



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF
THE ENVIRONMENT



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Reporting of progress on the implementation of the Programs of Measures in Norway (2009 River Basin Management Plans)

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1. Introduction

Norway performed a voluntary implementation cycle of the Directive 2000/60/EC - establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy; the Water Framework Directive (WFD) in selected sub-districts across the country from 2007 until 2009. River Basin Management plans and Programmes of measures for the selected sub-districts were adopted by the County Councils in 2009. The River Basin Management Plans contains a summary of the Programmes of Measures and were approved by the national Government in June 2010.

This report is an interim report describing progress on the implementation of the Programmes of Measures (PoMs) in the voluntary cycle; it describes the process of gathering information on the implementation of measures and gives an overview of proportion of conducted and started measures. Appendix 1 describes the implementation of basic measures according to the WFD.

2. Status for implementation of measures

Based on the information reported by the RBD Competent Authorities, a summary of status for implementation of measures is illustrated in Figure 1.

- 46 % of the measures are reported to be completed, on-going or been given a license for completion. Measures were mainly focused on impact from pollution and morphological/hydromorphological pressures.
- 11 % of the measures are regarded as not relevant for implementation anymore, or not prioritized.
- 26 % of the measures are reported as not started.
- For 17 % of the measures the status of implementation is unknown (not defined).

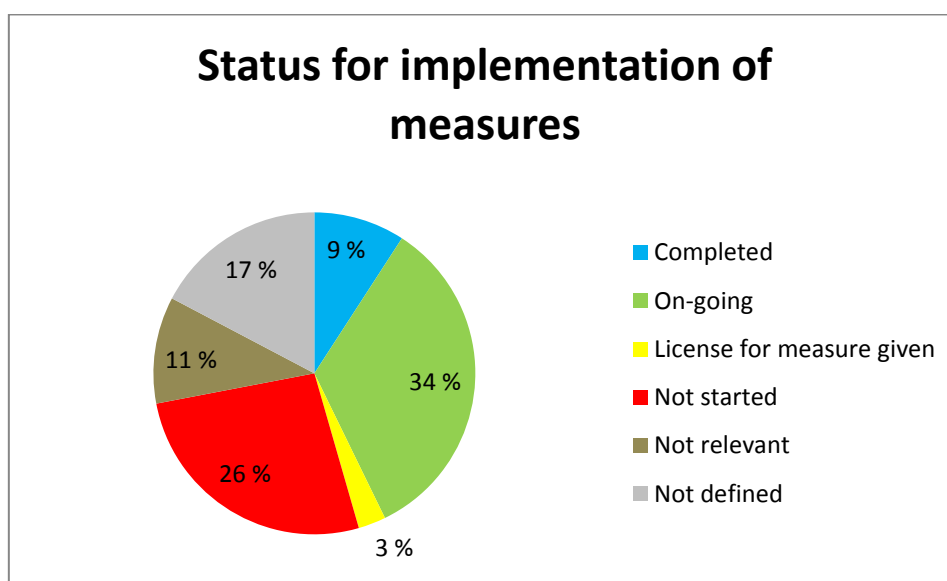


Figure 1. The diagram shows the status for progress on implementation of measures, numbers given in percent.

Figure 2 shows that the first voluntary River Basin Management Plans have focused on the impact from pollution and morphological and hydro morphological pressures. The category of pollution also contains measures to mitigate for transboundary pollution.

Biological pressures are mostly represented by introduced species, spreading of diseases/parasites and largely increased growth of stocks of natural occurring species.

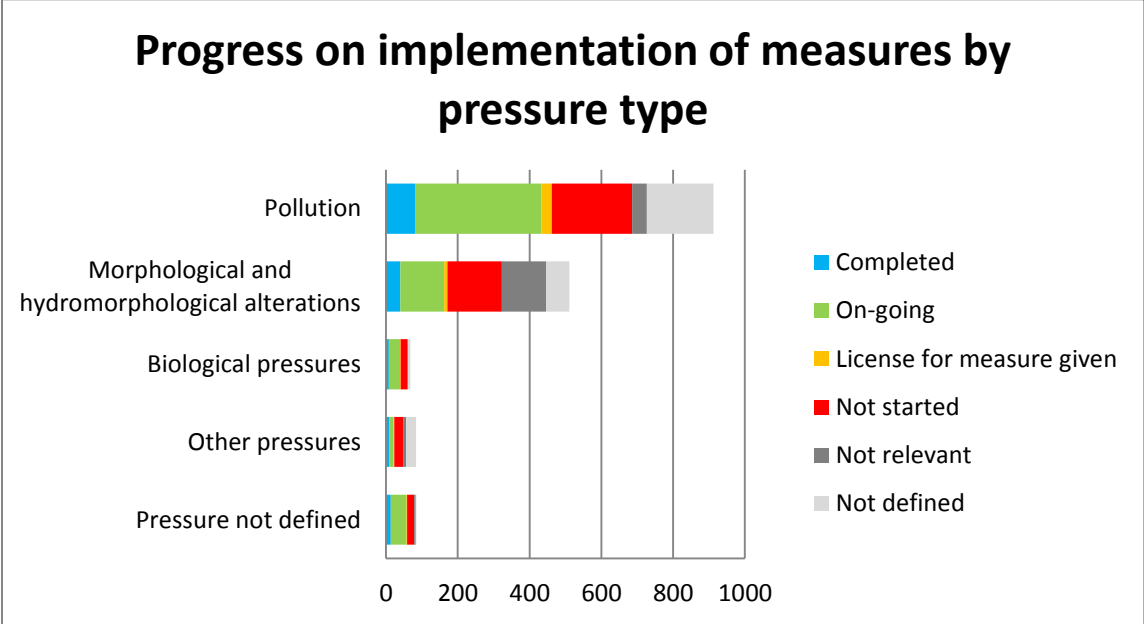


Figure 2. The diagram illustrates status for implementation of measures per pressure type. Number of measures on the x-axis.

Some of the measures listed in the programme were regarded as not relevant for implementation anymore, or not prioritized. This was the case in water bodies where analysis or monitoring has shown better environmental status than first anticipated, or where measures were considered too costly. Some of the measures could not be implemented at the regional level due to lack of legal basis for their implementation.

Some measures was reported to have unknown status of implementation (not defined). This is partly due to measures described too generally, thus difficult to conduct concrete measures from. In some regions it has also proven difficult to obtain necessary information from the Competent Authorities responsible for implementing the measures.

26 % of the measures are reported as not started, some of these reported as too costly compared to their environmental benefits.

For regulated rivers, some measures are registered as possible only by a revision of licenses at national level. At the time of this report there is an on-going national process on revisions of licenses and possible measures. The work is conducted by relevant national CAs, with the National Environment Agency (NEA) and the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE) leading the process.

3. Comments on the implementation report

The Directive 2000/60/EC - establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy; the Water Framework Directive (WFD); obliged Member States to develop River Basin Management Plans and Programs of Measures by December 2009 and to report the plans and programs to the Commission by March 2010. Article 11(7) states that all measures shall be made operational by December 2012.

The WFD was formally taken into the EEA-agreement in 2009, granting Norway extended deadlines for the implementation in accordance with EEA-committee decision 125/2007.

Norway performed a voluntary implementation of the WFD in selected sub-districts across the country from 2007 until 2009, thus gaining the experience of River Basin Management planning. River Basin Management plans and Programs of Measures for the selected sub-districts were adopted by the County Councils in 2009, and approved by the national Government in June 2010.

The River Basin Management Plans and Programs of measures were reported to the EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA) in 2010 on a voluntary basis. The reporting was conducted in a simplified manner, reporting the River Basin Management Plans as text documents.

Article 15 (3) states that Member States shall, within three years of the publication of each River Basin Management Plan, submit an interim report describing progress on the implementation of the Program of measures.

The interim report delivered by Norway consists of this document describing the process of gathering information on the implementation of measures as well as an overview of the proportion of conducted and started measures. Appendix 1 describes the implementation of basic measures according to Article 11 (3) a, including the directives listed in Annex VI part A.

Reporting of basic and supplementary measures

Art 11 of the WFD defines that the programmes of measures shall include basic measures as described in Art 11 (3) a – l, as well as supplementary measures as described in Art 11 (4). Basic measures according to Art 11 (3) a, includes *“those measures required to implement Community legislation for the protection of water, including measures required under the legislation specified in Art 10 and in part A of Annex VI”*

The guidelines on the reporting on the progress on the implementation of the programmes of measures states that for implementation of basic measures of Art 11 (3)a, Member States shall, for each of the Directives listed in Annex VI part A, provide a summary on progress on implementing the directive, in particular aspects relevant for the implementation of the WFD. Appendix 1 - Progress on implementation of basic measures gives a short description on the implementation of the directives listed in Annex VI, Part A.

Progress in implementation of measures as described in Art (3) b-l and Art (4) is described in chapter 3 in this report.

Preparation of the progress report on the implementation

The preparation of the progress report has been coordinated by the RBD Competent Authorities. Competent Authorities have reported information on implementation of measures within their official regulations to the RBD Competent Authorities. For areas/measure types where Competent Authority has not been appointed; where significant pressures are unknown; or where the measure is implemented by non-governmental organizations, the information has for the most part been provided by the RBD Competent Authority.

The Norwegian reporting sheet

A national reporting sheet was developed to secure sufficient information for the annual internal progress report from Competent Authorities to the RBD Competent Authorities, as well as to provide information to the progress report to be provided by Norway under Art 15.

The sheet provides information on the description of measures, pressure types the measures shall mitigate and the geographical area in which the measures have an environmental effect. The geographical area was registered at water body level, sub district level, sub basin level, municipality or river stretch level. All measures were linked to a River Basin district and sub district. Pressure types were pollution, morphological and hydro morphological alterations, biological pressures and other pressures.

The sheet further contained information on the Competent Authority responsible for implementing the measure, the legal basis for measures, the institutions responsible for conducting/ financing the measure, and the calculated cost of the measure by 31.12.2012. A description of the financing of the measure was given for some of the measures.

Status for the implementation of the measures, as estimated towards the end of 2012, is reported to be one of the following:

- Completed
- On-going
- Concession/License for measure issued by relevant authority
- Not started
- Not relevant

The category “Not relevant” were reported for those measures considered too costly, and where surveillance monitoring had shown that ecological status was better than first anticipated.

4. Lessons learned from this cycle of reporting

The Programs of Measures from the selected sub districts were presented in documents that differed from region to region:

- Descriptions of measures were not standardized and some measures were described in a general way making it difficult to interpret what the concrete measure is.
- Some measures were described by their objective rather than the operational measure type.
- Cost - effect evaluations were only partially conducted.

This makes both prioritizing and implementing the measures more difficult and leaves more analysis and evaluation of measures for the later stages of the process.

A common challenge in the implementation of the WFD in the selected sub-districts has been to secure sufficient involvement from Competent Authorities in the various relevant sectors. When gathering information for this report (of progress on implementation of measures), RBD Competent Authorities experienced some difficulties and sometimes delays in receiving sufficient information from the sectorial Competent Authorities.

At present Norway is developing a national library of measures which will provide information for the measure analysis and secure a standardized way of handling information on the measures. The library will contain descriptions of the measures and point out Competent Authorities and legal basis for the measures. It will further contain information on pressures / impacts the measures are designed to compensate, expected effect on environmental status and additional environmental effects. Estimated cost will be indicated for some measures.

The Norwegian Information system for Water, Vann-Nett (www.vann-nett.no) contains information on delineation of water bodies, pressures and impacts, environmental status and risk evaluation. At present a module for registration of measures is being developed. The measures library will be an integrated part of the system, and the system itself will be designed as a tool for the measures analysis. This will secure easy extractable information and transparent processes for the programs of measure and later reporting.

Experiences from our voluntary phase of implementing the WFD will be transferred to the coming implementation of the WFD in all sub districts.

Appendix 1 Progress on implementation of Basic Measures

(Article 11 (3) a)

Directive	Progress made in implementation
The Bathing Water Directive (76/160/EEC)	Not EEA relevant.
The Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)	Not EEA relevant.
The Drinking Water Directive (80/778/EEC) as amended by Directive (98/83/EC)	The directive is a part of the EEA Agreement and has been implemented by Regulation 04.12.2001 no. 1372 on drinking water. The regulation is referred to in Anne VI to Regulation 15.12.2000 no. 1446 on water management, as basic measures to be contained in the program of measures. The Regulation can be found at: http://lovdata.no/for/sf/ho/xo-20011204-1372.html
The Major Accidents (Seveso) Directive (96/82/EC)	The directive is a part of the EEA Agreement and has been implemented by Regulation 17.06.2005 no. 672 on major accidents. The regulation is referred to in Anne VI to Regulation 15.12.2000 no. 1446 on water management, as basic measures to be contained in the program of measures. The Regulation can be found at: http://lovdata.no/for/sf/jd/xd-20050617-0672.html
The Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (85/337/EEC)	The directive is a part of the EEA Agreement and has been implemented by Regulation 26.6.2009 no. 855 on impact assessment. The regulation is referred to in Anne VI to Regulation 15.12.2000 no. 1446 on water management, as basic measures to be contained in the program of measures. The Regulation can be found at: http://lovdata.no/for/sf/md/xd-20090626-0855.html

<p>The Sewage Sludge Directive (86/278/EEC)</p>	<p>The directive is a part of the EEA Agreement and has been implemented by Regulation 4.7.2003 no. 951 on fertilizers of organic origin. The regulation is referred to in Anne VI to Regulation 15.12.2000 no. 1446 on water management, as basic measures to be contained in the program of measures. The Regulation can be found at: http://lovdata.no/for/sf/ho/xo-20030704-0951.html</p>
<p>The Urban Wastewater Directive (91/271/EEC)</p>	<p>The directive is a part of the EEA Agreement and has been implemented by Regulation 1.6.2004 no. 931 on pollution control, Chapter 12. The regulation is referred to in Anne VI to Regulation 15.12.2000 no. 1446 on water management, as basic measures to be contained in the program of measures. The Regulation can be found at: http://lovdata.no/for/sf/md/xd-20040601-0931.html</p>
<p>The Plant Protection Products Directive (91/414/EEC)</p>	<p>The directive is a part of the EEA Agreement and has been implemented by Regulation 18.8.2009 No.1117 on plant protection products in food and feedingstuffs. The regulation is referred to in Anne VI to Regulation 15.12.2000 no. 1446 on water management, as basic measures to be contained in the program of measures. The Regulation can be found at: http://lovdata.no/for/sf/ho/xo-20090818-1117.html</p>
<p>The Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)</p>	<p>The directive is a part of the EEA Agreement and has been implemented by Regulation 4.7.2003 no. 951 on fertilizers of organic origin. The regulation is referred to in Anne VI to Regulation 15.12.2000 no. 1446 on water management, as basic measures to be contained in the program of measures. The Regulation can be found at: http://lovdata.no/for/sf/ho/xo-20030704-0951.html</p>

<p>The Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (91/61/EEC)</p>	<p>The directive is a part of the EEA Agreement and has been implemented by Regulation 1.6.2004 no. 931 on pollution control, Chapter 36. The regulation is referred to in Anne VI to Regulation 15.12.2000 no. 1446 on water management, as basic measures to be contained in the program of measures. The Regulation can be found at: http://lovdata.no/for/sf/md/xd-20040601-0931.html</p>
<p>The Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)</p>	<p>Not EEA relevant.</p>