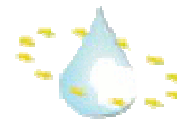


WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE



CIS CD ROM - 2005 VERSION

WFD Related Links

This page provides links to key websites and associated research projects related to WFD.

Europa and CIRCA

The [EUROPA](#) website acts as a gateway to the European Union and provides information related to European affairs.

For further details of WFD related activities and other WFD related information the [EUROPA](#) website has related pages.

[CIRCA](#) is an electronic forum that enables the exchange of information and acts as a communication platform, supporting the implementation of the WFD CIS. Following the agreement on the CIS, the Commission set up the website using the CIRCA tool – Communication Information Resource Centre Administrator, it allows a given community, such as working groups, project groups etc, geographically spread across Europe, to share information, documents, participate in a discussion forum and various other functionalities.

Other Supporting Information

[Eur-Lex](#) provides free and direct access to all European Union Law; the system makes consultation of the Official Journal possible, including legislation, case-law and legislative proposals. A comprehensive search facility is also available.

The European Environment Agency ([EEA](#)) aims to support sustainable development and achieve significant and measurable improvements in Europe's environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy making agents and the public. The link provided accesses the 'Water' section of the website.

[LIFE](#), introduced in 1992, is the Financial Instrument for the Environment, and is one of the European Union's spearheads environmental policy. It co-finances projects in three areas: LIFE Nature- conserving natural habitats and wild fauna and flora according to the Birds and Habitats directives; LIFE-Environment aims to implement Community policy and legislation in the EU and candidate countries and; LIFE-Third Countries, is concerned with technical assistance activities for promoting sustainable development in third countries. LIFE is open to all EU countries, some candidate countries and some third countries

bordering the Mediterranean and the Baltic Sea

The [Joint Research Centre \(JRC\)](#) aims to provide customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of EU policies. It is a service of the European Commission and functions as a reference centre of science and technology for the Union

[JRC](#) is made up of seven institutes, based in 5 separate sites around Europe.

In collaboration with the DG ENV, JRC have also undertaken the initiative to launch the European Centre for Ecological Water Quality and Intercalibration ([EEWAI](#)) to assist with the task of harmonising and intercalibrating surface water ecological assessment systems of the Member States.

The new [JRC-EEWAI CIRCA](#) repository is now available and provides details on Intercalibration related information and activities.

Pilot River Basins

The PRB network was established to test and cross validate the Guidance Documents developed by the CIS. The pilot river testing began in 2003 and was completed in 2004. The results of this testing exercise are shown in the two JRC reports available on the Other CIS Documents Page on this CD ROM. The following links provide more detailed information on the work carried out during the PRB testing phase and current work being undertaken in the 15 PRBs.

- [Cecina](#) and [Tevere](#) river basin - Italy
- Guadiana river basin - Portugal
- [Júcar river basin](#) - Spain
- Moselle-Sarre transboundary river basin - France, Germany, Luxembourg
- [Marne river basin](#) - France
- Neisse transboundary river basin - Germany, Poland, and Czech Republic
- [Odense river basin](#) - Denmark
- Oulujoki river basin - Finland

- [Pinios river basin](#) - Greece
- [Ribble river basin](#) - UK
- Scheldt transboundary river basin - Belgium, France, The Netherlands
- [Shannon river basin](#) - Ireland
- [Sulda Isvassdraget river basin](#) - Norway
- Szamos transboundary river basin - Romania, Hungary

More specific details on the PRB sites are available on the Information Sheets compiled by JRC and available on the Platform of Information Exchange ([PIE](#)).

International River Conventions

[International Commission for the Protection of the Odra River against Pollution](#)

[International Commission for the protection of the Elbe River \(IKSE\)](#)

[International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River \(ICPDR\)](#)

[International Commission for the Escaut-Schelde River](#)

[International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine River](#)

[International Commission for the Meuse River](#)

Research Framework Programme

Fifth Framework Programme

The FP5 sets out priorities for the priorities for the European Union's research, technological development and demonstration activities for the period 1998-2002. The Key Actions of this programme are regarded as a cluster of small and large, applied, generic and, as appropriate, basic research projects directed towards a common European challenge or problem.

[Sustainable management and quality of water](#) is a key action under the thematic programme of Energy Environment and Sustainable Development

The [website](#) sets out related [EU-policies](#) and [Projects](#), as well as other related information. Listed below is a brief summary of WFD related projects being undertaken as part of FP5. Click on the titles for links to the related websites.

- [AQEM](#)

The European Union funded AQEM project, supported by the 5th Framework Programme was carried out between March 2000 and

February 2002. It has produced the AQEM assessment system. This system serves to implement the the WFD by providing an ecological quality assessment for streams across Europe using benthic macroinvertebrates.

- **STAR**

STAR-Standardisation of River Classifications, supported by the 5th Framework Programme. The STAR project provides a framework method for calibrating different biological survey results against ecological quality classifications to be developed for the WFD and commenced in January 2002. The 15 work packages were carried out over a three year duration. The project addresses the strategic problem of the diversity of river and stream assessment throughout Europe. Due to the number of methods and the number of organism groups involved in these methods, a level of intercalibration and method standardisation is required

- **HarmoniCA**

HarmoniCA - Harmonised Modelling Tools for Integrated Basin Management. The HarmoniCA project is supported by the European Commission under the fifth framework programme and aims to assist with the development of river basin management plans, supported by high quality Information and Communication Tools (ICT). The project will produce guidance methodologies, which are based on support and consensus that have been realised through incorporating science, policy and stakeholders

- **DANUBS**

daNUbs - Nutrient management in the Danube basin and its impact on the Black Sea. The project is part of the 5th EU research framework and has been a multi-national and multi-disciplinary research exercise, which looked at nutrients in the Danube system. The project was carried out from 2001 through to 2005 and the final report is available on the website.

Sixth Framework Programme (FP6)

FP6 is the financial instrument that has been put in place to assist with the functioning of the European Research Area (ERA) - an internal market for science and technology, aiming to better utilise European research efforts. The [website](#) provides details on [activity areas](#), [projects](#) as well as other relevant information. Listed below is a summary of WFD related FP6 projects. Click on the titles for links to the related websites.

- **REBECCA**

REBECCA is supported under the 6th Framework Programme under the European Commission. The objective of REBECCA is to derive further information on the relationships between the chemical and ecological status of surface waters. This will provide the foundation for one of the

key scientific principals on which the WFD is based and will provide support for the implementation of the WFD. Understanding the relationship between the biological state and physical and chemical properties of surface waters to a sufficient level will enable the management of catchments and rivers in order to achieve ecological objectives.

- **SWIFT**

Supported by the European Commission under the sixth framework programme SWIFT is an EU-R&D project The seven work packages will be carried over a three-year period between 2004 and 2006 and aim to produce quality control tools for validation purposes of screening methods, an inventory of existing and developing screening methods for water monitoring.

- **EURO-LIMPACS**

Euro-Limpacs aims to assess the effects of future global climate change on Europe's freshwater ecosystem and is supported under the 6th Framework Programme. It is a €20 million integrated project, consisting of 37 partners and coordinated by the Environmental Change Research Centre. The project will run from February 2004 through to January 2009.

- **BRIDGE**

BRIDGE - Background cRiteria for the IDentification of Groundwater thrEsholds. The BRIDGE project comes under the policy-orientated research Scientific Support to Policies (SSP) of the Sixth framework Programme Priority. Representatives from the CIS Groundwater Working Group 2C are on the Advisory Committee, ensuring subsequent good links. The project sets out to develop a generic methodology for use by MSs in order to define environmental thresholds. The project will run for 2 years with 6 work packages and commenced at the start of 2005.

Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)

In April 2005 the Commission announced its [proposals](#) for the Seventh Framework Programme. [FP7](#) will run from 2007-2011, it aims to build on the achievements of FP6 towards the creation of the ERA. Support will be given to a whole range of research activities where the action is industry driven and organised into four sub programmes: collaborative research; Joint Technology Initiatives (see pdf-JTI in share); coordination of non-community research programmes and; international cooperation.
