



**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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### **HEADLINE**

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1. The **8th Meeting of the EMWIS steering committee** will be held in Athens (Greece) on 23rd June 2005, just after the 10th Meeting of the **Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development** (2005/06/20-22) and [the 5th Meeting](#) of the Working Group of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (2005/06/22). During this meeting, the participants will discuss the collaboration with [Med-EUWI](#) and the Joint process ([WFD/EUWI](#)) initiative. They will also review the progress of [EMWIS second](#)

[phase](#) activities since [last meeting](#), and prepare the **Euro-Med Water Directors meeting**, and other issues. See more information at [EMWIS website](#).

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## IN BRIEF

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2. The 5th Meeting of the Working Group of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative ([MED EUWI](#)) will take place in Athens, the 22 June 2005 back-to-back with the 10th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development – **MCSD** (Athens, 20-22 June 2005, Holiday Inn Hotel). This meeting, opened to MED EUWI Working Group members and observers, will include a session on the Joint Process between MED EUWI and the Water Framework Directive ([WFD](#)). The Meeting's main aims are to review progress in implementing the 2005 Work Programme, to explore opportunities for the future, to identify long term priorities on water issues for the Mediterranean countries, to explore synergies with other parallel on-going initiatives, to identify means for enhancing partners' participation and consolidating the Component's organisational framework and to draw recommendations on the way forward for the Component. See more information at [EMWIS website](#).

3. The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (**MSSD**) is being drafted by the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (**MCSD**), an advisory body of [the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan](#). The MAP services the Barcelona Convention 1976 and its Protocols. The MCSD is expected to adopt the MSSD at its next meeting, Athens 20-22 June, which will then transmit the text for formal endorsement by the ministerial segment of the 14th Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, **Slovenia 8-11 November 2005**. Seven EU member states (France, Spain, Italy, Greece, Malta, Cyprus, Slovenia) and the European Community are Contracting Parties, along with 16 south and east Mediterranean states. The Commission represents the European Community. [Click here](#) for more information.

4. **Mediterranean Foreign Ministers meeting on 30-31 May in Luxembourg** reached agreed conclusions. This is the first time since the Barcelona Declaration in 1995 that this has occurred. Ministers assessed the achievements of **10 years' Euro-Mediterranean Partnership** and discussed future guidelines ahead of the Extraordinary High Level Meeting scheduled for **27-28 November in Barcelona**. Ministers reaffirmed that “the centrality of **the Barcelona Process** is a unanimously accepted principle”. They welcomed the establishment of the Parliamentary Assembly, the **Anna Lindh Foundation** and the non-governmental platform, as well as the activities of the Facility for Investment and Partnership (**FEMIP**), and **MEDA** funding which have accounted for over **€9.7 billion** since the programme started. Major progress has been made by the EIB through FEMIP, especially since it has been reinforced and is now lending to Mediterranean partners at a rate of 2 billion per year. FEMIP's concrete contribution on specific economic areas (SMEs, Water, Transportation, Financial, Products etc.). Ministers supported the successful conclusion of the drafting of the Mediterranean Strategy for sustainable development (**MSSD**), and insisted on the fact that quality of life of the average citizen in the Mediterranean should be improved by launching an initiative for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by 2020. The goal should be to tackle all the major sources of pollution including industrial emissions, municipal waste and particularly urban wastewater. This initiative would improve the prospects for the development of tourism, contribute towards stemming the decline in local fishery stocks as well as providing safe drinking water to millions of citizens. Ministers encouraged the mobilisation of financial resources to support Euro-Mediterranean countries in that respect. Ministers also “instructed the **Euromed Committee** to reinforce its co-ordination and review function”. The agreed conclusions for the Conference are available [on line](#).

5. [The Blue Plan](#) has organised a Regional workshop on "**Indicators for the Strategies and Policies of Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean**" in Nice (France) on May 9-11, 2005. This regional workshop allowed to discuss the first perspectives of the use of Sustainable Development indicators at international, and national levels, to propose a set of priority indicators. Visit [the website of the Blue Plan](#) to

get out the list of participants, the 1st set of priority indicators chosen, the agenda and the different presentations.

6. The working groups of the Euro-Mediterranean Network of Foreign Policy Institutes (**EuroMeSCo**) have published five reports on the web recently. They address various aspects of the Partnership : Promoting Democracy ; Interlinkages ; the Impact of European Security and Defence Policy; EU Enlargement and the Logic of Sub-Regionalism ; and Civil Society and Governance. See [the website of Euromesco](#).

7. **Catastrophic floods in Central Europe** in the summer of 2002 killed 110 people and caused more than €15 billion of damage. A powerful Decision Support System (DSS) developed under the EURTD project ([Ramflood](#)), promises to minimise the impact of severe flooding in the future. The Web-based DSS operates in real-time, drawing on environmental and geo-physical data from earth observation, satellite positioning systems, in-situ sensors and geo-referenced information. Users input hydraulic variables regarding the time and the flow of a river and the system produces hydrological and risk-assessment maps indicating how fast and where a flood would spread, the height of water in different locations and the duration of the flood. [See CORDIS announcement](#) for complete information.

8. Although the call for proposals for [LIFE projects](#) (on June 3) is not published yet in the Official Journal of the EU, the EC put already on line the new forms for proposals under LIFE Nature and LIFE Environment as well as the conditions of submission of the applications for 2006. In this context, the French Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development published an official statement which specifies the methods of presentation of proposals for LIFE in France. See [ENVIROPA notice](#) for complete information or consult [the last issue](#) of Enviropea newsletter. (In French)

9. **The Protocol on Water and Health** to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes is the first major international legal approach for the prevention, control and reduction of water-related diseases in Europe. It will enter into force in August 2005 and become legally binding for the ratifying countries. The Protocol was adopted in 1999 at the Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, and so far signed by 36 countries and ratified by 16. See [WHO website](#) for further information.

10. **HSBC** has become the first bank to set out sustainable development guidelines for its financing of freshwater infrastructure projects. The move, announced on 27th, May 2005 at the bank's annual general meeting, was hailed by conservation group WWF, who called on other banks to follow HSBC's lead. The guidelines, which are based on "**international sustainable development standards**", set out which types of projects the bank will and will not support. For instance, It will not support dams that do not conform to the standards set by the World Commission on Dams, or those that "are located in, or substantially impact on," critical natural habitats and UNESCO World Heritage sites. [Click here](#) for complete information.

11. **The EU Bathing Water Directive** lays down two sets of bathing water quality standards: minimum imperative values, with which compliance is mandatory, and stricter guide values, with which compliance is desirable but not obligatory. Member States are required to monitor the water quality in their designated bathing areas through regular sampling during the season and to report the results to the EC. [See Europe website](#) for complete information.

12. A first national consultation "**Respecting Water**" was launched in France by the Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development from May 2nd to November 2nd, 2005. This consultation proceeds within the framework of implementing the EU Water Framework Directive (**WFD**) which aims at reaching the good state of water in ten years, up to 2015. The Committees of Basin will carry out the synthesis of all the expressed opinions, and will propose a final document "the inventory of state of art and important questions" taking into account the contributions of the public debates. On the basis of this document a management plan will be proposed to define objectives and actions in order to reach a good state of water. The public will then again be consulted in 2007, on this second phase, which will be completed with the publication of a new SDAGE in 2009. See [the website of the Ministry](#) for more details.

13. **The European Investment Bank (EIB)**, the European Union's long-term financing institution, announces a **€150 million** loan to the Communauté Urbaine de Lyon to upgrade the drinking water supply and sewage treatment systems of Greater Lyon. View [EIB website](#) for more details.

14. The Moroccan ministry of Environment Water, & Regional planning (**MATEE**) and French company **Veolia Water Morocco** signed, last June 6th in Rabat, a convention of bearing partnership on joint projects of information, communication and education of mass in the fields of environment protection and sustainable development. Consult [the article](#) published by the Menara newspaper for more details. (In French)

15. The 7th summit of **the Sahel-Saharan States Community (CEN-SAD)** decided to help spread **the artificial rain technique** developed by **Morocco** to enable the community countries cope with problems related to farming water shortage. On agriculture, the summit decided to set up a research centre on seeds and seedlings, as well as agriculture and water bodies. Regarding political issue, the summit voiced willingness to implement the conflict prevention, management and settlement mechanism and enact the mutual defence protocol. See [Moroccan Times article](#) for complete information.

16. **WATER prices in Cyprus** are set to soar, with planned increases of as much as 34.3%. **The three Water Boards (Nicosia, Larnaca, Limassol)** have sent to the parliament their proposal to increase the selling price of water. According to the law, their suggestion must be approved by the Parliament. If the new price list is approved in parliament, the increases will be immediately implemented action. On the other hand, it is known that [the Water Development Department \(EMWIS NFP\)](#) are selling in bulk the potable water to the Distribution authorities. These Authorities, except the Water Boards, can increase the price immediately, without any approval by the Parliament. The last increase in price was in January 2005. View [Cyprus-mail](#) for further information.

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**NOMINATIONS & VACANCIES**  
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17. **Nelly Olin** succeeds Serge Lepeltier in **the French Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development**. [Click here](#) for more details.

18. **CIWEM** (The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management) is looking for a **Hydraulic Engineer/Hydrologist** in order to involve detailed design and project management of a number of high-profile projects, providing support to development applications through the planning process to ensure approval. Closing Date: **29/07/2005**. See [CIWEM website](#) for further details.

19. CIWEM is looking for **an experienced Water Engineer**, who will be involved with river/ coastal modelling, flood mapping and GIS schemes. The post holder will primarily be acting as a designer on the various projects our client is involved with. Applicants must hold a relevant degree qualification and a minimum of 3 years experience working on river/coastal schemes. Applicants must be proficient in the use of AutoCAD as well as relevant water engineering software packages. Closing Date: **01/07/2005**. See [CIWEM website](#) for further details.

20. Some Post vacancies can be consulted in EMWIS on line forum, and people or organisations are called to put their announcement in [this forum](#).

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**PUBLICATIONS**  
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21. **The International Network of Basin Organisations (INBO)** has just published a web page with all the presentations and conclusions of the Technical Seminar on IWRM & Extreme events in the Mediterranean region with emphasis in North Africa, and the General Assembly of MENBO, INBO World Liaison Bureau & ANBO Liaison Bureau, which was held in Marrakech (Morocco), past 23-26 May, 2005. See [INBO webpage](#).

22. "**Competition and Economic Regulation in Water**" is a new book that focuses on the best means of regulating or introducing competition into the industry in light of its present structure. As it is known, the Future of the European Water Industry reviews the main developments in economic regulation and competition in the European water industry and considers ways in which economic regulation and competition should be further developed. [Click here](#) for more details.

23. "**Irrigation and Drainage Performance Assessment: Practical Guidelines**" is a new book developed by a working group of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID). It draws together the growing body of knowledge on irrigation and drainage performance assessment that has been gained over the last twenty years. It provides guidelines for practitioners to enable them to design and carry out performance assessment and implement performance-based management. [Click here](#) for more details.

24. "**Irrigation and River Basin Management: Options for Governance and Institutions**" is a new book based on research by IWMI and others. It reviews basin management in six developed and developing countries. It describes and applies a functional theory of river basin management, based on the idea that there is a minimum set of functions required to manage basins effectively and a set of basic conditions that enable effective management institutions to emerge. The book looks at what lessons can be learned and to identify what constitutes the core of a 'theory of river basin management'. It concludes that although it is difficult for developing countries to adopt approaches and institutional designs directly from developed countries, basic principles and lessons are transferable. [Click here](#) for more details.

25. "**Monitoring Stream and Watershed Restoration**" is a new book that provides a comprehensive, practical resource for developing monitoring and evaluation programmes for freshwater habitat restoration at various scales. Its unique emphasis is on how to monitor effects at habitat unit (site), reach and watershed scales. Numerous examples are given, particularly of restoration activities for coolwater biota and salmonid fishes. However, the principles discussed are relevant worldwide. [Click here](#) for more details.

26. "**The Price of Water**" by Stephen Merrett, provides information that many readers would not otherwise have access to through their professional and academic libraries. The basic disciplines of the articles are economics and philosophy, built upon by discussion of hydrology, civil engineering, water law and water resource planning. This book brings together 14 papers previously published in refereed journals. [Click here](#) for more details.

27. "**Water Services Management**" by David Stephenson, is intended to educate engineers to manage and improve water services, rather than simply designing and constructing treatment works and distribution systems. The text covers water supply and drainage from the hydraulic and economic points of view, and while design and construction practices are reviewed, the focus of the book is on improving existing systems to turn the emerging industry into an attractive business. [Click here](#) for more details.

28. **Global Water Quality Database** Goes Online UNEP's Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS) Water Programme launches [GEMStat](#): a new online searchable database of global water quality data and statistics.

29. **FAO and UNESCO** have joined forces and embarked on a publication project "**Groundwater in international law: Compilation of treaties and other legal instruments**". It brings together a variety of binding and non-binding international law instruments that, in varying degrees and from different angles,

deal with groundwater. Its aim is to report developments in international law and to contribute to detecting law in-the making in this important field. [Click here](#) to download this publication.

30. "**Instrumentation, Control and Automation in Wastewater Systems**" is the title of a new book published by IWA (International Water Association). It summarizes the state-of-the-art of ICA (Instrumentation, control and automation) and its application in wastewater treatment systems and focuses on how leading-edge technology is used for better operation. View [the website of IWA](#) for more information.

31. Water Resources Management III ([Water resources 2005](#)) brings together the work of researchers and professionals currently involved in the development of technical and scientific skills that contribute to achieving water resources sustainability. Over 65 contributions originally presented at [the 3rd International Conference on Water Resources Management](#) are included. [Click here](#) for more information.

32. The French Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development has published recently a national monitoring map of dryness effects on water resources. [The map of the effects of the dryness on the water resource](#) aims to give an overall picture on the gravity of these effects per department. It acts as a tool of communication and national coordination and not a tool of local resource management. See [the website of the Ministry](#) for more details. (In French)

33. In EMWIS on line forum, the issue of "**right to water**" -reported from "right-to-water" forum- in the constitutions of European countries was discussed by Mr. Marc Maes who gave a first brief analysis of the current status. Check the entire message in [our forum](#).

34. The International congress on **Water for sustainable development in the Mediterranean basin**, organized by the laboratory of Research on Water Sciences (National polytechnic School, Algiers) past May 21-23, 2005 in Algiers (**Algeria**) has published its recommendations. Visit [EMWIS website](#) to view it with all the related information.

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**CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS**  
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35. The EC is to hold two information days in the context of the forthcoming call for proposals under the sub-priority 'global change and ecosystems' of the Sixth Framework Programme (**FP6**). The dates and topics of each event are as follows: - Intelligent testing strategies for chemicals - 8 July, Brussels; - **Water technologies** - 11 July, Brussels. The objective of the events will be to present the views of various stakeholder groups and, based on these, to launch an intensive discussion with all other participants. See [CORDIS website](#) for more information.

36. The 2nd Call for proposals of TWINBASIN Project is now launched to support Twinning agreements for motivated Basin Organisations. TwinBasin project can support these twinings by co-financing experts' mobility (plane tickets and per diem). **July 31st 2005 is the deadline to submit proposals**. See [TWINBASIN website](#) for further details.

37. The International Foundation for Science (**IFS**) and the **CGIAR** Challenge Program on Water & Food (**CPWF**) have issued a **call for research proposals open to young scientists in developing countries**, on a number of themes centering around Water and Food. Application Deadline: **30 June, 2005**. More details on the grant offered and application procedures are available at [EMWIS website](#).

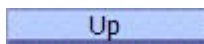
38. The **ICID** (International Commission on Irrigation & Drainage) has been awarding WatSave Awards to recognize outstanding contributions of professionals to water saving/ conservation for sustainable irrigated agriculture, since the year 1998. There are three categories of awards: Technology, Innovative Water

Management, and Young Professionals. Each award carries a prize of **US\$ 2000** and a Citation. The WatSave Award-2005 will be presented during the 56 IEC of ICID to be held at Beijing, China in **10-18 September 2005**. Those interested should submit their nominations electronically to the National Committee of ICID. [Click here](#) for more details.

39. Nomination period for **the King Hassan II Great World Water Prize** is now open until **September 30, 2005**. The King Hassan II Great World Water Prize for an amount of **\$100.000** will be awarded at the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico in March 2006. Either an organisation or an individual may receive it in honour of outstanding achievements in the water sector. The theme for the Prize is "Cooperation and solidarity in the fields of management and development in water resources". For detailed information on the procedure, please visit the [WWC's website](#) or write to [World Water Council](#).

40. **The Companies and Environment 2005 Prices** constitute the national stage of a European competition "European Business Awards for the Environment". The best applications for the Companies and Environment 2005 Prices will be submitted to the EC to contribute to the next edition of European Business Awards for the Environment. The participation in the Companies and Environment 2005 Prices is free. The due date of reception of the applications by the ACFCI (Assemblée des Chambres Françaises de Commerce et d'Industrie) is fixed at Friday **September 9, 2005**. [Click here](#) for more details. (In French)

41. [RSPB](#) and [CIWEM](#) are calling for entries for the 2006 Living Wetlands Award. The Award was established in 2003 by the two organisations to recognise and reward projects that demonstrate the multiple functions and sustainable use of wetland habitats. The prize includes **1500 GBP** to enhance the winning scheme's impact and the closing date for entries for the 2006 Award is **25 November 2005**. This year, CIWEM's East Midlands Branch is sponsoring the new category of best Small Living Wetland. See [the call for entries](#).



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**CALL FOR PAPERS**  
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42. Second call for papers for the "**Incertitude et Environnement**" workshop to be held in Arles (**France**) on 23-25 November 2005. The deadline is **1st July 2005**. Check [the announcement](#) or view [the website](#) for more details.

43. The 22nd International Congress on Large Dams to be organised by [the International Commission on Large Dams](#) (ICOLD) in Barcelona (Spain) on 18-23 June 2006, has announced a call for papers. Authors should submit an abstract in English, maximum 300 words, of their proposed paper to the Organizing Committee before **30th September 2005**. Authors of the papers selected will be notified before October 31st, 2005, and the final paper should be submitted before February 1st, 2006. View [ICOLD website](#) for further information.

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**TRAINING**  
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44. [The New Media School](#) will organise the Comenius/Grundtvig course in the period **24-30 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.

45. **UNESCO-IHE** organises a short course on Wetland & River Floodplain Ecology the days **11 - 29 of July 2005**. This course aims at promoting functional aspects and management of wetlands and riverine floodplain ecosystems. It will take place in the following locations: Trebon, Czech Republic and Vienna, Austria; Czech Academy of Sciences, Inst. f. Botany, Trebon; University of Vienna. The duration of this course is 3 Weeks. For more information, go to [UNESCO-IHE website](#).

46. The Institute of Water Resources Management in Austria organises a **Post Graduate Training Course on Groundwater tracing techniques** in Graz (Austria) between **22 August and 30 September 2005**. The course programme includes lectures on and practical exercises in geological and hydrological methods, emphasizing work under field conditions in developing countries. [Click here](#) for more details

47. As part of the [EMWater Project](#) (one of [MEDA WATER projects](#)) third year activities, It will organise the 2nd Web-Based Training that will take place from 05/09/2005 to 30/10/2005 for professionals in Wastewater Management, Treatment and Reuse from Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon and Turkey. The objectives of this training are: to refresh the participants' knowledge about wastewater engineering, to give solutions for decentralised wastewater treatment plants, to teach new appropriate technologies focused on sustainability and water reuse in rural areas of the Mediterranean countries, to improve know-how transfer between the Mediterranean countries. **Deadline for application is: 15 July 2005**. See more details at [EMWIS website](#).

48. [MEDAWARE project](#) (one of [MEDA WATER projects](#)) is organising a series of training days on various issues related to urban wastewater treatment technologies and systems with emphasis given to reuse in the agricultural production. The next ones will be organised successively in [Lebanon](#), [Cyprus](#) & [Jordan](#). See [MEDAWARE page](#) at our website for more details or contact [Dr. Despo FATTA](#).

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**EVENTS**  
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2005-06-13/15 - 2nd WEKNOW Conference, Bratislava, Slovak Republic.  
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-06-15/17 - The first conference on: Impact Assessment for a New Europe and Beyond, Manchester, UK.  
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-06-16/17 - 4th European Workshop on the contribution of Life Environment in EU environmental policy, Toulouse, France.  
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-06-17 - Treatment Technologies for Waters Impacted by Mining, Freiberg, Germany.  
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-06-20 - 6th International Conference on Hydrology, Ecology and Water, Bergen, Norway.  
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-06-20/23 - International Conference on Headwater Control VI: Hydrology, Ecology and Water Resources in Headwaters, Bergen, Norway.  
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-06-20/24 - "Design of water quality monitoring networks" training course, Horsholm, Denmark.  
For more information, [click here](#).

2005-06-20/22 - 10th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD), Athens, Greece.

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

2005-06-21/22 - 2 day Training Workshop in the framework of the MEDAWARE Project in Lebanon, Beirut, Lebanon.

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

2005-06-22 - The 5th Meeting of the Working Group of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI), Athens, Greece.

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

2005-06-23 - 8th Meeting of the EMWIS steering committee, Athens, Greece.

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

2005-06-23/24 - 2 day Training Workshop in the framework of the MEDAWARE Project in Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus.

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

2005-06-27/07-01 - 7th Cannes Water Symposium2005, Cannes, France.

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

2005-06-28/29 - Danube River Basin Stakeholder Conference, Budapest, Hungary.

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

2005-06-28/30 - Water & Wastewater Europe Conference & Exhibition, Milan, Italy.

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

2005-06-29 - Groundwater and Poverty Reduction in Africa, London, UK.

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

2005-06-29/30 - 2 day Training Workshop in the framework of the MEDAWARE Project in Jordan, Irbid, Jordan.

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

2005-06-30/07-01 - World City Forum- 3ème Forum Mondial de la Ville- Enhancing Water Management methods -Améliorer les modes de gestion de l'eau, Paris, France.

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

2005-07-08/10 - International Conference on Water Economics, Statistics and Finance, Rethymno, Crete, Greece.

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

2005-07-11/15 - Assessing the Ecological Status of Rivers, Lakes and Transitional Waters, Hull, UK.

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

2005-07-13 - CIWEM Conference: Water Framework Directive Series, Agricultural Diffuse Pollution: Understanding, Progress and Action, London, UK.

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

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**BRIEF EMWIS SITE MAP**

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