

Friday, March 21st 2008

08:30 Registration

Session 1: Introduction

09:00 Welcoming Address,

Mr. A. Zerouali, Director of Hydraulic Basin Agency of the Oum Er Rbia

09:10 The INECO project - Principles and approach,

Prof. Dionysis Assimacopoulos, National Technical University of Athens, INECO Project Coordinator

09:30 Main water management issues faced by the ABH OR,

Mr. Mohamed Slassi, Head of the Water Management and Planning Division

10:00 Water losses in the Oum Er Rbia Basin (Focal problem) -

An analysis of causes and effects, Dr. A. Affia, ISKANE Ingenierie

10:20 Coffee Break

Session 2: Water use in the agricultural sector - The local experience

10:30 Water economy in the area under the responsibility

of the Haouz Office of Agriculture, Mr. Mohamed ELAMGHARI, Chief Engineer of Rural Management of the ORMVAH

10:45 Water economy in the area under the responsibility of the

Tadla Office of Agriculture, Mr. Mohamed Saaf, Department Head of the ORMVAT

11:00 Water economy in the area under the responsibility

of the Doukkala Office of Agriculture, Mr. Guemimi, Department Head of the ORMVAD

11:15 Irrigation water management issues in the area under the responsibility

of the Provincial Direction of Agriculture of Beni Mellal, Mr. Ahmed Messaadi, Chief Engineer of the Beni Mellal DPA

11:30 Drinking water supply and wastewater management in the

Chaouia Oaurdigha and Tadla Azilal areas, Mr. Mohamed El Hanani, Head of the Development Division of the ONEP

11:45 Lessons learnt from the Tadla water economy experiment,

Mohamed Riad, President of the Confederation of Farmers' Associations in the Tadla region

12:00 Lunch Break

Session 3: Discussion - Towards more efficient water use in the agricultural sector

14:30 Summary of 2nd Session outcomes

14:45 Institutional and economic instruments for more efficient

water use in the agricultural sector, Prof. A. Massarutto, Istituto di Economia e Politica dell' Energia e dell' Ambiente, Universita Commerciale Luigi Bocconi

15:15 Discussion on problem analysis and mitigation options, *All participants*

16:30 End of workshop

The INECO Consortium



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Agence du Bassin Hydraulique
de l'Oum ER-Rbia



INECO

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

**“Irrigation water use
in the Oum Er Rbia Hydraulic Basin
Opening the dialogue”**

21st March 2008

INECO

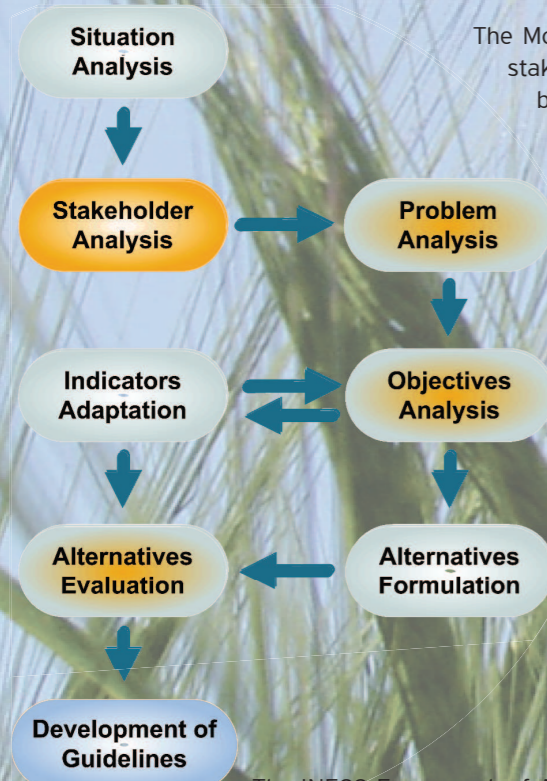
**Institutional and Economic Instruments
for Sustainable Water Management in the Mediterranean Region**
web site: <http://environ.chemeng.ntua.gr/ineco>



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 discusses 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.



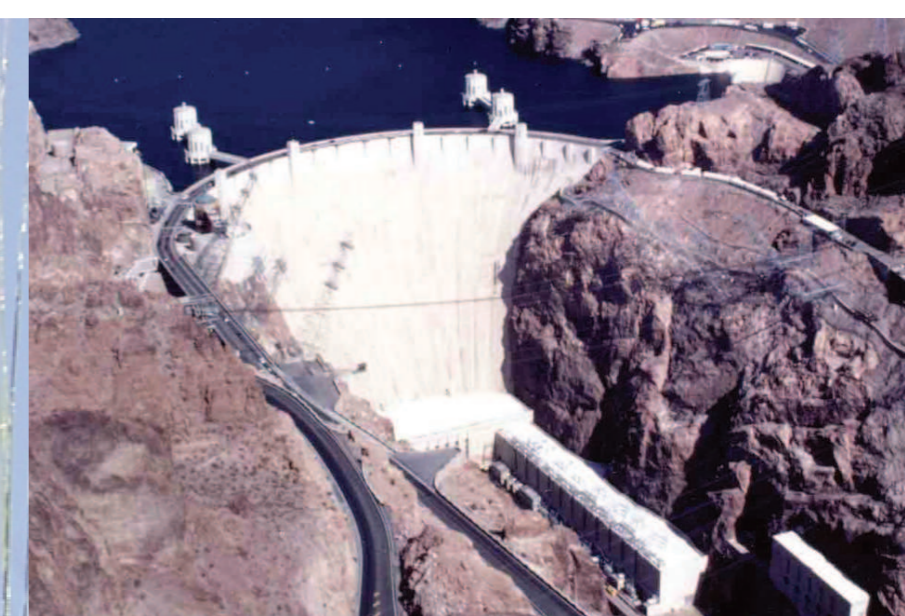
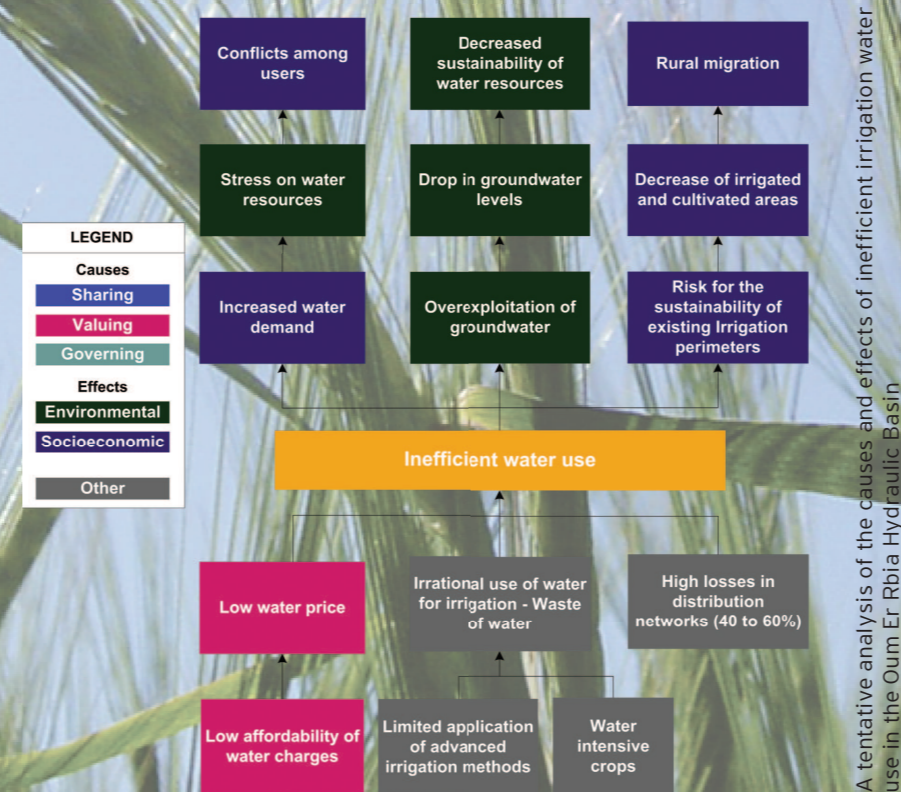
The INECO Framework of Activities

The Morocco 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 commonly agreed water resources management situation.

INECO IN MOROCCO - IRRIGATION WATER USE IN THE OUM ER RBIA HYDRAULIC BASIN

Due to its relative abundance of water resources and its strategic importance, the Oum Er Rbia (OER) Hydraulic Basin has been the focus of important investments on hydraulic infrastructure. However, the region still faces significant water management challenges, related to environmental sustainability and the availability of water, in terms of both quantity and quality. To mitigate the increasingly important water stress issues, several actions have been planned and implemented by the State, such as measures to regulate water flow, the development of an extended irrigation network, inter-basin transfers to large cities and the engagement in a National Debate on water-related issues.

However, there are still technical and management issues that need to be addressed, such as groundwater overexploitation due to overpumping and to the reduction in precipitation, water quality deterioration, inefficient and wasteful water use and flood protection. As most available resources have already been exploited, present water management efforts focus primarily on demand



management; losses in irrigation distribution networks currently amount to 20% of water supply delivered, and efficiency in crop irrigation does not exceed 50%. Furthermore, it is estimated that only 10% of irrigated areas are presently equipped with advanced irrigation systems. Although domestic demand corresponds to a rather small amount of the total water use, losses in distribution networks are equally important, amounting to 35%. In the above context, the initiative undertaken by INECO aims at establishing a discussion forum with all parties on measures and actions that can support a shift towards better informed and efficient water use, especially in agricultural and irrigation practices.

THE MOROCCO WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The workshop aims to strengthen the alliance between the INECO Research Team and Local Stakeholders in the Oum Er Rbia Hydraulic Basin by:

- Discussing on the focal water management problem experienced in the region;
- 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.