

Supplementary Materials: Transforming European Water Governance? Participation and River Basin Management under the EU Water Framework Directive in 13 Member States

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1. Introduction

The supporting information provides the variable descriptions and a detailed account of the data aggregation procedures employed during the analysis.

Further, the supporting information contains a list of literature sources consulted to elicit the data for this analysis.

Table S1. Variable descriptions.

Variable Name	Description	Scale
RBM Planning Reference (RBM_PR)	Which scale serves as the main reference point for water resources management?	0 = administrative, 1 = hydrological
RBM Legal Responsibility (RBM_CA)	At which scale is the actor with legal responsibility for water resources management (or the designated Competent Authority under the WFD) located?	0 = administrative, 1 = hydrological
RBM Planning Responsibility (RBM_PA)	At which scale is the actor responsible for operating the planning process located?	0 = administrative, 1 = hydrological
RBM Implementation Responsibility (RBM_IA)	At which scale is the actor with primary responsibility for implementing measures located?	0 = administrative, 1 = hydrological
PP Number (PP_NO)	How many separate process types make up the participatory planning process?	number
PP Power Delegation (PP_PD)	The extent to which participants were able to influence the decisions to be taken (degree of decision-control granted to participants).	0 = very low influence, 4 = very high influence (co-governing)
PP Accessibility (PP_AC)	The extent to which access to the process by stakeholders and the public was constrained (e.g., presence of barriers or selection processes that regulated the access of potential participants).	0 = very low, 4 = very high
PP Representation (PP_RE)	Degree to which the constellation of interests involved in the participatory process was representative of the underlying stakeholder field.	0 = very low (strongly biased), 4 = very high (balanced representation)
PP Communication (PP_CO)	The extent to which the process provided opportunities for participants to engage in communicative interactions with each other and the authorities (e.g., listen as spectator vs. deliberate and negotiate).	0 = very low (listen as spectator), 4 = very high (highly deliberative)

RBM: River basin management; PP: Participatory process.

Table S2. Raw and aggregate data of public participation and river basin management in 13 EU member states for t0 and t1.

	Austria	Czech Republic	Denmark	England	France	Germany	Hungary	Ireland	Netherlands	Poland	Scotland	Spain	Sweden
T0_RBM_PR	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
T0_RBM_CA	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
T0_RBM_PA	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
T0_RBM_IA	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
T0_PP_NO	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1
T0_PP_PD	0	0	2	1	4	1	2	1	4	1	0	4	0
T0_PP_AC	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	3
T0_PP_RE	2	2	2	2	4	2	1	2	3	1	3	0	3
T0_PP_CO	1	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	1	2	3	2
T1_RBM_PR	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
T1_RBM_CA	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
T1_RBM_PA	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
T1_RBM_IA	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
T1_PP_NO	2	2	1	3	3	2	3	1	3	2	3	3	2
T1_PP_PD	2	2	2	3	4	3	2	2	4	2	3	4	3
T1_PP_AC	2	1	1	1	2	3	1	3	2	2	2	1	3
T1_PP_RE	2	2	3	2	4	2	3	1	3	2	3	1	2
T1_PP_CO	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	3
T0_RBM	0.000	0.500	0.000	0.500	0.750	0.000	0.500	0.250	0.750	0.500	0.000	1.000	0.000
T1_RBM	0.250	0.500	0.250	0.500	0.750	0.250	0.500	0.250	0.750	0.500	0.250	1.000	0.750
T0_PP	0.317	0.367	0.533	0.483	0.733	0.417	0.367	0.417	0.683	0.317	0.417	0.533	0.467
T1_PP	0.533	0.483	0.467	0.600	0.850	0.633	0.600	0.467	0.800	0.533	0.700	0.650	0.683

Table S3. Public Participation in 13 EU member states under the WFD.

Country	Venues	Access and Representation	Power Delegation and Communication
Austria	National roundtable; Local processes	Professional stakeholder selection, open locally; strong representation of nationally important interests	Consultative and informative function
Czech Republic	District level planning committees; Regional seminars	Stakeholder selection; strong representation of established professional interests	Consultative function
Denmark	Regional water and nature council	Closed, rather balanced, selection of sanctioned stakeholders	Consultative and informative function
England/Wales	National liaison panel; RBD liaison panels; Local catchment processes	Stakeholder selection; stronger representation of potential co-deliverers	Advice and recommendations
France	Basin committees; Local level processes; Broad public outreach	Access points for various interests and publics; elections	Development of preferences, strong influence in decisions
Germany	State level advisory councils; Local sub-basin processes	Stakeholder selection, more open locally; strong representation of organised interests and users	Advice and recommendations
Hungary	National water management council; District water management councils; Local councils	Restricted stakeholder selection; rather balanced between government, NGOs, users, and academia	Consultative and informative function
Ireland	Regional advisory councils	Application for membership based on criteria; strong representation of local authorities	Consultative and informative function
Netherlands	National interest group forum; Regional water boards, sounding boards; Local area processes	Closed selection, open locally; strong representation of organised interests	Development of preferences, strong influence in decisions
Poland	National water management forum; regional water management councils	Stakeholder selection; strong representation of users	Consultative and informative function
Scotland	National advisory group (NAG); Area advisory groups (AAG); AAG Forum	NAG/AAG: stakeholder selection, Forum open; representation according to local circumstances	Advice and recommendation
Spain	National water council; River basin and governing councils; Local working groups and workshops	Limited stakeholder selection and strong representation by users	Development of preferences, strong influence in decisions
Sweden	Regional water boards; Local water councils	Stakeholder selection, open locally; organised conservation interests under-represented	Advice and recommendations, provision of data and own proposals

Text S1. Method of Aggregation for Indices Used

Public participation (PP): To arrive at a single participation index, we standardised the five variables on a range between 0 and 1. To aggregate the single dimensions, we calculated the simple mean of the standardised variables for each country. The resulting participation index is shown on the x-axis of Figure 1.

Formula:

$$\text{Participation}_i = \frac{\text{PP Legal Status}_i + \frac{\text{PP Number}_i}{4} + \frac{\text{PP Power Delegation}_i}{4} + \frac{\text{PP Accessibility}_i}{4} + \frac{\text{PP Representation}_i}{4}}{5} \quad (1)$$

where i = country.

River basin management (RBM): As with public participation, we aggregated these variables per country by calculating their simple mean. The resulting river basin management index is depicted on the y-axis of Figure 1. Note, however, that there is—partly due to the binary nature of the variables and the logic of progressing institutionalisation beyond these variables—an inner logic and order. Therefore, the steps on this scale indicate qualitative difference in the institutionalisation of water resource management and planning on a hydrological scale.

In detail this means:

- | | |
|------|--|
| 0 | no basin planning |
| 0.25 | River basin unit (hydrological scale is the reference point for planning, prescribed by the WFD) |
| 0.5 | operational planning (actual operational planning and/or implementation is carried out by actors on river basin scale) |
| 0.75 | legal responsibilities (river basin actors are legally sanctioned) |

Text S2. Literature Drawn on in Coding: European Water Resources Management before and after EU Water Framework Directive Implementation

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Workshop Reports

All reports delivered at the workshop: “Public participation and river basin management in WFD water planning”, Leuphana University of Lüneburg, Lüneburg, Germany, 1–3 September 2010.

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