



TWINBASIN MISSIONS : REPORTING GUIDELINES

Mission reference
2006 February

Date :
10.03.06

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<u>Mission Report</u>	
Wording of mission	Knowledge exchange about the river basin organisations activities, mainly connected to the WFD implementation Cooperation on the development of the activities regarding economic analysis and public participation

1. CONTEXT

Place, location	<i>France, Artois Picardie Water Visits in the surroundings, Lille, Paris and Antwerpen (Belgium)</i>
Mission duration	<i>8 days</i>

2. OBJECTIVES

	Initial objectives	Results	Results indicator
1	- to learn about the administrative and the functional frame of the visited RBO;	- completion of a report regarding the French RBO's general administrative frame and dissemination of the information; - learning about the way Artois Picardie Water Agency implements IWRM and WFD at a river basin scale (including transboundary issues through the Scheldt International District);	- a list of recommendations regarding IRRM and the WFD that could be taken into account in Romania - Comparison of organisation adopted by Romania and France for the implementation of the WFD: identification of main results, constraints encountered, fields requiring further developments.
2	- to attend a meeting of the Scheldt International Commission	- observing and learning from the international cooperation frame within an international river basin management;	a list of recommendation for the improvement of the cooperation in the Romanian-Serbian Hydrotechnical

			Commission
3	- to visit other water administrations involved in water management (also include stakeholders).	- learning from the way French Water Agencies deal with stakeholders;	- improvement of the River Basin Committee activity in Romania
4	- to gather as much information as possible about the economic analysis issues and about public participation process; - to meet the representatives of the stakeholders involved in the implementation of the two topic of interest;	- developing a report concerning the approaches and strategies that each RBO has adopted in order to develop the economic analysis and the public participation process; - improving the each RBO strategies and methodologies in the studied fields; - identifying further cooperation; - printing a presentation of this starting cooperation in the Artois-Picardie Water Agency Newsletter and in one of the Banat local magazine focusing on environmental problems.	Comparison of the use of economic analysis between Romania and France. Identification on fields for common development (e.g. assessment of the social impacts of increasing of water price) - comparing adopted approaches; - comparing the data collection methods; - analysing the way the technical information are linked and overlaid with the economic data; - identifying outputs and results: how the economic results are fed into the decision making process. - comparing the activities and tools used for the public participation - exchanging information about how to deal with the stakeholders' feedback

3. ACTIVITIES DEVELOPED DURING THE MISSION

Activity 1	Topic : <i>The implementation of the Water Framework Directive</i>
Description (Exchange of experience)	The first objective was to better know the French administrative framework for the implementation of the WFD. The Water Agencies in France don't have in their patrimony and do not have the task of operating and maintaining water works, they have only the economical instruments for implementing the water resources management policies. Artois-Picardie Water Agency administrates an area of

<p><i>regarding WFD implementation, learning from the French experience)</i></p>	<p>about 18.000 km², similar with the one managed by Banat Water Branch. The number of the inhabitants of Artois-Picardie Basin is 4 times higher that in Banat. There is some similitude between the numbers of employees of both Water Agency, even if in Artois-Picardie the number of the Water Agency employees is 180 and in Banat is 500. About 150 employees of Banat Water Branch have similar tasks with their French colleagues being involved in qualitative and quantitative monitoring and WFD implementation. The rest of the BWB employees have tasks connected to operating and maintaining water works, assessment of the qualitative status of the water through qualitative analysis and specific tasks connected to flood protection.</p> <p>The use of GIS in implementing WFD</p> <p>The French team has the same problems with the geospatial harmonizing of the data in the border area. GIS basic data are received (bought) from France National Institute for Geography.</p> <p>Lessons learned: in order to publish the GIS maps on the website of Artois-Picardie Water Agency the French colleagues used a freeware soft MAPSERVER that covered all the needs for a good presentation. The new data base was developed following the GIS WFD Guideline (as in Romania).</p> <p>Diffuse pollution issue</p> <p>Another meeting had the objective of informing us about the French methods of tackling with the diffuse pollution. Mr. Sylvan Victor presented the progress made by France until now and the measures planned for the future period. The 4 years programme of measures is set, problems could occur while implementing the measures because the monitoring of the diffuse pollution is a delicate issue. The farmers in France are well organized into unions that represent a common opinion which is sometimes very difficult to deal with when the environmental issues come to increase the amount of money farmers has to spend for reaching the targets set by the EU Directives. Legal instruments are needed in order to reinforce the water protection field mainly against diffuse pollution.</p>
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Activity 2	Topic : <i>International cooperation</i>
<p>Description <i>(Meeting of the International Scheldt Commission)</i></p>	<p>The meeting had the objective of agreeing on the schedule and the ways of implementing the requirements of the WFD regarding economic analysis. There were present the French president of the Coordination Group, a Dutch expert in the field of cost-effectiveness and the General Secretary of the Scheldt Commission. After a first meeting where the 3 parts (France, Belgium with its 3 regions and The Netherlands) proposed their variants, the secretary of the Joint Commission prepared a version of the schedule to unite all the proposals. The 2 experts put together all the proposals and came to a common point of view where divergent opinion appeared. Working in such a restraint way (implying just a few persons) turned out to be very efficient. The working plan was harmonized in a very short meeting. It is a very good lesson to be learned by the experts of the Romanian-Serbian Joint Commission.</p>

Activity 3	Topic : <i>Public Participation</i>
<p>Description <i>(Meeting several stakeholders)</i></p>	<p>After learning about the French way of conducting public participation in water management field (from the presentation made by Mr. Arnaud Courtecuisse at Artois Picardie Water Agency and from the Artois Picardie website) we met several stakeholders in the river basin: the director for environment protection from Roquette Factory, Lestrem and the director from Fluides Automation, Lille. Both meetings developed the issue of dealing with waste water and respecting the requirements of the WFD and Waste Water Directive.</p>

4. LESSONS LEARNT during the mission *(what could be shared with other partners and/or introduced in guidelines, as far as IWRM is concerned)*

- **About Methodology :**

- strategies and methodologies in the economic analysis and public participation approaches;
- harmonisations and negotiations methods concerning the international cooperation within an international river basin;
- dealing methods of French Water Agencies with stakeholders.

- **About Practice :**

- learning approaching of Artois Picardie Water Agency implements IWRM and WFD at a river basin scale (including transboundary issues through the Scheldt International District)
- GIS approach in the field of River Basin Management Plan developing;
- proper technologies in food industry and small municipalities waste water treatment;
- the French way of identification and management of vulnerable areas to nitrates from agriculture.

5. DISSEMINATION (opportunities and difficulties)

a) The Basin Organization the expert belongs to:

All the lessons learned during this visit in Artois Picardie Water Agency can be fully or partially used in Banat Water Branch taking into account the specific conditions from Banat Hydrographical Area and of course Romanian legislation.

b) National IWRM practice:

The methods and tips learned in this mission are very useful for National Administration “Apele Romane” in order to optimize the national methodology for WFD implementation.

c) Regional experiences:

The member of Romanian-Serbian Hydrotechnical Commission will be inform about the harmonisations methods and experience concerning the international cooperation used in the Scheldt Commission in order to increase the efficiency of cross-border cooperation.

d) Worldwide :

The Romanian-Serbian bilateral cooperation will benefit from the lessons learned from the meeting of the Scheldt Commission attended in Antwerpen. The tips can be applied to other International Commission for water management eg. Romanian-Moldavian Joint Commission, Romanian-Hungarian Joint Commission, Romanian-Ukrainian Joint Commission, Romanian-Bulgarian Joint Commission.

6. IDENTIFIED TIPS

- useful tips in public awareness concerning media spots and the impact on targeted public;
- some negotiation and harmonization methods used in the Scheldt Commission can be very useful at Romanian-Serbian Hydrotechnical Commission (the use of the meetings with a small number of experts can improve the efficiency of the results);

- an interesting, from the maintenance costs point of view, technology of urban waste water treatment for small communities (Oxylagoon) looks very appropriate for Banat rural area.

7. PERSONAL COMMENTS

The mission enlarged our experience in the field of WFD implementation giving us some new ideas about ways in which WFD is understood and implemented in other EU countries. Most of the lessons learned during the mission will be applied at the scale of our river basin in order to improve the water management process. Public participation is a delicate issue for our country and we consider that we can benefit from the French experience. Also cross-border cooperation is a subject of present interest mainly due to the permanent changes in the Romanian and Serbian water legislation in accordance with the political status of each country.

8. CONTACTS

➤ *principal local contacts met*

Name	Occupation	E-mail	Phone Number
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9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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<i>Voyage au coeur des zones humides</i>	<i>Conseils d'aménagement l'exposition</i>	<i>Agence de l'Eau Artois-Picardie</i>
<i>Contre Courant</i>	<i>Le magazine de l'agence de l'Eau Artois-Picardie</i>	<i>Agence de l'Eau Artois-Picardie, 2005, 2006</i>
<i>Contre Courant Junior</i>	<i>Le magazine de l'agence de l'Eau Artois-Picardie</i>	<i>Agence de l'Eau Artois-Picardie, Decembre 2005</i>
<i>Etat des lieux des districts hydrographiques</i>	<i>Pour : Escaut, Somme et Cotiers Manche Mer du Nord-Meuse</i>	<i>Agence de l'Eau Artois-Picardie, 10 decembre 2004</i>

Websites		
Name	Description / Notice	Address
<i>Artois-Picardie</i>	<i>Artois-Picardie Water Agency's website</i>	<i>www.eau-artois-picardie.fr</i>