

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 15th July 2008

Session 1: Introduction

- 9:00** Welcome & Introduction: The INECO Workshop Scope and expected outcomes
Prof. D. Assimacopoulos, INECO Project Coordinator
- 9:30** Information exchange, participation & networking for sustainable water management, *Mr. D. Valensuela, International Network of Basin Organizations*
- 09:45** Evaluating current & potential institutional and economic options at the INECO Case Studies: Context and Methodology, *Prof. A. Massarutto, IEFE, Italy*
- 10:15** Coffee Break

Session 2: Presentation & discussion on the INECO Case Study Outcomes - Focus on River Basin Management

- 10:30** Water stress in the Damour River Basin, Lebanon, *Mr. C. Tabbal, Conseil et Développement s.a.l.*
- 11:15** Enhancing efficiency in irrigation water use in the Oum Er Rbia Basin, Morocco, *Mr. A. Affia, ISKANE Ingenierie*
- 12:00** Discussion panel on proposed options for the Lebanon & Morocco case studies
- 13:00** Lunch Break
- 14:30** Groundwater exploitation in Pegeia, Cyprus, *Dr. I. Glekas, Aeoliki Ltd*
- 15:15** Groundwater overexploitation in Tunisia, *Mr. A. Bouzid, CITET*
- 16:00** Discussion panel on proposed options for the Cyprus and Tunisia case studies

Wednesday, 16th July 2008

- 9:00** Link with first day outcomes, *Prof B. Barraqué, ENGREF & Prof. E. Vlachos, Colorado State University*

Session 3: Presentation & discussion on the INECO Case Study Outcomes - Focus on water quality management

- 9:15** Pollution of the Seybouse River, Algeria, *Mr. A. Bouchedja, Agence de Bassin Hydrographique de Constantinois-Seybousse-Mellegue, Algeria*
- 10:00** Pollution of the Barada River, Syria, *Mr. M. Haddad, Studies & Integration Consulting*
- 10:45** Coffee Break
- 11:00** Water quality deterioration in the Bahr Basandeila Canal, Egypt and drinking water quality issues, *Prof. M. Abou Rayan, International Consultants Egypt*
- 11:45** Discussion Panel on proposed options for the Algeria, Syria and Egypt case studies
- 13:00** Wrap-up and conclusion, *Prof. D. Assimacopoulos, Prof. E. Vlachos, Prof. B. Barraqué*
- 13:30** End of Workshop (Lunch)

The INECO Consortium



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INECO

Institutional and Economic Instruments for Sustainable Water Management in the Mediterranean Region

Stakeholder Assembly Workshop
Discussing alternative instruments for improved water management in the Mediterranean Basin

15th-16th July 2008

Tunis International Centre for Environmental Technologies, Tunisia

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BACKGROUND THE INECO CASE STUDIES

The INECO Project started in July 2006 with the objective to discuss shared problems in the decision-making process and the deficiencies of current water governance structures around the Mediterranean Basin. The research of INECO follows a case-study driven approach, focusing on alternative or improved institutional and economic instruments which can promote equity, economic efficiency and environmental sustainability with emphasis on the sharing and governance challenges.

The first year of the project focused on the analysis of governance frameworks and the selection of one significant water management issue (focal problem) in each of the countries analysed in INECO, Cyprus, Egypt, Tunisia, Lebanon, Syria, Algeria and Morocco. These focal problems, representative of the range of water management issues experienced around the Mediterranean Basin, constitute the INECO Case Studies. The analysed problems per country are:

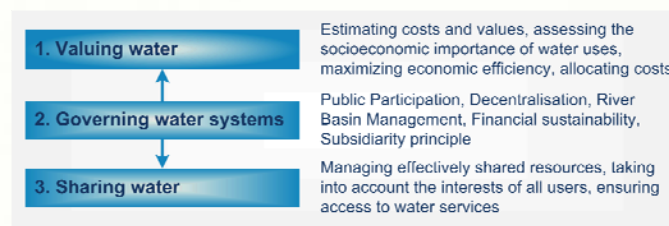


- **Cyprus:** Increasing vulnerability of the Pegeia Aquifer (western part of Cyprus) due to the rapidly increasing residential and tourism demand and the lack of sewerage and wastewater treatment infrastructure. Groundwater resources are significantly degraded in several regions of Cyprus, as a result of many years of overabstraction, and are further associated with the inability of the current water management framework to promote the use of alternative supply sources, such as treated wastewater, institutional framework overlaps and inadequate legislation enforcement.

• **Tunisia:** Aquifer depletion and sea intrusion, mostly due to uncontrolled abstractions for irrigation purposes and the inadequacy of the presently applied alternatives and disincentives to groundwater overexploitation. The problem is further exacerbated by the lack of technical capacity in the agricultural sector, the limited application of water saving methods in irrigation and

the current water-intensive cropping patterns.

- **Egypt:** Water quality deterioration in the region of the Bahr Basandeila Canal of the Dakahlia Governorate, where waste disposal, heavy use of pesticides, inadequate domestic wastewater treatment, and uncontrolled discharge of industrial effluents have transformed the open waterway to a repository and conveyor of liquid waste. The major water pollution issue, which is common in the entire Nile water distribution network, poses great risks for human health, agricultural production, and the river and coastal ecosystems.
- **Lebanon:** Increasing water stress for meeting domestic, agricultural and industrial water demands in the Damour River Basin, further exacerbated by upstream pollution, groundwater interbasin transfer, and lack of financial and technical capacity to address infrastructure requirements and enforce legislation.
- **Syria:** Water pollution in the Barada River Basin (Greater Damascus Area), due to the discharge of high loads of industrial and domestic waste and wastewater, which exceed the river's self purification capacity, and the decrease of river flow, resulting from rainfall decrease and use of the Feige Spring for drinking water supply. Water pollution has caused the collapse of the Barada river ecosystem, which also sustains the large forest of "Ghouta", a cultural heritage area and environmental hotspot in the region.
- **Algeria:** Pollution of the Seybousse River, which receives large volumes of untreated industrial and domestic effluents posing both direct and indirect risk on human health, agricultural production and the river ecosystem.
- **Morocco:** Increasing water stress in the Oum Er Rbia Hydraulic Basin, resulting



The INECO methodology framework

from increasing demand and inefficient water use in the agricultural sector, where high losses in irrigation distribution networks combined with the currently adopted irrigation practices (inefficient irrigation methods and water intensive, economically unsustainable cropping patterns) contribute to significant water waste.

THE INECO STAKEHOLDER ASSEMBLY WORKSHOP

The INECO Stakeholder Assembly Workshop follows from a series of individual workshops organized in each region analysed within INECO. These workshops had as objective to initiate the discussion on what the real and significant water management problems are and how these can be addressed in a desired water management situation, while at the same time achieving the widest possible consensus from all the parties concerned.

This participatory approach, also supported by individual consultation meetings and workshops, culminates with the Tunisia Stakeholder Assembly Workshop. The event brings together stakeholders from all the INECO Case Studies, with the following objectives:

- Present and evaluate the outcomes of the analyses undertaken during the 2nd year of INECO on the applicability of institutional and economic instruments in each Case Study;
- Share, exchange and integrate experience associated with the application of solutions across the Mediterranean Basin and assess the corresponding economic, environmental and social trade-offs;
- Derive recommendations for enabling the effective implementation of proposed instruments at both regional and national levels.

