

MELIA

**“Mediterranean Dialogue
for Integrated Water Management”**

“Creating and nurturing the **MELIA Community of Practice (CoP)**: A strategic Coordination Action for the establishment of an Information and Knowledge Management, Sharing and Dissemination Platform for the IWRM in the Mediterranean Area – <http://www.meliaproject.eu>”

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Why MELIA ?

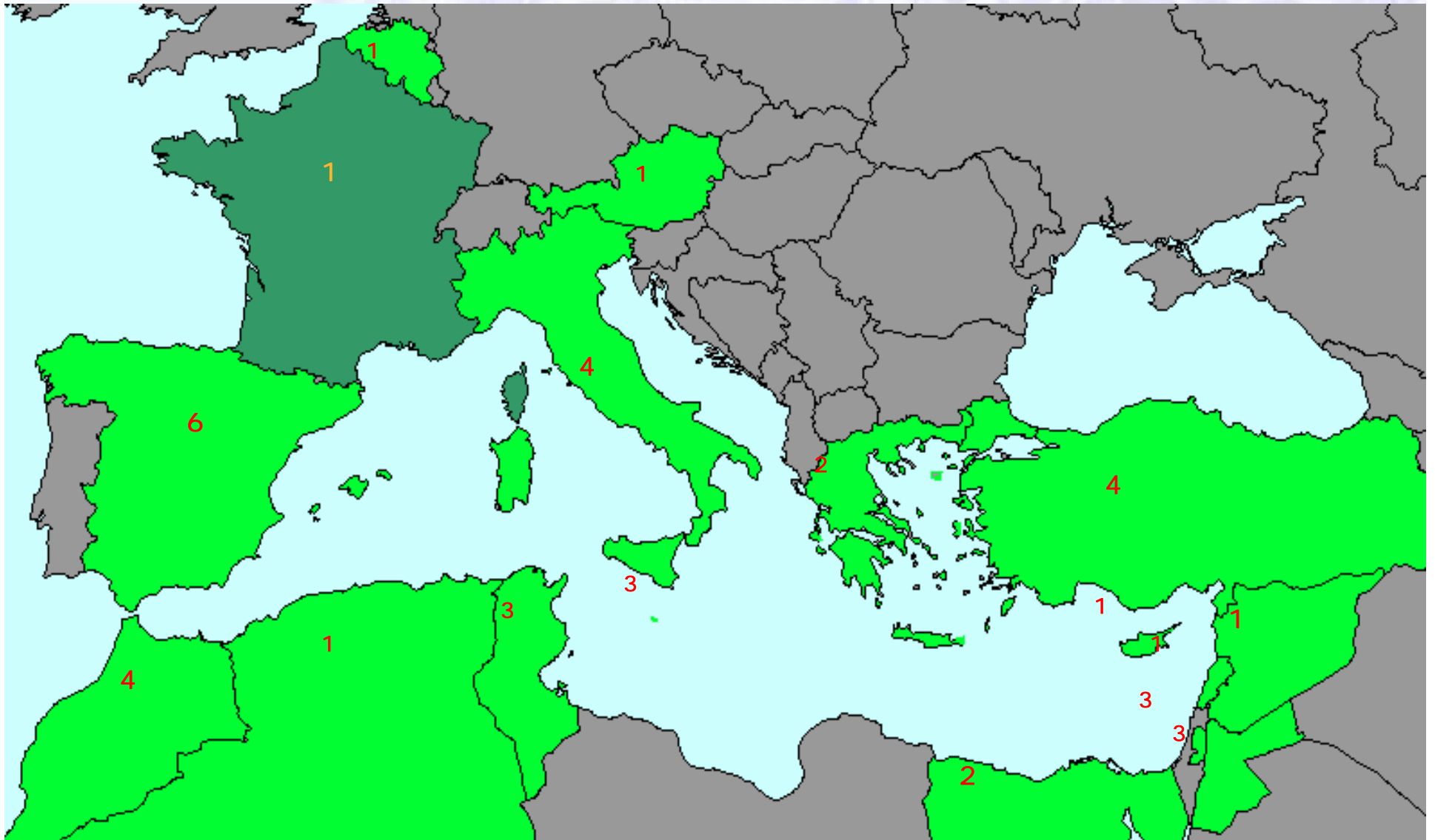
- ✓ MELIA aims at structuring an **open dialogue** between experts from both sides of the Mediterranean and among the key stakeholders concerned and affected by water use and management (scientists, professionals, decision makers, policy makers, water providers, media professionals, educators, citizens...) whose awareness on the issues should be raised by using appropriate dissemination instruments, language and content.
- ✓ This dialogue intends to create a **Community of Practice (MELIA CoP)** where water stakeholders can share knowledge, find consensus and propose new perspectives on the emerging needs of the different stakeholders (agriculture, industry, trade and tourism and urban development). This involves also looking beyond the physical aspects of water supply and sanitation.
- ✓ In this way MELIA is in the condition to build a **consensus**, to propose widely agreed solutions, and to promote the **convergence** of the **water policies** in the Euro-Mediterranean region on the basis of the **Water Framework Directive** recommendations.

The Partners

- ✓ **The partnership of MELIA has been structured in a way to include, on the one hand, stakeholders with experience in the scientific, technical and socio-economic sectors, experienced in past or on-going European, national or regional projects.**
- ✓ **Other stakeholders, such as administrations, basin management organisations, water suppliers to cities, industrial groups, agriculture water users, NGO with well known experience in daily management of water related issues, bring their deep knowledge about the current management systems, the expected demand and the possible baseline of the future conflicts.**

The Consortium

- The wide range of categories involved in MELIA and the governmental and intergovernmental status of some partners will help to reach and apply concrete results and will be effective on the problems related to water management in the territory. The structure of MELIA includes most of the relevant water stakeholders in the discussion of the issues related to the integrated and sustainable water management in the Mediterranean area.
- The MELIA Consortium is composed by **45** partners representing **17** countries from both the EU (Italy, Spain, France, Cyprus, Greece, Belgium, Malta, Austria) and the Mediterranean (Turkey, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine).



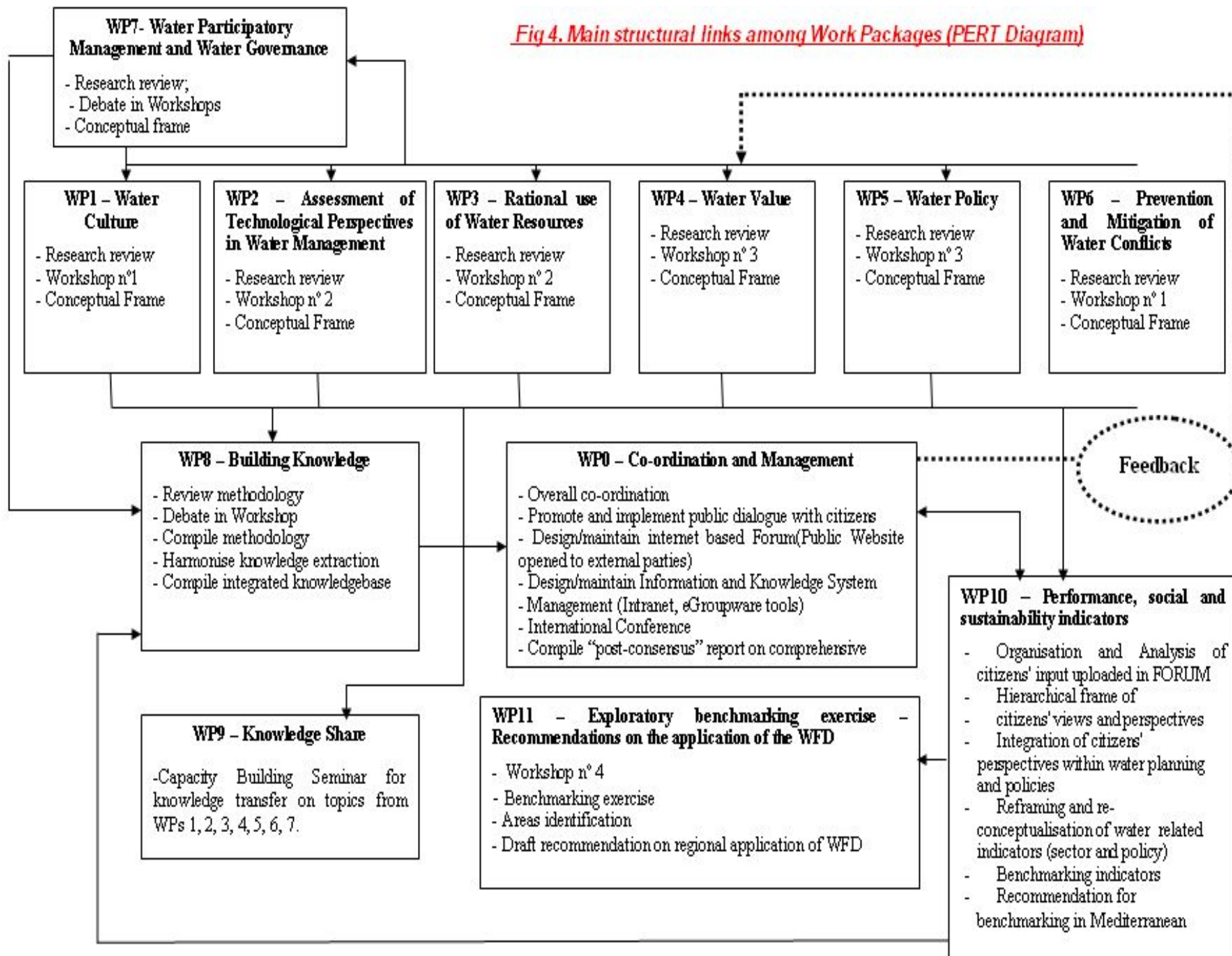
Main targets (I)

- **Building a knowledge base for integrated water resources management (IWRM) planning, based on integrating contributions from different perspectives, involving the wide spectrum of stakeholders and based on the general frame defined by EU Water Framework Directive.**
- **Propose participatory mechanisms and prevention tools to avoid competition in resources allocation between regions states and different waters users.**
- **Provide legislative and administrative bodies with criteria and arguments agreed in a consensual way by a wide representation of social, economic, scientific and political stakeholders from different countries, to support sustainable water policies and economy.**

Main targets (II)

- Provide the intellectual basis and the indicators to perform a **benchmarking exercise** of Integrated Water Resources Management in the Mediterranean area through the debate and conceptual frame made with the aim of defining indicators that need standards for the measurements of selected parameters common to Mediterranean countries within homogeneous context. These standards will help the implementation of future benchmarking in selected areas.
- Contribute to the building of a common frame and knowledge, and to the development of a common terminology and semantic and help water negotiations through Thematic Workshops.

Fig 4. Main structural links among Work Packages (PERT Diagram)



MELIA CoP

The *dissemination of the results of MELIA will be the most relevant and appreciable output*, in rising awareness at educational level, in research, administration and policy making.

- The activities' results will be made available and disseminated in the form of dedicated brochures, leaflets, pamphlets, videos and educational material, CD-ROMs, newsletters in *English, French and Arabic*, in order to promote and establish **continuous interactive dialogue** with citizens and private-public Institutions.

✓ A **context-oriented platform** will be first created to support spatially distributed Work Packages teams.

➤ All these concerns are reflected in <http://www.meliaproject.eu> whose main skeleton is based on a Thematic Work Packages structure which aims at a symbiosis of physical and virtual work environments.

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Thank you very much !

<http://www.meliaproject.eu>