



World Food Day 2023

Academic Seminar on the Adaptation of Agriculture to Water Scarcity

# Insights into the federal competencies.

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# Federal competencies

Sector/thematic area	Federal	Regions (+ Communities)	Possible National
Environment (Milieu/Envi)	X (e.g. coordination international env/climate policy CCIM, product norms, marine environm. <sup>6</sup> )	XX	XX (e.g. coordination/communication/info sharing)
Biodiversity	X (fed. Infrastruct.; international coordination CCPIE/CCIM)	XX	X
Forests	/	XX	/
Health (Gezondheid/santé)	XX	XX	XX <sup>7</sup>
Crisis management (gestion de crise/crisisbeheer)	XX	XX (Rem: absent in WAL PACE 2030)	XX
<b>Water management</b>	/ (X – e.g. Crisis response, federal sites)	XX	X (e.g. international River Commissions; International and inter-regional/cross-border Flood Risk management cooperation)
Energy	XX <sup>8</sup>	XX	XX
Transport	X <sup>9</sup>	XX	X (e.g. ?)
Land use planning	/	XX	/
Constructed areas (Bebouwd gebied/Zones bâties)	/	XX	/

# Federal competencies

Infrastructures	X (e.g. Regie der gebouwen)	XX	X
Industry and services	/	XX	/
Tourism	/ (or X via foreign affairs?)	XX	/ (or X adapted/sustainable/eco-tourism?...)
<b>Agriculture</b>	/ (or x (sanitary aspects)	XX	/
Education	/	XX (Communities VL and WAL)	/
Taxation	XX	X	X (e.g.?)
Research	XX	XX	XX (e.g. ? )
Foreign affairs/International cooperation	XX	XX	XX
Marine areas (Kustgebieden/zones marines)	XX (protection of marine environment <sup>10</sup> )	X (VL only -studies through ILVO <sup>11</sup> in framework of Marine Spatial Plan)	/
Coastal protection (kustbescherming)	/	XX (VL only <sup>13</sup> )	/
	Rem: XX for restoration of marine biodiversity <sup>12</sup>		
Fisheries (visserij/pêche)	/	XX (VL for North Sea+ water courses; BXL + WAL only for watercourses)	/
Transversal affairs <sup>14</sup>	XX	XX	XX
Finance <sup>15</sup>			

# Federal organisations and initiatives with a focus on Agriculture and water

- Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain,
- National action plan for pesticide reduction (Plant protection and Fertilising Products)
- Federal Adaptation Plan:
  - *Beware & note* : faster notification of new harmful species that are threatening our agriculture, forestry, ornamentals and environment
  - Adjustment (internal) technical guidelines for sizing and construction of new drainage structures for the railways
  - Revegetation and stormwater management: Rainwater regulation in federal buildings
  - Water management in federal buildings: Implementation of regulations in response on the episodic decline in urban water availability. The focus is on water management

# Letter from minister Demir to minister Khattabi – personal insights

- Quote:

*Although drought and floodrisk are a local or regional phenomena, there's a clear cross-border component, showing the need for a European initiative. Through the spread of water intensive sectors across europe, the principal of 'level playing field' plays an important role for the policy concerning water re-use and drought management.*

# Future focus points – EU priorities and best practices

- Nature-based solutions
  - Afforestation and reforestation
  - Rehabilitation and restoration of rivers and floodplains
- Sponge city - model
  - Water basins to store water in winter to compensate for summer droughts.
- Conservation agriculture
  - Drought adapted crops
  - Crop diversification: more than one crop species in a given area.
  - Cover crops: crops or crop residue inbetween the main crops for the benefit of soil health.
- Agroforestry
- Improvement of irrigation techniques
- ...

**Thank you for listening**

