



# Rural Development and the WFD

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## WFD Programmes of Measures (2009)

### Basic Measures (Annex VI part A WFD)

- Minimum requirements
- “Combined approach” for point and diffuse sources (Art. 10)
- Include implementation of environmental directives that effect water, e.g. Nitrates Directive

### Supplementary Measures (Annex VI part B WFD)

- Used, if WFD objectives will not be achieved through basic measures
- Include e.g.
  - Economic & fiscal instruments
  - Negotiated environmental agreements
  - Codes of good practice
  - Voluntary agreements
  - Demand management measures
  - Efficiency and re-use measures
  - Research



## Background Rural Development

- Agriculture is one of the most important sources of water contamination
- Current RDR (2000-2006): existing measures could help to protect water resources
- Upcoming RDR (2007-2013): new opportunities for water protection





## Lessons Learned (2000 - 2006)



### Key factors for success

- Well defined territorial scopes, objectives and activities
- Education of farmers
- Co-operation and willingness to participate
- Well established compensation levels
- Monitoring



## Lessons Learned (2000 - 2006)

- Different measures should be used for different regions
- RD measures have more objectives than water resources protection
- The cost of the measures is an important factor for future implementation





## Rural Development (2007 - 2013)

- Options to establish co-operations between the water and the agricultural sectors
- **Axis 2 measures** – have high potential to support the implementation of WFD
  - To compensate for costs incurred and income foregone resulting from disadvantages in the areas related to the implementation of the WFD (Art. 38 RDR)
  - Detailed rules, including the maximum amount of support, will be defined in the future
- **Other axes:** measures offer opportunities to contribute indirectly to WFD



## Rural Development (2007 - 2013)

The impact of the measures will depend on the priority each of them is given within a Member State





## Rural Development (2007 - 2013)

- Water protection is only one out of several aims of the RDR (other competing objectives)
- Use of maximum amount of available funding to tackle agricultural pressures on water bodies  
→ Total national RD budgets will be **insufficient**
- Therefore additional actions needed such as
  - Ensuring full implementation of environmental legislation (e.g. Nitrates Directive)
  - Additional instruments and measures



## Conclusions



- RD programme can make valuable contribution to meet WFD objectives
- WFD could also support RD implementation, e.g. **applying measures on 'at risk territories'** (Art. 5) and **exemptions** (Art. 4)
- Approach chosen should take account of scale and benefits to various stakeholders



## Conclusions

- **Co-operation between various authorities will be important to obtain maximum benefit**
- **For enhancing co-operation**
  - Use of **WFD Art 5. reports** to define territories and objectives of RD measures
  - **Public participation** can be a useful tool
- **To meet WFD objectives: additional measures needed**