



Public Participation during the implementation of the WFD in the Elbe basin

Results of the German case study in
HarmoniCOP

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Public Participation & the WFD- *more than traditional consultation*

- Stepwise process:
 - From the beginning
 - Continuous and with **longterm perspective**
 - Transparent
 - Involvement of interested parties: organized stakeholder and the broad public
- Improvement of existing cooperation
- establishment of new cooperation
- **Strengthen of multi-party participation processes**



HarmoniCOP

HARMONIZing COLlaborative Planning

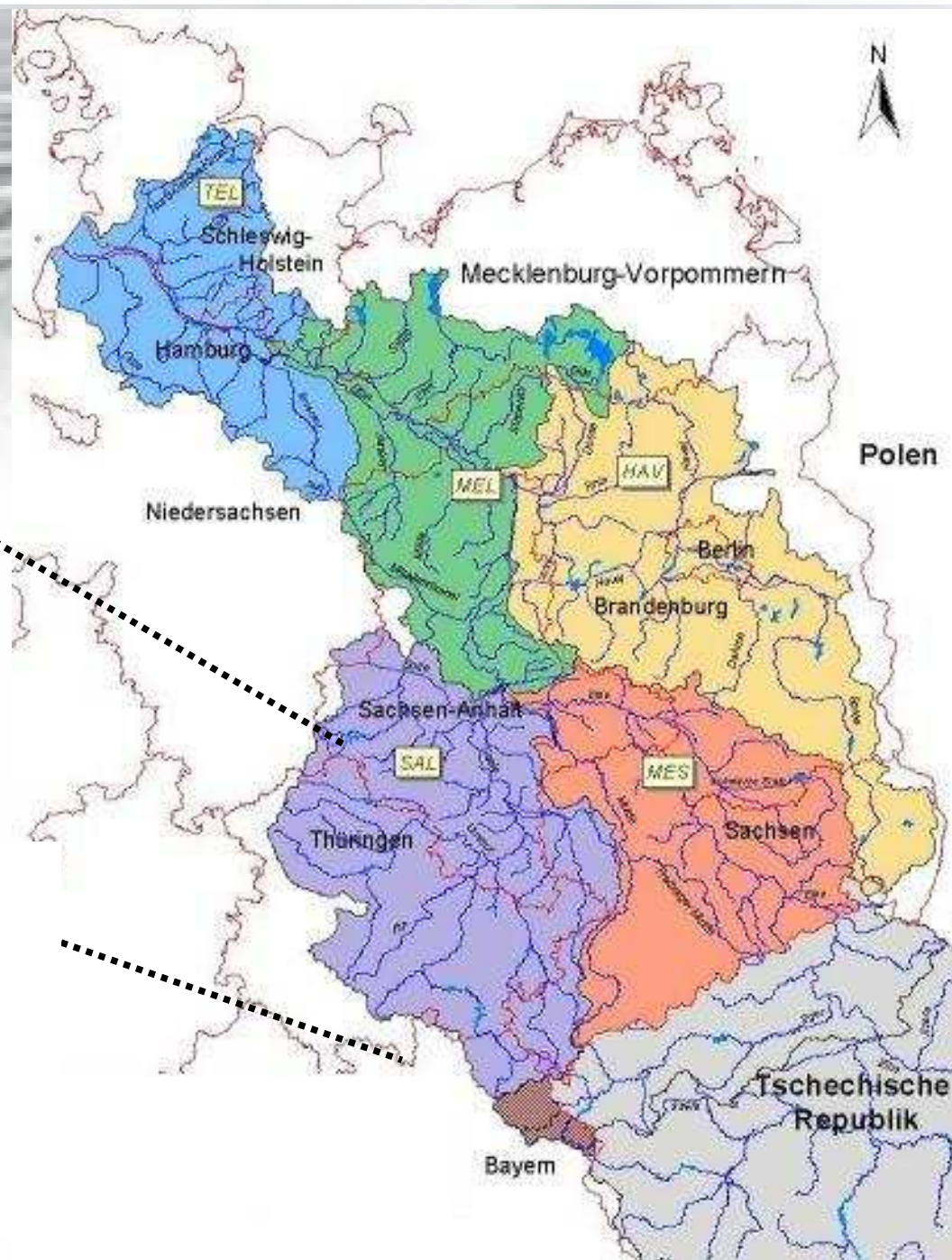
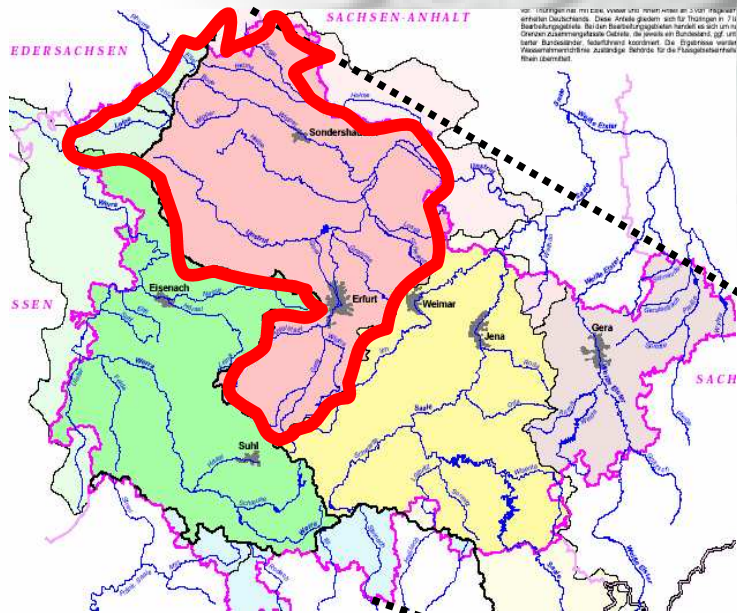


***Social Learning between
the actors in water
management***

***supported by
Information &
Communication Tools***



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German Case Study in the Elbe basin



Public Participation Activities of Länder in the Elbe basin

<u>Information Internet</u>	all- various content, target group
Information- events	Most Länder, also in some coordination areas: e.g. Saale, MEL
Regular Newsletter	Thuringia, Schleswig-Holstein, Saxony, Berlin
<u>WFD boards</u>	Schleswig-Holstein, Thuringia, Lower Saxony, Bavaria, (Brandenburg)



Public Participation in Thuringia

- WFD links directly to water management
- PP strategy from the beginning integrated
- Advisory Board & 3 regional fora to consult the Ministry
- Actors have strong regional link, very active & interested in involvement
- Forum sometimes main source of information
- Pilot measures



Public Participation at international level

- WFD need a lot of technical/ formal agreement
- No PP strategy agreed upon
- IKSE: Technical working groups & plenary meeting are open for NGO
- Stakeholders hesitating: unsure what to expect, are not used to active involvement
- Next steps:
 - Introduction of regular newsletter
 - Information event



Results with regard to social learning (1)

Thuringia/ International level

Thuringia:

- Stakeholders learn about each other: have the chance to cooperate
- Stakeholders appreciate independent structure provided
- Stakeholders appreciate information provided

International Level

- Stakeholders don't know each other well: small chance for interaction
- Stakeholders are difficult to be integrated into working structure of IKSE
- Stakeholders ask for better information



Results with regard to social learning (2)

Thuringia/ International level

Thuringia:

- Information flow between actors of one stakeholder group is better than expected
- Multi-party cooperation is new and unfamiliar but exchange has started

Social learning takes its first steps.

International Level

- Information flow between actors of one stakeholder group is not ensured despite formal structures
- Stakeholders stick to bilateral cooperation with water authorities

Social learning has not started yet!



Summary:

Social Learning requires...

- Individual interaction between actors
 - Fora/ Advisory Boards: they provide alternatives to bilateral cooperation
 - specific measures or projects facilitate direct cooperation
- Real information flow between actors
 - Use of internet sites and GIS-based information system needs to be improved
 - Joint use might especially help in terms of mutual understanding



More information

- All 10 case studies at www.harmonicop.info
- Summary Report on „Best Practices“ in river basin management (May 2005)
- Handbook for authorities with methods to improve social learning (November 2005)

Thank you for your attention!