



## Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions into Water Resources Development and Management in the Mediterranean Region

### Newsletter

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Issue No 10

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### Second Expert Consultation for the "Development of Gender Indicators" (Tunis, 22 - 24 July 2008)

The main purpose of the expert consultation was to develop a set of gender indicators based on field surveys undertaken in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia and the contributions of the experts participating to the meeting. The first Expert Consultation took place also in Tunisia in 2007 and its main purpose was to define the criteria and questionnaires for the field surveys.

The meeting was attended by some 20 participants and Mr. J.A. Sagardoy, GEWAMED Project Manager, was invited to participate as an expert in the subject.

The meeting was part of a Letter of Agreement between FAO and CAWTAR by means of which CAWTAR was responsible for organizing the field surveys, contract consultants to undertake the different studies and organize the expert consultations. The Letter of Agreement contains essentially 3 main phases:

1. Compilation of gender indicators on the bases of existing documentation.
2. Undertaking of field surveys in three countries (Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia) to identify the main constraints that women face in relation to the management of water resources.
3. Definition of the final list of indicators through the participation of experts.

The final purpose of the contract was to develop a set of gender indicators related to the management and development of water resources that could be used in the AQUASTAT database.

The meeting was opened by the Mr Faouzi Kechtid (FAO Representative of the Sub-regional Office) Ms. Donia Ben Romdane (CAWTAR) and Alia Gana (CNRS/LADYSS).

During the first day, the experts from Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia presented the results of the analysis of the existing documentation. In general, the existing documentation provides data on general aspects related to women development in the society or the development of the water resources in a given country, but very little information on the interactions between gender and water. During this first day, Mr. Sagardoy presented the GEWAMED indicators that were well received as a simple and practical approach.

During the second day, the field surveys carried out in the 3 mentioned countries were presented. These surveys were undertaken with the same methodology and questionnaires. The results were most interesting and revealing that the situation of women in the 3 countries suffer from the same type of problems but their intensity and relative importance was quite different. These questionnaires provided a good base for some of the gender indicators to be developed.

The last day was mostly dedicated to the preparation of the set of indicators to be proposed but some complementary presentations were also made. Among these presentations was the one of Mrs. Zohra Lili Chabaane about the TOT course undertaken in Kairouan by the AQUASTAT project in cooperation with GEWAMED and, during which, the subject of gender indicators received enough attention.

With the contributions of all participants and under the leadership of Mrs. Alia Gana, a final list of indicators was prepared. The indicators were grouped in some 13 categories and under each category some 3 to 6 indicators were proposed. This is a preliminary list that needs to



be revised and completed. Subsequently, each indicator needs the full definition of the terms used. Also the proposed indicators were differentiated as those where the information is likely to be available easily and others that will need field surveys or related studies for their determination.

The work undertaken during the expert consultation was important and very relevant to the difficult subject of gender indicators. It is believed that out of the expert consultation a rather comprehensive list of indicators has been developed.

As a follow up of the meeting, the consultants contracted by CAWTAR will complete the report and submit it to FAO. The possibilities for a follow phase to test the indicators proposed will be discussed in the near future and the representative of GEWAMED indicated his readiness to participate in such phase as the subject of indicators is very relevant to the GEWAMED project.



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## Gender & Water: Women's Access and Participation in Water Resources Management in Morocco July 28, 2008

In the framework of GEWAMED project and the partnership between the Moroccan Association for Solidarity and Development (AMSED), the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (MAI-B), and the Moroccan Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Maritime Fisheries, a debate on a long-ignored topic was started: the role of Moroccan women in the access and control of natural resources, including water.

To promote this subject, a study on "gender and access to water resources management in Morocco" was conducted by AMSED in two regions of southern Morocco, Ouarzazate and Taroudant. Both regions have a long tradition in water management. The study involved water users associations, agricultural water users associations and women's associations from both regions. The main aim was to contribute to accumulating knowledge and practices on gender and water, taking into account the specific agro-climatic and socio-economic and cultural conditions of the area.

To disseminate the results of the study, AMSED organized a one day workshop on July 28, 2008 in Ouarzazate with the presence of state institutions, development associations, women's associations, water users associations, and agricultural water users associations. Such meeting completed the results and recommendations of the regional seminar held on 20 June 2007 under the theme "Gender and Water: Improving Gender Mainstreaming in Integrated Water Resources Management in Morocco".

The programme of the meeting was very informative and instructive and it took place in two stages: the first focused on the presentation of the results of the study and its recommendations, and the second addressed the structure of the platform formed and its action plan for future years. The network created will be the focal point at national level for this topic. The participants attended workshops for exchanging information and experiences on initiatives undertaken to promote gender equality, and on the efforts made to encourage women's access to decision-making positions in water management associations at local level.

The meeting provided a series of recommendations including:

1. The need increase local stakeholders awareness on the concept of gender equality while respecting local cultures;
2. The need to involve all stakeholders in gender mainstreaming in integrated water resources management;
3. The need to disseminate information on the subject among all stakeholders in the field of water;
4. The need to take measures to stimulate associations and other stakeholders to mainstream gender aspects into policies and programmes in the water sector.



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The Andalusian Institute for Women of Spain (Instituto Andaluz de la Mujer) has been developing for years specific employment programmes for rural women with the main aim of contributing to local development and improving women's employment opportunities by helping them, at the same time, to reconcile work and family life. Communication and information are increasingly lacking in rural areas and this forces women to be more marginalized to the domestic field. In such a context, training has a crucial role, like in any development process, since it provides women with more and better employment opportunities, independence as well as personal growth.

For all these reasons, the Andalusian Institute for Women and the Foundation for the Development of the Agro-Food Sector (Fundación para el Desarrollo Agroalimentario) carried out a training project on ecological production entitled "ECOELLAS". The Project mainly aims at promoting and boosting the development of ecological agriculture by involving women both in the production and consumption process, and facilitating their access to the labour market.

This kind of agriculture largely contributes to generate a higher degree of sustainable development of rural villages and population both at local and global level. Its impact is more environment and human-friendly and the economic benefits are more than those provided by traditional agriculture. Such production system allows farmers to gain considerable profits from a small piece of land thus contributing to preserve the agricultural activity in the rural areas. Consequently, this system encourages a higher level of participation in agriculture and provides women with micro-enterprise development opportunities.

As far as training is concerned, the Project includes specific activities that enable women to receive education and training and to interact with other people thus encouraging the creation of new social networks.

The development of the training process is characterized by four axes or lines of action that allow the formulation of a global strategy of development. Awareness Days on the benefits obtained by producing and consuming ecological products have already been organized in five selected rural villages within the framework of the first axe. The second axe includes free training courses on ecological production organized in each selected village. In addition to the topics related to ecological production other issues have been covered, such as digital literacy, environmental awareness, and gender equality. Within axe no 3, trade exhibitions of ecological products have been organized in four selected places from January to March 2008.

Now that the project activities have been completed a follow up phase is being carried out to monitor and evaluate the degree of involvement of the women beneficiaries of the Project.

## Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook

The Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook is the outcome of joint planning, continued interest in gender and agriculture, and concerted efforts by the World Bank, FAO, and IFAD.

There are 16 modules covering themes of cross-cutting importance for agriculture with strong gender dimensions and specific subsectors in agriculture:

- Module 1: Gender and Food Security
- Module 2: Gender and Agricultural Livelihoods: Strengthening Governance
- Module 3: Gender and Rural Finance
- Module 4: Gender Issues in Land Policy and Administration
- Module 5: Gender and Agricultural Markets
- Module 6: Gender Mainstreaming in Agricultural Water Management
- Module 7: Gender in Agricultural Innovation and Education
- Module 8: Gender Issues in Agricultural Labour
- Module 9: Gender in Rural Infrastructure for Agricultural Livelihoods
- Module 10: Gender and Natural Resources Management
- Module 11: Gender and Crises: Implications for Agriculture
- Module 12: Gender in Crop Agriculture
- Module 13: Gender in Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Module 14: Gender and Livestock
- Module 15: Gender and Forestry
- Module 16: Gender Issues in Monitoring and Evaluation



Each module then contains three different sub-units: (1) A Module Overview gives a broad introduction to the topic and provides a summary of major development issues in the sector and rationale of looking at gender dimension; (2) Thematic Notes provide a brief and technically sound guide in gender integration in selected themes with lessons learned, guidelines, checklists, organizing principles, key questions, and key performance indicators; and (3) Innovative Activity Profiles describe the design and innovative features of recent and exciting projects and activities that have been implemented or are ongoing.

The purpose of the Sourcebook is to provide an up-to-date understanding of gender issues and a rich compilation of compelling evidence of good practices and lessons learned to guide practitioners and technical staff in addressing gender issues and integrating gender-responsive actions in the design and implementation of agricultural projects and programs.

It focuses on agricultural livelihoods, with agriculture defined broadly as "agriculture, forestry, fisheries, livestock, land and water, agro-industries, and environment," following the FAO definition. The Sourcebook is grounded in the notion of agriculture's central role in providing rural livelihoods, food security, and broad-based poverty reduction. Besides the agriculture sector, the Sourcebook also focuses both on non-agriculture specific sectors, such as rural finance, rural infrastructure, and rural labour with a reference to agriculture-driven activities, and on social protection policies.

The contents of the Sourcebook are assembled from across all the geographic regions, with inputs from the experiences of the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Inter- American Development Bank, and many other development organizations.

Among the technical contributions is Mr. J. A. Sagardoy's module 6 on Gender Mainstreaming in Agricultural Water Management. This overview first analyzes the main gender issues that tend to arise in AWM (Agriculture Water management) projects and that need to be addressed or solved. It then presents a number of good practices based on the experience and lessons of gender-equitable AWM projects and policies. Two Thematic Notes and two Innovative Activity Profiles examine the interface between AWM and gender issues in greater detail.

Copies of the book can be ordered at the Word Bank section on Publications at the cost of US \$ 45.00

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## Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water, 29 October 2008, in Jordan and GEWAMED Participation

The 5th Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and South-Eastern European Countries took place from 21 to 22 July 2008 in Cavouri - Athens, Greece and during the conference the recommendations addressed to the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference to be held in Jordan in October 2008 were prepared.

During the Directors' Conference 4 draft Themes papers for the Ministerial Conference were presented, covering the following topics:

- Water Governance in the Mediterranean,
- Integrating the Climate Change Dimension into Water Resources Management in the Mediterranean,
- Optimizing Water Financing,
- Water Demand Management and Efficiency and Non-Conventional Water Resources.

The conclusions and recommendations of the Water Directors' meeting covered the topics mentioned above but also additional considerations were made. In particular, the need for considering water culture as a cross cutting issue was stressed. To ensure that a future water strategy for the Mediterranean will be widely accepted, the Water Directors recommended that any regional action necessary to implement the strategy includes preliminary activities to raise the level of awareness related to these four Themes among national stakeholders.

As part of this approach the GEWAMED project activities and results will be presented at the Mediterranean Civil Society Meeting organised on the 28th of October 2008 on the occasion



of the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water that will take place one day after, on the 29th of October, at the Dead Sea, Jordan.

The aim of the civil society meeting is to provide to the Ministers concrete proposals on their expectations from and effective contribution to:

- the ongoing and future processes, programmes and project implementation,
- the renewed long-term strategy for water in the Region.

The GEWAMED project will be presented during the session dedicated to “Advancing Effective Water Governance” by Ms. Barbara Tomassini from MIO-ECSDE.

A Statement will be the outcome of the civil society meeting which will be presented to the Ministerial Conference on Water on the following day.



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The Division for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) jointly with the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity development is organizing an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Gender Disaggregated Data in Water and Sanitation at the UN Headquarters in New York, on 1-2 December 2008. UNDESA will invite a small number of a mix of selected experts with in-depth knowledge on gender statistics in the above-mentioned sectors.

The objectives of the Meeting will be the following:

- Identify factors affecting gender equality in terms of the use of improved water supply systems, the use of improved sanitation facilities, and access to financial resources as well as to land rights and water for productive use;
- Measure the negative social and economic impacts of the inability to use improved water and sanitation facilities on women/girls;
- Compile existing statistics on women’s contribution to the water and sanitation sectors, identify guidelines and recommendations for collecting and disseminating data in these sectors, and examine the main existing data collection mechanisms;
- Analyse the use or the lack of existing training material/resources and their effectiveness with a view to later develop a comprehensive gender analysis, gender budget initiatives and gender-mainstreaming training in the water and sanitation sector;
- Identify the practices and institutional and policy changes needed to facilitate the development of institutional capacity development programmes at national level highlighting a few case studies of best practices;
- Initiate a process to facilitate the development of institutional capacity development programmes, including the provision of adequate training and awareness raising materials, for senior managers, officials, decision makers and technical staff within water resources institutions, engineering colleges, national governments and finance and planning departments, with the long-term goal of ensuring that gender policies and strategies are reflected in recruitment, training programmes, and mainstreamed into policy, and
- Identify the infrastructure and resources needed to monitor and measure progress of women’s access to water and sanitation, at various spatial scales and over time.

## Future Events

### Workshop on the neglect of gender equality in conservation and sustainable development in Europe, Barcelona, 6 October 2008

The workshop is being organized by the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA) in co-operation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (WOCAN) and the European biodiversity research network (ALTER-Net).



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It will take place on 6 October 2008 during Session no 762 of the IUCN World Congress, from 2.30 to 4.00pm. The opening session will focus on presentation of research about the situation and the discussion of explanations. Thereafter, the reasons why gender equality in conservation and sustainable development is ignored also in Europe will be examined. Finally, the discussion will focus on what can be done.

### **National workshop on rural women and water management in Tunisia and climate change, Tunis, 24 October 2008.**

The Center of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR) in collaboration with the Ministry of Women, Family, the Elderly and Children's Affairs are organising a national workshop on the occasion of the International Women's Day.

The workshop will focus on two main themes: rural women and water management in Tunisia and climate change. Experts, decision-makers, universities, researchers, civil society, NGOs, young researchers will be invited and will contribute to the national workshop.

The workshop will take place on 24 October 2008 at TBD Hotel in Tunis, Tunisia.

### **GWA's TOT Courses in Gender and Water, Morocco, 27 Oct-2 Nov 2008, and Jordan, 1-7 November 2008.**

The Gender and Water Alliance is organizing in close coordination with related organizations two regional Training of Trainers courses in Gender and Water.

The first course will be held from 27 October to 2 November 2008 (7 days) at the premises of the Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II in Rabat, Morocco, and it is specifically designed for Francophone Arab countries.

The second course will be held from 1 to 7 November 2008 (7 days) with The Queen Zein Al Sharaf Institute for Development (ZENID) as hosting organization in Amman, Jordan, and it is organized in collaboration with IDRC-WaDImena and possibly AWARENET.

This course will be mainly in Arabic but a translator will be available for translation Arabic/English v.v.

The main objective of these ToT workshops is to increase the number of capable trainers and to strengthen the capacity of trainers to effectively train others in the principles of Gender and Water and to mainstream gender in IWRM planning and implementation in the Arab and Francophone Arab Regions.



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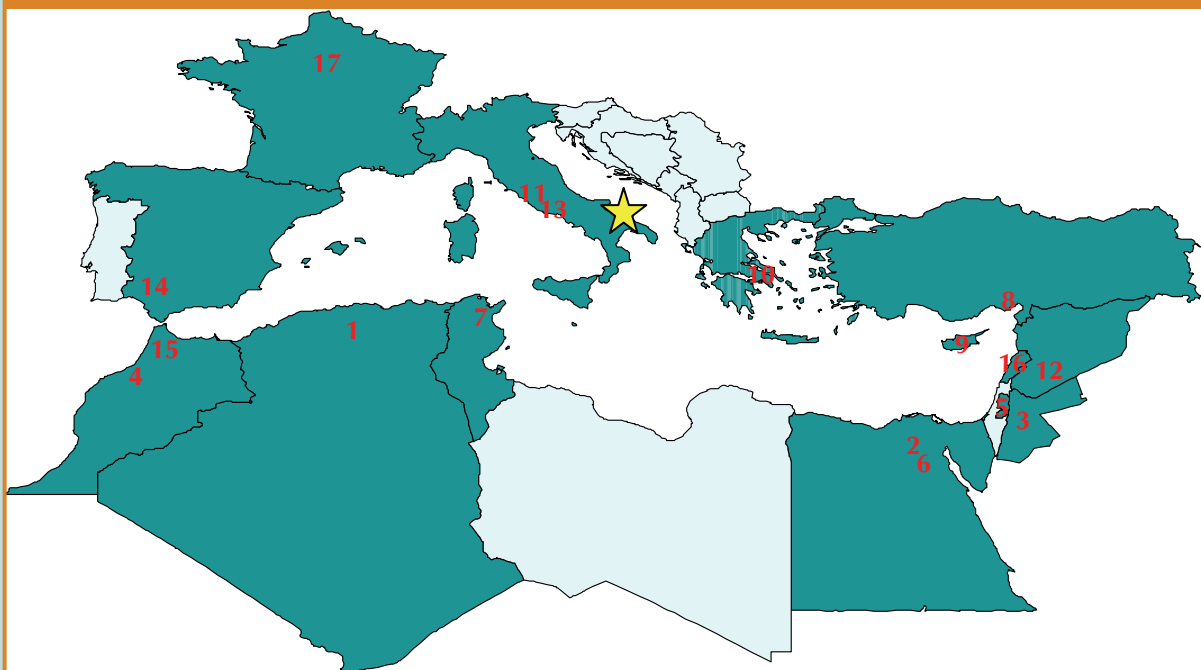
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**Coordinator:**

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## Partners:

- 1 Centre de Recherche en Économie Appliquée pour le Développement (CREAD), ALGERIA
- 2 Strategic Research Unit-National Water Research Center, (SRU-NWRC), EGYPT
- 3 Faculty of Agriculture, University of Jordan (UJ-FA), JORDAN
- 4 Association Marocaine de Solidarité et de Développement (AMSED), MOROCCO
- 5 Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committee (PARC), PALESTINE
- 6 Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), EGYPT
- 7 The Center of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR), TUNISIA
- 8 Çukurova University, Faculty of Agriculture (CUKUR), TURKEY
- 9 Agriculture Research Institute (ARI), CYPRUS
- 10 Mediterranean Office for Environment, Cultural and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), GREECE
- 11 Osservatorio Nazionale per l'Imprenditoria ed il Lavoro Femminile in Agricoltura (ONILFA), ITALY
- 12 General Commission for Scientific Agricultural Research-Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform (GCSAR), SYRIA
- 13 International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage-Italian Committee (ITAL-ICID), ITALY
- 14 Instituto Andaluz de la Mujer - Junta de Andalucía (IAM-JA), SPAIN
- 15 African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD), MOROCCO
- 16 René Moawad Foundation (RMF), LEBANON
- 17 Programme Solidarité Eau (pS-Eau), FRANCE

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