

WFD progress in Norway

- state of national implementation
- preparations for the next cycle

Anders Iversen, national water coordinator, Norwegian Environment Agency

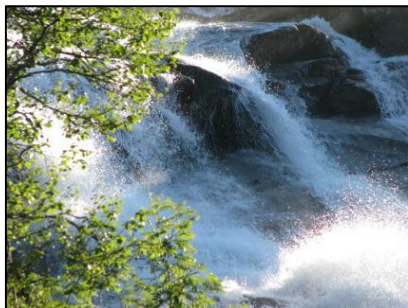


Foto: Anders Iversen



Foto: Paal Staven



Foto: Lise Sundberg



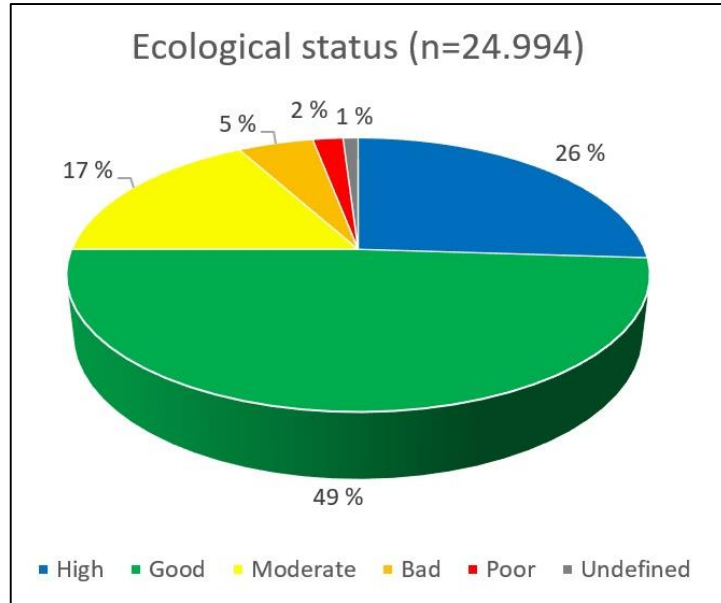
Foto: Anders Iversen



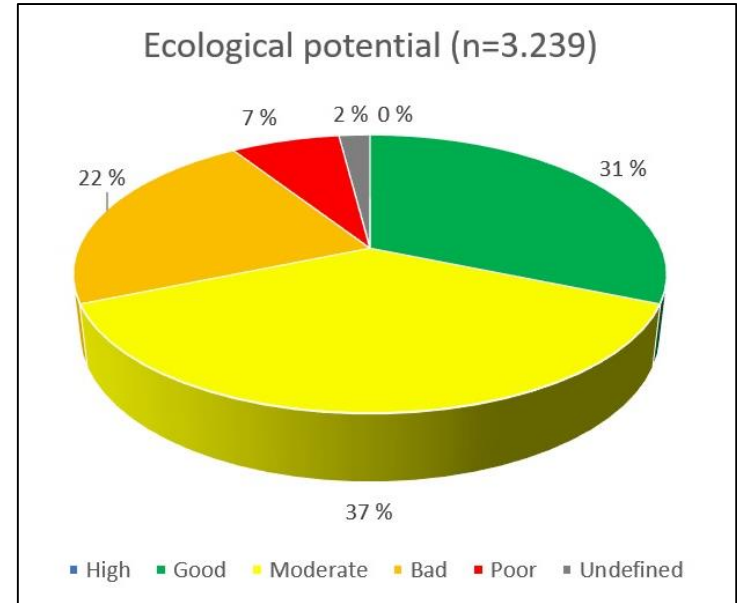
Part 1: State of national implementation

Ecological status of water in Norway

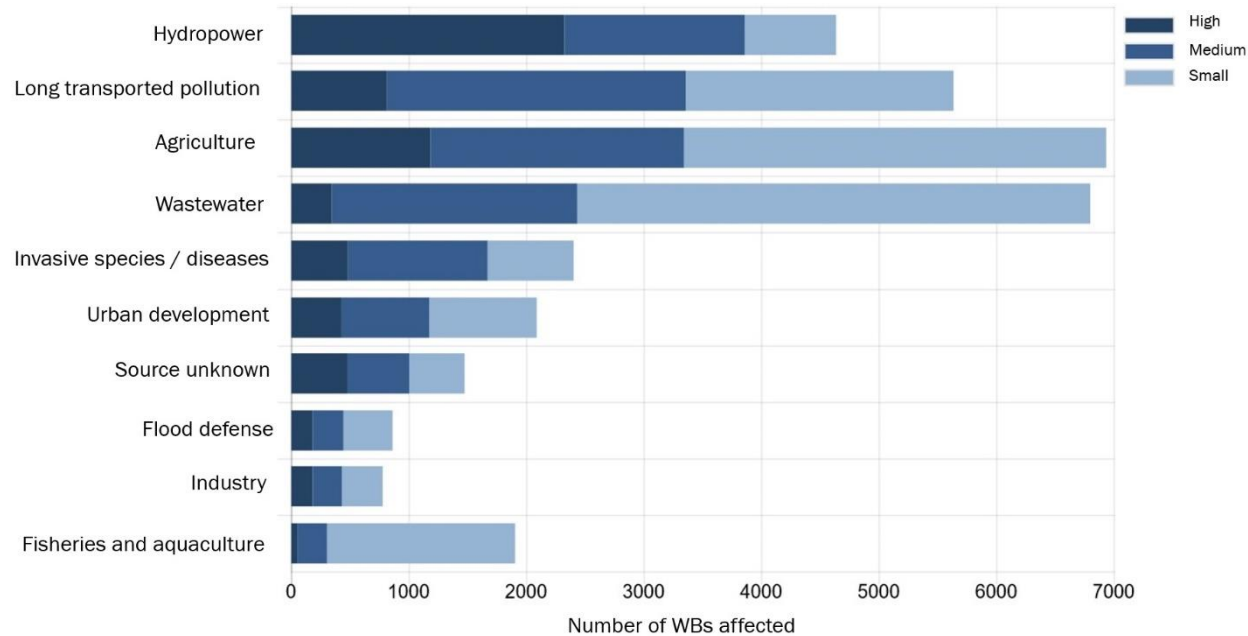
Natural Water Bodies



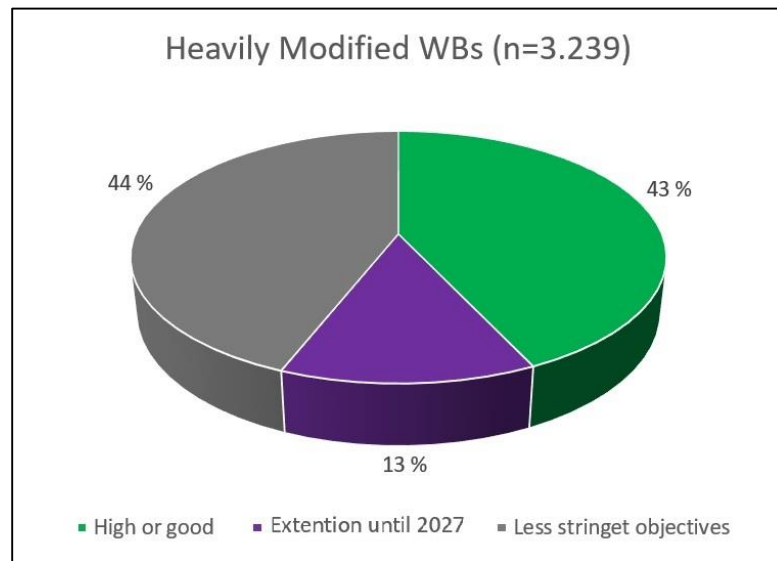
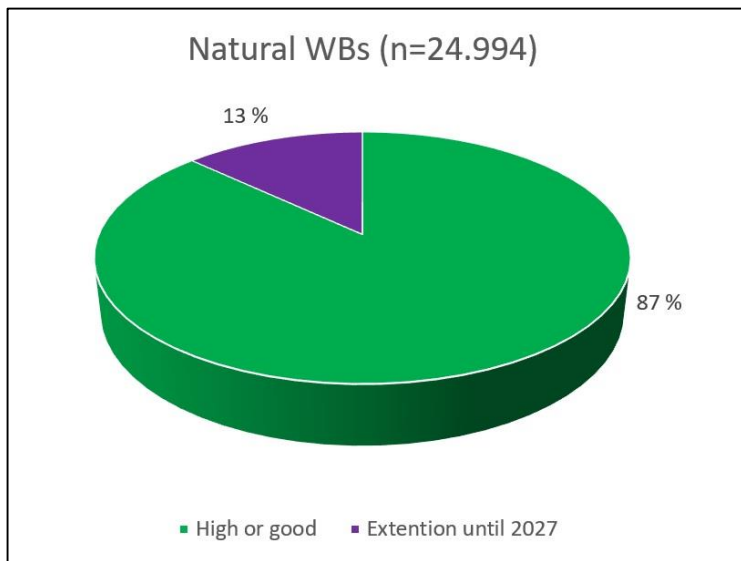
Heavily Modified Water Bodies



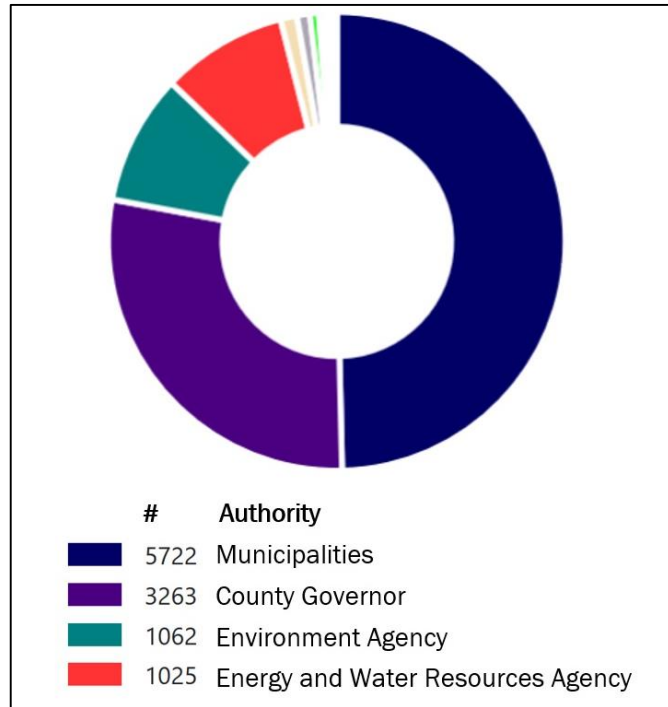
Most significant pressures in Norway



Objectives and exemptions 2021

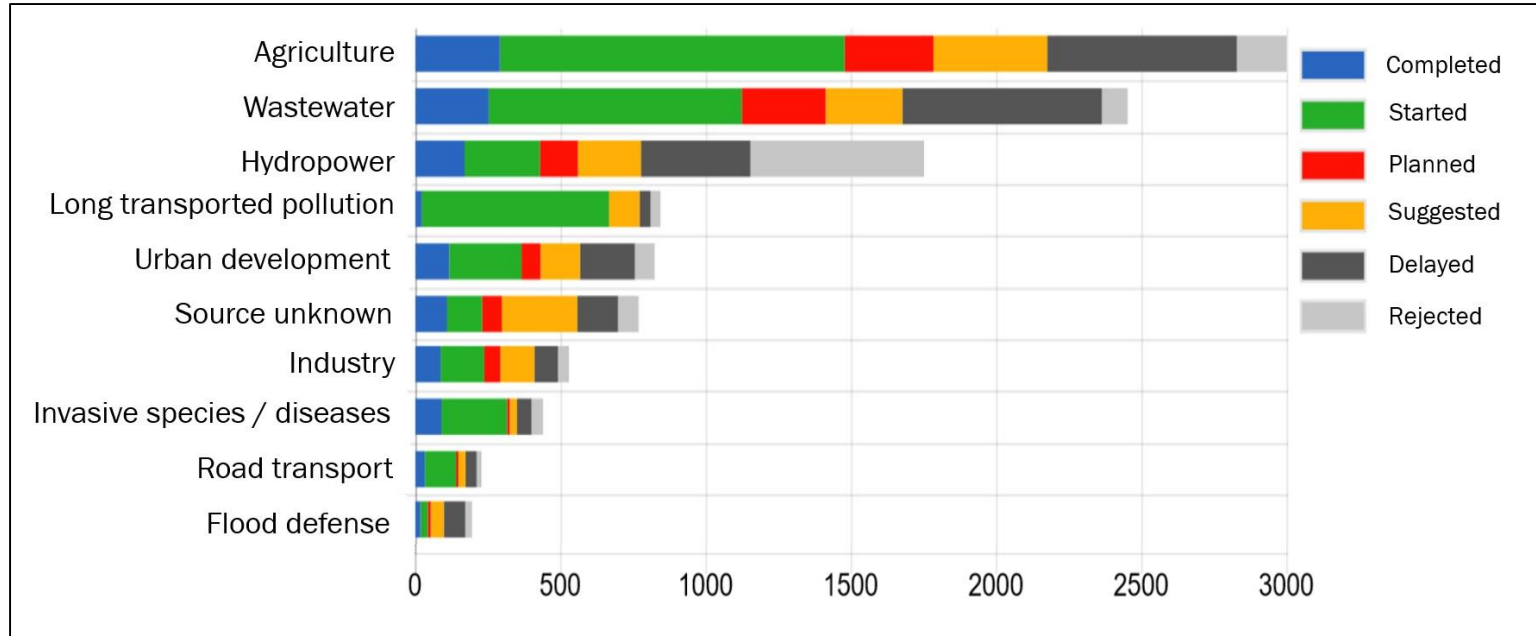


Responsibility for implementing measures



1. Municipalities
2. County Governor (regional office of the state)
3. Environment Agency
4. Energy and Water Resources Agency

Progress in implementing measures



A white canoe is positioned on the right side of a calm lake. The lake's surface is perfectly still, creating a clear reflection of the canoe and the surrounding landscape. In the background, there are lush green mountains with patches of snow on their peaks and slopes. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Part 2: Preparations for the next cycle

Improvements for better RBMPs and PoMs in 2021



Evaluations of work 2010-2015

- Three evaluations + Peer review in 2015

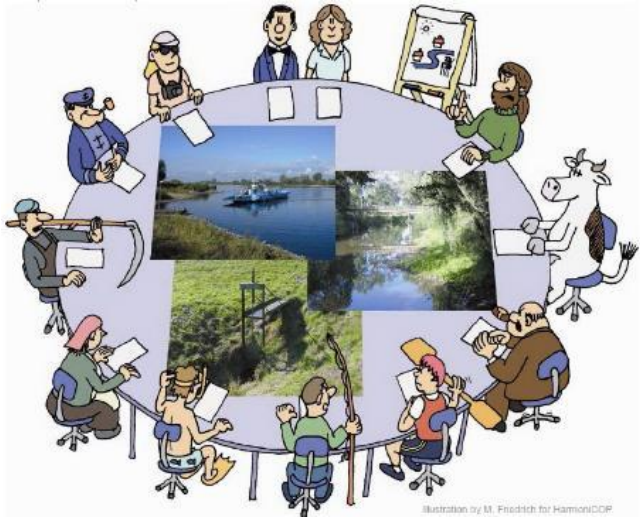
Actions taken

- Recommendations from Agencies to Ministries 2016.
- Improved funding for monitoring 2017.
- Revision of National Water Regulation 2018.
- New National Guidelines to authorities in 2019.

Useful reference

- OECD Principles on Water Governance

P 1. Clearly allocate roles and responsibilities



Revised Water regulation 2018 clarifies roles of :

- County Council, County Governor, Sectoral authorities.

National Guidelines 2019 clarifies responsibility of sectoral authorities:

- Participate, update, implement.

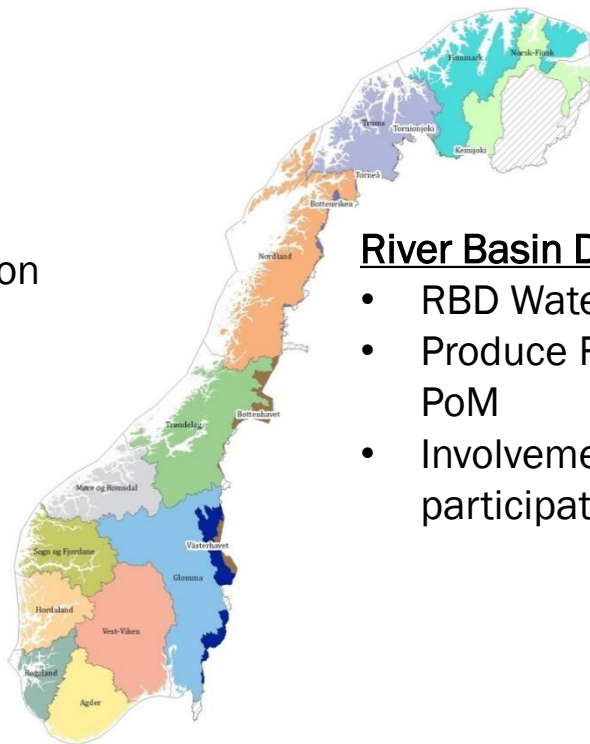
P 2. Manage water at the appropriate scales, and foster coordination between the scales

State

- Top down contributing to RBMPs
- Water Regulation
- Annual budget

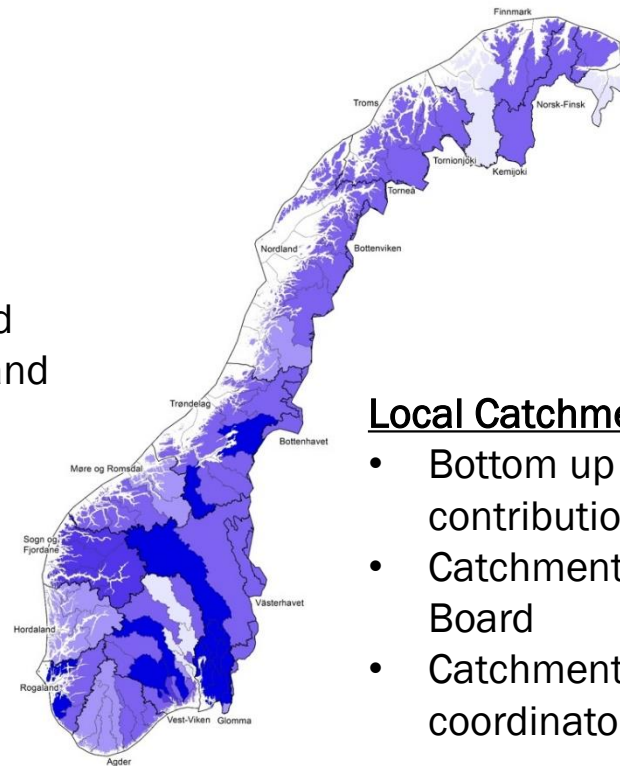
- Committee of Ministries

- Committee of Agencies



River Basin District

- RBD Water Board
- Produce RBMP and PoM
- Involvement and participation



Local Catchment

- Bottom up contribution
- Catchment Water Board
- Catchment coordinators

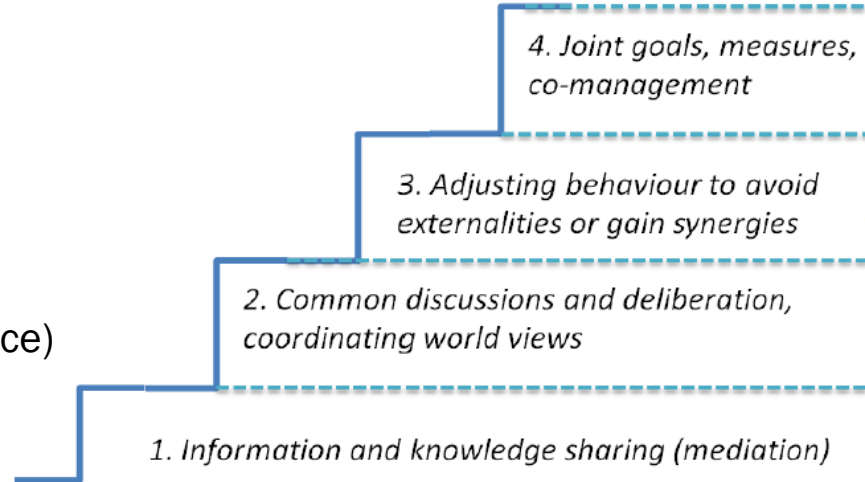
P 3. Encourage policy coherence through effective cross-sectoral coherence

National Guidelines 2014 on hydropower:

- Based on national screening and prioritization.
- Review of licenses, including flow.
- Other ecological mitigation measures.

National Guidelines 2019:

- Wastewater
- Agriculture
- Aquaculture (escaped farm fish and sea lice)
- Invasive species
- Drinking and bathing water
- Transport
- Land use planning



P 4. Adapt the level of capacity to the complexity



Foto: Jan Olav Winther

We want to adapt the complexity to the capacity: simplification and streamlining of the RBD planning process.

Revision of National Water Regulation 2018:

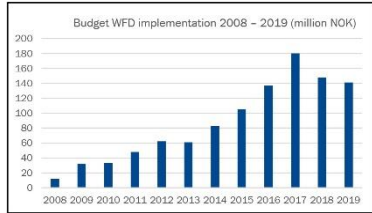
- Consultations reduced from 3 x 6 month to 2 x 3 months.

New templates for RBMPs and PoM:

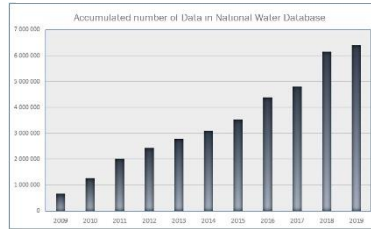
- Reduced level of detail.
- More systematic work with measures and sectors.
- More focus on closing the gap.
- Better estimates of costs and descriptions of benefits.
- New RBMPs and PoM generated from water database.

P 5. Produce, update and share water data and information

Better financing for water monitoring



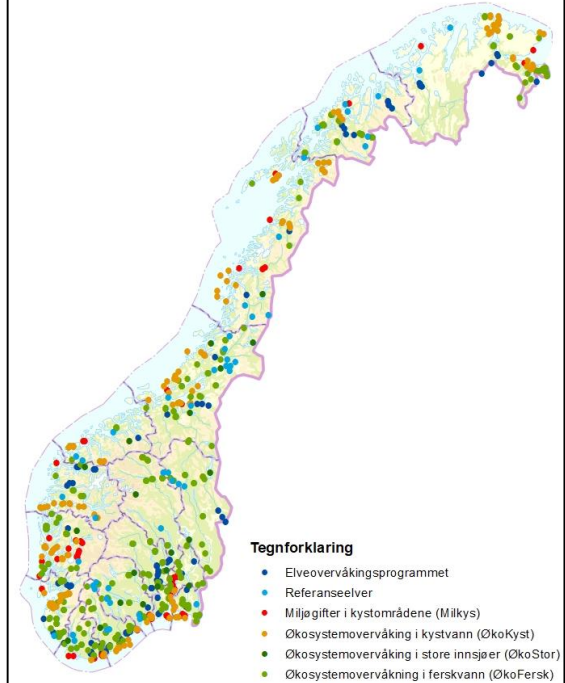
More water data



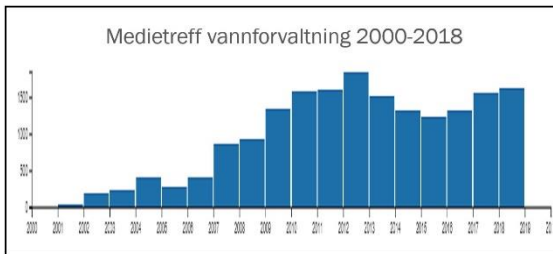
Improved knowledge base and information



National programmes for water monitoring



P 10. Promote stakeholder engagement



- National Water Conferences at important steps of RBD planning process.
- Annual National River Restoration Seminars.
- Thematic Seminars on relevant issues in collaboration with Norwegian Water Association.
- Data publicly available at Vann-Nett Portal.
- Information and News at vannportalen.no
- Increased attention to water in the press/media.

Challenges ahead



Source: Ryan Baxter

- Succeed in making planned improvements + templates operational.
- Better estimates of costs and descriptions of benefits.
- Sector integration (energy, agriculture, aquaculture, IED).
- WFD objectives in land use planning (riparian zone + floodplains).
- Protection of Drinking Water sources in RBMPs and PoMs.
- Include climate change adaptation, floods and storm water.
- Improve information and facilitate participation and engagement.
- Plastics, microplastics and pharmaceuticals.
- Continued budget for monitoring, governance and measures.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



Implementing the WFD helps us achieve SDG 6 on *sustainable management of water*, especially the following targets:

6.1 - Safe and affordable drinking water for all

6.3 - Improve water quality by reducing pollution

6.5 - Implement integrated water resources management

6.6 - Protect and restore water-related ecosystems

6.B - Support/strengthen participation of local communities

A photograph of a waterfall cascading over dark, wet rocks. The water is turbulent, creating white foam and splashing. Sunlight filters through the water, creating a shimmering effect. Green foliage is visible in the foreground on the left side.

**Thank you for
your attention!**