



EMWIS Flash - January 2005

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

EMWIS is a program of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

For further information: www.emwis.org

Monthly Flash produced by the EMWIS Technical Unit- [OIEAU](#), [CEDEX](#), [SOGESID](#)- with the support of
the [E.C.](#)

[Arabic version is available now](#)

*******HAPPY NEW YEAR 2005*******

Visualisation problem? [Click here](#)

=====

In this issue N°19

=====

HEADLINE

1. The 4th Meeting of the Multistakeholder Forum/Working Group of MED-EUWI

IN BRIEF

2. Zaragoza will host Expo 2008 under the theme "Water and Sustainable Development"
3. Agricultural Trade between the EU and the Palestinian Territories
4. 1st Euro-Mediterranean investment summit
5. CSD 13: Dutch NGOs propose actions on water, sanitation and human settlements
6. €5 million for clean-up of the Danube
7. €200 million EIB loan for wastewater management & groundwater protection schemes in Wallonia
8. The European Declaration for a New Water Culture and the WFD
9. Screening Methods for Water Data Information in support of WFD implementation
10. A Methodology for Selecting Cost-Effective Measures for the WFD
11. Keeping a check on the water project
12. UAE is world's third largest water consumer after U.S.

NOMINATIONS & VACANCIES

PUBLICATIONS

CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS

CALL FOR PAPERS

TRAINING

EVENTS

BRIEF EMWIS SITE MAP

CONTACT US / COMMENTS

=====

HEADLINE

=====

1. The 4th Meeting of the Multistakeholder Forum/Working Group of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative ([MED-EUWI](#)) will take place in Brussels on the 17th of January 2005. The Meeting will take place at the Premises of the Greek Permanent Representation to the EU in Brussels (Belgium). [Click here](#) to download the Draft "**Terms**

of Reference" paper for the Mediterranean Component to be discussed during the Meeting. This document presents the organizational framework of MED EUWI. It builds on the description presented in the [MED EUWI Activity Plan](#) and the organizational arrangements and modalities agreed for the overall EUWI. [Click here](#) to download the agenda. For more information, [click here](#).

=====
IN BRIEF
=====

2. The city of Zaragoza (Spain) won the election to host the next thematic Universal **Expo in 2008**, coinciding with the International Decade for Action "**Water for Life**" (2005-2015), with the theme "**Water and Sustainable Development**". Other candidates were the city of Trieste (Italy), with the theme "Mobility of Knowledge", and Thessalonica (Greece), with the theme "Terra Mater - Knowledge of the Earth, Agriculture, Nutrition". The election took place on 16 December 2004 in Paris. Delegates of the International Exhibitions Bureau (BIE) elected the city of Zaragoza with 57 votes. [Access EXPO2008's official website](#).

3. **Agricultural Trade between the EU and the Palestinian Territories** has been further liberalised since 1 January 2005 following a Decision by the EU Council of Ministers on 22 December amending the EU-Palestinian Authority Interim Association Agreement. The Decision, implemented by a European Commission Regulation approved on 30 December 2004, is a sign of the importance the EU attaches to the Interim Association Agreement with the Palestinian Authority. It should also be seen in the context of **the European Neighbourhood Policy** (ENP) shortly after the adoption of a Neighbourhood Action Plan with the Palestinian Authority. [Click here](#) for further information.

4. Decision-makers from both sides of the Mediterranean will meet in Marseilles on 13 and 14 January 2005 to attend **the 1st Euro-Mediterranean Investment Summit**, and to discuss practical ways of boosting investment in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The Summit is organised by Economist Conferences with the support of the MEDA funded [ANIMA Programme](#) (Euro-Mediterranean Network of Investment Promotion Agencies) designed to promote investment in the Mediterranean Partners, and managed by the European Commission's EuropeAid Cooperation Office. One of the discussions panels will be the water sector. [Click here](#) for further information.

5. In preparation for **the 13th Session of the Commission for Sustainable Development** (CSD) in April 2005, Dutch NGOs call for inclusion of **the human right to water**, sanitation and human settlements in national legislation. They also state that water should be recognised as a public trust in national and international laws and that it should therefore not be privatised. [Click here](#) for more information.

6. In the fourth project under a joint facility with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the EBRD (the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development) is lending **€5 million** to Slovenia's Probanka, Maribor, for projects aimed at reducing water pollution flowing into the Slovenian portion of **the Danube River Basin**. The GEF was set up in 1991 by the World Bank, UNDP ([United Nations Development Programme](#)) & UNEP ([United Nations Environment Programme](#)) to provide grant and concession funding for measures to achieve global environmental benefits. Typical areas of GEF focus are biodiversity, climate

change, international waters, land degradation, the ozone layer, and persistent organic pollutants. The facility has allocated **\$4.5 billion** in grants to support more than 1200 projects in 140 developing nations. For more information, visit the [website](#).

7. The European Investment Bank ([EIB](#)), the European Union's long-term financing institution, is making available to SPGE (Société Publique de Gestion de l'Eau) a long-term loan of **€200 million** for investment in public sanitation, **protection of water catchment areas and priority drainage works**. This first operation in Wallonia with SPGE plus the other loans already concluded with the Flemish water treatment company Aquafin brings the EIB's support for this sector in Belgium to **€327 million**. For more information, visit the [website](#).

8. The European Declaration for a **New Water Culture & the Water Framework Directive conference**, organized by **Gruppo183**, an Italian association for water and soil protection, is aimed at presenting and discussing the European Declaration for a New Water Culture, an initiative of the European scientific community to support the Water Framework Directive (WFD) in the European Union. For more information, visit the [website](#).

9. The **SWIFT-WFD project** (Screening Methods for Water Data Information in support of the implementation of **the Water Framework Directive**) is holding its first annual workshop in Brussels, Belgium, from **7 to 8 March 2005**. The objective of this workshop is to show the relevance of using existing low-cost monitoring methods to demonstrate the interest in developing new tools, and to discuss their use and advantages. The workshop will explain how the SWIFT-WFD project is seeking to find ways to comply with Water Framework Directive requirements. For more information, [click here](#) or contact [Valentine Vierne](#). [Click here](#) to check the preliminary agenda.

10. In the third issue of the Journal for European Environmental and Planning Law (JEEPL), Nicole Kranz, Benjamin Görlach & Eduard Interwies published an article on the selection of cost-effective combinations of measures according to Article 11 of [the Water Framework Directive](#) (WFD). The article highlights the results of the project "[Basic principles for selecting the most cost-effective combinations of measures](#)", conducted by Ecologic in 2003 for the [German Federal Environmental Agency](#). In the context of this project and for the first time in Europe, a methodology was developed to ensure more transparency in the process of selecting cost-effective measures in the context of WFD-implementation. For more information, [click here](#).

11. The main objective of "**Keeping a check on the water**" **project** was to demonstrate that the quality of water resources can be reliably monitored, and therefore guaranteed, at a cost acceptable to local authorities. Significantly, the project has demonstrated improved surveillance and more effective protection of hydrological resources. It has simplified maintenance of surveillance and alert stations and reduced investment and operational costs for measurement and alert stations. [Click here](#) for more information.

12. At present, **the UAE is the world's third largest per capita water consumer after the US and Canada**. The consumption of water is expected to increase by 44 per cent to 3,2 billion cubic metres by 2025, according to a survey. The ever increasing demands of water in the country is met by **an extensive desalination programme**, and it has made the country now the second largest producer of desalinated water after Saudi Arabia. [Click here](#) for further information.

NOMINATIONS & VACANCIES

13. UNESCO-IHE is looking for a **professor in Hydraulic Engineering** with a keen interest and experience in river engineering in light of integrated river basin development and management. Applications (letter of motivation, CV and references) can be sent **until 04 February 2005** to UNESCO-IHE, [Personnel and Organisation Department](#). [Click here](#) for more information.

14. **William Cosgrove** informed the members of the World Water Council of his resignation from the Presidency and the Board of Governors of the Council effective January 7, 2005 to take up the position of **President of the Bureau des audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE)** in **Québec**. For further details, [click here](#).

15. The [IUCN](#) (The World Conservation Union) Regional Office for Europe (ROfE) in Brussels is seeking to recruit as soon as possible a new team member (**Countdown 2010 Senior Advisor**) to implement the [Countdown 2010](#). This pan-European initiative brings together a broad alliance of IUCN members and partner organisations with the goal to ensure that all European governments, at every level, have taken the necessary actions to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010. Applicants are asked to submit their CV and a letter of motivation in English before **15th January 2005** by [email](#), with the subject heading "Countdown 2010 Senior Advisor". For detailed information, [click here](#).

16. **The IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation in Malaga**, Spain is seeking a new staff member with immediate effect to assist in setting up and implementing the emerging [IUCN](#) programme for the Mediterranean region. This challenging staff position arises as IUCN establishes itself in the pleasant working environment of the Parque Tecnológico near Malaga, Spain. The IUCN Malaga Office is supported financially by the Ministry of Environment, Madrid, and the Consejería de Medio Ambiente (Andalusia, Spain). Applications should be submitted before **31 January 2005** by [e-mail](#) or by fax to: +34 952 028 145. For detailed information, [click here](#).

17. **The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)** seeks a qualified candidate to serve as a Research Fellow (RF)/Postdoctoral Fellow for a two-year, fixed term, renewable appointment for its Environment and Production Technology Division. This position is based at IFPRI headquarters located in Washington, DC but may involve travel to any of the countries in which IFPRI carries out its research. Application deadline: 14th January or until filled. For more information click on [IFPRI website](#) , or contact [IFPRI](#).

PUBLICATIONS

18. [The Office of Water Policy \(OWP\)](#) in Western Australia has produced a CD/DVD package of the complete proceedings from the October 2003 international conference "**Global Developments in Water Industry Performance Benchmarking**". The

conference Website may still be visited by [clicking here](#). For more information about the aforementioned proceedings, [click here](#).

19. A new report on **Public Participation in Water Management** in the Eastern Baltic Sea Region was prepared as part of GWP CEE ([Global Water Partnership Central and Easter Europe](#)) Public Participation Task Force activities. Recent years have seen a rapid growth of interest in public participation in a wide range of sectors and contexts, including environmental management, agriculture, conservation etc. Public participation has gained wide recognition on different levels of governance as a key principle for water management. [Click here](#) for further information.

20. "**Nitrates in groundwater**" is the first book devoted entirely to the problem of nitrate risk and behavior in groundwater, this volume includes twenty-seven papers selected from those presented during the Eurometing of the International Association of Hydrogeologists "Nitrate in Groundwater in Europe" held in Wisla, Poland in 2002. For more information contact with [Mrs. Lidia Razowska](#).

21. **Africa/Middle East Power and Water** (AfME) is an authoritative fortnightly publication that has been developed to meet the needs of professionals working in the power and water industry in both Africa and the Middle East. This publication is fee paying. The interested persons are called to contact [Mr. Dan Morrissy](#). To download the 8th issue, [click here](#).

22. A new report titled: "**Valuation of water resources in agriculture**" has been published by the FAO. This report reviews the large set of literature on the subject and makes the case for the adoption of a functional approach to water valuation as a basis for negotiating the allocations of raw water to agriculture (and the allocations within the agriculture sector). [Click here](#) to get it.

23. **Ethics of Water-Related Disasters** (Essay 9 in Series on Water and Ethics) by Mr. James Dooge, discusses the nature and impacts of water-related disasters and the scope for the mitigation of the vulnerability of communities to such disasters. This essay is one of a series on Water and Ethics published under the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO. [Click here](#) to download the entire document.

24. A new web page about **the Commission on Sustainable Development Session 13** has been launched. It outlines the background to CSD13, NGO priorities for action and details of how to get involved. It will be updated as the CSD13 meeting approaches during 11-22 April 2005. [Click here](#) to view the page.

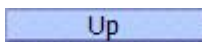
25. "**Chemistry & Treatment of Arsenic in Drinking Water**" by Ramesh Narasimhan, is the first comprehensive treatment and design handbook that will increase understanding of arsenic treatment and provide guidance to utility managers, engineers, consultants, operators, and state regulators in implementing compliant measures. [Click here](#) for further information.

26. During **the 2004 World Water Week in Stockholm**, the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) and the World Bank organised the Financing of Water Infrastructure Seminar. The Final Report from the seminar is available at the SIWI web site. [Click here](#) to download it.

27. [The Mediterranean Institute of Water](#) has published the proceedings book of the workshop organized in Montpellier on May 24th and 25th, 2004 in order to launch the **Mediterranean observatory of Irrigation**. To get it, Contact [IME- Marseille](#).

28. The 13rd issue of "**Échanges Med Infos**" newsletter has been published. One of the themes addressed in this issue is the price of drinking water. [Click here](#) to download it. (in French only)

29. The 45th issue of "pS-Eau" newsletter has been published. [Click here](#) to download it (in French only), and [click here](#) to view the previous issues.



=====
CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS
=====

30. Call for proposals: The EU has launched its **€500 million Water Facility for ACP** (Africa, Caribbean, Pacific) countries. It will hopefully drive progress towards achievement of the water and sanitation MDGs. The deadline for proposals is **extended to 31st January 2005** and civil society organizations from the region or the EU can apply. For more information, visit the [website](#).

31. The Environmental Statistics Programme **MEDSTAT** in its Statistical cooperation Phase II (Mediterranean Region) announced a call for tender. MEDSTAT II aims at improving the sustainable capacity of the Mediterranean Partners to produce and publish comprehensive, reliable, timely and relevant statistics in different sectors to meet international standards and to answer users' needs. Reference: [EuropeAid/120096/C/SV/Multi](#). Maximum budget: **€19.3 M** (Lot1 & Lot2). The deadline is **14 of January 2005**. [Click here](#) for more information.

32. Call for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: "[Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area](#)" has been launched. The deadline is **15 March 2005**. Budget: **€205 M**. Funding for the participation of researchers teams and institutions from third countries (i.e. states that are neither Member States nor states associated to the Framework Programme) can be made available in most cases in the same way as for EU partners (see [here](#) for conditions). Further information can be found [here](#).

33. Call to IHE Alumni: "**Stockholm Industry Water Award**" was established by the Stockholm Water Foundation in cooperation with the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development to stimulate business sector contributions to sustainable development. The Stockholm Industry Water Award will be presented on August 24, 2005, during the World Water Week in Stockholm. The deadline for nomination is **February 28, 2005**. [Click here](#) for More Information.

34. A new **SMAP III** financing proposal has been presented for a **€15 million** environmental programme that will concentrate on technical assistance for the furthering of sustainable development policy as well as the preparation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management plans. This concentration on more limited goals than previous [SMAP](#) funding

programmes was proposed in an effort of improving the effectiveness of SMAP funding. The first component is foreseen to be launched by the end of 2004, while the second during 2005. [Click here](#) to view the current programme summary.

35. Call for proposals for **Marie Curie Host Fellowships** for the Transfer of Knowledge has been launched. Next deadline: **18 May 2005**. [Click here](#) for more details.

36. **EU FP6 call for proposal** on Scientific Support to Policies has been published with a budget of **€77.8 million**. The work programme covers more than thirty environmental topics. Project Proposals by **MEDA Countries** entities and international organisations are welcome to participate. The deadline for submission of proposals is **1 February 2005 at 17.00 (Brussels local time)**. More information on the call available through the following [website](#).

Up

=====
CALL FOR PAPERS
=====

37. **The First EMPOWERS Regional Symposium:** "Sharing Experiences on Involving Users in Integrated Water Resources Management at the Local and Intermediate Levels" has announced a call for papers. This symposium will be held in Cairo (Egypt) between 13 and 16 November 2005. The abstracts are to be e-mailed by **April 15th 2005**, to [the abstract coordinator](#): Mrs. Mona Barghout. The deadline for submission of final drafts of papers is June 30th 2005. For more information, [click here](#).

38. **The 1st ZERO-M Conference on Sustainable Water Management** will be organised by TUBITAK-Marmara Research Center and other partners of MEDA Zer0-M Project, and it will be held in Istanbul (Turkey) the days 15 & 16 March 2005. The conference focus includes: Technology and Innovation, Water Efficiency and Reuse and Implementing Sustainable Water Management Measures. The deadline for submitting abstracts is January 15, 2005. For more info, contact: [Ozgur Dogan](#), or [click here](#).

39. The **2005 World Water Week** in Stockholm First Announcement and **Call for Abstracts** is now available. The World Water Week in Stockholm takes place August 21-27, 2005, and will be a global gathering of leading experts from the business, civil society, governmental, inter-governmental, science and water management sectors. The complete programme can be found at the newly-launched home page. Until **February 1, 2005**, abstracts are being accepted for presentation during the World Water Week's Stockholm Water Symposium workshops under the overall theme "Drainage Basin Management Hard and Soft Solutions in Regional Development." For more information, [click here](#).

40. **The International Water History Association (IWHA)** invites panel proposals and individual paper abstracts for IWHA's fourth biennial conference, which will be held in Paris between 1 & 4 December 2005. The program, which will address diverse topics related to water and history, will bring together scholars and practitioners from a variety of disciplines and different parts of the world. Participants are invited to submit paper abstracts (maximum 250 words) no later than **March 1, 2005**. Only proposals and abstracts sent via this [link](#) will be considered. For more information, [click here](#).

41. The **Second Mediterranean Conference on Water Resources in Mediterranean Basin** (WATMED2) that will be held in Marrakech (Morocco) on 14-17 November 2005, announced a **call for papers**. The persons desiring to attend the congress are invited to register [online](#). The abstracts of the communications must be composed according to the [furnished model](#). They should be sent as a formatted Word file, by [e-mail](#), before **31 January 2005**. For more information, [click here](#).

42. The European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2005 (**EGU 2005**) invites interested people to submit an abstract for the session: Remote sensing in hydrology: space observations and field experiments. This assembly will be held in Vienna (Austria) between 24 & 29 April 2005. The deadline for abstracts is **January 21, 2005**. [Click here](#) to view the announcement, or see [the website](#).

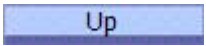
43. The 7th International Conference on the Mediterranean Coastal Environment / MEDCOAST 05, announces a call for papers until **January 31st, 2005**. This conference will be held in Kusadasi (Turkey) from 25 to 29 October 2005. For more information contact [MEDCOAST Secretariat](#), or visit [the website](#).

44. **The 2nd WEKNOW Conference** will take place in Bratislava, Slovak Republic from 13 - 15 June 2005. The Conference will present the state of European science on drinking water quality with emphasis on research outcomes that assist risk assessment and risk management strategies. The conference attendance is free of charge for the first 100 registered participants. Download [the 1st announcement](#). For more information, [click here](#).

=====
TRAINING
=====

45. [The New Media School](#) will organise the Comenius/Grundtvig course from the 24th until the 30th of September 2005 near the Etna, in Sicily (Italy). The goals of the course are to illustrate the links between **life- water-ecology and society**, to train the participants in the use of the biotic index for water quality assessment, to promote water as theme for environmental education and to provide scientific tools for sustainable development. [Click here](#) for more information.

46. The European Desalination Society will be hosting a four-day course "**RO, NF and membrane filtration technology for potable water applications**", concentrating on reverse osmosis, nanofiltration and membrane filtration for potable water. Topics will include practical information about performance and operating conditions with filtration technology for brackish and seawater desalting. The program includes introduction to membrane technology, description of commercial membrane elements, illustration of the membrane system design process and an overview of all systems operations, the release noted. For more information, [click here](#).



=====
EVENTS
=====

2005-01-15 - European Water Resources Association 6th International Conference: Sharing a common vision for our water resources, Menton, France.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-01-17 - The 4th Meeting of the Multistakeholder Forum/Working Group of MED-EUWI, Brussels, Belgium.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-01-24/28 - International Conference: Biodiversity : Science & governance, Paris, France.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-01-27/28 - SMAP Workshop on Mainstreaming Environment in Morocco, Rabat, Morocco.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-01-30/02-02 - Environment, Water and Energy 2005 - the 3rd exhibition and conference for the GCC region, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE).
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-01-31/02-01 - World Wetland Day, London, England.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-01-31/02-05 - FAO/Netherlands International Conference on Water for Food and Ecosystems, The Hague, The Netherlands.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-02-01/02 - Management and Economics of Water Desalination Units, Alexandria, Egypt.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-02-12/17 - EMPOWERS / INWRDAM Training Workshop on Participatory Integrated Water Resources Management, Beirut, Lebanon.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-02-17 - International Conference of the LIFE-3rd Countries Project COMWATER (LIFE 02 TCY/CY/019), Nicosia, Cyprus.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-02-23/25 - Integrated Assessment and Management of Water Resources: A North-South Analysis, Bonn, Germany.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-02-26/03-01 - International Conference and Exhibition on Geo-Resources in the Middle East and North Africa, Cairo, Egypt.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-03-07/08 - SWIFT-WFD: Screening methods for Water data InFormation in support of the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, Brussels, Belgium.
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-03-15/16 - 1st ZERO-M Conference on Sustainable Water Management, Istanbul, Turkey.

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

2005-03-15/17 - The Euro-Mediterranean Centre of Water, Marseille, France.

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

2005-03-17/20 - Ninth International Water Technology Conference, Sharm El-Sheikh, Sinai, Egypt.

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

2005-03-17/20 - The 2nd Alternative World Forum, Geneva, Switzerland.

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

2005-04-06/09 - Integrated Management of Water Resources Based on the River Basin, Xanthi, Greece.

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

2005-04-11/13 - Water Resources Management 2005, Algarve, Portugal.

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

2005-04-18/21 - Promoting Community-driven Conservation and Sustainable Use of Drylan Agrobiodiversity, Aleppo, Syria.

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

2005-04-20/21 - French-Catalan days on Water and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean, Spain.

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

2005-04-24/29 - EGU 2005: Remote sensing in hydrology: space observations and field experiments, Vienna, Austria.

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

[Up](#)

=====
BRIEF EMWIS SITE MAP
=====

[ABOUT EMWIS](#)

[WATER in the EURO-MED PARTNERSHIP](#): milestones, main players, MEDA programme

[EMWIS NATIONAL WEBSITES](#)

[INTERNATIONAL FOCAL POINT](#)

[LEGISLATION](#): national, European and international

[THEMATIC DIRECTORY](#)

[COMMENTS](#)

[SEARCH EMWIS WEBSITE](#)

=====
CONTACT US
=====

This is a monthly Flash provided by the EMWIS Technical Unit, to which you can get a free subscription, [click here for an open subscription](#).

The EMWIS Flash gives you regular and quality information on the water sector in the Euro-Mediterranean area. The main headlines are: Institutions, Documentation, Training, Research and Development, Data Administration. You will also find updates on: international events, relevant web sites, the Euro-Med Water programme of the European Commission, and much more

This Flash exists also in French and Arabic, you can view it and also the previous issues in our [website](#).

This Flash is also yours, please give us your [comments and information](#) to improve it
[Contact the EMWIS Technical Unit](#)

=====
This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Commission. The content can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union. This disclaimer is not intended to contravene any requirements laid down in applicable national law nor to exclude liability for matters which may not be excluded under that law.

