

# SEMIDE

[www.semide.net](http://www.semide.net)

Systeme Euro-  
Méditerranéen

d'information sur les  
savoir-faire dans le  
domaine de l'Eau

# EMWIS

[www.emwis.net](http://www.emwis.net)

Euro-Mediterranean  
Information System  
on know how in the  
water sector

النظام المعلوماتي الأورومتوسطي  
للمعرفة في مجال المياه

**EMWIS Steering Committee  
Comité Directeur du SEMIDE  
Monaco, 12 May 2009**





# Welcome message



- Walter MAZZITTI,
  - President of EMWIS Steering Committee



# Year 2008 Milestones

- **End of EMWIS Phase II contract, Dec'03-June'08:**
  - ❑ accessibility and availability of online water information
  - ❑ sharing of information at regional and national levels
- **Launch of new activities with DG Env**
  - ❑ Compatibility of water information systems in the Med area with WISE (Water Info. Syst. for EU)
  - ❑ Support to Joint Process working groups
- **Transfer of EMWIS Steering Committee Presidency (July 2008)**
- **UfM Ministerial conference on water**
  - ❑ A new framework for regional cooperation
  - ❑ Strong commitment on data & information



# Main activities (1/2)

- **Direct support to the countries**
  - ❑ Implementation of NFP local support (training, translation, communication, ..)
  - ❑ Training course for JO NFP on web portal tools
  - ❑ Tunisian NWIS funding scenarii (African Water Facility)
- **On-line services**
  - ❑ 16 national and the international web portals
    - New design and full content -> Egyptian Web portal
  - ❑ Ministerial conference web site
- **Information products**
  - ❑ Country profiles
  - ❑ Cyber-cards
  - ❑ Newsletter (Arabic, English and French)



# Main activities (2/2)

- **Study on a regional water observation mechanism**
  - Final report, June 2008
  - Concept note on a water knowledge hub
- **Thematic activities (Med Joint Process)**
  - Drought and water scarcity: final report, links with the EU group on quantity indicators
  - Water monitoring: Preparation of a survey on water monitoring networks
- **Compatibility / interface with WISE**
  - Preparation of a metadata catalog
  - First study for a Med entry point on WISE



# Phase II main achievements (Dec'03-June'08)



# EMWIS main results

The main results achieved according to the initial work programme :

- **The accessibility and availability of online water information have significantly improved**
- **Sharing of information at regional and national levels**
- **Capitalisation and the sharing of experiences among Euro-Med countries**
- **Improvement of the cooperation among the Euro-Mediterranean Countries in the Water Sector**

# The National Focal Points

## European Union: 27 countries

10 NFP created and 7 active websites

Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Spain

## Mediterranean partners: 10 countries

10 NFP created and 9 active websites

Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey







	Base line at start project Dec'03	Status in Jun'08
N° joint declarations by Euromed WD	2	5
N° WG created	None	5
N° of MPC representatives involved in each WG	0	11
N° reg. seminars (involving >6 MEDA countries)	0	5
N° National websites (NFPs) – OVI =14	14	16
% users satisfaction	-	83% (DZ) 93% (MA)
N° e-flashes	7	62
N° subscribers to the eflashes – OVI =3000	300	14260
N° citations in relevant info. Sources, media & websites	0	>130
Yearly n° visits recorded – OVI =30% yearly increase	120.000	1.099.605 (+40%)
N° NWIS plans in MPC countries (after EMWIS FS)-OVI =5	-	5
N° National Info. Seminars – OVI =6	3	13
N° NFPs using common EMWIS metadata - OVI =5	-0	8 (DZ, FR, JO, SP, TN, IL, LB, PS)



## EMWIS main studies

 [Feasibility study on the development of a regional water observation mechanism in the Mediterranean region](#)

 [Studies by country](#)

 [Assessment and prospects for cooperation in the Mediterranean water sector", Final Report, 21 July 2008](#)

Study carried out by:

1. Hervé Lainé [hervem.laine@developpement-durable.gouv.fr](mailto:hervem.laine@developpement-durable.gouv.fr)
2. Patrick Marchandise [patrick.marchandise@developpement-durable.gouv.fr](mailto:patrick.marchandise@developpement-durable.gouv.fr)
3. Andrea Matusakova [andrea.matusakova@yahoo.com](mailto:andrea.matusakova@yahoo.com)

 [Integrated management of local drinking water supply, sanitation and sewage in the Euro-med Countries](#) Study carried out by SOGESID (Italy), 2005

 [Interest of the WFD concepts for Med Partner Countries](#)

- Value of the EU Water Framework Directive concepts for the MEDA Partner Countries
- Synthetic Note and Conclusions
- November 2005
- Study conducted by the International Office of Water for EMWIS on the basis of a survey carried out among Water Directors and Basin Organisations

 [Non-conventional water resources uses study in the Mediterranean](#) Final Report, January 2008

Funded by European Union

Prepared by Centro de Estudios y Experimentación de Obras Públicas (CEDEX)

 [Technical and financial feasibility studies of the National Water Information Systems in 12 Mediterranean Countries](#) Final Report

January 2006, Funded by European Union.

Prepared By EasyInfo, Advanced Computer Services.

 [Study on irrigation water management in the Mediterranean Region: General Report](#) by Dr. Juan Cánovas Cuenca (former president of EMWIS) & Andrés del Campo García (Federación Nacional de Comunidades De Regantes, Madrid, Spain).  
Final report - April, 2006



# Working groups

<u>Working groups</u>	<u>FR</u>	<u>GR</u>	<u>IT</u>	<u>SP</u>	<u>DZ</u>	<u>CY</u>	<u>EG</u>	<u>IL</u>	<u>JO</u>	<u>LB</u>	<u>MT</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>PS</u>	<u>SY</u>	<u>TN</u>	<u>TR</u>
<u>Water scarcity &amp; drought</u>	x		x	x		x	x			x		x			x	
<u>Waste water reuse</u>	x		x	x		x	x	x			x		x		x	
<u>Water monitoring networks</u>		x	x					x				x			x	

## Country representatives

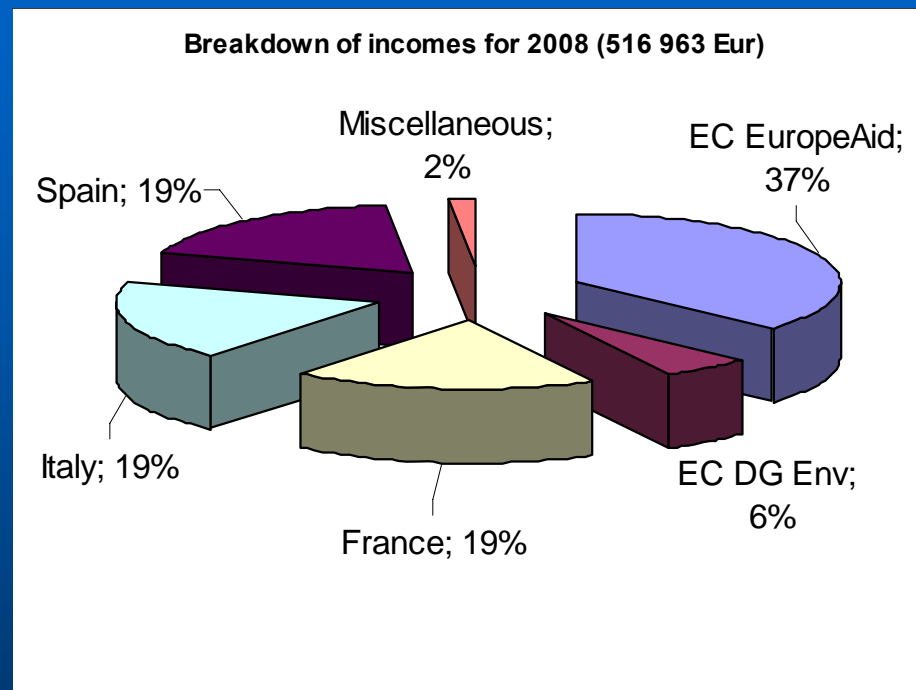
+Experts (organisations, universities, etc) + EU institutions representatives

=> Membership should be renewed for on going working groups (WS & D + WM)



# Financial statement for 2008

Budget lines	Expenditures
Staff	211 669,31
Experts	112 668,56
Travel and perdiem	46 595,56
IT supply / services	8 621,78
Meetings logistic	4 969,95
Promotion & translations	21 831,86
NFP support	62 587,19
Office & administrative costs	48 019,04
<b>Total</b>	<b>516 963,25</b>





# Water information and monitoring

Strengthening the coordination of existing  
Regional initiatives and networks on water  
information and monitoring

# High level of expectations

- **Civil Society:**

- *“underline the need for reliable data and to enable the free flow of information and sharing of data”*

- **Ministerial declaration:**

- *“reaffirm the importance of data, information and statistics on water, based on internationally agreed definitions and methods, structured within information system ”*
- *“ call for strengthening the coordination of existing Euro-Mediterranean initiatives and networks on information and expertise, policy planning and monitoring ”*
- *“ underline the importance of exchange of good practices, including through EU, Mediterranean, and other relevant programme ”*

# Background

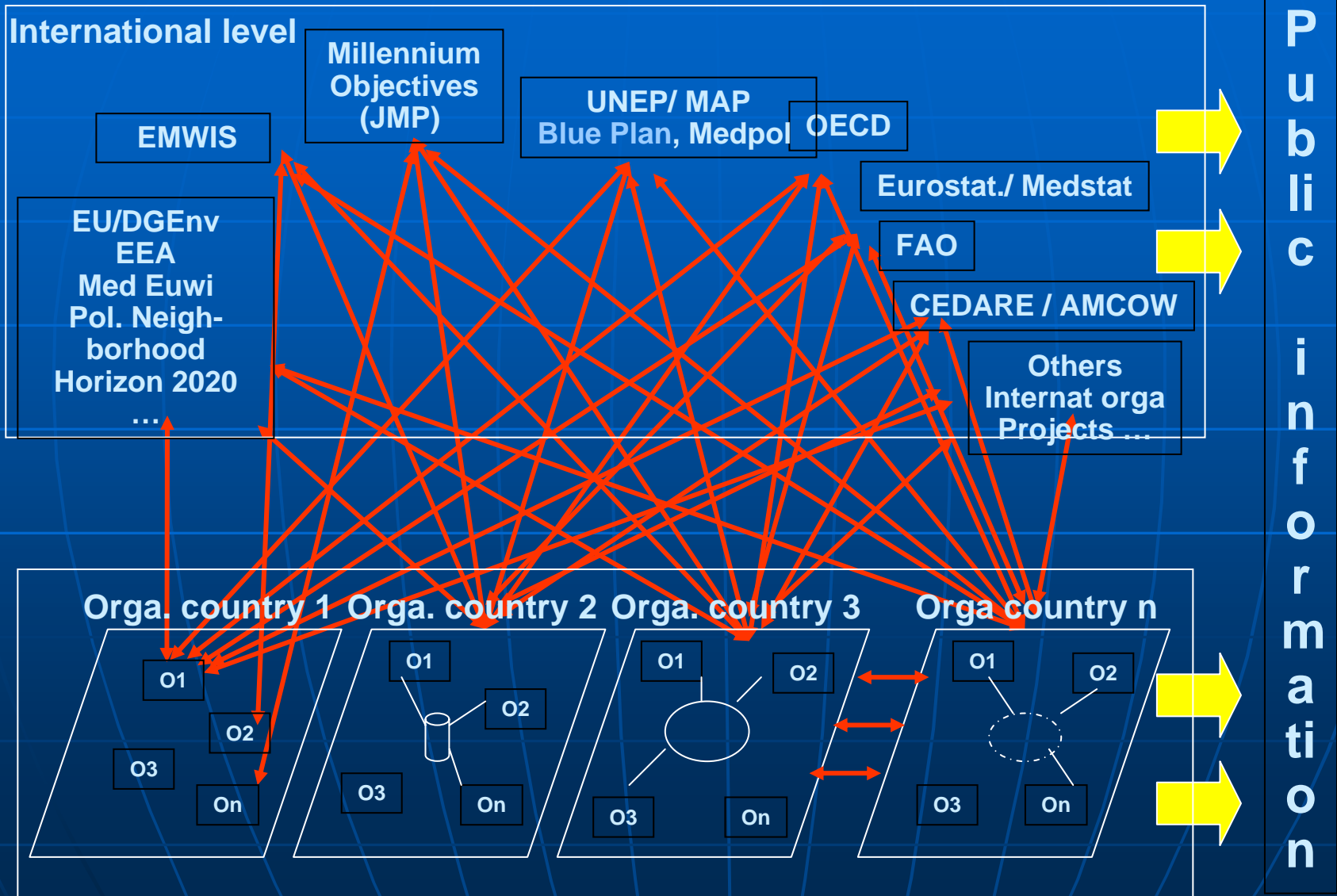
- **EMWIS**
  - ❑ 8 years of operation
  - ❑ 20 countries
  - ❑ About 50 000 visitors per month
- **Feasibility studies of National Water Information Systems (NWIS) 2005**
  - ❑ Algeria, Cyprus, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, Turkey
- **Preliminary analysis for a Mediterranean Water Observation Mechanism - 2006-2007**
  - ❑ 7 national diagnostic studies
  - ❑ 25 international initiatives consulted
- **MSSD Indicators (Blue Plan)**
  - ❑ Agreed by Contracting Parties of the Barcelona convention
  - ❑ First evaluation in 2007, Saragoza



# Value of Water Information

- **Policy planning and assessment**
  - Knowledge of the resource, its status and evolution
  - Aggregated indicators with socio-economic data
  
- **Integrated water resources management and risk prevention with all stakeholders**
  - Operational monitoring at local level
  
- **Accountability, public information, awareness raising and participatory approaches**
  - (local) status, simulation
  
- **Research and development**
  - Data series
  
- **Projects and programmes monitoring**
  - Simultaneous combination of geographical levels

# Current situation



# Threats

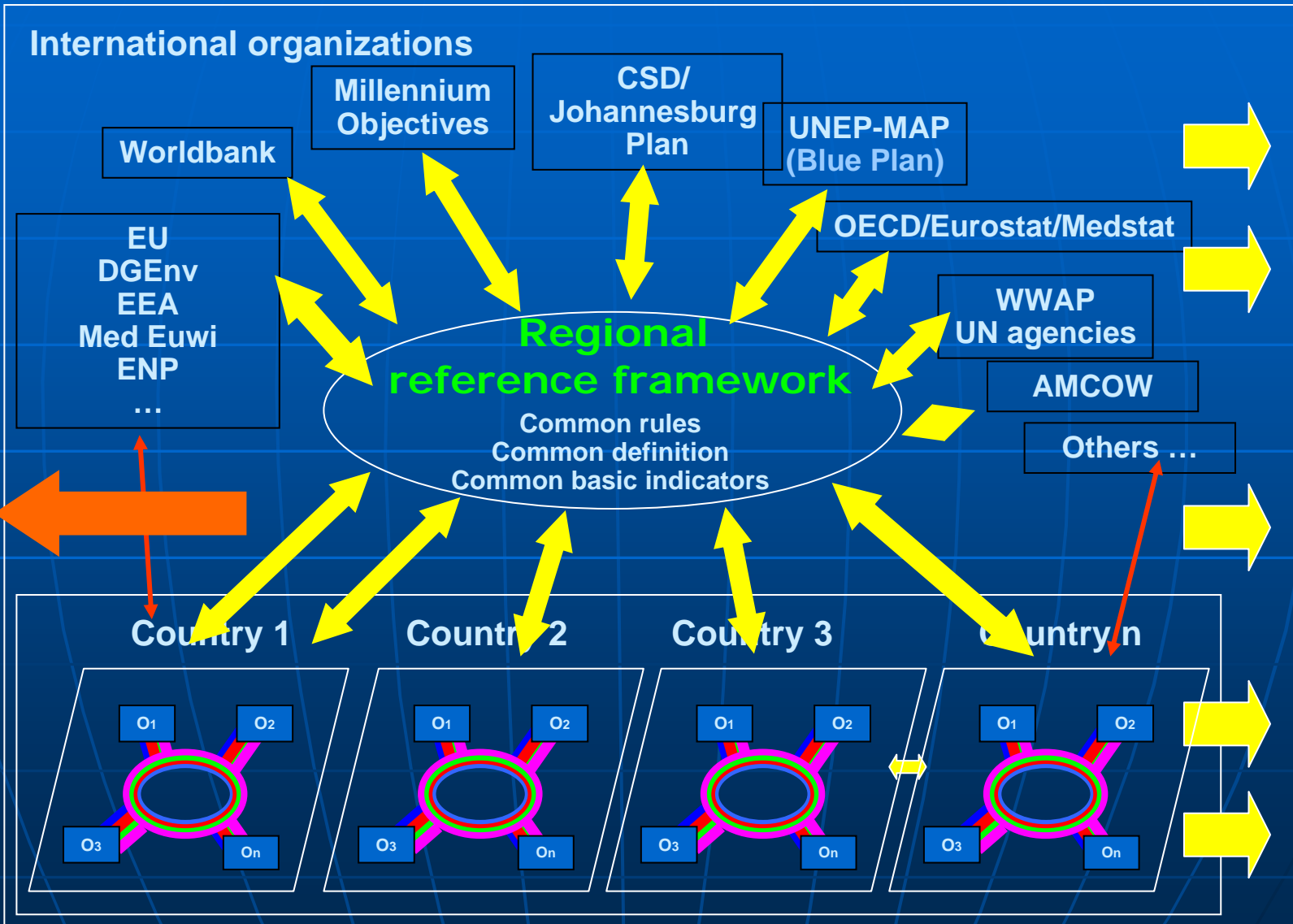
- Lack of legal framework for reporting water data
- Many international initiatives and political processes
- "Observation" / "monitoring" seen as intrusive for national water management

# Opportunities

- Strong demand of international stakeholders
- Commitment to NWIS, but not yet developed
- Common basic data used for the calculations of indicators
- Organisational problems rather than lack of data
- Union for the Mediterranean (Mediterranean Water Strategy)

# Overall vision

Med  
Water strategy



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# Key principles for success

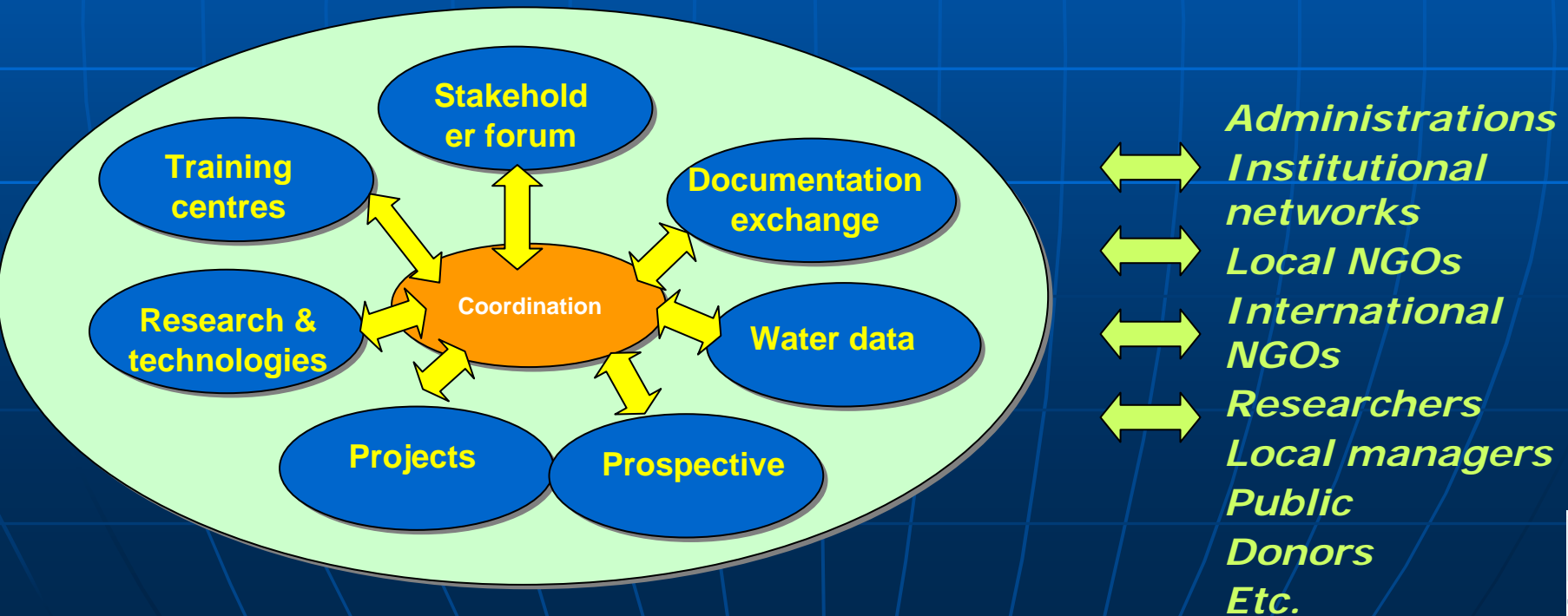
- Information must be managed at the appropriate level (i.e. national/local)
- Information is provided once and used for many purposes
- Each information/data is associated with a unique "official" provider
- Participation is based on voluntary basis
- Data standardisation and exchange at regional and national level
- Stronger involvement of all national stakeholders
- Capitalising on past experiences

## Existing regional initiatives & valuable expertise at local level

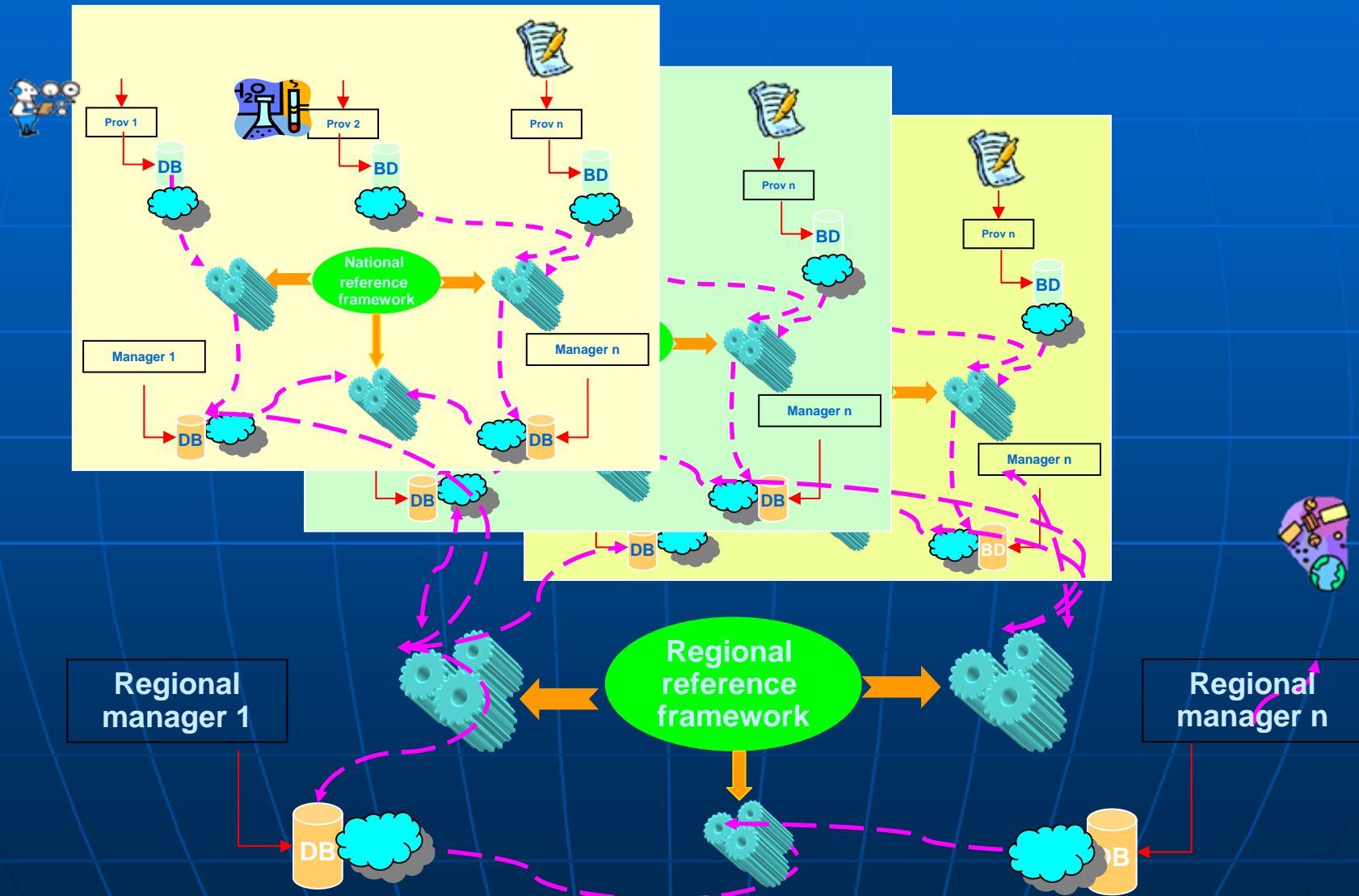
- EMWIS
  - Information & documentation
  - Data management
- MENBO
  - River Basins Organisations
- Med-EUWI / GWP-Med
  - National dialogues
- UNEP-MAP-Blue Plan
  - Prospective on sustainable development
  - Protecting the Mediterranean sea
  - SIMEDD - MSSD
- MEDA-Water
  - Pilot projects
- .....
- National water authorities
- Research centers / universities
- Basin organisations
- Local/regional public, National authorities
- User associations / NGO
- Related ministries
  - Environment, Agriculture, health ...
- ....

# What to do?

- Improving National water data systems in coherence with international standards
- Developing, at regional and national level, exchange systems related to information and monitoring,
- As part of a regional water knowledge hub



# Organising regional exchanges





# Content of a reference data framework

- Hydrological networks (e.g. rivers, watersheds, lake, aquifers)
- Water management areas (e.g. protected areas, administrative units)
- Data dictionaries (data models, reference lists)
- Definition of indicators, data collection methods
- Interoperability specifications (exchange formats/ service protocols)

# Timeframe

- Jan-Feb 2009:
  - concept note, informal discussions
- March 2009: 1st drafting group meeting, Istanbul
  - Agreement on concepts & activities
- May 2009: EMWIS Steering Committee
  - Consolidated concept paper with action plan & budget
- Nov. 2009: Contracting Parties Barcelona convention
  - Presentation of the activities (linked to the SIMEDD)
- End 2009: UfM water expert group
  - Presentation of the horizontal activity as a UpM project
- 1st semester 2010: UfM ministerial conference
  - Validation of the horizontal activity / project

# Potential activities at national level

- **Organisational and institutional actions**
  - ❑ Collaboration framework between institutions
  - ❑ Production of metadata
  - ❑ Rules for production, management and sharing
  - ❑ Semantic interoperability on priority data
  - ❑ Organisation of regular data collection, production of indicators and other information products
  - ❑ Procedure effectiveness and needs for reinforcing information infrastructures
  - ❑ Production of a national action plan for data administration (data master plan)
- **Drafting terms of reference for technical development and training**
- **Technical development and capacity building**
  - ❑ Development of infrastructures for information management
  - ❑ Training of human resources

# Potential activities at regional level

- **Development of priority tools for the regional infrastructure**
  - ❑ Regional Web portal
  - ❑ Platform of the exchange of information and best practices
  - ❑ Regional catalogue of metadata
  - ❑ Data base of the indicators used by the partners
  - ❑ Production of information (indicators, maps graphs, ...)
- **Development of rules and common reference frames for data and service interoperability**
  - ❑ Rules for the production and declaration of metadata
  - ❑ Rules for data confidentiality and sharing
  - ❑ Data templates and reference frames for semantic interoperability on priority topics
  - ❑ Rules necessary for technical interoperability
  - ❑ Development of the first on-line services between regional organisations
- **Generation of priority synthetic products expected at the regional level**
- **Actions for technical co-ordination and enhancement of the « acquis »**
  - ❑ Regional workshops for dialogue /validation
  - ❑ Co-operation with and support to the other regional bodies
  - ❑ Drafting and dissemination of the guidance documents and technical procedures

# Budget overview for regional activities

Two years budget overview	Costs years 1+2 (€)
<b>Regional activities</b>	
Set-up of priority tools for the regional infrastructure	250 000
Preparation of guidance documents	350 000
Data aggregation, quality control and first regional synthesis	300 000
Organisation of 4 regional workshops	200 000
Overall management and coordination	150 000
<b><i>Sub-total Regional level</i></b>	<b><i>1 250 000</i></b>

# Budget overview for national activities

Standard support to national activities (per country for 6 months)	
Contribution to investment costs (computer, telecom, software)	10 000
Contribution to the coordination / awareness activities	5 000
Strengthening organisational and institutional frameworks (technical assistance)	90 000
Preparations of terms of reference for setting up a national system	20 000
<b><i>Sub-total National level support</i></b>	<b>125 000</b>

# Discussion

- Opinion on the concept note and the approach
- Countries interested for the pilot activities
- Country(ies) to present this approach to the UfM Water Expert group



# Status of the Union for the Mediterranean in the water sector

- Overview by France & Egypt





# EMWIS Committees

## ■ Steering Committee

- Defines the main strategic orientations and validates the yearly budgets and progress reports
- Yearly meetings

## ■ Coordination Committee

- Drawing up the annual activity programmes and proposing the annual budget
- Yearly meetings

## ■ Renewing rules

- Every 3 years at a Euromed water directors meeting
- Committees memberships renewed in November 2005 in Rome



# Current memberships

## ■ Steering Committee

- ❑ **Presidency: Italy** (*Presidency of Steering Committee renewed in July 2008 as the French President left his position*)
- ❑ **Vice-Presidency: Lebanon and Morocco**
- ❑ **Membership:**
  - Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Turkey, and the Palestinian Authority
  - Technical Unit's donors: Spain, France and Italy
- ❑ **Observers**

## ■ Coordination Committee

- ❑ **Presidency: Algeria**
- ❑ **Vice-Presidency: Cyprus**
- ❑ **Coordinators of all National Focal Points (20) and Technical Unit**

# Current de facto organisational framework



**Euromed Ministerial conference on water**

**Euromed water directors forum**

**EMWIS Steering Committee President**

**Steering Committee**

**Supervising Board**

*Quarterly meetings*

*Yearly meetings*

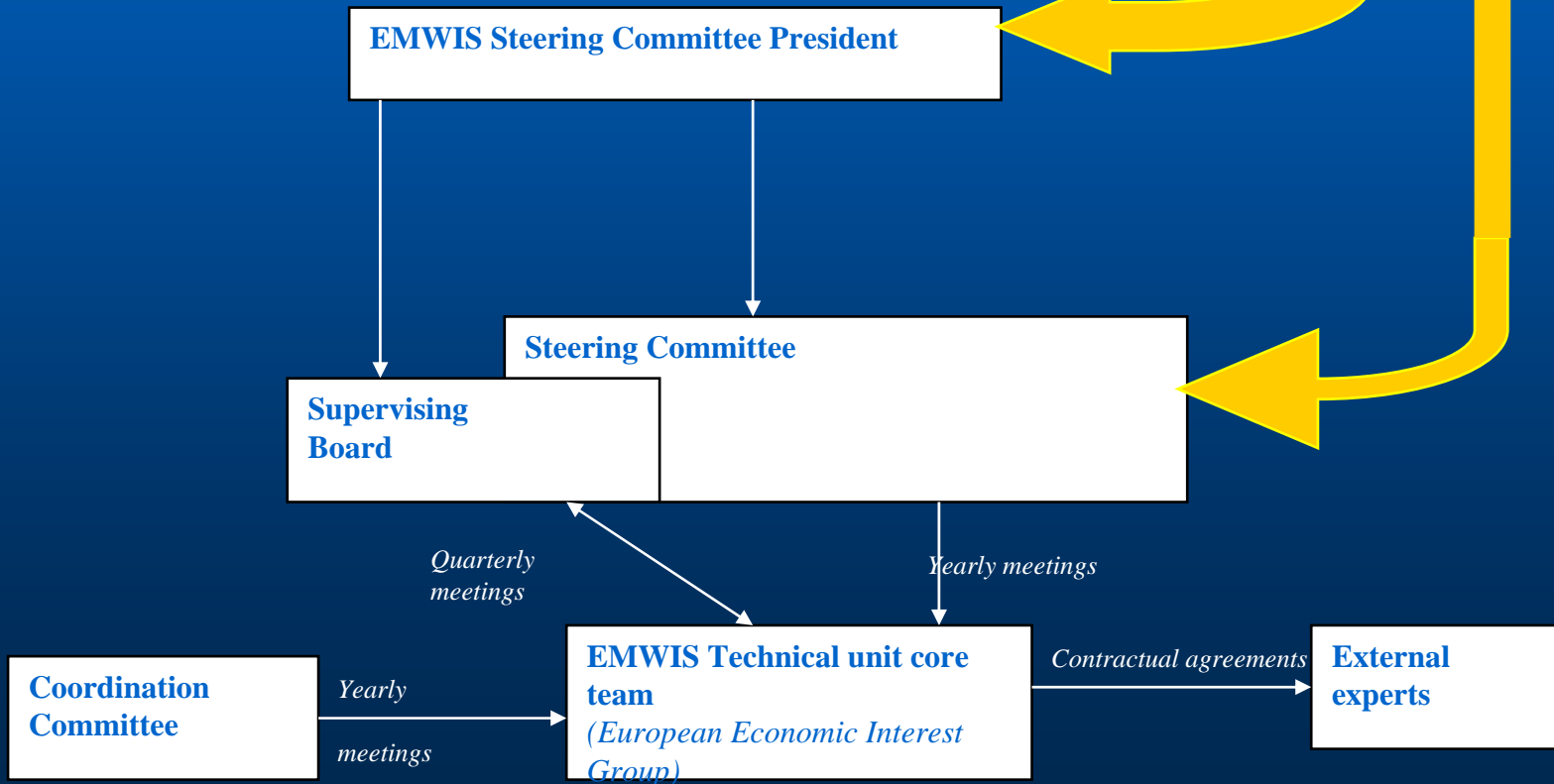
**Coordination Committee**

*Yearly meetings*

**EMWIS Technical unit core team**  
*(European Economic Interest Group)*

*Contractual agreements*

**External experts**





# EMWIS in the context of the UfM

## *Some proposals*

- Opening of EMWIS membership to all the UfM countries
- Renewal of EMWIS governance structures (Steering and Coordination Committees) during Water Expert Group meetings
- Reporting to the water expert group and/or water directors?
- Steering Committee membership opened to water directors and/or members of the UfM water expert group?

# Overview of activities for 2009 (1/2)



## ■ On line services

### □ Extending EMWIS water thesaurus

- Arabic concepts
- H2020 and water accounts vocabulary

### □ **Introducing WISE navigation into EMWIS**

### □ **Content revision for the international portal**

## ■ Water Information Systems & WISE compatibility

### □ **Workshop on metadata -> 8-9 June, Nice**

### □ **Interoperability guidance & generic architecture**

### □ **Mediterranean web map server with existing resources:**

- river basins, hydrological networks, etc.

### □ **6 National workshops on Water Information in MPC**

### □ **Data harmonisation into 2 pilot countries**

- Water accounting approach (UNDS, Medstat)
- First exercise in Tunisia in June

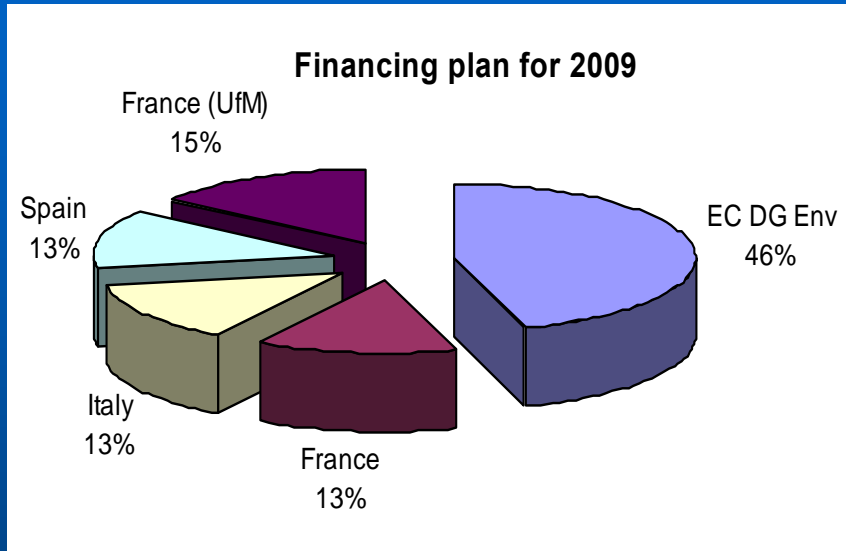
# Overview of activities for 2009 (2/2)



- **Thematic activities (Med Joint Process)**
  - **Drought and water scarcity:**
    - Working group meeting -> Nov'09
    - Availability of data for quantity indicators
  - **Water monitoring:**
    - Survey on status of monitoring networks in MPC
    - Workshop planned in October
- **H2020 Monitoring & research subgroup**
  - Identification of relevant information resources
  - Status of water quality monitoring network
- **Technical & organisational support for French UfM copresidency**
  - Water expert group web site
  - Support for various meetings
- **Strengthening Water Information and monitoring in the Mediterranean**



# Budget for 2009



Country support focused on information systems:

- Experts
- National workshops

Budget lines	Budget in Euro for 2009
Staff	202 325,40
Experts	124 112,60
Travel and perdiem	178 062,60
IT supply and services	8 328,81
Meetings logistic	73 045,44
Promotion & translations	22 537,60
NFP support	0,00
Office & administrative costs	51 523,14
<b>Total</b>	<b>659 935,72</b>



# Discussion on activities / Budget for 2009

- Clarification requests
- Potential countries for national workshops (6)
- Pilot country for data harmonisation
- Working groups membership renewal
  - Drought / water scarcity
  - Water Monitoring
- Drought / water scarcity related event to organise the working group meeting





# Collaboration with international initiatives



# Partnerships objectives

- **Improving the collection and dissemination of the information and documentation on IWRM.**
- **Contribute to the efforts on observation, monitoring and evaluation processes related to the water sector, as well as the efforts aiming at harmonizing the data collection processes.**
- **Invite each other to common events of common interest.**
- **Create permanent links between websites, and promote each other in relevant national and regional events.**

# Signed agreements



Organisation	Date	Partnership type
EEA	2007-10-16	<b>Action plan</b> aiming at: Interfacing WISE and the "Mediterranean Water observatory mechanism/ information system" & Stimulating the production and sharing of data by Med Partner Countries
INBO-MENBO	2005-05-23	<b>Partnership</b> notably works towards the exchange of knowledge on water management at river basin level and in particular the application of the European Union Water Framework Directive (WFD).
GWP (GWP-Med)	2008-12-10	<b>EMWIS Technical Unit</b> became <b>member of GWP</b> (obviously of GWP-Med as well), which will allow to EMWIS TU participate in GWP meetings and coordinate some activities with.
MED-EUWI	2006-07-24	<b>Memorandum of Understanding</b> focusing on promoting and disseminating MED-EUWI activities (Joint Process Working Groups) through EMWIS website, etc.
IME	2003-06-30	<b>Partnership</b> focusing in particular on trans-national cooperation in sharing information on Mediterranean water management.
WWC	2008-12-16	<b>Partnership</b> to collaborate for improving the collection and dissemination of information and documentation on observation, monitoring and evaluation processes related to the water sector
BALWOIS	2007-07-05	<b>Collaboration</b> to support national information systems in Balkan countries (Balkan Water Observation and Information System)
SMAP-RMSU	2005-06-30	<b>Memorandum of Understanding</b> aiming at improving the collection and dissemination of the information and documentation on integrated water resources management



# Possible future agreements

Organisation	Date	Partnership type
Water Foot Print network	Sept/oct. 2009	<b>Becoming a member</b> to use this approach with interested Mediterranean countries
GEO	Sep/Oct. 2009	<b>To be member</b> in such huge network, in order to work with many other international organisations under this network on water issues (data and information collection, etc).
WHO / JMP	2009	<b>Partnership</b> notably to make their data on access to drinking water and sanitation available through EMWIS
African Water Facility	2009	<b>Partnership</b> notably to assist through EMWIS Technical Unit and EMWIS NFPs the programme "A North Africa Water MDGs Monitoring and Evaluation Programme"

- **MELIA**
- **USAID**
- **ARAB WATER ACADEMY**
- **WANA Forum**
- **ONEP**
- **Etc**



# Issues for discussion

- **Mandate to the President and Technical Unit**
  - to join GEO and the water foot print network
  - to prepare agreements with WHO/JMP and AWF
- **Potential process for other future partnerships (case by case):**
  - Analysis provided by EMWIS Technical Unit
  - Evaluation by President and vice-presidents
  - Formal agreement by the President