



MEDITERRANEAN COMPONENT OF THE EU WATER INITIATIVE

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

To be presented at the World Water Week 2008 in Stockholm,
based on 2007 Data and Activities
and outlining major activities planned for 2008

- D R A F T -

1. Organisation of the MED EUWI Component / MED EUWI Working Group

✓ *Lead country and Working Group (WG):*

Greece is leading MED EUWI since its initiation in 2003. The Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries' Water Directors' Forum provides political and institutional support and serves as the institutional platform for the implementation of MED EUWI. Day-to-day management and implementation of the Component's activities is supported by a Secretariat undertaken by 'GWP-Mediterranean'.

✓ *Summary of 2007 work programme:*

The MED EUWI Work Plan (WP) 2007 was agreed by the Forum of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries that took place in Athens, 6-7 November 2006. The WP 2007 was built upon input and suggestions by Mediterranean partners including partner countries, regional networks of water stakeholders and cooperating international and regional organisations and IFIs.

The WP 2007 focused on 5 main fields of Activities at the country and regional levels. The WP aimed at improving coherence and coordination, and matching necessary funds. Implementation of activities relied on funding provided by the European Commission, through the MEDA Water Programme, by other donors (institutions and countries) as well as by the government of Greece to cover "horizontal/cross-cutting" activities under the MED EUWI.

✓ *2007 Budget:*

The required budget as initially estimated for the full implementation of the WP 2007 was 855,000 Euro. An estimation of the expenses occurred, with more detailed reporting to follow shortly, accounts for 740,000 Euro. Due to particular geo-political occurrences in the Region and in order to better respond to political priorities, it was deemed necessary to reschedule for 2008 a few selected activities (e.g. activities scheduled to be carried out in Lebanon) that were initially planned to be conducted in 2007.

2. Baseline situation 2002

✓ *Partner countries covered / populations:* 18 countries, 317 million¹

¹ Source: UN World Water Development Report 2, 2006

✓ <i>Percentage of population using in 2002²:</i>	
✓ Improved drinking water sources:	90%
✓ Improved sanitation:	73%
✓ <i>Number of transboundary basins:</i>	29
✓ <i>Budget needed to achieve the water-related MDGs:</i>	n/a
✓ <i>Current level of ODA³:</i>	2001 US\$405 million

3. Results

Main activities on Country level in 2007:

3.1 Egypt

The National Policy Dialogue in Egypt was launched on 22 November 2006, in Cairo, following an official request by the Egyptian Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI). As the Dialogue's emphasis is on the development of sustainable financing strategies for water supply and sanitation within an integrated water resources management framework, the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Development (MHUUD) also expressed the desire to support the Dialogue. The composition of a Steering Group for the conduction of the Dialogue is almost finalised and the MWRI and MHUUD have agreed that the Holding Company for Water and Wastewater of Egypt (HCWW) chairs and coordinates the Dialogue, as it will be the key beneficiary of the foreseen activities.

In order to respond better to the priorities of the Egyptian national water agenda, some shifting of focus was necessary, and as a result the Dialogue currently assists also with the development of the 30-year 'National Master Plan for Water and Wastewater' and the 'Rural Sanitation Strategy', within the IWRM framework of the National Water Resources Plan 2017, by elaborating sustainable financing strategies. At the same time, this re-focus has signified some inevitable delays and modifications in the Dialogue's initial timeframe, which have not however compromised the Dialogue's overall advance.

Emphasis of MED EUWI activities in the country is placed on elaborating financial assessments and strategies as well as recommendations on sectoral policy reviews, based on existing methodologies and tools (such as the FEASIBLE model developed by OECD) and through authorities and donors' coordination and stakeholder consultation. Besides government agencies, a range of stakeholders are involved in the process, with whom bilateral and multilateral contacts have been established. Moreover, donors are systematically engaged in the Dialogue's course through their country Donor Assistance Group, but also through bilateral coordination meetings. The assistance of the EC Delegation in Egypt has been central, especially as the EC recently launched a programme of 80 million Euro for budget support to the water sector reform in Egypt, with which the Dialogue has sought close coordination.

The current phase of the Dialogue activities is expected to complete by the end of 2008, as foreseen in the ToR agreed with the Egyptian counterparts. The contract with the OECD, which will carry out the technical work, was completed and the 1st Technical Workshop familiarising the Egyptian authorities with the FEASIBLE model was realised on 14 June 2007, following a formal invitation by the HCWW. The event was attended by about 50 participants. The Dialogue's data collection phase has been launched and the EC Delegation in Cairo, that is responsible for the activity, has been closely following and assisting with this process. Communication is regular while coordination meetings have taken place in Athens and Paris and a second Expert Workshop is foreseen in the first

² Source: Joint Monitoring Programme; Regional data for Northern Africa

³ Source: OECD/DAC

quarter of 2008 to launch the process of assessing the impact of alternative cost recovery / pricing policies in the water supply and sanitation sector in terms of affordability for households.

The National Policy Dialogue is a pilot case by the OECD Member Country Lead-Team on Water Supply and Sanitation, established after recommendation of the joint EPOC and DAC Ministerial Meeting of April 2006, aiming to elaborate on and better understand some of the key issues in financing the water sector in developing countries. In this respect, the results of the Dialogue will be finalized and formulated in a synthesis Report by prepared by OECD to be ready and issued by the end of 2008 so that they are presented to the next joint DAC/EPOC Ministerial Meeting of 2009. Links are also established with other related processes (e.g. implemented by GTZ) and projects (e.g. SWITCH Project on Visioning for an Integrated Urban Wastewater Plan for the City of Alexandria).

3.2 Lebanon

The National Policy Dialogue in Lebanon was successfully launched in November 2005. However, the Dialogue's work has been suspended due to the events of, and the complications deriving from, the war in summer 2006. The delay in the process has been further exacerbated by financial shortages (in 2006) and the country's on-going internal instability.

Although Lebanon's situation has prevented the realisation of major in-country activities in 2007, nonetheless effort has been made to follow up the Dialogue with background work and keeping up-to-date with developments. Moreover, close contact and collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Water of Lebanon has been close and incessant, with the aim to reshape the Dialogue's course so as to best fit emerging challenges and needs, particularly linked with the country's reconstruction process.

To this end, a Concept Note on Resuming the MED EUWI Policy Dialogue in Lebanon within the Framework of the Country Reconstruction Process was prepared in mid 2007 and a new role was agreed, with the mandate given directly by the Prime Minister of Lebanon at the beginning of November 2007, in order to assist the country with:

- a) Reviewing its 10-year Strategic Plan for Water and,
- b) Preparing its National IWRM Plan within the framework of the overall Country Reconstruction Process,
as well as in a second phase with
- c) strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of Energy and Water and of the Regional Water Authorities through targeted training
- d) reviewing tariff policy (using experiences from MED EUWI activities in Egypt)
- e) preparing a short and medium term investment plan linked with the Water Master Plan.

However, the political deadlock that Lebanon has been faced since November 2007, has further delayed the realisation of this recently agreed mandate.

3.3 Libya

Libya, a country heavily depending on its ground waters, is facing key challenges related to water resources and their integrated management. A first Workshop on 'IWRM in Libya: Current Status and the Way Forward', was organised on 11-12 April 2007 in Tripoli, with participation of representative of key water authorities and stakeholders. The Workshop was organised by the Libyan General Water Authority (GWA) with the assistance UNEP Collaborating Centre for Water and Environment, the African Development Bank (AfDB)/ African Water Facility (AWF) and GWP-Med. The event was attended by about 75 participants.

The Workshop reached a set of recommendations that provided the mandate for a follow-up in Libya on two main sets of activities:

- a) elaborating on procedures/schemes/methods for the establishment of a central water coordinating body and,
- b) assisting GWA with the preparation of a funding proposal to the AWF on key issues for implementation of the Libyan Water Strategy.

An agreement with the GWA and the AWF on the implementation of elements of the Libyan Water Strategy is under finalisation while additional activities are explored within the MED EUWI framework after request of GWA. Activities also contribute to the linked Rabat Declaration on IWRM Planning (a sub-regional process launched in 2006 in collaboration with UNEP-UCC and AfDB).

The Workshop and the envisaged follow-up activities aim to assist key stakeholders in Libya to develop a common understanding on critical IWRM planning issues with an emphasis on institutional settings. At the same time the activities facilitate the establishment of the IWRM process in the country, through a structured approach, with secured financial resources and with the collaboration of key national and regional institutions.

3.4 Palestinian Territories

Preliminary discussions with the Palestinian Water Authority and the Palestinian Environmental Quality Authority for possible MED EUWI activities in the Palestinian Territories were held already in 2006 and were followed-up in 2007.

Aiming to explore possibilities for concrete MED EUWI interventions in the Palestinian Territories and contribute to the long-term conservation, development and management of the water resources in the country, MED EUWI assisted with the organisation of the 'International Conference on Sustainable Development and Management of Water in Palestine' that was held on 27-29 August 2007, in Amman, Jordan. The Conference was co-organised and supported by the Palestinian Water Authority, UNESCO, Al Azhar University, Palestinian House of Water and Environment, Flemish government of Belgium, GTZ, Green Cross, GWP-Med and MED EUWI. The event was attended by about 110 participants.

The Conference included Sessions on: Integrated Water Resources Management; Water supply/demand management; Institutional and human resources capacity building; Conflict resolution on trans-boundary water resources management; Water quality and environmental issues; Cultural, ethical and socio-economic aspects of water resources. A Special Session on the Contribution of the Donor Community in the Development of the Palestinian Water Sector was also organised (29 August 2007) where MED EUWI constituted one of the key presentations.

In addition to the rich background material on the subjects addressed and the active discussions made, the Conference concluded with a set of recommendations for enhancing sustainable water resources management in Palestine. MED EUWI has been requested to assist with the IWRM process in the country. In order to make this call concrete, a follow-up is sought with the Palestinian Water Authority, the MED EUWI Lead Country and the EC.

3.5 Syria

Representatives of Syrian Authorities (Ministry for Environment and Local Communities) had expressed preliminary interest for MED EUWI activities in the country already in September 2006.

While planning for an exploratory mission in Syria for MED EUWI, the opportunity arose to organise a 'soft' activity on national IWRM planning involving the key water authorities in the

country. This was planned as a contribution to building capacity on the subject and as an opportunity to introduce MED EUWI objectives and type of activities in a targeted audience in Syria. Collaboration was established with GTZ-Syria that has a long term engagement in the country, assisting governmental authorities to advance with water strategy issues and build capacity in the water sector.

A 'Training Course on Developing Water Strategies and IWRM Plans in Syria', was jointly organised by GTZ-Syria and GWP-Med from 10 to 13 September 2007, in Damascus. The Course was held within the framework of the project 'Strengthening Planning in the Syrian Water Sector' (funded by the German Technical Co-Operation Agency) and MED EUWI. The activity was implemented in close co-operation with the Syrian State Planning Commission (SPC).

The Course targeted primarily the employees of the SPC Directorate of Integrated Water Resources Management and the middle-level managers of the Planning Directorates in the Ministries of Irrigation; Housing and Construction; Local Administration and Environment; and Agriculture. A total of 25 trainees participated.

The Course developed over a period of four days and entailed specialised presentations, working group sessions and plenary discussions. The Course was participatory and interactive aiming to familiarise the trainees with the relevant IWRM and strategic planning background while providing at the same time case-specific examples from within and outside Syria. The Course aimed to equip the trainees with the proper tools and mechanisms that would enhance their capacity to prepare and develop IWRM and Water Strategy Plans in the framework of National Development Plans.

A 3-hour Special Event was organised in the afternoon of the 11th September 2007 with the aim to present to a wider audience the scope of GTZ- Syria Framework Programme and MED EUWI activities in the region. The Event was attended by about 80 representatives from Ministries and governmental agencies, scientific institutes and universities, NGOs, national offices of international organisations and media.

In parallel to the Course, MED EUWI Secretariat organised a series of bilateral meetings in Damascus from 11 to 13 September 2007 exploring the interest of key players in MED EUWI and the possible focus of activities in Syria. These included: the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Irrigation, the Head of the IWRM Directorate in the State Planning Commission, Professors of Damascus University, Directors of national NGOs, the Head of the Cooperation Development in the EC Delegation, the Director of GTZ-Syria, the Country Representative of UNDP-Syria, the Director of the Water Centre of the League of Arab States (based in Damascus), and the Secretary General of the Arab Parliament (based in Damascus).

Following the mission and based on its outcomes, a Concept Note Exploring MED EUWI Assistance in the Water Sector Modernization Process of the Syrian Arab Republic' was prepared describing the current status of the water sector in the country with an emphasis on IWRM planning and screening possible MED EUWI activities with an emphasis on IWRM policy reform and technical assistance. This will be followed up with the Syrian Authorities, the Lead Country and the EC.

Moreover, and given the participants' positive feedback on the course, the possibility of organising similar training courses in other parts of Syria for local government officials is currently looked into in collaboration with GTZ-Syria.

Main activities on Regional level in 2007:

3.6 Transboundary Cooperation through Capacity Building Activities

Implemented within the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process and GEF IW:LEARN that contributes directly to MED EUWI, during 2007 cooperation for integrated transboundary water resources management in Southeastern Europe was substantially facilitated by a number of capacity building activities (assessments, workshops, e-dialogues and coordination meetings). More specifically:

- An Assessment of “Integrated Management of Transboundary Aquifers in Southeastern Europe” was prepared in cooperation with UNESCO Chair/INWEB as the background document for the International Roundtable “Integrated Management of Shared Groundwater in South Eastern Europe”, Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia, 14-16 November 2007.

- An International Roundtable on “Integrated Management of Shared Groundwater in Southeastern Europe” (Slovenia Roundtable) was organised in Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia, 14-16 November 2007. The International Roundtable aimed to promote cooperation for sustainable utilisation, management and protection of shared groundwater resources in SEE. Among others, linkages to the management of connected river basins, coastal areas and ecosystems as well as the contribution of groundwater to economic development were addressed. The meeting built on related ongoing work in the region carried out by international organisations such as GEF, UNECE and UNESCO IHP.

The report of the International Roundtable, “the Brdo Recommendations”, was prepared by GWP-Med in cooperation with the World Bank, and a draft version was distributed at the 4th Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and SEE Countries, 10-11 December 2007, Blend, Slovenia.

An e-forum was also organised during 2007 to prepare and follow up the Slovenia Roundtable in cooperation with International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC).

- A Joint Statement by the representatives of the Governments of the Parties to the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin was made during a special High-Level side event of the Brdo International Roundtable (16 November 2007). The Statement declares their support to “expanding” the existing cooperation in the Sava River Basin to include groundwater management.

- A High Level Side Event on Transboundary Water Resources Management in SEE took place within 6th Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” on 11 October 2007. The Event was jointly organised by the UNECE, the Process, the Greek Ministry for Environment, Physical Planning & Public Works and GWP-Med, and was also sponsored by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.

- Coordination Meetings provide the opportunity for key competent authorities of the countries in the region, regional and local stakeholders as well as international organisations that work in the SEE region in the field of TWRM, to discuss issues of importance, assess progress and coordinate activities. After holding three Coordination Meetings in 2005 and 2006, the fourth Coordination Meeting took place in Athens, 2 March 2007.

3.7 Private Sector & the “Horizon 2020” Initiative

In the Ministerial Declaration (20 November 2006) of the 3rd Euro-Mediterranean Environment Ministerial Conference, Ministers of Environment ‘urged banks, other financial institutions and Clean Tech Venture Capital Funds to participate in the EU Horizon 2020 endeavour to de-pollute the Mediterranean Sea’.

As a response to that call, a Conference on ‘Involving Private Investors in the “Horizon 2020” Initiative for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea was organised on 22-23 October 2007, in Athens, by GWP-Med, MIO-ECSDE, IME, MedCities and EPE with the support of EC, MED EUWI, UNEP/MAP, GWP and Coca Cola 3E. The Conference was attended by more than 80 participants representing a large range of private and public financial institutions, corporations, international and regional organisations, national and local authorities from several countries of the region, *inter alia* the EU Commission, UNEP/MAP, EIB, WB, GEF.

The Conference discussed aspects of importance to the successful coordination and implementation of the new ‘Horizon 2020’ initiative, including : key financing needs and main regional financing initiatives in the region; opportunities and ways for investors to get involved in the initiative; private investors’ prerequisites and expectations; and potential synergies between all interested partners (EU, Governments, international and regional organisations, public and private banks, cities, SRI funds, etc.). The Conference identified that the Mediterranean Region lags behind in the comprehension of the opportunities and prerequisites needed for the active involvement of the Private Sector. It was suggested that a starting point would be to enhance the common language between the various stakeholders, which could be obtained through closer cooperation and synergy. Moreover, it was agreed to follow up by creating a regional platform for consultation among the key players involved. The Athens Conference was the first meeting on the subject in the region, bringing together institutional partners and representatives of the private sector.

The conference and its follow-up activities contribute positively to MED EUWI country activities, where the involvement of the private sector in the provision of sustainable water supply and sanitation has started being considered propitiously. Besides, and as the “Horizon 2020” concerns all the countries surrounding the Mediterranean and within an EU framework, synergies with the MED EUWI need to be sought, in particularly between the WSS focus theme of the MED EUWI and H2020 pillar on urban wastewater, as they would be mutually beneficial. Collaboration with the Horizon 2020 Initiative and the European Neighbourhood Policy are expected to be further concretised.

3.8 Euro-Mediterranean Water Directors’ Conference

The Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries’ Water Directors’ Forum provides political and institutional support and serves as the institutional platform for the implementation of MED EUWI. The 2006 Forum’s Conference was organised in Athens, 6-7.11.06.

The 4th Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries took place on 10-11 December 2007, in Bled, Slovenia. The Conference was organised by Greece, as the Lead Country of MED EUWI (Hellenic Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works with the support of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs), the ‘Euro-Mediterranean Information System on Know-How in the Water Sector’ (EMWIS), the European Commission and the ‘Regional Monitoring and Support Unit’ (RMSU) of the MEDA-Water Programme of the EC with the collaboration of the Slovenian Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning. The Conference was technically supported by the MED EUWI Secretariat, GWP-Med.

The initial decision for the location of the meeting was for Alexandria, Egypt, but due to certain administrative difficulties the Authorities of the partner country were facing for hosting the event, they withdrew from their offer in September 2007. In order to avoid postponing the meeting it was decided to hold the Conference in Slovenia that kindly offered to host the event and given their then-upcoming EU Presidency (1st Semester 2008) ensured high profile for the Meeting and committed to an appropriate follow-up.

The Water Directors' Conference reviewed and discussed priority issues of the Mediterranean water agenda, with an emphasis on recent developments, the state-of-play and the steps forward also in view of the Ministerial Conference on Water that is envisaged to take place in Jordan in the last week of October 2008.

In more detail, the Conference:

i. Contributed to the implementation of the MED EUWI, including its 'Joint Process'. The Euro-Mediterranean Water Directors were informed on the progress achieved since 2006 in the context of the MED EUWI, with a view to foster a discussion on the required next steps to further promote implementation of MED EUWI on country level. In particular, the Water Directors considered that the work carried out by MED EUWI during 2007 through regional and country activities is positive and reiterating their role as institutional support to MED EUWI for its implementation and welcoming the proposed overall MED EUWI Work Plan for 2008. Moreover, they:

- Took note of the reform process of the EUWI and the subsequent reinforced role of regional components within the initiative.
- Supported the MED EUWI focus of activities on prioritization of national needs for the water sector to meet national targets, implementation of national water planning activities including assistance to countries for the elaboration of IWRM plans, development of sustainable financing strategies, and improved donor coordination in the field of water. In addition, they express their wish to see further emphasis of MED EUWI on tackling climate change in the national water strategies and IWRM plans.
- Welcomed in particular the continuation of the 'National Policy Dialogue' in Egypt as well as the re-launching of the 'National Policy Dialogue' in Lebanon linked to the country's Reconstruction Process and the facilitation of the updating of the IWRM plan 2000-2025 in Libya. Based on demand by competent national authorities, launching and implementing of 'National Policy Dialogues' and other related activities in more countries of the region was encouraged.
- Recommended the increase of synergies between MED EUWI and other on-going policies (e.g. Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the European Neighbourhood Policy, the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols), initiatives and strategies (e.g. the 'Horizon 2020' Initiative, the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, the EU Marine Strategy), funding instruments and programmes (e.g. the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument, the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean LMEs) as well as tools (e.g. the MED EUWI / WFD Joint Process, the Euro-Mediterranean Water Information System) and other political frameworks such as the League of Arab States in the region, thus consolidating its contribution to these processes.
- Expressed expectation that MED EUWI develops further action and practical results to be implemented. In this respect, appropriate financial resources should be mobilized from donors.
- Noted the development of synergies between MED EUWI and bilateral and multilateral donors including the European Investment Bank, the World Bank, the African

Development Bank, the African Water Facility, the United Nations Development Programme, the Global Environment Facility etc.

- Moreover, the Water Directors were informed on the initial outcomes of the second phase of the 'Joint Process' (2007-2009) and the actions foreseen in 2008. In addition, ways to promote synergies with other on-going processes and to maximize the benefits from the expected results were discussed and further explored.

ii. Discussed progress achieved by other key water initiatives and processes in the Region and provide recommendations for further action in view of the proposed Ministerial Conference on Water, with a view to substantially contribute to an enhanced coordination and complementarity of all key water-related activities and initiatives, i.e. the 'Horizon 2020' Initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean by 2020 with its 3 Sub-Groups on 'Pollution Reduction, 'Capacity Building' and 'Monitoring'; the 'European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument' and its set priorities at national and regional level; the 'Euro-Mediterranean Information System on Know-How in the Water Sector' (EMWIS) and related activities on water data; the 'MEDA-Water Programme'; the 'Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development'; the 'GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean' and the 'African Water Facility'. The Water Directors were also informed on the results of the UNEP/MAP-Blue Plan Workshop on water demand management held in Saragossa, March 2007, as well as the preparations for the 5th World Water Forum, Istanbul 2009.

iii. Served as an informal preparatory opportunity for the special ad hoc Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water (planned for the end of 2008) by identifying key topics and main products (declaration, plan of action, etc) as well as agreeing on the preparatory process (background, preparatory meetings, partners, etc) for the organisation of the proposed Ministerial Conference on Water. In this respect, it was decided to seek linkages with the forthcoming Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Meeting on Environment (2009) that will focus on the achieved progress within the 'Horizon 2020' Initiative. Furthermore, an assessment of the co-operation in the water sector, in the Mediterranean, and a first proposal for potential action lines for regional cooperation were also discussed.

Discussions on the special ad hoc Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water can be traced back to the 3rd Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries, 5-6 November 2006, Athens, which recommended that "*almost 10 years after the Turin Conference, the organisation of a special Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European countries' Ministerial Conference on Water should be favourably further explored*". The Ministerial Conference is aiming to provide Ministers in charge of water in the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European countries, with the opportunity to address major policy issues related to water resources management, protection and services. Taking into account the efforts undertaken and progress achieved in the region and considering the global context of climate change, the Ministerial Conference is aiming, *inter alia*, on concerted priority actions to be further implemented. In more detail, regarding the forthcoming Ministerial on Water, the Conference:

- Recommended, *inter alia*, the following as key themes for the Ministerial Conference: (i) Advancing on Effective Water Governance for IWRM and WSS, as a horizontal theme to advance all related issues including addressing public participation, awareness building, capacity building and coordination within administrative units and among stakeholders; (ii) Addressing Water and Climate Change through adaptation measures together with mitigation, with emphasis, *inter alia*, on management of droughts and floods and combating desertification; (iii) Optimizing water financing, water valuation and appropriate instruments, with emphasis on innovative mechanisms and (iv) Water Demand Management and Efficiency and Non-Conventional Water Resources.

- Agreed to set up an ad hoc Steering Committee led by the Commission and the EU Presidencies for 2008 (Slovenia and France) and comprised of Algeria, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey and, as observers, the League of the Arab States, IME and MedWet, as facilitator of the preparatory mechanism of the Conference. It was also agreed to set up a Drafting Group comprised of the European Commission, the EU Presidencies for 2008 (Slovenia and France), Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Morocco and Turkey, in charge *inter alia* of the preparation and discussion of documents to be presented at the Ministerial Conference.

3.9 Joint Process WFD/ MED EUWI

The second phase (Phase II) of the Joint Process between MED EUWI and the EU Water Framework Directive was launched in early 2007. The Joint Process is a tool for combining EU and non-EU expertise and means under the umbrella of the MED EUWI in order to facilitate the implementation of sound water policies. In addition to the continuation of the work of the three existing Working Groups (on Water Scarcity, Groundwater Management and Rural Development and Agriculture), three additional ones were operationalised in 2007 (on Waste Water Reuse, Shared Water Resources Management and Water Monitoring) while a network of Mediterranean Pilot Basins has also been planned for this Phase II (2007-2008). The progress of the groups was reported to the 4th Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries, 10-11 December 2007, Bled.

3.10. Education on Water

MED EUWI collaborates closely on educational activities on water with the Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment and Sustainability (MEDIES), a WSSD Type II Initiative, launched in 2002. In particular:

- "Water in the Mediterranean" Educational Material

The Education Material 'Water in the Mediterranean' is available in 7 Mediterranean languages and is carrying out activities in several countries of the region. The Serbo-Croatian version of the material (Voda u Mediteranu) was already compiled by MIO-ECSDE & MEDIES in 2007. This was officially approved by Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sports. The Turkish version of the material (Akdeniz de Su) already compiled in 2004, has been further enriched and adapted by MEDIES Partners "Green Steps for Environmental Literacy" (GSEL).

- MEDIES Launching & Training Seminar in Morocco, 27 May 2007

MEDIES official launching and an educators' training Seminar was organised in Rabat, Morocco by MIO-ECSDE and CMEPE. The event aimed to present to the Moroccan educational community the MEDIES Initiative and its main products, basically "Water in the Mediterranean" and the "Handbook on Methods of ESD", both produced in Arabic language.

- MEDIES Launching in Turkey, 14 December 2007

The official launching of the Turkish "Water in the Mediterranean" took place on 14 December 2007, in Istanbul. The event was attended by ~55 participants, journalists and educators of the formal and non-formal level and achieved high media coverage.

- International Conference: Shared Visions and Futures: Education for Sustainable Development across Disciplines and Cultures, Nicosia 15-17 November 2007

MEDIES participated in the Organising Committee of the International Conference: "Shared Visions and Futures: Education for Sustainable Development across Disciplines and Cultures" together with the University of Cyprus, the Ministry of Education and Culture of

Cyprus and the University of Nicosia, that took place on 15-17 November in the University of Cyprus and was attended by ~200 participants.

3.11. Other Products

- A 'Position Paper on Climate Change Adaptation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Mediterranean' was prepared exploring possible MED EUWI interventions in this important agenda in the region. The Paper concludes that MED EUWI could assist countries:

- to evaluate climate change risks in national development strategies and plans related to water resources,
- to screen and design adaptation standards, strategies and related measures in national IWRM and WSS plans,
- to identify financing requirements with regard to climate-proofing of water policies and plans and enhance donor coordination,
- to design and build adaptive capacity to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change of high-risk sectors related to water.

The Position Paper was presented to the Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries and will be followed up in 2008.

- The 'Reference Guide for Advancing National Integrated Water Resources Management Planning and Brief Status Assessment in the Mediterranean Countries' was produced within the collaborative framework of MED EUWI and GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean. The material, that constitutes part of the Country Assessments on IWRM and WSS in the 10 MEDA Countries. was presented to the Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries.

- The draft 'MED EUWI Annual Work Plan 2008' was prepared. MED EUWI activities in 2008 focus on implementation of Country Policy Dialogues in targeted countries of North Africa and Near East, activities to enhance cooperation and knowledge on transboundary water management in Southeastern Europe, elaboration of regional and country assessments and activities within the Joint Process between MED EUWI and the EU WFD. The MED EUWI Work Plan 2008 was welcomed by the Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries. Demand for further MED EUWI country activities in 2008 has been explicitly raised by Albania, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Serbia as well as by the League of Arab States and UNEP/MAP.

- Day-by-day running of MED EUWI administration, participation in various events, representation and input to several regional processes, etc.

3.12. Other Synergies

In addition, 2007 was marked by advancement in several other programmes and initiatives in the Region having links with MED EUWI, including:

- Close operational links with the new GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems (2008-2012) is secured. The launching of GEF SPM-LME will pick up on a more practical manner once the Project sets off in 2008.

- Closer cooperation and synergies have been sought with the Research Component of the EUWI on the theme of enhancing closer links between research and policies. It is indicative that the recommendations of a joint EU research event, state that more strategic collaboration is needed with bodies like the MED EUWI, which is involved in the implementation of IWRM principles in the Mediterranean Region and represents a political initiative that presents opportunities for EU research projects to convey political messages.

- Cooperation with other EU frameworks, like the 'Horizon 2020' Initiative, which has been placed on a concrete setting with a governance structure and a timetable until 2013, and the European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument (ENPI), the modalities of which are been defined, should assist further implementation of MED EUWI's objectives.
- The implementation of the last phase of projects within the MEDA Water Programme and the enhancement of their coordination through the RMSU.
- Collaborations have been also explored with UNEP/MAP, the UNDP Water Programme in the MENA Region, the Water Team activities of UN ESCWA, the Water Centre of the League of Arab States, AWARENET, etc.

Material of the aforementioned activities can be found in the following web-sites:

- Greek Ministry for Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works, www.minenv.gr/medeuwi
- EU Water Initiative, www.euwi.net
- GWP-Med, www.gwpmed.org
- EMWIS, www.emwis.net
- Petersberg / Athens Declaration Process and GEF IW:LEARN, www.watersee.net
- MEDIES, www.medies.net

Analysis of the 2007 scoreboard:

2007 was the first year with concrete financing for MED EUWI's national (primarily through MEDA Water Programme) and regional (through various sources) activities. The latter allowed for progress at various levels (exploration, launching, application) in 5 southern countries. However, delays have been encountered in practical implementation in particular partner countries for reasons of *force majeure* beyond the control of MED EUWI management. At the same time, regional activities were successfully implemented while progress has been made in the agenda related to transboundary water resources in SEE. New important issues, including climate change, private sector engagement, groundwater management, etc. have been tackled with specific kick-off activities and will be developed further on.

Of key importance are the links that are promoted between MED EUWI and the European Neighborhood Policy as well as the Horizon 2020, both for promoting the political agenda on water in the Mediterranean. The preparation of the special ad hoc Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water planned for the end of 2008 provides also a concrete platform for further raising political momentum and enhancing activities.

With visibility already raised, the feedback that MED EUWI is now receiving from partner countries has been greater and more positive than ever. Demand by partner countries is constantly and concretely increasing, signalling further interest on MED EUWI's scope and type of activities. However, due the nature of the Initiative and its type of intervention, it is recognised that concrete results of MED EUWI will become visible only in the medium term, in the coming years.

Priority Actions foreseen in 2008 include:

- Continue the National Policy Dialogue activities in Egypt and overview the smooth implementation of the work plan, as identified in the ToR
- Resume the National Policy Dialogue activities in Lebanon within the country's Reconstruction Process.
- Follow-up activities and further involvement in Syria, with the aim of launching a National Dialogue in the country being the underlining principle.
- Follow-up the Conference on Water Management in Palestine and plan MED EUWI activities in the country in order to explore the possibility of launching a National Policy Dialogue.
- Continue the activities in Libya, as identified by the April 2007 Workshop's recommendations.
- Follow-up the activities on transboundary cooperation in Southeastern Europe and organise in collaboration with Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process and GEF IW:LEARN a series of four targeted capacity building workshops to address issues of importance in the region and explore further the possibility for the implementation of one pilot project in the shared Drin River basin.
- Assist the work of the six Working Groups of the Joint Process between the EU Water Framework Directive and MED EUWI.
- Contribute in all possible ways to the organisation of the special ad hoc Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water, planned to take place in Jordan at the end of October 2008 and contributing to its background material *inter alia* through:
 - Carry out a Country Status Assessment of water policies and major water programmes on IWRM and WSS, including climate change considerations, in 10 MEDA countries.
 - Update the Reference Guide for Advancing National IWRM Planning in the Mediterranean and Brief Status Assessment.
 - Elaborate Concept Note on linkages between national Climate Change adaptation, measures and national IWRM planning in the region,
 - Elaborate regional overview of bilateral assistance for water in the Mediterranean EU partner countries
 - Organise one meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries Water Directors that will provide guidance and add to the final preparations for the Ministerial Conference on Water and will review process of MED EUWI and other regional initiatives.

EU WATER INITIATIVE, MEDITERRANEAN COMPONENT OF THE EU WATER INITIATIVE (MED EUWI) WORK PROGRAMME 2007 <i>containing comments on its implementation (in italic)</i>				
Activities	Targets / Purpose per Activity	Duration / Completion Date (<i>and comments on implementation</i>)	MED EUWI Objective No	EUWI Objective No.
1. Country status assessment on WSS and IWRM in ten MEDA countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview and mapping of water policies and major water programmes on WSS and IWRM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Six months / end of 2007 <p><i>(The work on IWRM Assessment progressed and a preliminary paper was produced. In general, the activity was re-scheduled in order to be linked with the proposed special ad hoc Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water in October 2008)</i></p>	1, 2	1, 2
2. Country dialogues in MEDA countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue Dialogue in Egypt - Resume Dialogue in Lebanon <p>[- Elaborate assessments on current expenditure and needed financing to meet MDGs/WSSD targets for WSS and IWRM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elaborate financing strategies to achieve MDGs/WSSD targets for WSS and IWRM - Facilitate multi-stakeholder country dialogues and prepare roadmaps to meet MDGs/WSSD targets for WSS and IWRM] <p>- Explore possibilities for initiating one more country dialogue (in Syria or the Palestinian Territories)</p> <p>[Implementation of activities in the two countries in the form of Training Course and/or Conference/Workshop]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout 2007 <p><i>(- The ToR of the Policy Dialogue in Egypt was finalised; ToR with OECD completed; the 1st Technical Workshop on familiarising the Egyptian authorities with the FEASIBLE Model took place in June 2007; coordination meetings and communication of the involved partners was incessant; a 2nd Expert Workshop is scheduled for March 2008;</i></p> <p><i>- The Policy Dialogue in Lebanon was mostly at a standstill due to the 2006 War and the country's on-going internal instability; new mandate for the Dialogue was agreed by the Prime Minister in Nov. 2007 in order to align also with the overall reconstruction process; it is expected to resume the Dialogue within the first quarter of 2008)</i></p> <p><i>(- MED EUWI supported the organisation of a Conference on Sustainable Water Management in Palestine, Amman, 27-29 Aug. 2007; MED EUWI was later on asked to assist with the IWRM process in the country;</i></p> <p><i>- A Training Course on 'Developing IWRM/ Water Strategy Plans' was organised in Damascus, Syria, 10-13 Sep.2007, with the participation of middle and high level representatives of the Syrian Water Authorities;</i></p>	1, 2, 6, 7	1, 2, 3, 5

EU WATER INITIATIVE, MEDITERRANEAN COMPONENT OF THE EU WATER INITIATIVE (MED EUWI) WORK PROGRAMME 2007 <i>containing comments on its implementation (in italic)</i>				
Activities	Targets / Purpose per Activity	Duration / Completion Date (and comments on implementation)	MED EUWI Objective No	EUWI Objective No.
		<i>following an exploration mission follow-up activities are being considered in cooperation with GTZ-Syria; a Concept Note was prepared describing the current status of Syria's water sector with an emphasis on IWRM Planning that screens possible MED EUWI future activities-the Note is to be followed up with the Syrian Authorities, the MED EUWI Lead Country and the EC)</i>		
3. Joint Process WFD/MED EUWI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launching of Phase II of the Process - Facilitation of and support to the three initial Working Groups and the three 2007-established ones - Identification of pilot river basins and implementation of pilot activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout 2007 <i>(-Launching of Phase II was decided during the 3rd Water Directors Forum in Nov. 2006 while facilitation was done throughout 2007</i> <i>- Inception of the Working Group on Shared Water Resources Management took place in Athens, 17 Jan. 2007;</i> <i>- Links with the pilot basins within the Joint Process's remained weak)</i> 	2, 6	1, 2, 3, 4
4. Capacity building activities for decision makers and experts on transboundary water resources management in Southeastern Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitation of Transboundary Cooperation through capacity building activities (coordination meetings, assessments, e-dialogues, workshops) - Organise International Roundtable on Integrated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout 2007 <i>(- 'Assessment of Integrated Management of Transboundary Aquifers in Southeastern Europe' was prepared in cooperation with UNESCO Chair/INWEB;</i> <i>- High Level Side event on TWRM in SEE was organised during the 6th Ministerial Conference 'Environment for Europe', 11 Oct. 2007;</i> <i>- An E-Forum was organised during 2007 to prepare and follow up the Brdo International Roundtable</i> <i>- The 4th Coordination Meeting took place in Athens, 2 Mar. 2007;)</i> <i>(- The International Roundtable took place in Brdo pri</i> 	6	2, 3, 4

EU WATER INITIATIVE, MEDITERRANEAN COMPONENT OF THE EU WATER INITIATIVE (MED EUWI) WORK PROGRAMME 2007 <i>containing comments on its implementation (in italic)</i>				
Activities	Targets / Purpose per Activity	Duration / Completion Date <i>(and comments on implementation)</i>	MED EUWI Objective No	EUWI Objective No.
	Management of Shared Groundwater in Southeastern Europe	<i>Kranju, 14-16 Nov. 2007; - The draft Report of the Roundtable titled 'Brdo Recommendations' was distributed in the 4th Water Directors Conference and the final version has been widely circulated; - A Joint Statement by the representatives of the Governments of the Parties to the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin was issued as a side event to the Roundtable)</i>		
5. Coordination and administration	- Organise a multi-stakeholder / MED EUWI Working Group Meeting to discuss progress, implementation of activities and next steps	- June 2007 (tbc) <i>(The MED EUWI Working Group was replaced by the Euro-Med and SEE Water Directors Forum that serves as institutional support)</i>	All	1, 2, 3, 4
5a. Meetings	- Organise the 4 th meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Water Directors Forum to review process and guide MED EUWI development - Organise a Conference on the Involving of Private Investors in the Horizon 2020 Initiative for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea	- December 2007 <i>(- The Conference was held in Bled, Slovenia, 10-11 December 2007; - The conclusions/ recommendations of the meeting are available at www.minenv.gr/medeuwi and www.emwis.net ; - The Meeting also served as a preparatory meeting for the forthcoming special ad hoc Euro-Med Ministerial Conference on Water that will take place at the end of 2008)</i> - October 2007 <i>(- The Conference, the first meeting on the subject, was realised in Athens, 22-23 Oct. 2007; - Follow-up activities were agreed, including the creation of a regional platform for consultation among</i>		

EU WATER INITIATIVE, MEDITERRANEAN COMPONENT OF THE EU WATER INITIATIVE (MED EUWI) WORK PROGRAMME 2007 <i>containing comments on its implementation (in italic)</i>				
Activities	Targets / Purpose per Activity	Duration / Completion Date (<i>and comments on implementation</i>)	MED EUWI Objective No	EUWI Objective No.
5b. Coordination	- Workshop on 'IWRM in Libya: Current Status and the Way Forward'	- 11-12 April 2007 <i>(- The Workshop produced a set of recommendations that also paved the way for further MED EUWI involvement in the country)</i>		
	- Coordinate with on-going processes/mechanisms, programmes and initiatives in the Mediterranean e.g. ENPI, Horizon 2020, Barcelona Convention and related Protocols especially the LBS Protocol, NAMCOW, UN ESCWA, etc	- Throughout 2007 <i>(Fully implemented)</i>		
	- Cooperate with the African Water Facility and GEF Strategic Partnership to promote common objectives through implementation of activities	- Throughout 2007 <i>(Fully implemented)</i>		
5c. Administration	- Coordinate with the WGs of Africa, Finance, Monitoring, Research, CIS to promote common objectives	- Throughout 2007 <i>(- Close communication was realised with the Research Component of the EUWI in particular and more cooperation was agreed on the theme of bridging the gap between research and policy in the Mediterranean)</i>		
	- Run the MED EUWI Secretariat (as described in the MED EUWI ToR)	- Throughout 2007 <i>(Fully implemented)</i>		
Additional activities on - Education - Climate Change Adaptation	Through MEDIES Addressing an important overarching theme related to water	Various activities Preparation of Position Paper to guide activities in 2008 and on		

Activities of the MED EUWI Work Programme 2007 serve the following MED EUWI Objectives (as described at the MED EUWI Activity Plan):

- Obj 1. Initiate programme on water supply and sanitation
- Obj 2. Initiate programme to support national and transboundary IWRM plans
- Obj 4. Initiate programme on non-conventional water resources
- Obj 5. Strengthen underlying institutions and build capacity
- Obj 6. Improve coordination between the actors involved in water resources management at the country level
- Obj 7. Enhance funding for the supply, management and development of water resources and sanitation

MED EUWI Objectives respond to the objectives of the overall EUWI initiative, namely:

- 1) Reinforce political will and commitment to action
- 2) Promote improved water governance, capacity building and awareness
- 3) Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of water management through multistakeholder dialogue and coordination
- 4) Strengthen coordination through promoting river basin approaches
- 5) Identify additional financial resources and mechanisms to ensure sustainable financing.

2. Summary of the 2007 Budget of MED EUWI

Working Group	Total Cost (€)	Of which spent/funded (€)	Residual (€)	Comments/Explanations
Mediterranean	855,000	740,000		Budget foreseen was nearly achieved. It has not been made possible to meet the total planned income / spending for 2007, due to the fact that some activities had to be rescheduled for 2008 (e.g. planned activities in Lebanon, due to recent re-outbreak of political crisis)

ANNEX 2 2007 SCOREBOARD: Comments accompanying the reports from the MED EUWI Working Group

Indicator measured	Result	Comment
1. No. and diversity of stakeholders (EU and non-EU countries, IFIs) participating in country dialogues.	Around 80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In Egypt: 5 Ministries, 40 water sector organisations / programmes, 4 EU countries, 1 Non-EU country, 4 International Organisations, 4 National NGOs, 2 International NGOs - In Lebanon: stalled, however contacts with the Prime-Minister's Cabinet and with the Ministry of Energy and Water of Lebanon are very active and on-going. - In Libya: 1 Ministry, 2 State Agencies, 20 water sector organisations / programmes, 2 International Organisations
2. No. of agreements made / progressed between EUWI and water sector programmes/organisations	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NAMCOW - EMWIS - MEDA-Water RMSU - Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process - GEF IW:LEARN - GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean - Rabat Declaration Process on National IWRM Planning in North African Countries - GEF IW:LEARN - OECD (for the conduction of the Country Dialogue in Egypt) - European Neighborhood Policy - Horizon 2020 - Water Centre of the League of Arab States
4. No. of cooperation processes under preparation	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In Syria: In the exploration phase; contacts are primarily with 2 Ministries, 1 State Agency, 3 water sector organisations / programmes, 2 EU countries, 2 International Organisations, 1 National NGO. - In Palestine: In the exploration phase; contact are primarily with 1 Ministry, 1 State Agency, 1 EU Country.
5. No. of cooperation processes launched / progressed	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NAMCOW - Egypt (Holding Company for Water and Wastewater. Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Ministry of Housing and Utilities and Local Communities,) - Lebanon (Ministry for Energy and Water) - Libya (General Water Authority) - Syria (State Planning Commission, GTZ-Syria) - Palestine (Palestinian Water Authority) - Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process and IW:LEARN (on transboundary waters in Southeastern Europe)

Indicator measured	Result	Comment
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AfDB, AWF, UCC Water (for Libya) - OECD Task Team on strategies for sustainable financing of the WSS sector - Task Force for the Private Sector involvement in H2020 - MEdIES on Education - EMWIS
7-b. Number of country dialogues with EUWI support planned/launched	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Libya (launched April 2007) - Palestine (exploratory activities in 2007) - Syria (exploratory activities in 2007)
8-a. Number of ongoing country dialogues with EUWI support institutionalised in a scheduled process	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lebanon (launched November 2005) - Egypt (launched in November 2006)
9-a*. Change in proportion of water aid to government sector reported on government budget		Data available only for annual sum of all ODA on water disbursed to the country for 2000 – 2005 as reported from the OECD donors (i.e. for Sum 1). Data for Sum 2 is not readily available
9-b*. Change in proportion of water aid provided through coordinated programmes consistent with recipient country development strategies.		Data available only for annual sum of all ODA on water disbursed to the country for 2000 – 2005 as reported from the OECD donors (i.e. for Sum 1). Data for Sum 3 is not readily available.
10-a. No. of national basin management support programmes planned/launched as a result of EUWI intervention	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sebou River (Morocco). Under the WFD / MED EUWI Joint Process - Litani River (Lebanon). Under the WFD / MED EUWI Joint Process
10-b. No. of transboundary basin management support programmes planned/launched as a result of EUWI intervention		- Drin River Basin (planned)
11-a. No. of national basin management support programmes ongoing as a result of EUWI intervention		-
11-b. No. of transboundary basin management support programmes ongoing as a result of EUWI intervention		

Indicator measured	Result	Comment
12-a. Number of basin organisations established and operational as a result of EUWI intervention		-
12-b. Number of transboundary basins with formal cooperation mechanisms established and operational between riparian states as a result of EUWI intervention		Sub-regional network of managers, decision makers and experts responsible for management of transboundary water resources in Southeastern Europe, established within the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process, with the support of GEF IW:LEARN.
13. No. of partner countries where the financing WG has made a specific contribution		-
14-a. No. of country dialogues having contributed to developing financing strategies	1	Financing strategies is a key foreseen outcome of the MED EUWI dialogues. To this end, collaboration has been established with OECD/EAP Task Force and systematic work has started in Egypt.
15-c. Amount of non-ODA financing of water sector		n/a