

Public Participation in Water Management: The case of Greece

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Public Participation in Water Resources Management in Greece

Public participation in Greece today is actually promoted and accordingly implemented along **3 levels**:

1.Governmental : Structured procedures designed or derived by Central Government or Local/Regional Authorities and implemented on national/local level

2.NGOs : Activities/campaigns implemented by environmental NGOs. Structured procedures implemented on local/national level according to the aim of the action.

3.Grassroots movements: Initiatives/ civil movements derived directly from Civil Society, generated by groups of active citizens with increased feeling of voluntarism and usually implemented on local level



Public Participation in Water Resources Management in Greece

- Public participation procedures on water in Greece mainly started with the production of the River Basin Management plans, as an obligation of the WFD, and the construction of the e-government infrastructure and elements the last 4-5 years.
- The Ministry of Environment and the Special Secretariat for Water designed and implemented the whole consultation process in close cooperation with the regional/local authorities and the sub-contractors who were in charge for the RBMPs in each area.
- The respective procedure regarding flood risks has not yet started although floods is a crucial issue mainly in urban areas in Greece

1. Governmental level

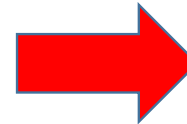


Public Participation in Water Resources Management in Greece

1. Governmental level

The process of the RBMPs public consultation comprises of:

- ❑ **Information events** communicating to the public the WFD, aims of the RBMPs and the consultation process in each River Basin
- ❑ **Public consultation** open through the official government web portal <http://www.opengov.gr/> and the Ministry's website <http://wfd.ypeka.gr/>
- ❑ **Publication of the results and the RBMPs**



Aim:

- to gather opinions
- to include different aspects in the design of the RBMPs



Public Participation in Water Resources Management in Greece

1. Governmental level

Public consultation website for the RBMP of Attica -Athens



ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΡΑΓΩΓΙΚΗΣ ΑΓΡΟΤΙΚΗΣ ΑΝΑΣΤΡΟΦΗΣ, ΠΕΡΙΒΑΛΛΟΝΤΟΣ & ΕΝΕΡΓΕΙΑΣ

ΥΠΑΠΕ - ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΙΑ ΥΔΑΤΩΝ
Διαβούλευση των Σχεδίων Διαχείρισης Υδατικών Πόρων

αναζήτηση...

Αρχική Γενικές Πληροφορίες Συνοπτικός Οδηγός Τα Σχέδια Διαχείρισης Ημερίδες/Εκδηλώσεις

Αρχική → Τα Σχέδια Διαχείρισης → Αττική (GR06)

Ειδική Γραμματεία Υδάτων

- Αρχική
- Ολοκληρωμένα Σχέδια Διαχείρισης
- Επικοινωνία
- Σύνδεσμοι
- Σύνδεση

Τα Σχέδια Διαχείρισης

- Δυτική Πελοπόννησος (GR01)
- Βόρεια Πελοπόννησος (GR02)
- Ανατολική Πελοπόννησος (GR03)
- Δυτική Στερεά Ελλάδα (GR04)
- Ήπειρος (GR05)
- Αττική (GR06)**
- Ανατολική Στερεά Ελλάδα (GR07)
- Θεσσαλία (GR08)
- Δυτική Μακεδονία (GR09)
- Κεντρική Μακεδονία (GR10)
- Ανατολική Μακεδονία (GR11)
- Θράκη (GR12)
- Κρήτη (GR13)
- Νήσοι Αιγαίου (GR14)

Νέα/Ειδήσεις

Αττική (GR06)

Κεντρική σελίδα διαβούλευσης για το Σχέδιο Διαχείρισης των Υδατικών Πόρων του Υδατικού Διαμερίσματος της Αττικής

ΕΝΑΡΞΗ ΔΙΑΒΟΥΛΕΥΣΗΣ: 13/1/2012

Εδώ μπορείτε να βρείτε:

- Συνοπτικές πληροφορίες για το Υδατικό Διαμέρισμα
- Πληροφορίες για τον τρόπο και τις δράσεις διαβούλευσης των Προσχέδιων Διαχείρισης
- Τα κείμενα των Προσχέδιων Διαχείρισης
- Τα κείμενα τεκμηρίωσης βάσει των οποίων καταρτίζεται το Σχέδιο Διαχείρισης του ΥΔ
- Περιοδικές εκθέσεις με τις απόψεις που μας έχετε στείλει

Τι μπορείτε να κάνετε

- Να διαμορφώσετε τη διαδικασία της διαβούλευσης στέλνοντας τις απόψεις σας για τη διαδικασία που προτείνεται.
- Να διαμορφώσετε το Οριστικό Σχέδιο Διαχείρισης στέλνοντας τις απόψεις σας και συμμετέχοντας ενεργά στην προγραμματιζόμενη ημερίδα και στις λοιπές δράσεις που προβλέπονται. Περισσότερες πληροφορίες θα βρείτε εδώ

Κείμενα τεκμηρίωσης του Προσχεδίου Διαχείρισης Υδατικών Πόρων του ΥΔ Αττικής

- 0 Σχόλια

Σχέδιο Διαχείρισης υδατικών πόρων του Υδατικού Διαμερίσματος Αττικής

- 0 Σχόλια

Προγραμματισμός Διαβούλευσης του Σχεδίου Διαχείρισης υδατικών πόρων του ΥΔ Αττικής

- 0 Σχόλια

Συνοπτική Περιγραφή του Υδατικού Διαμερίσματος Αττικής

- 0 Σχόλια

Public Participation in Water Resources Management in Greece

2. NGOs level

- Several Greek **environmental NGOs** are active in the promotion of public participation procedures related to water management **since 90s** mostly motivated by the **Rio Declaration of UNCED 1992**, which set **the Local Agendas 21** at the center of the discussion regarding **environmental sustainability**.
- Many campaigns have been implemented **focusing on the promotion and enhancing of the public participation**. Most of these are usually part of environmental projects aim **to work on local level for maximization of output with the involvement of all stakeholders**'.
- Activities like these are mostly funded by EU through *LIFE +, Youth in Action, Life Long Learning instrument*.



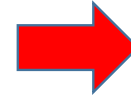
Public Participation in Water Resources Management in Greece

2. NGOs level

NGOs attempt to act as a **bridge** between the state and the civil society while they look for synergies with all interested parties:

Authorities; Research/Academic Community; Citizens' committees; Industry. **Common methods** that NGOs use for the enhancing of public participation are:

- E-petitions
- Surveys
- Public consultations
- Participatory workshops and events
- Environmental education
- Establishment of citizens committees



Aims:

- to inform & motivate citizens to participate in decision making
- to promote sustainable management plans for water resources
- to influence decision making
- to gain political mandate from authorities



Public Participation in Water Resources Management in Greece

2. NGOs level

eMPOWER

Home Overview News Community Downloads Contact us

Sign the Petitions!

partners area

Join eMPOWER Network

eMPOWER

events & NEWS

eMPOWER

Vote for the environment

>Welcome to the eMPOWER website

eMPOWER is an eParticipation Trial Project co-funded by the European Commission under the EU eParticipation Preparatory Action. eMPOWER is aiming to motivate and strengthen the involvement of NGOs and citizens in the decision-making process on environmental issues at a National and European level by providing method and tools for supporting citizens' participation and collection of signatures to promote relevant public initiatives and demands of civil society.

The project will use state-of-the-art eParticipation ICT tools to support ePetitioning so as to enable transparent, interactive and democratic communication processes, the results of which will be joint proposals, initiatives and viewpoints of NGOs and citizens regarding environmental issues such as global climate change, national parks and forests, oceans and biodiversity, green taxation, oil drilling, air pollution, water pollution and management, and more.

The project started on the 1st of January 2009 and will run for 2 years.

Βρείτε μας στο Facebook

eMPOWER

Μου αρέσει!

eMPOWER από OurSpace (The Virtual Youth Space) - HAVE YOUR SAY IN EU

17 Δεκεμβρίου 2013

OurSpace Live Chat: How Erasmus can make young people feel more european & open up new employment opportunities ?

Τετάρτη, 11:00 CET

eMPOWER: Αρέσει σε 1.574 άτομα.

ΔΙΚΤΥΟ ΜΕΣΟΓΕΙΟΣ 305

Αρχική Στόχος διαβούλευσης Επιστροφή στο MedSOS

ΜΕΣΟΓΕΙΟΣ 305

ΜΕΔΙΕΡΑΝΕΑΣ Σ.Ο.

Ας συζητήσουμε για το νερό!

Η βιώσιμη διαχείρισή του μας αφορά όλους

public survey and consultation on urban water

Ας συζητήσουμε για το νερό

20+1 προτάσεις διαλόγου

Νερό: δημόσιο αγαθό, μοναδικός φυσικός πόρος και περιβαλλοντικό αγαθό

Το νερό είναι δημόσιο αγαθό, ένας φυσικός πόρος, που υπερβαίνει την έννοια της ιδιοκτησίας, καθώς αποτελεί αναγκαία προϋπόθεση για την ύπαρξη ζωής, και κατά συνέπεια ανήκει σε κάθε έμβιο οργανισμό που κατοικεί στη Γη. Δεν πρόκειται για έναν κλασικό οικονομικό πόρο, αλλά πρωτίστως για ένα περιβαλλοντικό αγαθό, που εμπεριέχει εντούτοις σημαντικές οικονομικές παραμέτρους, λόγω των αναγκών ορθής διαχείρισης, επεξεργασίας, μεταφοράς και διανομής του.

Public Participation in Water Resources Management in Greece

- **Grassroots movements** are continuously increasing especially when dealing with local environmental issues.
- The last few years more and more citizens feel the need for action regarding “**common goods**” such as water, environment, even civil defence.
- **Neighborhood (ad hoc) teams of citizens** have appeared in several urban areas and try **to intervene** in water management issues of their city/area.
- Despite the local range of activities and the absence of funding many of these movements manage **to actually participate and influence decision making**

3. Grassroots movements level

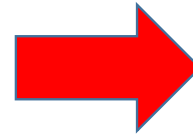


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3. Grassroots movements level

Grassroots movements are usually based on:

- **local character/interest of activities**
- **open democracy** (they form citizens' groups without hierarchies with the participation of as many as possible citizens)
- **voluntary work**
- **Unconventionality** since they are not depending on specific funding sources or financial interests



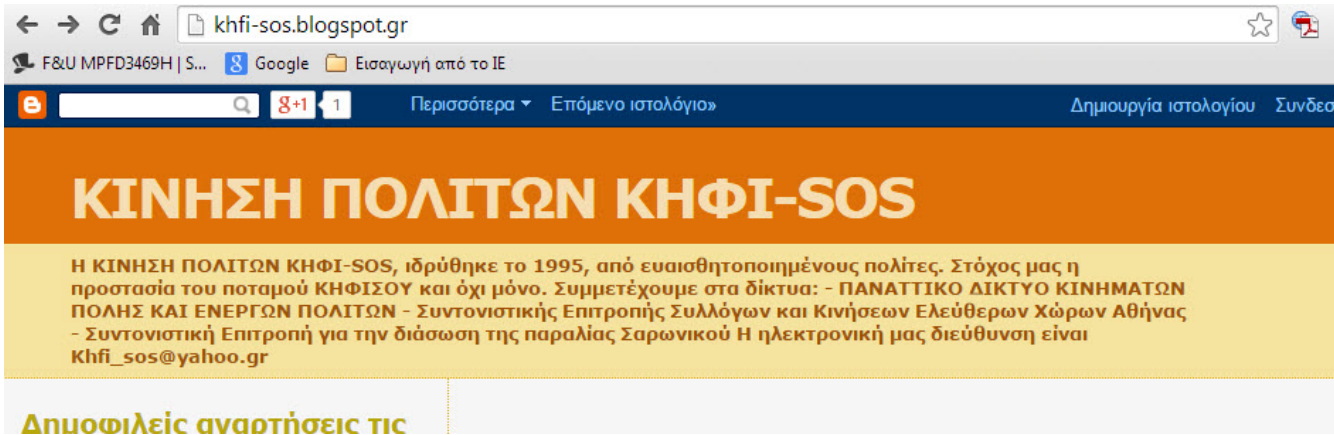
Aims:

- **to intervene in decision making**
- **to promote specific management plans** e.g. environmental regeneration of urban streams and riversides in cities
- **to achieve specific goals** e.g. opening of a stream, improvement of the city's water network



Public Participation in Water Resources Management in Greece

3. Grassroots movements level



Citizens Movement for Kifi-SOS

Kifisos is one of the 3 basic rivers of the city of Athens crossing many neighborhoods and urban parts. The Citizens' Movement is **active since 1995** and has implemented **several actions for the environmental generation of the river and the defense of flooding** in the nearby parts of the city

<http://khfi-sos.blogspot.gr>

Activities:

- **public events** for the information of Athens' citizens
- **actions** for flood protection
- **collaboration** with Engineers and academic community for the promotion of plans of hydraulic works
- **actions for the protection of the** natural stream bed (where it remains unchanged in its physical form)
- **actions for environmental regeneration** of parts of the river

Public participation: concluding remarks

- **Top down initiatives**, governed by legal and policy frameworks (mostly EU derived) are operational, but “go through the moves” rather than anything else.
- **NGOs** have more or less formally taken up the citizen-to-policy bridge, have had significant success but currently suffer (in Greece) by a general lack of trust.
- **Grassroots** movements (bottom up) are appearing to fill the void of action (by Government) and trust (by the NGOs) with citizens taking action (rather than simply being consulted about actions). Empower them?
- *To be continued...*

