

# **AN ASSESSMENT OF THE BRAZILIAN NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES POLICY AS A CONTRIBUTION TO OTHER WORLD WATER STRATEGIES**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Policy-makers in many parts of the world are facing growing socio-ecological pressures to establish national water policies. Brazil has had a participatory river basin based national policy for almost fifteen years. Brazil is a multifaceted, federal, emergent economy. It has considerable quantities of the planet's fresh water reserves. Nevertheless, the majority of these reserves are concentrated in the scarcely populated northern region, whereas in other parts of the country, population growth together with increasing water demand lead to shortages and differences in socio-economic development levels. An assessment of the Brazilian water policy clarifies some of the motives why it was capable to develop innovative legislation as a crucial measure towards water security - a movement that many countries still need to make. This article also provides helpful examples that may subsidy other countries on how these nations might establish and accomplish their own integrated and sustainable national water policy.

**PALAVRA-CHAVE:** Brazilian legislation, Water law, Water management