

Ambientalia Special Issue Series (I):

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**CALL FOR PAPERS**

# Ten years of the Water Framework Directive: *an overview from multiple disciplines*

## *Aim of the Special Issue*

Ambientalia Special Issue Series is aimed at providing with multidisciplinary compilations of environmental research on selected relevant topics.

This number aims at commemorating the celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of the most relevant environmental European legislations of the last decades: the Water Framework Directive. The Directive 2000/60/CE establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy is essentially an environmental norm, which aims at reaching the good ecological status for all European waters. It is one of the most environmentally ambitious pieces of European legislation and its implementation has derived into a huge mobilization of resources, policy actions and research activity from multiple disciplines. 2010 represents an important milestone in the process of the implementation of the Directive, not only because of the symbolic meaning of the decade of existence, but also because it is from now on that the Management Plans for the actual achievement of the Directive's objective will need to become operative and the WFD will become more of a reality both for policy-makers and the public.

From the research sphere it is now necessary to have a look at what has happened in the last ten years and to open the debate on how the scientific progress will need to support the new stage of the implementation of the Water Framework Directive. From Ambientalia, we aim at providing with the appropriate forum for this discussion ensuring

a multidisciplinary look. This special issue pretends to compile a series of research work focusing on the main environmental issues affecting our common future in relation to the management of an essential resource such as water.

This Special Issue is organized in six sections referring to key elements of the Directive. Section 1 looks at the role of economic tools and principles supporting the implementation of the Directive, as one of the most innovative aspects of this environmental legislation. Section 2 deals with public participation and water management as a crucial element for the successfulness and social legitimization of the water policy. The third section relates to bio-physical aspects of the definition of the ecological status prescribed by the Directive, looking at measurement methods and the set up of parameters and classification thresholds. In section 5, groundwater aspects of the Directive are specifically addressed in the integrated water management concept. In the sixth section, spatial planning is analyzed in the context of the implementation of the WFD, considering the importance of land use in the water question. A final section concludes setting up the debate for the next years for the European water policy.

Each of the sections is edited by a reputed expert on the field and contains from two to three invited papers from relevant scholars from Spanish and international Academia. Authors have been asked to provide with overview assessments on the progress on research in their respective areas. Each section is complemented with a series of contributed papers .

Hereby we would like to invite researchers of different areas having worked in the last year in the context of the implementation of the Water Framework Directive to participate in this publication, by submitting their work to Ambientalia. Research articles devoted to the analysis of important environmental questions constitute the core of the publication aim of Ambientalia. They can also be in the form of essays discussing critical methodological issues or implication of scientific ideological assumptions. Surveys examining and reviewing important general subject areas in the context of the WFD are also welcomed. Scientific papers are reviewed by two or three outside reviewers with the criteria weighted toward originality, quality, accuracy of the analysis, and importance of the question

## Ten years of the Water Framework Directive: *an overview from multiple disciplines*

### Editorial

Julia Martín-Ortega and Alberto Matarán, Editors of Ambientalia Journal

### I. The role of economics in the Water Framework Directive

Section editor: Julia Martín-Ortega (Basque Centre for Climate Change, Spain)

#### Invited papers:

*The economic analysis in the Water Framework Directive: the Spanish case in the European Context.* Josefina Maestu (United Nations, Water Decade Office Zaragoza, Spain) and Julio Berbel (University of Cordoba, Spain)

*Estimation of environmental costs and benefits: the AquaMoney Project.*

Julia Martín-Ortega (Basque Centre for Climate Change, Spain) and Roy Brouwer (IVM, The Netherlands)

*Agriculture and economics in the Water Framework Directive: progress and limitations.*

Jose Antonio Gómez-Limon (IFAPA, Spain)

*The role of hydro-economic models in the Water Framework Directive*

Manuel Pulido Velazquez (Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain)

**Contributed papers:** Research articles devoted to the analysis of important economic questions in the WFD such as full cost recovery of water services, environmental valuation of environmental costs and benefits, economic analysis to be included in the program of measures, among others.

## II. Public participation and water management

**Section editor:** Maria Falaleeva (Coastal and Marine Resources Centre CMRC, University College Cork)

### Invited papers:

*Community involvement in the implementation of the WFD in Greece.*

Dimitrios Zikos (Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research UFZ, Leipzig, Germany)

*The participation process of the WFD: the need for time, proper agenda and objective settings.*

Zsuzsanna Flachner (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary), and Consuelo Varela (Polytechnic University of Madrid, Spain)

*Public participation in the implementation of the WFD in Spain.*

Nuria Hernández-Mora and Alba Ballester, (Fundación Nueva Cultura del Agua, Spain).

*The limits of institutional design: grasping participatory practices in the WFD.*

Jelle Behagel and Sonja van der Arend, (Wageningen University, The Netherlands).

**Contributed papers:** Theoretical research and practical case studies on public participation in water management, WFD implementation and integrated river basin management are welcomed. Reflecting on past years of experience in developing and applying participatory methods for water management, the section calls for papers on tools and methods of public participation in different regional and social settings, barriers and opportunities for stakeholder participation, effectiveness of participatory methods and added value of participation for water management, participation and social learning, interplay between institutions at different levels and between formal and informal institutions. The section aims to provide a picture from different regions of European region and bordering areas including trans-boundary studies.

## III. Ecological Status and Potential: definitions and thresholds

**Section editor** Marta González del Tánago (Polytechnic University of Madrid, Spain).

**Invited papers:**

*Evaluation of ecological status of rivers: Intercalibration processes*

Antoni Munné (Cataluña Water Agency, Spain)

*Evaluation of biological conditions of rivers: Macroinvertebrate communities, indicators and measures*

Javier Alba Tercedor (University of Granada, Spain)

*Fish communities as indicators of biological conditions of rivers: Methods for Reference conditions*

Carlos Alonso & Diego García de Jalón (Polytechnic University of Madrid, Spain).

**Contributed papers:** In this section a synthesis of the WFD implementation dealing with river classification, river ecological status evaluation and reference conditions will be presented, discussing main results and further works needed to improve methodologies and applications. Special attention will be paid on hydro-morphological conditions, which are crucial for defining Program of Measures to be included in the River Basin management plans, expected for this year.

## IV. Groundwater

**Section editor:** Antonio Pulido Bosch . (University of Almería, Spain).

**Invited papers:**

*Facts on Spanish Groundwater Policy.*

Ramón M. Llamas. (Complutense University of Madrid, Spain).

*Groundwater quality and pollution in the Water Framework Directive.*

Emilio Custodio. (Rioja University, Spain).

*Drawing boundaries of groundwater bodies in the context of the Water Framework Directive. An application to a Southern Spain basin.*

Damián Sánchez and Francisco Carrasco, (University of Málaga, Spain).

**Contributed papers:** Case studies looking at the problems regarding the implementation of the Water Framework Directive will be welcomed, with particular emphasis on issues of most difficult achievement and those which can be incompatible with traditional uses of groundwater.

## V. Water and Spatial Planning in the implementation of the WFD

**Section editor:** Alberto Matarán, University of Granada

### Invited papers:

*Water and Spatial Development: The implementation of the WFD in Spanish water and spatial planning.*

Antonio Serrano (Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain).

*Implementation and integration of EU environmental directives: the Water Framework Directive in The Netherlands.*

Wim Van Der Knaap. (University of Wageningen, The Netherlands).

*Water and spatial planning according to the WFD: the case of the Mediterranean Basins in Spain.*

Alberto Matarán, Mercedes España Villanueva and Ana María Fernández. (University of Granada, Spain).

**Contributed papers:** Research articles related to the conflicts and challenges of the new approaches in spatial and water planning according to the WFD. The researching could also be related to new and possible planning experiences.

## VI. Coastal areas and transition waters

**Section editor:** This section is temporally edited by Alberto Matarán and Julia Martin-Ortega, but will be handled to a field expert in the course of the elaboration of the special issues.

**Contributed papers:** Research articles related to the management of coastal areas and transition waters are welcome. Research on ecological aspects and other aspects relating to the consequences of the implementation of the WFD in this type of water bodies will also be highly appreciated.

## VII. Future and debate: Ten years ahead of the Water Framework Directive

**Conclusions:** Leandro del Moral, (University of Sevilla, Spain).

### How to submit

All papers are to be submitted to a peer revision process following the rules of Ambientalia, available at <http://revista.ambientalia.org>. Ambientalia generally accepts contributions in several European languages, however, notice that the language of this Special Issue will be English, so all contributions should be submitted in English.

In your submission, indicate that your contribution is aimed at the WFD Special Issue and specify the corresponding section.

Please, notice that you are required to send an abstract of your proposal by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November. The suitability of your proposal will be assessed on the basis of the abstract and you will be invited to submit a full paper. Once you have been invited, the paper should be submitted by the 1<sup>st</sup> of February this year. The full calendar for the process is presented next.

## Calendar

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2009: Abstract submission at [ambientalia@ugr.es](mailto:ambientalia@ugr.es)

15<sup>th</sup> December 2009: Communication of abstract acceptance

1<sup>st</sup> February 2009: Deadline for the submission of selected papers

15<sup>th</sup> March 2010: Communication of the revision results

15<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Deadline for the submission of the reviewed papers

Summer-Autumn 2010: Publication of the Special Issue

***\*\* Due to the recent incorporation of the Coastal Areas and Transitional Water section to this Special Issue, submissions relating to this particular section can count with two extra weeks in relation to the different phases of the established calendar.***

For further information, please contact [ambientalia@ugr.es](mailto:ambientalia@ugr.es)