

Elaboration of the Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWM)



**Presented by
Spain and Greece**

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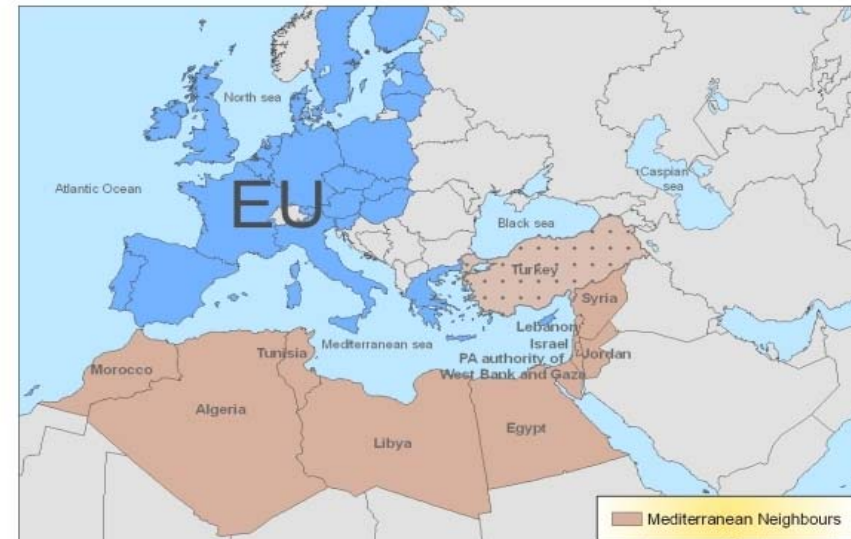
STRATEGY FOR WATER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

22 December 2008, Jordan

*Declaration process: Union for the Mediterranean:
Declaration of the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water*



**Ministers agreed on the need to define
a Long Term Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean**



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Guidelines for the development of the Strategy will be based on:

a) *Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)*



b) *The experience of regional, national and local institutions*

c) *Lessons learnt from best practices on water resources management*



It should also respond to MDGs, WSSD Targets, Barcelona Protocols, etc

The **four Theme Papers** elaborated for the Jordan Ministerial Conference on Water provide valid background

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➤ *Backgrounds*

One of the seven priorities of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) that was adopted in 14th Conference in Portoroz, Slovenia (8-11 November 2005):



- *“Improving integrated water resources and water demand management”*

Objectives

- Stabilize water demand through the reduction of water losses and the wasteful use of water (a reduction in demand in the North and controlled increases in the South and the East) and increase the added value per m³ of water used.
- Promote the integrated management of watersheds, including surface and groundwater; and ecosystems, and foster de-pollution objectives.
- Achieve the Millennium Development Goals concerning access to safe drinking water and sanitation.
- Promote participation, partnership, active cooperation and solidarity for the sustainable management of water, at local and national level.

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➤ *Principles of the Strategy*

- i) Tackle problems that go beyond the means of any one country (..), in particular to the impact of climate change and environmental needs.
- ii) Build on integrated approaches....
- iii) Conservation of water quality including the prevention of further deterioration of water resources and the balance between the quantity of water used and the quantity of water available including mitigating and preventing the consequence of drought and water scarcity
- iv) Include both measurable qualitative and quantitative objectives (..)
- v) Consider the most appropriate instruments to reach the objectives of the Strategy, (..) keeping in mind the differences in national situations...
- vi) Develop and exploit for the benefit of all, scientific, technical and technological tools in these fields;

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➤ *The Strategy should address*

Balance

Supply - Demand

Consumption - Availability

Agricultural Needs - Ecosystems Needs



Specially regarding the
impact of climate change

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- The Strategy should be translated into:
 1. *Policies, initiatives, actions (...)*
 2. *Improvement of demand management (...)*
 3. *Water efficiency (...)*
 4. *Once the above-mentioned prove to be insufficient, mobilization of water supply measures (...) traditional or alternative (reuse, desalination, ...)*

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➤ *The Strategy should cover*

1. *“Effective water governance for integrated water resources management and water supply and sanitation; awareness, technical and capacity building and coordination within administrative units and among stakeholders”.*

i.e.:

- Assessment: current gaps and areas of improvements
- Strategies: improvement of legal instruments and enforcement of legislation, Improvement of institutional settings, stakeholders participation, coordination with partners out-of-the-water box, fight corruption, capacity building, promote education, gender issues

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➤ *The Strategy should cover*

2. *“Addressing water and climate change, through adaptation measures together with mitigation with emphasis , inter alia, on management of droughts and floods, mitigation of water scarcity and combat desertification”*

i.e.:

- Assessment: future predictions, water availability indexes, existing country/regional plans
- Actions for: policy reinforcement, promotion of responsive actions including alternative approaches, coordination among sectors
- Extreme phenomena management: implementation of long-term and integrated strategies, management plans, risk based management

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➤ *The Strategy should cover*

3. *“Optimizing water financing, water valuation and appropriate instruments, with emphasis on innovate mechanisms”*

i.e.:

- Assessment: existing funding mechanisms, new-sources mobilization strategies
- Actions to: improve efficiency, promote sensible and realist cost recovery policies, improve financeability of the sector
- Exchange of expertise in innovative mechanisms



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➤ *The Strategy Should cover*

4. *“Water demand management and efficiency, and non-conventional water resources”.*

i.e.:

- Sustainable and equitable water allocation, water saving strategies, coordination with sectors (mainly agricultural one), awareness campaigns
- Potential assessment of additional resources (e.g. wastewater reuse, desalination...)



Desalination

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Ministers agree to entrust the Euro-Med Water Expert Group (WEG)

✓ Role

- Provide technical input to water related initiatives and processes in the region including recommendations to enhance effectiveness Coordination and complementary for all key water related activities.

✓ Structure

- Co-chaired according to the presidency rules of the UfM.
- Stakeholder (public and private organization, local authorities, etc..) from water management could assist as observers.

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➤ *Action Plan*

- ✓ It will complement the SWM as a technical document to be elaborated by the WEG
- ✓ It will serve as a “roadmap” to match policy choices made at SWM
- ✓ Drafting will be made in parallel with the elaboration of the SWM
- ✓ Format should be similar to the Roadmap of the Horizon 2020 Initiative to De-Pollute the Mediterranean

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Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water:
Adoption of the Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean

Barcelona, Spain

12-14 April 2010



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Thank you for your attention

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