



## MEDITERRANEAN COMPONENT OF THE EU WATER INITIATIVE

# ANNUAL REPORT 2007

*To be presented at the World Water Week 2007, Stockholm  
based on 2006 data  
and outlining major activities planned for 2007*

### **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. It is supported by a MED EUWI Secretariat under GWP-Mediterranean. The Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern Europe Water Directors' Forum provides political and institutional support and serves as the institutional platform for the implementation of MED EUWI.

✓ *Summary of 2006 work programme:*

The detailed Work Programme (WP) for the Component for 2006 was compiled and agreed by the MED EUWI Working Group. The WP for 2007 was prepared and was agreed by the Forum of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries (Athens, 6-7 November 2006). Both annual Work Programmes have been built upon input and suggestions by Mediterranean partners including partner countries, regional networks of water stakeholders and cooperating international and regional organizations and IFIs.

Both WPs aim at improving coherence and coordination and matching necessary funds. The 2006 Work Programme focused on seven Activities at the country and regional levels. Implementation of the 2006 WP relied on support and funding provided by individual donors (countries and organisations) with a particular focus on the implementation of concrete actions. In this context, important financial support was provided through the MEDA Water Programme, at the end of 2006, and by the government of Greece to cover "horizontal" activities under the MED EUWI.

✓ *2006 Budget:*

The required budget as initially estimated for the full implementation of the WP 2006 was 1,070,000 Euro. Due to the late (November 2006) launching of the financial support to MED EUWI under the MEDA Water Programme, budget finally available and, therefore, related expenses realised in 2006 reached around 450,000 Euro. This also resulted in the required rescheduling of some selected activities that were initially planned to be conducted in 2006.

## 2. Baseline situation 2002

✓ <i>Partner countries covered / populations:</i>	18 countries, 317 million <sup>1</sup>
✓ <i>Percentage of population using in 2002<sup>2</sup>:</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 ODA<sup>3</sup>:</i>	2001 US\$405 million

## 3. Results

### *Significant activities in 2006:*

- The Country Dialogue in Egypt was launched on 22 November 2006, in Cairo, following the official request by the Egyptian Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation. Having emphasis on financing strategies for water supply and sanitation within the integrated water resources management framework, the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Local Communities also greatly supports the Dialogue. A Steering Group for the conduction of the Dialogue is under formation, and will be chaired by the Holding Company for Water and Wastewater of Egypt. The Dialogue is expected to greatly assist Egypt to prepare and complement the new Egyptian Master Plan for Water and Wastewater and the new Rural Sanitation Strategy, therefore national interest for the Dialogue is very increased. A wide range of stakeholders is involved in the process apart from only government agencies, e.g. the Egyptian Water Partnership and the Arab Office for Environment and Development. Donors are systematically engaged through their country Donor Assistance Group but also through bilateral coordination meetings. The assistance by the EC Delegation in Egypt has been particularly important; the EC has recently launched a programme of 80 mEuro for budget support to the water sector reform in Egypt and the Dialogue coordinates closely with this activity.

- The Country Dialogue in Lebanon has been suspended due to the summer 2006 events. Effort was made to follow up with background work, however without implementing in-country activities. Close contact and collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Water of Lebanon is however continuing and on-going aiming to reshape the Dialogue process so as to best fit new emerging challenges and needs and to link it further to the reconstruction process.

- Concrete activities (e.g. preparation of thematic workshops) on promoting IWRM have been explored and promoted with Libya, through the General Water Authority. The possibilities for the launching of one more Country Dialogue (possibly Syria) are also currently under consideration.

- A Seminar on the Status of National IWRM Planning for the five North African countries, i.e. Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia as well as Mauritania, was organised on 24-25 January 2006, in Rabat, by the government of Morocco, GWP-Med, UCC-Water and the African Development Bank that was the main supporter of the event, with more than 220 participants from 17 countries. Country reports were presented, debated and conclusions on challenges, gaps and needs were drawn while the Rabat Declaration on National IWRM Planning in North Africa was endorsed and will be followed up with further activities at the

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<sup>1</sup> Source: UN World Water Development Report 2, 2006

<sup>2</sup> Source: Joint Monitoring Programme; Regional data for Northern Africa

<sup>3</sup> Source: OECD/DAC

country level. The main outcomes of the event were presented at the Mexico 4<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum.

- Capacity building activities (assessment, coordination meetings, e-dialogue, workshops) on transboundary lakes management in Southeastern Europe were implemented within the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process and GEF IW:LEARN. Among key events, the Workshop on Shared Lakes Management was organized on 12-14 October 2006, in Ohrid Lake, and attended by about 70 targeted participants. Results will be further followed up within the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process also in view of the upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> 'Environment for Europe' Conference to take place in Belgrade (Oct. 2007).

- The Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries for 2006 was organised on 5-6 November, in Athens and attended by more than 100 representatives from Mediterranean partner countries and regional stakeholders. It was the first time that the Water Directors reviewed and discussed a wide range of regional water processes, initiatives and programmes and provided concrete recommendations for follow up actions, thus highlighting the need for further coordination and creation of strong synergies among them, i.e. the MED EUWI, MED EUWI/WFD Joint Process, European Neighborhood Policy, Horizon 2020 Initiative, Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, EMWIS, MEDA-Water Programme, European Marine Strategy, GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean and the African Water Facility. Recommendations are being followed up in 2007.

- The link established between the Water Directors Forum (6-7 November 2006) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Environment that followed (20 November 06) that took note and made reference to the outcomes of the Forum, provided visibility to MED EUWI and assisted in further raising political commitment and promoting operational links, particularly with the Horizon 2020 Initiative as well as the European Neighbourhood Policy.

- Work of the three Working Groups of the Joint Process between MED EUWI and the EU Water Framework Directive continued, and more specifically on Groundwater Resources Management, Water Scarcity and Agriculture. The first phase of the MED EUWI/ WFD JP was concluded in late 2006 and the reports from the 3 abovementioned Working Groups were submitted, discussed and reviewed. The second phase of the MED EUWI/WFD JP will start in 2007. During the Euro-Mediterranean Water Directors' Forum Conference that took place in Nov. 2006, it was decided that three more new Working Groups will be launched for the JP's second phase apart from the existing 3 ones of the JP's first phase that will continue to be operational. The new Groups to launch activities in 2007 are on Shared Water Resources Management, Waste water reuse and on Water Monitoring. These 6 WGs will pursue further activities in close collaboration with partner countries in 2007. In addition, pilot activities were implemented with a first Mediterranean pilot basin set up in Morocco (Sebou basin).

- An important funding of the MED EUWI Activities was agreed, in late 2005, by the EC (including AidCo, DG Environment and the Amman Delegation) for 2 years, and was actually launched in November 2006. This support comes through the Regional Monitoring and Support Unit's Budget for the MEDA-Water programme and will rise to 1,5 mEuro, to cover a series of regional and national activities in the Mediterranean on water, with emphasis on the MED EUWI activities and in particular that Country Dialogues.

- Research collaborations continued through specific funding frameworks such as the EC's RTD 'INCO Programme', which are complementary to the MEDA Water Programme and have succeeded in mobilising a large number of competences across the spectrum of

research, government, private sector, NGOs, farmers' associations, etc. from all sides of the Mediterranean.

*Analysis of the 2006 scoreboard:*

Following initial difficulties in securing funding mostly for country level activities, progress achieved for the MED EUWI in 2006 was mainly related to regional and sub-regional events and the finalization of arrangements for the MEDA Water Programme financial support. The latter allowed for the immediate launching of the second Country Dialogue in Egypt and the initiation of discussions with more countries. With visibility already raised, demand by partner countries is constantly increasing, signalling further interest on MED EUWI's scope and type of activities. However, it is recognised that concrete results of MED EUWI intervention will become even more visible only in the medium term, in the coming years. 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. At the same time, transboundary waters remain a priority for MED EUWI and, in addition to activities already under implementation in Southeastern Europe, the agenda is envisaged to open also in the South and East Mediterranean.

*Priority actions foreseen in 2007 include:*

- The implementation of the Country Dialogue in Egypt will continue in a systematic way.
- The Country Dialogue process in Lebanon will be revitalized, eventually focussing on strengthening links between the reconstruction process and the Lebanon national water strategy that should be reviewed and updated.
- The interest of one more country to engage in MED EUWI Country Dialogue activities will be explored (possibly Syria) and activity may emerge.
- Activities related to the IWRM Dialogue in Libya will be launched, linked also to the Rabat Declaration on National IWRM Planning in North Africa countries. Emphasis would be on promoting institutional settings to assist the IWRM process and sharing of experiences with other countries in the region.
- The annual Conference of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries will be organized in December 2007 possibly in Egypt, providing guidance to major regional water-related policies, programmes and initiatives and serving as a stepping stone for the preparation of the envisaged "Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water" to take place during or after the second half of 2008.
- Targeted capacity building workshops and assessments on issues of transboundary water resources management will continue in Southeastern Europe, linked with the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process. Emphasis will be on transboundary groundwater resources. The organisation of a side event on transboundary water management at the 6<sup>th</sup> EFe Ministerial Conference to take place in Belgrade (Oct. 2007) is also being considered.
- Support of activities of the 6 Working Groups and pilot basins of the Joint Process linking the MED EUWI and the Water Framework Directive will continue.
- Collaboration with the Horizon 2020 and the European Neighborhood Policy are expected to be further concretized.
- Collaboration with the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems is secured, when this will be launched.

**Annex 1. The MED EUWI Work Programme 2006 containing comments on its implementation (in italic) and Summary Budget 2006**

Working Group	Activities	Targets/Purpose per Activity	Duration/Completion Date <i>[Comments on implementation]</i>
Mediterranean	<b>1. Country status assessment on WSS and IWRM in ten MEDA countries</b>	- Overview and mapping of water policies and major water programmes on WSS and IWRM	- Four months / April 2006  <i>[The activity was re-scheduled in order to be linked with the proposed Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Meeting on Water to take place in 2008-2009]</i>
	<b>2. Country dialogues in two MEDA countries</b>	- Initiate one country dialogue (another one has been initiated in 2005) - Elaborate assessments on current expenditure and needed financing to meet MDGs/WSSD targets for WSS and IWRM - 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	- Throughout 2006  <i>[The Country Dialogue of Egypt was launched and practical work has commenced. The Dialogue will be conducted in cooperation with the OECD that will undertake the carrying out of the required financial assessments and strategy within the Dialogue. The Dialogue of Lebanon has been temporarily withheld and is now being revitalised. Discussions for a third Country Dialogue (e.g. Syria) have commenced. Activities were generally delayed in 2006 compared to what was planned due to the late finalization of the MEDA Water Programme financial support]</i>
	<b>3. Joint Process WFD/MED EUWI</b>	- Identification of pilot river basins and implementation of pilot activities - Facilitation of Working Groups (Groundwater, etc)	- Throughout 2006  <i>[Carried out as planned]</i>
	<b>4. Seminar on IWRM status in five North African countries and Mauritania</b>	- Organise Seminar to assess status of national IWRM planning, facilitate dialogue among key involved agencies and identify priority actions to follow up	- 24-25 January 2006, Rabat  <i>[Carried out as planned]</i>
	<b>5. Conference on regional policy guidelines for waste-water reuse</b>	- Organise Workshop to present and discuss policy guidelines for waste-water reuse in the Mediterranean, in collaboration with related MEDA Water project(s)	<i>[The activity was implemented directly by the MEDA Water Programme partners]</i>
	<b>6. Capacity building activities for decision makers and experts on transboundary water resources management in Southeastern Europe</b>	- Facilitate multi-stakeholder e-dialogue on integrated management of shared lakes  - Organise Workshop to exchange knowledge and present best practise on integrated management of shared lakes in Southeastern Europe	- September to October 2006  October 2006  <i>[Carried out as planned]</i>

Working Group	Activities	Targets/Purpose per Activity	Duration/Completion Date <i>[Comments on implementation]</i>
	<p><b>7. Coordination and administration</b></p> <p><b>7a. Meetings</b></p> <p><b>7b. Coordination</b></p> <p><b>7c. Administration</b></p>	<p>- Organise MED EUWI Working Group Meeting(s) to discuss progress, implementation of activities and next steps</p> <p>- Organise one meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Water Directors Forum to review process and guide MED EUWI development</p> <p>- Organise of MED EUWI Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) to review process and advice on MED EUWI development, possibly in conjunction with the Water Directors Forum</p> <p>- Coordinate with on-going programmes and initiatives in the Mediterranean eg. UNEP MAP, Horizon 2020, METAP, NAMCOW, UN ESCWA, etc</p> <p>- Cooperate with the GEF Strategic Partnership to promote common objectives through implementation of activities</p> <p>- Coordinate with the WGs of Africa, Finance, Monitoring, Research, CIS to promote common objectives</p> <p>- Run the MED EUWI Secretariat (as described in the MED EUWI ToR)</p>	<p>- March 2006</p> <p><i>[The activity took place with the organisation of the Conference of the Euro-Mediterranean and SEE Water Directors Meeting that was attended by more than 100 representatives of Mediterranean partner countries and stakeholders, serving as institutional support to MED EUWI]</i></p> <p>- September or October 2006</p> <p><i>[Carried out as planned, the Conference was organized on 6-7 November 2006, in Athens]</i></p> <p>- September or October 2006</p> <p><i>[The activity was carried out as planned and combined with the Conference of the Euro-Mediterranean and SEE Water Directors Meeting, serving as institutional support of MED EUWI]</i></p> <p>- Throughout 2006 <i>[Carried out as planned]</i></p> <p>- Throughout 2006 <i>[Carried out as planned]</i></p> <p>- Throughout 2006 <i>[Carried out as planned]</i></p> <p>- Throughout 2006 <i>[Carried out as planned]</i></p>

## 2. Summary of the 2006 Budget of MED EUWI

Working Group	Total Cost (€)	Of which Funded (€)	Residual (€)	Comments/Explanations
Mediterranean	1,070,000	447,828		It has not been made possible to meet the total planned income for 2006, due to the late initiation of the funding to the MED EUWI through the MEDA Water Programme contract (November 2006) and the resulting re-scheduling of some activities

**ANNEX 2 2006 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.	60	In Egypt: 5 Ministries, 40 water sector organisations / programmes, 4 EU countries, 1 non-EU countries, 4 International Organisations, 4 National NGOs, 2 International NGOs  In Lebanon: stalled however contacts with the Ministry of Energy and Water of Lebanon are very active and on-going.
2. No. of agreements made / progressed between EUWI and water sector programmes/organisations	11	- 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
4. No. of cooperation processes under preparation	3	- Libya (General Water Authority) - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Country Water Dialogue (possibly Syria) - OECD Task Team on strategies for sustainable financing of the WSS sector
5. No. of cooperation processes launched / progressed	5	- Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process and IW:LEARN (Workshops on transboundary waters in Southeastern Europe) - AfDB, UCC Water, Morocco (Seminar on Status of National IWRM Planning in North Africa) - NAMCOW - Lebanon (Ministry for Energy and Water) - Egypt (Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Ministry of Housing and Utilities and Local Communities, Holding Company for Water and Wastewater)
7-b. Number of country dialogues with EUWI support planned/launched	3	- Lebanon (launched November 2005) - Egypt (launched in November 2006) - At least one more countries (planned to be launched in 2007)
8-a. Number of ongoing country dialogues with EUWI support institutionalised in a scheduled process	2	- Egypt - Lebanon (currently on hold due to 2006 war)
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).

Indicator measured	Result	Comment
		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	- Sebou River (Morocco). Planned to be launched in 2007. - Litani River (Lebanon). Planned to be launched in 2007.
10-b. No. of transboundary basin management support programmes planned/launched as a result of EUWI intervention		-
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		-
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.

Indicator measured	Result	Comment
15-c. Amount of non-ODA financing of water sector		n/a