

Integrated River Basin Management¹

Implementation of the Water Framework Directive: Main challenges including associated gaps

December 11, 2013

Outcome of Working Group

General Assessment

Participants generally believed that Drin riparian countries fall far short of meeting targets under the WFD which has been transposed into national legislation in all countries. River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) have been prepared only for a limited number of sub-basins and progress differs among countries. More often than not, countries are lacking institutional capacity and budget for establishing full-fledged monitoring programs (which precede the preparation of the program of measures as part of RBMP).

Individual inputs

Montenegro

- Classification and characterization of river basins achieved, but:
 - Capacity building for water management needed at national level
 - RBMP need to be improved

Kosovo

- Process of WFD adoption initiated
- Monitoring program according to WFD launched, but:
 - there is a lack of funding, data and expertise

Macedonia

- Water balance must be studied (taken into account) to identify and delineate water bodies

Albania

- Social and economic development at local level is a priority
- Environmental monitoring plans pursuant to WFD do not exist
- Major constraints are:
 - Unwillingness of stakeholders to cooperate
 - Lack of awareness and capacity at the local level
 - Data are not publicly available/accessible
 - Discrepancies in capacity among countries and institutions

¹ The EU Water Framework Directive uses the term *River Basin Management* RBM (not integrated RBM)

General needs

- Institutional capacity building
- Harmonization of WFD approximation and implementation among riparian countries
- Harmonization of methods

Flip Chart Protocol of Group (as summarized by reporter)

