



Brief Report of Activities

2006



This is the Brief Report of Activities
undertaken by the Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med)
during the Progress Reporting Periods of January to June and of July to December 2006.

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Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean

Water situation today in the Mediterranean

The Mediterranean is among the most arid regions of the world. The natural water supply is unevenly distributed in space and time. Demographic growth and economic development vary in the sub-regions, shaping water demand and pressures while water ecosystems are rich and vulnerable. Agriculture accounts for 80% of water use. Important rivers, lakes and aquifers are shared among two or more countries of the region.

There is a need to :

- meet the WSSD target for IWRM in all countries and to strengthen and concretize the regional framework on IWRM
- raise water concerns into national development plans and integrate water concerns into policies of related sectors
- meet the MDG/ WSSD target to halve the proportion of people who do not have access to safe drinking water and sanitation
- further develop tools, build capacity, raise public awareness and educate the youth on water issues
- build synergies and boost commitment to action by setting up active water partnerships at the regional and the national level

Programmes and action

GWP-Med's goal is to promote action and exchange knowledge on IWRM for the sustainable use of water resources in the countries of the Mediterranean region. GWP-Med act as a broker, catalyst, facilitator and advocacy organisation.

To achieve its goal, GWP-Med:

- Facilitates a multi-stakeholder regional water partnership, bringing together ten major Mediterranean networks of different water disciplines and over forty other organisations, institutions and companies.
- Seeks and facilitates multi-stakeholder engagement and donors' support for dialogue and action to promote IWRM at national and regional levels
- Makes the principles of sustainable water use and IWRM widely recognised and applied, through sharing information and experience

Since its establishment, the partnership has been instrumental in developing the Vision for Water in the Mediterranean and the Framework for Action for Water in the Mediterranean. GWP-Med has facilitated regional and sub-regional dialogues on effective water governance, water and climate, water demand management and river basin management, promoting IWRM practices. Activities on the role and engagement of the private sector in water resources management are implemented.

Through its partners, activities extend to water, food and environmental interaction; integrated groundwater management; and education, through the Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment and Sustainability (MEDIES – www.medies.net). Moreover, it facilitates the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD) and the Circle of Mediterranean Journalists for Sustainable Development (COMJST).

GWP-Med acts also as :

- Secretariat of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI), led by Greece and supported also the European Commission. MED EUWI aims to assist achieve the water-related MDGs and WSSD targets in the Mediterranean. Country dialogues are on-going in Egypt and Lebanon, as well as regional activities.
- Technical facilitator of the joint Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process on promoting transboundary water resources management in Southeastern Europe, led by the governments of Germany, Greece and the World Bank and assisted by GEF IW:LEARN (www.watersee.net).
- Lead of the Working Group on Shared Water Resources Management of the Joint Process between the EU Water Framework Directive and the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative.
- Technical facilitator of the Rabat Declaration on IWRM in North Africa, in cooperation with the African Development Bank, African Water Facility and UNEP Collaborating Centre on Water. The Declaration was adopted at the related Rabat Seminar (2006) hosted by Morocco. Follow up activities are carried out in Libya.
- Lead of the IWRM Component of the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems (2008-2011).

Through its activities, GWP-Med has an established network of active collaborations and synergies with a wide spectrum of institutions and organizations at the regional, sub-regional and national levels.

Acknowledgments

GWP-Med gratefully acknowledges the financial contributions made for realizing the regional activities in 2006 and more specifically is thankful to

- African Development Bank
- European Commission
- German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
- Global Environment Facility, IW:LEARN
- Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO)
- Greek Ministry for Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works
- Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- United Nations Environment Programme / Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP/UNEP)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), through UNEP Collaborating Centre on Water and Environment (UCC)
- World Bank

GWP-Med is also thankful to its Activity Leaders and direct contributors:

- Blue Plan (MAP/UNEP)
- Centre for Advance Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM)
- Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE)
- Euro Mediterranean Irrigators Communities (EIC)
- Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (IME)
- Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)
- Mediterranean Network of Basin Organisation (MENBO)
- MedCities – The Mediterranean Cities Network
- MedWet - The Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative

Last but not least, we gratefully acknowledge our regional and national partners and collaborators with which we have developed synergies for the implementation of GWP-Med activities.

GWP-Mediterranean

Progress Report on Activities

January to June 2006

GWP-Med Progress Report on Activities January – June 2006)

GWP Work Programme Outputs	Key Activities (January - June 2006)	Outcomes	Next Steps	Problems & Remedial Actions
<p>[led by the Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe - CEDARE]</p> <p><i>Out. 2.2. Assist to achieve water related MDGs and WSSD targets in the Mediterranean</i></p> <p>[led by Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development, MIO-ECSDE]</p>	<p>Four missions were carried out (2 in Morocco and 2 in Jordan) with an aim to establish collaboration with national and local partners, including the Ministries of Water, Environment and Agriculture and the local Authorities (Wilayahs), and to put in place the dialogue teams.</p> <p>Work has advanced during the 1st semester of 2006, with the MoUs with all partners being prepared and the background study teams already preparing their reports.</p> <p>B. MedWet has continued its participation in the project aiming at establishing guidelines for the Agriculture/Wetlands interaction to be presented at the COP10 of the Ramsar Convention (GAWI project) in collaboration with expert institutions at global scale, including IWMI, Wetlands International, the Wageningen University, and the Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP).</p> <p>The participation of MedWet focuses on preparing for the application of the guidelines on the ground through the collaborations developed by the local dialogues projects (see point A above).</p> <p><u>Act 2.1.2: Integrated Groundwater Resources Management [IGWRM]</u></p> <p><i>Activities are foreseen for the second semester of 2006</i></p> <p><u>Act. 2.2.1. Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment and Sustainability [MEDIES]</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Education Kit "Water in the Mediterranean" was translated to Croatian language. It is available at MEDIES website as well as in CD-Roms. - The French edition of the "Handbook on methods used in Environmental Education & Education for Sustainable Development" was published with the support of the Italian Ministry for Environment & Territory. - MEDIES received official certification as an international network on Education for Sustainable Development by the Greek Ministry for Education. The Greek Ministry of Education entered the Core Group of MEDIES. - The 1st Meeting of the MEDIES Greek Pedagogical Team took place on 15 June 2006, in Athens, and discussed the work plan of MEDIES in Greece. - MEDIES enhanced cooperation with the Anna Lindh Foundation for Dialogue Between Cultures, in Alexandria. MEDIES also follows the Euro-Mediterranean Schools Programme of the Foundation. - MEDIES web site [www.medies.net] was regularly updated. 	<p>international/bilateral development assistance community) held in each of the 2 countries. - Background studies already under way.</p> <p>Close interaction of all GAWI project partners and the Ramsar STRP during the 1st semester of 2006 for shaping the framework for the development of Guidelines.</p> <p>- Material produced and disseminated to the educational community. - Further political support and recognition secured. - Continue to explore funding opportunities.</p>	<p>the national partners in supporting them. - Engage the international / bilateral donor community to provide follow up support /funding for the implementation of the agreed activities. - A regional workshop to be held in 2007 to draw overall conclusions from the 3 dialogues already carried out through the collaboration of Medwet, GWP-Med and InWent, preparing for the development and implementation of field projects applying the guidelines.</p> <p>- Further elaboration of the guidelines for presentation at Ramsar COP10. - Development of a set of pilot activities for the application of the guidelines on the ground (post COP10).</p> <p>- Activities will continue according to the MEDIES 2002-2007 work plan. - The Greek version of the "Handbook on ESD methods" will be published within 2006 with the support of the Greek National Commission for UNESCO. - A Youth Exchange Project on "Culture & Biodiversity: paths without frontiers", is planned from 2 to 10 September 2006, in Northern Greece, supported by the Greek Secretariat for Youth. The Project will address biodiversity and water issues, including transboundary waters.</p>	<p>national/local stakeholders through demonstrating the feasibility/viability of the process.</p> <p>- Need to maintain an appropriate integration between the overall technical guidelines produced by the Ramsar STRP and the water/agriculture/wetlands specific issue of the GAWI project. - In view of the substantial size of the GAWI project planned activities, appropriate funding sources need to be secured for their implementation following Ramsar COP10.</p> <p>Financial support is always a key question, particularly since substantial support is needed to respond to national level needs. Fundraising activities are on-going.</p>

GWP-Med Progress Report on Activities January – June 2006)

GWP Work Programme Outputs	Key Activities (January - June 2006)	Outcomes	Next Steps	Problems & Remedial Actions
<p>OUTPUT 3: LINKAGES BETWEEN GWP AND OTHER FRAMEWORKS, SECTORS AND ISSUES ENSURED</p> <p><i>Out 3.1. Establish and consolidate operational links with key organisations</i></p> <p>[led by GWP-Med Secretariat]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Synergies with GEF, World Bank, UNECE, UNESCO, Germany and Greece continued and enhanced. Agreement on the Work Programme 2006-2007 of the Petersberg Phase II – Athens Declaration Process [see also Act 1.1.1]. - Agreement with GEF and UNEP for the lead of the IWRM section of the new GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean, 2006-2010 [see also Act 1.1.2] - Synergies primarily with EU Commission, Greece [Lead Country], Italy, France, Spain, as well as AMCOW, MCSD, Egypt and Lebanon for the development of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative [see also Act 1.3.1]. Agreement with EU Commission for support in 2006-2007. - Agreement with OECD and UNEP GPA for collaboration in the process of Country Dialogues. - Synergies with UN ESCWA, AWARENET and CAPNET for capacity building on IWRM in Middle East countries. - Synergies with EMWIS on communication. 	<p>Project proposals agreed with or submitted jointly with key organisations. Close collaboration of GWP-Med Secretariat and competent GWP-Med Partners with respective organisations.</p>	<p>Create concrete operational links and, where possible, jointly implement activities.</p>	
<p>OUTPUT 4: GWP PARTNERSHIPS ESTABLISHED AND CONSOLIDATED AT RELEVANT LEVELS</p> <p>[led by the Mediterranean Network of Basin Organizations - MENBO]</p>	<p><u>Act 4.1.:Capacity building on IWRM with emphasis on river basin organizations and local authorities</u></p> <p><i>Activities are foreseen for the second semester of 2006</i></p>			
<p>OUTPUT 5: GWP NETWORK EFFECTIVELY DEVELOPED AND MANAGED [GLOBAL LEVEL]</p> <p><i>GWP-Med administration and function of organs</i></p>	<p>Administration and logistics of the GWP-Med network. Preparation of briefings, reports, background material, etc. Representation in events. Dissemination of information.</p> <p>Coordination of the GEF IW:LEARN D2 Activity on decision makers and experts on IWRM in transboundary waters in Southeastern Europe [Act 1.1.1]</p> <p>Running of the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative [organization of events, preparation of related background documents, administration] – [Act 1.3.1]</p> <p>Lead of the IWRM section of the new GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean [2006-2010].</p> <p>Running of the project on IWRM planning in North Africa countries, supported by AfDB, UCC and Morocco [Act. 1.2.1.]</p>	<p>Management mechanisms in place, accessible and used at all levels by the network.</p> <p>Development activities for the enhancement of GWP-Med objectives and partnership in the region, through action.</p> <p>Technical and logistical support to GWP programme and services provided</p>	<p>Further consolidation of the partnership through joint activities. Expansion of the membership to national organisations.</p> <p>More targeted fund-raising activities and enhancement of synergies.</p> <p>Further focus to national priorities and local actions.</p> <p>Establishment of Country Water Partnerships, where feasible and of added value.</p>	<p>GWP-Med Secretariat is understaffed compared to the tasks undertaken and the workload is often excessive. The Secretariat is expected to be strengthened in 2006 through projects. Active support by GWP-Med partners is critical.</p>

GWP-Med Progress Report on Activities January – June 2006)

GWP Work Programme Outputs	Key Activities (January - June 2006)	Outcomes	Next Steps	Problems & Remedial Actions
	<p>Collaboration with AfDB and UCC for following up the Rabat Declaration on IWRM planning in North African countries.</p> <p>Development of synergies with players in the region leading to agreements for concrete actions [see under Out. 3.1.]. Related preparation of project proposals and other fundraising activities.</p> <p>Participation at the 4th World Water Forum and assistance to the organisation of the GWP Session on IWRM Planning.</p> <p>Contact established with the newly established network of Mediterranean Regions for Sustainable Management of Water Resources (WATEREGIO), supported by the Valencia Region. A meeting with the network was organised on 16 May, in Brussels.</p> <p>A proposal for supporting the co-organisation of a Seminar on transboundary water management during the Stockholm Water Week was submitted to the Greek government.</p> <p>The GWP-Med web site was redesigned and is on-line.</p>			

GWP-Mediterranean

Progress Report on Activities

July to December 2006

GWP Mediterranean
Progress Report on activities during July–December 2006

1. IWRM WATER POLICY AND STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED AT RELEVANT LEVELS		
<i>Output 1.1. Assist to achieve WSSD target on IWRM in the Mediterranean</i>		
Activity 1.1.1 Capacity building of decision makers and experts on IWRM in transboundary waters in Southeastern Europe [SEE]– IW:LEARN Project (led by GWP-Med Secretariat)		
Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>Activities supporting dialogue and building capacity of managers for transboundary water resources management in Southeastern Europe (SEE) continued within GEF IW:LEARN Activity D2 [2005-2008]. It is a collaborative action of Germany, Greece, GEF, UNESCO, UNECE and the World Bank and serves the joint Petersberg Phase II – Athens Declaration. It is facilitated by GWP-Med. The following activities were undertaken during the period reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The International Roundtable on Integrated Shared Lake Basin Management in Southeastern Europe was organised, 12-14 October 2006, in Ohrid Lake, FYR Macedonia, by the Lake Ohrid Watershed Committee and GWP-Med. It was attended by 55 participants from 10 countries and 14 international organisations. Ohrid, Prespa and Shkoder Lakes and the Drin River that connects them were used as case studies. Stakeholder involvement, information sharing, institutional settings and finances were in the focus of discussions. A study visit was organised. - The International Roundtable on Principles for Multipurpose Water Management in the Sava River Basin was organised, 15-17 November 2006, in Zagreb, Croatia, by the German Ministry for Environment, World Bank, International Sava Commission and GWP-Med. It was attended by 57 participants from 8 countries and 12 regional organisations. Competing uses of shared waters, ecosystems protection, flood mitigation, navigation, hydropower and financing in the Sava river were in the focus of discussions. - The 4th Coordination Meeting of the Process Partners was organised, 14 October 2006, in Ohrid Lake, FYR Macedonia. - The Process was presented in a number of regional events. - The Process Workplan 2007 was prepared. - The web site on transboundary waters in SEE is regularly updated www.watersee.net with contributions by partners. 	<p>The need for effective management of shared waters is increasingly receiving recognition, followed up by action at the national and local levels. The project activities have contributed in building the capacity of decision makers, stakeholders and experts in the SEE countries on management issued of transboundary water resources [rivers, lakes and groundwater].</p> <p>The Ohrid Workshop has brought together for the first time managers of the three most important lakes in SEE ie. Ohrid, Prespa and Shkoder. The importance of the Drin river as the connecting agent of the three transboundary lakes has been recognised. The Sava Workshop recognised the need for enhanced coordination Synergies and further sharing of experiences will be facilitated through concrete actions on ecosystem services, sharing of information and joint planning through the International Sava Commission.</p>	<p>The Work Programme 2006-2007 of the Petersberg Phase II – Athens Declaration Process provides the framework for further development of activities.</p> <p>A medium-term sustainability plan for the project will be elaborated in cooperation with partners in 2007.</p> <p>Follow up activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Roundtable on Shared Groundwater Resources Management in SEE, November 2007, Slovenia. - High Level Meeting of Countries of the Sava Commission on Shared Groundwater Management, November 2007, Slovenia. - International Roundtable on Stakeholder Participation for Shared Water Resources Management, early 2008. - Four small targeted capacity building Workshops in 2007-2008. - Operational links with the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems 2007-2011 [Act 1.2.1].

Activity 1.1.2 Strategic Planning for IWRM in the Mediterranean – GEF SPM Project (led by GWP-Med Secretariat)		
Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>The new GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems [GEF SPM 2007-2011] aims to assist in achieving environmentally sustainable development in the region. GWP-Med has been appointed the Leader of the IWRM section of the Partnership. The main objective is to assist countries in advancing on IWRM planning and implementation. Emphasis is on addressing environmental concerns as well as linking the IWRM plans with National Development Plans. The countries of focus are Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Serbia and Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. A PDF-B is being implemented in preparation of the Full Scale Project. The Full Scale Project Proposal for IWRM was updated and submitted to the GEF SPM Coordination Group.</p>	<p>The importance of a defined IWRM component to address related challenges in the Mediterranean was recognised in the new GEF SPM. Activities in the Full Scale Project Proposal are targeted to: catalytic actions for promoting national IWRM planning, elaboration of IWRM plans at the river basin level and facilitation of country dialogues on water-related MDGs.</p>	<p>The Full Scale Project will be submitted to GEF SC by March 2007 and it will be considered for approval in June 2007. Activities cover the period 2007-2011.</p>
Out. 1.2. Facilitate Dialogue on IWRM Planning / Effective Water Governance		
Activity 1.2.1 National IWRM Planning in North African countries– AfDB and UCC Project (led by GWP-Med Secretariat)		
Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>- The project 'Elaboration of Assessment and Facilitation of Dialogue on the Status of National IWRM Planning in North Africa Countries' was completed in the first semester 2006. It was organised with the support of the Africa Development Bank [AfDB], African Water Facility [AWF], UNEP Collaborating Centre on Water [UCC] and Morocco government [MATEE]. GWP-Med coordinated and implemented the programme. The report of the Rabat Seminar (24-25 January 2006) and the Rabat Declaration were widely disseminated. The Rabat partners are committed to continue working together in the countries of North Africa.</p> <p>- Libya is facing critical water challenges and it is among the countries targeted for follow up activities within the Rabat Declaration process. Synergies were built with the Libyan General Water Authority aiming to plan and implement activities assisting the country in taking steps towards IWRM.</p> <p>- Assisting the regional dialogue and the sharing of experiences, the 2nd International Conference on Water Science and Technology – Integrated Management of Water Resources (AQUA 2006), took place on 23-26 November 2006, Athens, Greece. GWP-Med was among the co-organizers of the Conference and facilitated the session on Shared Water Resources Management in SEE.</p>	<p>The Rabat Seminar assessed the status of IWRM planning in North African countries, the countries' readiness to respond to the related WSSD target and the priority fields for action. The Rabat Declaration, calling for synergy and action on the issue, has become a reference document. It is followed up with activities at the national level. Agreement was achieved with Libya General Water Authority and the Rabat partners to organise a Workshop on IWRM in the country as a start-up for a systematic work on IWRM in Libya.</p>	<p>- Workshop on IWRM in Libya, planned for the first semester of 2007.</p> <p>- Start up activities are planned in one more country in 2007.</p>

**Act. 1.2.2. Further development of the Water Theme of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development
(led by Blue Plan / Mediterranean Action Plan of UNEP)**

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>Preparatory work continued for the 3rd Regional Workshop on Water and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean [19-20 March 2007, Saragossa, Spain] that is planned in the framework of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development [MCSD]. More specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The second National Support Meeting took place on 17-19 July 2006, in Tripoli, Libya, nominating the national expert in charge of the Libya report on water demand management, and discussing the establishment of a steering committee to overlook the process. - The second Experts Meeting took place on 15 September 2006, in Nice, aiming to specify the methods of organization of the Regional Workshop, to assess progress on the preparation of national reports and regional studies and to examine the summaries of the papers suggested. The final selection of the papers was made in December 2006. - Preparation of ToR and elaboration of drafts of Mediterranean studies on (i) virtual water, (ii) impact of the Common Agricultural Policy on water demand for irrigation and (iii) international cooperation and development aid for water. - Preparation of country reports for France, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey. - Publication of the Blue Plan Note N° 4 on Water in English and French. 	<p>The preparatory work and Regional Workshop facilitate the implementation and monitoring of the water targets of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development [MSSD] and the National Strategies for Sustainable Development [NSSD] agreed by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. Mandated by the Parties, the Plan Bleu MAP/UNEP and its partners (volunteer pilot countries, EU authorities and regional partners and initiatives) have developed and documented indicators, carried out in-depth analysis and pinpointed good practices on water resources management and water demand management in the region. GWP-Med has particularly worked on the theme of international cooperation and development aid for water.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3rd MSSD Regional Workshop on Water and Sustainable Development, 19-21 March 2007, Saragossa, Spain. The Workshop is organised by Blue Plan with the support of GWP-Med, CIHEAM, IME. MIO-ECSDE, MedWet as well as France and Expo Saragossa 2008. - Elaboration of synthesis report to be presented and adopted at MCSD meeting of May 2007, Istanbul.

**Act. 1.2.3. Facilitation of Circle of Parliamentarians [COMPSUD]
Act. 1.2.4. Facilitation of Circle of Media Journalists [COMJEST]
(led by the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development – MIO-ECSDE)**

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>The 5th Meeting of COMPSUD and COMJEST and the 5th Regional Dialogue of Parliamentarians, Civil Society and other Stakeholders on the Protection of the Mediterranean Environment and Prospects for the Sustainable Development of the Mediterranean took place on 19 November 2006, in the premises and under the auspices of the League of Arab States, in Cairo, Egypt. The meetings were organised by MIO-ECSDE, GWP-Med, Arab Network for Environment and Development and Arab Office for Youth and Environment, supported by Finland, UNEP/MAP and the European Commission. The Meeting was organised in conjunction with the 3rd Ministerial Conference on the Environment of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, 20 November, Cairo.</p>	<p>COMPSUD 5 elaborated on the roles and needed synergies for improving cooperation after Barcelona + 10 (celebrated in 2005) earmarking a set of new Euro-Mediterranean initiatives on sustainable development (eg. European Neighbourhood Policy, Horizon 2020, Environment Strategy for the Mediterranean, etc.) as well as the MSSD. Parliamentarians were provided with the needed knowledge and debated how to assist the implementation of these processes through their national Parliaments. The Meetings' recommendations were presented at the 3rd EuroMed Ministerial Conference on Environment, Cairo, 20 November 2006 and the EuroMed Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, 27-28 November 2006, Tampere, Finland.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expansion of the membership and further consolidation of structure of the two Circles [Parliamentarians and Journalists]. Focus of their work with pilot national interventions will be facilitated, linked primarily with MED EUWI activities and the process of establishing Country Water Partnerships. - The next COMPSUD meeting (planned for May 2007) will elaborate on synergies with parliamentary bodies in the region eg. Euro-Med Parliamentary Assembly, etc.

Out 1.3. Assist the development of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative

**Act. 1.3.1. Running the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative [MED EUWI]
(led by GWP-Med Secretariat)**

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>Day-by-day running of the MED EUWI Secretariat, supporting the Lead Country Greece and the European Commission.</p> <p>Country Dialogue in Egypt - Coordination meetings with all key Egyptian authorities and international donors active in the country, 18-19 October, Cairo, Egypt. - Coordination meeting with key Egyptian authorities, 6 November, Athens, Greece. - Update by OECD of the draft ToR for the MED EUWI Country Dialogue in Egypt with an emphasis on financing strategies for meeting the water-related MDG on IWRM and WSS. - Link of the Country Dialogue with the significant European support for the water sector in Egypt. - Launching Workshop of the Egyptian Dialogue, 22 November, Cairo, attended by about 100 targeted participants. The Workshop addressed issues of IWRM planning in the country, WSS current situation and future planning, donors' assistance and stakeholders involvement.</p> <p>Country Dialogue in Lebanon - The Dialogue has been suspended due to the summer 2006 war in the area. After the crisis, the necessity of continuing the Dialogue is even greater and links with the reconstruction process have been investigated. - Coordination meetings are planned for early January 2007.</p> <p>Organisation of the Conference of Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries, 6-7 November 2006, Athens, attended by Water Directors of 21 countries and the European Commission. The Conference formulated recommendations on all key parallel water initiatives in the Mediterranean and SEE region ie. MED EUWI, MED EUWI/WFD Joint Process, ENPI, Horizon 2020, MSSD, EMWIS, MEDA-Water, African Water Facility, GEF SPM. The Conclusions were presented at the 3rd Ministerial Conference on Environment, 20 November 2006, Cairo.</p> <p>References to MED EUWI as a key process in the region were made at the Cairo Ministerial Declaration and the Timetable 2007-2013 for the implementation of the Horizon 2020 Initiative that was agreed by the Euro-Mediterranean Ministers for Environment.</p> <p>Preparation of the MED EUWI Work Programme 2007 that was approved at the Water Directors Conference, 6-7 November 2007.</p>	<p>MED EUWI is assisting through a set of activities developing countries in the Mediterranean and Southeastern Europe in meeting the MDGs and WSSD targets related to water. Country activities will be further expanded from 2007 on.</p>	<p>- Follow up with the MED EUWI Country Dialogue in Lebanon (launched in November 2005). - Follow up with the MED EUWI Country Dialogue in Egypt (launched in November 2006). - Launch a MED EUWI Country Dialogues in one more countries in 2007. - Organise the Euro-Med Water Directors Conference, December 2007. - Assist the preparation of the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference in 2009.</p>

**Act 1.3.2: Continuation of activities related to North AMCOW
(led by the Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe - CEDARE)**

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>North AMCOW is the North African part of the African Ministerial Council on Water. Its technical secretariat is facilitated by CEDARE. Activities implemented include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment on meeting the water related MDGs and WSSD targets in North Africa. - Assistance for developing guidelines for policy makers on inter-basin water transfers in Africa. The guidelines were presented during a Workshop organized on this issue on 25-29 September 2006, in Accra, Ghana. - A website was developed containing updated information important to the North AMCOW and information about the NAMCOW. 	<p>Assistance to policy makers within North AMCOW on priority issues</p>	<p>National multi-stakeholder dialogues on how to effectively respond to the MDGs and WSSD targets are planned in countries of the region.</p> <p>Continuous updating of the NAMCOW activities, and improvement of the website modality.</p>

**Act. 1.2.5. Middle East Seminar on Cooperation Prospects in the Euphrates – Tigris Region (Stockholm Water Week 2006)
(led by GWP-Med Secretariat)**

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>The Middle East Seminar on Cooperation Prospects in the Euphrates – Tigris Region took place during the Stockholm Water Week, August 2006. It was supported by the Euphrates–Tigris Initiative for Cooperation, GWP-Med, Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SIDA, SIWI and UNESCO.</p>	<p>The history of water management in Euphrates - Tigris basin is among the longest recorded. Since the 60s there were attempts to foster dialogue between Iraq, Syria and Turkey but this was suspended in 1993. Attempts to re-establish the dialogue are made through such multi-stakeholder channels, with the participation of government officials. Emphasis was on capacity building, consultation development and info dissemination.</p>	<p>Carry on with the dialogue in international fora.</p>

2. IWRM PROGRAMS AND TOOLS DEVELOPED IN RESPONSE TO REGIONAL AND COUNTRY NEEDS

Output 2.1. Facilitate the development of Water Dialogues in the Mediterranean

**Activity 2.1.1 Water, Food and Environmental Interaction
(led by MedWet / Ramsar Convention)**

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
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<p>Work continued on Water, Food & Environmental Interaction with emphasis on wetlands, carried out by MedWet in collaboration with InWent Germany:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organization of background study teams in the Sebou catchment (Morocco) and Azraq wetland area (Jordan). - Organization of one participative dialogue workshop in each country. 	<p>First approach developed for the participative management of water resources in relation to agriculture and water ecosystems in the two countries (Morocco and Jordan).</p>	<p>Completion of the local dialogues with management procedures agreed in follow up participative workshops. –</p> <p>Organization of a regional workshop for the Mediterranean region.</p>
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Activity 2.1.2 Integrated Groundwater Resources Management
(led by the Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe - CEDARE)

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>A regional Training Workshop on Groundwater Assessment and Development took place on 13-15 December 2006, in Hurghada, Egypt, with the participation of 25 water professionals and experts from Mediterranean countries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water professionals enhanced their knowledge on new technological tools such as remote sensing, GIS and isotope analysis for groundwater assessment. - Training material produced and disseminated to the professional community. - Political will on enhancing activity on groundwater management was raised and expressed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More hands on training on integrated groundwater management will be conducted. Emphasis will be on transboundary aquifers, especially on national legislative matters and the implications of international law. - Collaboration with East Africa for transfer of know-how and inclusion of groundwater considerations in IWRM plans.

Output 2.2. Assist to achieve water related MDGs and WSSD targets in the Mediterranean

Activity 2.2.1 Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment and Sustainability (MEDIES)
(led by the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development – MIO-ECSDE)

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>Activities of MEDIES continued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Youth Exchange Programme entitled “Culture and Biodiversity Paths without Frontiers” brought together 38 youth participants from 9 countries to exchange on issues such as transboundary cooperation for the management of natural resources and enhancing intercultural dialogue and mutual respect among the people of SEE. The event took place in Northern Greece, 2-10 September 2006. The programme was primarily supported by the Greek General Secretariat for Youth. - MEDIES participated actively in the works of the UNECE Expert Group on Indicators for Education for Sustainable Development [ESD]. MEDIES organised a session on ESD during the AQUA 2006 Conference, 23-26 November, Athens. - The material “Water in the Mediterranean” was uploaded on MEDIES webpage in its totality (both Theory and Activities section) in all seven languages: produced - The MEDIES web site [www.medies.net] was enriched with the section named "In the class": The aim of this section presenting lesson plans, games, pedagogic activities, etc is to gradually develop a data base available to all MEDIES e-members, to read and post their schemes of work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Material produced and disseminated to the educational community. - Further political support and recognition secured. - Continue to explore funding opportunities. 	<p>Activities will continue according to the MEDIES 2002-2007 work plan.</p>

3. LINKAGES BETWEEN GWP AND OTHER FRAMEWORKS, SECTORS AND ISSUES ENSURED

Output 3.1. Establish / Consolidate operational links with key organisations (led by the GWP-Med Secretariat)

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Synergies with GEF, World Bank, UNECE, UNESCO, Germany and Greece continued and enhanced. Follow up on the Work Programme 2006-2007 of the Petersberg Phase II – Athens Declaration Process [see also Act 1.1.1]. - Consolidation of agreement with GEF and UNEP for the lead of the IWRM section of the new GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems, 2007-2011 [see also Act 1.1.2] - Synergies primarily with EU Commission, Greece [Lead Country], Italy, France, Spain, as well as AMCOW, MCSD, Egypt and Lebanon for the development of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative [see also Act 1.3.1]. Consolidation of agreement with EU Commission for support in 2006-2007. Consolidation of agreement with OECD for collaboration in the process of Country Dialogues. - Start up collaboration with Libya. - Synergies with UNEP UCC, UN ESCWA and AWARENET for capacity building on IWRM in Middle East countries. - Synergies with EMWIS on water information. 	<p>Project proposals agreed with or submitted jointly with key organisations. Close collaboration of GWP-Med Secretariat and competent per theme GWP-Med Partners with respective organisations.</p>	<p>Create concrete operational links with regional and national organisation and, where possible, jointly implement activities.</p>

4. GWP PARTNERSHIPS ESTABLISHED AND CONSOLIDATED AT RELEVANT LEVELS

Activity 4.1 Capacity building on IWRM with emphasis on river basin organizations and local authorities (led by the Mediterranean Network of Basin Organisations – MENBO)

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<p>The Water Cooperation Session in Mediterranean Basins was organised by MENBO with the support from GWP-Med. It was held in Athens, Greece, on 5 November 2006.</p>	<p>The event highlighted that the cooperation between countries and River Basin Organisations from the Mediterranean, along with the development of projects and specific initiatives within the region, are essential factors to be able to reach an Integrated Water Resources Management</p>	<p>To continue to organise Capacity Building activities and events in order to favour and improve the cooperation amongst the different sectors of water actors involved in IWRM.</p>

<p>- Support to political dialogues and agreements at national and international levels, like the Cooperation Agreement between Spain and Morocco in the domain of Integrated Water Resources Management (July 2006). The Agreement was undertaken to ensure comprehension by policy makers and civil society at large of the concept of.</p> <p>- Support to awareness campaign towards IWRM principles for public participation. Different publications as special brochures, TV documentaries, posters and information in the mass media were prepared and disseminated by the Júcar River Basin Authority with MENBO's collaboration.</p> <p>- Exchange and training programmes were carried out by the Júcar River Basin Authority, with the collaboration of MENBO. Concretely, within the TWINBASIN Project, a last mission was developed in July 2006. Two technicians from the Buzau-Ialomita River Directorate, and the Director of the organisation visited Valencia for knowledge and experience transfer.</p>	<p>- Confirmation of the similarity of the water problematic within the two countries and the adopted policies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals of the 21st century. Organisation of a visit to the Water General Directorate (Spain) for the benefit of the Moroccan technicians to familiarise with the coordination modalities amongst the River Basin Authorities in Spain.</p> <p>- Water is now identified as a one of the key public concerns and is a political issue which is tackled in the media and requires active involvement of NGOs, public bodies and organisations related to water management.</p> <p>-The project has initiated a close and continuous collaboration between the organisations involved (National Administration "Apele Romane", Buzau-Ialomita Directorate, CEENBO, MENBO and Júcar River Basin Authority).</p>	<p>- The Spanish party proposed to offer technical support to the Agence du Bassin Hydraulique du Loukkos for the organisation of the National Water Debate at their basin level, and the participation of an expert to explain how the effects of climate change are being incorporated in hydrological planning in Spain.</p> <p>- A series of documentaries about groundwater, pollution and the river network have been released on DVD format and have been broadcasted on national and local TV stations. Extension of this series is planned for 2007.</p> <p>- The possibility of signing a Memorandum of Understanding between Romania and Spain is being explored to further enhance the cooperation between the two countries.</p>
<p>- Participation in the Kick-off meeting and Start-Up Seminar for the MELIA project, celebrated in Seville, Spain in September 2006. Priority was given to improving computer skills of the project's partners to use the intranet tool specifically created for the project.</p> <p>- Participation in the Kick-off meeting of the SPI-Water project, celebrated in Brussels, November 2006. This Research and Technology Development (RTD) project aims to enhance the progress with respect to a science-policy interface in support of the implementation of the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>- Collaboration in the Information and training seminar for data managers of the Euro-Mediterranean Water Information System (EMWIS) in Madrid, November 2006. Following the launch of the new international web portal of EMWIS, its National Focal Points (NFP) declared interest to use this technology.</p>	<p>- There are forty-five partners from 17 different countries involved in what is defined as a Community of Practice for the project MELIA (Mediterranean Dialogue on Integrated Water Management). The partner organisations include water specialists, water users, research centres, Universities, NGO's and other stakeholders.</p> <p>- Current water-related RTD projects have already established operational links with practitioners so the needs of policymakers are taken into account, but results are not easily available to implementers and research scientists. Scientists and policymakers often speak a different "language", so better research integration is required at the various stages of policy developments.</p> <p>- The Seminar responded to the demand and aims at reviewing the water documentation management and tools used. It enabled the discussion on the collection and the diffusion of water projects information in each country.</p>	<p>- The official MELIA website has already been launched. It is planned to develop other knowledge management platforms and ICT tools during 2007 and 2008 and to continue to extend the contents of the original website.</p> <p>- A number of concrete actions have been proposed by this project to bridge the gaps in communication between policymakers and scientists by developing and implementing a "science-policy interface", focusing on setting up a mechanism to enhance the use of RTD results in the WFD implementation.</p> <p>- The next activities planned include diffusion of all the publicly funded reports and studies plus the development of thematic websites and technology watch and analysis focusing on key themes contributing to the national water priorities.</p>

5. GWP NETWORK EFFECTIVELY DEVELOPED AND MANAGED

Key Activities in 2006	Outcomes	Next Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administration and logistics of the GWP-Med network. Preparation of briefings, reports, background material, etc. Representation in events. Dissemination of information. - The 7th Partnership Council meeting of GWP-Mediterranean was held in Athens, 8 November 2006. It discussed the summary of 2006 activities, work plan for 2007, way forward to possible collaboration in the Horizon 2020 Initiative and issues related to conditions of accreditation. - The 8th GWP-Med Partnership Council took place in Athens, 16 January 2007 (shifted from the initial date in December 2006). It discussed guidelines for elaboration of 2006 Financial Report, adoption of the detailed Work Plan 2007, issues related to conditions of accreditation. - Coordination of the GEF IW:LEARN D2 Activity on decision makers and experts on IWRM in transboundary waters in Southeastern Europe [Act 1.1.1] - Running of the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative [organization of events, preparation of related background documents, administration] – [Act 1.3.1] - Lead of the IWRM section of the new GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems [2007-2011] [Act 1.1.2] - Collaboration with AfDB, AWF and UNEP UCC for following up the Rabat Declaration on IWRM panning in North African countries [Act 1.2.1] - Development of synergies with players in the region leading to agreements for concrete actions [see under Out. 3.1.]. Related preparation of project proposals and other fundraising activities. - Regular update of the GWP-Med web site www.gwpmed.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management mechanisms in place, accessible and used at all levels by the network. - Development activities for the enhancement of GWP-Med objectives and partnership in the region, through action. - Technical and logistical support to GWP programme and services provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further consolidation of the partnership through joint activities. Expansion of the membership to national organisations. - More targeted fund-raising activities and enhancement of synergies. - Further focus to national priorities and local actions. - Establishment of Country Water Partnerships, where feasible and of added value.

