



south
western
river basin district



The EU Water Framework Directive & Irish Ports

Overview of the Water Framework Directive

Seán Ó Breasail
Project Co-ordinator
South Western River Basin District

13th December 2007

The EU Water Framework Directive programme



The EU Water Framework Directive

Directive entered into force

2000 2001 2002

22.12.2000 EN Official Journal of the European Communities L 327/1

I
(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

DIRECTIVE 2000/60/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 23 October 2000
establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 175(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions ⁽³⁾,

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 251 of the Treaty ⁽⁴⁾, and in the light of the joint text approved by the Conciliation Committee on 18 July 2000,

Whereas:

(1) Water is not a commercial product like any other but, rather, a heritage which must be protected, defended and treated as such.

(2) The conclusions of the Community Water Policy Ministerial Seminar in Frankfurt in 1988 highlighted the need for Community legislation covering ecological quality. The Council in its resolution of 28 June 1988 ⁽⁵⁾ asked the Commission to submit proposals to improve ecological quality in Community surface waters.

(3) The declaration of the Ministerial Seminar on groundwater held at The Hague in 1991 recognised the need for action to avoid long-term deterioration of freshwater quality and quantity and called for a programme of actions to be implemented by the year 2000 aiming at sustainable management and protection of freshwater resources. In its resolutions of 25 February 1992 ⁽⁶⁾, and 20 February 1995 ⁽⁷⁾, the Council requested an action programme for groundwater and a revision of Council Directive 80/68/EEC of 17 December 1979 on the protection of groundwater against pollution caused by certain dangerous substances ⁽⁸⁾, as part of an overall policy on freshwater protection.

(4) Waters in the Community are under increasing pressure from the continuous growth in demand for sufficient quantities of good quality water for all purposes. On 10 November 1995, the European Environment Agency in its report 'Environment in the European Union - 1995' presented an updated state of the environment report, confirming the need for action to protect Community waters in qualitative as well as in quantitative terms.

(5) On 18 December 1995, the Council adopted conclusions requiring, inter alia, the drawing up of a new framework Directive establishing the basic principles of sustainable water policy in the European Union and inviting the Commission to come forward with a proposal.

(6) On 21 February 1996 the Commission adopted a communication to the European Parliament and the Council on European Community water policy setting out the principles for a Community water policy.

(7) On 9 September 1996 the Commission presented a proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and

(8) OJ C 59, 6.3.1992, p. 2.
(9) OJ C 49, 28.2.1995, p. 1.
(10) OJ L 20, 26.1.1980, p. 43. Directive as amended by Directive 91/692/EEC (OJ L 377, 31.12.1991, p. 48).

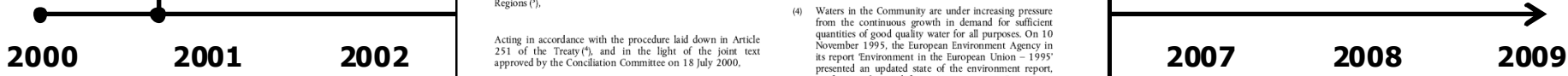
⁽¹⁾ OJ C 184, 17.6.1997, p. 20.
⁽²⁾ OJ C 16, 20.1.1998, p. 14 and
OJ C 108, 7.4.1998, p. 94.
⁽³⁾ OJ C 355, 21.11.1997, p. 83.
⁽⁴⁾ OJ C 180, 11.6.1998, p. 38.
⁽⁵⁾ Opinion of the European Parliament of 11 February 1999 (OJ C 150, 28.5.1999, p. 419), confirmed on 16 September 1999, and Council Common Position of 22 October 1999 (OJ C 343, 30.11.1999, p. 1). Decision of the European Parliament of 7 September 2000 and Decision of the Council of 14 September 2000.
⁽⁶⁾ OJ C 209, 9.8.1988, p. 3.

2007 2008 2009



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Aims of the Directive

Maintain "high status" of waters where it exists, preventing any deterioration in the existing status of waters.

**Directive
entered into
force**

Achieve at least "good status" in all waters by 2015.

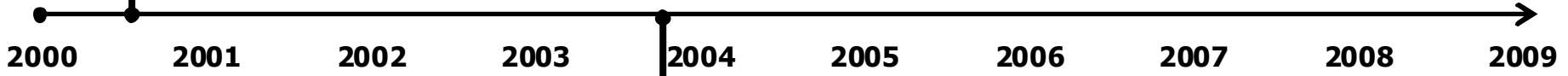
2000 2001

Ensure water in protected areas meets requirements.

2008 2009

Involve stakeholders – community groups, public representatives, state agencies, trade organisations, and the general public.

**Directive
entered into
force**



**Location and boundaries
of RBDs identified**
**Competent authorities
designated**
**Administrative
provisions made**



Directive entered into force

2000 2001 2002 2003

Location and boundaries of RBDs identified
Competent authorities designated
Administrative provisions made

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

S.I. No. 722 of 2003

European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations 2003

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2009

WATER
river basin district



Direct
enter
force

2000



2005

2006

2007

2008

2009



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Direct
enter
force

2000



Eight Irish RBDs

Co-ordinating local authorities

Eastern RBD

Dublin City

South Eastern RBD

Carlow

South Western RBD

Cork County

Western RBD

Galway County

Shannon IRBD

Limerick County

North Western
IRBD

Donegal

Neagh Bann IRBD

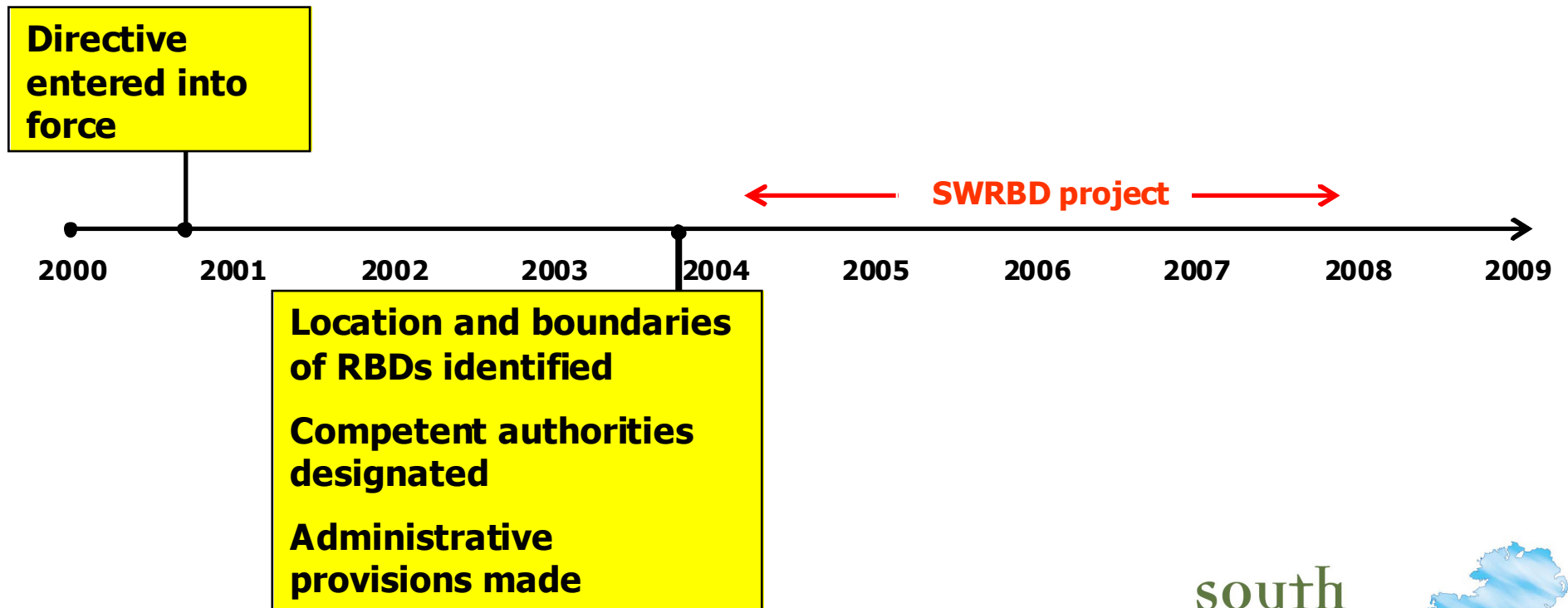
Monaghan

North Eastern RBD
(Northern
Ireland)

(NI EHS)

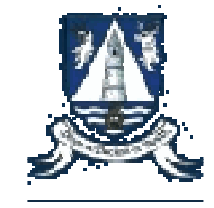
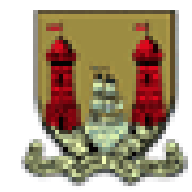
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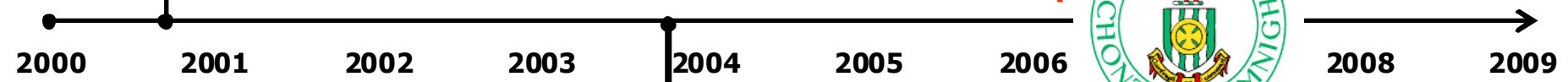




RPS Consulting Engineers

JE JACOBS

Directive entered into force



Location and boundaries of RBDs identified

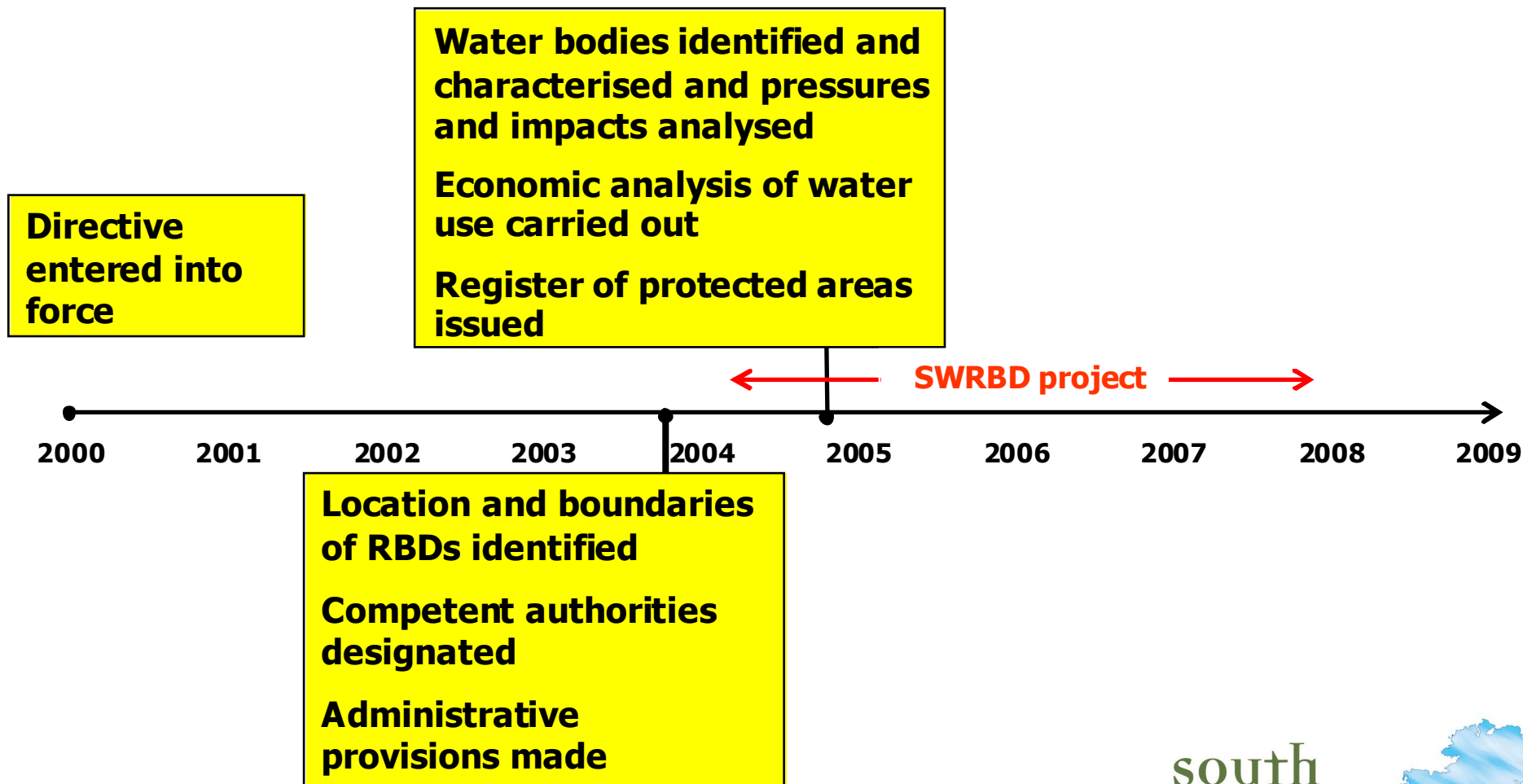
Competent authorities designated

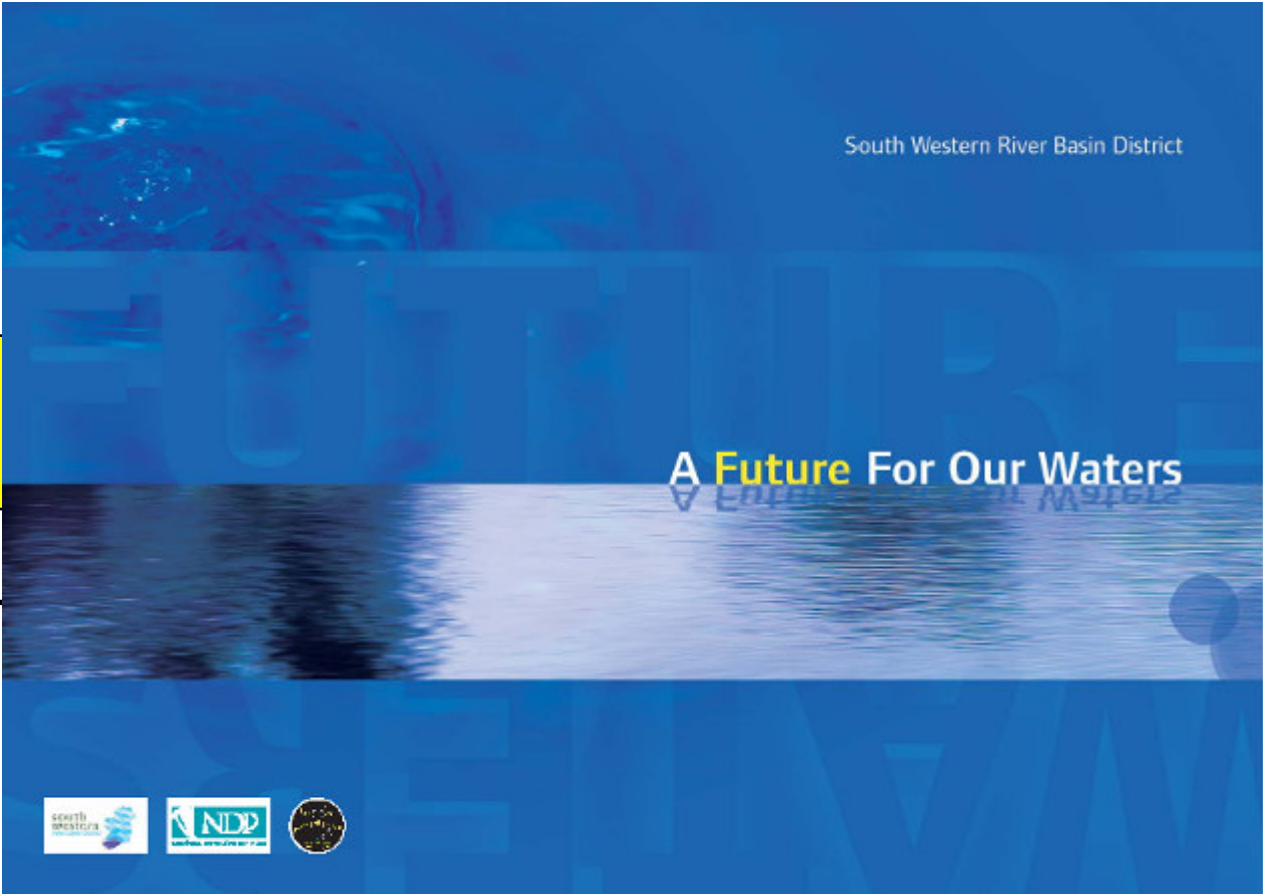
Administrative provisions made



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Directive entered into force

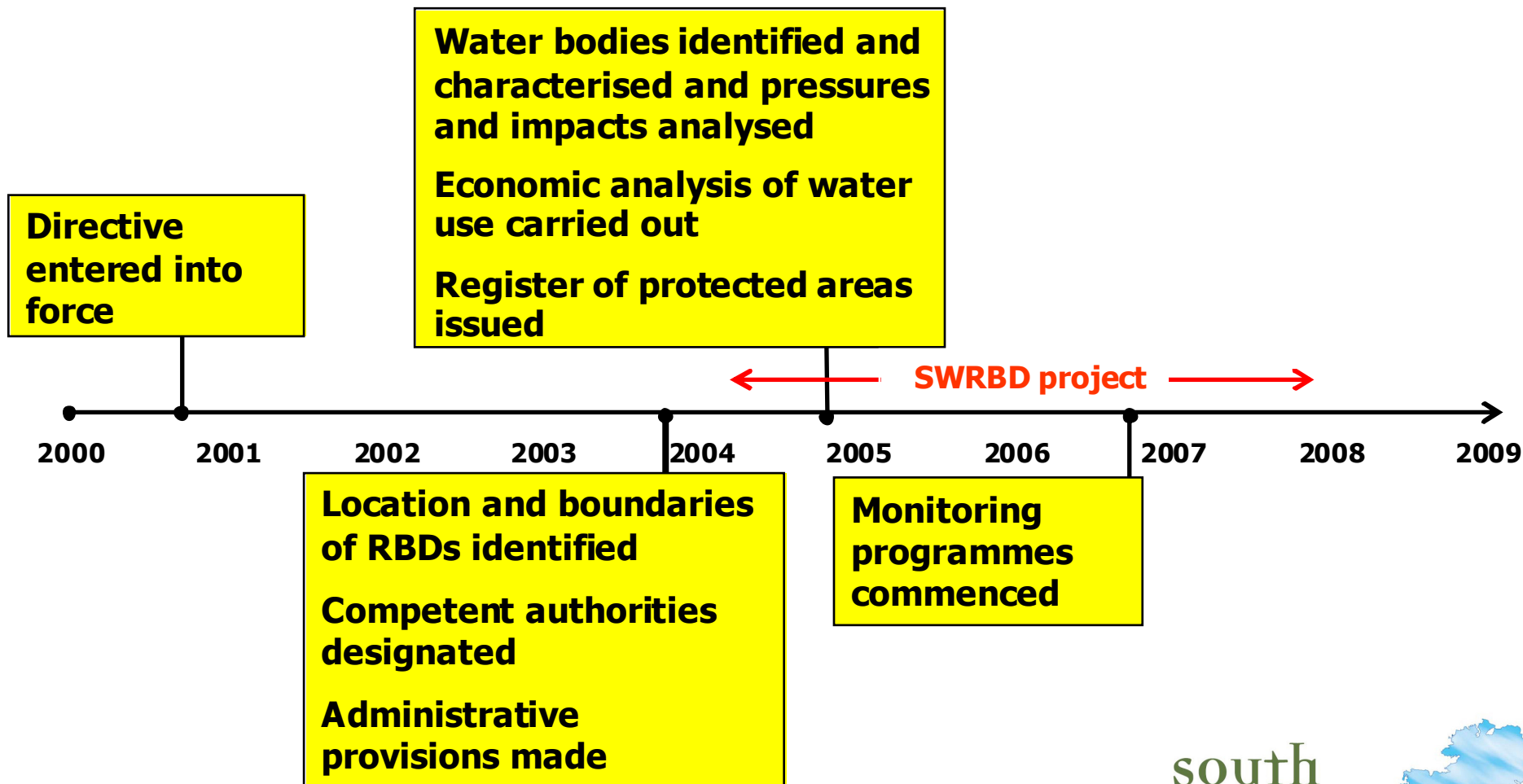
2000 2001

2008 2009

designated
Administrative provisions made

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Ireland

Water Framework Directive Monitoring Programme

Prepared to meet the requirements of the
EU Water Framework Directive
(2000/60/EC) and
National Regulations implementing the Water Framework
Directive (S.I. No. 722 of 2003) and
National Regulations implementing the Nitrates Directive
(S.I. No. 788 of 2005)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
An Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhsaoil
PO Box 3000, Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford, Ireland
Telephone: +353 53 916 0600 Fax: +353 53 916 0699
Email: info@epa.ie Website: www.epa.ie

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Directive
entered into
force

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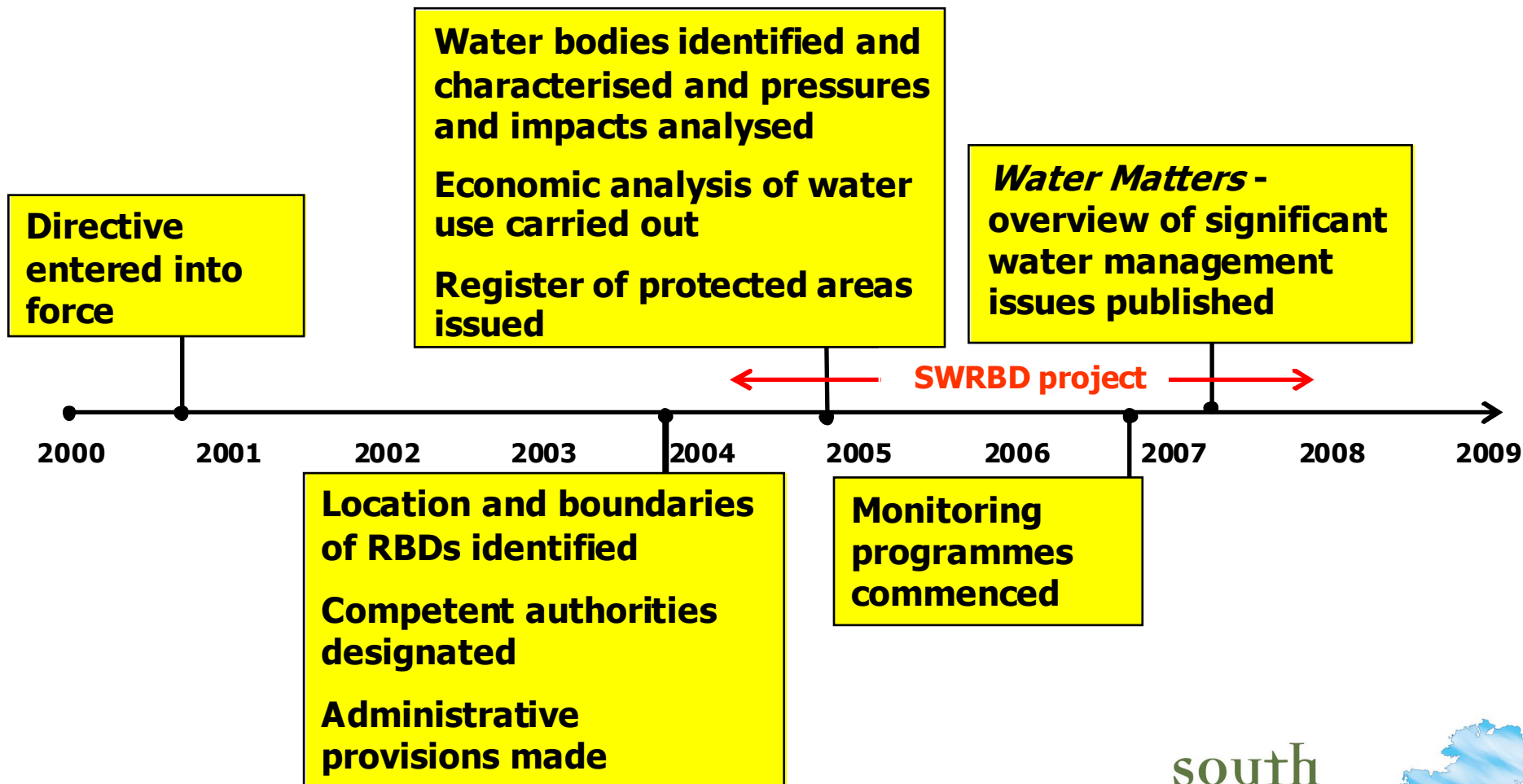


2008

2009

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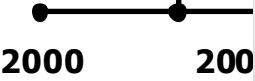




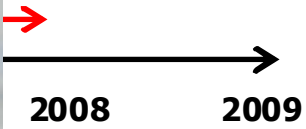
water matters

"Have your say!"

Directive entered into force



significant event



Wastewater & industrial discharges

Other point sources, i.e. landfills, quarries, contaminated sites

Agriculture

Wastewater from unsewered properties, i.e. septic tanks

Forestry

Dangerous substances

Physical changes to water bodies

Abstractions, e.g. for water supply

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2000 200

Significant event

2008 2009



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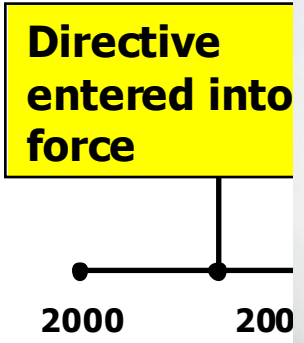
Local issues in the SWRBD

Enrichment of lakes and estuaries

Aquatic alien species

Protection of high status sites

Public participation in management of our waters



What is your view about the suggested actions to control problems caused by this issue?

Are these actions appropriate?

Have we missed something important?

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2000 200

Significant event

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2008 2009

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