



7th World Water Forum

Regional Final Report

Mediterranean

Mediterranean Regional Process

2015-05-15

Regional Coordinators

Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (IME)

Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (GWP-Med)



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1 Executive Summary

The Region's specificities demonstrate the strong linkages of water, food and energy with due reference to environmental/ecological and climate change considerations, especially as the Mediterranean is considered as one of the main 'hot spots' in the world according to the IPCC. The nexus approach, involving agriculture, energy, industry, tourism, urban development, nature conservation, climate resilience, etc. with due consideration for cross-cutting issues (e.g. gender, equity, poverty, rights, health) entails the prescriptions for improved and holistic water management reforms.

Representatives from a wide range of national and regional stakeholders involved in the water and environment sectors – national and local authorities, regional organizations, private sector, civil society, institutes, initiatives, donors, consultancies – took part in this consultative, inclusive and participatory process.

The Mediterranean Preparatory Process for the 7th World Water Forum supported by working groups identified six thematic priorities of the region to prepare its participation to Korea: effective water governance; integrated water resources management (IWRM); sanitation for all; adaptation to climate change; improving education and capacity building; science and technology. Dedicated thematic sessions were held during the World Water Forum along with a concluding session of the overall Process.

1.1 Key messages from the region

The Mediterranean Water Community approached the 7th World Water Forum with a clear commitment to share experiences and gain from the related exchanges with other regions. A Position Paper elaborated in this framework has a dual purpose: to reflect on what has been achieved in the Mediterranean and what is needed further. Also it aims to communicate the key messages of the Mediterranean Region to the global water community, foster further collaboration to obtain tangible impacts, responding to the expectations and servicing the needs of people throughout the world



2 Introduction

2.1 Background

The Mediterranean water community has traditionally been very active at the World Water Forum, the global water community's largest regular interface with an outreach to actors outside the water box, strongly voicing core messages and highlighting experiences from the region. This contribution has been systematically concretized for each Forum through a dedicated Mediterranean Cross-Continental Preparatory Process.

The Process towards the 7th World Water Forum that convened on April 12-17, 2015, in the Republic of Korea, was launched in February 2014, coordinated by the Mediterranean Water Institute (IME), in close collaboration with the Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med), and steered by a multi-stakeholder Committee involving national and regional water actors.

The preparatory process in the Mediterranean Region was initiated by IME, GWP-Med and the involved partners in February 2014 after the 2nd Stakeholders Consultation Meeting of the 7th WWF in Korea, where guidelines for the regional process were confirmed.

The regional process was inclusive and opened to any interested stakeholders who wished to participate.

The region's contribution to the 7th WWF was made by consensus among IME, GWP-Med and the members of the Steering Committee and in agreement with all the other Mediterranean stakeholders involved.

2.2 Regional Overview

At the crossroad of three continents (Africa, Asia and Europe), the Mediterranean is a particularly water stressed Region with specific geographical, ecological, geopolitical and cultural features. This formation traditionally renders the Region a "privileged locus of exchanges" among countries and stakeholders, with water firmly placed at the heart of national and regional policies and with a series of successes, despite the unfavourable regional conditions in a vastly and rapidly changing Mediterranean and global setting. In addition to developmental and environmental challenges, currently the region faces an economic crisis, with socio-political unrest and armed conflicts in the southern and eastern part, aggravating the pressures on natural resources in many countries, including the strains on water, exercised by the influx of a large number of refugees.

Efforts towards water security constitute a key challenge within and across countries, especially as traditional water uses (i.e. agriculture) continue claiming the largest share of available water resources (particularly in the South and East of the region) and consumption, not only because of lifestyle changes but also due to demographics, is still increasing. Climate change implications including more frequent extreme phenomena (floods, droughts), rapid urbanisation trends, increased demand for resources (water, energy, other), rapidly changing socio-political conditions linked also with the urgent need for job creation, add further layers of complexity in the struggle to achieve sustainable management of water resources.



Similarities across the region linked to climate, geography and culture, provide fertile ground for broad cooperation to improve water management practices and involving a considerable number of regional and international partners. Although in this context, action is underway by a variety of stakeholders at local, national, regional and transboundary levels, still more is needed.

The Region's specificities demonstrate the strong linkages of water, food and energy with due reference to environmental/ecological and climate change considerations, especially as the Mediterranean is considered as one of the main 'hot spots' in the world according to the IPCC. The nexus approach, involving agriculture, energy, industry, tourism, urban development, nature conservation, climate resilience, etc. with due consideration for cross-cutting issues (e.g. gender, equity, poverty, rights, health) entails the prescriptions for improved and holistic water management reforms.

2.3 Overall Progress

The Mediterranean Preparatory Process for the 7th WWF was officially set off during a regional workshop held in Rabat, Morocco, on the 18th June 2014. During the Rabat Workshop a dedicated session presented the context and structure of the 7th WWF and introduced the themes and the modalities of the Mediterranean Preparatory Process. It is noted that the Rabat Workshop launched also the 2nd Mediterranean Water Forum. This most important event in the Med Preparatory Process held in Murcia, Spain, on 25-27 November 2014 and aimed to gather representatives of the Mediterranean Water Community at large to discuss issues of common concern and interest.

Beside the Steering Committee activities and the 2nd Mediterranean Water Forum, several other meetings have been organized as milestone events in the Mediterranean region for the 7th World Water Forum. Those events ensured that the Mediterranean regional process contributes to raise water issues high on the agenda of leaders and promote dialogue and the exchange of experiences on policies and solutions to increase water security with a view of presenting a concerted view of Mediterranean realities, challenges and ways forward at the 7th WWF.

A final meeting is kept under the shape of a conference call to finalize the participation in the 7th forum and prepare the Position paper of the Mediterranean Region.

Over the last year, a series of milestone meetings took place, structuring the work in six working groups focused on identified thematic priorities, namely: effective water governance; integrated water resources management (IWRM); sanitation for all; adaptation to climate change; improving education and capacity building; science and technology. These working groups formed the Mediterranean Regional Process' dedicated sessions during the World Water Forum along with a concluding session of the overall Process.

The 5th Beirut Water Week (Beirut, 22-23 May 2014), the Kick-off Meeting (Rabat, 18 June 2014), the 2nd Mediterranean Water Forum (Murcia, 25-27 November 2014), as well as a Concluding conference call (1st April 2015) marked the Mediterranean Process' way to the Korea Forum, along with regular Steering Committee meetings that provided the necessary guidance. For example, the 2nd Mediterranean Water Forum hosted plenaries, debate panels, side events and working groups with more than 300 participating stakeholders, exchanging views on common key water challenges, solutions, priority actions for the world water community, innovative ways to strengthen the water management knowledge base, as well as current and upcoming issues, such as the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus.



2.4 Regional Design Coordinators and Partners

Stakeholders from all Mediterranean countries were invited to participate in the process and also the Neighbouring countries.

The Mediterranean Region touches on Africa, Europe and Asia and involvement of some countries may be relevant in more than one region. Thus, consultations with related Design Groups were carried out aiming to identify options to prepare joint sessions during the 7th WWF. Similar consultation were sought with the other processes of the 7th WWF (Thematic, Political, Science and Technology), so as to enhance the impact of the Mediterranean messages beyond the Region.

Partners and consulted stakeholders

Similar to the process followed for the World Water Forums of Istanbul and Marseille, the partners involved in the Mediterranean Process within the Steering committee are organizations (institutions or network) working actively in the Region and representing the stakeholders concerned with and working on water.

- Network partners: Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), Euro-Mediterranean Irrigators Community (EIC), Euro Mediterranean Water Information System (EMWIS), Foundation-Instituto Euromediterraneo de Agua (FIEA), Institute de Prospective Economique du Monde Méditerranéen (IPEMED), Mediterranean Network Basin Organizations (MENBO), Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED).
- Institutional Partners: Centre for Mediterranean Integration (CMI), the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfMs), PLAN BLEU - UNEP/ MAP

It is noted that for the 7th WWF, IME and GWP-Med besides ensuring the involvement of their members as network partners, they also cooperated on the overall coordination of the Mediterranean Preparatory Process.

The Steering Committee also integrated National Authorities in charge of Water in the Mediterranean countries which expressed the wish to be a part it.

Region	Sub-region*	Organization	Focal Point (Contact info)	Country	Role	Note
Sub-region*	Mediterranean	Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (IME)	<i>Milagros Couchoud</i>	France	Coordinator	
		Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med)	<i>Michael Scoullas</i>	Greece	Coordinator	

* Note: If applicable.



3 Regional Issues

3.1 Session “Smart implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management”

3.1.1 Session Overview

Bearing in mind the difficulty to access available water resources in many parts of the developing world, the demand increase (population growth, urban areas development and industrialisation, etc.) and the expected climatic changes that will further increase the stress on water resources, a holistic approach to water management is necessary. Thus, Integrated Water Resources Management helps to manage and develop water resources in a sustainable and balanced way, taking into account social, economic and environmental interests.

Integrated Water Resources Management is the practice of making decisions and taking actions bearing in mind multiple points of view on how to manage water in order to harmonise demand satisfaction and the definition and achievement of environmental objectives for water bodies.

The integrated approach co-ordinates water management across sectors and interest groups, and at different scales, from local to international. It emphasises involvement in national policy and law making processes, establishing good governance and creating effective institutional and regulatory arrangements as routes to more equitable and sustainable decisions.

3.1.2 Progress

The session development took place as specified in the following timetable:

16:30 - 16:45	Overview on IWRM in the Mediterranean. <i>Mr. Teodoro Estrela</i> - MENBO
16:45 - 16:55	IWRM in Morocco. <i>Ms. Farah Elaoufir</i> - Morocco
16:55 - 17:05	Water allocation methods and trade-offs between uses. <i>Mr. Jean-Luc Trouvat</i> - France
17:05 - 17:15	IWRM in Palestine. <i>Mr. Omar Zayed</i> - Palestine.
17:15 - 17:25	Examples of IWRM in Spain. <i>Mr. Javier Ferrer</i> - Spain
17:25 - 17:35	Synergies and sustainable development in Integrated River Basin Management. <i>Mr. Enrique Cifres</i> - MENBO Expert
17:35 - 17:45	Example of relevant IWRM projects within the Mediterranean Scope. <i>Mr. Alain Bernard</i> – OIEau, INBO
17:45 - 17:55	Debate
17:55 - 18:00	Wrap up



3.1.3 Session Coordinators and Partners

Organization		Focal Point (Contact info)	Country	Role
Session Coordinator	MENBO	<i>Teodoro Estrela</i>	Spain	Coordinator
Session Group	Ministry of Water Resources	Farah Elaoufir	Morocco	Speaker
	Société du Canal de Provence	Jean-Luc Trouvat	France	Speaker
	General Directorate of Water Resources	Omar Zayed	Palestine	Speaker
	Júcar RBA	Javier Ferrer	Spain	Speaker
	MENBO	Enrique Cifres	Spain	Speaker
	OIEau	Alain Bernard	France	Speaker

3.1.4 Linkages to other processes (Political, Thematic and Science & Technology Processes)

3.1.5 Linkages to other regions (in case of Inter-Regional Sessions)

The Session was developed within the Inter-Regional Day on Smart Implementation of IWRM, together with the Arab and Asia-Pacific regions.

3.1.6 Outputs and Achievements

3.1.6.1 Regional actions derived and conditions for their successful implementation

One of the recommendations from the session focuses on the need for readily available information for all the stakeholders and the public in general. In this respect, a tool to bear in mind is the ongoing project “Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform”, which is subdivided into two components (National Water Information Systems and the elaboration of a “White Paper on Water”).

The possibility of developing twinning projects amongst basin organisations was also spoken about, based on the presentation from the International Office for Water’s representative. These types of projects focus



on capacity building and strengthening of the working experience for the involved institutions. It also has the objective of connecting with stakeholders and including them in the IWRM planning process.

3.1.6.1 Key stakeholders and how to involve them in implementation of solutions drawn from your session

As previously mentioned, the development of River Basin Management Plans must include users' associations and stakeholder participation for decision-making, and not only policy-makers. The way to involve all these stakeholders in implementing solutions is to engage them in the process of elaborating River Basin Management Plans and, in all, in working towards an Integrated Water Resources Management in our region.

3.1.7 Inputs to the Implementation Road map

The outcomes and recommendations of the IWRM Session were presented in the concluding meeting of the Mediterranean Process

3.1.8 Conclusion

The main conclusions drawn up from the development of the session were based on the more pressing issues related to IWRM in the region, namely:

- The need for an integrated multidisciplinary water resources management in order to balance environmental protection and sustainable economic development.
- The integration of IWRM principles in water policies, including conventional and non-conventional resources.
- Aspects such as planning of land use, agriculture, urban development, hydropower, navigation, flood protection, etc., all have potentially important impacts on water resources.
- The development of River Basin Management Plans must include users' associations and stakeholder participation for decision-making.
- Allocation of water resources for water uses must be carried out bearing in mind equity and development needs.
- There is a need for tools and procedures in order to prioritise water uses.
- Effective monitoring systems for water quantity and quality are essential.
- Prevention of overexploitation, by reaching good status for water bodies.
- There is a need for an adequate financing framework for IWRM.
- It is also recommended to develop management frameworks for transboundary waters.
- Information on water issues should be available to all the stakeholders and public in general.

3.2 Session “Water Education and capacity building: powerful policy tools in addressing the water agenda”

3.2.1 Session Overview

Water education is instrumental for achieving Sustainable Development (SD) and integral part of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). It can serve both as a policy tool for advancing the water agenda and as an "entry point" to address the multiple global sustainability and water related challenges, such as climate change, water shortages, water quality crises, ecosystems deterioration, biodiversity loss, etc.

During the session a series of water education initiatives of the formal, non-formal and informal level as well as vocational trainings were presented, showcasing that water education has a strong basis in the region. In the session, we were happy and honored to have with us H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco, who showed high interest in the water education agenda and the initiatives presented.

It was acknowledged that ESD, in particular, is perhaps, the only safe, no-regret investment to address such challenges, improve governance and promote the better understanding and cooperation at national and international level. Water education can be a “bridge” to holistically link different policies and management approaches such as Integrated Water Resources Management, the Coastal Zone Management, the “nexus” and the ecosystem approach.

Water education could not only shape people’s behavior on water issues but also build the capacities of water professionals and administrations. The recently adopted Mediterranean Strategy on ESD and the UNESCO GAP Initiative, are tools that enable the process of introducing water education at all levels in the Mediterranean countries.

3.2.2 Progress

The session has started to be organized right after the Murcia Conference on November 2014. While drafting the agenda, several rounds of communications with invited speakers were made (via emails and Skype calls).

3.2.3 Session Coordinators and Partners

Organization		Focal Point (Contact info)	Country	Role
Session Coordinators	MIO-ECSDE, UNESCO Chair UoA	Prof. Michael SCOULLOS	Greece	Coordinator
Session Co- Coordinators*	MIO-ECSDE, MEDIES	Ms Iro ALAMPEI	Greece	Secretariat, Communication
Session Group	OIEAU	Ms Josiane MONGELLAZ	France	Speaker
	Eaux De Marseille,	Ms Catherine LAGARDE	France	Speaker
	Mohamed VI University	Mr Mohamed Ftouhi	Morocco	Speaker
	RAED & AOYE	Mr Essam Nada	Egypt	Speaker
	ANEAS de MEXICO	Mr. Javier APARICIO	Mexico	Speaker



3.2.4 Linkages to other processes (Political, Thematic and Science & Technology Processes)

It was noteworthy that in many, if not all the sessions within the Mediterranean Region and the entire Forum, education and capacity building were repeatedly highlighted as a prerequisite and an important transversal component that should be integrated within these processes.

The outcomes and recommendations of the session (see 3.1.6) were presented in the final thematic education session of the Forum.

3.2.5 Linkages to other regions (in case of Inter-Regional Sessions)

Initially the session was conceived as interregional (for Americas and the Mediterranean), in the end it was requested to adjust it for one region only, the Mediterranean, but to satisfy demand one contributing speaker came from Latin America, Mexico in particular.

3.2.6 Outputs and Achievements

Key outcomes of the session are the following:

- Despite the considerable number of interesting initiatives and success stories in water related education in the Mediterranean, there are still huge needs for such an education, while the institutional frameworks and human & financial resources to support it are not yet in place.
- Promising strengths are the existence of:
 - The recently adopted Mediterranean Strategy for ESD and its Action Plan (under preparation) which provide a valuable framework for water related education.
 - A series of competent Mediterranean Networks and Foundations.
 - The dynamic created by the UN Decade on ESD (2005-2014) and the Global Action Plan (GAP) that is taking place worldwide in the post 2015 period.

Recommendations resulting from the session that were conveyed to the WWF are:

- In order to reach the needed new water culture Water Education should be strengthened to cover the entire spectrum from water ethics, sound understanding of water issues, to specific technical skills of water professionals.
- All types of Education formal, non-formal, informal, vocational should be dealt with as a continuum.
- In formal education, the Whole Institute Approach is important, where water should play a central role.
- University Curricula on water issues should enhance good quality science in parallel with interdisciplinarity.



For water professional education / trainings pre-service and in service schemes based on sharing experiences within and between companies and utilities should be encouraged.

At the informal level, large scale water awareness and capacity building schemes involving communities, women and youth should be implemented.

3.2.6.1 Regional actions derived and conditions for their successful implementation

The recently adopted Mediterranean Strategy on ESD with its resulting Mediterranean Action Plan (being drafted) as well as the UNESCO GAP Initiative, are tools that enable the process of introducing water education in all levels of formal education, as well as in vocational, non formal and informal education schemes of countries.

3.2.6.2 Key stakeholders and how to involve them in implementation of solutions drawn from your session

A series of actors from the Mediterranean Countries (such as Ministries of Environment and Education, Universities, Training Institutions, NGOs, etc.) could be all involved in the drafting the Mediterranean Action Plan of the Mediterranean Strategy on ESD.

3.2.7 Inputs to the Implementation Road map

The outcomes and recommendations of the Mediterranean Education Session (see 3.1.6) were presented in the final thematic education session of the Water Forum.

3.2.8 Conclusion

Education has been identified as a prerequisite and tool for management in all sessions of the Mediterranean Process (Governance, Science and Technology, Climate Change, etc). It should be underlined that the Mediterranean is the only region within the WWF7 that recognized the indispensable role of water education for achieving Sustainable Development and organized a special session on it.

In the session a series of best practices have been presented together with a series of recommendations for future actions. Transforming these from a wish-list to an action-list, requires the mobilization of a number of additional resources from both public as well as private sources.

Overall implementation will take time and concerted efforts, but indisputably education and capacity building has gained a new impetus during the World Water Forum of Korea!

3.3 Session “Linking Science and Technology for managing global water challenges - Finding ways to overcome the barriers for improved research uptake, presenting European and Mediterranean experiences and sharing knowledge globally (S&T)”

3.3.1 Session Overview

Even though promising innovations are being developed and there are numerous solutions available that have the potential to address these problems, large-scale worldwide implementation continues to be a challenge.

Additional to the up scaling of available solutions, science can be the key to address many challenges. However, the sole development of new technologies will not contribute to solving the global water challenges we are facing. Putting ‘knowledge to use’ by implementing technologies under local conditions is a necessary next step.

Thus, this interregional session for EU & MED will give an insight on the specificities in each region, a key driver as well as a bottleneck for integration of science and new technologies. Innovative solutions that have been successfully applied in the region will be presented to promote knowledge and sharing of experiences. A joint panel discussion with stakeholders from government, business, universities, institutions and recipients will provide responses and recommendations on the integration of Science and Technology to Policy, Business and Sustainable Development.

3.3.2 Progress

This session is the culmination of a long process which started short after the closing of the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille and has as more recent and important milestones the 5th Beirut Water Week held at Lebanon on May 2014, the kick-off meeting of the European Steering Committee held at Rabat, Morocco, in June 2014 and, very prominently, the 2nd Mediterranean Water Forum held in Murcia Spain in November 2014. At this Mediterranean Water Forum, the most relevant conclusions of the Science and Technology Working Group were discussed and drafted in a final document that has served as a baseline to the interregional session. The strengths and potential for further development of Science and Technology in the region was highlighted in the Mediterranean Concluding Workshop held in Athens, Greece, in April 2015

3.3.3 Session Coordinators and Partners

Organization		Focal Point (Contact info)	Country	Role
Session Coordinators	<i>Técnica y Proyectos, S.A.</i>	Mr. Juan Ojeda COUCHOUD jojeda@typsa.es	Spain	Coordinator
Session Co- Coordinators*	<i>Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean</i>	Ms. Konstantina TOLI konstantina@qwpmed.org		Coordinator



Session Group	<i>Foundation-Euro Mediterranean Water Institute (F-IEA)</i>	Mr. Francisco CABEZAS CALVO - RUBIO cabezas@um.es	Spain	Speaker
	<i>Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean</i>	Prof. Michael Scoullos scoullos@chem.uoa.gr		Speaker
	<i>FENACORE</i>	Mr. Juan VALERO DE PALMA jvdepalma@acequiarij.es	Spain	Speaker
	<i>Group Eaux de Marseille</i>	Mr. Jean Marc BECCHETTI Jean-Marc.BECCHETTI@somei.fr	France	Speaker
	<i>IME</i>	Mr. Enrique CIFRES enrique@cifres.com	Spain	Speaker
	<i>Palestinian Water Authority</i>	Mr. Adel YASSIN adel_pwa@yahoo.com	Palestine	Speaker
	<i>Ministry of Agriculture</i>	Mr. Adberrazak SOUISSIsouissi. adberrazak@iresa.agrinet.tn	Tunisia	Panelist
	<i>University of Exeter, Water Science Center</i>	Prof. Dragan Savic D.Savic@exeter.ac.uk	UK	Panelist
	<i>Global Water Partnership</i>	Mr. Rudolph CLEVERINGA Rudolph Cleveringa,		Panelist

3.3.4 Linkages to other processes (Political, Thematic and Science & Technology Processes)

The session was linked with the Science & Technology Process and the recommendations formed during the session will feed the Process.

3.3.5 Linkages to other regions (in case of Inter-Regional Sessions)

The session was jointly organized and shared with the Europe region

3.3.6 Outputs and Achievements

The session discussion led to the formulation of the following recommendations:

1. Water science and technology need to be considered in a holistic way, encompassing not only the available water resources but the entire water cycle, with all streams, including non conventional water inputs.
2. Water science and technology should correspond to all characteristics of water, being not only a commodity, but also bearing intrinsic value, cultural and social aspects. In this respect science, technology and development of innovation related to water cannot solely rely on private sector investments, but requires the support of governments, combined with a fair distribution of the benefits and costs to the society. At Euro-Mediterranean level, appropriate institutional and regulatory frameworks, along with the needed financial means, should be in place.
3. Provided that we secure the first two, we need to better understand the inter-relationships among the demand, the non-linear cycle of development of science-technology-innovation and the use of new water related products, in order to achieve faster progress and socially accountable applications.



3.3.6.1 Regional actions derived and conditions for their successful implementation

Most of the regional institutional frameworks, like Barcelona Convention or the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, includes initiatives that will provide tools that enable the process of introducing new innovative technological solutions to assess specific water related problems in the Mediterranean Region, mostly regarding water scarcity and the development of powerful water related networks as important assets to keep exchanging know-how, finding synergies and further building collaborations.

Concerning data, information, and expertise on integrated water resources management, further coordination is needed between initiatives and networks in the region. For this purpose, a Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform will be progressively deployed, with specific attention on developing synergies between climate scientists and water policy makers and aiming to deepen the IPCC works in the region.

3.3.6.2 Key stakeholders and how to involve them in implementation of solutions drawn from your session

The implementation of the solutions discussed in the session involves key stakeholders from various sectors: Academia and Scientific Institutions, to promote science & technology advancements; governments to integrate science into policy and provide appropriate institutional and regulatory framework for implementation, as well as financial support; businesses to develop market-oriented innovation; international organisations and cooperation mechanisms to promote cooperation beyond region and transfer knowledge and technology; civil society organisations to raise awareness on the intrinsic value of water.

3.3.7 Inputs to the Implementation Road map

The outcomes and recommendations of the Science & Technology Session were presented in the concluding meeting of the Mediterranean Process and were also announced to the Science & Technology Process committee for further leverage.

3.3.8 Conclusion

The critical role of science and technology to manage global water challenges and provide sustainable solutions was discussed in the session with the input from various key stakeholders. The session provided an insight into the challenges as well as the opportunities to advance science, technology and innovation in the region and discussed the conditions for their successful implementation. It formulated a set of recommendation on the actions necessary for further integration into policy and business in order to foster sustainable development.



3.4 Session “Effective Water Governance a myth? Challenges, opportunities and responses from the Mediterranean”

3.4.1 Session Overview

The complexity of pursuing effective water governance is widely and well acknowledged. It requires careful and informed examination of policy options and necessitates political willingness and commitment, not only from the side of policy makers but from a range of different stakeholders to ensure implementation and sustainability of results. Inclusiveness through access to information, active engagement through transparent mechanisms and a socially sensitive and human rights-focused approach are some of the core ingredients in pursue of effective water governance within a financially sustainable framework.

Achieving effective water governance, however, is a different, and often less apparent, story. Most Mediterranean countries are amidst water sector reform processes with governance firmly placed at the centrepiece and IWRM forming the guiding framework. A careful examination of the situation, at national and regional levels, shows that governance bottlenecks and mismanagement remain a lingering reality, exacerbated further due to the socio-political turmoil of recent years in the South Mediterranean.

The session provided an overview of key challenges and opportunities, with insights from Mediterranean countries and responses that consider major water uses (e.g. irrigation) and pressing trends (e.g. role of cities) along with suggestions for innovative territorial water governance. The exchanges with the other two regions of the session further elucidated the question whether effective water governance is attainable and how. Discussions focused on the need to nurture a culture of dialogue, to insist on institutional and legislative reforms, to ensure social participation including through decentralized models, to overcome mistrust through awareness raising, to strengthen accountability and create the enabling environment for sustainable financing; and all these under the recent and ongoing socio-political turmoil.

3.4.2 Progress

The Launch of the overall Regional Mediterranean Preparatory Process towards the 7th World Water Forum (February 2014) marked also the beginning for the preparations of the Governance Session. The multi-stakeholder Steering Committee, involving national and regional water actors, that guided the Mediterranean Process served also as a reference body for the Governance Session. A dedicated core group, led by GWP-Med and comprising the institutions and organisations involved specifically in the Governance theme, designed and prepared and context of the session and followed the step-by-step progress prior and during Korea.

Among the milestones, marking the way to the 7th World Water Forum, included the following face-to-face meetings:

- 5th Beirut Water Week (Beirut, 22-23 May 2014)



- Kick-off Meeting of the Regional Process (Rabat, 18 June 2014)
- 2nd Mediterranean Water Forum (Murcia, 25-27 November 2014)
- Steering Committee Meetings of the Mediterranean Process (Valencia, 10 September 2014; Athens, 30 October 2014; Murcia, 27 November 2014; Athens, 1 April 2015)
- Concluding Workshop of the Mediterranean Process (Athens, 1 April 2015)

The overall Mediterranean contribution for Korea was finalised during the Concluding Workshop of the Mediterranean Process (Athens, 1 April 2015) that also served as the final Steering Committee Meeting, synthesising the main messages and sharing views on the key regional concerns into a Mediterranean [Position Paper](#) that was widely disseminated to stakeholders. The Paper entitled “Addressing the crisis and ‘nexus’ through innovation and good governance” raised extensively the issue of good water governance and set the foundation for the Governance Session at WWF7.

Representatives from a wide range of national and regional stakeholders involved in the water sector – national and local authorities, regional organizations, private sector, civil society, institutes, initiatives, donors, consultancies – took part in this consultative and participatory process. Along the way to Korea, coordination was secured through mainly electronic means (emails and skype-calls) among the Governance Core Group members and utilising the opportunities for face-to-face interaction (see above).

3.4.3 Session Coordinators and Partners

Organization		Focal Point (Contact info)	Country	Role
Session Coordinators	GWP-Med	Ms. Anthi Brouma		Coordinator/ Speaker
session	Embassy of Lebanon in Korea	Mr. Elias Nicolas	Lebanon	Speaker
	Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water & Environment	Mr. Ziyad Abdesalem	Morocco	Speaker
	Palestinian Water Authority	Mr. Ahmad Hindi	Palestine	Speaker
	Ministry of Agriculture	Mr. Abdallah Cherid	Tunisia	Speaker
	EIC/FENACORE (Euro-Mediterranean Irrigators Community)	Mr. Juan Valero de Palma	Spain	Speaker
	Q & A			
	Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSD)	Mr. Michael Scoullou	Greece	Panellist
	Société des Eaux de Marseille	Ms. Catherine Lagarde	France	Panellist
	International Union for the Conservation of Nature - Regional Office for West Asia (IUCN ROWA)	Mr. Sameeh Al Nuimat	Jordan	Panellist
	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)	Ms. Aziza Achmouch	France	Panellist
	Confederacion Hidrologica de Jucar	Mr. Teodoro Estrela	Spain	Panellist



	Institut de Prospective Economique du Monde Méditerranéen (IPEMED)	Ms. Kelly Robin	France	Panellist
	UNDP Office in Geneva, ART Initiative Global Water Solidarity	Mr. Ivan Draganic	Switzerland	Panellist
	Grupo Tragsa	Mr. Carlos Ramos Garcia-Serrano	Spain	Panellist

3.4.4 Linkages to other processes (Political, Thematic and Science & Technology Processes)

Direct linkages, translating into mutual contributions, were drawn with other Thematic Processes, and particularly the Good Governance Process led by OECD. The Mediterranean Governance Group Coordinator was active in the Thematic Process, while the leader of the Governance Thematic Group was involved in the Mediterranean Governance Session.

3.4.5 Linkages to other regions (in case of Inter-Regional Sessions)

The Mediterranean Session was part of the Governance Inter-Regional Session, involving similar regional sessions for the Americas and the Economically Water Insecure Regions (EWI), with joint opening and closing sessions facilitated by the respective Regional Sessions' Coordinators. The exchange with the other two regions of the session has contributed to further elucidating the question on whether effective water governance is attainable and how. The inter-regional session acknowledged the occurred shifts in the conceptual approaches to water governance and stressed that practices are well known, but that action needs to be strengthened and further investment on knowledge and on a continuous and monitored learning process is indispensable.

Furthermore, linkages were identified with the Arab Regional Preparatory Process, involving direct exchanges during the milestone meeting of the Arab Process (Cairo, 9-11 December 2014). In the absence of dedicated Governance Group for the Arab Process, further concrete synergies and exchanges were regrettably not possible.

3.4.6 Outputs and Achievements

3.4.6.1 Regional actions derived and conditions for their successful implementation

In addition to awareness raising on current and upcoming governance-related challenges, also in view of the lingering socio-political turmoil in some of the Southern Mediterranean countries, the preparation and conduct of the Governance Session reconfirmed the need for political commitment to action and the urgent translation of policies into practice and this to be pursued through the active and meaningful engagement of different stakeholders, ensuring inclusiveness and participation with integrity and accountability. At the same time, the achievements reached thus far, with most of the Mediterranean countries amidst water sector reform processes, need to be highlighted and assessed also in view of global processes, notwithstanding the endorsement and forthcoming implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs).



The Coordinator of the Session, GWP-Med, along with the core partners are committed to put forward action towards enhancing water governance in the Region and effectively transfer the key messages to other key stakeholders, within and beyond the Mediterranean. GWP-Med, facilitates a multi-stakeholder platform that brings together 10 major regional networks of different water disciplines (government, river basins, local authorities, professionals, NGOs, research institutes, irrigators, etc.) and over 85 other institutions and organisations from EU and non-EU countries and is also involved in several regional projects (e.g. Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water sector, Water Integrity for the MENA region, SWIM-SM, etc) and political processes and initiatives (MED EUWI, UNEP MAP, Union for the Mediterranean, etc). Through its capacity and position, GWP-Med is committed to put forward the action needed to address the governance issues and move forward. Furthermore, synergising with partners such as the OECD through its Global Water Governance Initiative, IPEMED, GWS of UNDP, IUCN-ROWA and more creates the enabling environment for regional action to be successfully implemented.

3.4.6.2 Key stakeholders and how to involve them in implementation of solutions drawn from your session

The composition of the Governance Core Group, involving a wide range of local, national and regional actors (national and local authorities, regional and international organisations, private sector, civil society, donors, Academia, etc.) allows for wide outreach within and beyond the Mediterranean region and entails promising signs of accumulated impact in terms of action. The participation of a large part of these actors in Korea and during the Mediterranean Governance Session, ensures smooth follow up and sustainability of the agreed upon conclusions, as these touch upon the core work of these stakeholders. Furthermore, the wide regional network of GWP-Med (and the global GWPO network that reaches out to 178 countries and over 3000 partner organisations) will be utilised for spreading the word and magnifying the outreach for targeted actions on good water governance.

3.4.7 Inputs to the Implementation Road map

The outcomes and recommendations of the Governance Mediterranean Session were shared during the Governance Inter-Regional Closing Session (see above 3.1.5), while Mediterranean considerations were incorporated also into the Thematic Good Governance Process (see above 3.1.4).

Furthermore, the key messages from the session were presented during the final Mediterranean Session of the Forum, aligning with the follow up steps of the overall Mediterranean Process.

3.4.8 Conclusion

Some of the key messages derived from the Session included the following:

- Governance is essentially contextual; a case by case approach is needed respecting the countries' particularities and allowing for a constructive learning process
- Governance needs to be viewed as more than mere power sharing – there is an urgent need to move beyond the conventional approaches and consider all elements in a holistic manner



- A key effort needs to be directed on abandoning established practices (and thus, moving beyond the comfort zone) so as to allow the introduction of new practices and modes of action
- Stakeholder participation should not be confused with wide and indiscriminate involvement of actors; it is not a matter of quantity but rather of involving the appropriate stakeholders, with due consideration for marginalised groups, women and youth
- Emphasis should be maintained and strengthened on capacity building and education; these are elements that have not yet been adequately incorporated
- The environment, although part of the equation, is still not considered sufficiently in the related debates
- Further emphasis to be placed on the institutional setting, as this is core to issues of governance, and the linkages with financing to be further looked into along with innovative financing mechanisms
- The concept of shared water governance was put forward, including the private sector and other non-conventional actors
- Overall, water governance needs to consider three core elements: appropriate organisational mode – effective regulation of the overall water sector – sustainable financing.
- Significant shifts have occurred in the conceptual approaches to water governance and a new paradigm is in the making calling for behavioral changes and leading towards a new water culture.

3.5 Session “Enough safe water and integrated sanitation for all: where we are and what’s next?”

3.5.1 Session Overview

Integrated in a interregional session with 3 other regions (Asia Pacific, Americas and Africa) the Mediterranean marked its participation by focusing presentations the management of waste water as a main part in the water resources management.

On the basis of 4 concrete national cases (Egypt, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia), two panels were organized on following both themes:

- Challenges and solutions for improved sanitation for all
- Implication of specific issues in the Integrated Water Resources management.

Before the panels, an introductory speech on “Review of the Mediterranean Progress on Sanitation for all” was made by Ms. Kelly Robin, Ipemed.

During the session, it was able to be revised at the same time the institutional and legislative sector, the impact on the improvement of the living environment of the citizen in the urban and rural areas (linked with the health), the importance of the innovative and adapted technologies, the waste water reuse as non conventional resources.



3.5.2 Progress

This session was organised within the framework of the Mediterranean Preparatory Process launched in Rabat (Morocco) during the kick off of the 2nd Mediterranean Water Forum. A working group on “Sanitation” organised during the holding of the 2nd Mediterranean Forum in Murcia (Spain) in November 2014 launched the idea to organise a thematic session in Korea for capitalizing the outputs of the 6th World Water Forum.

3.5.3 Session Coordinators and Partners

Organization		Focal Point (Contact info)	Country	Role
Session Coordinator	Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau	Mr. Hachmi Kennou	France	Coordinator
Session	IPEMED	Ms. Kelly Robin	France	Speaker
	Office National de l'Assainissement (ONAS)	Mr. Mohamed Marrakchi	Tunisia	Speaker
	Office National de l'Electricité et de l'Eau (ONEE)	Mr. Abdelaziz Stilli	Morocco	Speaker
	Segura River Basin Authority	Mr. Miguel A. Rodenas	Spain	Speaker
	Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)	Mr. Adel Yasin	Palestine	Speaker
	Société des Eaux de Marseille	Mr. Alain Meyssonier	France	Speaker

3.5.4 Linkages to other processes (Political, Thematic and Science & Technology Processes)

The session was linked with the Sanitation thematic Session.

3.5.5 Linkages to other regions (in case of Inter-Regional Sessions)

The session was jointly organized and shared with the Asia Pacific, Americas and Africa regions.

3.5.6 Outputs and Achievements

The session discussion led to the formulation of the following recommendations:

1. Sanitation is a factor of peace and progress in Palestine in particular with capacity building and awareness of young people who are the future of the country.
2. Sanitation is a factor of development and growth thus of employment in the country for the young people in particular through the REUSE as the case of Murcia, Spain shows it very well. The REUSE is valued thanks to a high value-added agricultural production.



3. Sanitation is a factor of technological progress and sustainable development (saving and production of non conventional energy, decentralized third treatment close to the needs, treatment and valorisation of sludges), major stake for Tunisia and Morocco through in particular the implementation of innovative public partnership.

3.5.7 Inputs to the Implementation Road map

The outcomes and recommendations of the Sanitation of all were presented in the concluding meeting of the Mediterranean Process (Final session).

3.5.8 Conclusion

The importance of the presented theme reflects the attention given by all the stakeholders concerned in the Mediterranean region through the regional initiatives and programmes on the industrial de-pollution, reuse and especially the strengthening of the capacity building in the new jobs linked with the sanitation.

3.6 Session “Climate-Smart Water Management in the Mediterranean Region”

3.6.1 Session Overview

The Mediterranean region faces many climate change challenges, with projected increase in temperature, decrease in precipitation, and more frequent extreme events (floods and droughts). These climate change effects will significantly impact the water sector and multiple economic sectors, including vulnerable people, assets and food security. There is a need to develop appropriate climate-smart water policies and practices to build climate resilience to lower the risks.

Many Mediterranean countries have already or are in the process to develop adaptation plans and strategies. However, it remains challenging to include measures to climate-smart water security. Policymakers should be fully aware of the latest scientific knowledge in managing risk and uncertainty for climate resilience, and be capable of utilizing those scientific findings to make informed decisions to embrace sound policy instruments to support climate change adaptation. Technology transfer to make climate-related water information available is essential. Policy instruments for climate-smart adaptation in the water sectors should investigate various options including desalination, groundwater recharge, wastewater reuse, water demand management and planning for less future water and extreme events. Innovative financing mechanisms should also be sought.

Exacerbated Water Conditions by Impacts of Climate Change in the Mediterranean:

- South Mediterranean (10% of Med. Conventional Resources, 105% Utilization)
- Decrease in Precipitation
- Increased Temperature (Increase in Water Demand)
- Increased Extreme Events (Floods and Droughts)
- Economic losses due to damages (e.g. up to 50 Billion USD/Year = 6% of GDP in Egypt)
- Increased consumer prices
- Agriculture is the most hit sector (up to 10% of Jobs in north and up to 40% of Jobs in south)
- Impact on Food Security

3.6.2 Progress

The Mediterranean session was organized jointly with four other regions (Africa, Americas, Asia-Pacific, and Europe). During this inter-regional session, exchanges of experiences, good practices and lessons learned may help find solutions related to the specific contexts witnessed at local level, where no one-size-fits-all can address the issues faced. From the islands of the Caribbean to the arid Mediterranean region and the melting of alpine glaciers, this session presented good examples that can boost climate adaptation throughout the world.

This session discussed on specific aspects of climate change adaptation in the Mediterranean Region, good practices, challenges, and climate-smart water policies and projects.

The session was development took place as specified in the following timetable:

- Climate-Smart Water Management in the Mediterranean, Prof. Khaled AbuZeid, CEDARE
- Socioeconomic Impact Assessments for Effective Adaptation Water Policies, Eng. Mona ElAgizy, Arab Water Council
- Climate Change, Water and Food Security in West Africa and the Mediterranean region : a North/South cross-analysis, Mr. Guillaume BENOIT, French Water Partnership, France
- Climate & Water Studies from the Arab Region, Dr. Hammou Laamrani, LAS
- Moroccan Water Sector & Climate Change, Mr. Salah Dahabi, Morocco
- Water & Climate: A Prespective from UNFCC Negotiations, Mr. Mohamed Khalil, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt
- Technological Approach; Artificial Intelligence for Water Management: Best Outcome for Adaptation and Mitigation, Mr. Alfonso Andrés, INCLAM, Spain

3.6.3 Session Coordinators and Partners

Organization		Focal Point (Contact info)	Country	Role
Session Coordinator	CEDARE	Khaled AbuZeid	Egypt	Coordinator
Session	Arab Water Council	Mona ElAgizy	Egypt	Speaker
	French Water Partnership	Guillaume BENOIT	France	Speaker
	Arab League	Hammou Laamrani	Egypt	Speaker
	Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water & Environment	Salah Dahabi	Morocco	Speaker
	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Mohamed Khalil	Egypt	Speaker
	INCLAM	Alfonso Andrés	Spain	Speaker



3.6.4 Linkages to other processes (Political, Thematic and Science & Technology Processes)

The Mediterranean session was linked with the thematic process related to the Climate change adaptation

3.6.5 Linkages to other regions (in case of Inter-Regional Sessions)

The Mediterranean Region was organised with 4 other regions: Africa, Americas, Asia-Pacific and Europe.

3.6.6 Outputs and Achievements

Among the recommendations issued to the discussion, the main actions to implemented are the following:

- Adoption of climate change related indicators & Targets and work on meeting Targets
- Development of economic instruments to estimate cost of climate change impacts and cost of adaptation
- Establish a Mediterranean Expert group on CC Adaptation, and link with the UFM CC Expert Group
- Downscale GCM to Mediterranean Region
- Consider CC impacts and adaptation beyond country borders especially on Transboundary rivers
- Promote Cooperation & Sharing of information between transboundary riparian countries
- Establish National Supreme Water Councils
- Study Fossil Groundwater extraction impact on global/local climate
- Decision makers are encouraged to take risks and make tough decisions related to CC adaptation
- Adoption of no-regrets policies & actions
- Private sector & Civil Society Adaptation initiatives are important and need to be supported by governments
- Design Climate-Smart Water Systems & Infrastructure that are resilient to Climate Change Impacts
- Embrace a Climate-Smart Water Management Approach through Water Demand Management, and integrated optimal water allocation of all types of water (blue water (surface & groundwater), green water, virtual water, recycled water, treated wastewater, desalinated water, etc)
- Improve blue and green water use for food production
- Include Farmers in Policy Decisions
- Improve water productivity in Agriculture (produce more food with less water) for Food Security
- Reduce Food Wastes
- Utilize renewable groundwater (as natural reservoirs) for supplemental irrigation
- Work on Climate mainstreaming, proofing, and financing
- Implement a Water/Energy/Food Nexus approach
- Give special attention to the Agriculture Sector and implement Climate-Smart Agriculture Policies
- Use heat resistant, salt tolerant, low water requirement selected crop varieties (e.g. Egyptian Cotton)
- Enhance International Cooperation, Technology Transfer, and Capacity Building
- Implement SMART Systems, Including Decision Support Systems, Expert Systems, and other integrated Artificial Intelligence tools in Water Management
- Open to various development partners with new partnerships, and move away from silos
- Improve necessary legislations
- Enhance Science & Policy interfaces



3.6.7 Inputs to the Implementation Road map

In December 2015, France will host and chair the twenty-first Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21). This is a crucial deadline since it should lead to a new international climate agreement that is ambitious, binding and applicable to all countries in order to keep global warming below 2°C. In this context, the Mediterranean Stakeholders will meet in Marseille in June with the aim to highlight the common commitment in the fight against climate change and will demonstrate the contribution of local authorities, associations, businesses, networks working as catalysts for sustainable development.

Special Messages to include in COP 21 Agreement:

- Incorporate Climate-Smart Water Management with better Blue & Green Water Management as an Adaptation Mechanism for Water Security
- Incorporate Climate-Smart Agriculture with Inclusive Policies & better management of Blue & Green Water, Land & Soil Use, Harvesting, & Food Processing for Food Security

3.6.8 Conclusion

The main conclusions drawn up from the development of the session were based on the more pressing issues related to Climate change in the region, namely:

- Establish a Mediterranean knowledge platform on Climate Change impacts & Network of Meteorological Authorities (Improve Knowledge sharing & technology transfers on Climate Change Impacts and observation tools)
- Promoting Green economy
- Embrace a Common Vision, Develop a Mediterranean Regional Strategy for CC Adaptation, & Produce a Mediterranean PCC Report
- UNFCCC Negotiations need to give more attention to the water sector and move beyond divisive and sensitive issues advancement on addressing more effectively Climate & Water
-

3.7 Final Regional Session “Towards a Regional Water Knowledge Platform”

The Final Mediterranean session is based on priorities targeted by the UfM Ministerial Conference on Water (Amman, Jordan 2008) in its recommendations made within the framework of an EFFICIENT AND SHARED ELABORATION AND FOLLOW UP MECHANISM and particularly the following: “(1) the importance of data, information and statistics, ... (2) the strengthening the coordination of existing Euro-Mediterranean initiatives and networks ... (3) the importance of exchange of best practices (5) the importance of elaborating and implementing through participatory processes, effective national and local IWRM based on realistic financing strategies”.

The first part of this final session presented the highlights and main conclusions of the regional Mediterranean sessions held during the 7th World Water Forum on six priority themes : Integrated Water Resources Management, Effective Water Governance, Water Education/Capacity Building, Climate Change, Sanitation for all and Innovative technologies on water.

The second part of the session introduced a regional approach for the implementation of a ‘Regional Water Knowledge Platform’. This platform will include all the main components which are required to develop a



vision and a strategic plan for sustainable management of water resources, and will bring together all the water and environmental stakeholders from the Mediterranean region.

The Regional Water Knowledge Platform should improve the coordination of challenges and solutions related to water and the environment. Most especially, it should help implement good practices in integrated water management in the Mediterranean region by enhancing good governance, bringing forward the best information systems, and above all, proposing tools that can help decision-making for rational use of water resources and the improvement of populations' living conditions - of a social economic and environmental nature.

3.7.1 Session Program

Jointly coordinated by Ms. Milagros Couchoud from IME and Prof. Michael Scoullos from GWP-Med, the Final Mediterranean Session commenced with a keynote speech by the Honorary President of World Water Council, Mr. M. Loic Fauchon and continued with a synthesis of all six thematic sessions held during the Forum, with each Focal Point presenting the highlights and main conclusions.

Following a brief presentation of the Mediterranean Position Paper as elaborated during the Regional Preparatory Process and concluded during the Final Mediterranean Workshop (Athens, 1 April 2015), a plenary discussion and targeted interventions took stock of the current state of water in the region, asserted the context of the Position Paper and discussed areas in need of urgent action through an inclusive, transparent and informative multi-stakeholder process.

With a dedicated discussion, the Final Mediterranean session discussed the 'Regional Water Knowledge Platform' project, presented by MENBO on behalf and as one of the project promoters. The Platform shall include all main components required to develop a regional vision and strategic plan for the sustainable management of water resources. This Regional Platform should bring together as many Mediterranean water and environmental stakeholders as possible, improving the coordination on challenges and solutions, helping implement good practices in integrated water management in the Mediterranean region, enhancing good governance, bringing forward the best information systems, and above all, proposing tools to help decision-making for rational use of water resources and the improvement of populations' living conditions. The first reactions to the Platform echoed that this is a positive, yet ambitious initiative, that needs to link closely to existing institutions and networks, particularly for securing the needed financial resources. Also, adjustments may be required in the process, especially considering the emphasis on information gathering, the rapid changes with new technologies and the semi-static nature of assessments in view of the region's prospect analysis.

The session included also a High-Level Panel Discussion with representatives from the Foundation Prince Albert II of Monaco, governments of Algeria and Spain, the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA)/The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UNHABITAT), GWP-Med, as well as IME.

3.8 Key messages

The Mediterranean Water Community approached the 7th World Water Forum with a clear commitment to share experiences and gain from the related exchanges with other regions. A Position Paper elaborated in this framework has a dual purpose: to reflect on what has been achieved in the Mediterranean and what is needed further. Also it aims to communicate the key messages of the Mediterranean Region to the global



water community, foster further collaboration to obtain tangible impacts, responding to the expectations and servicing the needs of people throughout the world.

- the Mediterranean being a microcosm itself feels the global change circumstances in a stronger and more urgent way, and therefore needs more innovative approaches and an overall behavioural/mind-set change;
- there is a need to bring closer concepts on ethics with those on economic efficiency;
- There are several strengths in the region, notwithstanding the solid and long-standing experience with political and economic processes;
- There are no regional tools in the Mediterranean. There are old-fashioned national tools to deal with existing and emerging challenges;

4 Outcomes

Three pillars are expected to guide the Mediterranean Process' priorities:

- 1. a renewed governance approach that will trigger the necessary change of mind-set/behaviour;**
- 2. sustainable and transparent financing;**
- 3. The apparent link between transfer of knowledge, education and Science- Technology - Innovation.**

Although not a novel thinking, the above needs to be contextualised in a more sophisticated manner.

4.1 Recommendations

- Learn from others and from existing knowledge available around the world and especially the one that goes into the roots of education. Develop more the South-South knowledge transfer;
- Need to convince Governments to dedicate resources for the needed soft activities (that are often marginalised as the benefits are not immediate);
- Develop innovative Science & Technology for water knowledge sharing, also with relation to climate change;
- Allow for more transparency in the decision making, including for the storage and transfer of water;
- Understand better and provide the financing for ecosystem services. Consider nature as one of the providers and not only as a user.



4.2 Commitments

In reference to the launching of the Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform by the same Steering Committee which coordinated the Mediterranean Preparatory Process for the 7th World Water Forum and the organisation of the 2nd Mediterranean Water Forum, the mobilization of the stakeholders of the Mediterranean Water Community concerned by water and environment will continue.

Each coordinator remains in charge of the follow-up of his respective thematic under the facilitation and coordination of IME and GWP-Med.

4.3 Follow-up steps after the 7th Forum

After the 7th WWF, the SC set up will continue to be in contact with the preparatory process of the 8th WWF and the 3rd Mediterranean Water Forum which should be held in a country of the Region during 2016.

4.3.1 Future Orientations

A more political approach will be integrates to the Preparatory process for the next WWFs

4.3.2 Implementation of the action plan and monitoring

By the end of this year, a more detailed evolution will be proposed to the main stakeholders concerned in the Mediterranean Region in order to define an Action plan more coherent and federative.

4.4 Distinctive achievements

A great distinction at the Water Showcase Global Final

Apart from the above-mentioned sessions of the Mediterranean Regional Process, a regional success came also through the great distinction that GWP-Med received at the Water Showcase Global Final, a special programme of the 7th World Water Forum, on 15 April 2015, [with the 2nd place ranking of the Non Conventional Water Resources \(NCWR\) Programme in the Mediterranean](#), a multi-stakeholder programme, with activities in water scarce insular communities in Greece, Malta, Cyprus and Italy. The NCWR Programme in the Mediterranean was the only non-Asian showcase, with strong competition from India, South Korea, Bangladesh and Indonesia, among more than 120 showcases from around the world. *"This distinction is a proof of acknowledgement that the programme constitutes a showcase which can be adapted and replicated in water scarce communities not only in the Mediterranean but also around the world. For GWP Mediterranean, it has been a continuous effort to develop and expand the programme in the Mediterranean since 2008 with the support of Coca-Cola"*, said Ms. Konstantina Toli, Senior Programme Officer at GWP Mediterranean and Coordinator of the NCWR Programme, as the result was announced.



5 Conclusion

Representatives from a wide range of national and regional stakeholders involved in the water and environment sectors – national and local authorities, regional organizations, private sector, civil society, institutes, initiatives, donors, consultancies – took part in the consultative, inclusive and participatory process. They ultimately finalized the Mediterranean contribution for Korea during the final Steering Committee Meeting of the Mediterranean Process at the Athens (1st April 2015), synthesizing the main messages and sharing views on the key regional concerns into a Mediterranean Position Paper on “Addressing the crisis and ‘nexus’ through innovation and good governance”, which was widely disseminated during the Forum.

In future World Water Fora, the Mediterranean Process shall place emphasis on urban issues, as well as on exogenous factors, such as climate change, socioeconomic pressure from refugee flows, unemployment, etc. For the 7th World Water Forum, effort was placed on tackling urban issues horizontally, hence the absence of a dedicated working group.

By its specificity of arid and semi-arid zone, the region marked its contribution in the 7th World Water Forum by presented solutions and best practices which could be help in other similar regions in the world.