UNESCO Chair INWEB and the Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (BRESCE)
WORKSHOP on
DEVELOPING REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR SHARED KARST AQUIFER MANAGEMENT IN SEE

BULGARIA`S WATER LEGISLATION AND WATER POLICY

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Bulgaria's water legislation and water policy

Topics

General Information about:

- Current situation regarding water resources management in Bulgaria
- Responsible institutions
- Coordinating Ministry
- Recent legislation and reforms for implementing EU regulations
- Groundwater vs. surface water management issues
Bulgaria's water legislation and water policy

Current situation regarding water resources management in Bulgaria

The following four River Basin Districts have been established, according to the National Water Act:

- Danube River Basin District (Pleven)
- Black sea River Basin District (Varna)
- South-West Aegean River Basin District (Blagoevgrad)
- South-East Aegean River Basin District (Plovdiv)
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Current situation regarding water resources management in Bulgaria
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Responsible institutions

- A guiding normative document in the field of water management is the Water Act, enacted in January 2000; amended 2006;

- This comparatively new act transfers the requirements and principles of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC;

- The water management in the country is carried out and guided by the Ministry of Environment and Water, since this is the responsible institution at national level for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive in R. Bulgaria.

Contact details at national level:

Name: Ministry of Environment and Water  
Address: 1000 Sofia, 67 Gladstone Str. “Water” Directorate 1000 Sofia, 22, Maria Luiza Blvd.  
Head of Department: Mr. Georgi Ivanov  
Deputy Minister: Lubka Kachakova – in charge of the water management in the country  
Telephone: 359 2 940 61 82   Fax: + 359 2 980 96 41  
Web address: www.moew.government.bg
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WATER MANAGEMENT

Coordinating Ministry

Council of Ministers

Ministry of Environment and Water

High Council of Water

Water Directorate

Danube River Basin Directorate

Black Sea River Basin Directorate

East Aegean River Basin Directorate

West Aegean River Basin Directorate

River Basin District Council

River Basin District Council

River Basin District Council

River Basin District Council
Responsible institutions

The National institutions responsible for and/or taking part in the water management are as follows:

- Ministry for Environment and Water (MoEW)
- Executive Environmental Agency (EEA) at the MoEW
- Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW)
- Ministry of Health (MH)
- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)
- Ministry of Finance (MF)
- Municipalities and local water companies
- National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology (NIMH) at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS)
- Ministry of Economics and Energy (MEE)
- Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES)
### Bulgaria's water legislation and water policy

#### Recent legislation and reforms for implementing EU regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EU Water legislation</th>
<th>Bulgaria Water legislation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WWTP of settlements Directive, 98/15/EEC</td>
<td>Order and requirements for wastewater discharges in the settlement sewerage systems Regulation no.7, 2000; Order for identified water bodies sensitive areas, 2003</td>
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<td>The Dangerous Substances Directive 76/464/EEC</td>
<td>Limit Values for Dangerous Substances, Regulation no. 6, 2000</td>
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### Bulgaria's Water Legislation and Water Policy

**Recent legislation and reforms for implementing EU regulations**

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<td>Water quality for human consumption Directive, 98/83/EC</td>
<td>Water quality for drinking and domestic needs, Regulation no. 9, 2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of Surface Water intended for Drinking Water 75/440/EEC</td>
<td>Operation of Sanitary Protected Areas Regulation no. 3, 2000; Quality of Surface Water intended for Drinking Water Regulation no. 12, 2002</td>
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<td>The Fish and Shellfish Directives 78/659/EEC and 79/923/EEC</td>
<td>Quality of water supporting fish and shellfish life, <strong>Regulation no. 4, 2000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Sewage Sludge Directive 86/278/ECC</td>
<td>Requirements for soil protection during usage of WWTP activated sludge in agriculture, <strong>Regulation no. 262</strong>; Order and means for WWTP activated sludge utilization in agriculture, <strong>Regulation, 2004</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The IPPC Directive 96/61/EEC</td>
<td>Environmental Protection law, 2002, amended 2002-2007; Requirements and order for issuing of Integrated Permits for construction and exploitation of new and existing industrial facilities and plants, <strong>Decree for acceptance of Regulation, no.62/ 12 March, 2003</strong></td>
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<td>List of priority substances</td>
<td>Water Act, 2006;</td>
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<tr>
<td>EC Decision 2001/2455/EC</td>
<td>Surface water characterization, Regulation no.13, 2007;</td>
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<td>Water monitoring, Regulation no. 5, 2007</td>
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**Groundwater vs. surface water management issues**

**Regulation № 5: Water monitoring, Ministry of Environment & Water, 23.04.2007:**

- The ground water status is defined by the quantitative and chemical aquifer status.

- The ground water quantitative status is defined by the extent of interaction on the aquifer which the water intake or drainage from the ground waters could cause.

- The quantitative ground water status classification is performed according to the parameter “ground water level regime” and considering the Regulation relevant to Article 135, point 2 of the Water Act.

- The chemical ground water status classification is performed according to the parameters “conductivity” and “contaminant concentration” and considering the Regulation relevant to Article 135, point 2 of the Water Act.
Sources of information

- Ministry of Environment and Water
  www.moew.government.bg
- Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works
  www.mrrb.government.bg
- National Report on Water Management at River-Basin Level in the Republic of Bulgaria - Review of the implementation of the requirements of articles 5 and 6 from the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC
- Executive Environment Agency
  http://nfp-bq.eionet.eu.int/ncesd/eng/index.html
- Annual report for the state of environment in Bulgaria (Green book)
- West Aegean Sea River Basin Directorate
  http://www.wabd.bg/bg/
Thank you for the attention!