



**Minutes of the INECO Annual
Project Meeting (26th-27th
October 2007, Cyprus)**

Prepared by the NTUA

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

This document summarizes the discussions of the 1st Annual Meeting of INECO, held in Peyia, Cyprus. The Annual Meeting was one of the three events organized by INECO during the period 25th-27th October 2007, as depicted in Figure 1.

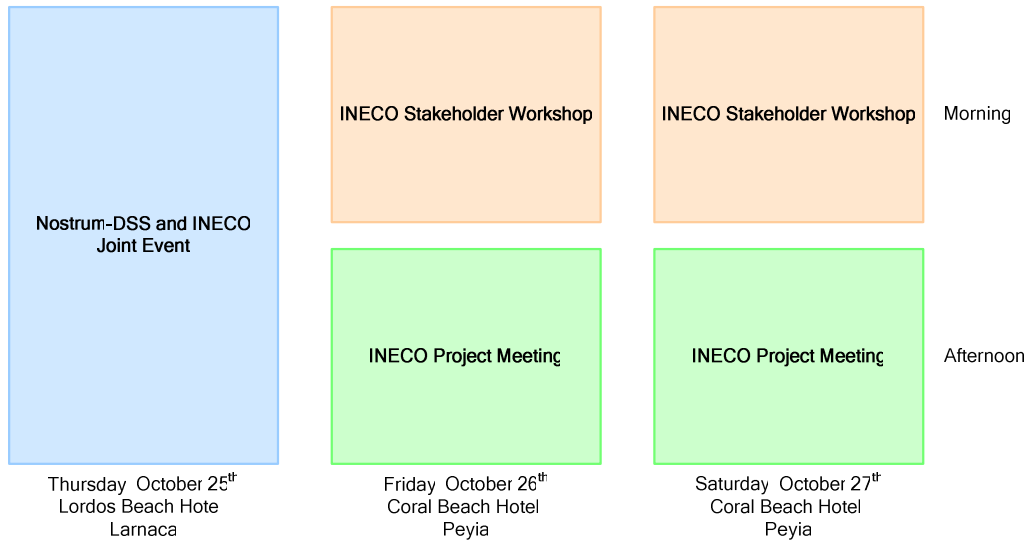


Figure 1: The implementation of the INECO Cyprus Events

The 1st event was co-organized with the Nostrum-DSS Project, on the 25th of October at the Lordos Beach Hotel in Larnaka. This joint dissemination event titled “IWRM through coordination, dissemination, and exploitation of research outcomes” invited a large number of researchers and other interested participants, including European Commission Representatives. It aimed at providing an opportunity to exchange scientific knowledge and project results on different topics in the domain of water resources management in the Mediterranean region. The main theme of the open session was oriented towards the discussion of problems and criteria for the coordination, dissemination and exploitation of EU-research outcomes relevant to the implementation of IWRM in the Mediterranean region.

The 2nd event was the INECO Cyprus Stakeholder Workshop, held in the mornings of the 26th and 27th October 2007 in Peyia, Cyprus. The workshop was organized within the framework of WP 5 of INECO and aimed at strengthening the alliance between the INECO Project Team and Local Stakeholders, by providing a platform for constructively engaged dialogue among the parties concerned. The workshop focused on discussing with local stakeholders issues relevant to the focal water management problem of the Peyia Aquifer.

The INECO Annual Meeting complemented those two events; the meeting was held on the afternoons of the 26th and 27th of October, and aimed at evaluating the progress of the project, discussing upon issues and needs that emerged during its 1st year, and plan forthcoming project tasks.

1.2 Aim and scope of this document

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

- **Section 2** summarizes the outcomes of the meeting, in terms of decisions taken and project planning.
- **Section 3** provides a summary overview of presentations and discussions that took place.
- **Annex I** lists the Annual Meeting Participants.
- **Annex II** provides the Agendas for the three Cyprus events.

All presentations and material from the meeting are available from the project web site at <http://environ.chemeng.ntua.gr/ineco/Default.aspx?t=407>. Project partners are requested to login in order to view material restricted to the consortium only (Details concerning the distribution of the 2nd rate of prefinancing).

2. Project Planning & Decisions Taken

2.1 Future workshops

The dates set for the forthcoming workshops are the following:

- Tunisia: December 6th 2007 for the workshop and December 7th 2007 for the field trip.
- Algeria: December 14th 2007.
- Morocco: 20th-27th February 2008 (final date not yet decided)

In all workshops there should be translation to and from English; Regional partners should also have preliminary meetings with stakeholders, in order to ensure that participants are trained to the workshops' procedures.

2.2 Participatory processes

All partners have agreed to continue with the agreed timeplan for the development of the project; the work in the 2nd year focuses on the identification of alternative institutional and economic options and the formulation and evaluation of proposals for identifying the selected focal problems.

2.3 Project web site

Project partners should disseminate the INECO web site to local stakeholders and try to foster the participation of stakeholders to the existing web fora and to the completion of online questionnaires. They were further requested to submit comments and suggestions for improvement.

2.4 Forthcoming project tasks

Work Package 6 – Typology Development

The outputs of WP 6 are two deliverables:

- Deliverable 8, “Typology Development”, due in December 2007, will be prepared by the NTUA. Regional partners will participate by validating input relevant to their case studies. IOW and IEFE will collaborate with the NTUA for linking the typology themes to the web toolbox contents.
- Concerning Deliverable 7 (Regional Publishable Reports), a first draft version will be submitted in January. Contents will be those outlined in the INECO Project Technical

Annex. A template will be prepared by NTUA and IOW and distributed to all project partners in early December 2007. An enhanced version will be submitted in June 2008, including outputs from the 2nd year of the project work at the Case Studies.

Work Package 7.1 – Analysis of currently applied economic instruments

The work package focuses on the evaluation of the currently applied economic instruments, and their impact to water use sectors that are linked to the examined focal problem of each case study. The corresponding deliverable is due in February 2008. A template will be prepared by the work package leaders (NTUA and IOW), in collaboration with IEFEE, as the analysis will also feed into WP 7.2.

3. Summary of Discussions

Thursday, October 26th 2007

Administrative and Financial issues

The meeting started with an overview of the current administrative and financial status of the project. The main points of the presentation were:

- The 1st Annual Report and Deliverables 3 and 4 of INECO were submitted to the European Commission at the end of September 2007.
- The 2nd rate of prefinancing is expected after the approval of the reports of the EC. The process normally takes around 45 days; therefore approval is expected around mid November 2007.
- The transfer of the 2nd rate to Project Partners, provisional to this timetable, should be expected around mid December. In case that there is delay, the payment should be expected in mid January 2008, due to the Christmas holiday break.
- According to the provisions of Article 8 of the INECO EC Contract, the total amount that will be distributed by the Commission is less than the budget for the subsequent 18 months of the project (January 2008 – June 2009), as part of the 1st rate of prefinancing has not been spent during the first year of the project. The total amount (and the amounts allocated to partners) will be determined by the costs that are actually accepted by the EC.
- Tentative estimates of the amounts per partner were presented; the estimation was made according to the costs declared for the first year of the project and each Partner's budget.

Project progress & Overview of SH workshops already held

Prof. Assimacopoulos gave a brief overview of the current status of the project, describing its main outputs and achievements. He particularly focused on the experiences gained from the already implemented WP 5 Stakeholder workshops, in Egypt (21st July 2007), Syria (10th September 2007) and Lebanon (12th September 2007). He specifically pointed out that **translation to and from English should be planned for all subsequent workshops**, in order to overcome linguistic barriers and facilitate the communication with local stakeholders. Furthermore, he requested that **partners plan for preliminary meetings** with stakeholders before the workshop, so that stakeholders are trained to the workshop procedures. With regard to the subsequent workshops, Prof. Assimacopoulos asked the participants from CITET,

ABHCSM and ISKANE to propose dates for the implementation of the remaining workshops in Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco. The agreed timeplan was the following:

- Tunisia: December 6th 2007 for the workshop and December 7th 2007 for the field trip.
- Algeria: December 14th 2007
- Morocco: 20th-27th February 2008 (final date not yet decided).

An overview of the work with stakeholders that should be undertaken during the 2nd year of the project was then presented. Subsequent steps include the identification of alternatives, the formulation of proposals and an iterative consultation with stakeholders to reach the final evaluation stage. Prof. Assimacopoulos asked all partners to commit to the timeplan, which is considered rather strict. Mr. Tabbal (C&D) noted that for the Lebanon Case they plan to hold 4-5 meetings in order to agree upon objectives. Prof. Abou Rayan noted that IC is already committed to the process, as it is a matter of credibility, not only to the project, but also to local actors.

Prof. Barraque (expert to the project) noted that public participation cannot be forced and that according to his own experience, the consortium should expect that the discussion in some case studies will continue after INECO ends.

Project web site overview

After the conclusion of the discussion, Ms. Manoli provided an overview of the project web site, presenting its main features (document libraries and search engine, meeting logs, overview of the Tunisia web profile). She also navigated through the new functionalities offered by the web site (completion of on-line questionnaires and web discussion fora). Prof. Assimacopoulos pointed out that partners should urge participating stakeholders and end-users to complete the questionnaires on-line and participate in the web discussion fora. In order to facilitate the process, web site registration has been simplified.

Development and implementation of WP 6

The two major outputs of WP 6 are:

- The development of a typology of institutional frameworks, and
- The elaboration of 7 regional publishable reports (1 for each case study).

The developed typology framework will be descriptive of the (a) institutional (overall organizational framework, legislation and regulations), (b) social (public participation, equity provisions and gender issues) and (c) economic (polluter-pays principle, water pricing, water service privatization and state funding, cost recovery, subsidies, economic incentives) conditions at the case studies and will address the three main functional levels (“constitutional”, organizational and operational). The proposed framework by the NTUA evolves on two main axes, the typology of water-related focal problems (river basin management and urban water management problems) and the typology of underlying institutional, social and economic causes contributing to the focal problem. Following the completion of WP 6, the guidelines that will be developed in WP 9 will also provide a typology of potential institutional and economic responses (options) to the focal problems. The corresponding Deliverable will be compiled by the NTUA, and will be submitted with the 2nd Interim Activity Report in mid February 2007. Regional partners should contribute to the report by verifying inputs relevant to their case studies; IOW and IEFE will collaborate

with the NTUA in order to link the developed typology with the web toolbox themes. It was noted that the web-toolbox platform (originally planned for the 3rd year of the project) is already under implementation by the NTUA, in order to provide material for the local discussion with stakeholders.

The structure for the Regional Publishable Reports (1 per region), also due in December 2007, is described in the INECO Technical Annex. Each report should contain the following:

- Analysis of the current legal and institutional framework and its role in WRM, including WP 4 indicators (WPs 3 & 4) – Section 1
- Analysis of water policy making mechanisms, capacity building processes and mechanisms for the formulation of water policies and allocation of water and costs, including WP 4 indicators (WPs 3 & 4) – Section 2
- Analysis & critical evaluation of the perceptions of local stakeholders, end-users associations and other management authorities (WP 5). – Section 3

During the meeting it was suggested and agreed upon to enhance the content of the reports with work from the 2nd year of the project, including:

- Definition of objectives in collaboration with stakeholders (Section 3)
- Proposals on alternatives (Additional Section)

To account for this change, the consortium will submit a first draft of the reports to the Commission, according to the original plan (December 2007). The enhanced version will be submitted in July 2008, with the 2nd Annual Report.

Friday, October 27th 2007

Evaluation of the Cyprus Workshop

Following from the conclusion of the Cyprus SH workshop in the same morning, Prof. Assimakopoulos asked Prof. Massarutto to evaluate the Workshop.

Prof. Massarutto noted that the workshop was successful in revealing the dynamics of conflict in the region of Peyia. He observed that participants were much more biased towards the side of the English-speaking residents of the region, and that it became evident that the main issue experienced in the region is urban development. Water issues mentioned in the workshop are used as arguments for covering other issues of conflict, and that this has enforced his belief that water conflicts usually mask ideology/cultural conflicts.

Overall, he judged the outcome as moderately satisfactory; the workshop revealed the real source of conflict and helped the discussion grow by achieving a higher level of confrontation. The real failure was that the “true enemies” (developers and hotel owners) did not participate.

Development of indicators for the Egypt Case Study

Following from this overview, Dr. El Gamal presented the work that has been undertaken in the Egypt case study (“Water quality deterioration at the Bahr Basandeila Canal”) for the development of indicators relevant to the focal problem, and the definition of objectives for its mitigation.

The indicators were developed according to the relevant guidance document prepared by the NTUA. Emphasis was given on measured concentrations of BOD, COD, DO, NO₃ and NH₄,

and heavy metals (Cu, Mn, Zn and Fe), and an aggregate Water Quality Index has been calculated. Although agriculture was perceived as a major contributor to water pollution in the area, in fact, the measured concentrations of NO₃ and NH₄ are well below the Egypt standard. The most important water quality issue is related to the total organic load, depicting the need for improved domestic sewage management.

Development and implementation of Work Package 7.1

Before the end of the meeting, a presentation was made on the forthcoming work package 7.1, which focuses on the analysis of currently applied economic instruments. Economic instruments that should be analysed depend on existing circumstances in each region and should focus on the main water use(s) contributing to each focal problem. This information, validated by the meeting participants is summarized in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Water use sectors to be analysed in the framework of WP 7.1 (Analysis of currently applied economic instruments)¹

Country	Problem type	Households	Agriculture	Industry	Tourism
Cyprus	RBM	++	+	-	++
Tunisia	RBM	+	++	-	+
Egypt	UWM	++	+	+	-
Lebanon	RBM	++	++	-	++
Syria	UWM	++	+	++	-
Algeria	UWM	++	+	++	-
Morocco	RBM	+	++	+	-

The information that should be provided for each instrument that is **currently applied** is the following:

- Legal provisions;
- Responsible authority for implementation & use of generated revenue;
- Barriers to effective implementation, including human and technical resources constraints, lack of data etc.
- Transparency of procedures (for the definition of rates & the implementation of instruments)
- Effectiveness with regard to the design goals - function(s) (e.g. impact on consumption/pollution, achieved cost recovery etc.)
- Social issues, including the affordability of water prices and charges, and cross-subsidies required for particular sectors.

Results from this analysis will be used to compile summary matrices per region and use sector. Furthermore, the identification of deficiencies will provide input to WP 7.2. The corresponding deliverable is due in Month 20 (February 2008). A template will be prepared

¹ Legend: ++: Focus of the analysis; + Possibly important; - Not significant

by the work package leaders (NTUA and IOW), in collaboration with IEFE, as the analysis will also feed into WP 7.2.

Annex I: List of Annual Meeting Participants

Ms. Marialuisa Tamborra (EC Scientific Officer)
Prof. Dionysis Assimacopoulos (NTUA, Project Coordinator)
Ms. Eleni Manoli (NTUA)
Dr. Jean-Marc Berland (IOW)
Prof. Antonio Massarutto (IEFE)
Mr. Christodoulos Artemis (WDD)
Mr. Charis Omorphos (WDD)
Dr. Ioannis Glekas (Aeoliki)
Dr. Demetris Glekas (Aeoliki)
Mr. Ahmed Bouzid (CITET)
Mr. Foued El Ayni (CITET)
Mr. Ridha Boulabiar (ONAS)
Dr. Fathy El Gamal (WMRI)
Prof. Magdy Abou Rayan (IC)
Prof. Ahmed Mansour (IC)
Dr. Rehan Monir (IC)
Mr. Claude Tabbal (C&D)
Mr. Malek Haddad (SIC)
Mr. Abdoullah Bouchedja (ABHCSM)
Mr. Abderrahmane Affia (ISKANE)
Prof. Evan Vlachos (Colorado State University)
Prof. Bernard Barraqué (CNRS-LATTS)

Annex II: Cyprus Events' Agendas

Nostrum-DSS & INECO Joint Event: “IWRM through coordination, dissemination, and exploitation of research outcomes”

Lordos Beach Hotel, Larnaca,

Thursday, October 25th 2007

9:00-9:30	Opening	
9:00-9:15	Welcoming addresses	
9:15-9:30	Introduction to the Workshop objectives and procedures	Carlo Giupponi
9:30-13:00	Session I: Projects contributions regarding the meeting objectives	
	INECO (INCO-CT-2006-517673) (30')	Dionysis Assimacopoulos
	GEWAMED (INCO-CT2005-517696) (15')	Juan Antonio Sagardoy
	WASAMED (ICA3-CT-2002-10013) (15')	Nicola Lamaddalena
	MEDROPLAN (2003/059-770)	Ana Iglesias/Sonia Quiroga
	MEDITATE (INCO-CT2004-509112)	Nathalie Dorfliger
10:45-11:00	Discussion	
11:00- 11:30	Coffee Break	
11.00-13.30	Continuation of Session I	
	MELIA (INCO-CT-2006-517612)	Rafael Rodriguez
	ISIIMM (ME8/AIDCO/2001/0515/59763-P 016)	Anita Fassio
	DIMAS (INCO-CT2004-509087)	Sotirios Angelides
	NOSTRUM-DSS (INCO-CT-2004-509158) (30')	Carlo Giupponi
12:30-12:45	Discussion	
	Forum introduction – the EC view on Research towards Policy development	Ms. Marialuisa Tamborra, EC-DG Research
	European Water Initiative (EUWI-MED)	Dr. Michael Scoullas, Chairman, Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean.
<i>13:30-14:30</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>	

14:30-16:00	Session II: Forum discussion involving researchers, stakeholders and invited experts
14:45-15:45 5' round-the-table talks	<p>Session II.1: Reactions from invited experts (Chair D. Assimacopoulos) Invited experts present their reflections about the project experiences reported in the morning</p> <p>Invited speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bernard Barraqué, Laboratoire Techniques Territoires et Sociétés, Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS-LATTS), France - Michael Scoullos, GWP-MED, Chairman - Anthi Brouma, GWP-MED - Peter O'Neil Department of International Development (DFID), UK - Evan Vlachos, Department of Sociology, Colorado State University, USA - Khaled Abu-Zeid, Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE). Egypt - Marko Prem, PAP/RAC UNEP_MAP Croatia - Cedric Merel, European Commission, DG EuropeAid - Mounir Ghribi, ICS-UNIDO, - Mohammad Abdulrazzak, CAP- Net UNDP
15:45-16:00	Presentation of the Working Group session: Dialogue, exchange, synthesis
16:00-17:30	<p>Plenary session II.2: Discussion on specific proposals/actions for enhancing coordination, dissemination and exploitation of research outcomes and Reports from groups</p> <p>Separation into 2 (or 3) sub-groups for discussing on specific actions/proposals on the meeting expected outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion support: C. Giupponi, D. Assimacopoulos (J.A. Sagardoy) - Group facilitators and rapporteurs: E. Vlachos, A. Fassio (B. Barraqué)
17.30-18.30 5' round-the-table talks & discussion	All groups gather in "agora" (common room), reports on group work, invited experts present their reflections about the outcomes of the group discussion. All participants indicate their preferences in terms of statements to be placed in the Joint Report with coloured cards posted on boards.
18.30	End of workshop

INECO Cyprus Stakeholder Workshop Agenda

Coral Beach Hotel, Paphos

26th - 27th October 2007

Friday, 26th October 2007

09:00	Registration	
Session I: Introduction		
09:30	Welcoming Addresses	Mr. Christodoulos Artemis, Director of Water Development Department, MANR&E
10:00	The INECO Project – Principles and Approach	Prof. Dionysis Assimacopoulos, NTUA, INECO Project Coordinator
10:30	Coffee Break	
Session II: The Focal Problem of Groundwater Overexploitation and Depletion		
11:00	Groundwater overexploitation in Cyprus: Effects and underlying causes	Mr. Christodoulides, Water Development Department.
11:30	Discussion: Identifying causes and effects of groundwater overexploitation	All participants (Discussion moderated by Prof. E. Vlachos and Prof. B. Barraque, supported by Prof. D. Assimacopoulos and Dr. I. Glekas)
13:45	Lunch – End of Day 1	

Saturday, 27th October 2007

Session III: Discussion on objectives and alternatives		
09:30	Key note speech: Economic and institutional instruments for enhancing sustainable water management in the context of the WFD implementation	Prof. Antonio Massarutto, IEFE
10:15	Defining objectives and identifying alternatives – Aims and expected outcome	Dr. I. Glekas & Prof. D. Assimacopoulos
11:00	Coffee Break	
11:30	Discussion on objectives for addressing groundwater overexploitation	All participants (moderated by Prof. E. Vlachos and Prof. B. Barraque, supported by Prof. D. Assimacopoulos and Dr. I. Glekas)
12:30	The EU policy for groundwater protection and the current situation in Cyprus	Mr. C. Omorphos, Water Development Department, MANR&E
13:00	Follow-up	Workshop moderators All participants
13:15	Lunch – End of Workshop	

INECO Annual Meeting Agenda

Coral Beach Hotel, Paphos

26th - 27th October 2007

Friday, 26th October 2007

Session I: Overview of Project Progress		
15:00	Administrative and Financial Issues	Ms. E. Manoli
15:30	Overview of project progress – 1 st year outcomes	Prof. Dionysis Assimacopoulos
16:00	Discussion on 2 nd year activities and workshops	All participants
16:30	Project Web Site Overview	Ms. E. Manoli
Session II: Planning for Forthcoming Project Tasks – Part I		
17:00	Work Package 6 – Typology and Regional Publishable Reports	Ms. E. Manoli
17:30	General Discussion	All participants
18:00	End of 1st Day	

Saturday, 27th October 2007

Session III: Cyprus Workshop Evaluation & Planning for Forthcoming Project Tasks (Part II)		
15:30	Plenary discussion on workshop evaluation	Prof. A. Massarutto/All participants
16:00	Work Package 7.1: Analysis of currently applied economic instruments	Ms. E. Manoli
16:30	Institutional and economic instruments for groundwater management	Prof. A. Massarutto
17:15	Discussion on WP 7.2 – Wrap-up and conclusion	All participants
17:45	End of Meeting	