

Workshop on Microplastics in Lakes

Within the framework of the "LIFE Blue Lakes" project

1st July 2021 – ZOOM Platform



Improving the existing legal framework at European level through the development of a Lake White Paper



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The Action B6 – Working Panel

Dealing with microplastics into the water, B6 action of the Blue Lakes Project aims to strengthen the **GOVERNANCE PROCESSES** of key institutional stakeholders responsible in various ways of water management.

This action is carried out through the definition of relationship models with the institutions involved in the **Water Framework Directive**, with specific attention to policies, plans and programs aimed at identifying possible sectors for win-win actions.

Even if all the Bodies have specific institutional competences and responsibilities regarding the water sector, they often do not dialogue sufficiently to have a complete interdisciplinary vision of the problem caused by microplastics in fresh water and to make a common effort to face this threat.

As you Know...Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)

- ❑ New approach to water protection
- ❑ It covers all water categories; rivers, lakes, groundwater as well as coastal and transitional waters
- ❑ Sets clear objectives:
 - Use of water resources must be sustainable throughout Europe
 - The protection of all categories of waters
 - Waters to be managed at river basin level by formulating a River Basin Management Plan
 - In the case of transboundary water bodies, this needs co-operation between countries
- Ensuring the active participation of all stakeholders, including NGOs and local communities, in water management activities
- Requiring water pricing policies based on the “user pays” principle
- Balancing the interests of the environment with those who depend on it



- ❑ Strategy
 - Time bounding targets
 - Integrated water resources management
 - Common implementation strategy (numerous guidelines)

WFD DEADLINES

2003	IDENTIFICATION OF RIVER BASIN DISTRICTS
2004	CHARACTERIZATION , IDENTIFICATION OF PRESSURES AND IMPACTS AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF USES
2006	START MONITORING PROGRAM
2008	START PUBLIC CONSULTATION
2009	PUBLICATION OF MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR THE WATER RESOURCES (UPDATED EVERY 6 YEARS)
2010	INTRODUCTION OF WATER PRICING
2012	IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAMME OF MEASURES
2015	ACHIEVMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS ?
2016	START NEW MANAGEMENT PLAN 2016-2021
2021	END OF FIRST CYCLE OF MANAGEMENT
2027	END OF SECOND CYCLE OF MANAGEMENT

Ecological status and potential

Maintain high status of waters where it exists

Achieve good status by 2015 (or provision for exemptions)

Prevent deterioration in water status

High

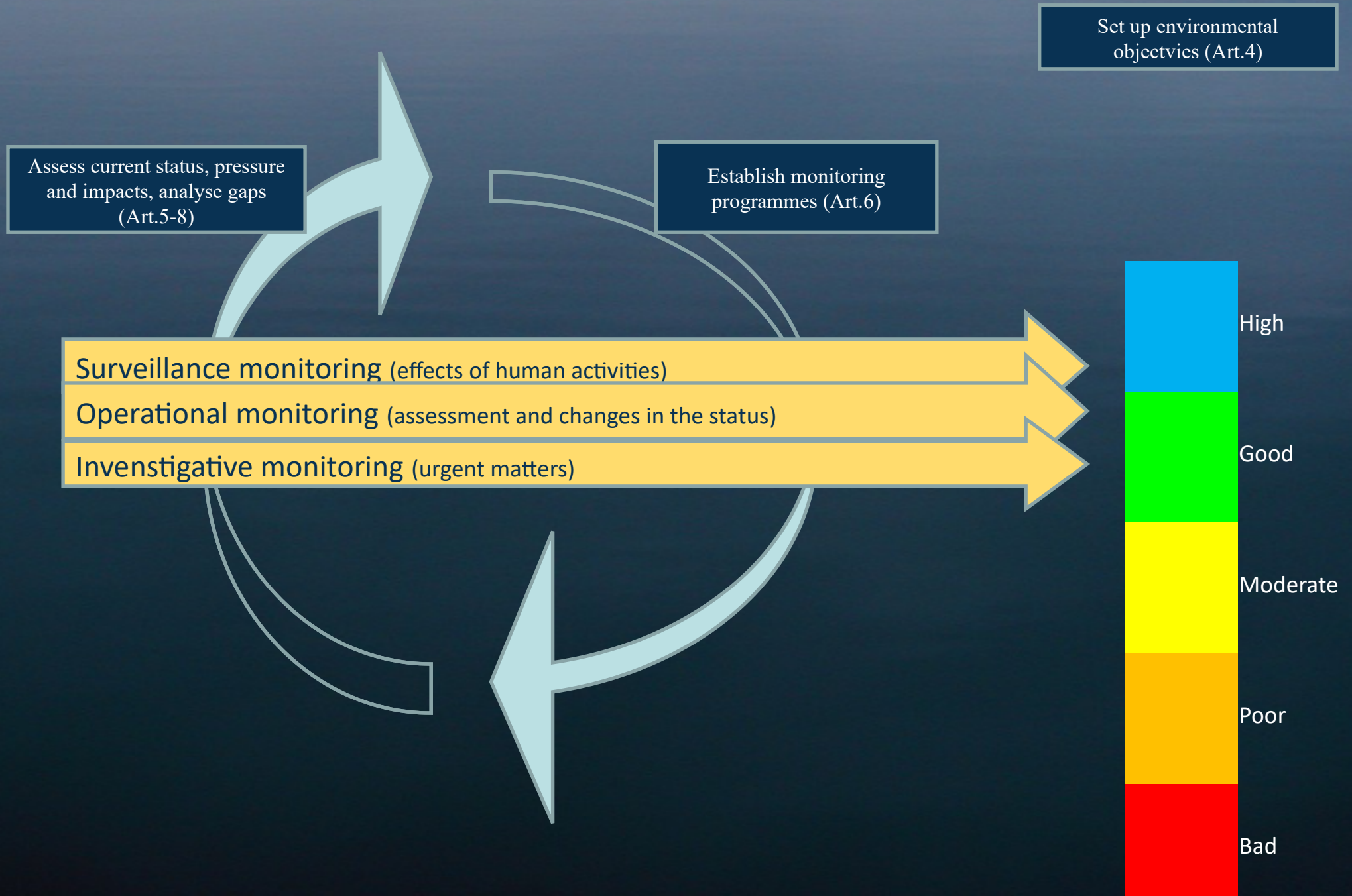
Good

Moderate

Poor

Bad

Implementation of monitoring programs

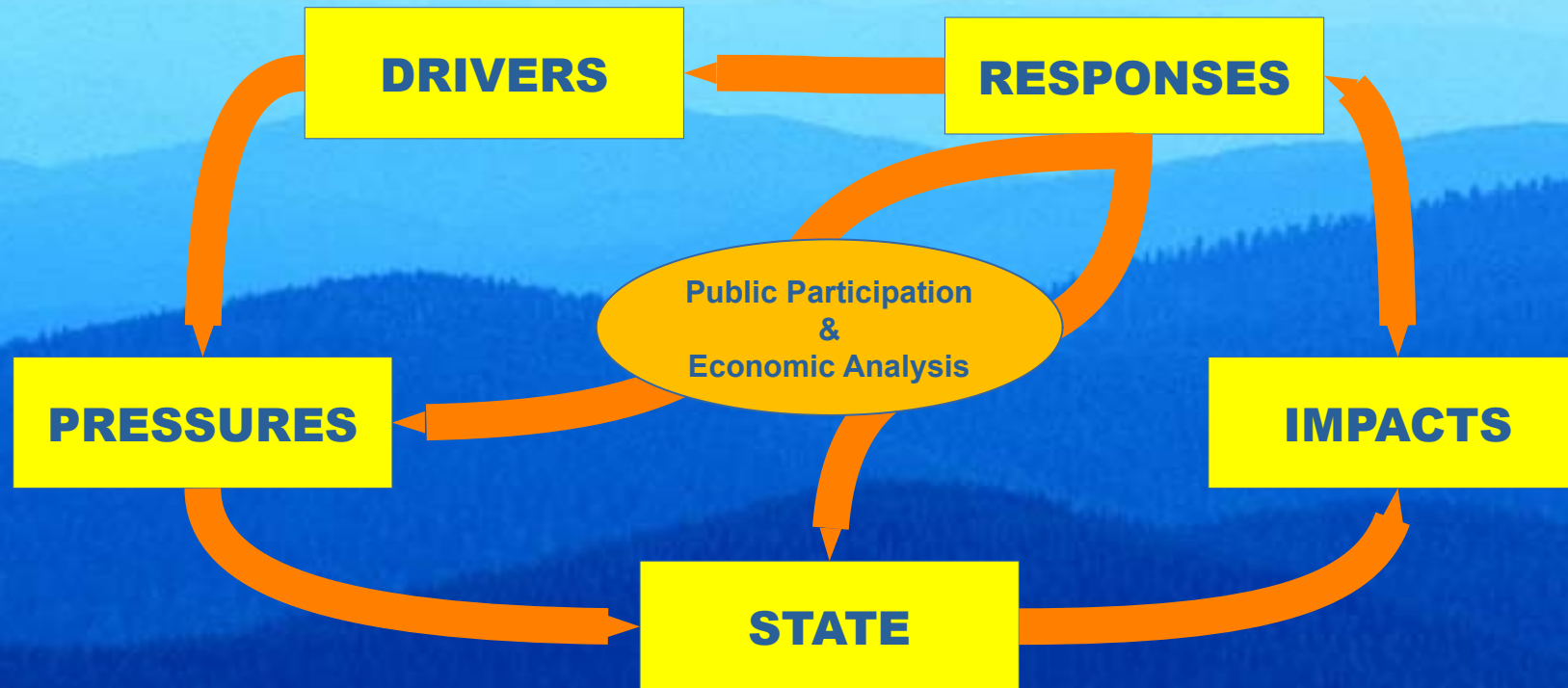


...then Water Framework Directive

- Provides the framework for EU water policy
- Complemented by and related to other legislation regulating specific aspects of water use
- Water management integration with other policies

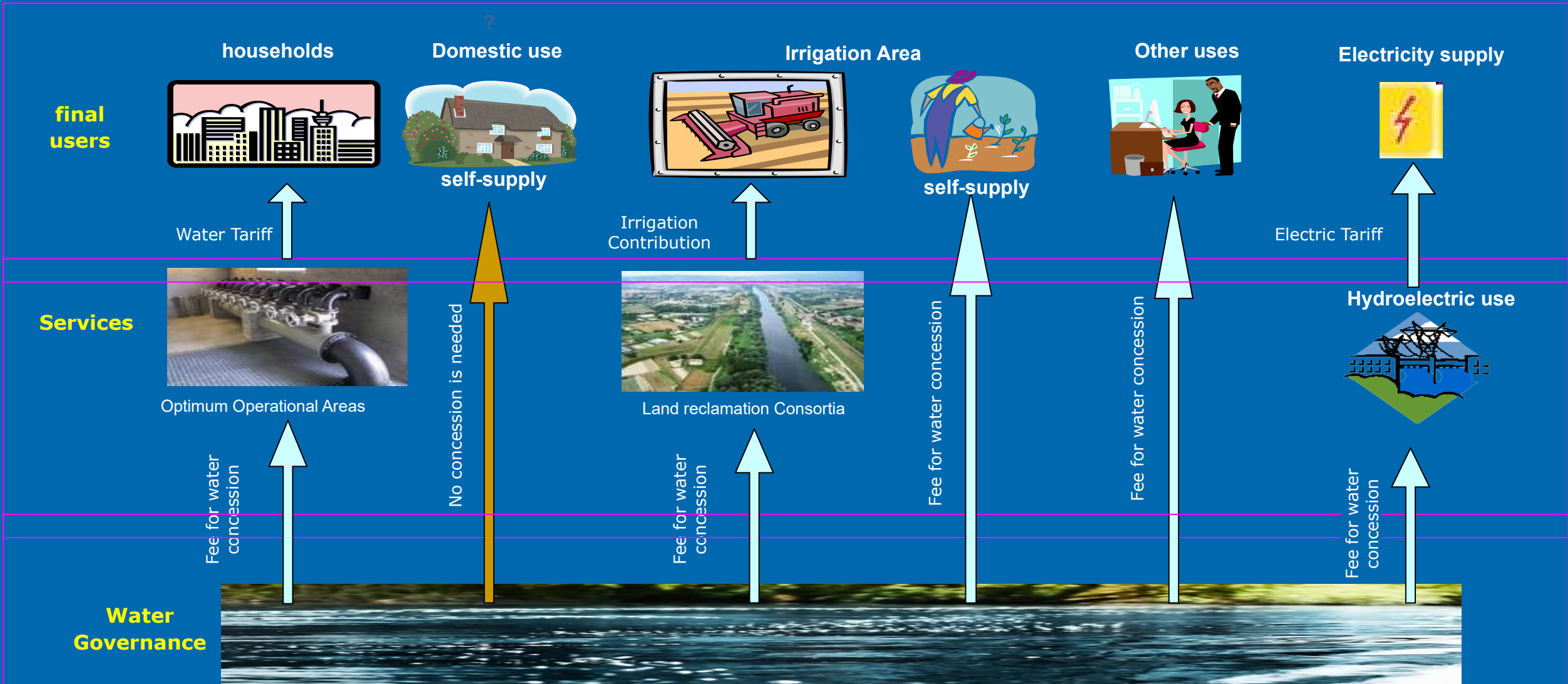


D P S I R + PP + EA



The EEA DPSIR framework is seen as giving a structure within which to present the indicators needed to enable feedback to policy makers on environmental quality and the resulting impact of the political choices made, or to be made in the future.

Economic framework elements and characterization of Water Uses



The Working Panel organization

ABDAC has identified in the **Permanent Observatory on Water Uses of the Central Apennine District** the suitable location in which to activate the Working Panel of the project, through which to prepare the **Lake White Paper as an institutional tool for sharing knowledge and needs to address the problem of microplastics in water.**

In the Working Panel participate the institutional stakeholder at different levels, national, regional, environmental agencies, professional organizations by sector and so on.

A special section was therefore dedicated in the Observatory to carry out the Project Working Panel activities which will be activated at least twice a year, until the end of the Project in 2023, also in order to receive specific feedback from the components and participants.

A special space has been dedicated on the ABDAC institutional website <https://www.autoritadistrettoac.it/bluelakes> in order to facilitate the exchange of materials and contributions in the various sessions of the working panel.

The activities take place through three types of meetings:

- **plenary meetings** (2 meetings / year) with all the involved Institutions
- **bi-lateral / restricted meetings** (3 meeting / year) with specific Public Institutions at Regional or National level
- **consultation meetings** with other relevant stakeholders such as the National Association of Italian municipalities (ANCI) and the Italian Federation of Companies operating in the public water, electricity and gas services (Utilitalia)

Continuos connections with the **implementation of the Directive 91/271/EEC**, that takes into consideration some emerging pollutants including microplastics.

Recently the activity continued with the organization of a specific **questionnaire** which was submitted to the working panel at the meeting of the ABDAC Observatory and **the results are very interesting**:

- We need to address the impacts of microplastics as soon as possible (***awareness***)
- We need to understand better how to do it (***need for knowledge***)
- We are worry about the future costs of the necessary measures and the recovery of those costs (***need to improve governance and financial flows***)

Thank you for you kind attention