

Saturday, 19th January 2008

- 08:30 Registration - Welcome of participants
- 09:00 Welcoming addresses
- 09:30 The INECO Project - Principles and Approach
Dr. Jean-Marc Berland, International Office for Water
- 10:00 Water Pollution in the Seybouse River Basin - Causes, effects and proposal on solutions
Mr. Khatim Kherraz, General Director, Agence de Bassin Hydrographique de Constantinois-Seybousse - Melleque
- 10:45 Coffee Break
- 11:15 Institutional and Economic Instruments for addressing water pollution issues: International Experiences
Prof. Bernard Barraqué, CNRS-LATTS
- 11:45 Questions - Debate
- 12:45 Recommendations & Conclusions
- 13:15 Lunch - End of Workshop

Contact for queries and further information:

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INECO

Institutional and Economic Instruments
for Sustainable Water Management in the Mediterranean Region
web site: <http://environ.chemeng.ntua.gr/ineco>

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

“Building a common vision
for mitigating water pollution
in the Seybouse River Basin”

SATURDAY, 19th JANUARY 2008

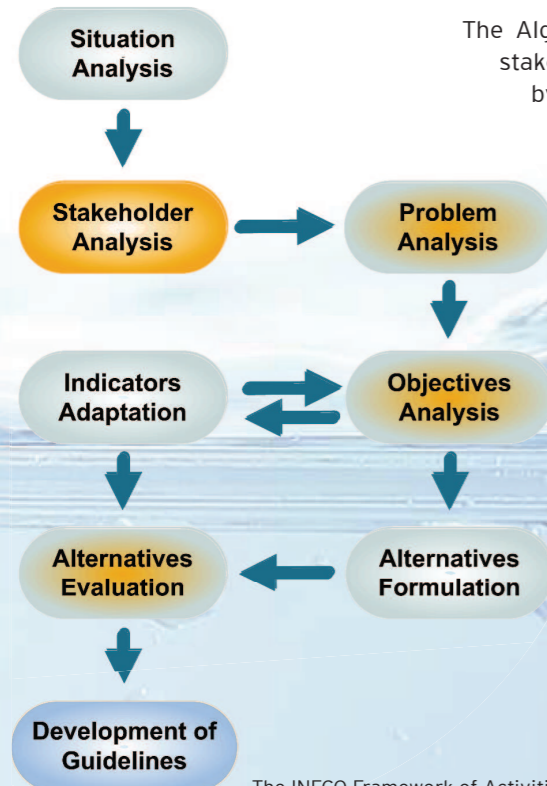


INECO is a Coordination Action supported by the European Commission through the 6th Framework Programme, and addressing the “Specific Measures in Support of International Cooperation (INCO Programme) - Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPC)” Priority (Contract no: INCO-CT-2006-517673).

THE INECO PROJECT

INECO is a Coordination Action Project supported by the European Commission through the 6th Framework Programme, addressing the "Specific Measures in Support of International Cooperation (INCO Programme) - Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPC)" Priority. The INECO Consortium brings together 14 institutions from 10 Mediterranean Countries (Greece, France, Italy, Cyprus, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Algeria and Morocco), including public (6), private (7) and international organisations (1). The goal of INECO is to introduce an interdisciplinary approach to water management building upon the integration of three major aspects: environment, economics and society. INECO will discuss shared problems in the decision-making process and the deficiencies of the present governance structures around the Mediterranean Basin. Research focuses on alternative institutional and economic instruments which can promote equity, economic efficiency and environmental sustainability in the sharing and governing dimensions of water resources management.

The Algeria workshop is one of the stakeholder workshops organised by INECO in Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Cyprus, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco. The workshops aim to develop a constructively engaged Integrated Water Resources Management process, and lay the foundations for reaching a common understanding on what the real problems are and how these could be addressed in a jointly agreed water resources management situation.



The INECO Framework of Activities

INECO IN ALGERIA - WATER POLLUTION IN THE SEYBOUSE RIVER BASIN

The Seybouse River Basin, with a total area of 6,471 km², is located in the northern part of Algeria. The Seybouse River (240 km length) constitutes an important water source, mainly used for the irrigation of large agricultural areas, which extend from the Guelma region to Annaba city.

The basin extends over 68 municipalities, located in seven wilayas (administrative divisions), and faces important domestic and industrial pollution, mostly originating from city industries situated along the two river banks: the annual industrial discharge is approximately equal to 4.5 million m³; of this amount, 3 million m³ corresponds to used oils from various sources. River pollution is also partly due to the lack of sewage treatment plants, as in several cases domestic wastewater is discharged directly into the river without prior treatment.

The most vulnerable areas are those where industrial activities are concentrated, i.e. Meboudja, Bouchegouf and Guelma. In these regions, aquifer pollution is also an issue, as run-off originating from the Edough and Gelaat Bou Sbaa mountains, carrying high loads of contaminants, infiltrates groundwater bodies. This in turn poses serious threats on human health, both direct (children often play on the river banks) and indirect (many farmers abstract water directly from the river for irrigation purposes, and soil productivity is also affected). Furthermore, the river ecosystem is also at risk, as flora and fauna are seriously threatened.



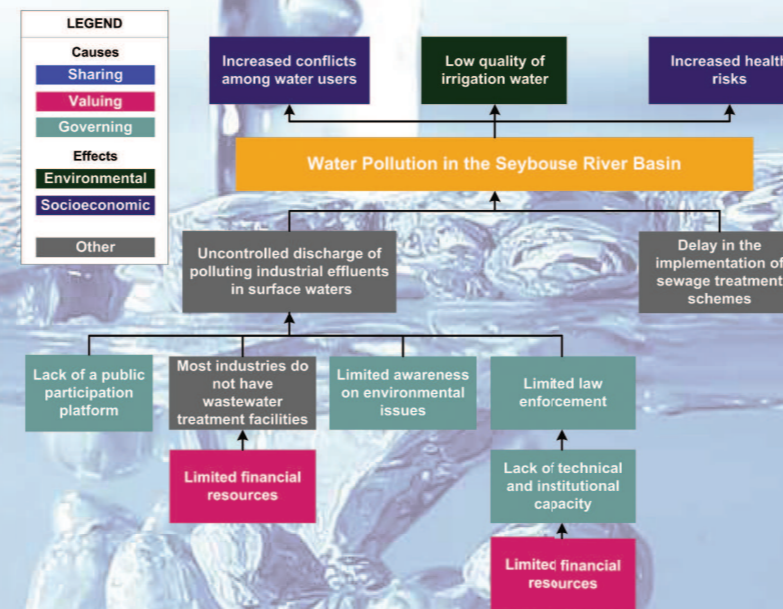
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THE ALGERIA WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The workshop aims to strengthen the alliance between the INECO Research Team and Local Stakeholders in Algeria by:

- Discussing on the focal water management problem experienced in the Seybouse River Basin;
- Promoting the development of a process where each contributor gains both a better understanding of the problem and insight on how other participants see the problem;
- Initiating the participatory involvement of stakeholders in determining, defining and evaluating alternative institutional and economic instruments towards problem mitigation.

The workshop will serve as a discussion forum on the problems and challenges faced by stakeholders. It will offer the opportunity for participants to share their experiences, knowledge, ideas, preferences, hopes, fears, opinions, and values.



Causes and effects of water pollution in the Seybouse River Basin - A tentative analysis