



EMWIS Flash - December 2005

Euro-Mediterranean Information System on the
know-how in the Water Sector

EMWIS is a program of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

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***** EMWIS team wish you a HAPPY NEW YEAR 2006 *****

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1. **The Regional Monitoring and Support Unit (RMSU)** of the European Commission **MEDA regional programme for local water management (MEDA-Water)** organised at **the Dead Sea (Jordan) last 5-7 December 2005**, a first meeting of all the **9 MEDA water projects** plus EMWIS and **the Med component of the EU Water Initiative** in order to develop synergies and discussed potential support activities. See full information about this meeting at [our website](#).

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IN BRIEF

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2. The **EMWIS** National Focal Point of Turkey, **the DSI (State Hydraulic Works)** that belongs to the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, organised the **15 December in Ankara (Turkey)**, an information seminar aiming to raise awareness of the benefits of exchanging know-how and information among the main stakeholders of the Turkish water sector. A large panel of water information systems currently used or under development were presented. It was also an opportunity to present the recent evolution of the water sector in Turkey as well as the projects of the **MEDA** regional programme for local water management implemented in Turkey. 180 participants attended this seminar. See [the web page](#) of this seminar for further information.

3. **The European Investment Bank (EIB), Agence française de développement (AFD) and KfW Entwicklungsbank (KfW)** concluded an agreement designed to strengthen their **cooperation in the Mediterranean countries and African, Caribbean and Pacific States** in which they operate. The agreement builds on their long experience of working together and is based on shared objectives. It also represents a milestone in the partnership policy promoted by the EIB in recent months aimed at coordinating the efforts of all European development players within a formal but pragmatic framework. See EIB release (It is available in [English](#), [French](#) & [Dutch](#)) for further information.

4. The European Council held in Brussels last 15-16 December 2005 recalls that **the Barcelona Process**, enhanced through **the European Neighbourhood Policy**, provides the central framework for relations with the Mediterranean countries. The European Council welcomes the progress on implementing the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plans that have been concluded with **Israel, Jordan, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority and Tunisia**; notes the start of negotiations with **Egypt** and the preliminary consultations with Lebanon; and invites the Commission to draw up a national report on **Algeria** with a view to negotiating an action plan. On the other hand, The European Council notes the progress in the development of the EU's relations with Libya, while urging a continued effort to resolve EU concerns and other outstanding bilateral issues. It recalls the EU's wish to see Libya become a full member of the Barcelona Process, in which **Libya** could play a valuable role. Participation in the Process, and subsequent progression towards the conclusion of an Association Agreement, would require Libya to accept the Declaration and Barcelona acquis in full. See [the full conclusions](#) of this Council summit for further information.

5. (**RAPID**) The European Commission announced that the '.eu' top-level domain, which enables businesses, public bodies and citizens to choose a pan-European Internet name for their websites and email addresses, opens for business on 7 December 2005. A '.eu' suffix enables users to

project a Europe-wide presence, ambition or affiliation. It complements, but does not replace, national country codes such as France's '.fr', Poland's '.pl' or the UK's '.uk'. A sunrise period of four months will allow holders of prior rights – including businesses – to apply for the registration of domain names provided they are settled in the European Union. From 7 April 2006, the Registry will open its doors for applications from the general public. With the launch of .eu, the Commission lives up to the promise made at the Lisbon European Council in 2000 to give **Europe's Information Society** an identity on the Web under reliable EU rules. [The current website.](#)

6. The ten year campaign **Big Jump** knew a lightning start : the 17th of July, 2 PM some 250.000 European people rendezvous with their rivers and lakes, to celebrate the reconciliation between humans and rivers. In 22 European countries, **along 31 rivers and lakes**, 216 official (+ 240 unofficial) actions took place to present the river ecosystem and to explain **the European Water Framework Directive**. For further information see [the website](#) of BigJump.

7. An international team worked on the verge of **the Sahara to gather data** on the ground and in the air, to be compared with imagery of the same region acquired by ESA (European Space Agency) **satellites**. The results will be used in support of an ambitious project **to apply satellite remote sensing to improve monitoring and management of vast water aquifers concealed beneath the desert**. See [ESA website](#) for further information.

8. Coordinated by **UNEP FI's Water & Finance Project** to begin its work on a set of water-related risk management guidelines for financial institutions and policy makers. The guidelines are meant to serve as a basis to build capacities in the financial sector and at policy level into what and how water-related risks should be assessed, thus encouraging new sources of long-term sustainable investments in the sector. For further information, please contact: water@unepfi.org

9. Launched by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (seco), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the reinsurer Swiss Re, the Public-Private Partnership for **Water Supply and Sanitation initiative** has issued a set of hands-on instruments, among which the Policy Principles and Implementation Guidelines, which are designed to support decision-makers and practitioners engaging in water sector restructuring and Public-Private Partnerships PPP in achieving high governance standards throughout preparation, planning and operations. For further information, please visit [the following website](#).

10. The issue of water in cinema and audiovisual productions of all types, deserves to be considered due to its great cultural wealth. The 4th World Water Forum, to be held in Mexico, will bring together thousands of participants from countries throughout the world involved in the water sector. It will be an occasion to demonstrate the importance of cinema and culture in the search for solutions in relation to the problems of water and in the development of a culture of water in the general population. It was decided to organize **the First International Water and Film Event**, to be held from **March 17 to 21, 2006**, in the framework of **the 4th World Water Forum**. During these five days, water will be brought to the big screen through movies and audiovisual materials in which it plays a central role. See [the website of the 4th world Water Forum](#) for further information.

11. The European Investment Bank (EIB) is providing a EUR 125 million loan (PLN 500 million) for environment improvement investments in the city of Poznan and neighbouring municipalities. The EIB loan will finance a number of water supply and wastewater treatment measures, including modernisation of the "Mosina" water intake and rehabilitation of water and sewerage networks in the centre of Poznan. By improving drinking water quality and reducing the pollution originating from some 750 000 residents, the project will contribute to the decrease in contamination of the Odra River and subsequently the Baltic Sea and will assist Poland in complying with its international obligations in the area of environmental protection and sustainable development. See [EIB related press release](#) for further information.

12. On the 12th November, the Czech minister of transport J. Šimonovský, publicly announced the start of permission process for new dam on the last free flowing part of Elbe river in Czech Republic, near Decin city, close to the German border. The new project is heavily criticised by Czech as well as international environmental NGOs, as economically unjustified and environmentally destructive. NGOs also stress on the necessity to assess the project according Espoo Convention – international treaty on transboundary impact assessment. See [Rivernet press release](#) for further information.

13. Statkraft, Norway's largest electricity company, had planned to dam the Vefsna River. The new Norwegian government under the leadership of coming prime minister Jens Stoltenberg, social democratic party, on 13 October 2005 announced that Vefsna will now be duly protected against hydropower development. See [the website of Rivernet](#) for complete story.

14. The Moroccan Minister for the Environment, Water and Regional planning, **Mohamed El Yazghi**, revealed the large axes of the measurements taken by the government in order to satisfy the needs for the socio-economic sectors regarding water, by stressing the need for an integrated, decentralized and participative management of the water resources. See the press release of [Le Matin](#) for further information. (Only in French)

15. The Moroccan Secretary of State charged with water, **Abdelkbir Zahoud**, affirmed during the conference held in November 25th that Morocco must build 50 additional dams within 20 years and a thousand of small reserves before 2050 in order to mitigate the lack of water storage. The potential of the water resources decreases, it is of 1.000 cubic meters (m³) per annum and per capita against 2.500 m³ in 1980. See [the website of rivernet](#) for more information.

16. Thanks to the European Commission Programme of **grouped drinking water supply** of the rural populations (**PAGER**), the rate of rural provisioning passed from 14 % in 1995 to 61% in 2004. Total cost of the investment: 10 billion DH. Over the period 2005-2007, it is nearly 6,1 billion which will be. See "[Aujourd'hui Le Maroc](#)" newspaper for further information. (Only in French)

17. The difficulties related to the supply drinking water in Algiers will disappear from here up to 2007, because of the many completed building sites under development. Mr. **Messaoud Terra**, general director in the ministry of Water Resources in charge of the drinking water supply, wants to be reassuring on the question. He indeed estimates that "with all these systems, the mobilizable capacities will be 1,8 million m³, after the adduction with the dam Taksebt (Tizi Ouzou) will be operational". The next challenge will be the management of the networks of **drinking water supply** and cleansing against 2.500 m³ in 1980. See [ELWATAN newspaper](#) for further information. (Only in French)

18. The President of France Liberté, Danielle Mitterand, launched a campaign for the recognition of a **right of access to water for all**. 1.5 million people in the world today still do not have access to drinkable water. To sensitize the greatest number of people to this very important question and to gather funds in order to develop its own projects, the Danielle-Mitterand Foundation is launching a campaign, which will be translated into several public meetings in France in November and December; as well as into a 'hot' televised public debate based on a man who soaps his hands in a very clean wash basin. When the hands disappear, a tongue comes out from a hole to salvage the last available drops. See [the article written by Alexandre Fache](#) for further information.

19. The European Commission decided on the first two Financing Memoranda in the environment and transport fields in Croatia. For the first time **Croatia** is to benefit from the Pre-Accession Instrument for Structural Policies - ISPA, with a grant of more than **€51 million**. ISPA, along with PHARE and SAPARD, is one of the three European Community instruments, which aim to prepare the candidate countries for their future participation to structural and cohesion funds. The first project relates to the environmental sector: **the Karlovac Water and Wastewater Programme** – a project which involves the construction of a new Waste Water Treatment Plant, as well as the

extension and modernisation of the town's water and sewerage networks. Implementation will take place over the period 2005 - 2010. [Click here](#) for more information.

20. Danuta Hübner, European Commissioner for Regional Policy, has signed the Commission Decision granting financial assistance to the project "**Warsaw water supply and waste water treatment**". The total cost of the project is estimated at **€405 million** with a Community contribution of **€248 million**. The project will improve the quality of drinking water and will also contribute to the considerable improvement in the health of local citizens. This project, which is the third phase of the long term plan to improve Warsaw water supply and waste water treatment, will be one of the largest EU projects to be approved under the Cohesion Fund in 2005 and is the first of **23 projects** to be approved before the end of this year, for **Poland**. [Click here](#) for more information.

21. Officials in Athens, Greece have been looking at the possibility of **transferring thousands of tonnes of sewage sludge to the Sudan** in an attempt to cope with the city's pollution. A ship that can load up to 26 thousand tonnes of sludge is docked at the island of Psytalleia, where the only sewage treatment plant in Athens is located. The waste will be taken to the Sudan, where it will be dried in a plant owned by the United States before being used as fertilizer. Many environmental specialists in Greece are criticizing the procedure as unethical. See [Sahra News](#) or [Al-Jazeera](#) (in Arabic) for more information.

22. Dams are continuing to cause excessive environmental damage despite recommendations from the **World Commission on Dams** to ensure environmental consideration. The report from WWF looks at six dams under construction in the last five years, all of which fail to meet the recommendations of the World Commission. See [the website of WWF](#) for further information.

23. Five years after the independent **World Commission on Dams** (WCD) published its landmark report on dams and development, international experts called for stronger social and environmental standards for water and power projects. See [the website of Rivernet](#) for further details.

24. The first ever nationwide compilation of tap water testing results from **drinking water utilities** shows widespread contamination of drinking water with scores of contaminants for which there are no enforceable health standards. Examples include the gasoline additive MTBE, the rocket fuel component perchlorate, and a variety of industrial solvents. The findings are derived from the largest compilation of tap water data ever assembled. Over a two-year period, analysts at Environmental Working Group (EWG) gathered tap water testing data from 42 states (**USA**) to produce the most comprehensive picture of tap water quality ever created. States collect water quality testing data from drinking water utilities to fulfill their role as primary enforcement agents, but federal law fails to give EPA authority to do the same. EWG will be making its data available to the EPA, state authorities and water utilities. Individuals can find their own community water system at [EWG website](#).

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NOMINATIONS & VACANCIES

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25. **Nominations Welcome for the 2006 Stockholm Industry Water Award:** The nomination period for the 2006 Stockholm Industry Water Award has now started. Nominations are welcome until **February 28, 2006**. The Stockholm Industry Water Award stimulates business sector contributions to sustainable development in the water sector, and to minimised water consumption and pollution load on the environment. It was established in 2000 by the Stockholm Water Foundation in collaboration with the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences and the

World Business Council for Sustainable Development. The nomination brochure and an on-line nomination form can be found by visiting [the website](#) of SIWI.

26. SIWI (**Stockholm International Water Institute**) is seeking **2 qualified/senior project managers** for work on international water policy issues. The majority of the SIWI staff holding similar positions are men; SIWI would therefore encourage applications from women. A Curriculum Vitae and personal letter should be sent to Ms. Kerstin Harnesk, Head of Administration at SIWI, via [email](#). Applications must be received at the latest by **December 23, 2005**. See [the full announcement](#) for complete information, or visit our [Forum](#).

27. The **EIB** (European Investment Bank) is looking for a **Water Sector Specialist** (Economist / Engineer) to Assess within a multidisciplinary team, of the economic, financial, technical, operational, environmental and social viability of water and sanitation investment projects, to Monitor the implementation of projects financed by the Bank, to prepare water sector studies and sector lending strategies, to manage technical assignments for project preparation and technical assistance to promoters, and to coordinate water sector strategies and project development with the European Commission and International Aid Agencies. This advertisement will be withdrawn on the **10th February 2006**. See [EMWIS Forum](#) for more details.

28. Applications are invited for **one post-doctoral research fellowship** starting **1st April 2006**, at INRA-Castanet, in collaboration with the Mesoscale Modelling Group at Centre National de la Recherche Météorologique (CNRM) in Toulouse, France, to work on the following subject: "**Estimating the impact of climate change on the irrigation water demand of the Adour-Garonne basin**". The objective of the project is to develop a simulation tool integrating a CO2-responsive land surface model and a realistic representation of farming practices in order to analyse possible impacts of climate change on the water demand for irrigation at a catchment scale. The closing date for applications is **15 February 2005**. Contact [Dr. Jacques-Eric Bergez](#) or visit [our Forum](#) for further information.

29. **SAUR**, is the 3rd French group of private management of public services with more than 14.000 collaborators in the world. The management of the water cycle their trade: production and distribution of drinking water, cleansing and purification, design and construction of water treatment plants. SAUR is looking for **an expert in wastewater** with experience of more than 5 years to work with them. See [the website of Emploi-Environnement](#) for further information. (only in French)

30. On January 1, 2006, UNESCO-IHE and 31 international partners will start the EU 6th framework project Sustainable Water management Improves Tomorrow's Cities' Health (SWITCH). The project will run until December 31, 2010 and has a total budget of 23 million euro. For the day-to-day management of the project a SWITCH secretariat will be established. This secretariat will be staffed by a Project Manager (0.8 fte), a Scientific Coordinator (0.1 fte) and a Financial/Administrative Support Officer (0.6 fte). To make this secretariat operational, UNESCO-IHE wishes to appoint a **Project Manager** (m/f). The Project Manager will be positioned within the Department of Environmental Resources. Additional information can be obtained from [Mr E.D. de Ruyter van Steveninck](#), PhD MSc, Head of Environmental Resources Department, or from [Prof. H.J. Gijzen](#), PhD MSc. Applications can be sent before **12 January 2006** to [UNESCO-IHE, Personnel and Organisation](#), P.O. Box 3015, 2601 DA Delft, The Netherlands, stating vacancy number 05-350-07. The selection interviews are planned in week 6 and 7.

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PUBLICATIONS
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31. "**FEMIP and the Mediterranean partner countries**" is a new brochure that gives an in depth summary of EIB activity in the Mediterranean partner countries. Pinpointing the eligible sectors for

funding under the EIB's financing programme, FEMIP (Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership), this publication offers an insight into the finance facilities available in the FEMIP region, as well as underpinning further EIB actions to foster links between the EU and the Mediterranean neighbours. See [EIB website](#) to get this publication (available in English, French & Spanish).

32. "**Environment and sustainable development in the Mediterranean partner countries**" is a new publication that offers a key insight into lending in the Mediterranean region in favour of safeguarding and rehabilitating the environment, as well as reducing pollution and improving quality of life. See [EIB website](#) to get this publication (available in English & French).

33. **Nostrum-Dss project** (Network on Governance, Science and Technology for Sustainable Water Resource Management in the Mediterranean. The role of DSS tools) which is an **INCO-MPC project** coordinated by **FEEM**, is a coordination action, funded by the European Commission under FP6, which promotes the development of more effective DSS tools in support of policy making for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the Mediterranean area. The Scientific Coordinator of the project is Prof Carlo Giupponi. If you wish more information on the project you can visit [the project web-site](#). Moreover, check the [the first issue](#) of NOSTRUM-DSS Electronic Newsletter.

34. "**European Neighbourhood Policy: A year of progress**". Since the presentation of the first European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) Action Plans a year ago, the policy is proving its worth as a key instrument to promote good governance, economic and social development in countries around the EU's land and sea borders. In this Communication, the Commission is setting out the progress so far and underlining the priorities for the coming year. The paper sets out how the ENP is responding to neighbouring countries wishes for closer relations with the EU, how it is addressing the concerns of EU citizens regarding issues such as migration and organised crime, and helping to achieve the objectives of the European Security Strategy. [The Communication](#) can be downloaded.

35. The 2nd edition of "**Integrated Design and Operation of Water Treatment Facilities**" has been published. This Second Edition of Susumu Kawamura's landmark volume offers comprehensive coverage of water treatment facility design, from the basic principles to the latest innovations. It covers a broad spectrum of water treatment process designs in detail and offers clear guidelines on how to choose the unit, process, and equipment that will maximize overall efficiency and minimize maintenance costs. This book also explores many important operational issues that affect today's plant operators and facility designers. See [the website of water technology](#) for further information.

36. A critical and insightful look at the past, present, and future state of water and wastewater services, is what the recent publication: "**Reinventing Water and Wastewater Systems: Global Lessons for Improving Water Management**" tried to deal with. See [the website of water technology](#) for further information.

37. The book titled: "**Theory and Practice of Water and Wastewater Treatment**" details the technologies used in water and wastewater management today, including standard practice and state of the art. Its main focus is on the mechanics of processes to treat water or wastewater. See [the website of water technology](#) for further information.

38. The book: "**Using Statistical Methods for Water Quality Management: Issues, Problems and Solutions**" is a practical exploration of alternative approaches to analyzing water-related environmental issues. See [the website of water technology](#) for further information.

39. "**Viruses in Water Systems: Detection and Identification**" is the title of a handbook for virological water analysis and sanitary controls. It treats the subject in its entirety from sampling

strategy to the identification and quantification of the isolated virus. It is designed as a practical reference book to be used at the laboratory bench and even contains material on the design of the laboratory. The information on the quantification of viruses is original and exhaustive. See [the website of water technology](#) for further information.

40. "**Water Quality Modeling for Wasteload Allocations and TMDLs**" provides practical guidance for engineers charged with determining the volume and character of wastewater that a body of water can receive without suffering environmental damage. Following the discussion on water pollution control regulations and their relationships to water quality modeling and wasteload allocation for determining the total maximum daily load (TMDL), the first half of the book focuses on quantifying the model coefficients to characterize physical, chemical, and biological processes of a variety of water quality problems. See [the website of water technology](#) for further information.

41. Completely revised and updated to address current practices and technologies, "**Water Treatment: Principles and Design**", Second Edition provides unique coverage of both the principles and theory of water treatment, as well as the practical considerations of plant design and distribution. Written by the world's leading water engineering firm, Water Treatment: Principles and Design, Second Edition presents the breadth of water treatment engineering-from the theory and principles of water chemistry and microbiology to in-depth discussions of revolutionary treatment processes to concise tips for plant and network design. See [the website of water technology](#) for further information.

42. Europe Aid has published **the 2nd issue of the ACP--EU Water Facility newsletter**. [Click here](#) to download it.

43. **A forum within NOSTRUM-DSS project** is launched. The aim of this forum is to support the activities undertaken under the Co-ordination Action. The forum is organised by means of a mailing list; the participants simply have to reply to an usual e-mail message and their answers will be circulated to the other forum members and posted on the website. Interested people are invited to join [this forum](#). If you are interested in taking part in the discussion, inform [Ms. Roberta Camera](#) (or sending an e-mail to nostrum@feem.it) and you will receive the needed user id and password to access the forum. The first topic of the forum is related to **virtual water**.

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CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS
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44. **Grants for Strengthening Capacity in Water Resources Research Citizens** from Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia and Uganda are eligible for grants of up to **US\$12.000** (€9.600) for work on various water issues from the Inter-Islamic Network on Water Resource Development. Apply before: **Saturday 31 December 2005**. See [IFS \(International Foundation of Science\) website](#) for further information.

45. The organisers of the International Workshop: "International Perspectives on Balancing Multiple Bottom Lines: Financial, Environmental, and Social Justice" which is organised under the umbrella of **the 5th World Water Congress** to be held in **10-14 September 2006** in Beijing (China), look for **potential speakers** who might be able to attend it. See the [Workshop proposal](#) and [an abstract](#) on the main issue of the workshop for further information. You can also contact [Cheryl K. Davis](#). You can finally consult [the official](#) website.

46. **Algeria:** A contract of technical attendance for the "**regional program of modernization of irrigation systems in the River Basin of the Chelif**" is announced by the **AECI** (Spanish Agency for International Cooperation). **The deadline is: 23 January 2006.** See [AECI website](#) for further information (given in Spanish), but you can check the terms of reference in French in the same page.

47. **The 2nd Call for Proposals of the ACP-EU Water Facility** is expected to be launched by the **end of March 2006.** Contrary to the first call for proposals, there will be only one phase of evaluation for the 2nd Call (Due to the sunset clause of the 9 th EDF programme the Commission is obliged to commit all funds before the end of 2007). See [the website of EuropeAid](#) for further details.

48. **Draft Work Programme for the fifth call on "Scientific Support to Policies"** (SSP-5): This is only a **draft.** The official text and call for proposals are planned for publication on **22 December 2005**, with closing date on **22 March 2006** (to be confirmed). As for all SSP calls, the instruments are: **STREP, CA and SSA projects.**

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CALL FOR PAPERS
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49. **BALWOIS Conference on Water Observation and Information System for Decision Support** will be held in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia, **23/26 May 2006.** The last call for papers is open till **15 February 2006** for receipt of the final presentations. Topics of interest are: Climate and Environment, Hydrological regimes and water balances, Droughts and Floods, Integrated water management, Lakes, Water protection and Eco-hydrology, Hydrological Modelling, Information Systems. All information on BALWOIS Information System is [available](#) on line, and on the conference itself also [here](#). Abstracts must be sent to [the secretariat](#).

50. **First Announcement and Call for Abstracts: 2006 World Water Week in Stockholm:** Abstracts to be considered for presentation at the 2006 World Water Week in Stockholm are being sought now and are welcome until **February 1, 2006.** "Beyond the River – Sharing Benefits and Responsibilities" is the theme of the 2006 World Water Week, which takes place August 20-26, 2006, and will address livelihood improvement, land-based activities within a river basin, and society's ability to cope with natural disasters, among other aspects. For more information, or to download the First Announcement, visit the completely updated [home page](#). You can even submit an abstract on-line.

51. The 2nd International Symposium on **Recent Advances in Quantitative Remote Sensing** to be held in Torrent (Valencia, Spain) next 25-29 September 2006, has announced **a call for paper** to be due on **February, 15th, 2006.** This symposium organised by the Global Change Unit (University of Valencia) addresses the scientific advances in connection with real applications, its main goal being to assess the state of the art of both theory and applications in the analysis of Remote Sensing data. Contact [Prof. José Antonio Sobrino](#) or visit [the website](#) for further information.

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TRAINING
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52. A Summer School Information is to be organised in Montpezat en Provence (France) from May 14th to May 19th 2006, the topic of this high level international course will be: "Mediterranean

storms driven flash flood". The deadline has been extended to **January 1st, 2006**. See [the website of Amphore](#) for further details.

53. A course titled: "International Training of Trainers on Wetland Management", focusing on the facilitation of multi-stakeholder processes and curriculum development (ICWM-TOT) is to be held in Wageningen (The Netherlands) between 8 and 26 May 2006. The ICWM-TOT has been designed for (future) trainers in wetland management. The course programme is suitable for wetland managers and land use planners, policy makers, consultants, researchers and NGO staff who have affinity with training. See [EMWIS news section](#) for further details.

54. The UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education organises a **Short Course on Water Quality Assessment** will be held in Delft (The Netherlands) between **13 February & 3 March 2006**. The objective of this three week course is to acquaint participants with the principles, techniques and management issues related to water quality description, monitoring and assessment. See [The website of UNESCO](#) for further information.

55. The UNESCO-IHE organises an **Online Short Course on Flood Modelling for Management**, from **2006-05-17 to 2006-05-26**, This course is a postgraduate study ideally suited for flood managers, water managers, flood modellers, engineers and scientists dealing with floods. This course will address questions such as: How are floods generated and how do they develop in time? What are better ways of designing flood protection schemes using models? What models can be used for forecasting floods? How should model results be used to inform decision-makers? See [The website of UNESCO](#) for further information.

56. The European Association of Environmental and Resources Economists (EAERE), the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM) and the Venice International University (VIU) announced their **annual European Summer School in Resource and Environmental Economics** for postgraduate students. The 2006 Summer School will take place from the 25th of June to the 1st of July 2006, at the VIU campus on the Island of San Servolo, in Venice. The theme of this Summer School is **Computable General Equilibrium Modelling in Environmental and Resource Economics**. **Deadline for application: February 1st, 2006**. See [EMWIS news section](#) for further details.

57. **Intensive Courses in Desalination:** Thermal processes and economics, management and economics, will be held in **L'Aquila, Italy on July 26-27** of the next year. For further information see [EMWIS news](#) section.

58. **On-line environmental/sustainability training:** Staffordshire University's web-based distance learning Masters programmes in Water and Environmental Management, Sustainability and Environmental Management, Pollution Management and Sustainable Development are now recruiting to start in **February 2006**. All of the information about these courses can be found at [the website](#) of **Staffordshire University**.

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EVENTS

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2005-12-26/28 - The first International conference on Groundwater in the 21st Century, Alexandria, Egypt.
For more information, [click here](#).

2006-01-24/27 - The International Symposium on Groundwater Sustainability (ISGWAS), Alicante, Spain.

For more information, [click here](#).

2006-02-01/03 - AQUAREC final conference, Barcelona, Spain.

For more information, [click here](#).

2006-02-06/17 - Integrated Water Resources Management in the Middle East, Kibbutz Ketura, Israel.

For more information, [click here](#).

2006-02-13/16 - 13rd Congress of African Water Association, Algiers, Algeria.

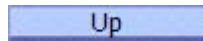
For more information, [click here](#).

2006-02-14/16 - Mediterranean Forum on the drought, Zaragoza, Spain.

For more information, [click here](#).

2006-03-16/22 - 4th World Water Forum, Mexico City, Mexico.

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