



# **Towards Effective Public Participation in Water Resources Management: Issues and Approaches in Turkey**

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**3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Biodiversity &  
Sustainable Energy Development**

**June 24-26, 2014**

**Valencia Conference Centre, Spain**

# SUSTAINABLE WATER USE

- Rapid Population Increase
- Urbanization
- Increase in Water Demand
- Water Pollution
- Drought/Flooding
- Desertification
- Deforestation
- Pollution Sources (point, diffuse, natural, etc.)
- Degradation of Ecosystems
- Climate Change



- Encouraging the sustainable use of available water and land resources
- Rehabilitation and prevention of further deterioration of water and water related ecosystems

# HISTORY

## Till 1980's

- Focusing on water supply
- Quantity of Water was the priority issue
- Planning with limited scale for specific purposes
- Producing single solutions to specific/unit problems

## After 1980's

- Integration
- Finding solutions in large scale to numerous problems
- International Principles
- New Concepts
  - **Sustainability**
  - **Participation of Stakeholders**
  - **Integrated Understanding and Transition to management**

# Sustainability & Integration

**Meeting the current targets and needs, without interrupting the demand and needs of future generations, in an integrated manner**

- **Integration of Environmental Media** (Air, Water, Soil, Surface Waters, Groundwater, Land-Use, Erosion, Wetlands, Coastal Zones, etc. and interaction among them)
- **Integration of environmental factors with social, economic, administrative and legal components (SUSTAINABILITY)**
- **Integration of various disciplines**
- **Integration of actors (COORDINATION)**
- **Integration of Financial Sources**
- **Integration of Management Tools** (Decision- support Systems, data bases, models, GIS, expert systems)
- **Climate change and potential risks**

# European Union Water Framework Directive

- “*Integrated River Basin Management Approach*” has been assimilated as a tool in the application of the Directive.
  
- **WHAT IS EXPECTED?**
  - I. Determining the watershed regions
  - II. Forming expert organizations
  - III. Performing watershed plans

# Integrated River Basin Management Approach

## Determining the watershed regions

- Combining one or more river basins

## II. Forming Expert Organizations

- At watershed basis (for each of the watershed region)
- At National scale,
- If exists at international basis for transboundary waters.

### Method;

- By an already existing expert organization and through revising its duties,
- By means of a commission design that includes the related ministries,
- By defining a new structure that is independent from the existing organization and institutions,

## III. Preparation of River Basin Management Plans (RBMP)

## Fundamental Steps of RBMPs

- i. Important pressures and impacts of human-induced activities;
- ii. Determining and mapping of Protection Areas;
- iii. Mapping of monitoring network;
- iv. Listing the environmental goals;
- v. Economical Analyses;
- vi. Forming the Preventive Measures Program;
- vii. Preparing detailed plans that covers an abstract;
- viii. Informing public and summarizing the preventive measures;**
- ix. Listing the authorities responsible from watershed management;**
- x. Determining the communication points and related communication procedures formed to gain information and evaluations from public.**
- xi. Characterization of the River Basin;

## Informing Public, Summary of Consultation Results

- **Forming the Participation Plan.**

(All the state offices and organizations, private sector, chambers of various disciplines, chamber of industry, active NGOs at the watershed scale need to be encouraged for participation)

- **Preparing the criteria for consulting and public informing.**

- **Reporting, Presenting and Discussion of the results.**



# What is the Public Participation?

Public participation is a **planned effort** to involve citizens in the decision-making process and to present and resolve citizen conflict through mutual **two-way** communications.

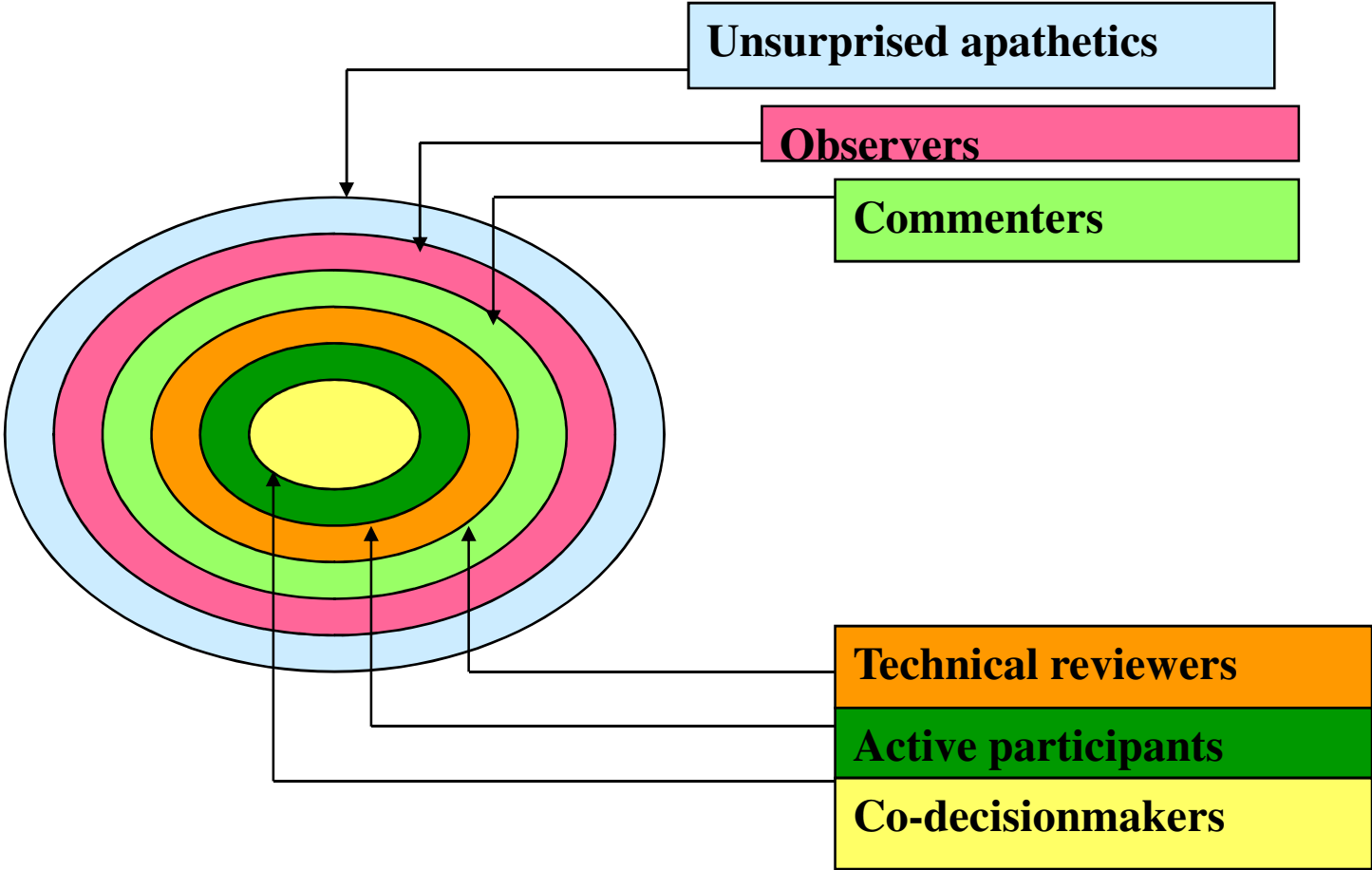
## Planning of Public Participation Process

- Identification of the objectives
- Identification of the selected actors
- Choice of the methods of the public participation
- Preparation of the implementing plan

# Pyramid of the members of the public participation process



# Orbits of involvement



## Why public participation?

to comply with the Directive and to achieve environmental goals and other benefits

### □ **Key potential benefits:**

- increasing public awareness of environmental issues
- making use of knowledge, experience and initiatives of the different stakeholders
- public acceptance, commitment and support with regard to decision taking processes;
- more transparent and more creative decision making;
- less litigation, misunderstandings, fewer delays and more effective implementation;
- social learning and experience—if participation results in constructive dialogue with all relevant parties involved then the various publics, government and experts can learn from each others “**water awareness**”.

## **Disadvantages of the Public Participation**

- Costs
- include the potential for confusion of the issues many new perspectives may be introduced
- it is possible to receive erroneous information
- include uncertainty of the results of the process

## **Main Objectives of the Public Participation**

- Establish and maintain the legitimacy of the agency
- Establish and maintain the legitimacy of the project
- Establish and maintain the legitimacy of all major assumptions and earlier decisions
- Get to know all the potentially affected interests
- Identify problems
- Generate solutions
- Articulate and clarify the key issues
- To develop informal acceptance of options

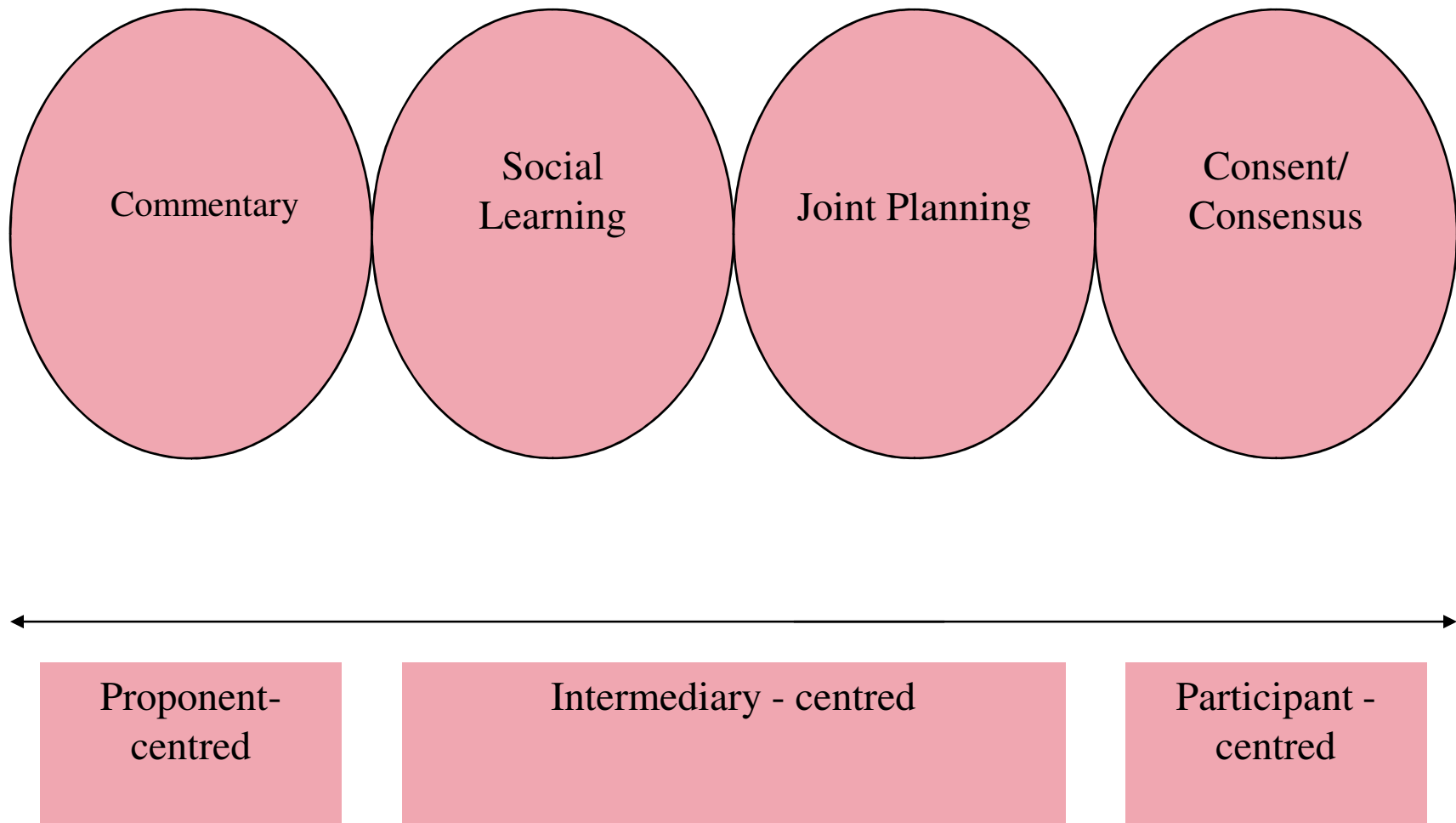
## What is PP NOT about? (source: Public Participation Guidance)

- **everybody joining**: be selective with actors, they should reflect the right interest
- **everybody deciding**: make clear what the responsibilities are, and for whom
- **losing control**: do organise it well, clear and strategically
- **consensus at all expenses**: be prepared that the outcome of public participation will be compromise between the wishes of several actors and that extend of the process is often limited.

## Models of national PP processes

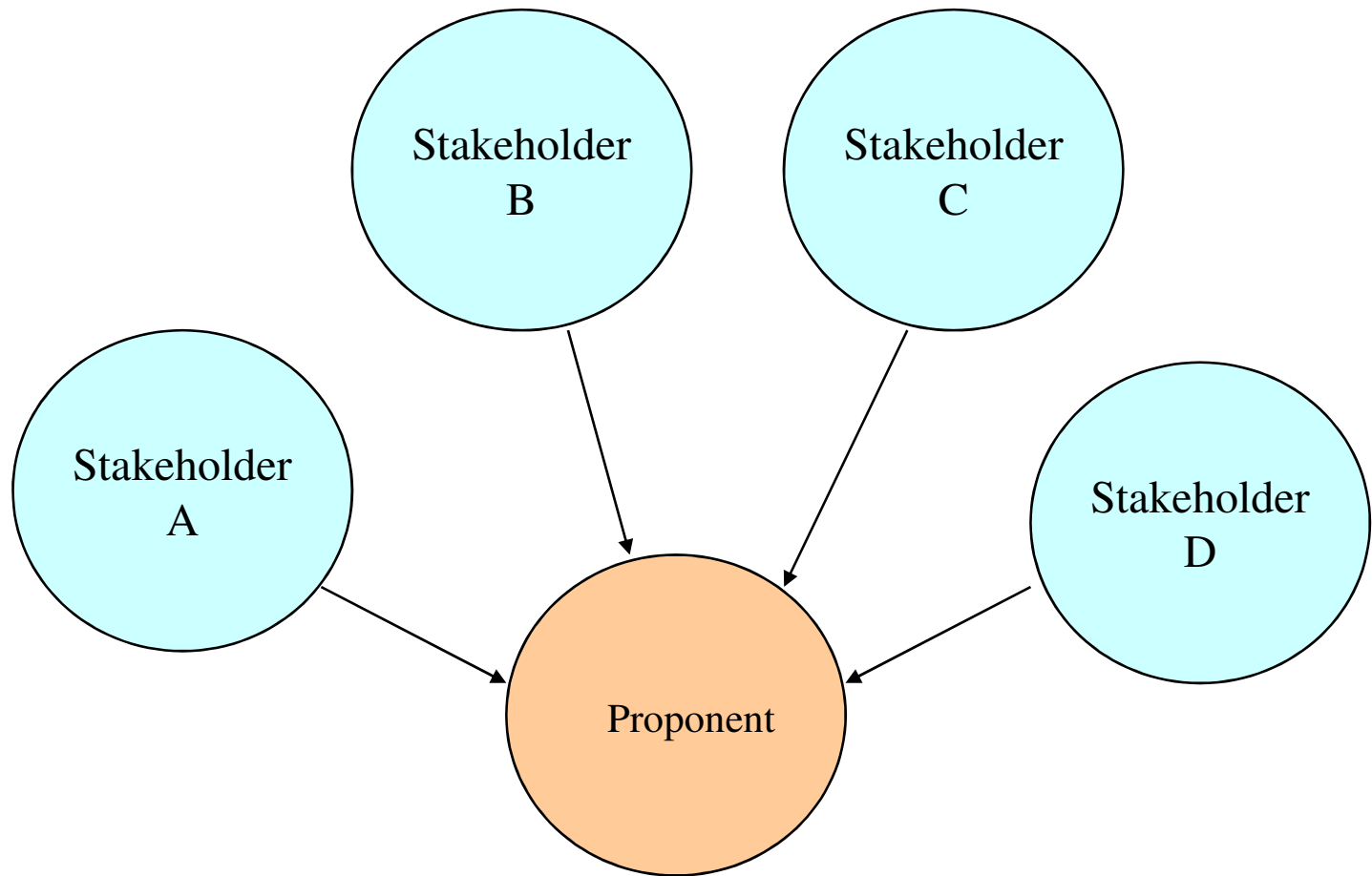
- General requirements to the models
  - To allow active interaction between the proponent and participants
  - Are expected to be used in any number of stages of a participatory process
  - Need to be sufficiently flexible to accommodate a range of possibilities

## 4 models of Public Participation

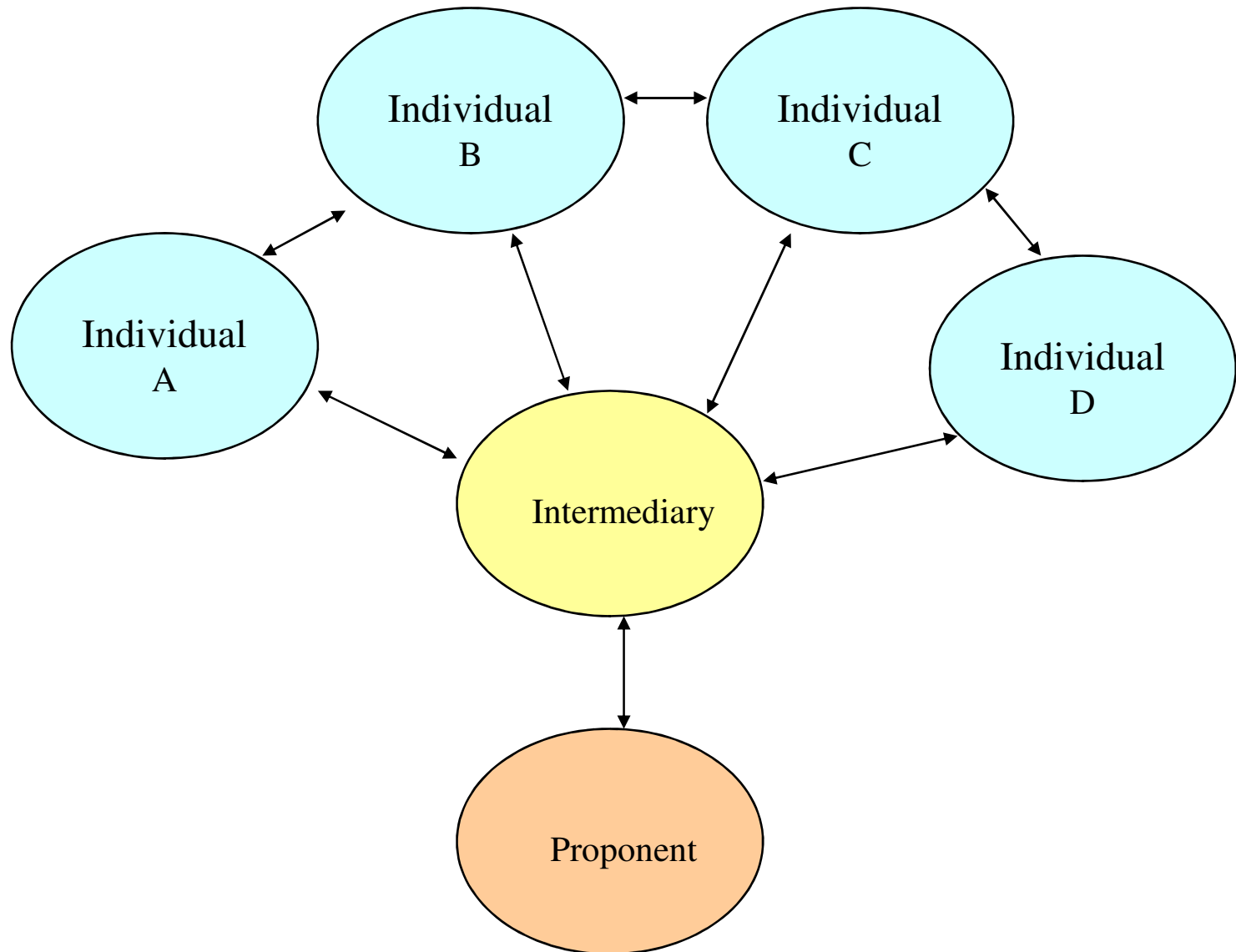




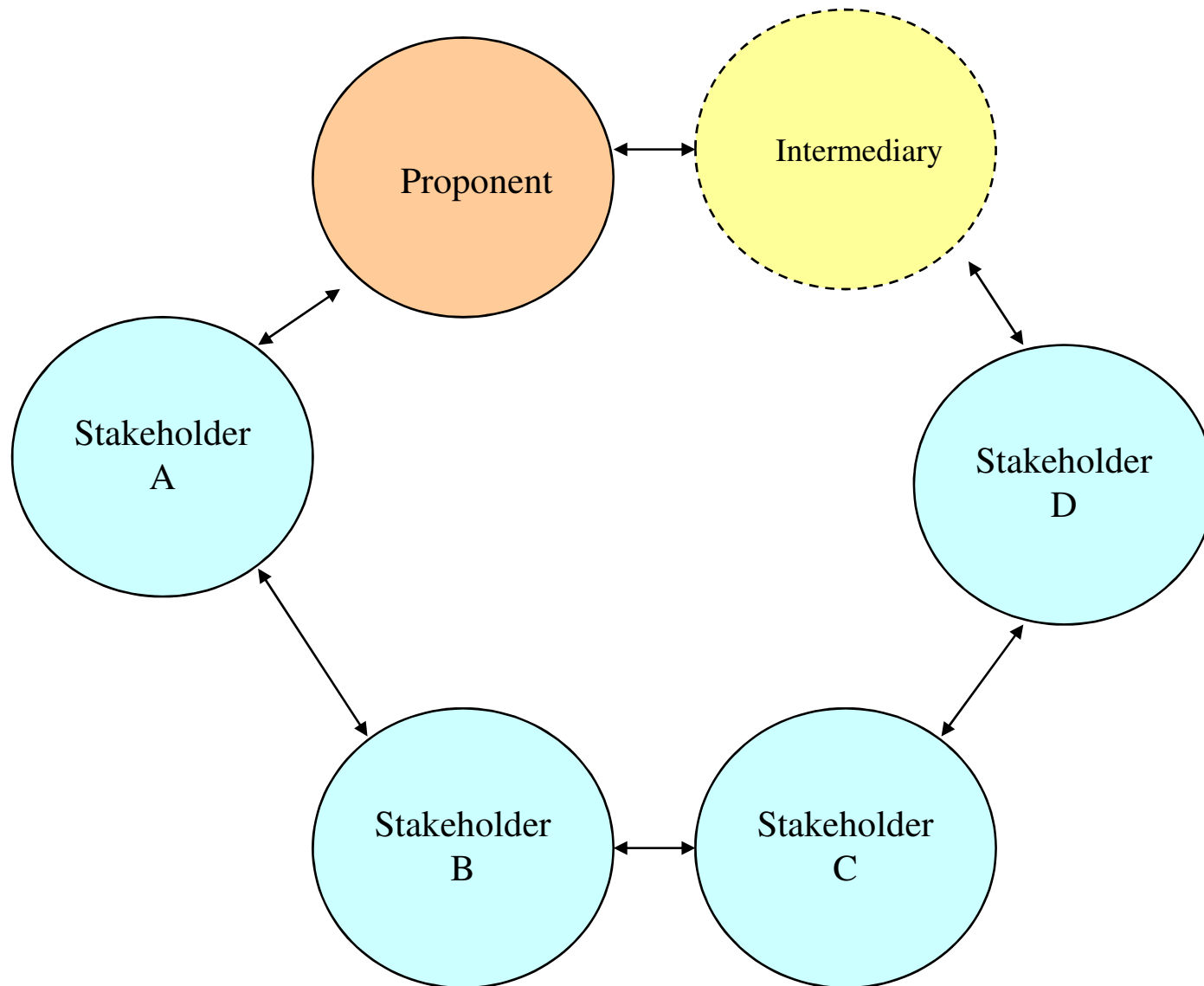
## Relationships in the Commentary model



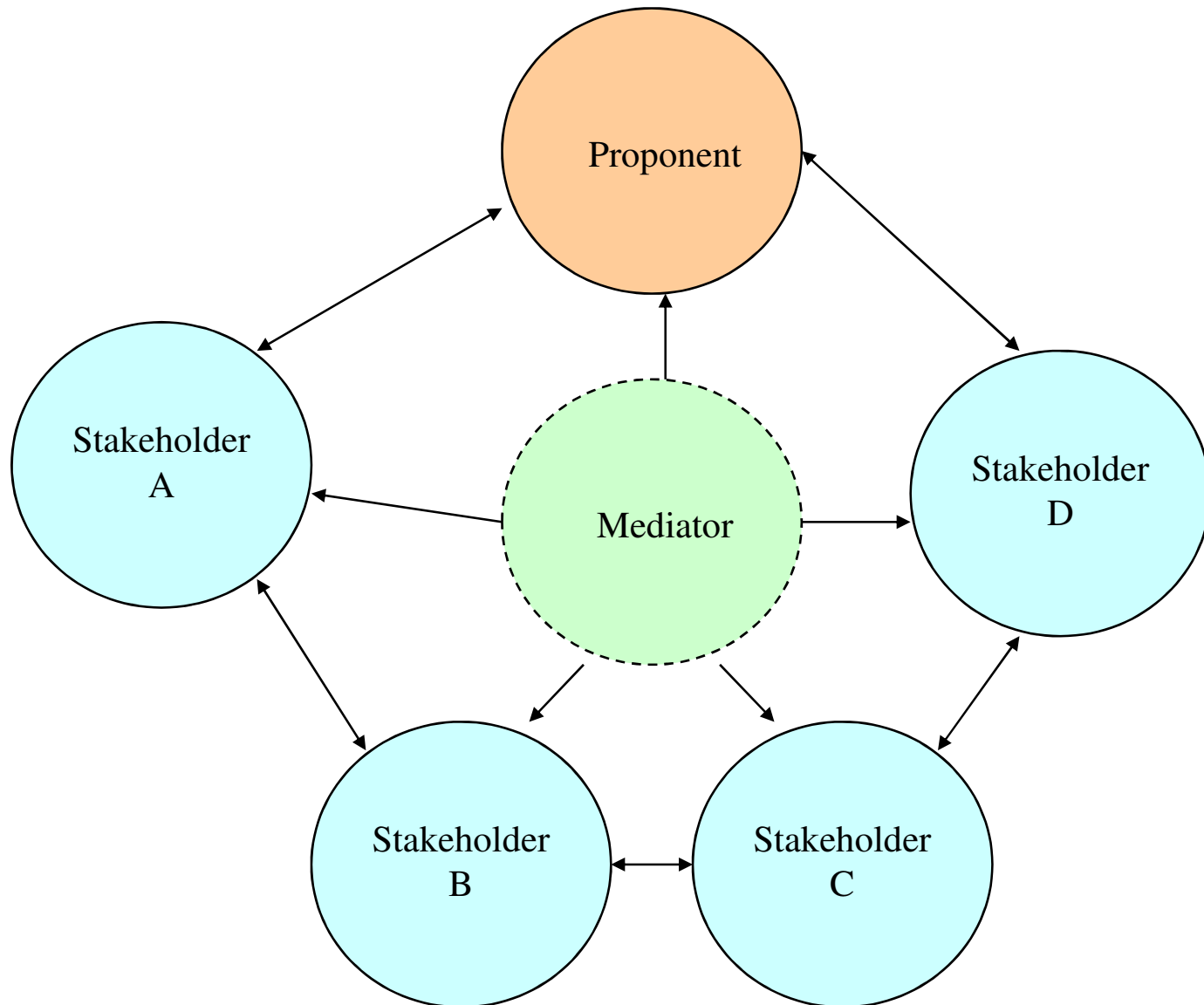
# Relationships in the Social Learning Model



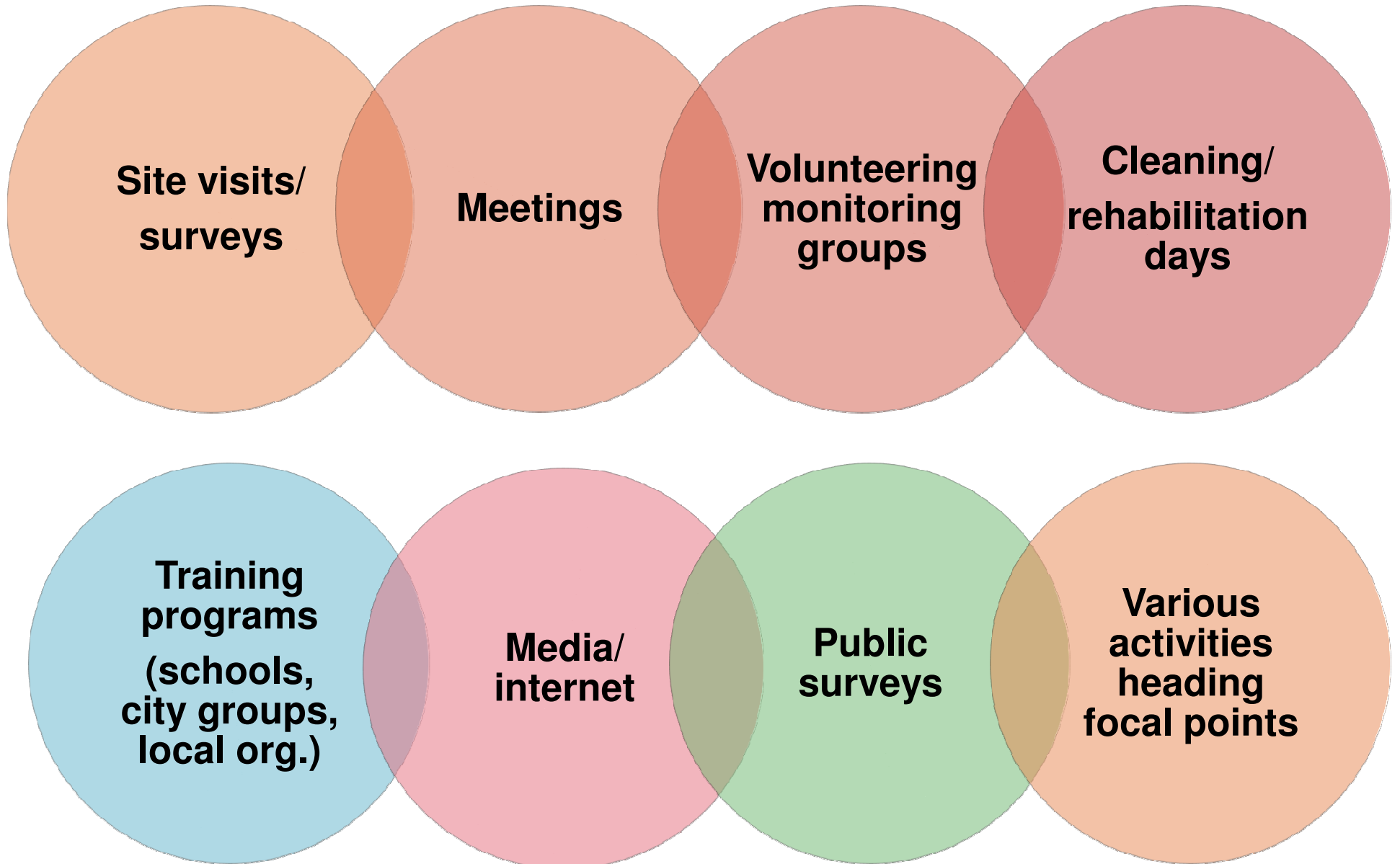
# The Joint Planning Model



# Relationships in the Consent / Consensus Model



## PP Activities



# Activities for participation in EU Member State Countries

- EU countries has started application of RBMPs
- Information on the status of applications covering years 2009-2015 are given on the website of European Commission.



## UK & Wales



- Public Participation is realized through
  - ▣ media,
  - ▣ internet,
  - ▣ printed materials
  - ▣ invitations sent to various related groups.
  
- ▣ Workshops and panels are organized at the basins with various related groups.
- ▣ Face-to-face contact is preferred; however, messages are also sent via internet.



## UK & Wales

- Stakeholders are,
  - ▣ water companies,
  - ▣ farmers,
  - ▣ Harbour corporations,
  - ▣ fishermen,
  - ▣ Industries,
  - ▣ protection associations,
  - ▣ Local and local planning authorities,
  - ▣ NGOs,
  - ▣ Consumer groups and general public.

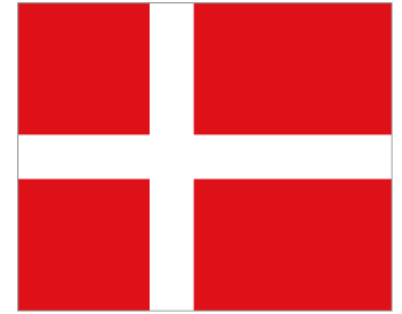




## UK & Wales

- Recently, some plan changes have occurred as a result of public consultation in some basins.
- At the web page of Scotland, a summary file is present that covers the anxieties of public. During the consultation period, researches on these concerns increased.
- Various amendments will take place in the plans as a result of new measurements and by the addition of new information.
- Scotland has also initiated some consultancy groups under Water Environment Services for better RBMPs.

## Denmark



- An agreement is signed at April 2010 at the Parliament named as “Green Growth” after the development of RBMPs.
- [www.vandognatur.dk](http://www.vandognatur.dk), a special website for informing public on water plans is formed.
- Consultation with public on the draft plans are separated into two steps;
  - Initially; municipalities, regions and public offices are being consulted on the plans.
  - Afterwards, public consultation started.

# Denmark

- Written notices were delivered by
  - individuals,
  - commercial sites,
  - environmental organizations,
  - agricultural consultancy centres, and
  - public enterprises.
  
- The initial meetings are realized by the municipalities, regions and public offices.
- Through the public consultation, more than 4200 feedback is received from public for the water and nature plans.
- During the additional period, 1700 additional survey results were achieved.



## Denmark

- In the final plans, one can easily recognize the effects of public participation, the related comments and corresponding amendments realized are observed.
- The participations are summarized in the web site of Nature Agency ([www.naturstyrelsen.dk](http://www.naturstyrelsen.dk)).
- Importance of public participation is clearly defined; as the amendments done on the plans (RBMPs) relied on realistic measurements.
- Consultations were mainly focusing on,
  - discharges,
  - conditions of water masses,
  - recommended activities



## Denmark

- All the feedback received from public are considered and reflected in the plans.
- No information is present on whether such consultation periods will continue or not in the future; however, a water and nature association is formed consisting of members from
  - Municipalities,
  - Nature protection agencies,
  - NGOs,
  - Regional authorities.



# **STATUS OF TURKEY**

## **ISSUES & APPROACHES IN RBMPs**

# 25 River Basins of Turkey



# Main Challenges of Water Sector in Turkey

**1- WATER QUANTITY PROBLEMS**

**2- WATER QUALITY PROBLEMS**

**3- IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT**

**4- AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES**

**5-LACK OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND LAND USE PLANNING**

**6- DEFICIENCIES OF MONITORING SYSTEM AND INCOMPLETE DATA**

**7- LEGAL ISSUES**

**8- ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

**9- CHALLENGE OF TRANSPOSING AND IMPLEMENTING ALL ELEMENTS OF THE EU WFD**

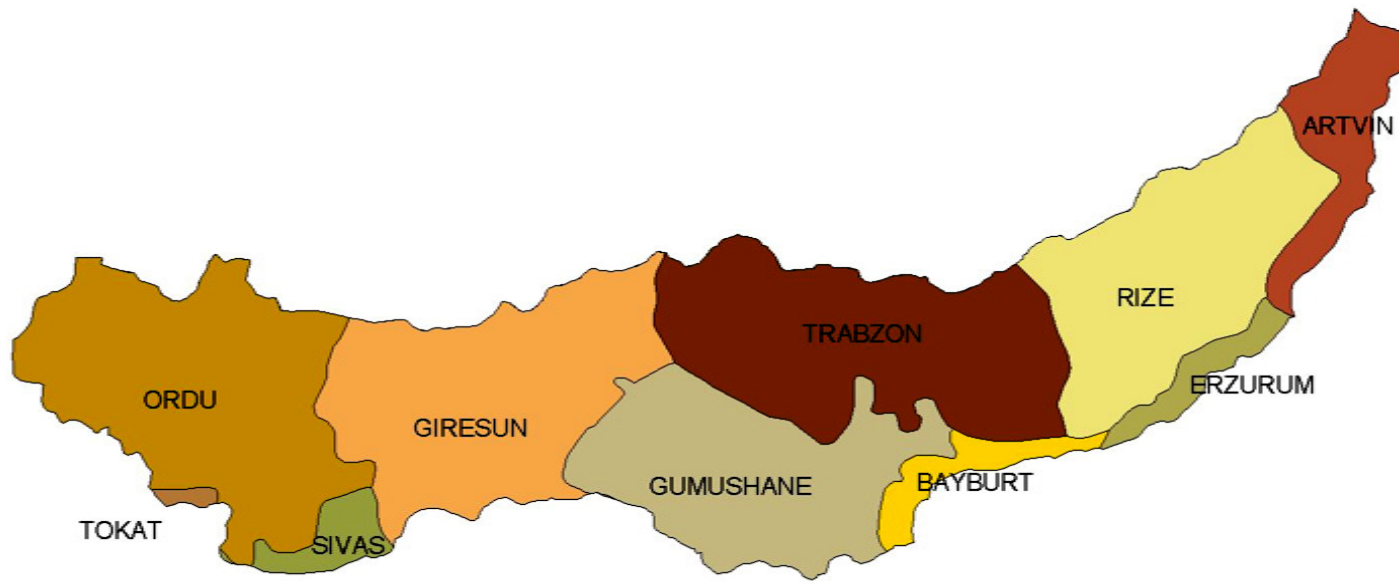


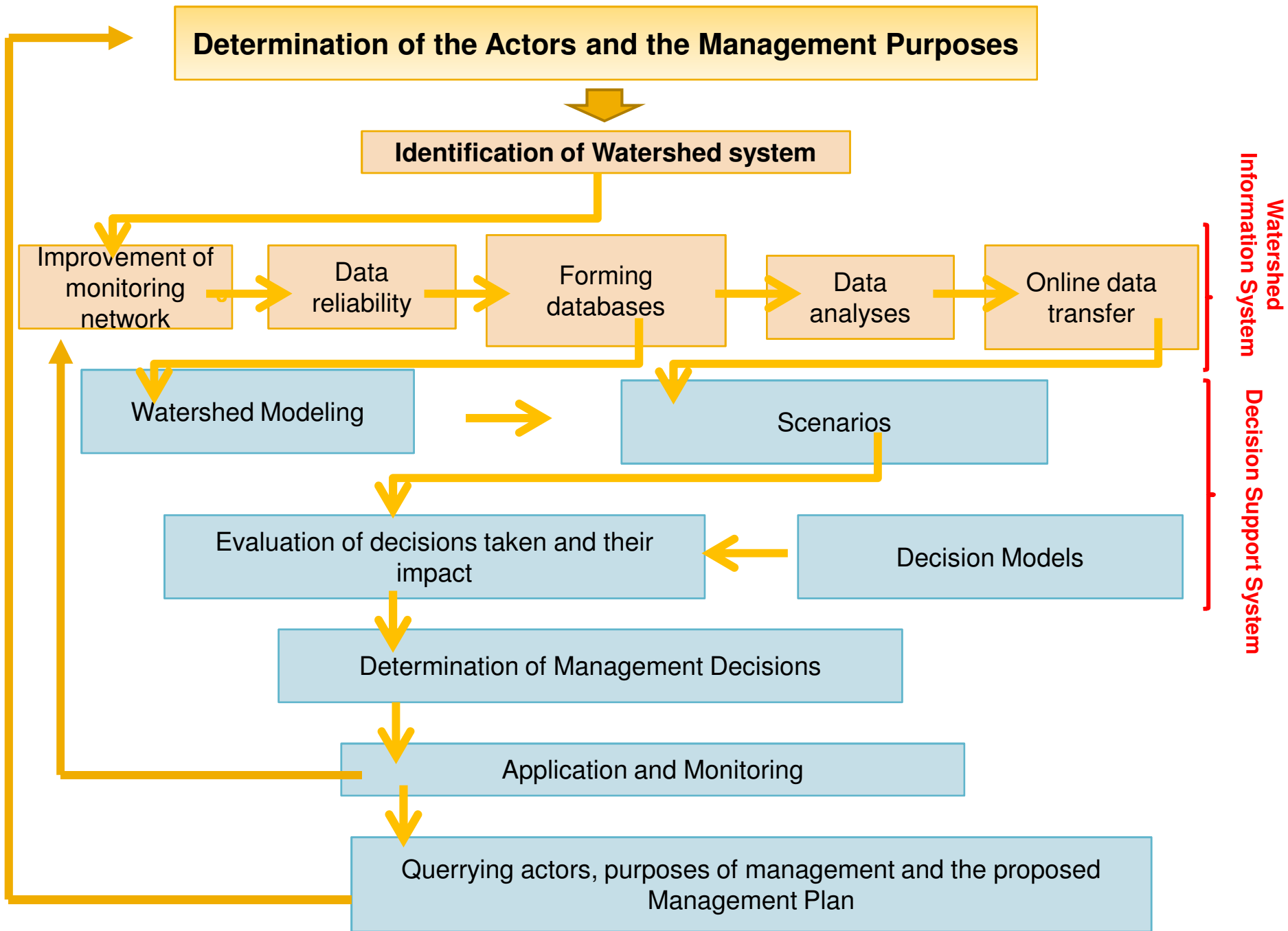
## Main Challenges of Water Sector in Turkey

- Water issues that Turkey faces today are largely derived due to **lack of good and efficient governance.**
- **Organizational structure** for water resources management is **highly centralized.**
- **Stakeholder participation** in decision-making process is **at a low level.**
- The lack of a comprehensive **water law**, fragmentation of the **institutional framework**, complexity of **coordination mechanisms** are the other major challenges in the Turkish water sector.



# Eastern Black Sea Watershed





# Improvement of Monitoring Network

## GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF STATE

### WATER WORKS

- **1310** stations conduct seasonal analyses (4 times a year; 59% for drinking purposes and 41% for general use)
- Additionally heavy metal (6 times) and biological analyses in drinking water
- 35 parameters are analyzed in groundwater's (2 times a year)

### Former General Directorate of Electrical Power Resources Survey and Development Administration General Directorate of Renewable Energy

- **140 STATIONS**, 20 parameters

### UNIVERSITIES

### TÜBİTAK

- **Sampling stations are lacking**
- **Measurement frequencies are different.**
- **Measurement terms are different.**
- **Stations are at various locations.**
- **Data obtained are stored in different organizations.**

**NATIONAL WATER DATABASE (under preparation)**

## Public Institutions related with Water Management

### Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| •General Directorate of Water Management | •General Directorate of State Water Works (DSİ )<br>•General Directorate of Meteorological Works (DMI)<br>•General Dir. of Forestation and Erosion Control |
|--|--|

### Ministry of Environment and Urbanization

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| •General Dir. of Environmental Management | •General Dir. of EIA and Planning<br>•Bank of Provinces |
|---|---|

### Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources

- General Directorate of Renewable Energy Resources

### Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock

### Ministry of Health

### Ministry of Interior Works

### Ministry of Culture and Tourism

### Ministry of Development

### Water and Sewage Administrations in Greater Municipalities

### Special Provincial Administration Fund

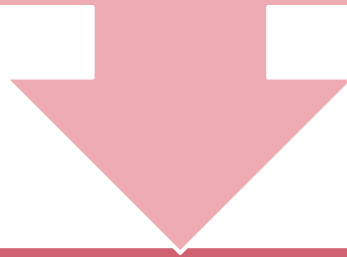


**Various bureaucratic institutions are responsible from the management of watersheds**



**Facing serious problems during the management and planning of resources as each organization bear self specific approaches**

Improvement coordination and co-operation process among the institutions responsible for water resources, environmental management, agriculture, etc.



Identification of River Basin Authorities and Capacity Building

•Including **STAKEHOLDERS** in the water management

•**Public Participation and Awareness**

**ENACTING THE NATIONAL WATER FRAMEWORK ACT**

# TRANSPOSITION OF THE EU WFD IN NATIONAL LEGISLATION

## ENACTING THE NATIONAL WATER FRAMEWORK ACT

- **TRANSBOUNDARY WATERS**
- Turkey will be obliged to ratify Aarhus, Espoo and Helsinki Conventions that the EU is a party.



## Recent Improvements

- At 09.04.2012 **National Basin Management Strategy** (Draft) is pre-published to take the opinions of the related groups. It acts as an initial guide on how the public participation be managed in the water and basin –related affairs. All the stakeholders are referred in the document.
- The regulation on “**Protection of Basins and Preparation of their Management Plans**” is put into force on 17.10.2012 .
- Item 5 of this regulation emphasises on “*Participatory Management Approach*”.
- Item 6 mentions that during the preparation of the RBMPs active participation of all related institutions will be maintained and comments will be taken from all the related parties.
- It also bears some points for the encouragement of effective public participation during the preparation, reviewing and updating stages of RBMPs. Moreover, it underlines the importance of informing public .

## Recent Improvements

- The statement on “**Establishing Basin Management Commission, its duties, working methodology and principles**” is put into force on 18.06.2013.
- This statement defines the duties and responsibilities of Basin Steering Committee as well lists the members of Basin Management Commissions (representatives of the provincial directorates of the related ministries, local authorities, local universities, NGOs, chambers of industry and commerce, farmers, etc.).
- Information is provided by this statement on the meetings to be realized and the outline of these meetings, working methodology and applications.
- Thus; the publication of these legislative notices act as initial movements towards the realization of public in the preparation of RBMPs.

## Recent Improvements

- Coordinator provinces of the 25 basins are stated. The governorship of the coordinator provinces will be the head of the Basin Management Commissions.
- These commissions will take common decisions by majority votes.
- It is observed that all the recent developments take into consideration of '**holistic management approach**', public participation from all the water and basin related groups.
- During the harmonization stage with EU, these recent legislative improvements need to be realized to comply with EU Water Framework Directive.
- Participation of **NGOs** are of utmost important at this stage.
- In the recent years, they have taken a step further by realizing programs and applications on the rehabilitation of spoilt areas, deforestation, soil protection and protection of biological diversity.

***THANKS FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION...***