



**MEDITERRANEAN COMPONENT  
of the EU Water Initiative  
(MED EUWI)**

**Strategic Partnership on  
Water for Sustainable Development**

**Lead Country: Greece**

**Info Note  
and  
Work Plan 2008**

*Adopted at the  
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## ABBREVIATIONS

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AWF	African Water Facility
DG	Directorate General (of the Commission of the European Union)
EECCA	Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
EIB	European Investment Bank
EMWIS	The Euro-Mediterranean Information System on the know-how in the Water Sector
ENPI	European Neighborhood Policy Instrument
EU	European Union
EUWI	European Union Water Initiative (or sometimes referred as simply the Initiative)
FEMIP	Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment Partnership
FYROM	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
FP7	Framework Programme 7 (of the European Commission)
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEF SPM	Global Environment Facility Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems
GEF IW:LEARN	Global Environment Facility, International Waters : LEARN
GWP-Med	Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean
HWCC	Holding Company for Water and Wastewater (of Egypt)
IFIs	International Financial Institutes
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
MAP/UNEP	The Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MED EUWI	Mediterranean Component of the European Union Water Initiative
MEW	Ministry of Energy and Water (of Lebanon)
NAMCOW	North Africa Ministerial Council on Water (under the AMCOW)
NSSDs	National Strategies for Sustainable Development
ODA	Official Development Aid
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PRSPs	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
UNDP	United National Development Programme
UNEP/MAP	United Nations Environment Programme / Mediterranean Action Plan
WFD	Water Framework Directive (of the European Union)
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

<b>A. The Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative: An Info Note</b>
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### **A.1. Introduction**

The European Union Water Initiative (EUWI) is a political initiative that was established as a key contribution to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (2002). It presents a joint commitment by the EU Member States and the European Commission, aiming to assist meeting the water-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and WSSD targets, in close cooperation with and for the benefit of the partner (non-EU) countries.

EUWI is not a financial instrument and seeks to undertake its mandate through promoting improved strategies, policies, programmes and practices. It works within a framework of an integrated approach to the management of water so that available resources, both human and financial, are mobilized effectively towards achieving set objectives. Having a structure that is centrally coordinated by the European Commission, EUWI develops activity through Regional Components ie. Africa, East Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA), Latin America and the Mediterranean. More info can be obtained visiting [www.euwi.net](http://www.euwi.net).

The Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI) constitutes an integral part and one of the Regional Components of the overall EUWI. It represents a strategic partnership among related stakeholders (local, national, regional and international), aiming at contributing to the implementation of the water-related MDGs and WSSD targets in the Mediterranean Region and Southeastern Europe, complementing at the same time all other relevant regional on-going processes and initiatives. It, thus, seeks to make significant progress in poverty eradication and health, in the enhancement of livelihoods, and in sustainable economic development, providing a catalyst for peace and security in the region which is a vulnerable and sensitive one from the environmental, climate change and political view point.

In 2007, a Review of EUWI and its Components, including MED EUWI, was carried out. It aimed to identify shortcomings and make the necessary reforms and changes in order to maximise the effectiveness of activities, to increase accountability, visibility and ownership and to enhance the coordination of the implemented actions so as to avoid overlappings. Through the reform process of EUWI, the role of its Regional Component is now reinforced. MED EUWI received very positive remarks and a clear recommendation to follow up action in the Mediterranean and Southeastern Europe, serving the needs of the MED EUWI partners at the regional and country levels through a demand driven approach.

### **A.2. Objectives**

The main objectives of the MED EUWI are to create a higher efficiency of water-related development by providing a platform to co-ordinate and streamline existing and future activities, aiming to:

- Reinforce political commitment to action and raise the profile of water and sanitation with view to poverty reduction;
- Promote better water governance arrangements including stronger partnerships between public and private sectors and local stakeholders and build institutional capacity;
- Improve co-ordination and co-operation moving towards sector wide approaches, assisting multi-stakeholder processes to reinforce partnerships for action;

- Develop regional and sub-regional co-operation by assisting in the application of integrated water resources management including transboundary waters to contribute to sustainable development and conflict prevention;
- Develop additional and innovative funding mechanisms and mobilise additional funding.

### **A.3. Partnerships and Modalities**

MED EUWI is open to all partners willing to commit to the objectives, targets, and guiding principles of the partnership which refers to both between EU and non-EU Mediterranean countries as well as between government, civil society and the private sector.

On this basis, MED EUWI is seeking to build upon and complement, *inter alia*, other on-going policies (eg. Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, European Neighborhood Policy, Barcelona Convention and its Protocols), initiatives and strategies (eg. Horizon 2020 Initiative, Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development-MSSD, the EU acquis on water management, EU Marine Strategy), funding instruments and programmes (eg. the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument-ENPI, the 7<sup>th</sup> EU Framework Programme, the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems), international organisations and financing institutes (e.g. UN Bodies, European Investment Bank, World Bank, African Development Bank, African Water Facility, Islamic Development Bank), bilateral agreements between EU and non-EU member countries and overseas ODA, as well as work, activities carried out by several Mediterranean water-stakeholder networks.

Synergies and complementarity recently promoted between MED EUWI and related new initiatives in the Mediterranean include linkages with the Horizon 2020 to De-Pollute the Mediterranean (launched by the European Commission in 2005), as well as, coordination and operational synergy with the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems (GEF SPM, 2008-2012), the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process on shared water resources management in Southeastern Europe, and the African Water Facility (AWF) and in particular its work in North Africa. Linkages with the UNDP regional programmes on water are also explored.

In addition, the Joint Process between the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) and MED EUWI has entered its Phase II in 2007. The Joint Process is a tool for combining EU and non-EU expertise and means under the umbrella of the MED EUWI to facilitate the implementation of sound water policies. Six Working Groups (on 'Water Scarcity', 'Groundwater Management', 'Rural Development & Agriculture', 'Waste Water Reuse', 'Shared Water Resources Management' and 'Water Monitoring') and a network of Mediterranean Pilot Basins have already been planned for this Phase II (2007-2008).

With regard to modalities and in line with the MED EUWI 'Organisational Framework and Modalities', an open-ended regional Multi-Stakeholder Working Group advice the development of the MED EUWI. Participants in the Working Group have the opportunity to meet annually during the EUWI events in Stockholm and can follow progress through the dedicated web sites ([www.euwi.net](http://www.euwi.net) and [www.minenv.gr/medeuwi](http://www.minenv.gr/medeuwi)). Importantly, the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern Europe Water Directors Forum serves as institutional support of the implementation of MED EUWI (decided in Rome-November 2005) and provides advice and guidance on the MED EUWI further development and implementation. The Water Directors Forum has also met in Athens-November 2006 and provided related recommendations. MED EUWI is led by the government of Greece (Ministry for Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works and Ministry of Foreign Affairs). A MED EUWI Secretariat, within the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean Secretariat, provides technical support and day-by day running.

More information can be obtained visiting [www.minenv.gr/medeuwi](http://www.minenv.gr/medeuwi)

#### A.4. Geographical context

The MED EUWI's geographic coverage includes all countries representing the new neighborhood of the enlarged EU in North Africa and East Mediterranean as well as Southeastern European countries, having also a focus on their shared waters. More specifically:

- *In the South and East Mediterranean* – Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.
- *In the Southeastern Europe* – Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Montenegro and Serbia.

The following Map presents the area of activity of MED EUWI.



#### A.4. Themes

According to its long term strategy (agreed in 2004), the MED EUWI focuses on the following Themes:

<b>Sectoral</b>	Theme1 (TH-1)	Water supply and sanitation, with emphasis on the poorest part of the societies.
	Theme 2 (TH-2)	Integrated water resources management, with emphasis on management of transboundary and national water bodies.
	Theme 3 (TH-3)	Water, food and environment interaction, with emphasis on fragile ecosystems.
	Theme 4 (TH-4)	Non-conventional water resources.
<b>Cross-cutting</b>	Theme 5 (TH-5)	Transfer of technology, transfer of know how, capacity building and training
	Theme 6 (TH-6)	Education

A MED EUWI Activity Plan was elaborated and discussed among competent stakeholders in 2004. Its purpose was to translate the agreed Themes into inter-related Programmatic Objectives, Outputs and specific Actions.

The Programmatic Objectives that have been originally defined in the MED EUWI Activity Plan were nine; these are divided to four Thematic (1-4) and five Horizontal (5-9) Objectives. The MED EUWI Programmatic Objectives are:

### Thematic

Objectives 1-4 respond to respective priority Themes identified as areas of implementation during the MED EUWI Preparatory Phase. Their related Outputs described in the Activity Plan are mainly developed through small scale pilot demonstration activities aimed to be implemented at national and local levels, supported by regional / national baseline assessments.

Objective 1 (OBJ-1)	Initiate programme on water supply and sanitation, with emphasis on the poorest parts of the society
Objective 2 (OBJ-2)	Initiate programme to support national and transboundary IWRM plans
Objective 3 (OBJ-3)	Initiate programme to support sustainable water use in agriculture and its integrated management for sensitive water ecosystems
Objective 4 (OBJ-4)	Initiate programme on non-conventional water resources

### Horizontal

Objectives 5-9 respond to horizontal priorities of the EUWI aiming to assist in building the knowledge basis, facilitating better coordination and enhancing effectiveness through activities at the regional and national levels.

Objective 5 (OBJ-5)	Strengthen underlying institutions and build capacity
Objective 6 (OBJ-6)	Improve coordination between the actors involved in water resources management at the country level
Objective 7 (OBJ-7)	Enhance funding for the supply, management and development of water resources and sanitation
Objective 8 (OBJ-8)	Improve transfer of technology and the use of existing and new scientific knowledge to achieve water-related MDGs
Objective 9 (OBJ-9)	Promote education on water issues

The following table presents the framework linking the MED EUWI Themes with the Programmatic Objectives.

Thematic Programmatic Objectives	Themes	Horizontal Programmatic Objectives
<b>OBJ-1.</b> Initiate programme on water supply and sanitation, with emphasis on the poorest parts of the society	<b>TH-1.</b> <b>Water Supply &amp; Sanitation</b>	<b>OBJ-5.</b> Strengthen underlying institutions and build capacity
<b>OBJ-2.</b> Initiate programme to support national and transboundary IWRM plans	<b>TH-2.</b> <b>Integrated Water Resources Management</b>	<b>OBJ-6.</b> Improve coordination between the actors involved in water resources management at the country level
<b>OBJ-3.</b> Initiate programme to support sustainable water use in agriculture and its integrated management for sensitive water ecosystems	<b>TH-3.</b> <b>Water, Food and Environment</b>	<b>OBJ-7.</b> Enhance funding for the supply, management and

<b>OBJ-4.</b> Initiate programme on non-conventional water resources	<b>TH-4.</b> <b>Non-Conventional Water Resources</b>	development of water resources, and sanitation
	<b>TH-5.</b> <b>Technology transfer and capacity building</b>	<b>OBJ-8.</b> Improve transfer of technology & the use of existing and new scientific knowledge to achieve water MDGs
	<b>TH-6.</b> <b>Education</b>	<b>OBJ-9.</b> Promote education on water issues

Annual MED EUWI Work Plans are elaborated since 2005, in line with the MED EUWI Strategy and Activity Plan, providing the basis for implementation of activities.

Due to the set objectives of the funding mechanisms available, MED EUWI has not been able to develop activity in the entire set of Themes and Objectives. Therefore, emphasis has been attained to Theme / Objective 1 on WSS and Theme / Objective 2 on IWRM as well as to its Horizontal Objectives. In the light of current financial perspectives and political priority issues, a revision of the MED EUWI Programmatic objectives is planned to be elaborated in due time [ so as to reflect, with a focused approach, the current trends, needs and targets for the Region, also taking into account available funding sources and related implementation capacities.]

#### **A.5. Expected results**

The MED EWI gives particular emphasis to the regional priorities of the Mediterranean and Southeastern Europe, within the EUWI overall scope. These priorities, needs and strategies are defined in partnership with governments, the Commission and stakeholders, targeting to:

- assist the design of better, demand driven and output oriented water related programmes,
- facilitate better coordination of water programmes and projects, targeting more effective use of existing funds, through identification of gaps and mobilization, where required, of new financial resources and,
- enhanced cooperation for project's proper implementation, based on peer review and strategic assessment.

Key areas where the MED EUWI could make a difference are likely to include:

- Promoting water as a cornerstone of sustainable development;
- Raising the programmatic profile of water in PRSPs and NSSDs of partner countries;
- Coordinating funding for water in a better way among the partners of the Initiative;
- Linking together the wide range of financing ideas, networks and mechanisms that currently exist for water in the Mediterranean and Southeastern Europe so as to cover gaps and needs in partner countries;
- Supporting better project preparation facilities;
- Supporting the elaboration of a wider range of models for water sector restructuring in addition to involving private sector participation by competent international operators.

In the period 2004-2006, activities focused on defining objectives through a participatory approach, producing key documents and assessments and implementing targeted activities at the regional and sub-regional levels. Since November 2006 and primarily with support through the MEDA Water Programme, MED EUWI was able to extend activity at the national level using as tool the 'National Policy Dialogues'.

The 'National Policy Dialogues' overall aim is to assist countries in meeting the MDG and WSSD water targets by formulating through assessment and policy dialogue (i) financing strategies and/or roadmaps for water supply and sanitation (like the National Policy Dialogue

in Egypt) and (ii) elaborating national water strategies and IWRM plans (like the National Policy Dialogue in Lebanon), as well as defining and prioritizing the interventions required in terms of projects and actions and the needed funding. Enhancement of donor coordination is among the expected outcomes of the process. The 'National Policy Dialogue' constitute a multi-stakeholder process, led by the countries themselves, involving a spectrum of national actors on water issues.

Depending on countries' priorities, the 'National Policy Dialogues' may address other WSS and IWRM considerations as well as the shared water resources agenda, where applicable. OECD assists on the assessments of the financing aspects of national water policies and the development of related financial scenarios and strategies.

MED EUWI has medium and long term objectives, linked with the MDGs and WSSD targets. Although there is a defined technical part, it is recognized that MED EUWI's scope and activities have a strong political nature and, consequently, the constraints, risks and assumptions are influenced by political processes at the country level. The innovation and added value of MED EUWI activities (including 'National Policy Dialogues') is that they are anchored and become an integral part of key national processes, they receive mandate at the highest political level and are tight to and assist critical decisions that countries wish to take. MED EUWI uses the stakeholder consultation as a key tool for setting the agenda, improving in a transparent manner products produced during the process and for, hopefully, reaching consensus.

Based on the outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Water Directors Conference (Athens, 2006), the feedback provided up to now from the MED EUWI regional (Mediterranean) partners as well as from other EUWI Steering/Coordination Group Members representing other regional EUWI Components and taking into account the high level of political engagement in most MED EUWI activities, MED EUWI progress and type of activities present particular interest and are positively considered by its partners. At the moment, some unavoidable delays that have occurred since November 2006 due to the political nature of the activities under implementation are being overcome. It is, thus, anticipated that in 2008 MED EUWI will present even more tangible results, especially at the country level, demonstrating the added value of the MED EUWI interventions.

## **B. MED EUWI Work Plan 2008**

Aiming to serve MED EUWI objectives, the Work Plan 2008 entails activities that respond to the Component's priorities. The activities foreseen for 2008, including reference to linkages with the MED EUWI and EUWI objectives, are briefly presented in the attached tables, while an overall estimated budget is also attached.

Following a demand-driven approach, MED EUWI activities in 2008 focus on prioritization of national needs for the water sector to meet national targets, implementation of national 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. Responding to current needs, MED EUWI will also develop work on the climate change agenda with emphasis on related considerations in regional and national water strategies and IWRM plans. In addition, MED EUWI will contribute to the preparation of the special ad hoc Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water, planned for the end of 2008.

## EU WATER INITIATIVE

### MEDITERRANEAN COMPONENT OF THE EU WATER INITIATIVE (MED EUWI)

#### WORK PROGRAMME 2008 (Tentative)

Activities	Targets / Purpose per Activity	Duration / Completion Date	MED EUWI Objective No	EUWI Objective No
<p><b>1. 'National Policy Dialogues' in four southern Mediterranean countries</b></p>	<p><b>1.1. Continue 'National Policy Dialogue' activities in Egypt,</b> with emphasis on assisting the new 30-year Egyptian National Master Plan for Water and Wastewater and the Rural Sanitation Strategy by elaborating sustainable financing strategies, within the IWRM framework of the National Water Resources Plan 2017. Activities in Egypt are led by HCWW, MoHUUD and MWRI and will be implemented in collaboration with OECD and the EC Delegation in Egypt, primarily with support through the MEDA Water Programme.</p> <p><b>1.2. Continue 'National Policy Dialogue' activities in Lebanon,</b> with emphasis on assisting the review of the Lebanese Decennial Strategic Plan for Water and launching the preparation of the National IWRM Plan, within the Lebanese Reconstruction Process. Activities in Lebanon are led by the Lebanese Ministry of Energy and Water and will be implemented primarily with support through the MEDA Water Programme.</p> <p><b>1.3. Continue Dialogue activities in Libya,</b> with emphasis on assisting governance and institutional capacity for IWRM within the framework of the National Strategy for Water Resources Management 2000-2025. Activities in Libya are led by the Libyan General Water Authority and will be implemented in synergy with the African Water Facility and African Development Bank.</p> <p><b>1.4. Launch 'National Policy Dialogue' activities in one more country.</b> Interest of Syria and Palestinian Authority is under exploration. Other Mediterranean countries may also express interest. Activities will be implemented primarily with support through the MEDA Water Programme.</p>	<p>- Throughout 2008</p>	<p>1,2,6,7</p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 5</p>

Activities	Targets / Purpose per Activity	Duration / Completion Date	MED EUWI Objective No	EUWI Objective No
<b>2. Regional and Country Assessments on Water</b>	<p><b>2.1. Country Status Assessments of water policies and major water programmes on IWRM and WSS, including Climate Change considerations,</b> in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. Activities will be implemented primarily with support through the MEDA Water Programme and in synergy with GEF SPM and UN ESCWA.</p> <p><b>2.2. Regional Overview of Bilateral Assistance for Water in the Mediterranean EU Partner Countries,</b> in collaboration with OECD.</p> <p><b>2.3. Concept Note on linkages between national Climate Change adaptation measures and national Integrated Water Resources Management planning, in the Mediterranean.</b></p> <p><b>2.4. Reference Guide for Advancing National IWRM Planning in the Mediterranean and Brief Status Assessment – Updated version(s),</b> in synergy with GEF SPM and UN ESCWA.</p>	<p>- Six months / June 2008</p> <p>- Two months/ March 2008</p> <p>- Two months/ March 2008</p> <p>- Throughout 2008</p>	1,2	1, 2
<b>3. Joint Process MED EUWI / WFD</b>	<p><b>3.1. Facilitation of JP Working Groups,</b> on ‘Groundwater Management’, ‘Water Scarcity and Droughts’, ‘Agriculture and Rural Development’, ‘Wastewater Reuse’, ‘Shared Water Resources Management’ and ‘Water Monitoring’, leading to regional reports and recommendations on the respective subjects. Activities will be implemented primarily with support by the Leaders of the Working Groups.</p> <p><b>3.2. Identification of Pilot River Basins and implementation of pilot activities.</b> <i>(to be further defined)</i></p>	<p>- Throughout 2008</p>	2,6	1, 2, 3, 4

Activities	Targets / Purpose per Activity	Duration / Completion Date	MED EUWI Objective No	EUWI Objective No
<p><b>4. Promote action for shared water resources management in Southeastern Europe (SEE)</b></p>	<p><b>4.1. Organise four Targeted Capacity Building Workshops,</b> to exchange knowledge and discuss best practices on issues of integrated shared water resources management in SEE. Focus of activity will be on public participation, financing of joint management, institutional settings of joint management bodies and groundwater management. Activities will be implemented in synergy with the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process and GEF IW:LEARN.</p> <p><b>4.2. Support actions for inter-state collaboration for shared water resources management in SEE,</b> with an emphasis on the Drin River (to be confirmed)</p>	<p>- Throughout 2008</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>2, 3, 4</p>
<p><b>5. Coordination and administration</b></p>	<p><b>5.1. Key Meetings</b> - Organise one meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean and SEE Water Directors Forum to review process and guide MED EUWI development, also linked with the organization of the Euro-Med Ministerial Meeting on Water in 2008.</p> <p><b>5.2. Coordination</b> (a) Coordinate with on-going policy processes, programmes and initiatives in the Mediterranean e.g. ENPI, Horizon 2020, Barcelona Convention and UNEP/MAP, NAMCOW, UNDP, UN ESCWA, OECD, Water Centre of the Arab League, etc.  (b) Further operationalize synergy with the GEF SPM, African Water Facility and Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process to promote common objectives through implementation of activities.  (c) Coordinate with the EUWI Secretariat as well as the Working Groups of Africa and EECCA to promote common objectives.</p> <p><b>5.3. Administration</b> - Run the MED EUWI Secretariat (as described in the MED EUWI ToR) primarily with support by Greece (and possibly the European Commission)</p>	<p>- Autumn 2008 (tbc)</p> <p>- Throughout 2008</p> <p>- Throughout 2008</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 4</p>

## BUDGET 2008

<b>Total Budget (in Euro)</b> <i>(estimate)</i>	910 (tbc) +Act 3
- Act 1 (National Dialogues)	540
- Act 2 (Assessments)	160
- Act 3 (Joint Process)	To be defined will be undertaken by the JP WG Lead organisations
- Act 4 (Capacity building SEE)	80
- Act 5 (Euro-Med and SEE WD Conference)	80 (tbc)
(Coordination / Meetings / Secretariat)	50

***More actions may be included in the Work Plan 2008, pending on interest by partners and funding opportunities, with the subsequent budget modification. Moreover, actions already presented in the Work Plan may be modified and expanded accordingly.***

Activities of the MED EUWI Work Plan 2008 serve the following MED EUWI Objectives  
(as described at the overall 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 multi-stakeholder dialogue and coordination
- 4) Strengthen coordination through promoting river basin approaches
- 5) identify additional financial resources and mechanisms to ensure sustainable financing.