

Session 1:

The report on CIS-members views on the experience in the implementation of the economic aspects of the WFD



Background

- Purpose: to gather views on the implementation experience of economic aspects of WFD
- Used as an input to the development of the Workshop
- Gather views on:
 - experience of the implementation of the economic aspects of WFD including identification of the main implementation difficulties;
 - experience with using the relevant guidance documents;
 - needs for future work on economic issues related to WFD.



Project Overview

- Written questionnaire sent to WFD Strategic Coordination Group (SCG) - April-May 2010
- 17 expert interviews conducted – May 2010
- Final Report circulated to SCG – July 2010
- ‘Core group’ of MS/stakeholders (based on SCG nominations) were involved throughout. Comments were provided on the draft questionnaire, interview questions and final report.



The report

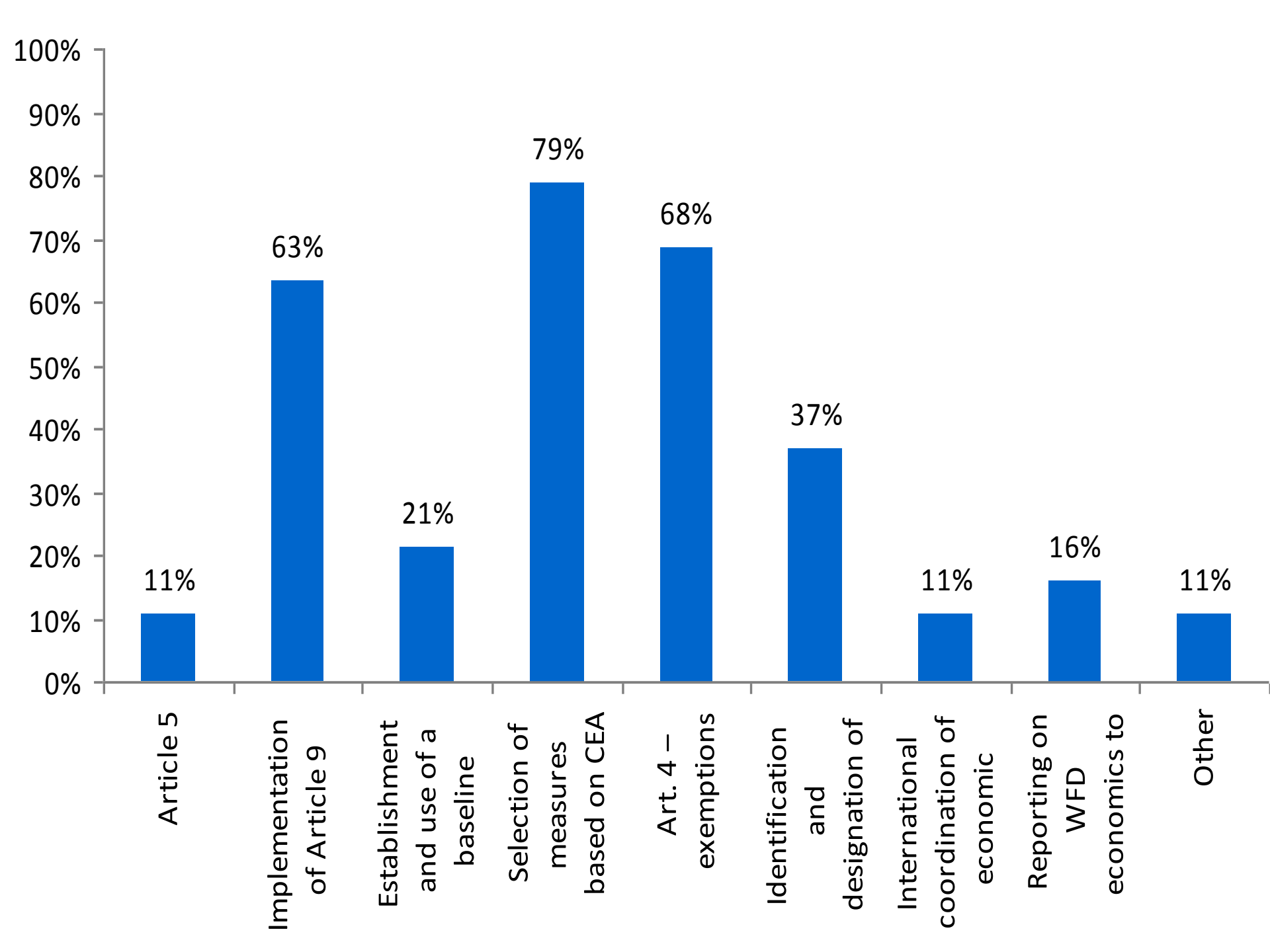
- Based on results:
 - of written questionnaire circulated to the SCG in March 2010: 25 filled-in Questionnaires
 - 17 in-depth (semi-structured) interviews with selected WFD-economic experts in May 2010 (anonymized)
- Where possible, questionnaire replies assessed quantitatively (graphs, statistical assessments). In-depth interviews insights added under each topic



Key findings – Implementation experience

- (i) Majority of WFD economics work were undertaken by multi-disciplinary teams:
 - Economists dealt with methodological questions
 - Non-economists undertook the data collection and economic analysis.
- (ii) Most prominent difficulties – methodological and data availability
- (iii) Three key challenging areas were clearly identified:
 - selection of measures based on CEA criteria (79% of responses)
 - implementation of article 4 – exemptions (68%)
 - implementation of article 9 (63%)





Key findings – Implementation experience (cont'd)

(iv) Positive implementation experiences mentioned included:

- improving the effectiveness and transparency of the implementation process
- strengthening the discussions between the various stakeholder groups
- better decision making when developing the final POM

(v) Transboundary cooperation – positive experiences highlighted but presented some new technical and organisation challenges



Key findings – Implementation experience (cont'd)

- (vi) Expert interviews identified some difficulties is integrating economics into the overall decision-making process for WFD implementation



Key findings: experience of CIS – guidance (WATECO, info sheets)

- (i) Majority of responses stated that CIS guidance documents were used – mainly as a basis to develop national methodology, rather than directly used
- (ii) Expert interviews identified problems with the reader-friendliness of documents, lack of practical usability
- (iii) Beneficial role of the development of guidance in being a ‘joint learning process’



Key findings – further work needs

- General agreement on the topics for further work (CEA, Article 4 and 9)
- Overall, some form of joint work at a European level was considered to be useful by most respondents
- Diverging views were expressed regarding what this work should be and the best way to organise it
- Most common suggestions:
 - information, experience and opinion exchange
 - work on common definitions/re-working existing guidance on significant issues
- Development of new guidance received some limited support.



Overall conclusions

- (i) Economics can assist in the implementation of WFD (improved transparency, minimising implementation costs, enhancing discussion between stakeholder groups)
- (ii) General agreement on main areas for further work suggest that focus of discussion should be on how best to undertake the work
- (iii) Most economic analysis and data collection was undertaken by non-economists, therefore any further work should not just involve economists. May help to improve integration of economic analysis into WFD decision-making
- (iv) Diverging views on the need for future work on guidance documents suggests further discussion is needed.



The workshop - aims

- Share information, exchange views and MS experience in WFD-implementation regarding Art. 9 and cost-effectiveness analysis: improve understanding on common difficulties encountered
- Identify relevant developments & research
- Identify needs for future work relating to WFD-economics



The workshop – structure day 1

- Session 1: introduction and scene setting
- Sessions 2 (Art.9) & 3 (CEA): implementation experiences, for both:
 - Introduction – main results from questionnaire/interviews (15 min.)
 - MS case studies (each 10 min. presentation, 5 min. questions)
 - Stakeholder statements (5 min. each)
 - Discussion (30 min.)
- End of day 1: draft outcomes of session 2 & 3, plenary discussion (30 min.)



The workshop – structure day 2

- Session 4: Taking stock of research & other developments:
 - 3 project presentations (20 min. each)
 - Discussion (30 min.)
- Session 5: research and future work needs:
 - Introduction – main results from questionnaire/interviews (15 min.)
 - Discussion (45 min.)
- Session 6: Wrap up & final discussion
 - Outcomes of session 5 & overall workshop & discussion
 - Closing address

