

WEBINAR

REVISED REGULATION, RENEWED CHALLENGES

THE EU URBAN WASTEWATER TREATMENT DIRECTIVE

22 February 2023, 13:30 – 14:45 (CET)

Register now!

Target Audience:

Water policy makers and regulators, water utility managers, water sector professionals, researchers, interested stakeholders

Description:

The Danube Water Program “KnowNow” webinar series focuses on up-to-date topics relevant for the water sector in the Danube region. This webinar will highlight the results of the revision of the EU Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD, Directive 91/271/EEC), which is more than 30 years old. Since its adoption in 1991, the quality of European rivers, lakes and seas has dramatically improved. EU countries have set up collecting systems and wastewater treatment plants with the help of EU funding. Yet there is still pollution that needs to be addressed and is not covered by the current rules. On 26 October 2022, the Commission revised the Directive in line with the results of an evaluation and on the basis of an extensive impact assessment, adapting it to the newest standards. The revision aims to (i) reduce pollution, energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, (ii) improve water quality by addressing remaining urban wastewater pollution, (iii) improve access to sanitation especially for the most vulnerable and marginalised, (iv) make industry pay to treat micropollutants, (v) require EU countries to monitor pathogens in wastewater and (vi) lead to a more circular sector.

Learning Objective:

The learning objective of this webinar is to increase the understanding and knowledge around the revised EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive and the relevance of the revision for the water sector of the member States as well

as candidate and potential candidate countries. During the webinar it will be possible to post questions to the presenter and panelists in order to deepen the understanding and to learn from the knowledge developed and experiences gained for potential follow-up action under individual specific circumstances.

Panelists:

- ▶ **Representative of the DG Environment**, European Commission, Belgium
- ▶ **Prof. Dr. Enkelejda Gjinali**, Polytechnic University of Tirana, Albania
- ▶ **Ms. Sanja Barbalic**, Head of Water Management Institute, Croatian Waters, Croatia
- ▶ **Mr. Csaba Bauer**, Water Treatment Manager, Compania Aquaserv S.A., Romania

Moderator:

- ▶ **Mr. Raimund Mair**, Senior Water Resources Management Specialist, World Bank

Agenda:

- 13:30 - 13:35:** Welcome and introduction
- 13:35 - 13:50:** Presentation on **The revision of the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive**, Representative of the DG Environment, European Commission, Belgium
- 13:50 - 14:10:** Reactions from Panelists
- 14:10 - 14:40:** Moderated discussion including questions from the audience
- 14:40 - 14:45:** Wrap-up and closing of the webinar