

1 Article

2 Comparison of Water Resource Policies between 3 Brazil and Italy

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13
14 **Abstract:** The growing need for water has pressured society and governments to focus more on
15 preservation, planning and management of this natural resource, in which is fundamental to
16 ecosystems and especially to humans. In this sense, the goal of this study was to analyze the
17 national policy of water resources in Brazil and Italy, figuring out aspects that could promote its
18 improvement, aiming at the preservation of water sources, guaranteeing satisfactory quantity and
19 quality. They were carried out in 2019 by the environmental agencies of both countries, listing the
20 main disciplinary regulations. The results show that although they are countries with different
21 realities, they resemble similarities in managerial aspects of water resources, with legislation
22 addressing qualitative and quantitative aspects of water, with guiding principles, instruments and
23 actions aimed at the defence of this natural resource.

24 **Keywords:** water management; planning; water resources; water sustainability policies, water
25 laws.
26

27 1. Introduction

28 Air Water resource is a relevant subject of the environmental crisis, and one of the main
29 challenges faced by humanity. The uneven distribution on the earth's surface; factors related to
30 waste and mismanagement; the increasingly alarming context of pollution and contamination of
31 water resources; and population growth, especially in developing countries, is a crucial concern of
32 public officials and society.

33 Macedo [48] in his book "Waters and Waters" describes the importance of this natural resource.
34 The UN is warning that by 2025, almost two third of the world population will live in metropolitan
35 areas, causing serious supply problems. According to UN [57] the expected human population will
36 be around 8.6 billion by 2030, 9.8 billion by 2050 and 11.2 billion by 2100.

37 In this sense, there will be a strong need for a proper management of water resources, allowing
38 different uses, ensuring desirable quantity and quality. Many actions could be taken, such as
39 reevaluating the development sample, the pattern of consumption, the unequal distribution of
40 wealth and the employee technological standard.

41 The principle of sustainability implies the use of renewable resources at rates equal to or less
42 than its regeneration. Water sustainability mainly implies in maintaining a dynamic balance
43 between supply and demand for water.

44 This justifies the need for studies to sustainability perspective in the use of natural water
45 resources, taking advantage of the resulting stimulation of the creation of the legal framework that
46 supports the management of water resources.

47 That way, the legislation constitutes a fundamental instrument in establishing specific
48 policies for water resources and how to run the planning and management.

49 In this sense, we compared the policies of water resources between Brazil and Italy,
50 enabling improvement within the planning and management mechanisms of these countries, and by
51 meeting the ecosystem support capacity.

52 2. Materials and Methods

53 In both countries, environmental agencies were the main sources of consultation in 2019. In
54 Brazil, the main sources were the National Water Agency (ANA) and the National Water Resources
55 System, while in Italy the information base was consultations through the European Environmental
56 Agency - EEA, the Institute of Environmental Protection and Research - ISPRA and the National
57 System of Environmental Protection and the data expressed in tables and figures that illustrate the
58 results obtained.

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60 3. Results and discussion

61 3.1 Principles of water governance

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63 In Latin America there are three ways of water governance in their environmental policies, that
64 is, community management (Ecuador), social control (Venezuela) and social participation (Brazil).
65 The water governance in Brazil begins with the conceptual, theoretical and operational building in
66 the National Water Resources Policy, through Law n. 9433 1997 [59]

67 According to Rogers and Hall [55], the notion of a satisfactory governance starts with the
68 following principles: participation, transparency, equity, accountability, ethics and sustainability.

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70 a) Participation: all citizens, directly or through representatives in all stages of the formulation process, as well as in
71 decision-making spaces. This requires the government to act, at all levels, from an inclusive approach.

72 b) Transparency: information should flow democratically within society. The different processes and decisions should
73 be transparent and susceptible to criticism.

74 c) Equity: all social groups should have the opportunity to improve access to common goods.

75 d) Responsibility: government organizations, the private sector and civil society must be accounted for the interests
76 they represent.

77 e) Consistency: the increasing complexity of issues related to water resources requires appropriate and coherent
78 policies.

79 f) Sensitivity: institutions and processes must meet all and respond appropriately to the changes that are necessary.

80 g) Integration: water governance should promote comprehensive and holistic approaches.

81 h) Ethics: water governance must necessarily be sitting on ethical principles that underlie the societies in which it is
82 applied.

83 i) Sustainability: requires in its applicability an ecosystem vision, for the maintenance of aquatic ecosystems is essential
84 for continuity of life [55].

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86 The sustainability of territorial spaces is not easy, especially in regions which depend on others,
87 because it is difficult to estimate the demand for the natural resource.

88 This interdependence is larger than the spatial scale of analysis, for example, a country tends to
89 be more self-sustaining in resources than a small watershed. To be more understandable, one can
90 say that a territorial space is sustainable "if it is able to maintain the balance between supply and
91 demand for natural resources" [50].

92 Santilli [56] reveals that several Treaties and International Declarations (especially the
93 Declaration of Dublin, Ireland, 1992) have stated expressly decentralization in the management of
94 water resources, to harmonize participatory integration of public management boards, private and
95 citizens interested in the use and conservation of water.

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97 **3.2 Policy of water resources in Brazil**

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99 The management of water resources is not a recent phenomenon in Brazil, but it is associated
100 with the Portuguese colonization [31].

101 Imperial Constitution in 1824 came up with Brazil's independence and did not address the
102 protection of water. Article 162 of the Penal Code of 1890 related to water protection with the right to
103 Safe health [4].

104 The Civil Code of 1916 mentioned about water, only regulating the right of use in relation to the
105 right neighborhood. Water was considered as a limited economic value and private domain [53].

106 The Federal Constitution of 1934 provides in its article 5, subsection XIX, letter "j" Racing
107 privately the Union to legislate on water [5].

108 In 1934, the National Congress of Brazil, through Decree 24643 promulgates the Code of Waters
109 [7]. The first legal instrument disciplining the planning and management of water resources of the
110 Republic. Addressed water types, forms of exploitation, measures in case of contamination of water
111 bodies, criteria for use of water by industries. Costa e Silva et al [22] considered that the aim of the
112 Water Code was to empower the Ministry of Agriculture to protect water resources, noting the
113 agricultural vocation of the country.

114 The 1946 Constitution defined the water as a state and union property. The lakes and streams in
115 Union land, which cover more than one state, also work as a border for other countries or which
116 extended to other foreign territory, were considered to be assets of Union. The states had in their
117 lakes and rivers domain on state land and with source in the province [54].

118 Within the following decades, especially with the occurrence of environmental movements, is
119 part of the Brazilian Federal Constitution of 1988 with the prospect of creation of the National
120 System of Water Resources Management. The Brazilian Constitution of 1988 introduced the chapter
121 on the environment [6], the light of Federal Law 6938 of 1981 establishing the national
122 environmental policy [9].

123

124 **Art. 225.** Everyone has the right to an ecologically balanced environment and of common use and essential to a healthy
125 quality of life, imposing to the government and society the duty to defend it and preserve it for present and future generations
126 [6].

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128 The constitutional guidance of 1988 and the report of the International Conference on Water
129 Resources and Environment (1992) played an important role, so that in 1997 a federal law n. 9433
130 could be approved, establishing the national water policy. In 1998 comes the Environmental Crimes
131 Law [11]. Carvalho [20] well exposes water legislation.

132 The reports of the National Water Agency – ANA [2], the conference held in Dublin,
133 highlighted four basic principles: (a) The effective management of water resources should cover
134 surface and groundwater resources, always with the river basin as the basic unit of development ; (b)
135 The development and management of water resources should be based on a participatory
136 perspective, involving users, planners and policy makers at all levels (c) The woman has a central
137 role in managing the provision and protection of water (d) water has an economic value in all its
138 competing uses and should be recognized as an economic good.

139 The guiding principles of the Brazilian law, well influenced by the foregoing are the
140 foundations necessary for its implementation:

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Art. 1 The National Water Resources Policy is based on the following grounds: I - water is a public good; II - Water is a limited natural resource with economic value; III - in situations of scarcity, the priority use of water resources for human consumption and watering livestock; IV - the management of water resources should always provide the multiple use of water; V - the river basin is the territorial unit for implementation of the National Water Resources Policy and activities of the National Water Resources Management System; VI - the management of water resources should be decentralized and include the participation of the Government, users and communities [10].

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Such foundations have enabled the design of five planning tools and fundamental water management: water resources plan, grant use of water, collection, classification and information system:

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Art. 5. The instruments of the National Water Resources Policy:

I - Water Resources Plans;

II - The framing of bodies of water into classes, according to the main uses of water;

III - The granting of water use rights;

IV - Charging for the use of water resources;

V - The Water Resources Information [10].

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The water resources plans are aimed at making diagnosis and prognosis, being developed at the federal, state and river basin level. According to ANA [3] until the end of 2017, 158 plans of state watersheds were prepared in 16 Federative Units and 32 plans were under preparation in 10 Federative Units (Acre, Bahia, Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Mato Grosso, Pernambuco, Paraná, Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina and São Paulo).

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The frame bodies of water refer to the classification of watercourses into classes, having the desired predominant use. ANA [3] in 2017, Brazil had 1,625 quality monitoring water points in all Brazilian states. The classes were defined by 357 in CONAMA: Special, 1, 2, 3 and 4.

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The grant corresponds to the right of a certain volume use of a specified time and it can also be earned for effluent discharge. According to ANA [3], within the set of federal units of Brazil, more than 75,000 licenses were issued and found to be valid on July 2017, for a total flow of more than 2.5 m³ / s.

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The charge relates to taxation of the use of water as a resource of nature for the withdrawal or the quality of effluent released. It aims to encourage the rational use of water and guarantee funds for investments in the watershed.

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Finally, the information system aims to train and qualify the agents involved in the process as well as the community.

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It was established the National System of Water Resources Management - SINGREH where state, municipal and National boards are involved. However, the full power was directed to the Union and the States to legislate within the established limits of competence.

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Art. 33. integrate the National System of Water Resources Management:

I - The National Water Resources Council;

II - The Water Resources Councils of the States and the Federal District;

III - Committees of the basin;

IV - The public federal, state and municipal board, in which responsibilities relate to the management of water resources;

V - Water Agencies [10].

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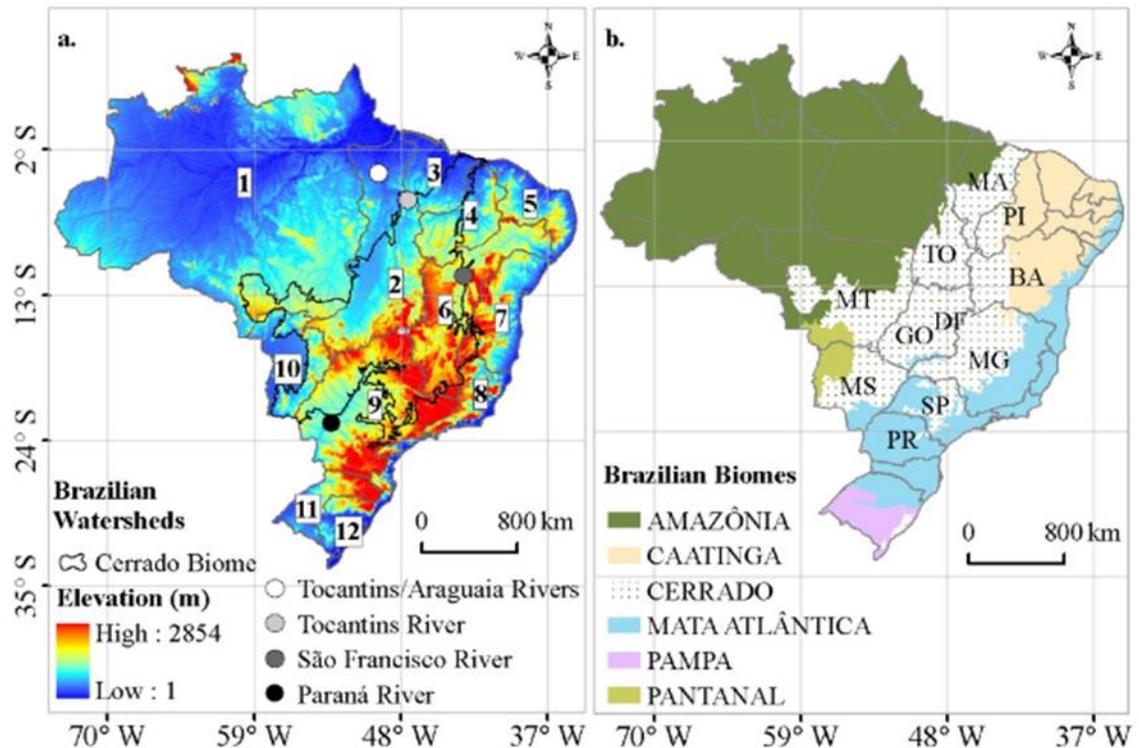
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Special emphasis should be given to river basin committees that are real "water parliaments", performing decentralized and participatory management, and the basin agencies, operational support of the deliberations. According to ANA [3], there are already nine committees of federal watersheds and 224 state watersheds.

193 In 2000, was created the National Water Agency according to Law n. 9984 [12], the board
 194 responsible for the coordination and discipline in planning and management of Water resources; In
 195 2018 the provisional measure adds to this board normative role of national character in the provision
 196 of public sanitation services.

197 Provides for the creation of the National Water Agency - ANA, federal entity implementing the
 198 National Water Resources Policy, coordinating the National System of Water Resources
 199 Management and responsible for the establishment of national reference standards for regulating
 200 the provision of public services sanitation [18]. The following year, the National Water Resources
 201 Council established the National Hydrographic Division into 12 regions (Figure 1), according to the
 202 resolution n.32 of 15 October 2003 [8].



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 204

205 **Figure 1.** Hydrographic Regions of Brazil: 1. Amazon; 2. Tocantins; 3. Western Northeast Atlantic; 4.
 206 Parnaíba; 5. Eastern Northeast Atlantic; 6. San Francisco; 7. East Atlantic; 8. South-East Atlantic; 9.
 207 Parana; 10. Paraguay; 11. Uruguay; 12. South Atlantic. Fluviometric stations represented by circles.
 208 B. Biomes.

209 Source: Oliveira et al. [51].

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211 In 2005 the National Environment Council - CONAMA issues the resolution n. 357 [13] which
 212 established standards framework of water bodies and sewage discharge. With subsequent
 213 amendments, in 2011 the standard of effluent discharge is redefined by CONAMA resolution n. 430
 214 [15].

215 Another important milestone refers to the year 2007, with the creation of the Federal Law n
 216 11,445 [14], national sanitation policy, considering the set of services, infrastructure and water
 217 supply facilities, sanitation, urban sanitation, management solid waste and drainage of urban
 218 rainwater, also restated by Provisional Measure n. 868, [18].

219 In 2017 Consolidation Ordinance No. 5 sets the potability standard [17].

220 Establishes national guidelines for basic sanitation, creates the Sanitation Interministerial
 221 Committee Basic amends Law n. 6,766, of December 19, 1979, Law n. 8,036, of May 11, 1990, Law n.
 222 8666 of 21 June 1993, and Law n. 8,987, of February 13, 1995, and repealing Law n. 6528 of 11 May
 223 1978 [18].

224 In 2019, changes within the administrative structure of the Federal Government were
225 transferred to the National Water Agency - ANA's Ministry of Environment to the Ministry of
226 Regional Development, started a new stage in the management board, but also received criticism
227 from social organizations.

228 Also forms of financial compensation, those that preserve water springs, water resources or
229 possess properties that provide environmental services are expressed in the forest code, law
230 n.12.651, of May 25th, 2012 [16].

231 **3.3 Policy of water resources in Italy**

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233 There has been a great concern about water for quite some time, that's why the Royal Decree n.
234 264 of August 10th, 1884 had already established some type of discipline over the water [35].

235 Subsequently, the Italian Constitution in Article 117 states:

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237 The legislative power of the Member States and the Region of the Constitution risks as well as the bonds arising from
238 the Community and international obligations [36].

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240 The State shall exercise exclusive legislation in certain issues, especially aspects related to
241 environmental problems.

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243 s) protection of the environment, the ecosystem and cultural heritage [36].

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245 Similarly, Italy has its regulatory mechanisms. You can highlight important moments in the
246 planning and management of water resources in Italy.

247 In 1989 the law 183 established the "Basin Authorities" joint body [37], agreed among states and
248 regions, operating in the watershed, considered planning and management units in defense of the
249 soil and subsoil, the use and management water resources, regardless of the administrative
250 subdivisions, that is, watersheds are considered inseparable physical units in which is the diagnosis,
251 prognosis and actions to protect, defend and improve existing resources.

252 This innovation within the legislation is evident throughout the efforts of Professor Giulio De
253 Marchi, who chaired the committee in 1966 creating the prerequisites for expanded and integrated
254 view of planning and based on the watershed.

255 Data collection were performed, identification of rivers and basins, as well as development and
256 implementation of projects, with limited operation by the resistance of local governments who
257 wished to administer the territory more freely and without any authorization from "Basin
258 Authorities".

259 The basin authority is a local consultation between institutions and entities involved in the
260 planning and management of territorial unity, overcoming the fragmentation of skills and
261 institutions that do not allow the integrated and sustainable planning.

262 Bringing "basin authority" to life was and is a way to join all actions within the territory. By
263 doing so, Italy was divided into river basins, with different territorial levels of importance: national,
264 interregional and regional.

265 Another important milestone is the law 36 of 1994 [38]. In essence, it already highlights that
266 the first item is that the protection belongs to the state, as well as concern for the rational use,
267 ensuring to future generations the use of the resource.

268

269 1. All surface and groundwater, even though not drawn from underground, are public and are a resource that is
270 safeguarded and used in accordance with the criteria of solidarity.

271 2. Any use of water is carried out safeguarding the expectations and rights of future generations to enjoy a full
272 environmental heritage.

273 3. The water uses are intended to save and renew resources so as not to compromise water resources, environmental
274 housing, agricultural, aquatic flora and fauna, geomorphology and hydrological equilibrium processes [38].

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276 Continues and reinforces the priority to the human being as a condition "*sine qua non*" the legal
277 prerogative.

278

279 The use of water for human consumption has priority over other uses of the same body surface or underground water.
280 Other uses are permitted when the resource is sufficient and do not adversely affect the quality of water for human
281 consumption [38].

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283 They describe the procedures and actions aimed at promoting integrated water service and
284 radical restructuring in funding sectors, distribution and treatment of water, replacing the existing
285 aqueducts mosaic by networks whose dimensions and management were more current.

286 In 1999, Act 152 addresses the responsibility for water pollution [39], important point of view
287 about quality, however this new law had difficulties to be implemented because collided with the
288 interests of organizations and production cost. The necessary measures for the quantitative and
289 qualitative management of the water system, the regional and watersheds are part of it.

290 Concerned with the issue of water resources Directive 2000/60 / EC of the European Parliament
291 and of the Council of October 23rd, 2000 establishing a framework for Community action within the
292 field of water [52].

293 For Machado [49] citing Kallis and Butler (2001), Page and Kaika (2003), White and Howe
294 (2003), Carter and Howe (2006), Wiering and Immink (2006) and Carter (2007) the management
295 system promoted from the Directive 2000/ 60 is based on the following principles:

296

297 1. The principle of integration, whereby the entire surface and groundwater must be protected by a systemic
298 management performed together with the management and sector or regional policies;

299 2. The principle that water management should be set on the hydrological unit watershed, not on
300 political-administrative divisions; 3. The principle by which states and municipalities (or regions, provinces, comunes, as
301 used in Italy) has an obligation to ensure good water quality, prevent degradation / pollution, reduce the amount of waste
302 produced and to eliminate generation potentially hazardous waste;

303 4. The principle of joint work (including research) in order to avoid shortages and pollution of water based
304 on the establishment of effluent emission limits and control of point and diffuse sources of release;

305 5. The principle of sustainability by seeking a use economically, ecologically and socially sustainable use of
306 water resources;

307 6. The public cooperation principle for the creation of policies that provide participatory watershed
308 management through active participation or consultation of stakeholders;

309 7. The principle of transparency in relation to the use that is made of water (Bonus) and on the division of
310 losses (Lien, costs and environmental damage) arising from these uses. In this case it applies the principle of "polluter payer".
311 [49].

312

313 Among the instruments used in Italy, we highlight the River Contracts. The contracts are
314 instruments of integrated management, territorialized and participatory water resources which are
315 intended to explicit purpose of execution, on a local scale, the goals are based on the European Policy
316 water 2000/60 / EC (water Framework Directive / WFD) [49; 27].

317 In Italy the legislative decree of April 3rd, 2006, n. 152 [41] and subsequent amendments, work as
318 an environmental code, and it deals with the defense of the soil and fight against the waste; water
319 pollution and water resources management. In which the articles 63 and 64 are inserted respectively
320 to the basin authorities and hydrographic districts. It comprises standards for the "Trusteeship Plan
321 of Water" (PTA2) approved on March 2007 by Decree 117-10731, which provides for the use of the
322 instruments called "Negotiated Programming".

323 According to Machado [49] The "River Agreements" were inserted within this set of
324 instruments (*Contratti di Fiume - CDF*), established in Article 10, which aim to encourage the
325 participation of all major subjects in the territory of the river basin to be managed for the definition
326 and implementation of integrated actions in order to overcome the fragmented environmental
327 vision.

328 It was created the Directive 2007/60 / EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of
 329 October 23rd, 2007 relating to the assessment and management of flood risks, promptly backed in
 330 Italy by Legislative Decree 23 February 2010, n. 49 [42].

331 Provisions for environmental issues to promote green economy and measures to curb the
 332 excessive use of natural resources have led to new legislation, and the art. 51 paragraph 2 of the Law
 333 of December 28th 2015, n. 221, [44] replaced in its entirety Articles 63 and 64 of Legislative Decree of
 334 April 3rd 2006 establishing the basin plan as an important tool for planning and management of
 335 water resources. In article 64 defines the river basin (Figure 2)



336
 337 **Figure 2.** Districts or Hydrographic regions in Italy.

338 Source: Italy, Law 221, [44]. Ministry of the environment and the protection of the territory and
 339 the sea, [46].

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 342 The hydrographic districts extend to more than one basin at different national, inter-regional
 343 and regional levels or listed in quantity in brackets: Hydrographic District Apriorientali (4);
 344 Hydrographic District Fiume Po (7); Hydrographic District Appennino Settentrionale (5);
 345 Hydrographic District Appennino centrale (8); Hydrographic District Appennino meridionale (14);
 346 The river basin of Sardinia (1); Hydrographic district of Sicilia (1) [44].

347 Subsequently, the Ministry of Environment Protection and Land and Sea of October 25th 2016
 348 established allocation regulation and transfer to the district authorities of human and instrumental
 349 resources, including offices and financial institutions of the basin authorities [45].

350 To make it easier, to support, to rationalize the use of public money, improve competitiveness
 351 and ensure more effective environmental protection, it is established in 2008 the Institute for the
 352 Protection and Environmental Research - ISPRA, operating since 2010, with the decree of May 21st,
 353 2010 n. 123 [43], which defines the fusion within ISPRA three entities controlled by the Ministry of
 354 Environment and Territorial Protection and the Sea

355 The ISPRA in technical and scientific functions, both to support the Ministry of the
 356 Environment and for the protection of the territory and the sea, and directly through monitoring
 357 activities, evaluation, control, inspection and management, Environmental information. Dono et al.
 358 [26] describes sustainable management of water resources in the face of climate change. Ferrante
 359 and Sciacca [30] specifies sustainable management of water resources in Italy.

360 Concern for water comes from the European Environment Agency in several studies [29; 30],
 361 but Italy plays a key role. It was created in 2017, the National Environmental Protection System, a
 362 network that aggregates the institute, the 19 regional agencies (ARPA) and two autonomous
 363 provinces (APPA) and which ISPRA is coordinated, also in charge of cooperating with the European
 364 Agency environmental and other international environment.

365 In 2018 the *report Environment* to the ISPRA [34] expresses the efforts made in research on the
 366 subject and strengthen the environmental Italian system.

367

368 3.4 Actions and outlook

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370 In Brazil and Italy, actions aim to monitor the quality and quantity of water resources. In Brazil,
 371 states and country play an executive role with their state and federal water resources plans, as well
 372 as river basin plans. In Italy, there is a predominant role of river basin assemblies, called river basin
 373 committees in Brazil, allowing self-management of social subjects/agents.

374 Table 1 shows a summary of the hydrographic regions in both countries, as well as an
 375 administrative organization in 2019.

376

377 **Table 1.** Summary of the administrative and river areas in Brazil and Italy.

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Countries	Geographic region	Administrative region	State	Province	Municipality or Commune	Region or Hydrographic District
Brazil	5	-	26 ^a	-	5568	12
Italy	4	20	-	107 ^b	7926	7

379 Source: the author based on data Databasi comuni [24]; Brazil [8]; Italy [44]; IBGE [33].

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^a = 26 states and one Federal District

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^b= The Italian territory is divided into 107 territorial areas and 100 administrative bodies of second level (80 provinces, 14 cities and metropolitan 6 free municipal consortia in Sicily) two autonomous provinces of Trentino-Alto Adige.

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Recently, the change of the National Water Agency - ANA to the Ministry of Regional Development, out of the Ministry of Environment was not well received by environmental groups, despite of have received powers to set policies aimed at the effluent. Movement of civil society organizations, called National Observatory for the Rights to Water and Sanitation was created in 2019 to act in defense of water and promotion of sanitation in Brazil.

407 In its turn, the European Parliament [53] describes that the European Framework Directive
408 Water is complemented by specific directives, such as groundwater, drinking water, bathing water,
409 nitrate, waste water, the environmental quality standards and floods. The European strategy on
410 water resources objective: a) to protect and improve the water quality of aquatic ecosystems; b)
411 ensure the availability of a proper amount of water whenever and wherever needed; and finally; c)
412 promote sustainable water use based on long-term management.

413 The planning and management should be supported on key principles such as: a) the water is
414 public; b) balance between supply and demand, considering the ecosystem support capacity; c) the
415 quality and quantity of water are priority to human life.

416 To enable the above command and control instruments, such as legislation, inspections are
417 essential from the perspective of conservation and monitoring of water resources. The
418 polluter-payer principle should be applied to those who insist on disrespecting the laws and the
419 natural balance. As well as, special attention should be given to preserving-recipient principle
420 should exercise stimulus function to the practices of make available greater supply of water as well
421 as better quality.

422 Vidale et al. [58] deals with the payment for environmental services in Italy. In Brazil, the law n.
423 9,605 of February 12th, 1998, establishes punishment for causing environmental damage, considering
424 a crime [11]. Mechanisms for collecting the water as a resource of nature and not just payment for
425 treatment performed, has set an important source of money for the operation of basin agencies and
426 serving the educational process to users. It also adds increased stimulation to preserver-recipient
427 principle makes up for those payments that improve environmental services, especially with
428 producer program of water.

429 Cost reduction, optimization of resources, integration and territorial focus in the watershed are
430 targeting strategies focus in planning and management of water resources. Below, there is a list of
431 priority actions within the European Union, as well as its members, in the case of Italy.

432 - improve the implementation of legislation; - the integration of environmental concerns into
433 other sectoral policies; - inducing the market to work for the environment; - participation and civic
434 responsibility; - more ecological planning and land management; - High level of protection - the
435 precautionary principle - Preventive action - damage correction to the principle source of the
436 polluter pays - integration of this policy into other Community policies - use of scientific and
437 technical data currently available - variability of environmental conditions in the community regions
438 - cost / benefit - socio-economic development of the Community - international cooperation -
439 subsidiarity [23].

440 In Italy, recently the Ministry of Environment and Land and Sea Protection, through the
441 2019-2021 report, shows us ways to identify policy priorities and actions to be performed.

442
443 Support and implement the commitments and agreements made at European and international level for
444 sustainable development; 2. Strengthen and systematize policies and programs on climate and energy, with
445 special attention to sustainable mobility and energy saving; 3. Increase the protection of terrestrial biodiversity
446 and the Mediterranean and ensure a better and more coordinated management of protected areas and natural
447 capital; 4. Strengthen measures to combat hydrogeological instability, improving the protection of water
448 resources to be valued as a common good and a universal human right, to fight the consumption of the earth; 5.
449 Enhance the security of the territory, recovery activities and environmental rehabilitation of contaminated
450 areas, as well as prevention and contrast of environmental damage and the country fires of lands; 6. Increase
451 the effectiveness and the technical work on the work permits and environmental assessments, strengthen the
452 relative transparency and participation system for citizens; 7. Improving waste management, to focus on
453 reducing its production, promote circular economy, strengthen measures to prevent and combat pollution,
454 with particular attention to air quality; 8. Reset and prevent infringement procedures concerning
455 environmental issues, strengthening the participation of the system in EU policies, ensure correct
456 implementation of projects and programs financed with European funds [46].
457

458 It was held in 2018 for the first time, the World Water Forum in Brasilia, capital of Brazil, in its
459 eighth edition. At the time, the National Water Agency - ANA [1] presented the legacy project with

460 20 proposals for improvement of the constitutional frameworks, legal and infra-legal of water
461 management in Brazil. The deliberations of the Forum, the highlights are the ten principles that
462 become part of the Citizen Forum Legacy:

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464 Principle 1. Water is a community well and a right of all beings and is essential for the guarantee of life in all its forms;

465 Principle 2 - water management must be committed to the eradication of water borne diseases, conflict and poverty,
466 prevailing to the supremacy for the lives of people and nature over any other development interests.

467 Principle 3 - water should be ensured in quality and quantity through shared management.

468 Principle 4 - decision making in water management should be based on ecosystem paradigm in preventive and disaster
469 management and pollution.

470 Principle 5 - the effective participation of society in water management depends on access to information, education
471 quality and power in decision-making spaces and must then include the creation of enabling environments that encourage.

472 Principle 6 - countries should strengthen and ensure effective participation and social control in water management,
473 developing mechanisms, procedures and policies with the inclusion of traditional communities.

474 Principle 7 - water governance should be cooperative, transparent and integrated management of groundwater and
475 surface water in watersheds.

476 Principle 8 - the shared water management should be strengthened with the completion of joint constant in the
477 relationship between the public and private sectors and civil society.

478 Principle 9 - water culture must be preserved by all and must be harmonized with the economy from the different
479 environmental contexts.

480 Principle 10 - as a seed for the future, water management in all its aspects should consider women and young people in
481 all its fullness [32].

482

483 These principles guide the focus of global policies on water resources, but it does not extinguish
484 itself, because it demands concrete actions to be executed.

485 In regard to the methodological approach, innovation in the management of water resources
486 and water services is not only about technological innovation, but also stems from the innovation of
487 reference markets and innovation of the rules. In the case of markets, for example, manufacturing
488 companies will have to adapt in not to sell just "products" but "services" based on their products. As
489 seen below, it shows the importance of a strong collaboration between different skills, an open
490 innovation logic, between technology providers, research, final users and policy makers [25].

491 Lima et al. [47] propose an analysis engine as a "governance thermometer" of actions in water
492 resources, organized into five areas:

493 A. Institutional Environment (effectiveness of the law and importance of the issue to the public
494 agenda); B. State capabilities (financial resources and quality of bureaucracy); C. Management
495 Instruments (planning, targets, monitoring, indicators and evaluation of public policies); D.
496 Intergovernmental Relations (inter-sectoral and intra-sectoral coordination, municipal participation
497 in the system and federal forums); E. Interaction State Society (qualification and participation
498 channels) [47].

499 Finally, the 9th World Water Forum will take place in Dakar, Senegal in 2021 addressing "Water
500 Security". Until then, many actions within water defense will be made to benefit humanity.

501

502 4. Conclusions

503 It appears that there are directives, standards and laws governing planning and water resources
504 management in Brazil and in Italy. The concern is long-standing, but it has intensified nowadays,
505 due to higher risks of pollution and climate change that has affected the rainfall and water
506 availability.

507 The growing need for public policies for the preservation and conservation of water resources
508 has enabled the shared management, committees and preparation of watershed plans. Other
509 important instruments are implemented, but attention should be made to policies that stimulate the
510 conservative-recipient principle like the "water producer", without affecting the polluter-payer
511 principle

512 The main destination of the water in both countries within the agricultural sector should be of
 513 great concern in order not to affect other uses, as well as the development of technologies that
 514 improve the efficiency in this and other sectors.

515 Recalling the definition of sustainability as "development that meets the needs of the present
 516 without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs" [19], are the rights of
 517 future generations that will be benefitted by this precious commodity. If we do not do it by the
 518 knowledge and understanding of science then we must do it by penitence, in respect to the teachings
 519 of human solidarity.

520 The responsibility belongs to everyone, including the government, business, consumers,
 521 producers, research institutions, class entities and other institutions of civil society, therefore
 522 contributing to the reduction of environmental impacts of the use of water resources of the planet.

523 **Author Contributions:** Conceptualization, Antonio Pasqualetto; Methodology, Antonio Pasqualetto;
 524 Validation, Aldo Muro Jr.; Formal Analysis, Aldo Muro Jr.; Investigation, Antonio Pasqualetto; Resources,
 525 Antonio Pasqualetto; Data Curation, Antonio Pasqualetto.; Writing-Original Draft Preparation, Antonio
 526 Pasqualetto; Writing-Review & Editing, Aldo Muro Jr.; Diego Carlo Lo Presti; Visualization, Diego Carlo Lo
 527 Presti; Aldo Muro Jr. and Massimo Rovai; Administration, Aldo Muro Jr.; Funding Acquisition, Aldo Muro Jr.
 528 and authorship must be limited to those who have contributed substantially to the work reported.

529 **Acknowledgements:** The first and the last authors acknowledges the support of Fundação de Amparo à
 530 Pesquisa do Estado de Goiás - FAPEG

531 **Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest. The funders had no role in the design of the
 532 study; in the collection, analyses, or interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript, and in the decision
 533 to publish the results.

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