



Documentation Regional development instruments

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Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation
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Bavarian State
Ministry of the
Environment,
Public Health
and Consumer
Protection

Interreg III B

General Data	
Name of instrument:	Local Forums: Watershed Partnerships
Country / region:	IT
Spatial level:	local
Type:	Voluntary approaches and agreements / cooperation
Subtype:	Voluntary cooperation and commitments, not legally binding
Description:	Bottom-up refers to a decision-making process starting at the local level, when local authorities or citizens or other stakeholders set up a comprehensive involvement process aimed at devising shared solutions or strategies for management and planning within their own home territory. Recently adopted by international organizations (World Bank, FAO, UNDP), such an approach has proved beneficial esp. in developing countries, but the EU as well has begun actively promoting it: Dir. 2000/60 (the Water Framework Directive), for instance, requires that citizens at river basin scale be kept informed and participate in water resource planning and management. Generally, it is important that no substantial restrictions be made on the stakeholders involved (anybody who has an interest in the territory should be given the opportunity to participate). It is usually advisable to identify a figure acting as a moderator, who should be regarded as neutral, so that she/he can contribute substantial help in preventing/solving occurring conflicts between opposing parties, as well as building a common vision.
General objectives:	Contribute to compliance to EU policy on information and communication, public participation and bottom-up decision-making, esp. concerning such fields as land and water resource planning and management: decision-makers should accept to discuss within such voluntary structures about, among others, any major infrastructure project prior to reaching a final decision on actual construction.
General Objectives keywords:	Information ; Communication ; Public participation ; Bottom-up decision-making ;
Responsible:	others
Responsible:	Organizing Stakeholder(s)
Stakeholder Involved:	others
Reference:	The Upper Tagliamento Watershed Partnership (Consulta di bacino), recently established in the framework of Interreg-Caduses WAREMA Project. Through a number of meetings (workshops), the objective is to come up with an Action Plan containing, among others, proposals addressed to decision-makers in the field of water and land management. The factual goal proposed to stakeholders by the Project Moderation Team is to start making provisions in order to create a Biosphere Reserve encompassing the Upper Tagliamento area. The Watershed Partnership should continue working after project closure. It is hoped that it will gain

	full acknowledgement, upon implementation of EU WFD, as a public participation structure to be consulted on matters concerning water and land management at river basin scale. www.cadses-warema.net
General assessment of strength and weakness:	Strength: Can enhance democracy, conflict-solving and effective environmental resource management. By having different expertise and knowledge meet, stakeholders' capacity building can be improved. Trust in local/regional authorities can be (re-)built. Weakness: Can be time-consuming and costly. Participation tends to weaken when confronted with long-term objectives.
Metadata:	Date of entry: 2007/04/10 Contact: Ifuplan, Schleißheimer Str. 156, 80797 München
Implementation	
Legal status:	not-mandatory
Extension:	pilot status
Type of monitoring:	Qualitative / descriptive reporting
Assessment	
Relevance	
Status:	weak indirect relevance for land resource management
Ranking:	1
Remark:	too general to have a direct relevance for land resource management
Acceptance	
Ranking:	5
Implementation	
Ranking:	0
Remark:	Too general for assessment.
Feasibility	
Ranking:	0
Remark:	Too general for assessment.
Effectiveness	
Ranking:	0
Remark:	Too general for assessment.