemented
in the years 2003 – 2020

WFD: Applies to all waters

- 1) lakes
- 2) rivers
- 3) transitional waters (estuaries)
- 4) coastal waters (up to 1 mile from land)
- 5) ground waters

Greek Legislation

- Law 3199/2003:
(Special Secretary for Water Management)
- P.D. 57/2007
- A number of Ministerial Decisions issued pursuant to the Law 3199/2003
- In 2004: characterization of river basins
Decision National Water's Committee 2010

River Basin Management Plans

14 in Greece

- Western Peloponnese adopted: 2013, 2017
- Northern Peloponnese adopted: 2013, 2017
- Eastern Peloponnese adopted: 2014, 2017
- Western Sterea Ellada adopted: 2014, 2017
- Epirus adopted: 2013, 2017
- Attica adopted: 2013, 2017
- Eastern Sterea Ellada adopted: 2013, 2017

River Basin Management Plans

- Thessaly adopted: 2014, 2017
- Western Macedonia adopted: 2014, 2017
- Central Macedonia adopted: 2014, 2017
- Eastern Macedonia adopted: 2013, 2017
- Thrace adopted: 2013, 2017
- Crete adopted: 2015, 2017
- Aegean Islands adopted: 2015, 2017

these M.P. Report the status
of:

- 1 142 Rivers
- 48 Lakes
- 43 Transitional bodies
- 133 Coastal bodies
- 366 Groundwater bodies

Quality of water

- 49% of natural surface water bodies achieve a good or high ecological status (the status of 21% is unknown)
- 6% of heavily modified or artificial water bodies achieve a good or high ecological potential (the status of 43% is unknown)

Water Pricing

Adoption of measures to ensure that **water pricing policy provides adequate** incentives for rational and sustainable water consumption

Decision National Water's Committee **2017**

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3.Implementation Problems Recommendations - Perspectives

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Implementation Problems

- Significant delays in implementing the Directives
- Lack of appropriate infrastructure
- Insufficient number of civil servants

Implementation Problems

- Poor judicial support to the administrative bodies in all levels: Central government, Decentralized Government- Prefecture – Local authorities
- Delays in the adoption of Court decisions

Implementation Problems

Management plans and other site protection tools (Management bodies , Legal acts) have been developed for a **small number** of Protected Areas only

In most cases through
LIFE projects or
European Regional Development Funds

Implementation Problems

Comprehensive
administration and functioning
of Protected Areas is lacking
Including: Strategy, Structure,
Management schemes, Responsibilities,
Financing, Enforcement, Monitoring

Reason: there is no such National system

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Recommendations

- **Simplification of Administrative procedures.**

Complicated administrative structures and procedures provoke significant delays in all decisions and actions

- **Clarification and distinction of the responsibilities** of each Administrative Body

Recommendations

- Putting in place an **Efficient National system for the comprehensive Administration** of Protected Areas and of water Management
- Upgrade – train the staff of the **competent authorities**

Recommendations

- **Codification of the Legislation** on Nature Protection and on Water Protection
- Creating incentives for **sustainable investments** in Protected areas

Recommendations

- Better collaboration between Environmental **Inspectors – Public Prosecutors – Judges**
- **European Environmental Inspectors?**

Thank you

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