



**AUTORITÀ DI BACINO DEL FIUME TEVERE**

***AGGIORNAMENTO DEL  
PIANO DI GESTIONE DEL DISTRETTO  
IDROGRAFICO DELL'APPENNINO CENTRALE***

***PGDAC.2***

Materiale informativo

*L'allegato riporta un estratto del SWD(2012) 379 final "Commission Staff Working Document" che accompagna il COM(2012) 670 final "Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council" sullo sviluppo della Direttiva 2000/60/CE relativa ai River Basin Management Plans dell'Italia.*

*L'estratto riporta il § 3.2, all'interno del più ampio Capitolo 3 Governance, sulla struttura amministrativa con annesso Organisational diagram: Italy e le conclusioni del § 14 Recommendations. In quest'ultimo sono state campite le frasi chiave del SWD(2012) 379 final.*

*Il materiale informativo ha lo scopo di chiarire il punto di vista e l'approccio della Commissione Europea nell'esame dei Piani di Gestione del Distretto italiani.*

**Evento di consultazione**

**Roma 11 dicembre 2012**



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SWD(2012) 379 final

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**COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT**

**Member State : Italy**

*Accompanying the document*

**REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND  
THE COUNCIL**

**on the Implementation of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)**

**River Basin Management Plans**

{COM(2012) 670 final}

**EN**

**EN**

### 3. GOVERNANCE

#### 3.2 Administrative arrangements - river basin districts and competent authorities

Overall, the administrative arrangements and relationships are set in national legislation. The national Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea has the lead role for policies and methodologies to implement the Water Framework Directive in Italy, while Italy's regions are directly responsible for many aspects of implementation, including monitoring, managing and protecting water bodies, as well as many enforcement activities and many aspects of planning.<sup>10</sup> As a result, the RBD authorities, beyond the preparation of the RBMPs, appear mainly to have a co-ordinating role.

Each river basin district (RBD) has an authority in charge of preparing its RBMP. However, by early 2012, these RBD authorities had only been named on a provisional basis<sup>11</sup>: in most cases, the authorities for the river basins of 'national interest' were temporarily designated as the RBD authorities, and notably carried out this role for the preparation of the first RBMPs.<sup>12</sup>

This is an issue in particular for four RBDs where the provisional authority is based on a river basin authority that covers only part of the RBD. Thus, the Arno RBA prepared the RBMP for the Northern Apennines (ITC), though the Arno covers only part of the RBD territory; similar situations are seen in the Eastern Alps (ITA), the Central Apennines (ITE) and the Southern Apennines (ITF).<sup>13</sup>

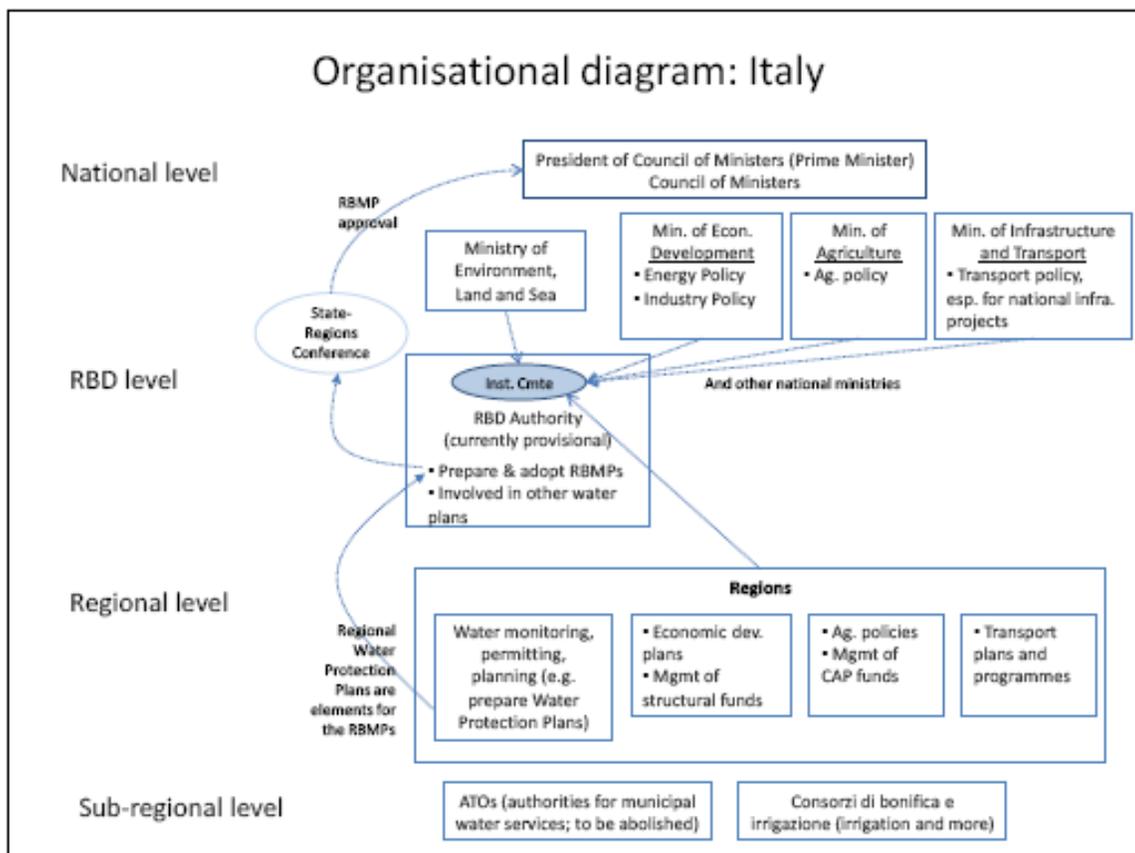


Figure 3.2.1: Organisation overview of authorities involved in Italy's RBMPs  
Source: Pressures and Measures study on Governance

For each RBD, an 'institutional committee' brings together the regions with representatives of key national ministries – environment, agriculture, economic development and infrastructure/transport among others (see the figure 3.2.1). At present, the institutional committees of the former river basin authorities 'of national interest' are used for this purpose, with their membership enlarged to all regions in the RBD.

While this temporary system is to be replaced by full RBD authorities, it does not appear that steps are underway to move to a permanent system.

## 14. RECOMMENDATIONS

To complete the 1<sup>st</sup> river basin management cycle, and in preparing for the second cycle of the WFD, it is recommended that:

- The transition of the RBD authorities from a provisional to a permanent system should be completed and it should be ensured that these cover the entire area of the relevant RBD.
- Methods are effectively coordinated between the regions at the level of the RBD in order to achieve water management at the river basin level instead of management according to administrative boundaries.
- Monitoring is an important part of river basin planning and affects the quality and effectiveness of subsequent steps. The current monitoring gaps for BQEs, supporting quality elements and priority substances should be addressed.
- Quantitative aspects for surface and groundwater should be properly taken into account during the monitoring and assessment phases.
- The identification of river basin specific pollutants needs to be more transparent, with clear information on how pollutants were selected, how and where they were monitored, and where there are exceedances how such exceedances have been taken into account in the assessment of ecological status. It is important that there is an ambitious approach to combatting chemical pollution and that adequate measures are put in place.
- The plans should state clearly which priority substances have been measured where, and in which matrix, and monitoring should be extended where necessary to ensure that the chemical status of all water bodies can be assessed. The assessment should be based on the EQS in the EQSD, including the biota EQS for mercury, hexachlorobenzene and hexachlorobutadiene unless EQS for water that provide an equivalent level of protection have been derived. Trend monitoring in sediment or biota for at least the substances specified in EQSD Article 3(3) will also need to be reflected in the next RBMP.
- The high percentage of water bodies that have an unknown status prevents effective planning and comparability with other Member States. WFD compliant assessment methods should be used taking into account the work on intercalibration.
- Where there are currently high uncertainties in the characterisation of the RBDs, identification of pressures, and assessment of status, these need to be addressed in the current cycle, to ensure that adequate measures can be put in place before the next cycle.
- The designation of HMWBs should comply with all the requirements of Article 4(3). The assessment of significant adverse effects on their use or the environment and the lack of significantly better environmental options should be specifically mentioned in the RBMPs. This is needed to ensure transparency of the designation process.
- The absence of objectives in some RBDs is problematic and should be addressed.
- The application of exemptions needs to be more transparent and the reasons for the exemptions should be clearly justified in the plans.
- It is unclear whether there are new physical modifications planned in RBMPs. If this is the case, the use of exemptions under Article 4(7) should be based on a thorough assessment of all the steps as requested

by the WFD, in particular an assessment of whether the project is of overriding public interest and whether the benefits to society outweigh the environmental degradation, and regarding the absence of alternatives that would be a better environmental option. Furthermore, these projects may only be carried out when all possible measures are taken to mitigate the adverse impact on the status of the water. All conditions for the application of Article 4(7) in individual projects must be included and justified in the RBMPs as early in the project planning as possible.

- Meaningful information regarding the scope, the timing and the funding of the measures should be included in the PoM so the approach to achieve the objectives is clear and the ambition in the PoM is transparent. All the relevant information on basic and supplementary measures should be included in the summary of the PoM to ensure transparency on the planned actions for the achievement of the environmental objectives set out in the WFD.
- Many measures in the Programmes of Measures originate from other existing plans and no clear link between measures and status assessment is made. In order to address this, the gaps in the steps leading to the Programme of Measures such as monitoring and status classification should be addressed. This is important in order to implement measures where they are needed to reach the WFD objectives.
- Agriculture is indicated as exerting a significant pressure on the water resource in most Italian RBDs, both from point and diffuse source pollution from livestock raising, as well as abstractions, hydro-morphological pressures and diffuse source pollution for crops. This should be translated into a clear strategy that defines the basic/mandatory measures that all farmers should adhere to and the additional supplementary measures that can be financed. This should be developed with the farming community to ensure technical feasibility and acceptance. There needs to be a very clear baseline so that any farmer knows the rules this can be adequately advised and enforced and so that the authorities in charge of the CAP funds can adequately set up Rural Development programmes and cross compliance water requirements.
- The cost-recovery should address a broad range of water services, including impoundments, abstraction, storage, treatment and distribution of surface waters, and collection, treatment and discharge of waste water, also when they are "self-services", for instance self-abstraction for agriculture. The cost recovery should be transparently presented for all relevant user sectors, and environment and resource costs should be included in the costs recovered. Information should also be provided on the incentive function of water pricing for all water services, with the aim of ensuring an efficient use of water. Information on how the polluter pays principle has been taken into account should be provided in the RBMPs.
- In order to function as a framework document for water management it is important that all additional measures to reach additional objectives for protected areas are included in the Programmes of Measures.