

REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES SCHEME

In order to ensure the sustainability and diversity of water resources as well as the security of supply of the territory, Wallonia has adopted a tool for planning and regulating the exploitation of water resources. It involves coordinating the actions and investments of the various water operators.

Integrated water management

The application of the Water Framework Directive¹ (WFD) in Wallonia resulted in the obligation to address water management issues in river basins. Achieving the objectives of the WFD requires, *inter alia*, rationalisation of water resource use at the regional level. Although groundwater stocks in Wallonia are considered to be significant, renewable and easily exploitable, occasional (e.g. drought in 2011) or recurrent qualitative and quantitative problems have been highlighted by various operators. There are various origins: turbidity, nitrate² and/or pesticide contamination³, insufficiently productive or decommissioned water intakes, undersized pipes or leaks in the distribution network, etc

Environmental, social and economic objectives

Forecast in the 2009-2014 Regional Policy Declaration (*Déclaration de politique régionale 2009-2014*), the Regional Water Resources Scheme (*Schéma régional des ressources en eau - SRRE*)^{4,5} was approved by the Walloon Government in 2015⁶. This tool for planning and regulating the exploitation of water resources is based around several strands: environmental (management of anthropogenic pressures, taking into account the impact of climate change), water quality (implementation of Water Safety Plans⁷, effective protection of catchments) and economic (financial tools to be implemented, control of the true-cost of water). The objectives pursued include: the regulation of public and private abstractions (agricultural, industrial and household), security of supply in the Walloon

territory (security rate of 30%)⁸, access to solidary water (sharing of production costs), control of the price of water (synergies between operators in order to limit investment and operating costs), the application of the principle of cost recovery and consistency with other regional policies (such as land use planning or mineral resource development).

Calculating the cost of works

The finalisation and implementation of the SRRE is one of the measures⁹ of the River Basin Management Plans 2016-2021¹⁰. The SRRE consists *inter alia* of the installation of interconnection pipes between the water distribution networks for a total length of approximately 700 km and an estimated total budget of €640 million. As of 31/03/2017, the amount of investments planned for the period 2013-2023 (1st phase of works-14 projects) amounted to nearly €237 million. Two projects had been completed by that date, one of which involved the valorisation of mine water.¹¹

[1] Directive 2000/60/EC | [2] → WATER 13 | [3] → WATER 14 | [4] Mission delegated to SWDE in May 2010 and extended in its management contract 2012 - 2017 | [5] SWDE, 2014 | [6] Decision of the Walloon Government of 19/11/2015 | [7] Water Safety Plans (WHO, 2005): general risk assessment and management strategy covering all stages of water supply from catchment to consumer; Directive (EU) 2015/1787 | [8] E.g. Supply of an additional volume in the order of 30% of average consumption in the event of drought, extreme cold, disruption of supply or pollution. | [9] Measure 0680_12 | [10] → WATER 21 | [11] Berthe quarry in Florennes

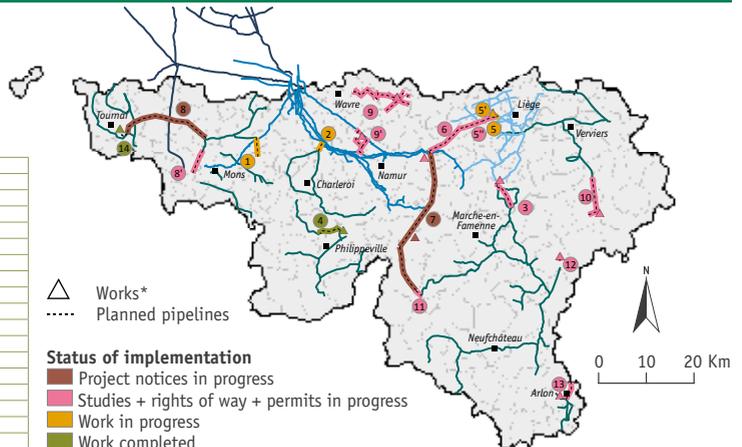
Map 54 Regional Water Resources Scheme

Existing pipelines

- FARYS production pipelines
- VIVAQUA production pipelines
- CILE production pipelines
- SWDE production pipelines

First phase works (situation at 31/03/2017)

1	Securing La Louvière (phase 1)
2	Charleroi loop (VIVAQUA)
3	Néblon (CILE) - Durbuy link (North-Luxembourg adduction)
4	Valorisation of mine water - Berthe quarry in Florennes (Inasep)
5	Hollogne - Arbre à La Croix link, section 1
5*	Hollogne - Arbre à La Croix link, section 1, mixing chamber (CILE)
6	Hollogne - Arbre à La Croix link, sections 2, 3 and 4
6*	Arbre à La Croix - Andenne link
7	Andenne - Wellin link
8	FARYS - Transhennuyère link
8*	Ghlin - Transhennuyère link
9	Securing works Eastern Walloon Brabant, Grez-Doiceau - Jandrain
9*	Securing works Eastern Walloon Brabant, Gembloux
10	Gileppe dam - Vielsalm link
11	Wellin, Sohier - Froidlieu link
12	Houffalize, northern supply zone from Luzery
13	Arlon-Messancy link
14	Tournai, development of well No 7/electromechanical equipment



* Production facilities: storage tanks, pumping stations, water towers, treatment plants or production wells.