


Portuguese Water Partnership
 Ministério da Agricultura, Mar, Ambiente e Ordenamento do Território


The Portuguese Water Partnership:
 The gateway to the Portuguese expertise in the water sector

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What is different in the Portuguese water sector model and expertise?






Portugal – an interesting laboratory for water management


- n° 111 in the world in terms of area – 92 000km²
- One of the largest Exclusive Economic Zones: more than 1.700.000km², or about 18 times its land area (11 islands...)
- Very different distribution of water resources across the country: well endowed in the north, dry seasons in the south
- Transboundary rivers shared with Spain (5!)
- Coastal area 2100 km long
- Different distribution in population: high density in coastal areas and low density in the countryside – impacts on water services






In the last decades, Portugal has acquired and developed significant expertise in:


- Water Resources Management, Institutions and Governance
- Water Services
- Hydraulic Developments
- Coastal Management







Water Resources Management, Institutions and Governance



- ... a new and forward looking Water Law (WFD+)
- ... creation of five river basin authorities and river councils with stakeholders
- ... preparation of national and river basin plans
- ... an economic regime for water use (!)
- ... a new flexible but strict licensing system
- ... a national plan for the efficient use of water
- ... improvement of transboundary river agreements with Spain








RIVER BASINS SHARED WITH SPAIN - Minho, Lima, Douro, Tejo, Guadiana



ALBUFEIRA CONVENTION


 Cooperation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Waters of the Portuguese-Spanish River Basins
 1998 (amended 2008)

≈ 64% of the territory is in international river basins
 ≈ 50% of surface water flows from Spain

Effective strategies for the Urban Water Services

- ... a consistent policy for investment
- ... an interesting "mix" of public and private
- ... much attention given to regulation
- ... aiming the financial sustainability of water systems



... technology - centralised and decentralised | high & low energy systems | reuse

A boom in service attendance

Evolution of the water sector in 1993-2008 and current targets:

Percentage of the population with access to public water supply systems	80%	91%	95%
Quality controlled water supply in accordance with national and EU standards	50%	97%	99%
Population with access to public systems for waste water disposal with adequate treatment	20%	76%	90%


Hydraulic Developments
solutions to specific situations



- ... The Alqueva Multipurpose Scheme is an emblematic example of an integrated solution for social, economic and environmental
- ... The ARH North program aiming the integration of Nature Conservancy and Small Hydropower production is an example of a comprehensive approach at basin level

Coastal Management



- ... planning of coastal zones
- ... development and management of beaches
- ... control of erosion and other coastal engineering interventions
- ... protection of coastal ecosystems
- ... port and coastal engineering

How did it all start?

The collective conscience of the Portuguese Water Sector capacities and know-how...



... a momentum created during the 5th World Water Forum of Istanbul

The Partners (89)

- Universities and R&D centers (9)
- Public administration (8)
- Professional associations and civil society (6)
- Public and private companies (66)

a diverse and mature set of private and public institutions dedicated to water



Portuguese Water Partnership
capacity building at international level

Thank you for your attention

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