

Watershed organizations: The Quebec model



RRWMC
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OBVMR
organisme de bassin versant
MATAPÉDIA-RESTIGOUCHE
watershed organization

Member of the Board of directors
Matapédia-Restigouche Watershed
Organization


Background and history of the Quebec Model

1994-1996	First pilot project of integrated watershed management (COBARIC) – Chaudière River
1996	Saguenay flood
1998-2000	Beauchamp commission on water (public hearings)
2000	Walkerton E. Coli outbreak

« Real water parliament, the Watershed Organization is a place of shared management and participation. Its primary mandate is to develop a master plan for water, conduct stakeholder consultations in view of its adoption and approval by the Minister. It is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the master plan of water, through a collaborative system of instruments and indicators »

Rapport Beauchamp, 2000



Background and history

2000	Quebec's Commission on water management (BAPE) recommends that the State acquires judicial and institutional instruments necessary for its management
2002	Adoption of the National Water Policy 2002-2017  Creation of a first group of 33 watershed committees

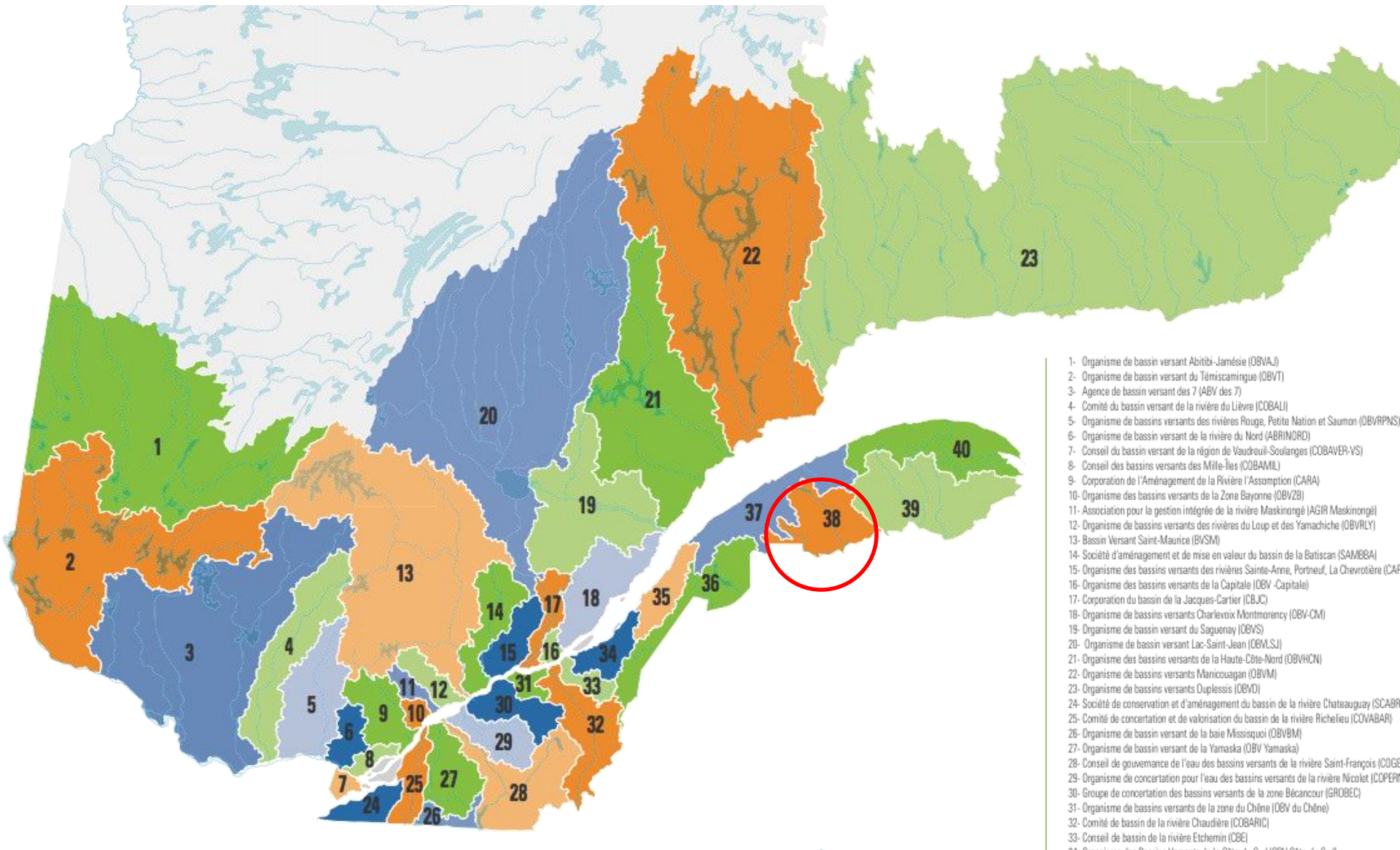
2002: 33 priority watershed groups are organized



Background and history

2000	Quebec's Commission on water management (BAPE) recommends that the State acquires judicial and institutional instruments necessary for its management
2002	Adoption of the National Water Policy  Creation of a first group of 33 watershed committees
2006	Law on sustainable development
2009	Law confirming the collective character of water resources with the aim to reinforce their protection  Consolidation and creation of 40 integrated watershed management zones – Core funding of 120,000\$/year
2018	Stratégie québécoise de l'eau 2018-2030 - Core funding of WO increased to 250,000\$/year for 3 years

2009: 40 integrated watershed managements zones (organizations) to cover all southern Quebec



The Restigouche example



Law confirming the collective character of water resources with the aim to reinforce their protection.



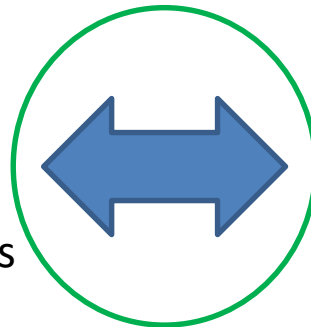
(40 members)

In addition to representing its members, the ROBVO's mandate is to promote the principles of the participatory governance and the integrated and concerted management of watersheds.
+ Sharing information, annual meeting organization.



(WO) Watershed organisations

Prepare and update a water **management plan** and to promote and ensure its implementation by making sure there is a balanced number of users and a variety of interested parties, such as the governmental, aboriginals communities, municipal, economic, environmental, agricultural and communities.



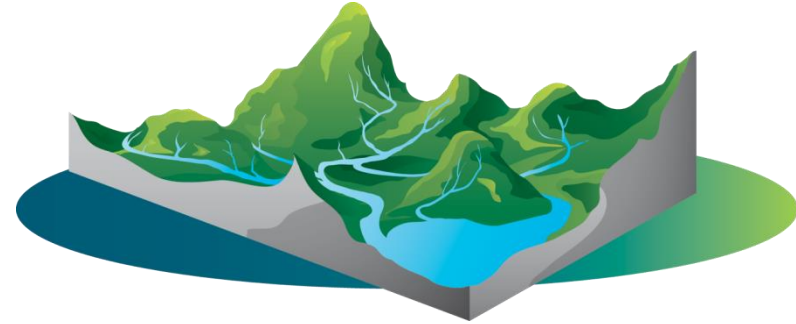
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Integrated watershed-based water management:

WO approach based on 3 types of integration:

Territorial integration

- Work beyond the administrative borders



Horizontal integration

- Dialogue and collaboration between the stakeholders from a same level, but from different areas of activity.

Vertical integration

- Dialogue and collaboration between stakeholders from different levels (provincial, regional, local, etc.)



The role of Watershed organizations (WO)

The WO is a facilitator:

- Uses participative processes and balanced representation of different sectors
- Reinforces the fields of intervention of each stakeholder
- Supports, advises and accompanies the stakeholders

The WO realizes a water master plan

- Based on scientific data
- Considers the stakeholders and population concerns
- Approved by 11 ministries and agencies
- Implemented by the stakeholders

The WO is a non-profit organization

- It can take any additional mandate
- Continuous mobilization of stakeholders



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Rébecca, Marie-Camille, Valérie, Renaud, Robin, Louise, Mireille, Simon et Benoit

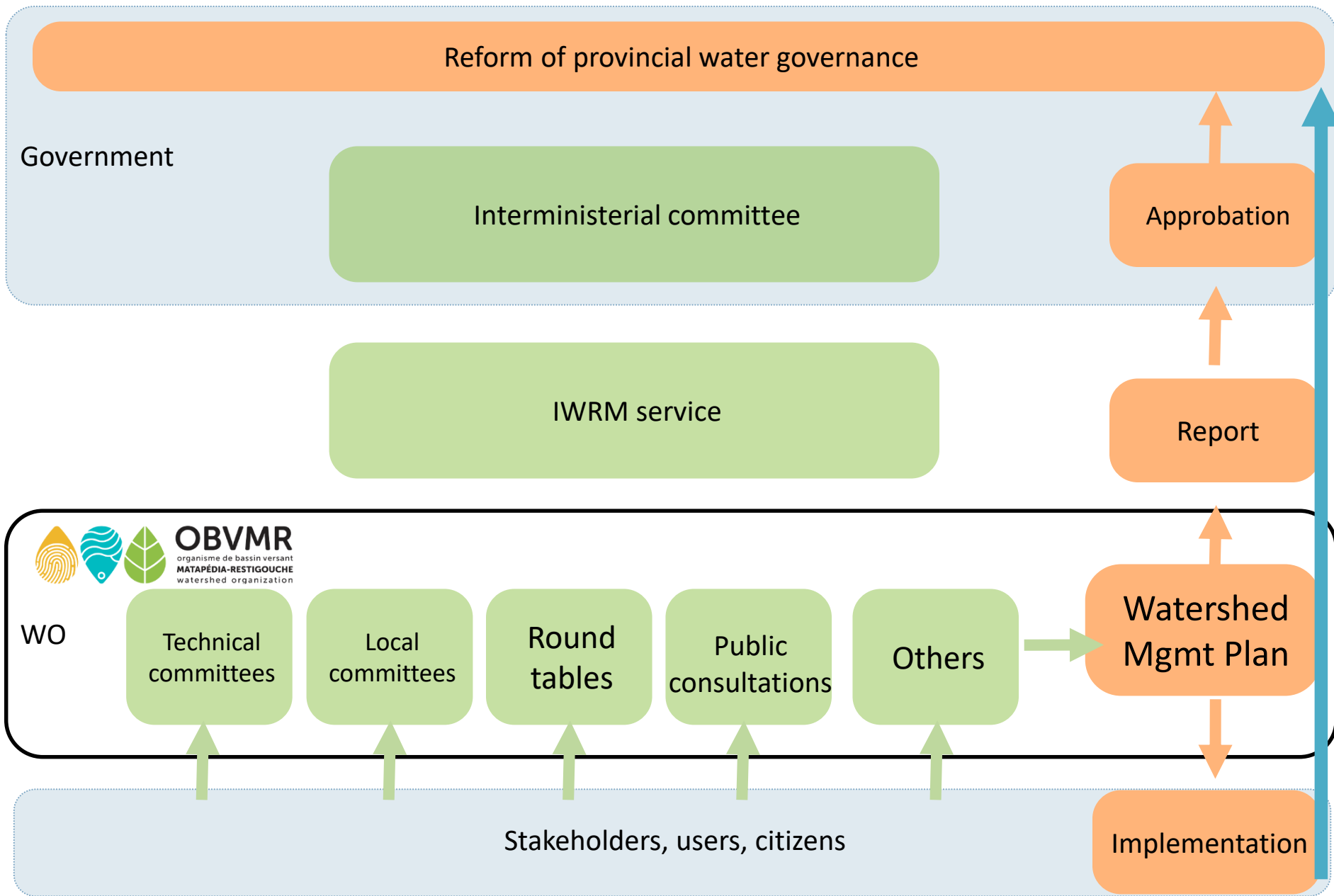
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Robin Rodriguez, stagiaire français, tech. gestion eaux
Simon Carré-Pierre, stagiaire français, tech. gestion eaux

**Homologues de secteur
pour la table
concertation**

Gaétan Bernatchez
(MRC Avignon)
Réginald Lizotte
(Récréotouristique BSL)
Michelle Lévesque
(Faune BSL)



The water master plan

Current state

Projected state

Inventory

Diagnosis

Priorities

Issues

Vision

orientations
and objectives

Action plan

Public participation

Information

Consultation

Implication

Co-decision

Empowerment

websites
news
newsletters
sensitization
education
advertising
media presence
treatments
popularization
Etc.

informal consultation
working meeting
open Forum
survey
formal consultation
"focus group"
evolutionary approach
public meeting
open house
"world café"
Etc.

participative cartography
consultation table
scenario workshop
deliberative assembly
consultation
technical committees
open forum
search consensus
resilience time lines
Etc.

participative cartography
consultation table with "consensus construction process" (Method Delphi)
decision-making committees
decision table
MEAG
Etc.

training
capacity building
support
SENAT
delegation
citizen jury
fund and incentives for action
lessons learned
Etc.

Strengths of the Quebec approach

- Based on a «bottom-up» approach
- Place for citizens and stakeholders involvement
- Adaptive and evolutionary approach
- Non-institutionalized approach
- Effective reform of the local governance processes
- Dynamic WOs and core funding
- Approach based on mobilization and not regulation
- New era: need to make a monitoring and evaluation of the results

Weaknesses of the Quebec approach

- There is no real problem with water in public opinion
- No reform of the state governance (or monitoring)*
- Governance still fragmented
- Disengagement of ministeries (MDDELCC and others)*
- Lack of transboundary collaboration (except for the St. Lawrence)
- No legal or juridical power for WOs
- Lack of integration of WMPs in land planning tools
- Lack of financial resources for the implementation of actions identified in the WMPs*

*Report of the Sustainable Development Commissioner

Resources



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Merci! Thank you!