



## **Strategic plan for establishing a national-scale hydrometric network in Greece: challenges and perspectives**

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The protection and management of water and environmental resources require the availability of reliable data, collected by properly designed, equipped and functioning monitoring networks. However, for many years in Greece, the status of data collection and archiving has been far from adequate, thus preventing the country from managing its water resources properly. Today, a large effort to mitigate this gap is employed, within a recently launched research infrastructure called “Open Hydrosystem Information Network” (OpenHi.net). This aims establishing automatic monitoring systems for the surface water resources at the national scale, accompanied by supporting e-infrastructure (databases and modeling applications), in compliance with the requirements of the relevant EU Directives. Essential component of this initiative is the implementation of a detailed evaluation of all existing measuring infrastructures and associated data, resulting to a strategic planning for the installation of the new monitoring stations across all important rivers, lakes and reservoirs of the country. This presentation summarizes the outcomes of this work, and the experience gained so far from the operation of first pilot stations.