

ARID Cluster Workshop Minutes Paris 8-10 October 2003

The ARID cluster workshop began with a presentation by Phoebe Koundouri on the 'Expected results of the ARID cluster'. This was followed by a presentation by Dionysis Assimacopoulos on the 'Contributions of WaterStrategyMan to the ARID cluster'. Both of these will be uploaded on the ARID website in the near future.

ISSUES COVERED DURING THE WORKSHOP:

La Palma meeting.

The importance of making this meeting as interactive as possible was emphasized. Paul Jeffrey informed the session participants that he will be inviting 7 stakeholders to the La Palma meeting and suggested that others do the same. Also, AQUADAPT has now hired someone to help integrate and harmonize the research findings (as has MEDIS).

A new structure for the La Palma meeting was suggested by Paul Jeffrey and the responsibilities of the External Advisory Panel were defined as follows:

1. Attend the La Palma, Sicily and Cyprus ARID workshops and meetings
2. Advise ARID Steering Committee on design and organisation of these events
3. Assist the ARID Steering Committee in design of cluster level deliverables (e.g. the Training Package, Book etc.)
4. Identify and assist in securing access to external speakers for the three ARID workshops
5. Promote the ARID cluster and its events amongst their professional and peer constituencies
6. Advise the ARID coordinator of opportunities for dissemination of ARID outputs and links with other initiatives
7. Attend the ARID final report writing workshop in July 2006 and assist in composition of cluster level findings & conclusions
8. Author a 1 page quality control report at the end of each project year. This to include an evaluation of activities during the year and suggestions for improving ARID management processes.

A number of keynote speakers were suggested. The ARID coordinator will contact and invite keynote speakers (emphasising the need that they speak on the relevant issues i.e. water allocation under conditions of shortage) once a final selection has been made.

With respect to logistics, Cipriano Marin is the lead person for the La Palma meeting. An estimate of the number of participants was obtained for room bookings [approx. 70]. Sufficient space is supposed to exist within the hotel for the poster sessions which can be presented by project participants as well as stakeholders alike.

It was decided that the ARID cluster coordinator will send out emails to other EU water related clusters (e.g. Harmoni-CA) to invite them to the La Palma meeting --but would not be expected to cover travel expenses.

Sicily meeting

The date for the Sicily meeting remains to be determined but is expected to take place sometime between Sept-Nov, 2004.

Website

NTUA designed a prototype website for the ARID cluster. It was agreed that the log-in feature of the website was not necessary which would also facilitate the management of the site. Additional information will be uploaded on the site e.g. information on other EU clusters and institutions related to water management, presentations from the ARID cluster session in Paris, etc. Regarding the layout and structure of the site, several indicated that the SAHRA website could be used as an example. Feedback on the site in general was requested. [For more information on the website, see Arid_3 Website.pdf presentation by Dionysis Assimacopoulos]

Phoebe Koundouri suggested that the Description of Work of the ARID cluster should be uploaded to the relevant webpage, i.e. where the summaries of the other three projects are uploaded. Further, it was pointed out that the description of work of the ARID cluster includes the SUSTAINIS training program that recently took place in Cyprus. The ARID cluster coordinator will liaise with Manfred Lange for the creation of a link between the SUSTAINIS website and the ARID Cluster website.

Nature of ARID Deliverables

Paul Jeffrey noted that the output of the cluster should not include providing an orthodox when different methodologies and opinions exist. One should be able to show areas of disagreement and provide a discussion of why these exist. The creation of guidelines are suggested rather than the creation of a 'toolbox'.

Finally, it was decided that the Steering Committee should meet for a week (preliminarily set for July 2006) for the purpose of writing the final report for the ARID cluster.

ARID WORKSHOP – LA PALMA 2004

TIME	Sunday 1-2-2004	Monday 2-2-2004	Tuesday 3-2-2004	Wednesday 4-2-2004	
09:00 - 09:30	Welcoming	Welcoming addresses	Project specific meetings	Project specific meetings	
09:30 - 10:00	Field trip		Project specific meetings	Project specific meetings	
10:00 - 10:30		Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	
10:30 - 11:00		Presentations of the individual projects and the ARID cluster	Project specific meetings	Project specific meetings	
11:00 - 11:30					
11:30 - 12:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
12:00 - 12:30					
12:30 - 13:00		Project specific meetings	Stakeholder fora	Key note speech 2 and debate	
13:00 - 14:30		Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	
14:30 - 15:00		Project specific meetings	Key note speech 1 and debate	Closing cluster session	
15:00 - 15:30					
15:30 - 16:00		ARID steering group meeting	ARID dinner	Project dinners	ARID steering group meeting
16:00 - 16:30					
16:30 - 17:00	ARID steering group meeting	ARID dinner	Project dinners	ARID steering group meeting	
17:00 - 17:30					
Evening	ARID steering group meeting	ARID dinner	Project dinners	ARID steering group meeting	

NOTES

1. This schedule is premised on the assumption that posters can be viewed during the coffee breaks.
2. For the Stakeholder Fora each project should ask one stakeholder identified through their project to provide a 10-15 minute presentation on their context and problems, allocate the researchers between the three groups (deliberately mixing up disciplines, projects & nationalities) and then run all three in parallel.