



Workshop “The Challenges of the Water/Energy/Food Security Alliance in the context of climate change”

Conclusions

The workshop on “The Challenges of the Water/Energy/Food Security Alliance in the context of climate change”, coordinated by the Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) in collaboration with the Abdelmalek Essaadi University in Tetouan (UAE), was held in room 3 “Mistral” on Monday July 18th, 2016 from 14:30 to 17:30.

The workshop gathered various participants from institutional settings, the private sector and civil society on the two shores of the Mediterranean.

The opening of the session was given successively by Mr Abdesslam Ziyad, director for planning in the Delegate Ministry in charge of water issues under the Minister of Energy, Mines, Water and the Environment, Mrs Milagros Couchoud, President of the Mediterranean Water Institute and Mr Houdaifa Ameziane, President of the Abdelmalek Essaadi University in Tetouan.

The workshop was opened with a reminder of the recommendations of MEDCOP 21 and on water’s role in the agenda of climate solutions presented by Mr Georges Olivari of the Regional Water Authority, PACA Region. The importance of the stakes around the alliance and the preservation of ecosystems were also highlighted.

Concrete cases and examples of best practices from Maghreb countries, the Middle East and Southern Europe were presented.

- « Development of regional high resolution hydro-climatic modelling to support adaptation of water, energy and agriculture in the Middle-East » by Stéphane Simonet (Acterra) and Mufleh Abbadi (IUCN-ROWA)
- « Moroccan oasis in the context of climate change » by Mohamed Boussaid (GIZ 4C Morocco)
- « Multi uses of water and climate change: Durance and Verdon cases » by Vincent Gabette (EDF) and François Prévost (Société du Canal de Provence, SCP)
- « Governance best practices within Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus in the Arab Region» by Rabi Ayman (Palestinian Hydrology Group, PHG)
- «Proposal of Water and Energy Policies within the framework of Climate Change» by Manuel Aldeguer Sánchez (Generalitat Valenciana).

Following the presentations, ***the improvement of knowledge on the different components of water management and particularly the interactions with the energy and agricultural sectors***, was identified as a major requirement.

Truly integrated approaches, documented and participatory and which take into account the full complexity and the inter-dependent relationship of the issues and the links between water, energy and food are necessary in order to guarantee programmes of public works, planning and management that are in line with global development goals.

Based on the aforementioned, two solutions were presented.

The first solution is related to the **creation of a Mediterranean water knowledge platform** labelled by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and which figures in the action plan for the Water Strategy in the Western Mediterranean (5+5). This solution coordinated by the International Office for Water (IOWater) and the Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) was represented through Eric Mino from EMWIS and Ramiro Martinez from the Euro-Mediterranean Network of Basin Organizations (MENBO), both members of the technical unit.

A second solution related to the **mainstreaming of the Water/Energy/Food Security alliance in policy and institutions in the Region** was introduced by Holger Hoff from the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI/PIK) and Hammou Laamrani from GIZ.

The debate that followed emphasized the complementarity and the convergence between these two solutions which respond to the challenges identified by the case studies presented.

In conclusion, it appeared necessary to strengthen the awareness of the Water/Energy/Food Security alliance in the White Paper, conceived as a tool to support decision making on the knowledge platform, through three pillars:

- *Developing data to generate a better understanding of the interdependencies between these three sectors in a context of climate change;*
- *Strengthening institutional coordination between these sectors in the area of planning and management;*
- *Accompanying countries in the implementation of tangible projects which respond to the challenges and principles of the alliance*

In the workshop's closing remarks, Mr Loïc Fauchon, Honorary President of the World Water Council underlined the components related to education and health in the Water/Energy/Food Security alliance.

Contact

Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (IME)

18/20 avenue Robert Schuman, 13002 Marseille, France

Tel : +33(0)4.91.59.87.77

Email : info@ime-eau.org

Website: www.ime-eau.org