

Minutes of the 2nd INECO Annual Project Meeting

16th July 2008, Tunisia

Prepared by the NTUA 28th July 2008

1. Introduction

The 2nd Annual Meeting of the INECO Project was held at the premises of CITET in Tunis, in the afternoon of July 16th 2008. The meeting followed the INECO Stakeholder Assembly Workshop, held on the 15th and the 16th July 2008, with the participation of the INECO Project Partners and representatives of governmental authorities and end-users from the participating Mediterranean Countries.

The main aims of the INECO Stakeholder Assembly Workshop were to:

- Present and evaluate the outcomes of regional analyses on the applicability of institutional and economic instruments;
- Share, exchange and integrate experience associated with the application of solutions across the Mediterranean Basin;
- Assess the corresponding economic, environmental and social trade-offs; and
- Derive recommendations for enabling the effective implementation of proposed instruments

On the other hand, the INECO Annual Meeting aimed at evaluating the progress thus far, and discussing and deciding on the implementation of the third year of the project. In this regard, the last session of the workshop included a discussion on possible contents for guidelines and the way that the Case Studies Analyses should develop during the 3rd year of the project. This discussion led to the Project implementation decisions and plan that are described in this document.

This document comprises the minutes of the INECO Annual Meeting, and is structured in the following way:

- Section 2 contains a summary of the pending requirements for the submission of the 2nd year Annual Report and the corresponding deliverables of INECO. All pending contributions described in this section should be completed by the end of August 2008, in order to enable (a) the submission of the report to the Commission, and (b) the timely delivery of the next rate of prefinancing.
- Section 3 describes the main decisions, including important deadlines, for the implementation of the 3rd year of the project.

2. Pending requirements for the 2nd year report and deliverables

The 2nd year Annual Report of INECO and the Deliverables of the period will be sent to the European Commission by the end of August. Table 1 summarizes the pending contributions and the responsibilities of the Project Partners for achieving this deadline.

Del. No	Title	Partner responsible	Status	Pending Contributions
D6	Workshop proceedings	IOW	First draft completed, Final version pending	None
D7	Publishable Regional Reports	NTUA & RPs	First draft completed, Final version under preparation	CITET (on the 1 st draft)
D8	Typology of Institutional Frameworks	NTUA	Deliverable almost finalized	None
D9	The range of currently applied economic instruments	IOW	Under preparation	ISKANE (checklist on alternative instruments)
D10	Alternative institutional and economic instruments towards more equitable and efficient water allocation and management	IEFE	Under preparation, expected early September	ISKANE (checklist on alternative instruments) IC (results of the evaluation questionnaire)
D11	Assembly Workshop Proceedings	IOW	Under preparation	Transcript of workshop discussions by the NTUA
D12	Second Annual Report	NTUA	Under preparation	See below the analysis per item
	C-Forms and Cost Reporting in electronic format			MALR, IC, C&D, SIC
	C-Forms in hard copy			IOW, INBO, IEFE, MALR, IC, C&D, SIC, ISKANE
	Report on dissemination activities			INBO, IEFE, CITET, MALR, IC, C&D, SIC, ISKANE

Table 1: Pending requirements for the 2nd year of INECO (as in 28 July 2008)

Important note:

All partners who held additional workshops (besides the major local workshop of WP5), should send for the Annual Report information relevant to these events (date, list of participants, agenda, minutes or brief summary of discussions, photos, etc.)

3. Decisions for the implementation of the third year of the project

3.1 The INECO Guidelines (Deliverable 13)

Guidelines and the corresponding web toolbox (See Section 3.2) are one of the main outputs of the project. It was decided that:

• Guidelines should not focus on "general" suggestions on how to implement institutional instruments, economic instruments or public participation. There are millions of reports on that subject. Instead they should focus more on the

methodological aspect (how the discussions, how expert suggestions and opinions and approaches were continuously refined according to feedback received by stakeholders), because this is where the added value of INECO lies. Similarly, INECO should also avoid focusing on a very narrow analysis on how to address each specific Case Study problem, but taking also into account the expectations of the local communities that have been involved and have actively supported the project.

• Guidelines should however include a more extended analysis of the 2nd year work for the Case Studies, by building on the results of: (a) the identification of the different options, (b) the checklist on currently applied/alternative instruments and (c) the evaluation questionnaire, **based on new discussions with stakeholders**.

These discussions, which will be undertaken at each Case Study will conclude to the following:

- A prioritization of the different options;
- An implementation plan (concrete actions, describing the "when" "where", "how", "how much", complementary/supporting measures) for those options that are considered the most preferable, relevant and applicable.

In order to assist the Regional Partners in these discussions, IEFE will develop by mid September:

- An evaluation of the information already collected from the case studies on alternative instruments;
- Input as to how to discuss the different instruments with the local stakeholders in order to develop suggestions for a concrete implementation plan.

The corresponding contributions by the Regional Partners should be delivered by the **end of December – early January 2008**.

3.2 The INECO Web Toolbox (Deliverable 14)

The INECO Web toolbox is currently under development by the NTUA, and it is expected that a prototype will be operational by the end of September. This will contain all the information the project has collected thus far, literature, tools to support interactive decisions with stakeholders etc.

3.3 The Final Conference Event & Proceedings (Deliverable 15)

The final event of INECO is the Project Conference. According to the contract, the event is scheduled for the end of the project, and will be held in Cyprus.

The decisions with regard to the contribution of the different partners were:

- NTUA, IOW, IEFE can present papers on the overall methodology of INECO, and possibly a synthesis of the outcomes from the Regional Partners.
- Regional Partners can choose between two options:
 - Present the outcomes of the Case Studies, but focusing specifically on the development of an implementation plan for the preferable options, and the overall process that followed to develop this plan, or
 - Focus on one water management option which is the subject of strong debate in their society, and discuss implications and different stakeholder perceptions as to its implementation.

Concerning the final date and the venue of the event and in order to reach a wider audience, the following possibilities will be explored:

- Organisation of a joint event, in collaboration with other EC projects;
- Joining the Conference with an INBO or IOW workshop. This possibility will be explored by IOW.

3.4 Impact assessment of INECO Results (Deliverable 16)

The Deliverable will focus on an evaluation of the project (self-evaluation and assessment of the work of INECO). For this purpose, the NTUA will distribute in early spring 2009 some questionnaires to all Project Partners.

Annex: INECO Project Meeting Participants

Mohamed Marzouk, ABH Oum Er Rbia, Morocco A. Bouchedja, ABHCSM, Algeria Ioannis P. Glekas, Aeoliki, Cyprus Antonio Massarutto, Bocconi University, Italy Sihem Benabdallah, CERTE, Tunisia Bernard Barraque, CIRED-CNRS, France Ahmed Bouzid, CITET, Tunisia Rymbeu Anemau Bnizani, CITET, Tunisia Amida Leila, CITET, Tunisia Foued El Ayni, CITET, Tunisia Nadia Hammani, CITET, Tunisia Amel Jrad, CITET, Tunisia Evan Vlachos, Colorado State University, USA Claude Tabbal, Conseil et Developpement, Lebanon Moncef Rekaya, CRDA Nabeul, Tunisia Chaieb Habib, DGRE, Tunisia Mekouli P., DGRE, Tunisia Touri Sarra, INAT, Tunisia Gaamul N., INGREF, Tunisia Jean-Marc Berland, International Office for Water, France Mahmoud Sraj, Ministry of Energy and Water, Lebanon, Lebanon Souliman Ramah, Ministry of Irrigation, Syria Maria Pyla Christodoulou, NGO Representative - Pegeia, Cyprus Dionysis Assimacopoulos, NTUA, Greece Eleni Manoli, NTUA, Greece Fathy El Gamal, NWRC, Egypt Daniel Valensuela, OIEau, France Ridha Boulabiar, ONAS, Tunisia Malek Al Haddad, Studies and Integration Consulting, Syria Samy El Fellaly, SWERI, MALR, Egypt