



# FAIRWAY

## EU POLICY MAKERS

Improving coherence and consistency of EU policies is needed to better protect drinking water resources.

## CONTACT

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## FURTHER DETAILS

[Boekhold, S. et al. \(2021\) From farm to drinking water - fit for the future? FAIRWAY Project Deliverable 6.5, 9 pp](#)

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# KEY MESSAGE

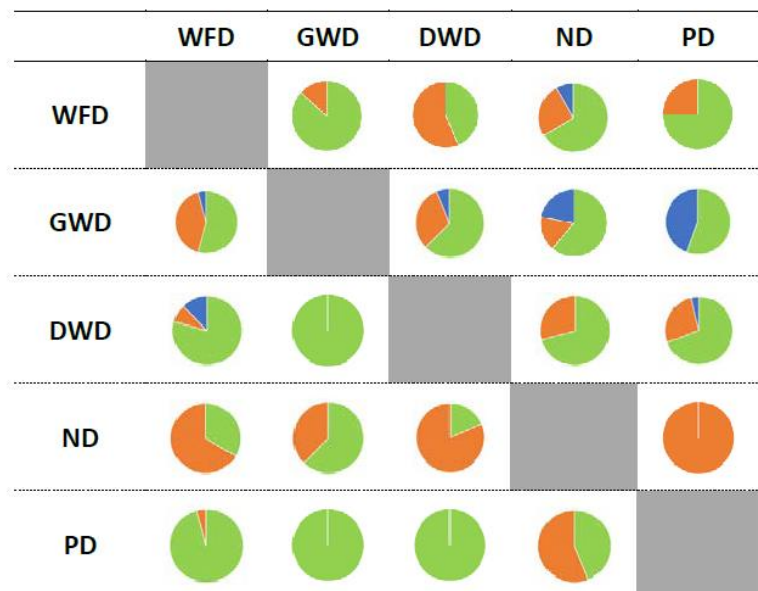
Improving correlations between directives, policies, objectives and requirements, including cross-referencing them, will strengthen the overall policy framework towards protection of drinking water resources from agricultural pressures.

## EXPLANATION

The (cost-) effectiveness of the overall policy and legal framework to protect drinking water resources is affected by the mode of implementation of directives and policies by Member States, the use of ambiguously interpreted key terms and the lack of clear cross-referencing across directives and CAP. There is a clear need to improve policy effectiveness and cost-effectiveness through increased cross-referencing across different directives and policies.

## EVIDENCE

FAIRWAY has identified strengths and weaknesses in the legal and policy frameworks. The figure below presents interactions between the five most relevant directives. Positive interactions support the realisation of objectives, negative interactions may hinder this process, and more neutral connections may become positive (strengthening) or negative (blocking) factors, depending on the choices made during the implementation phase.



The proportion of interactions between the requirements of each directive that respondents judged to be positive (green), neutral (orange) and negative (blue). WFD: Water Framework Directive; GWD: Ground Water Directive; DWD: Drinking Water Directive; ND: Nitrates Directive; PD: Pesticides Directive