



# ITALY

SOGESID  
Via Calabria, 35  
00187 Roma



Phone : +39 06.420821  
Fax : +39 06.483574  
Email : info@sogesid.it

<http://www.emwis-it.org>

The National Focal Point team is composed of :

- **Mr. Fausto MELLI**,  
coordinator.
- **Mrs. Silvia CARECCHIO**,  
data manager.
- **Mrs. Giuseppina FARINA**,  
IT manager.

The Water Director is :

- **Mr. Gianfranco MASCAZZINI**,  
Ministry of Environment.

[www.emwis-it.org](http://www.emwis-it.org)

*SOGESID is the EMWIS National Focal Point for Italy since the beginning of the operational phase of the initiative in 1999. SOGESID works under the auspice of the Italian Ministry of Environment for safeguarding the natural resources and the related infrastructures.*

*The NFP operates a national EMWIS website in English and Italian integrated into the overall Mediterranean network of information exchange. It contributed to the Italian consolidation and translation of the water thesaurus, and with expertise on the management of water and sanitation services, as well as with a strong support on new information and communication technologies.*

*Italy with Spain and France are supporting EMWIS developments through an active participation in the EMWIS Steering Committee (Presidency 1998-2002 and since 2008) and in the EMWIS Technical Unit.*

## DATA

- **Area** : 301 336 km<sup>2</sup>
- **Population** (mill) : 58,75 \*\*\*
- **GDP per capita** : 25 100 € \*\*\*
- **Water per capita** :  
3 281 m<sup>3</sup>/inhab./year\*

Sources :

\* EMWIS NFP – SOGESID

- **Access to improved water resource** :

TOTAL : 99% \*\*  
- Urban : 100% \*\*  
- Rural : 96% \*\*

\*\* UN-JMP 2004 (Access to water & sanitation considering house connections)

- **Water withdrawal** :

irrigation : 48% \*

- **Access to sanitation** :

TOTAL : 100% \*

\*\*\* MEDSTAT 2007

## Italy

### Legal Framework

The WFD implementation was formally and fully transposed in year 2006 with Decree No. 152 that concerns all the environmental issues. The Decree updates the previous extensive legislation in a unified and coherent framework. A number of legal tools are still under preparation to further improve the renewed operational framework. The right to water is included into the legislation.

### Main institution

The responsibility for Water Management is shared among all main Italian Institutions (Central Government, Regions, Provinces, Municipalities, Agencies) applying a subsidiary approach. The Ministry of Environment is responsible for policy making and new legislation drafting. The Regions and the River Basin Authorities are responsible for planning at regional and at river basin scale. River Basin Authorities draw the River Basin Master Plans. Provinces and Municipalities, organized in ATOs ("optimal management areas"), are directly responsible for the water service management in the household sector. A Committee for the Surveillance of Water Resource (COVIRI), which refers directly to the Italian Parliament, oversees water management implementation in each Region and in each ATO. Water in agriculture is managed by local Consortia for Land Reclamation and Irrigation.

	Water Resource Management	Drinking water supply	Sanitation	Irrigation
Central Government (Ministries)	✓			✓
Regions/River Basin Authorities	✓			✓
ATO Authorities	✓	✓	✓	
COVIRI		✓	✓	
Land Reclamation and Irrigation Consortia	✓			✓

**The territorial water management :** The Italian territory is currently divided into 8 River Basin Districts with River Basin management Plans. **Inter-ministerial coordination** is assured by the Competent Authorities, though the need to improve and clarify procedures emerges.

### Main issues of Water Resource Management

Normally water availability is higher in the northern part of the Country, but in recent years the consequences of climate variations have caused serious problems of water stress beyond the indication of the traditional hydrological trends. Such problems are more serious in case of high intensity of water use, e.g. in summer irrigation and in highly populated or industrialized areas.

### Water pricing and cost recovery

The cost recovery of water services is applied. Environmental costs are only partially taken into account by considering the treatment costs. Water pricing policy is made at central level. COVIRI proposes the reference tariff to the Government for formal adoption. The Regions should establish the applied tariff through the implementation of the Integrated Water Supply Service in each Optimal Management Area (ATO).

	Institutions responsible for water pricing	Level of cost recovery (%)
Households	Ministry of the Environment, COVIRI, Regions, ATO	100% Incomplete for environmental costs
Industry	Regions	— no data
Agriculture : Irrigation	Regions	— no data

### Water master plan

Each authority is preparing a master plan at its level: River Basin Authorities for flood protection and sustainable water management, Regions for Water Protection Plan, ATO Authorities. A Nationwide water master plan is the result of a coordinated aggregation of the plans. Such exercise was done in 2003 by the Ministry of the Environment.

<http://www.semide.org>

<http://www.emwis.org>