

## LIST OF DEFINITIONS

| Term   | Definition   |
|--|--|
| <b>Drought</b>                               | Drought is a natural phenomenon. It is a temporary, negative and severe deviation along a significant time period and over a large region from average precipitation values (a rainfall deficit), which might lead to meteorological, agricultural, hydrological and socioeconomic drought, depending on its severity and duration.  |
| <b>Water scarcity</b>                        | Water scarcity is a man-made phenomenon. It is a recurrent imbalance that arises from an overuse of water resources, caused by consumption being significantly higher than the natural renewable availability. Water scarcity can be aggravated by water pollution (reducing the suitability for different water uses), and during drought episodes.   |
| <b>Drought<br/>(Operational definitions)</b> | <p><u>Meteorological drought</u> - degree of dryness (in comparison to some “normal” or average amount) and the duration of the dry period. Definitions of meteorological drought must be considered as region specific since the atmospheric conditions that result in deficiencies of precipitation are highly variable from region to region.</p> <p><u>Agricultural drought</u> - links various characteristics of meteorological (or hydrological) drought to agricultural impacts, focusing on precipitation shortages, differences between actual and potential evapotranspiration, soil water deficits, reduced groundwater or reservoir levels.</p> <p><u>Hydrological drought</u> is associated with the effects of periods of precipitation (including snowfall) shortfalls on surface or subsurface water supply (i.e., streamflow, reservoir and lake levels, groundwater).</p> <p><u>Socio-economic drought</u> - associate the supply and demand of some economic good with elements of meteorological, hydrological, and agricultural drought.</p> |
| <b>Crisis management</b>                     | Crisis management is the unplanned reactive approach that implies tactical measures to be implemented in order to meet problems after a disaster has started.  |
| <b>Proactive management</b>                  | Proactive management are the strategic measures, actions planned in advance, which involve modification of infrastructures, and/or existing laws and institutional agreements.   |
| <b>Competent authority</b>                   | Competent authority means an authority or authorities identified under Article 3(2) or 3(3) of WFD.  |
| <b>Drought indicator</b>                     | Indicator of a meteorological, hydrological, agricultural, or socio-economic variable that provides an indication of potential drought related stress or deficiency.   |
| <b>Threshold</b>                             | Specific value of an indicator used for classification of drought categories according to severity level.  |
| <b>Forecast</b>                              | Forecast is the statistical estimate or the definite statement of the occurrence of a future event.  |

| Term                                  | Definition  |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Early warning</b>                  | Early warning is the provision of timely and effective information, through identified institutions, that allows individuals at risk of a disaster, to take action to avoid or reduce their risk and prepare for effective response.  |
| <b>Risk</b>                           | Risk means a combination of the likelihood of occurrence (hazard) and the magnitude of the unwanted consequences (vulnerability)  |
| <b>Hazard</b>                         | Hazard means probability of occurrence of a drought event with certain intensity.   |
| <b>Vulnerability</b>                  | Vulnerability means potential impact of a drought event on people, environment and economic activities.   |
| <b>Drought Impact</b>                 | Drought impact is a specific effect of drought on the economy, on the social life or on the environment, which is a symptom of vulnerability.   |
| <b>Drought Impact Assessment</b>      | This is the process of assessing the magnitude and distribution of the effects due to drought.  |
| <b>Stakeholders</b>                   | Stakeholders are those actors who are directly or indirectly affected by an issue and who could affect the outcome of a decision-making process regarding that issue or are affected by it.   |
| <b>Prevention</b>                     | Prevention is the reduction of risk and the effects of uncertainty. Prevention therefore refers to the activities that provide outright avoidance of the adverse impacts of hazards.  |
| <b>Mitigation</b>                     | Mitigation is the set of structural and non-structural measures undertaken to limit the adverse impact of hazards.  |
| <b>Quantitative status</b>            | Quantitative status is an expression of the degree to which a body of groundwater is affected by direct and indirect abstractions.  |
| <b>Available groundwater resource</b> | Available groundwater resource means the long-term annual average rate of overall recharge of the body of groundwater less the long-term annual rate of flow required to achieve the ecological quality objectives for associated surface waters specified under Article 4, to avoid any significant diminution in the ecological status of such waters and to avoid any significant damage to associated terrestrial ecosystems. |
| <b>Water consumption</b>              | Water consumption is the portion of the withdrawals (water supplied) that is not returned to the environment after use, it is either consumed by activities or discharged into the sea or evaporated.   |
| <b>Water demand</b>                   | Water demand is the actual need for water under current water use practices (i.e. irrigation techniques, efficiency of the system, water pricing policies, present cultural practices, standard of living, etc.). It is determined by the needs of users' activities.   |
| <b>Water supply</b>                   | Water supply refers to the quantity of water generally available and not only to water supply for a specific use (e.g. urban water supply).   |