



**Minutes of the 3rd Steering
Committee Meeting**
14th July 2008
Tunis, Tunisia

**Prepared by the NTUA
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1 Introduction

The 3rd Steering Committee Meeting of the INECO Project was held on the afternoon of the 14th of July 2008, in Tunis, Tunisia, before the INECO Stakeholder Assembly Workshop and 2nd Annual Meeting. The objectives of the event were to:

- a) Discuss and exchange views on the content of the guidelines to be developed by INECO, so as to present a coherent proposal during the forthcoming events;
- b) Discuss on the publication strategy of the project, and the implementation of the Final Conference event.
- c) Evaluate the outcomes of the individual Case Studies, and propose potential corrective actions to the Regional partners during the next day workshop.

The meeting was attended by:

- Prof. Dionysis Assimacopoulos, INECO Project Coordinator, NTUA;
- Ms. Eleni Manoli, NTUA;
- Prof. Bernard Barraqué, ENGREF;
- Prof. Evan Vlachos, Colorado State University;
- Dr. Jean-Marc Berland, IOW;
- Prof. Antonio Massarutto, IEFE.

2 Discussion issues and decisions reached

Prof. Assimacopoulos initiated the discussion by providing a brief summary of the processes followed thus far for the development of the INECO Case Studies. He further pointed out that several Case Studies (e.g. Lebanon, Syria, Algeria, Cyprus and Tunisia) are more advanced than others and that progress has been made both with regard to the participatory involvement of stakeholders in INECO and in terms of collecting relevant information on the currently applied instruments. He further proposed to focus the guidelines on the analysis of institutional prerequisites for the “effective” implementation of economic instruments for focal problem mitigation.

Prof. Massarutto supported the view that the guidelines should not be a document containing instructions on how to “tailor” instruments; instead, the guidelines should focus more on the participative process followed to determine what methods can be applied at local level, without however constituting a textbook on how to pursue/implement public participation.

With regard to the project’s publication strategy, it has been agreed that the emphasis will be placed on the Case Studies’ publishable reports and to the INECO Guidelines. Due to the limited resources available, publications at local language cannot be undertaken; this decision should be left to the individual partners. With regard to the project’s final event, IOW undertook the task of exploring possibilities to host an event in collaboration with INBO. In this regard, it was considered premature to set the dates for the event.

Finally, with regard to the progress of the individual Case Studies, Prof. Barraqué pointed out that these are very different in context; for example, the Case Study of Morocco focuses more on bringing the decision-makers around the table, while other Case Studies are also focused on mobilizing water users and the general public. In this regard, it is difficult to make judgment at this point on the actual outcomes of each Case Study. Prof. Vlachos noted that

processes should also take into account the ongoing discussions and research on climate change impacts and adaptation policies.