

# Establishment of a Peer-Review Mechanism

for the Improvement of  
Water Framework Directive Implementation

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# Scope and purpose of the peer-review

The Commission, in the 2012 Blueprint proposed "in the framework of the CIS, to set up a simple and voluntary **peer-review system** through which river basin district authorities could submit their draft RBMPs to the review by other district authorities, within the same or in other Member States.

This is expected, to favour mutual learning and improve the quality of the plans and their compliance with WFD requirements. The Commission could help identify, on the basis of its assessment of the first cycle RBMPs, the river basin district authorities that could benefit most from such an exchange".

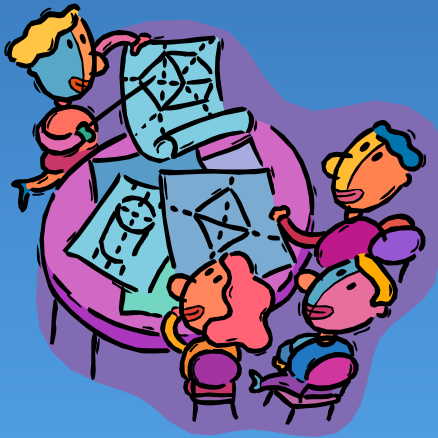
# Scope and purpose of the peer-review

The **objective** is to set up a simple, voluntary and targeted system to allow mutual learning between peers about WFD implementation and participative river basin management planning.

## Who ?

Practitioners from RBDs and their competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the WFD

# Scope and purpose of the peer-review



## How ?

After preliminary exchanges of information

Organising Peer Reviewer mission in a receiving Competent Authority

Reports on lessons learnt and tips

# What can be reviewed ?

- *Planning steps (Basin characterisation, Objective, Programme of measures)*
- *Horizontal management for RBM Planning (Public consultation/participative process,*
- *Monitoring, Water Information System/Data and Information sharing, etc.)*
- *Technical issues (Ground waters, Surface waters, Water quality, Water quantity, Hydro morphology, Pollutants/Chemical substances, Economic analysis, Ecology/Natural environment, Environmental flows, etc)*
- *Sector (Agriculture, Industry, Domestic Water, etc)*
- *Integration of policies (Floods, Droughts, Climate change, etc)*
- *Other specific fields of interests (to be specified by the CAs)*

# Logical steps for a PR

## Expression of interest

- a Competent Authorities (CA) must apply to the Calls launched by the Secretariat or alternatively they can contact directly the Secretariat.

## Identification of PR scope and ToR preparation

- Once selected, the candidate CA have to detail the Terms of Reference of the Peer-Review (PR ToR), and the profiles of the expected experts

## Match making and identification of experts

- Experts will be identified (match-making procedure by the Secretariat) and proposed to RCA
- An agreement on the PR is found (agreed by RCA, experts and Secretariat)

## Preparation of the PR implementation

- Gathering (and translation if needed) of necessary background document by RCA
- Preliminary desk study by experts
- Preparation of mission(s)

## Mission in the RCA

- Implementation of the experts' mission(s) in the RCA

## Report

- Elaboration of draft report
- Presentation and discussion of results (webinar)
- Elaboration of final report and dissemination

# Agenda for the peer review project:

September  
2014

- on 15 September 2014, the Commission has signed a 2 years contract with a consortium in charge of setting up and coordinating the peer-review mechanism. The Peer Review Secretariat will be responsible for launching and collecting expressions of interest from RBDs and from experts to participate in the review, organisational issues, facilitating the contacts between peers, covering expenses, etc.

November  
2014

- establishing the protocol to perform the peer-reviews, like a "manual of procedures".

January  
2015

- call for expression of interest for both RBDs and experts is launched



# Agenda for the peer review project:

February  
2015

- an initial tentative timetable for first peer reviews is presented at the SCG meeting

Spring  
2015

- First peer-reviews should be performed.
- The calendar of each specific review will be set in the Terms of Reference developed by the RBDs which participate in the exercise.

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- Continuation of peer reviews...
- Reports
- Lessons learnt

# For more information:

All materials related to the Peer review mechanism can be found on the project website:

[www.aquacoope.org/peer.review/](http://www.aquacoope.org/peer.review/)

For any further information feel free to contact the Peer review secretariat at the following email address:

[peer.review@oieau.fr](mailto:peer.review@oieau.fr)