

# Lakes: The Mirrors of the Earth

BALANCING ECOSYSTEM INTEGRITY AND HUMAN WELLBEING

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## A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE MONITORING NETWORK FOR LAKES IN GREECE

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The Water Framework Directive (WFD) foresees the operation of monitoring programmes for surface waters and groundwater in order to assess their ecological and chemical status (article 8). In Greece the monitoring network according to the requirements of the WFD has been established in late 2011 (Official Gazette 2017/B/ 09.09.2011) and made operational in 2012. The Greek Biotope - Wetland Centre monitors water quality and quantity of lake water bodies. In particular, in situ measurements, sampling and analysis of biological, physico-chemical, and hydromorphological quality elements are undertaken in 24 natural lakes and 26 reservoirs since spring 2012. Fifty three (53) sampling stations have been established, 27 of which correspond to surveillance monitoring programmes and 26 to operational monitoring programmes. This study aims towards i) a brief overview of the national monitoring network of Greek lake water bodies and ii) the presentation of the first results produced during 2012 and 2013. The dataset covers a gradient of eutrophication, which seems to be the main anthropogenic pressure in Greece and the most widespread anthropogenic pressure on lakes across Europe. The current monitoring network provides a useful start in establishing baseline data that will allow the assessment of ecological status and trends of Greek lakes.

PRESENTATION TYPE: ORAL