

Summary for the presentation “Implementation and Funding of measures in Spain”

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The presentation review the distribution of water competences in Spain, the status of the hydrological planning process adopted from the Water Framework directive (WFD) schedule, and the methodology and results obtained in the development of the programme of measures in the Jucar River Basin District (JRBD).

There are shared and convergent competences on water resources management and environment between the central and regional government administration. Basically, the National government through the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment in coordination with the River Basin Authorities is in charge of the legislation, ordination and allocation of water resources systems in those rivers running through more than one autonomous region. Significantly, the River Basin Authorities are in charge of the development of the River Basin Management Plans (RBMP).

The working schedule for the elaboration of the RBMP is in accordance to the WFD. The Plans for the first cycle (2009/15) have been approved during the past two years in all the districts managed by the National Government, and they will be revised before 2015. The general status for planning in the current period 2015-2021 foresees the consultation of the RBMP proposal in December 2014. One essential characteristic of the RBMP in Spain is being approved by the Government by Royal Decree. They programme actions in order to meet water demands and reach the environmental objectives in a context of scarcity conditions and climate change.

The JRBD counts on a surface of 42.735 Km² located within five autonomous regions. According to its Mediterranean character, only 72% of the rivers are dominated by a permanent hydrological regime. The Jucar District presents a fragile imbalance between water resources availability and water demands. An 80% of water demands have an agricultural purpose in a total surface of approximately 385.000 ha.

The programme of measures aims to the consecution of the environmental objectives. They feed from the information provided by competent Administrations at national, regional or local level, to keep the programme updated. The measures have been grouped into 19 typologies according to the European Commission reporting requirements to Member States. In order to facilitate understanding of the PoM, these typologies have been divided into six strategic lines related to: a) the improvement of water quality, b) the hydro morphological conditions, c) the water demand management, d) the increase of water resources availability, e) flood risk management, and f) a general line for the compliance of the Water Framework directive. An implementation calendar has been suggested to speed up the environmental objectives consecution and to ensure economic compatibility for the Competent Authorities. The total amount for the period 2009-2027 is 5.460 million euros. The amount is partially distributed between the three planning cycles. The distribution for the investment is divided between the competent authorities with the Central Government financing the majority of the actions.