

VII. Topical Studies

During the last meeting of the Steering Committee of the EMWIS (May 2004), we decided to develop more specific topics having an interest for the Mediterranean area in parallel to the five general topics of the EMWIS (Institutions, Documentation, Training, Research and Development, Data administration).

Four topics were selected to start:

- ☞ Use of nonconventional water resources (topic of the action plan of Turin)
- ☞ Interest of the EU Water Framework Directive for Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPC): identification of the topics of interest and transfers of good practises resulting from the European implementation towards the MPC.
- ☞ Management of the irrigation water (topic of the action plan of Turin)
- ☞ Integrated management of local drinking water supply, sanitation and sewage (topic of the Action plan of Turin).

For the three topics relating to the Action plan of Turin, bibliographical syntheses are under development and will be accompanied by presentations of concrete experiments on the ground.

A. Study on the WFD and the Mediterranean Partner Countries

For the EU Water Framework Directive we collected the opinion of the water directorates in order to identify the main topics of interest. A survey was carried out among the 10 Mediterranean Partner Countries non-member of the EU. This investigation was addressed to the water directorates of each country and to the members of the Mediterranean Network of the Basin Organisations. The table below summarises the answers obtained. A first analysis will be presented during the meeting on June 23 in Athens.

Country	Water Directorate	Basin Organisations	
<i>Algeria</i>		X	<i>ABH AHS ABH CSM</i>
<i>Egypt</i>	<i>Partial</i>	X	<i>AL-RASH EL-GHARBIA TOILETS BOURD</i>
<i>Israel</i>	X		
<i>Jordan</i>	X		
<i>Lebanon</i>	X		
<i>Morocco</i>	X	X	<i>TENSIFT</i>
<i>Palestine</i>	X		
<i>Syria</i>			
<i>Tunisia</i>	X		
<i>Turkey</i>	X		

B. Proposal for a new topic of study: Mediterranean islands

Cyprus, Italy and Malta propose to launch a new topical study related to water in the Mediterranean islands in order to highlight their specificities. A working paper will be proposed during the meeting on June 23 in Athens.