



Protection of drinking water resources from agricultural pressures: effectiveness of EU regulations in the context of local realities

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BACKGROUND & AIM

- An extensive EU framework on agriculture and protection of drinking water resources exists.
- We analyzed the effectiveness of these regulations towards attaining water quality objectives at local level.

Water Framework Directive (WFD)

Nitrate
Directive

Pesticides
Directive

Drinking
Water
Directive

Ground-
water
Directive

Common Agricultural
Policy

Effectiveness on
local water quality



EU regulations

- Analysis of governance approaches of 13 case studies in 11 European countries
- Using OECD principles for water governance

STUDY DESIGN

KEY MESSAGES

- There are difficulties in achieving WFD ambitions.
- EU legislation on agriculture and protection of drinking water resources is complex.
- Implementation at national level could benefit from advanced cross-referencing.
- Everything comes together at the local level: capacity needed for cross-sectoral decision making.



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