

Appendix 1. Our Codebook

NAME	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	COMMENT
REFERENCE	nominal	Short bibliographic reference in 'Author (Year)' format	
PUBLICATION YEAR	numerical	Publication year of article	
NO. OF AUTHORS	numerical	Number of authors of article	
AUTHOR 1 COUNTRY	nominal	Country of first author	
AUTHOR 1 INSTITUTION	nominal	School, department, institute and/or university of first author	
AUTHOR 1 PROFESSION	binary	Professional affiliation of first author, choose from: academic, practitioner	More than one response possible
AUTHOR 2 COUNTRY	nominal	Country of second author	
AUTHOR 2 INSTITUTION	nominal	School, department, institute and/or university of second author	
AUTHOR 2 PROFESSION	binary	Professional affiliation of second author, choose from: academic, practitioner	More than one response possible
AUTHOR 3 COUNTRY	nominal	Country of third author	
AUTHOR 3 INSTITUTION	nominal	School, department, institute and/or university of third author	
AUTHOR 3 PROFESSION	binary	Professional affiliation of third author, choose from: academic, practitioner	More than one response possible
AUTHOR 4 COUNTRY	nominal	Country of fourth author	
AUTHOR 4 INSTITUTION	nominal	School, department, institute and/or university of fourth author	
AUTHOR 4 PROFESSION	binary	Professional affiliation of fourth author, choose from: academic, practitioner	More than one response possible
OTHER AUTHORS COUNTRY	nominal	Country of other authors	
OTHER AUTHORS INSTITUTION	nominal	School, department, institute and/or university of other authors	
OTHER AUTHORS PROFESSION	binary	Professional affiliation of other authors, choose from: academic, practitioner	More than one response possible
JOURNAL NAME	nominal	Journal in which the article was published	
JOURNAL ISI SUBJECT CATEGORY	categorical	ISI subject category of the journal	More than one response possible
CASE STUDY COUNTRIES	nominal	EU country studied	More than one response possible, 'EU27' refers to articles
NO. OF CASE STUDY COUNTRIES	numerical	Number of EU countries studied	
POLICY LEVEL	categorical	Policy levels studied, choose from: national, River Basin District, catchment	More than one response possible
RBD NAME	nominal	If POLICY LEVEL includes River Basin Districts: name of River Basin District	More than one response possible
INTERNATIONAL RBD	binary	If POLICY LEVEL includes River Basin Districts: are these international, shared river basins? Choose from: yes, no	
INTERNATIONAL ASPECT STUDIED	binary	If INTERNATIONAL RBD = yes: was this international dimension studied in the article? Choose from: yes, no	
WFD STAGE	categorical	Temporal stage of WFD implementation, choose from: CIS pilot, transposition, cycle 1, cycle 2	More than one response possible, 'CIS pilot' refers to case studies of
WFD ASPECT	categorical	WFD themes addressed in article, choose from: ecological goals, economic analysis, participation, planning process, policy integration, river basin	More than one response possible
ABSTRACT	nominal	Abstract as found in the article	
KEY WORDS	nominal	Key words as found in the article	
AMBITION	categorical	Nature of research question, choose from: descriptive, evaluative, evaluative adhoc, causal, causal adhoc	
THEORY	nominal	Use of concepts and theory in article	
METHOD SECTION	categorical	Existence of statement on data and methods, choose from: yes, no, part of x	Part of 'x' refers to statements on data and methods made in
LENGTH METHOD SECTION	numerical	Word count of statement on data and methods	
CITATIONS GOOGLE SCHOLAR	numerical	Number of citations according to Google Scholar	
CITATIONS WEB OF SCIENCE	numerical	Number of citations according to Web of Science	