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Public Consultation to inform the Fitness Check of the EU Water Framework Directive, its associated Directives (Groundwater Directive and Environmental Quality Standards Directive) and the Floods Directive

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

The Water Framework Directive carries a mandatory obligation to review the functioning of the Directive against its aims by the end of 2019. The European Commission will also evaluate the two Directives directly linked to the Water Framework Directive: the Groundwater Directive and the Environmental Quality Standards Directive, the so-called "daughter-directives" of the Water Framework Directive.

While the Floods Directive does not carry such an obligation, its close alignment with the Water Framework Directive means it is also appropriate to consider this legislation at the same time.

Following the <u>Better Regulation Guidelines</u>, the evaluation of the above directives will take the form of a Fitness Check, which aims to provide a comprehensive policy evaluation assessing whether the current regulatory framework is 'fit for purpose'.

The purpose of this consultation is to collect information and views from stakeholders about the policies covered by this Fitness Check. The consultation is sub-divided into three parts:

After some general information about the respondent, the first part of the questionnaire is addressed to the general public. To respond to this part of the questionnaire, you do not need any specialist knowledge of legislation or water policy. The second part is addressed to experts and contains more detailed and technical questions regarding the EU water legislation.

You are welcome to provide your input to parts (i) and/or (ii) according to your level of knowledge and involvement in water policies. All of the responses to this consultation will be fully assessed and the overall results will be included in the analysis supporting the Fitness Check of the Water Framework Directive, the Groundwater Directive, the Environmental Quality Standards Directive, and the Floods Directive. A stand-alone summary of the results of the consultation will be produced (and will be published here).

The public consultation on the evaluation of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive was launched on

13 July and will be open to contributions until 19 October.

If you have any questions, please contact the European Commission via env-water@ec.europa.eu

Once you have submitted your answers you can download a copy of them.

Your opinion matters and we are grateful to you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire.

For more information about the Fitness Check, please see the European Commission's website: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/fitness_check_of_the_eu_water_legislation/index_en.htm

Introduction to water and European water legislation

Water is an intrinsic part of life and a key resource utilised for a wide variety of purposes on a daily basis. Its uses include energy production, industry, agriculture and food processing, transport, and tourism and hospitality, as well domestic uses. It also forms an important part of our natural environment supporting important ecosystems. In addition to ensuring the protection of water for users and the wider environment, the management of water is becoming increasingly important in the protection of people, the economy, cultural heritage and the environment itself, from flooding.

The EU has shared competence with Member States to regulate environment and health in the field of water. This means that the EU can only legislate as far as the Treaties allow it, and with due consideration for the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality. EU-level action on water management is justified because 60% of EU river basins are international, shared by up to 19 countries (Danube); action taken by a single or few Member States is therefore not sufficient.

The Water Framework Directive (WFD - 2000/60/EC) was adopted in 2000 with the key aims of protecting and enhancing water bodies for current and future generations of EU citizens. The adoption of the Water Framework Directive brought a new integrated approach that altered the way water is managed across the EU and by the individual national authorities. The new approach incorporated into a legally binding instrument the key principles of integrated river basin management: public information and the participatory approach in planning and management at river basin scale, including co-operation between neighbouring countries; the consideration of the whole hydrological cycle and all pressures and impacts affecting it; and the integration of economic and ecological perspectives into water management. It emphasised the need to gather, use and share information on the ecology and pollution of rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters, and on the qualitative and quantitative status of groundwaters.

The Water Framework Directive repealed a number of earlier pieces of legislation which dealt with key issues as isolated topics, bringing them together in a comprehensive framework.

The obligations set out under the Water Framework Directive led to the need for what are known as 'daughter Directives', expanding upon key topics to provide further instruction on how to comply with the aims of the Water Framework Directive. These are namely the <u>Groundwater Directive</u> (2006/118/EC) published in 2006, aimed at protecting groundwater from pollution and over exploitation, and the <u>Environm ental Quality Standards Directive</u> (2008/105/EC) adopted in 2008, aimed at protecting surface waters from contamination by priority chemical pollutants.

Additionally, in 2007, the Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) was adopted with the aim of reducing and

managing the risks that floods pose to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity. The Directive applies to inland waters as well as all coastal waters across the whole territory of the EU. Member States are required to adopt Flood Risk Management Plans identifying the significant flood risks and measures to be applied. Their development is coordinated with that of the River Basin Management Plans.

The Water Framework Directive, its daughter Directives and the Floods Directive have now been in place for more than a decade, their implementation supported by the <u>Common Implementation Strategy</u> involving the European Commission and a large network of Member State and stakeholder group representatives (from EU-level associations, business groups, NGOs, etc.).

The EU freshwater policy has already been subject to a <u>Fitness Check adopted in 2012</u>, which included the assessment of the first River Basin Management Plans in accordance with Water Framework Directive.

This Fitness Check on water policy will be closely coordinated with the <u>evaluation of the Urban Waste</u> <u>Water Treatment Directive</u>. The <u>Drinking Water Directive</u> was evaluated recently (2017) and the proposal for a revised Directive is currently under discussion with the Council and the Parliament. Other water-related Directives are not directly part of this evaluation, including the <u>Bathing Water Directive</u> (evaluation foreseen for 2020) and the <u>Marine Strategy Framework Directive</u> (to be reviewed by 2023).

For more information about water policy in Europe, please check out these websites:

The European Commission's website on water in Europe:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/index_en.htm

The European Commission's website about the Water Framework Directive: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/info/intro_en.htm

The European Commission's website about the Floods Directive: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/flood_risk/index.htm

The European Commission's Implementation Reports:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/impl reports.htm

The European Environment Agency report on "European Waters: Assessment of status and pressures 2018"

https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/state-of-water

The European Environment Agency's Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR), which includes information on chemical emissions to water:

http://prtr.eea.europa.eu

About you

EnglishEstonian

41	
Langu	uage of my contribution
○ E	Bulgarian
0 (Croatian
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	Finnish
	French
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	Italian
	Latvian
	Lithuanian
	Maltese
	Polish
	Portuguese
	Romanian
	Slovak
	Slovenian
	Spanish
	Swedish
	giving my contribution as Academic/research institution Business association Company/business organisation Consumer organisation EU citizen Environmental organisation Non-EU citizen Non-governmental organisation (NGO) Public authority Trade union Other
H	elena
*Surn	ame
S	jögren
*Ema	il (this won't be published)
h	elena.sjogren@skogsindustrierna.se
*Orga	unisation name

255 character(s) maximum

4

S	wedish Forest Industries	Fed	leration				
*Orga	anisation size						
0	Micro (1 to 9 employees	3)					
0	Small (10 to 49 employe	,					
0	Medium (50 to 249 emp	,	es)				
•	Large (250 or more)	,	,				
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	k if your organisation is on the	e <u>tran</u>	sparency register. It's a volu	untary	database for organisation	ns seekir	g to influence EU decision-
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*Cou	ntry of origin						
	e add your country of origin,	or tha	t of your organisation.				
0	Afghanistan		Djibouti		Libya	0	Saint Pierre and
							Miquelon
	Åland Islands		Dominica		Liechtenstein		Saint Vincent and
							the Grenadines
0	Albania		Dominican Republic		Lithuania	0	Samoa
0	Algeria		Ecuador		Luxembourg	0	San Marino
0	American Samoa		Egypt		Macau	0	São Tomé and
							Príncipe
0	Andorra	0	El Salvador		Madagascar	0	Saudi Arabia
	Angola		Equatorial Guinea		Malawi		Senegal
	Anguilla		Eritrea		Malaysia		Serbia
	Antarctica		Estonia		Maldives		Seychelles
	Antigua and Barbuda	0	Ethiopia	0	Mali	0	Sierra Leone
	Argentina		Falkland Islands		Malta	0	Singapore
	Armenia		Faroe Islands	0	Marshall Islands	0	Sint Maarten
	Aruba Australia		Fiji Finland	0	Martinique Mauritania	0	Slovakia Slovenia
	Austria				Mauritius		Solomon Islands
	Austria		Former Yugoslav Republic of		Maurillus		Solomon Islands
			Macedonia				
0	Azerbaijan	0	France		Mayotte	0	Somalia
0	Bahamas		French Guiana		Mexico	0	South Africa
0	Bahrain		French Polynesia		Micronesia	0	South Georgia and
			,				the South Sandwich
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	Bangladesh	0	French Southern and		Moldova		South Korea
			Antarctic Lands				
	Barbados		Gabon		Monaco		South Sudan

Belarus	Georgia	Mongolia	Spain
Belgium	Germany	Montenegro	Sri Lanka
Belize	Ghana	Montserrat	Sudan
Benin	Gibraltar	Morocco	Suriname
Bermuda	Greece	Mozambique	Svalbard and Jan
			Mayen
Bhutan	Greenland	Myanmar/Burma	Swaziland
Bolivia	Grenada	Namibia	Sweden
Bonaire Saint	Guadeloupe	Nauru	Switzerland
Eustatius and Saba			
Bosnia and	Guam	Nepal	Syria
Herzegovina			
Botswana	Guatemala	Netherlands	Taiwan
Bouvet Island	Guernsey	New Caledonia	Tajikistan
Brazil	Guinea	New Zealand	Tanzania
British Indian Ocean	Guinea-Bissau	Nicaragua	Thailand
Territory			
British Virgin Islands	Guyana	Niger	The Gambia
Brunei	Haiti	Nigeria	Timor-Leste
Bulgaria	Heard Island and	Niue	Togo
•	McDonald Islands		Ü
Burkina Faso	Honduras	Norfolk Island	Tokelau
Burundi	Hong Kong	North Korea	Tonga
Cambodia	Hungary	Northern Mariana	Trinidad and Tobago
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Cameroon	Iceland	Norway	Tunisia
Canada	India	Oman Oman	Turkey
Cape Verde	Indonesia	Pakistan	Turkmenistan
Cayman Islands	Iran	Palau	Turks and Caicos
•			Islands
Central African	Iraq	Palestine	Tuvalu
Republic			
Chad	Ireland	Panama	Uganda
Chile	Isle of Man	Papua New Guinea	Ukraine
China	Israel	Paraguay	United Arab Emirates
Christmas Island	Italy	Peru	United Kingdom
Clipperton	Jamaica	Philippines	United States
Cocos (Keeling)	Japan	Pitcairn Islands	United States Minor
Islands			Outlying Islands
Colombia	Jersey	Poland	Uruguay
Comoros	Jordan	Portugal	US Virgin Islands
Congo	Kazakhstan	Puerto Rico	Uzbekistan
Cook Islands	Kenya	Qatar	Vanuatu
Costa Rica	Kiribati	Réunion	Vatican City
Côte d'Ivoire	Kosovo	Romania	Venezuela
Croatia	Kuwait	Russia	Vietnam
Cuba	Kyrgyzstan	Rwanda	Wallis and Futuna
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	Curaçao	Laos	0	Saint Barthélemy	0	Western Sahara
0	Cyprus	Latvia	0	Saint Helena Ascension and Tristan da Cunha	0	Yemen
	Czech Republic	Lebanon	0	Saint Kitts and Nevis	0	Zambia
0	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Lesotho		Saint Lucia	0	Zimbabwe
	Denmark	Liberia		Saint Martin		
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All of	the questions in this p	art of the consultation are r		•		
	pportunity to make mor	re in-depth comments or սկ	oloa	d additional documents	s at	the end of this
Your	understanding of wa	ter and your relationshi	p w	ith it		
	ow do you assess the s Good	ituation of Europe's waters	too	ay?		
0	Acceptable					
©	Not good					
	I do not know					

To enjoy a clean environment and clean waters careful management is needed of how water is used. This first question seeks to understand your relationship with water, your views and opinions on water issues, and your priorities.

2. When you think of water and its different uses and functions, which of the following do you consider as a priority?

	High priority	Medium priority	Low priority	No priority	I do not know

	Protection of drinking water sources and e supply systems	0	0	0	0	0
	Protection of water from pollution	0	0	0	0	0
	Availability of drinking water and water for omestic use	©	0	0	0	0
	Availability of water for irrigation in griculture	0	0	0	0	0
	Availability of water for industry	0	0	0	0	0
	Availability of water for recreation	0	0	0	0	0
4	Availability of water for transport purposes	0	0	0	0	0
4	Availability of water for energy production	0	0	0	0	0
	Protection of natural waters and their ssociated ecosystems	0	0	0	0	0
	Prevention and protection from flooding	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
Manag 3. Do 1. In the second of the second	No do not know you know where to find up to date informa country?		•	ace and gro	oundwater	in your
0 -	you aware of which authorities manage to Yes To some extent No do not know	he surface a	and groundwa	ter in your r	region?	

6. Do you think the management of water resources in your country has improved since the introduction of the Water Framework Directive (2003) and the Floods Directive (2009)? Note that these are the dates these Directives were transposed into national legislation.

Yes, to a large extent Yes, to some extent No, it has stayed the same No, it has got worse I do not know		ve?									
8. Which of the following do you consider to be challenges to achieving good qualitative and/or quantitative status of surface/groundwater? (please give each issue a score between 5 and 1, where 5 =very significant obstacle, 4 = major obstacle, 3 = moderate obstacle, 2 = slight obstacle, 1 = not an obstacle. All issues should be scored if possible, but "Do not know/no opinion" may also be chosen). Quantitative aspects											
	1 (Not an obstacle)	2 (Slight obstacle)	3 (Moderate obstacle)	4 (Major obstacle)	5 (Very significant obstacle)	Do not know / No opinion					
Growing demand for drinking water / increasing population	•	0	0	•	0	0					
Growing demand for water in energy production, industry and agriculture	•	0	0	0	•	•					
Growing demand for water in industrial activities	0	0	0	0	0	0					

7. Do you think the quality of surface and groundwater in your country or region has improved since the

Yes, to a large extentYes, to some extent

No, it has got worse

I do not know

No, it has stayed the same

Growing demand for

water for irrigation in

Intensified droughts (leading to decrease in

water availability) resulting from climate

agriculture

change

Pollution of water

	1 (Not an obstacle)	2 (Slight obstacle)	3 (Moderate obstacle)	4 (Major obstacle)	5 (Very significant obstacle)	Do not know / No opinion
Pollution of water from use of pesticides in agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pollution of water by nutrients from:	0	0	0	0	0	0
(a) urban and industrial waste water treatment plant effluents;	0	0	0	0	©	0
(b) agricultural use of fertilisers and manure	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heavy-metal pollution from any source, including historical mining	0	0	0	0	©	0
Persistent pollution by organic chemicals now banned in the EU	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emerging contaminants (e.g. microplastics, pharmaceuticals)	0	0	0	0	0	0
(a) microplastics	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) pharmaceuticals	0	0	0	0	0	0
(c) other emerging pollutants	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate regulation of pollution emissions	0	0	0	0	0	0

Biodiversity

	1 (Not an obstacle)	2 (Slight obstacle)	3 (Moderate obstacle)	4 (Major obstacle)	5 (Very significant obstacle)	Do not know / No opinion
Negative impact on aquatic ecosystems	0	0	©	0	0	0
Negative impact on terrestrial ecosystems that are water-dependent	0	0	0	0	0	0

Infrastructure development

	1 (Not an obstacle)	2 (Slight obstacle)	3 (Moderate obstacle)	4 (Major obstacle)	5 (Very significant obstacle)	Do not know / No opinion
Physical changes to water bodies (e.g. river straightening, dam construction, flood protection, mining)	0	0	0	0	•	0
Sewage system under-capacity (leading to overflow)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate or limited reservoir storage (irrigation, energy generation, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leaking drinking-water supply networks	0	0	0	0	0	0

Water abstraction

	1 (Not an obstacle)	2 (Slight obstacle)	3 (Moderate obstacle)	4 (Major obstacle)	5 (Very significant obstacle)	Do not know / No opinion
Illegal or unregulated abstraction	0	0	0	0	0	0
Regulated but unsustainable extraction rates	0	0	0	0	0	0
Low abstraction fees (encouraging wastefulness and /or failure to collect/reuse water)	0	0	0	0	•	0

Other

	1 (Not an obstacle)	2 (Slight obstacle)	3 (Moderate obstacle)	4 (Major obstacle)	5 (Very significant obstacle)	Do not know / No opinion
Other #1	0	0	0	0	0	•
Other #2	0	0	0	0	0	•
Other #3	0	0	0	0	0	0

If you have indicated 'Other' obstacles, please provide details:
Other #1
Other #2
Other #3
9. What are the key challenges to water management in your country or region? Tick the most relevant challenges.
at most 5 choice(s)
Chronic (or near chronic) water shortage
Lack of prioritisation of water issues in the national political agenda
Poor collaboration between key parties at national level
Poor communication between Member States or with third countries
Low public awareness of key water management aspects
Insufficient consultation and involvement of the general public and relevant stakeholders
Competing demands on water making it difficult to achieve good status of water, including water needs for growing population, agriculture, transport, energy production, etc.
Insufficient monitoring of the impacts and pressures on water
Insufficient integration with other water related sectors and conflicting planning policies
Insufficient research and innovation related to water management
Challenges posed by agricultural activities (e.g. nutrients, eutrophication, pesticides, abstractions, etc)
Challenges posed by the consequences of climate change

Difficulty in identifying emerging issues early enough (risk management)
Inadequate powers for enforcement vis-à-vis users
Difficult access to justice on water-related cases
Lack of resources (e.g. staff, funds) to fully implement all the measures needed to achieve good water
status
Other
10. Water management includes planning, developing, and managing water resources, in terms of both water quantity and quality, across all water uses. How do you assess the overall water management in your country or region? Poor Moderate
Very good
I do not know

11. What actions do you think have had the most impact on improving water quality and efficiency of water use since the **Water Framework Directive** was transposed into national legislation in 2003? (Please give each issue a score between 5 and 1, where 5 =very significant improvement, 4 = major improvement, 3 = moderate improvement, 2 = slight improvement, 1 = no improvement. All issues should be scored if possible, but "Do not know/no opinion" may also be chosen).

	1 (No improvement)	2 (Slight improvement)	3 (Moderate improvement)	4 (Major improvement)	5 (Very significant improvement)	Don't Know / No opinion
Stricter regulation of environmental pollution	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stricter regulation to minimise the use of hazardous chemicals in industry, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
International co-operation to tackle pollution	0	0	0	0	0	0
Changing approaches to the use of water for energy generation/conversion (e.g. hydropower, water cooling systems, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0	0
More efficient waste water treatment technologies	0	0	0	0	0	0
Better technology in households/appliances to reduce water consumption (e.g. dual-flush toilets, shower-head flow controllers, eco-friendly washing machines)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tariffs for water use (e.g. based on industrial, agricultural and domestic water metering)	0	0	0	0	0	0
More publicly available information on water quality, water availability and water allocation	0	0	0	0	0	0
More sustainable use of water in agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0
Changes in other agricultural practices that might affect water quality and its availability (e.g. reduced use of pesticides, organic farming, crop rotation, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0	0

Urban planning that "makes space for water"	0	0	0	0	0	0
Better integration of water protection and use of water for transport	0	0	0	0	0	0
Academic research and research and innovation activities related to improving efficiency in water use and addressing possible sources of contamination	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0

12. Do you consider that the way of conveying information on water management to the public has been sufficiently adapted to the demands of the digital era, both at national and/or EU level? Yes, for both EU and my country/region Yes, but only at EU level Yes, but only for my country/region No
 I do not know 13. Are you concerned about the potential effects of climate change on water quality and water availability? Yes, mainly about water quality Yes, mainly about water availability Yes, for both No I do not know
14. Do you consider that enough is being done to counteract the effects of climate change on water quality and availability? Yes, fully Yes, mainly about water quality Yes, mainly about water availability To some extent No I do not know
Flood management
15. Do you think that flood risk is a problem that needs to be tackled in your country or region?YesNo
16. Have you been directly or indirectly informed (e.g. via the authorities, your friends or colleagues, the media, the internet etc.) of potential flood risk in your area and/or on how to prepare to reduce your exposure to flooding? Yes No, and I do not know whether the area is at risk of flooding No, but I know whether the area is at risk of flooding or not
17. Do you think that the risk of flooding is higher in your area than it was a decade ago? [please note: higher risk means higher likelihood of and/or greater damage from, flooding, or both] Yes No I do not know

Tick the	most relevant challenges.
at mos	t 4 choice(s)
	oor coordination between key parties responsible for flood risk management, leading to, e.g.
	imited involvement of water-related sectors and the general public in flood-related planning
	ack of information to fully develop Flood Risk Management Plans
In	adequate flood risk management planning due to resource issues (human and/or financial)
C	ompeting demands for land: e.g. housing/economic activities versus "space for water"
	ack of oversight over development in flood-risk areas (unregulated construction and/or inadequate
	frastructure)
	stensity and frequency of flood events aggravated by climate change
	ransboundary issues which can be difficult to coordinate or a lack of cooperation between neighbouring buntries
	ack of new EU- level initiatives to reduce flood risk, beyond flood-risk management plans
	btaining financing for flood management activities including for measures that mobilise nature's functions
	or example natural water retention measures)
	ack of recourse to a flood-damage compensation mechanism
	and ownership issues (e.g. the high costs of relocating assets out of the flood plain)
	ther
16	
It you i	ndicated Other, please specify:
	you think the management of floods in your country has improved in the last decade?
19. Do	
19. Do	es, to some extent
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19. Do Y Y N 10	es, to some extent o do not know w do you assess the overall management of flood risks in your country or region? [please note: he management of flood risk has not improved over the last 10 years, it may still be that flood risk well managed overall]
19. Do Y N 10 20. Ho even if to is being	es, to some extent o do not know w do you assess the overall management of flood risks in your country or region? [please note: he management of flood risk has not improved over the last 10 years, it may still be that flood risk well managed overall]
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19. Do Y Y N 10 20. Ho even if the is being P N G 10 21. Ha manage Y N	es, to some extent o do not know w do you assess the overall management of flood risks in your country or region? [please note: he management of flood risk has not improved over the last 10 years, it may still be that flood risk well managed overall] oor loderate lood do not know ve you ever been called to participate, or proactively participated, in your area's flood risk ement planning? es

18. What are the key challenges to the effective management of floods in your area or in your country?

Your awareness of EU water law

This final set of questions is intended to explore how aware you are of the EU water law, whether you have provided input to other consultation processes relevant to implementing it, and whether you feel the legislation has contributed to significant improvements in water quality status and management of water resources and flood prevention.

22. How familiar are you with the following pieces of EU law and the requirements they entail?

	Very familiar	Moderately familiar	Unaware
Water Framework Directive	0	0	0
Groundwater Directive	0	0	0
Environmental Quality Standards Directive	0	0	0
Floods Directive	0	0	0

	Groundwater Directive	©	0	0	
	Environmental Quality Standards Directive	0	0	0	
	Floods Directive	0	0	0	
than	Have the above pieces of EU law contributine they were a decade ago? Yes, to a large extent	ited to the rivers	and lakes being less	polluted and	safer
0	Yes, to some extent				
0	No				
0	I do not know				
	T do not know				
	Have the above pieces of EU law contributions after than it was a decade ago? Yes, to a large extent Yes, to some extent No	ited to the groun	dwater in your country	y being less p	oolluted
0	I do not know				
	How do you assess the overall contribution resources, including water quantity and a High contribution Moderate contribution No contribution I do not know	•	ieces of EU law to be	tter manager	ment of
	How do you assess the overall contribution of transitional and coastal waters (incl.) High contribution Moderate contribution No contribution			•	of
0	Not applicable (land-locked countries)				

I do not know

27. Have you ever experienced a problem with water quality or quantity in your area? Yes No
28. Have you provided views/feedback on water quality/quantity issues? Yes, on water management issues generally Yes, on the draft River Basin Management Plans or draft Flood Risk Management Plans Yes, on the draft Flood Risk Management Plans I have not been aware of opportunities to provide my views I have not provided views despite being aware of opportunities
Thank you for spending time completing this questionnaire. Your answers are valuable in helping to understand people's views on this issue.
If you wish to expand on any of your answers or to add comments or information on other aspects relevant to water in Europe, please do so in the box below, or upload additional files.
For more specific input related to the implementation of the water legislation in your country or your sector, you are also welcome to respond to the stakeholders' consultation (Part II).
Additional comments:
2000 character(s) maximum
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Part II – Expert stakeholder questionnaire

This part of the questionnaire is specifically designed for those with a higher level of technical knowledge of the four Directives mentioned in the introduction. The following list summarises the main features of the Directives.

The Water Framework Directive (WFD, 2000/60/EC) is the most comprehensive instrument of EU water policy. Its main objective is to protect and enhance freshwater resources with the aim of achieving good status of EU waters by 2015. The main tools to implement the Directive are the River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) and the Programmes of Measures which are drawn up in 6-year cycles. The Water Framework Directive requires Member States to, among other things:

- Characterise their river basin districts including the pressures they face from human activities
- Meet environmental objectives, i.e. no further deterioration of the status, and good chemical and ecological status for surface waters, good chemical and quantitative status for groundwaters.

- Establish registers of protected areas
- Implement monitoring programmes
- Develop and implement programmes of measures to meet the objectives
- Report their RBMPs to the European Commission following public consultation.

The <u>Groundwater Directive</u>(2006/118/EC) establishes groundwater quality standards for certain pollutants and outlines how Member States should set threshold values for other pollutants. The Groundwater Directive:

- Specifies how Member States should assess chemical status and identify pollutant trends
- Specifies what Member States should consider to prevent pollution and reverse upward trends.

The <u>Environmental Quality Standards Directive</u> (EQSD, 2008/105/EC) sets environmental quality standards for the priority substances specified in Annex X of the Water Framework Directive in surface waters. The Environmental Quality Standards Directive:

- Specifies how Member States may take account of "mixing zones" when assessing status in water bodies with point sources of pollution
- Requires Member States to establish inventories of emissions and actions foreseen and to report them in their RBMPs.

The <u>Floods Directive</u> (FD, 2007/60/EC) was the catalyst for introducing a risk management approach by Member States to significant floods across the EU. The ultimate tools to implement the Floods Directive are the Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP) established in the Member States, which have to include the objectives and the measures necessary to meet them. The Floods Directive requires Member States to periodically:

- Carry out preliminary flood risk assessments
- Prepare flood hazard and flood risk maps
- Develop and adopt FRMPs following consultation of interested parties
- Report their assessments, maps and plans to the European Commission

Answering the questions that follow requires a working knowledge of the different Directives and bullet points listed above. Additionally, respondents should note that according to the **Commission's Better Regulation Guidelines**, the regulatory fitness check procedure is designed to evaluate policy based on five criteria: effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence, and EU added value. The questions are organised accordingly.

Effectiveness

This set of questions explores whether the **Water Framework Directive**, **Environmental Quality Standards Directive**, **Groundwater Directive** and **Floods Directive** have been effective in achieving their objectives.

1. To what extent has the implementation of the above Directives been effective in achieving the following objectives?

	Very effective	Moderately effective	Slightly effective	Ineffective	Counter- productive	l do not know
Prevention of deterioration of the status	0	•	0	0	0	0
Protecting and enhancing aquatic ecosystems	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reducing chemical pollution of surface waters	0	0	•	0	0	0
Reducing nutrient pollution of surface waters	0	0	•	0	0	0
Reducing chemical pollution of groundwaters	0	0	0	0	0	•
Reducing nutrient pollution of groundwaters	0	0	0	0	0	•
Protecting groundwater bodies from depletion	0	0	0	0	0	•
Promoting sustainable water use	0	0	0	0	0	•
Improving hydromorphological conditions of surface waters	0	0	•	0	0	0
Contributing to the protection of marine and coastal waters	0	0	0	0	0	•
Ensuring sufficient investment in infrastructure and measures	0	0	0	•	0	0
Reducing the cost of drinking water production	0	0	0	0	0	•
Mitigating effects of droughts	0	0	0	0	0	•
Managing flood risk	0	0	0	0	0	•
Contributing to the provision of sufficient good quality water supplies	0	0	0	0	0	•
Other	0	0	0	0	•	0

If other, please specify:

Reaching environmental objectives has been counterproductive with respect to art 4.5 because of (1) risk of impeding environmentally protecting measures such as WWT plants, (2) risk of preventing development of societally important activities (art 4.7.), (3) risk of slowing down development of BAT or even halting BAT.

2. How far have the following factors contributed towards achieving the objectives of the Directives?

	Substantially	Moderately	Slightly	Not at all, or negatively	Do not know
The planning approach based on river basin districts	0	•	0	0	0
The monitoring requirements	0	0	0	0	•
The design and implementation of programmes of measures	0	0	•	0	0
Harmonised parameters to define the ecological status (EC decision on intercalibration)	0	0	0	0	•
The setting of quality standards for pollutants at the EU level	0	•	0	0	0
Measures to tackle pollution caused by nutrient load and consequent eutrophication	0	0	•	0	0
The requirement to set quality standards for other pollutants at national level	0	0	•	0	0
The requirement to establish registers of protected areas	0	0	0	0	•
Obligations regarding the recovery of the costs of water services	0	0	0	0	•
The approach to assessing compliance	0	0	0	0	•
The inherent flexibility of the Directives (e.g. extended deadlines, less stringent objectives)	0	•	0	0	0
The Common Implementation Strategy	0	0	0	0	•
Alignment with other legislation (in particular that under WFD Annex VI)	0	0	0	0	•

Coordination with the implementation of other legislation at EU or national level	•	0	•	•	
The duration of the planning cycles (also considering the cycles of other related legislation)	•	0	0	•	0
EU support for implementing the Directives (e.g. coordination, knowledge sharing through the Common Implementation Strategy)	•	•	0	0	•
EU support through funding (e.g. Regional funds, LIFE+, Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation, etc.)	•	•	•	0	•
Enforcement actions at national and local level	0	•	0	0	0
Enforcement actions from EU level (infringement procedures)	0	0	0	•	0
The obligation for the River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans to undergo public consultation	0	•	•	0	0
Public awareness and public pressure	0	0	0	0	0
Other	•	0	0	0	0

If other, please specify:

(1) Reference conditions, (2) Uneven implementation of RBMP within EU including countries with similar conditions (ex Seden and Finland), (3) Regarding CIS: need for more coherence between different guidances, not applied in Sweden, relevant and good documents.

3. To the best of your knowledge, are all the requirements of the Directives effectively implemented and enforced in your country?

Yes

No

I do not know

If no, please give examples of the most significant implementation gaps for the relevant Directives:

Water Framework Directive:

2000 character(s) maximum

(1) Lack of implementation and enforcement of exemptions (art 4.7.) and less stringent objectives (art 4.5.).

- (2) Lack of data due to insufficient monitoring. Lack of data because of insufficient coordination between monitoring design and needs for classification of waters on the one hand, and between different sources of data (universities, industry, municipalities).
- (3) Planning cycles: needs to be longer than 6 years because governance model needs to be implemented and work, ecology recovery times are much larger, acceptance at local and regional level takes time.

Groundwater Directive:	
2000 character(s) maximum	
Environmental Quality Standards Directive:	
2000 character(s) maximum	
Floods Directive:	
2000 character(s) maximum	

4. According to the **Water Framework Directive**, a water body is considered to be in good status only when all the relevant quality elements are in good status and the relevant quality standards for good status are met (the "one-out-all-out" principle). To which extent do you agree with the following statements:

	Agree to a large extent	Agree to some extent	I do not agree	l do not know
The one-out-all-out principle is applied consistently across all the Member States	0	0	0	•
In your country, the one-out-all-out principle is applied in relation to the concentrations of the individual priority substances	•	0	0	0
In your country, the one-out-all-out principle is applied in relation to the concentrations of the individual river basin specific pollutants when assessing ecological status	•	0	0	0
In your country, the other physico-chemical elements, including temperature, pH and nutrient concentrations, are considered separately from the biological quality elements in the assessment of ecological status	•	0	0	0
The one-out-all-out principle ensures that all relevant pressures are adequately covered in your country's methods to assess ecological status	0	0	•	0

The one-out-all-out approach results in a clear picture of where improvements are needed	0	0	•	0
The consideration of assessment results according to the one- out-all-out principle allows for appropriate prioritisation of measures	0	0	•	0
It would be easier to explain to the public where progress has been made if the published official status did not have to be based on the one-out-all-out principle	•	0	0	0
The one-out-all-out approach to classification encourages Member States to focus on improving water bodies that are close to good status rather than those in the worst condition	0	0	•	0
It would be worth looking at how to complement the one-out-all- out assessment with more detail on progress made on the ecological status	•	0	0	0
Moving away from an assessment based on the one-out-all-out principle would risk losing sight of the outstanding issues	0	0	•	0

5. How do you rate the significance of the following obstacles to full implementation of the Directives?

•	0	0	0
•			
	•	0	0
0	•	0	0
0	•	0	0
•	0	0	0
•	0	0	0
0	0	•	0
0	0	•	0
•	0	0	0
	•		

e public) ral users of waters to /actors of pollution national/local level	••••••	<!--</th--><th><!--</th--><th>0</th></th>	<!--</th--><th>0</th>	0
ral users of waters to //actors of pollution national/local level		0	•	
of waters to /actors of pollution national/local level	© ©			0
/actors of pollution national/local level	0	0	•	0
			0	0
	©	0	•	0
	•	0	0	0
quantifiable indicato	ors of when the	e objectives of		tives ha
	indicators, but n	not sufficiently	No No	I do
Enough	indicators, but n	not sufficiently	No	I do not know
Yes Enough	indicators, but n quantifiable	not sufficiently	No o	I do not know
erer	nt, leading to unba			nt, leading to unbalanced implementation of WFD.

Environmental Quality Standards Directive

2	00 character(s) maximum	

Floods Directive

2000 character(s) maximum

The climate change impacts of flooding

8. Have the Directives had unintended effects (positive or negative)? For each of the following effects, please indicate: 1) whether you consider it has happened; 2) and, if yes, whether you consider it to be a positive or negative consequence of the implementation of EU water law.

	Has happened (positive consequence)	Has happened (negative consequence)	Has not happened
More workers dealing with water management have environmental skills	0	0	•
There are fewer new houses and other buildings near rivers or the coast	0	0	•
Member State authorities are more cautious about issuing emissions permits to new installations (e.g. integrated permits under the IED)	0	0	0
Authorisations and extensions of permits for hydropower plants now integrate the requirements introduced by the Water Framework Directive	0	0	0
Identification of contaminated groundwater has restricted land use in those areas	0	0	0
Member States have focused on restoring water bodies that are closest to being in good status	0	0	•
The legal obligations to comply with biota Environmental Quality Standards have complicated emissions permitting	0	0	•
Insurance premium for assets mapped as being at risk of flooding has significantly increased	0	0	0
The financial value of land in areas identified as being at risk of flooding has fallen	0	0	0
Farmland has been converted to urban or industrial uses	0	0	0
The area of productive farmland has decreased due to water management measures (e.g. buffer strips for rivers)	0	0	0

Other	©	•	0
If other places energify:			
If other, please specify:			
Monitoring costs has increased as well as the cost for the	permit precedure.		
9. The Floods Directive does not mention insurance, or			-
means to compensated for the adverse consequences from	•	•	•
access to such a risk transfer mechanism, as part of a broad	ad flood risk mana	.gement strategy, t	be a useful
measure?			
O Yes			
O No			
I do not know			
Please elaborate on your reply:			
, ,			
2000 character(s) maximum			
10. In your opinion, does the current reporting under the V	Nater Framework	c Directive and the	e Floods
Directive need to be revised, improved or simplified to allo	w for further reduce	ction of administra	tive burden?
O Yes			
O No			
I do not know			
If yes, please give an explanation:			
2000 character(s) maximum			
11. The Common Implementation Strategy has support	ted the implement	ation of the Water	Framework
Directive and other related EU water policy. Has the Comm	•		
issues?	•	37	J
Yes, fully			
Yes, to a large extent			
To some extent			
O No			
I do not know			
If no, or only to some extent, please give an explanation,	and indicate which	n priority issues sh	ould be
addressed via the Common Implementation Strategy:			
2000 character(s) maximum			

12. Do you consider the Common Implementation Strategy to be a sufficiently inclusive framework? Can relevant stakeholders participate and provide input as they deem appropriate?
Yes, fully
Yes, to a large extent
To some extent
I do not know
If no, or only to some extent, please give an explanation:
13. Have the guidance documents produced under the Common Implementation Strategy proved helpful
in the practical implementation of EU water policy?
Yes, fully
Yes, to a large extent
To some extent
O No
I do not know
If no, or only to some extent, please give an explanation:
2000 character(s) maximum
14. Do you consider that the non-mandatory nature of these guidance documents affects their
effectiveness and that they should be made legally binding through EU implementing acts?
Yes
No
I do not know
o rac not mov
15. Do you consider that research and innovation in support of water policy implementation is receiving a
high enough priority?
O Yes
No
I do not know
o rac not know
Efficiency
This set of questions explores whether the Water Framework Directive, Environmental Quality
Standards Directive, Groundwater Directive and Floods Directive have achieved their goals in an
efficient and cost-effective manner.
16. Please indicate how you perceive the availability of information on the costs of measures and the
benefits deriving from their implementation.

	High	Moderate	Low	None at all	do not know
Availability and transparency of cost information on the implementation of the Directives	0	0	•	0	0
Availability of information on possible funding and financing of measures (EU, national, regional level)	0	0	•	0	0
Comparability of the information on costs between (and within) Member States	0	0	0	•	0
Availability and transparency of benefits information	0	0	•	0	0
country? Yes, fully Yes, to a large extent To some extent No I do not know If no, or only to some extent, please give an explanation: 2000 character(s) maximum					
18. Have the guidance documents produced under the Colin the practical implementation of EU water policy? Yes, fully Yes, to a large extent To some extent No I do not know If no, or only to some extent, please give an explanation: 2000 character(s) maximum	mmon In	nplementation	n Strateg	gy proved	helpful

19. Please rate the extent to which implementation of the Directives has resulted in the following benefits (please give each issue a score between 5 and 1, where 5 =very significant benefit, 4 = major benefit, 3 = moderate benefit, 2 = slight benefit, 1 = no benefit. All issues should be scored if possible, but "Do not know/no opinion" may also be chosen).

	1 (No benefit)	2 (Slight benefit)	3 (Moderate benefit)	4 (Major benefit)	5 (Very significant benefit)	Do not know / No opinion
Improved wellbeing such as avoided health effects	•	0	0	0	0	0
Avoided or reduced emissions to the environment	0	0	•	0	0	0
Improved adaptation to climate change	0	0	0	0	0	0
Better coordination amongst different authorities in charge of water management issues	0	•	0	0	0	0
Better knowledge of water environments	0	0	•	0	0	0
Better integration of water with other or water-dependent sectors (e. g. nature, agriculture, transport, energy)	0	•	0	0	0	0
Improved cooperation at national level	0	0	•	0	0	0
Improved cooperation at transboundary/transnational level	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improved water quantity	•	0	0	0	0	0
Improved chemical status of water	0	•	0	0	0	0
Improved ecological status of water	0	0	0	0	0	•
Improved biodiversity in surface waters	0	0	0	0	0	•
Improved knowledge and consequent remedial action	0	0	•	0	0	0
Improved public information	0	0	0	0	0	•
Increased public involvement in integrated water management	0	0	0	0	0	0

Reduced risk of flood damage to human health and the economy	0	0	0		0	•
Reduced risk of flood damage to the environment and cultural heritage	0	0	0	0	0	•
Contribution to ecosystem services (e.g. provisioning of clean water, supporting nutrient cycles, recreational benefits)	0	•	0	0	0	0
Improved availability and quality of treated water for water reuse purposes	•	0	0	0	0	0
Improved economic growth and creation of jobs	0	•	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0

20. The costs of implementation may be linked to the achievement of the most significant benefits. To what extent do you agree with the following statements on the justification of costs and benefits of the (a) Water Framework Directive, the (b) Environmental Quality Standards Directive and the (c) Groundw ater Directive?

20(a). To what extent do you agree with the following statements on the justification of costs and benefits of the Water Framework Directive?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don not know
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that have already been achieved in the short term	©	0	•	0	0	•
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that have already been achieved in the longer term	0	0	0	0	0	•
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that will be achieved in the short to medium term	0	0	•	•	0	•
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that will be achieved in the long term	0	0	0	0	0	•
When considering the administrative costs linked to the implementation, the costs are justified compared to the benefits achieved	0	0	0	0	•	0
Further simplification of the law is possible (e.g. reducing monitoring and reporting requirements)	0	0	0	0	0	•
Further optimisation of the law is possible (e.g. gaining additional benefits at similar cost, or the same benefits at lower cost)	•	0	0	0	0	0
Further optimisation of the implementation of the Directive/s is possible (e.g. by instigating more sanctions in response to						

breaches of the Directives; by creating a cross-border network of authorities in charge of inspections and the instigation of sanctions)	•	0	•	•	•	0
Stronger links could be made with technical, research and innovation progress (e.g. by requiring environmental performance to reflect technological progress and advanced non-technological solutions)	•	•	•	•	•	•
The benefits from the Directive/s have increased over time	0	•	0	0	0	0

20(b). To what extent do you agree with the following statements on the justification of costs and benefits of the Environmental Quality Standards Directive?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don not know
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that have already been achieved in the short term	0	0	•	0	0	0
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that have already been achieved in the longer term	0	0	•	•	0	0
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that will be achieved in the short to medium term	0	0	•	0	0	0
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that will be achieved in the long term	0	0	•	0	0	0
When considering the administrative costs linked to the implementation, the costs are justified compared to the benefits achieved	0	0	•	©	0	0

Further simplification of the law is possible (e.g. reducing monitoring and reporting requirements)	•	©	•	0	•	0
Further optimisation of the law is possible (e.g. gaining additional benefits at similar cost, or the same benefits at lower cost)	0	0	•	0	0	0
Further optimisation of the implementation of the Directive/s is possible (e.g. by instigating more sanctions in response to breaches of the Directives; by creating a cross-border network of authorities in charge of inspections and the instigation of sanctions)	©	•	•	•	©	•
Stronger links could be made with technical, research and innovation progress (e.g. by requiring environmental performance to reflect technological progress and advanced non-technological solutions)	•	©	•	©	©	•
The benefits from the Directive/s have increased over time	0	0	•	0	0	0

20(c). To what extent do you agree with the following statements on the justification of costs and benefits of the Groundwater Directive?

	Strongly Agree nor disagree		agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don not know
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that have already been achieved in the short term	0	0	0	0	0	•
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that have already been achieved in the longer term	0	0	0	0	0	•

The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that will be achieved in the short to medium term	•	©	•	•	•	•
The costs involved in relation to the Directive/s are justified given the benefits that will be achieved in the long term	0	0	0	0	0	•
When considering the administrative costs linked to the implementation, the costs are justified compared to the benefits achieved	0	0	•	©	©	•
Further simplification of the law is possible (e.g. reducing monitoring and reporting requirements)	0	0	0	0	0	•
Further optimisation of the law is possible (e.g. gaining additional benefits at similar cost, or the same benefits at lower cost)	0	0	0	0	0	•
Further optimisation of the implementation of the Directive/s is possible (e.g. by instigating more sanctions in response to breaches of the Directives; by creating a cross-border network of authorities in charge of inspections and the instigation of sanctions)	•	•	©	©	•	•
Stronger links could be made with technical, research and innovation progress (e.g. by requiring environmental performance to reflect technological progress and advanced non-technological solutions)	©	•	•	©	•	•
The benefits from the Directive/s have increased over time	0	0	0	0	0	•

Please upload a document or provide below the link(s) to data on costs and/or information on cost-benefit analysis available in your country or region

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21. To your knowledge, does the cost-beneft ration associated with implementing the Water Framework
Directive, the Environmental Quality Standards Directive and the Groundwater Directive differ
between Member States, or between different regions in our or other countries?

\odot	Yes
	No

22. The costs of implementation may be linked to the achievement of the most significant benefits. To what extent do you agree with the following statements on the justification of costs and benefits of the **Floo ds Directive**?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Do not know
The costs involved in relation to the Directive are justified given the benefits that have already been achieved	0	0	0	•	©	•
The costs involved in relation to the Directive are justified given the benefits that will be achieved in the short to medium term	0	0	0	0	0	•
The costs involved in relation to the Directive are justified given the benefits that will be achieved in the long term	0	0	0	0	0	•
When considering the administrative costs linked to the implementation, the costs are justified compared to the benefits achieved	0	0	0	•	0	•
Further simplification of the law is possible (e.g. reducing monitoring and reporting requirements)	0	0	0	0	0	•
Further optimisation of the law is possible (e.g. gaining additional benefits at similar cost, or the same benefits at lower cost)	0	0	0	0	0	•
Further optimisation of the implementation of the Directive is possible (e.g. by instigating more sanctions in response to breaches of the Directive; by	0	©	0	•	©	•

I do not know

creating a cross-border network of authorities in charge of inspections and the instigation of sanctions)						
Stronger links could be made with technical, research and innovation progress (e.g. by requiring environmental performance to reflect technological progress and advanced non-technological solutions)	•	•	•	•	•	•
The benefits from the Directive have increased over time	0	0	0	0	0	•

Please upload a document or provide below the link(s) to data on costs and/or information on cost-benefit analysis available for the **Floods Directive** in your country or region.

The maximum file size is 1 MB
Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

23. To your knowledge, does the cost-benefit ratio associated with implementing the Floods Directive
differ between Member States, or between different regions in your or other countries?

- Yes
- O No
- I do not know

24. Taking account of the objectives and benefits of the **Water Framework Directive**, is there evidence that the Directive has imposed a disproportionate administrative burden on authorities (national, regional or local), economic operators (e.g. industries, water companies), individual citizens or other parties?

- Yes
- O No
- I do not know

If yes, please describe the administrative procedures which you deem to have been excessive or disproportionate, the estimated (additional) costs (burden) and who has been subject to them.

Description of administrative procedures

2000 character(s) maximum

When the objectives are applied in spatial planning, construction permits, and licensing of operations, and other contacts with competent authorities (=tillsynsmynd), the process gets more complicated and prolonged. Disproportionate costs because of longer permit procedures.

(Additional) costs (burden) associated with the administrative procedures

2000 character(s) maximum

Permitting costs				
Bearer(s) of the administrative burden				
2000 character(s) maximum				
25. Taking account of the objectives and benefits of the Financial Directive has imposed a disproportionate administrative but economic operators (e.g. industries, water companies), ind Yes No	rden on auth	orities (natio	nal, regional	
I do not know				
Description of administrative procedures				
Description of administrative procedures 2000 character(s) maximum				
2000 Character(s) maximum				
(Additional) costs (burden) associated with the admin	istrative pro	ocedures		
Bearer(s) of the administrative burden				
26. When you think of the Flood Risk Management Plans efficiently, how do you prioritise the following statements (3 and 1 – low priority)?	,		•	
	1 (Low priority)	2 (Medium priority)	3 (Highest priority)	Do not know / No opinion
The FRMPs should contain quantifiable and time- bound objectives for flood-related action	0	0	0	•
The FRMPs should prioritise flood related actions				<u> </u>

27. EU water law is conceived in an integrated way: some of the requirements of the Water Framework Directive link closely with the requirements of other legislation (e.g. Urban Waste Water Treatment

based on well-defined and relevant criteria

timeline for implementing the actions

The FRMPs should contain clearly identified sources

of financing to cover flood related actions, and a

	ective, Bathing Water Directive, Drinking W					
). To what proportion of the overall benefits	•				
	ective and its daughter Directives (Groundv tributed?	vater and E	HIVITOTITIE	eniai Quality Si	landards Directives)	
	75% - 100%					
	50% - 75%25% - 50%					
	0 1 – 25%					
	0% I do not know					
,	I do not know					
DI	ease explain your response:					
	ease explain your response. 200 character(s) maximum					
[oo character(s) maximum					_
L						_
28	B. For the following Directives do you consider	der the mon	itoring o	bligations to be	targeted at the right	
issı	ues?					
				I do not		
		Yes	No	know		
	Water Framework Directive	0	•	©	_	
	water Francework Bilective				_	
	Groundwater Directive	0	0	(a)		
	Environmental Quality Standards	0	•	0		
	Directive					
	Floods Directive	0	0	•		
lf i	no, please explain why not:					
20	000 character(s) maximum					
						_
	Do you consider the frequency specification		•	•		
	ectives, including (where relevant) as regar	ds to the m	onitoring	of chemical po	ollutants in water, biota	
and	I sediment?					
(Yes, it is clear and appropriate					
(Yes, it is mostly clear and appropriate desp					
(No, it is neither clear nor appropriate and the	here are maj	or uncert	ainties		
(I do not know					
	no, or only to mostly clear, please provide a	a brief expla	nation o	f why and for v	vhich Directive	
20	100 character(s) maximum					

Geographical and climate related differences make it difficult if not impossible to define what is an appropriate frequency of monitoring at EU level, it should be defined at MS level (WFD). We answer for appropriateness only.

30. Are the Directives clear enough about the spatial aspects of monitoring?Yes, it is clear and appropriate
Yes, it is mostly clear and appropriate despite a few minor uncertainties
No, it is neither clear nor appropriate and there are major uncertainties
I do not know
31. Are the Directives clear enough about when monitoring is not or no longer required, e.g. for which substances or in which circumstances, and are those exceptions appropriate? Yes, it is clear and appropriate Yes, it is mostly clear and appropriate despite a few minor uncertainties No, it is neither clear nor appropriate and there are major uncertainties I do not know
32. Are the requirements for trend monitoring and assessment clear and appropriate in relation to the Groundwater Directive and Environmental Quality Standards Directive? Yes, in relation to both Directives
 Yes, in relation to the Groundwater Directive only Yes, in relation to the Environmental Quality Standards Directive only
No, in neither
I do not know
 33. Are the surface water watch list monitoring requirements appropriate for the intended purpose? Yes No I do not know
Relevance
This set of questions explores whether the Water Framework Directive, Environmental Quality Standards Directive, Groundwater Directive and Floods Directive are still relevant to the original objectives. Have the scientific, natural or policy landscapes and solutions evolved in ways which make the legislation or parts of the legislation less (or more) relevant?
34. Do you think the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, Environmental Quality Standards Directive, Groundwater Directive and Floods Directive has improved people's appreciation of the importance of good water quality, for the sake of the environment and human health, and how it can be achieved? Yes, fully
Yes, fully Yes, to a large extent
To some extent
○ No
I do not know
If no, or only to some extent, please give an explanation:

2000 character(s) maximum

35. Do you consider the relevant sectoral stakehood the Water Framework Directive and daughter Down Yes, to a large extent Yes, to some extent No I do not know If no, or only to some extent, please give an explanation of the control of the co	irective	s in yo	•	of
In Sweden we have dialogue forums where imple into the process too late at a stage where no charthat are not validated or poorly validated, and in rewaters, and ending in decisions that are not credit in not implementing certain parts of the WFD in perform the general public. In addition, the water government of the poor of the WFD in perform the general public. In addition, the water government of the process of the WFD in performance of the water government.	nges car many cas ible. Also articular vernance	n be ma ses this o, the la art 4.4 e model	ade. This results in documents, decisions is leads to having to reclassify surface ack of data/information and validation results — 4.7. This in turn causes lack of credibility I used in Sweden has not followed the	
36. Do you consider the relevant sectoral stakehouthe Floods Directive in your river basin/country? Yes, to a large extent Yes, to some extent No I do not know 37. Are any aspects of the Water Framework Di				
roundwater Directive and Floods Directive now reduction?	obsolet	e for a	achieving good status or flood risk	
	Yes	No	I do not know	
Water Framework Directive	•	0	0	
Groundwater Directive	0	0	©	
Environmental Quality Standards Directive	0	0	•	
Floods Directive	0	0	•	

If you answered 'yes' to the previous question can you briefly summarise what these are:

Water Framework Directive 2000 character(s) maximum

44

- One-out-all-out principle
Groundwater Directive
Environmental Quality Standards Directive 38. Do the Water Framework Directive's provisions on assessing ecological status sufficiently allow the effects of climate change to be distinguished from other effects? Yes, fully Yes, to a large extent To some extent No I do not know 39. How relevant are the priority substances listed in the Environmental Quality Standards Directithe overall quality of surface waters in your country? Highly relevant Moderately relevant Slightly relevant I do not know Please explain your answer: 2000 character(s) maximum
Environmental Quality Standards Directive
Floods Directive
38. Do the Water Framework Directive 's provisions on assessing ecological status sufficiently allow for the effects of climate change to be distinguished from other effects?
Yes, fully
Yes, to a large extent
To some extent
No
I do not know
□ I do not know
Please explain your answer:
2000 character(s) maximum
40. How does the relevance of the priority substances (as components of overall chemical pollution) compare with the relevance of substances identified as river basin specific pollutants in your country?
Much more relevant
More relevant
Equally relevant
Less relevant
Much less relevant
O I do not know
Please explain your answer:

Reference conditions and ecological status

There are substances that have become obsolete in Swedish waters that are still part of the EQS dir (PS, PHS) while in the list of specific pollutants, the majority of these substances are still present in the waters.

41. Are the surface	water watch list	monitoring r	equirements	appropriate fo	r the intended	purpose?
Yes						

O No

I do not know

42. Are the provisions of the **Water Framework Directive** and the **Groundwater Directive** sufficient to protect groundwater bodies from technological developments such as fracking?

Yes

O No

I do not know

43. What are currently the most important water management needs for society? Please rate the following options (5 = highest, 1 = lowest)

	1 (lowest)	2	3	4	5 (highest)	Do not know /no opinion
Advances in wastewater treatment technologies	0	0	0	•	0	0
Improved data (including monitoring data) to facilitate the identification of problems	0	0	0	•	0	0
New technological and non-technological (organisational, business, management) solutions to address water scarcity due to demand, i.e. to achieve improved water efficiency / sustainable use	0	0	•	0	©	©
New technological and non-technological (organisational, business, management) solutions to address water scarcity issues due to climate change, i.e. to achieve mitigation and adaptation	0	0	0	0	•	0
Improved agricultural techniques and best practices to manage water use in agricultural activities	0	0	0	0	0	•
Improved water distribution networks to manage leaks and water loss	0	0	0	0	0	•
Improved water use in consumer markets (e.g. eco-friendly washing machines)	0	0	0	0	0	•

Greater public awareness of the key issues in water management	0		•	0	0	0
Greater regulatory support to allow for national and cross-border enforcement of measures to achieve the objectives set in the Directives	0	0	•	0	•	0
More efficient and sustainable use of water for energy production	0	0	•	0	0	0
More efficient use of energy by the water- related industries	•	0	0	0	0	0
Better methods to assess the risk of a significant flood in a given area	0	0	0	0	0	•
Considerably increased flood risk prevention and/or protection for flood prone areas	0	0	0	0	0	•
More accurate and timely methods for flood forecasting	0	0	0	0	0	•

44. In your opinion which of the following aspects contribute the most to the sustainable use of water? (Please rank 5 – highest, 1 - lowest)

	1	2	3	4	5	do not know / no opinion
Water quality standards linked to use (e.g. less stringent standards for treated waste water used for irrigation than for treated waste water supplied to households)	0	0	•	0	0	0
Well-maintained water distribution networks (i.e. inspection, analysis, risk assessment and replacement of leaky pipework)	0	0	•	0	0	0
New technological solutions that use water efficiently (e.g. eco-friendly washing machines) and optimised water treatment and distribution systems	0	0	•	0	0	0
Impact assessments of water abstraction schemes	0	0	0	0	0	•
Research and innovation to develop approaches that reduce water use / remove the need to use water at all	0	0	•	0	0	0
Using and/or disposing of fewer chemicals, aiming at zero emissions of pollutants into the water cycle	0	•	0	0	0	0
Introducing separate sewer/wastewater systems in buildings	0	0	0	0	0	•

River Basin Management Plans that manage and optimise water allocation to different uses according to the available resources	0	•	0			0
Adequate policies on water pricing and cost recovery and tariffs	0	•	0	0	0	0
Water accounts as part of the planning cycles	0	•	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	•

45. To what extent do the Directives contribute to managing the challenges arising from climate change in the EU, and to addressing its consequences?

	To a large extent	To some extent	To no extent	Negative effect	I do not know
Water Framework Directive	0	0	•	0	0
Groundwater Directive	0	0	0	0	•
Environmental Quality Standards Directive	0	0	•	0	0
Floods Directive	0	0	0	0	•

Please explain how the Directives have contributed or failed to contribute to managing the challenges and to addressing the consequences

(1) Climate change not mentioned, do not exist in art 2 as definition in WFD because this challenge did not exist in the minds of legislators at end of 1990s (2)

Coherence

This set of questions explores whether the Water Framework Directive, Environmental Quality Standards Directive, Groundwater Directive and Floods Directive are coherent, internally, with each other, and with other legislation, including in other policy areas. We are interested in understanding whether the Directives are articulated appropriately with other EU policies and interventions and in particular in identifying synergies but also potential conflicts, inconsistencies and gaps.

46. In your opinion how coherent are the **Water Framework Directive**, **Environmental Quality Standards Directive**, **Groundwater Directive** and **Floods Directive** internally?

- Fully coherent internally
- Mostly coherent internally
- Not coherent internally
- I do not know

If you answered 'mostly or not coherent' to the previous question, please briefly summarise the incoherence(s):

Water Framework Directive

2000 character(s) maximum

What is not coherent: RBSP part of ecological status while the PS and PHS are part of the chemical status. Note that chemical and ecological status have different scales of classification. This is not optimal, however, the simple inclusion of RBSP into chemical status may not be the only solution. This needs to be carefully analyzed, particularly with respect to the current purpose of each status (EU wide and national).

Groundwater Directive
2000 character(s) maximum
Environmental Ovality Standarda Divestiva
Environmental Quality Standards Directive
2000 character(s) maximum
Please see comment under WFD
Floods Directive
2000 character(s) maximum
47. If you answered 'yes' to Q46, please indicate where the incoherence(s) between the different
irectives exist:

	Water Framework Directive	Environmental Quality Standards Directive	Groundwater Directive	Floods Directive
Water Framework Directive	0	•	0	0
Groundwater Directive	0	0	0	0
Environmental Quality Standards Directive	•	0	0	0
Floods Directive	0	0	0	0

48. Please indicate where you consider the legal framework provided by the collective actions of the **Wate r Framework Directive**, **Environmental Quality Standards Directive**, **Groundwater Directive** and **Flood s Directive** to be coherent with the following environmental /sectoral legislation?

	Water Framework Directive	Environmental Quality Standards Directive	Groundwater Directive	Floods Directive
Drinking Water Directive	0	0	•	0

Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive	0	0	0	0
Marine Strategy Framework Directive	•	0	0	0
Bathing Water Directive	0	0	0	0
Industrial Emissions Directive	•	0	0	0
Habitats Directive	0	0	0	0
Birds Directive	0	0	0	0
Renewable Energy Directive	0	0	0	0
Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Regulation	0	0	0	0
Sewage Sludge Directive	0	0	0	0
Nitrates Directive	0	0	0	0
REACH	0	0	0	0
Biocidal Products Regulation	0	0	0	0
Common Agricultural Policy Regulations	0	0	0	0
Air quality legislation	0	0	0	0
Inland Navigation Regulation	0	0	0	0
Fertilisers Regulation	0	0	0	0
Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive	0	0	0	0
Environmental Liability Directive	0	0	0	0
Environmental Impact Assessment Directive	0	0	0	0
Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive	0	0	0	0
Communication on EU strategy for adaptation to climate change	0	0	0	0
Mercury Regulation	0	0	0	0
Aarhus Convention – public information and participation and access to justice	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0

Please provide further details of any key synergies/conflicts between legislation:

coherent with the following en	TVII OTITICITICAL 7		arcas:		
	Fully coherent	Partially coherent	Neither coherent nor incoherent	Incoherent	no kno
EU Strategy on Green Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	(
Biodiversity policy	0	0	©	0	(
Chemicals policy	0	•	©	0	0
Marine protection policy	0	•	©	0	(
Climate change adaptation and mitigation policy	0	0	0	•	0
Industrial emissions policy	0	•	©	0	0
Air quality policies	0	0	©	0	(
Waste policies	0	0	©	0	(
Resource efficiency	0	0	©	0	(
Environmental liability	0	0	©	0	(
Environmental crime	0	0	©	0	(
Transport policy	0	0	©	0	(
Health protection	0	0	©	0	(
Agricultural policies	0	0	©	0	(
Research and innovation	0	0	©	0	(
Life+ Funding	0	0	©	0	(
Regional policy	0	0	©	0	(
Civil protection policy	0	0	0	0	(
Other	0	0	©	0	0

2000 character(s) maximum

e details on specific policies ir	,			etc.)? You may p	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	Yes fully	Yes, mostly aligned	Some alignment some issues		Do not know
Water Framework Directive	0	0	0	0	•
Groundwater Directive	0	0	0	0	•
Environmental Quality Standards Directive	0	0	0	0	•
Floods Directive	0	0	0	0	•
Added Value s set of questions explores the quality Standards Directive, C	e added v	_			
Added Value s set of questions explores the uality Standards Directive, Codscape. What is the additional value of egislation at national/regional I	e added v Groundw	vater Directive	and Floods Direct EU level compared	ive within a wider	EU policy
Added Value s set of questions explores the uality Standards Directive, Codscape. What is the additional value of	e added v Groundw	vater Directive	and Floods Direct	ive within a wider	EU policy
Added Value s set of questions explores the uality Standards Directive, Codscape. What is the additional value of	e added v Groundw	rater Directive	and Floods Direct EU level compared Moderate	ive within a wider I with what could I No added	EU policy be achiev
Added Value s set of questions explores the uality Standards Directive, Codscape. What is the additional value of egislation at national/regional I	e added v Groundw	rater Directive Ing legislation at High added value	and Floods Direct EU level compared Moderate	ive within a wider I with what could I No added value	be achiev I do no
Added Value s set of questions explores the uality Standards Directive, Codscape. What is the additional value of egislation at national/regional I	e added varieties adopting evel?	rater Directive Ing legislation at High added value	and Floods Direct EU level compared Moderate added value	ive within a wider I with what could I No added value	be achieve

	Only feasible at EU level	Better suited at EU level	at either EU or MS level	most suitable (both EU and MS)	MS level better suited	l do not know
Funding for the Programmes of Measures under the Water Framework Directive	0	0	0	•	0	0
Risks from emerging pollutants (microplastics, pharmaceuticals, etc.)	0	0	0	•	0	0
Pollutant emissions to air and water	0	0	0	•	0	0
Water scarcity and drought issues	0	0	0	•	0	0
Water reuse – setting of standards and promotion of its use	0	0	0	•	0	0
Climate change mitigation and adaptation	0	0	0	•	0	0
Water pricing issues and cost recovery	0	0	0	0	•	0
Development of approaches for managing groundwater issues	•	0	0	•	0	0
Specification of ranges for physico- chemical quality elements contributing to the ecological status assessment	©	0	0	0	•	0
Development of environmental quality standards for river basin specific pollutants	0	0	0	0	•	0
Development of threshold values for groundwater pollutants	0	0	0	0	•	0
Development of standards covering the risks from mixtures of pollutants	0	0	0	•	0	0
Development of standardised approaches to monitoring	•	0	0	•	0	0
Management of significant risks from flooding	0	0	0	•	0	0
Funding for measures against significant flood risk	©	0	0	•	0	0
Avoiding riverine litter, including plastics	0	0	0	•	0	0
Development of research and innovation technological and non-technological solutions to address	•	0	0	•	0	0

implementation challenges of the above listed Directives						
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0

If other, please specify:
Final questions
If you wish to expand on any of your answers or if you wish to add comments or information on anything else relevant to the Fitness Check, please do so in the box below.
4000 character(s) maximum
If you consider there are materials / publications available online that should be considered further in relation to this evaluation exercise please feel free to describe them (title and author) in the box below and include any relevant links.
4000 character(s) maximum

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Contact

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