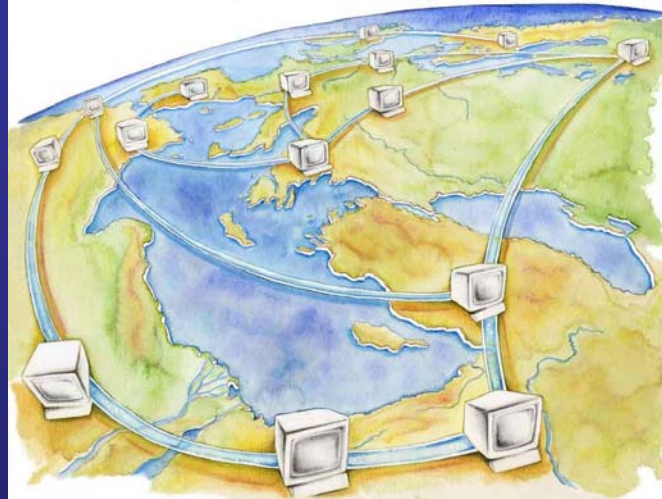


SYSTEME EURO-MEDITERRANEEN D'INFORMATION SUR
LES SAVOIR-FAIRE DANS LE DOMAINE DE L'EAU

SEMIDE
EMWIS

EURO-MEDITERRANEAN INFORMATION SYSTEM ON
KNOW-HOW IN THE WATER SECTOR



**Feasibility Study on the Mediterranean
Water Observation Mechanism
Experts Workshop
Status in Jordan**

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BACKGROUND

Based on the Euro Mediterranean Water Directors agreement to study the objectives and the feasibility of creating within EMWIS a Water Observation Mechanism WOM for monitoring the indicators towards the achievement of the MDG and implementation of the water component of MSSD

Jordan was selected as one of the pilot countries to carry out the first step of feasibility studies on the WOM

The Feasibility Study aimed

- Identifying expectations and needs
- Identify information products, data collection and reporting processes

Outcome of the Study

A Feasibility Report that includes

- Summary assessment of the organizations managing water data at national level.
- Analysis of the information production processes in water sector.
- Analysis of the opinions and expectations of the decision makers on the mechanism

Key Stakeholders

Ministry of Water and Irrigation MWI; The official body responsible for the overall planning, management and monitoring of the water sector.

MWI embraces two most important entities dealing with water:

- **Water Authority of Jordan WAJ: in charge of water and sewerage systems**
- **Jordan Valley Authority JVA: responsible for socio-economic development of the Jordan rift valley, including water development and distribution for irrigation**

Both MWI, WAJ and JVA are considered the main players in the water sector

Other Stakeholders

Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation MoPIC

Ministry of Agriculture MOA

Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority ASEZA

United Nations Development Programme UNDP

European Union EU

Ministry of Environment MOE

Ministry of Health MOH

Water Authority of Jordan WAJ Labs

Environment and Monitoring Research Central Unit EMARCU

Water and Environment Research and Study Center WERSC

National Information and Technology Center NITC

Status of NWIS

- MWI has recently started to prepare for moving the existing oracle database to a web based distributed Water Information System to serve MWI, WAJ and JVA (which includes remote sites).
- When Web based Information System is implemented, the bulk of information would be ready for sharing with external stakeholders, subject to needs & info classes.
- MWI has also Set up EMWIS web site dedicated to share information related to the five EMWIS water related priority topics in the fields of Institutions, Research and Development, Documentation, Training and Data Administration

Status of NWIS

- Yellow pages (Who is doing What in the water sector) has been updated in 2006/07 together with the catalogue of water information sources and is currently being updated.
- MWI disseminated a Memo of Understanding for sharing information around EMWIS topics and ensuring access and continuous sustainable update of Jordan's EMWIS NFP Website.

The Legal Framework - NWIS

Based on the feasibility study for the establishment of a National Water Information System NWIS conducted in June 2005, it was recommended to;

➤ NITC to host and manage NWIS including operation and maintenance and management of the database and website computers.

➤ MWI to coordinate the exchange of water information

NITC has the mandate for the establishment and management of integrated information system in Jordan as per the temp law no 81 for 2003

Consensus of all stakeholders still needs to be made including approval of MWI

Problems Linked to water information access

➤ **On Data:** confidentiality of data, lack of standard data exchange formats, and problems in data readiness and reliability because of lack of qualified staff;

On Systems: old computers systems and outdated software packages;

On Management; lack of standard operating procedures, unclear roles and responsibilities and the absence of an NWIS management unit;

➤ **Lack of policies for data sharing, and access.**

Lack of commitment and political decision to establish NWIS due to lack of stakeholders' knowledge of the benefits that they can reap from NWIS.

Problems linked to Dissemination & Exploitation

- Absence of political decision to establish NWIS,
- lack of financial resources,
- and absence of sensitivity classification for data to define the data types that can be shared.

NWIS Benefits

According to MWI:

- Help provide coherent reliable water related data and information for monitoring, management and planning of the water sector -> informed planning decisions.
- Improve the information flows between the water related institutions on the basis of recognized standards.
- Facilitate the provision of data relevant to local and international bodies on the basis of information classes.

NWIS Benefits

- Eradicate data redundancy, duplication and multiple data sources.
- Avoiding the costs of bad decisions based on multiple unreliable data sources.
- Saving of sector leadership's time.
- Saving the cost of processing & maintaining redundant data stores.
- Increasing transparency of information.
- Monitoring and controlling data quality and integrity.

Main Sources of Water Info

- **National Water Master Plan NWMP**
- **Ministry of Water and Irrigation Action Plan 2002-2011**
- **Jordan Water policies and Strategies**
- **Water Authority of Jordan WAJ Strategic Plan 2007-2012**
- **JVA Strategic Plan 2003-2008**
- **National Agenda 2006-2015**
- **National Strategy for Agricultural Development 2000-2010**
- **Jordan in Numbers (Dept. of Statistics)**

Expectations of Stakeholders

- Establishment of WOM is important Data – with reservation on data sharing related to political situation in the region
- Agreement of all Stakeholders on importance of all functionalities and assignments listed;
 - Supporting the organization and development of NWIS
 - Strengthening int'l cooperation bet med countries
 - Facilitate the production and the collection of comparable information at regional level
 - Support the evaluation, improvement, production and dissemination of information at regional level.

Expectations of Stakeholders

- Mechanism should cover all Euromed Countries
- Most important topics that should be dealt with in the mechanism are:
 - Sanitation
 - Drinking water supply and health

Expectations of Stakeholders

➤ WOM is thought to be important for the following groups

- International organizations: financing and donor agencies.
- Civil society organizations: research centers and universities.
- Stakeholders in water resource management at the national level: ministries responsible for environment, water mgt, and water and wastewater operation.
- Cooperation organizations intervening in the water resource management: ASEZA and JVA

Thank You