

SUMMARY

Walczykiewicz T., Rataj C. Ways of Achieving the Objectives of the Water Framework Directive. Realization of Programs of Measures.

Chrońmy Przyrodę Ojczystą (64), 5: 43–59, 2008.

Article 11th of Directive 2000/60/EC, known as the Water Framework Directive (WFD), requires Poland to establish a program of measures for each river basin district – or, in the case of an international river basin district, that portion thereof which falls within Polish territory – in order to achieve the environmental objectives listed in art. 4 of the Directive. The environmental objectives for river basin districts are the basic premise for the building of the program of measures. In the building of programs of measures, which are created in a 6-year cycle, the following stages are distinguished: an assessment of present water status, predictions of water status for 2015, a determination (with variants) of implementable measures, analysis of the effectiveness of all measures indicated, final selection of the most effective program of measures, realization of the program of measures, assessment of implementation effects.

The purpose of finding out the status of water resources and predictions for 2015 for surface and underground water bodies was served by work performed in 2004–2007. In subsequent stages, it will be necessary to precisely define environmental objectives and create variant programs of measures for river basin districts. Each program must contain 'basic' measures, which are the minimum requirements, as well as potential 'supplementary' measures providing additional protection to ensure good water status.

Variant actions designated for portions of water bodies will be subjected to economic analysis permitting the selection of the most effective programs of measures. Every investment project should be

subjected to both economic and ecological analysis. The ecological effects of an investment are most often of non-financial and non-economic character, and their measurement is very difficult.

The complexity of the problems and the necessary scope of tasks is shown by work concerning the preparation of programs of measures performed for rivers within the territory of the Regional Water Management Board in Warsaw. The full description of the aggregated water body contained 273 variables. In this analysis, no complex economic analyses were included.

After public consultation, a final list of measures accepted for implementation is being prepared. After the implementation period, these measures will be subjected to an outcome assessment. For this purpose, a surface and underground water status **monitoring program** is being created, whose full implementation inaugurates the next 6-year cycle of work on building of programs of measures.