

**SEMIDE**  
**EMWIS**

# SEMIDE

<http://www.semide.org>

Système Euro-  
Méditerranéen  
d'information sur les  
savoir-faire dans le  
domaine de l'Eau

MEDA Water



# EMWIS

<http://www.emwis.org>

Euro-Mediterranean  
Information System  
on know how in the  
water sector

النظام الأورو- متوسطي للإعلام  
حول المعرفة في ميدان المياه

**Eric Mino**  
**EMWIS Technical Unit**

EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERSHIP





## EMWIS CHARACTERISTICS

EMWIS is  
an Euro-Mediterranean system of  
shared and approved  
information on know-how in the water  
sector

# **Second phase: enhancing and consolidating the achievements (2003-2006)**



- 1. Maintaining a strong co-ordination with political structures**
- 2. Reinforcing the NFPs**
- 3. Expansion and development of services**
- 4. Review of the technical architecture (XML based)**
- 5. Operating information existing services**
- 6. Fostering the promotion of the system**
- 7. Development of topical activities**
- 8. Information clearing house for International actions:**
  - 1. E.C. MEDA – Water programme**
  - 2. MED component of the EU water initiative**
- 9. Liaison with international initiatives**



# 1. Co-ordination activities

## Overview and status

- **Annual Steering Committee meetings**
  - May 2004, Malta
  - June 2005, Athens side by side with Med-EUWI meeting and MCSD of UNEP-MAP
  - May 2006, Nice
  - November 2006, Athens
- **Annual Coordination Committee meetings**
  - July 2004, Rabat
  - Sept 2005, Amman
  - June 2006, Algiers
- **Liaison with the partner countries, the European Commission, the main international initiatives**
- **Technical Unit co-ordination**
  - Mid term report delivered in June 2005
  - Annual report delivered to the EC in January 2006
- **Conference of the 35 Euromed Water Director Generals**
  - 24-25 November 2005, Rome
  - 6-7 November 2006, Athens

# 2. Reinforcing NFPs

## Status overview (1/2)



- **Annual training seminars for data managers**
  - November 2004, Madrid
  - November 2006, Madrid (water glossaries)
- **Annual training seminars for IT managers**
  - March 2005, Sophia Antipolis
  - September 2006, Sophia Antipolis (New EMWIS portal tool kit)
- **Remote and ad-hoc support**
  - On request
- **Technical and financial feasibility studies of National Water Information Systems**
  - Final report delivered in January 2006



# 2. Reinforcing NFPs

## Status overview (2/2)

- **Examples of NFP good practices** (available online)
  - NFP workprogrammes,
  - Promotion: brochures and seminars,
  - Metadata management for web sites
  - User surveys
  - Partnership agreements
- **Development of work programme for each NFP**
  - Templates (English and French) sent to the NFP
- **Management of direct financial aid**
  - Investment costs (up to 10 000€ per Med Country):
    - International call for tenders published end 2004, evaluation 2005-01-05
    - Equipment delivered for 11 countries, including Technical Unit
  - Web site translation costs (up to 8 000€):
    - See table
  - Running costs for local services (promotion, local training, local technical assistance - up to 10000 Euros per year)
    - See table

# 2. Reinforcing NFPs

## Local services requested and work programmes



Items	DZ	CY	EG	IL	JO	LB	MT	MA	PS	SY	TN	TR
Equipment	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙		⊙	⊙
Work programme defined	⊙	⊙		⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙		⊙	⊙
National EMWIS leaflet	✍	⊙			✍			x	x			
Organisation of promotional meeting	✍	✍			x	⊙		⊙	✍			⊙
Internet access	⊙				⊙				x			
Web hosting	x											
Training		x			⊙	x		✍	x		x	
Technical assistance: web development		x		x	x		x	x	✍		✍	
Technical assistance: content development				✍							x	
Survey of user needs / satisfaction	x	✍			x		x					
Content translation		✍		✍	x	✍	x	✍	x		⊙	✍

⊙: Implemented - ✍ : Partly implemented - x : Requested but not yet implemented



# 3. Expansion and development of services

## Overview & Status

- **Integration of the Arabic language for international access**
  - Monthly news flash produced in Arabic
  - Arabic access included in the new web portal
- **Sharing calendars of events**
  - Based on the meta-data to be defined with NFPs
  - Tested and prototyped with a small group of NFPs
  - Integrated into the new web portal
- **Development of a Water meta-crawler**
  - Specifications defined
  - Simple version integrated in the new web portal (limited to networked websites, not multilingual)
  - Requires additional software components from ALMA project presented at the Coordination Committee in Sept'05
- **Other services:**
  - Multilingual water thesaurus (incl. Analysis of existing water glossaries)
  - Mediterranean water projects database





# 4. Review of the technical architecture

## Overview / Status

- **Improving flexibility:**
  - Publication of same content on several web sites
  - Better integration of heterogeneous resources
  - Better decentralised management of content
  - Common structures for content using XML
- **Main components agreed with NFP:**
  - Common meta-data
  - Multilingual Water Thesaurus
  - Overall technical architecture
- **New technological platform for the Technical Unit**
  - Web Content Management System developed for the European Environment Agency also used by the SMAP-RMSU
  - Open Source software
  - The solution will include a web portal builder for NFP or other organisations
  - The portal will be multilingual: Arabic, English and French. But open to other languages



# 5. Animation and operation of information services

## Overview & Status

- **Operation of current services**
  - On going
- **Re-design of services**
  - [See new web portal](#)
- **Up-dating and extending of the thematic directory**
  - Updating and consultation application improved
- **New thematic forums**
  - Water glossaries, satellite images, etc.
- **Monthly eNews Flash in Arabic (76 English (5898) and French (2479))**
  - On going

**SEMIDE EMWIS** النظام المعلوماتي الأورومتوسطي للمعرفة في مجال المياه

النشرة الثامنة والعشرون، أكتوبر 2005

أعدت هذه النشرة من طرف الوحدة التقنية لسميد بدعم من OIEAU و CEDEX, SOGESID [المفوضية الأوروبية](#)

تعذر الرؤية؟ [اضغط هنا](#)

في هذا العدد 28

**الإفتاحية:**

1- المؤتمر الأورومتوسطي لمديري المياه

**مختصرات:**

2- المعلومات حول المياه في لبنان  
3- المفوضية الأوروبية تمنح 71 مليون يورو إلى 89 مشروع ابتكار في 17 دولة  
4- المفوضية الأوروبية تمويل مشروع لتتبع وترصد الموارد المائية  
5- فرنسا: نحو انسجام و فاعلية الأنشطة الدولية  
6- الجزائر: برنامج لإنجاز وحدات لتحلية المياه  
7- المغرب: تغطية تزويد الدار البيضاء بالمياه الصالحة للشرب قبل حلول 2009  
8- هولندا: قطاع المياه يرحب بمشاريع تمويل جديدة

# Websites of active NFPs



	CY	DZ	ES	EG	FR	GR	IL	IT	JO	LB	MA	MT	PS	PT	SY	TN	TR
<b>Web sites</b>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
<b>Hosted by TU</b>	X						X		X			X	X				
<b>Thematic Directory</b>	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X
<b>Organisation main site</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
<b>Link from main site</b>	X	X	X		X			X	X		X	X				X	X
<b>Other National portal</b>		X					X										

# Content of NFP websites



(May 2006)

	CY	DZ	ES	FR	GR	IL	IT	JO	LB	MA	MT	PS	PT	TN	TR
<b>Institutions</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Documentation</b>	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Training</b>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
<b>R&amp;D</b>	X		X	X	X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X
<b>Data management</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X			X	
<b>Legislation</b>	X	X	X	X	X	x	X		x	X	X	X			
<b>Context</b>								X	X			X	X	X	X
<b>News</b>	X	X	X	X			X	X			X			X	

Web sites for JO and PS are current under redevelopment

# Content of NFP websites 2/2



(June 2006)

	CY	DZ	ES	FR	GR	IL	IT	JO	LB	MA	MT	PS	PT	TN	TR
Last update	CT	CT	CT	CT	11/ 04	09/ 02	CT	03/ 01	12/ 02	05/ 06	08/ 05	11/ 02		CT	
Access in EN	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Access in FR		X		X					X	X				X	
Other language	GR	AR	ES		GR		IT						PT	AR	
Organisation main site	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X		X

CT = Continuously updated

- When updating, make sure the main publication date is updated
- National websites must be updated at least once a year



# New developments on NFP websites

- **Websites redesigned:**
  - Morocco, Turkey, Italy, Spain (2004)
- **New sections**
  - Tunisia: launch of the English and Arabic versions
  - Lebanon: Launch of the Arabic version
  - Algeria, Cyprus, Malta and France
- **New contents prepared but not yet published**
  - Lebanon: water legislation
  - Israel: water context
- **On going process of redesign of national websites:**
  - Jordan and Palestine



# EMWIS Thematic Directory

*Content online*

	CY	DZ	ES	FR	IL	LB	IT	JO	MA	TN	TU
<b>Organisations</b>	52	2	405	379	1	34	94	27	12	25	1536
<b>Contacts</b>	8	2	367	405	0	35	94	58	1	18	274
<b>Info Sources</b>	0	0	1	0	0	0	11 3	41	0	15	135

➤ **NFP can update online their records**

(login and password can be requested from the Technical Unit)



# 6. Fostering the promotion of the system

## Overview & Status (1/2)

- **Definition of a promotion plan**
- **Electronic marketing**
  - eFlash, cross-links, directories, crawlers
- **Developing promotional media**
  - Updated brochures in Arabic, English and French
  - Brochures files available for customisation by NFP
  - **EMWIS design rules and EC visibility guidelines available for national products**
- **Press releases and articles for the specialised magazines**
  - Press releases for Promotion events and Steering Committee meetings





# 6. Fostering the promotion of the system

## Overview & Status (2/2)

- **National promotion seminar held**
  - Cyprus, October 2004
  - Rabat, April 2005
  - Beirut, November 2005
  - Ankara, December 2005
  - Algeria, 26 June 2006
- **National promotion seminar planned**
  - Cyprus, October 2006
  - Jordan, 2006 – to be confirmed
  - Palestine, 2006 – to be confirmed
  - Tunisia, 2006 – to be confirmed
- **Taking part in national and international events**
  - EMPOWER symposium, 2005
  - World water forum, March 2006
  - Balkan Water Information Symposium, May 2006



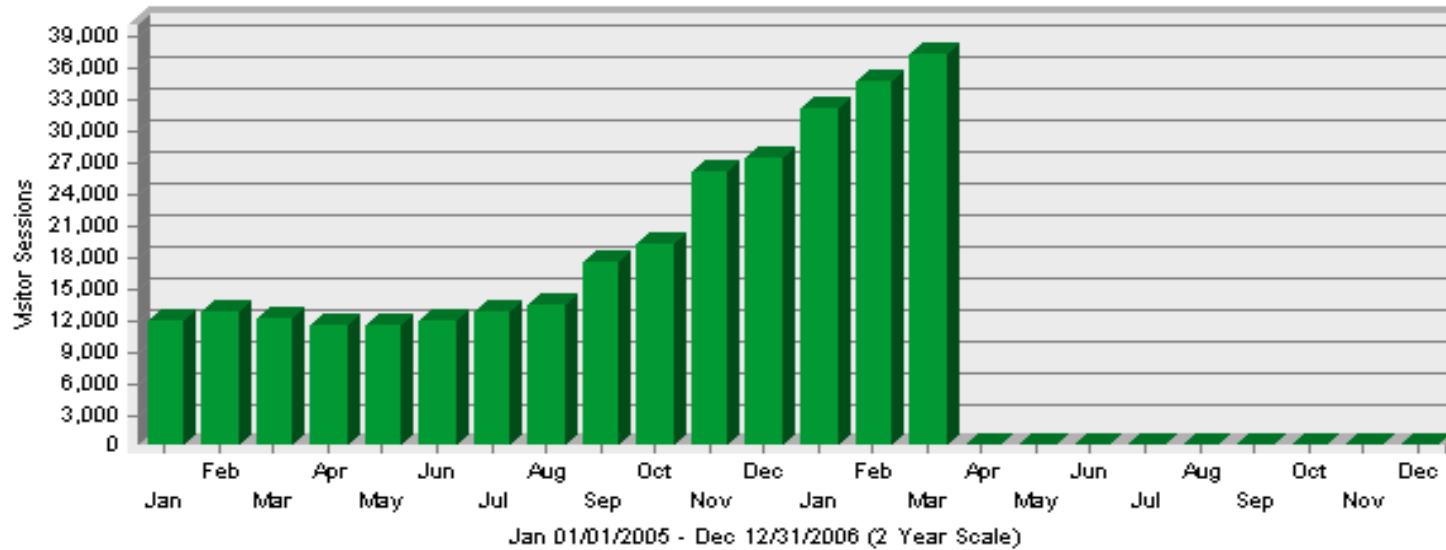
# Visibility on Internet search engines

- **When searching for « water mediterranean »; EMWIS is always ranked on the top 10:**
  - **2<sup>nd</sup> on Google**
  - **2<sup>nd</sup> on AOL**
  - **8th on Altavista**
  - **9th on Yahoo**
  - **9th and 10th on MSN**
  
- **The challenge is to maintain it while migrating to the new web portal**



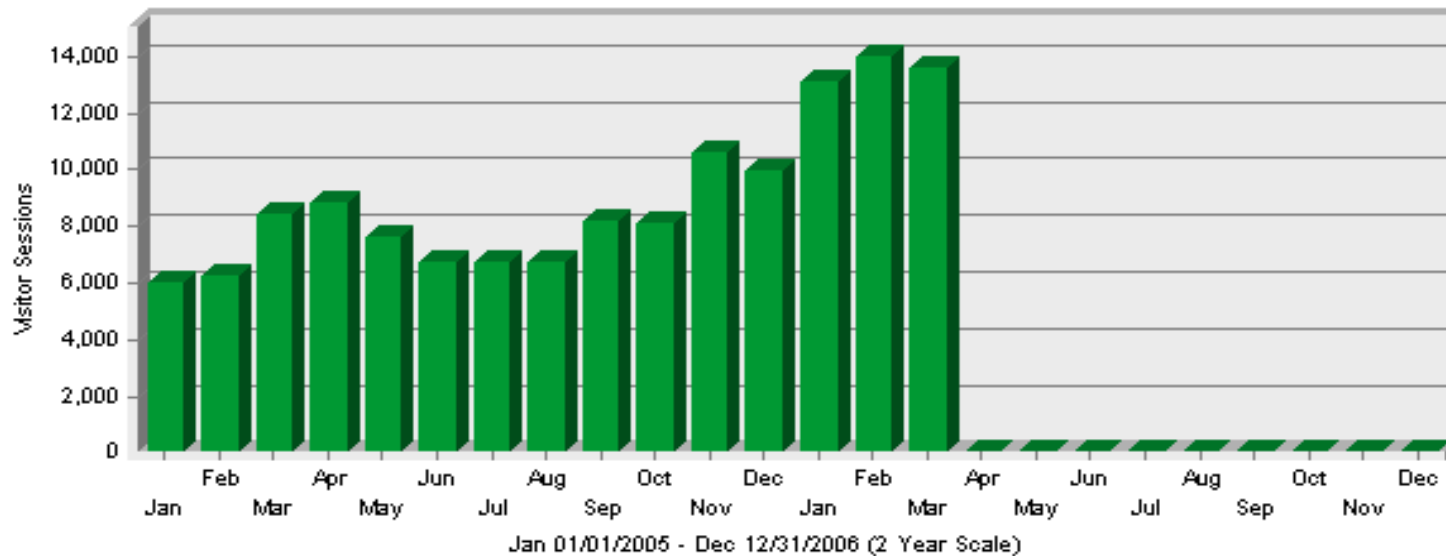
# Web statistics

**Visitor Sessions**



[www.emwis.org](http://www.emwis.org)

**Visitor Sessions**



[www.semide.org](http://www.semide.org)

# 7. Development of topical activities



## Overview & status

Selected topics	Status
<p><b>EU Water Framework Directive</b> International Office of Water</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completed</li> <li>➤ Presented to the EuroMed Water Directors</li> <li>➤ Inputs for the Joint Process WFD/Med EUWI</li> </ul>
<p><b>Use of non-conventional water resources</b> CEDEX</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Country Survey through the NFPs</li> <li>➤ Analysis of country replies and potential inputs from MEDA-Water projects</li> </ul>
<p><b>Irrigation water management</b> IMIDA and FENACOR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Draft final report delivered</li> </ul>
<p><b>Integrated water management at local level</b> SOGESID</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completed</li> <li>➤ Presented to the EuroMed Water Directors</li> <li>➤ National reports on the new EMWIS web portal</li> </ul>

# 8. Information clearing house for MEDA-Water



## Overview

- **Dissemination of project findings**
  - E-flash in Arabic, English and French (about 6000 subscribers)
  - Presentation of the programme and projects on EMWIS website
  - Presentation during EMWIS conferences
  - Information to EMWIS NFP
  - Publication of results in electronic format
  - Diary of events
- **Support for projects**
  - Identification of contact persons: projects, Water Directors, Water Facilitators, etc.
  - Coordination among projects
  - Electronic discussion forum, mailing lists: Exchange of information and know-how from projects
  - Access to existing information resources (e.g. water legislation)

# 8. Information clearing house for EU Water activities Status



- **EMWIS new web sections on initiatives**
  - EU: MEDA-Water, Med-EUWI, INCO-MED, LIFE, MEDSTAT, SMAP
- **MEDA-Water Programme**
  - Coordination with the Monitoring and Support Unit
- **MEDA-Water projects**
  - EMWIS National seminars
  - Coordination Committee seminars
  - To be presented on NFP websites
- **International water projects database:**
  - Water projects funded by the EU in MPC
  - To be completed with NFP

# 9. Liaison with international initiatives



## Overview & Status

- **Co-ordination of activities and agreement preparation**
  - **Mediterranean Water Institute: agreement to be extended for the MEDA-Water RMSU**
  - **Med-EUWI**
    - MoU agreed
    - Groundwater working group of the Joint Process using EMWIS as a facilitating platform
  - **Global Water Partnership Med**
    - EMWIS membership to be validated at the next EMWIS Steering Committee meeting
  - **International Network of Basin Organisations (Med network)**
    - Agreement renewed in 2005
  - **SMAP-RMS (APAT, IT)**
    - Agreement signed for the provision of information the water section of the SMAP clearing house
  - **EXACT – water WG of the Middle-East Peace process**
    - EMWIS took part in the last EXACT meeting, Brussels, December 2005
    - Good practice analysis, cross-references on web sites
  - **European Environment Agency (web portal technology, thesaurus, water monitoring)**
    - First meeting planned 7 June 2006
  - **FAO, IPTRID**
    - Discussion on the future EMWIS technical architecture
- **Other relevant initiatives:**
  - **BALWOIS: involvement of Balkan countries**
  - **The Blue Plan and MEDSTAT environment project: water observation mechanism**



# **Milestones**

## **till end-November 2006**

- **Launch of the feasibility study of the regional water observation mechanism**
  - **Draft ToR validated**
  - **Voluntary countries for the 1st phase of the study**
  - **Waiting for the EC administrative green light**
- **Ensuring 2007-2010 financial support**
  - **Full independent evaluation of EMWIS and its NFP**
  - **Declaration of interest from Water Directors to the EC**
- **Euro-med water directors conference**
  - **Athens, 6-7 November 2006**





# ***Comments and Questions***

