

## EMWIS Flash n°69, April 2009

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HTML clipboard EMWIS Flash - April 2009 Euro-Mediterranean Information System on the know-how in the Water Sector EMWIS is a program of the Union for the Mediterranean . For further information: <http://www.emwis.net> Monthly Flash produced by the EMWIS Technical Unit- OIEAU , CEDEX , SOGESID - It is available in English , French & Arabic . (French & Arabic versions are available few days later) ===== In this issue N69 ( <http://www.emwis.net/thematicdirs/eflash/flash69> ) ===== HEADLINE 1- EMWIS Steering committee meeting, 12 May 2009, Monaco IN BRIEF 2- EMWIS: Survey on monitoring networks & programmes in the Mediterranean partner countries 3- WANA Forum launched and calls for continued collaboration to tackle common economic, social & environmental challenges 4- G8 Environment Ministers' Meeting 5- Responding to the Challenge of Sustainable development in the Mediterranean 6- The 6th FEMIP Conference on: "Sustainable Water Financing & Climate Change in the Mediterranean" 7- UNESCO Paris Forum 2009: Final Declaration 8- Water Governance for Future Leaders: Inaugural course of the Arab Water Academy 9- Water: LIFE and River Basin Management Plans 10- New Flash Eurobarometer on Water shows large concern about the water environment among EU citizens 11- Syria signs the Financing Agreement with European Commission (ENPI CBC) 12- Palestine: World Bank reports assesses restrictions on water development 13- Lebanon: EIB supports water and road infrastructure 14- Jordan: Royal Scientific Society, Environment Ministry to monitor water quality 15- Jordan Complains of Syrian Water Mismanagement 16- Spain: Madrid selects Veolia Water for wastewater treatment 17- France & South Africa: Right to water 18- Looking for WFD and other Water related Information 19- Recycled water is safe to use in household washing machines 20- AIREAGUAPURA: A machine that provides drinking water 21- The water we eat: irrigated agriculture's heavy toll 22- If the well runs dry: climate change adaptation and water 23- September launch for ESA's water mission 24- World's major rivers 'drying up' NOMINATIONS and VACANCIES PUBLICATIONS CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS CALL FOR PAPERS TRAINING EVENTS BRIEF EMWIS SITE MAP CONTACT US / COMMENTS ===== HEADLINE ===== 1- EMWIS Steering Committee Meeting will take place on the sidelines of the FEMIP conference on Sustainable water financing and climate change in the Mediterranean scheduled in Monaco on 11 May 2009. This meeting will bring together EMWIS Steering Committee members, i.e. water directors from Algeria, Cyprus, Spain, France, Italy, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestine and Turkey, as well as observers from: the European Commission, European Environment Agency, Med-EUWI and IME, Monaco Environment Directorate. This meeting will review EMWIS achievements between 2004 and 2008 as well as current activities (Information systems harmonisation, Med Joint Process) and budget. The renewal procedure of Steering committee membership will be discussed in relation with the Water Expert Group of the Union for the Mediterranean -UfM- (e.g. openness to all UfM members, EMWIS governance). This meeting will also serve to discuss the activity launched with a working group of countries and regional organisations on the reinforcement and coordination of existing regional initiatives and networks on water information following the request from the UfM Ministerial conference on water (December 2008). Finally, the different existing and to be launched

collaborations with international initiatives will be reviewed. Further information on EMWIS website  
===== IN BRIEF ( Full news )  
===== 2- The working group on Water Monitoring led by EMWIS is part of the Med-Joint Process, it aims to support the collaboration between countries and to highlight the Mediterranean characteristics using the Water Framework Directive - WFD - of the European Union as a discussion basis. One of the 1st objectives of this group is to have a better understanding of the situation of Monitoring networks and programs in the Mediterranean partner countries. For this purpose, a survey has been launched. All the organisations carrying on monitoring activities are kindly asked to fill-in the questionnaire and to return it to EMWIS Technical Unit before 11 May 2009 . Once the answers are received, EMWIS will make a national consolidation. The regional analysis of the answers will be made by EMWIS partner Aquapole from the University of Liege (Belgium) and presented at a workshop at the autumn. The conclusions will be circulated to all the organisations who took part in the survey for comments before publication. Further information on EMWIS website 3- The first annual West Asia-North Africa (WANA) Forum concluded last April 20th in Amman (Jordan) with an agreement for continued collaboration to tackle economic, social and environmental challenges. The need for clean water, affordable and safe food and housing and freedom of speech are among the main challenges facing these countries. The WANA Forum is a new initiative that brings together people of all backgrounds from across the region to address such concerns and promote regional cooperation. Around 50 high-ranking figures from WANA countries and 10 partners from outside the region participated in the forum. In his address at the opening ceremony, HRH Prince Hassan, chairperson of the forum, highlighted the need for greater regional cooperation. The environmental track of the Forum adopted four panels which will lead the research in the next five years in the WANA region: 1- Water Resources : chaired by Dr. Alaa El-Sadek, President of the Arab World Academy of Young Scientists, 2- Energy : chaired by Dr. Malek Kabariti, President of the Jordanian National Energy Research Centre and founding member of the Trans-Mediterranean, Renewable Energy Cooperation, 3- Climate change : chaired by Dr. Mohamed Raouf, Senior Environment Researcher at the Gulf Research Center in Dubai (UAE); and 4- Green Economy : chaired by Dr. Javed Jabbar, Vice President of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature in Switzerland and former Minister and Senator in Pakistan. Further information on EMWIS website 4- The struggle against climate change and the preservation of biodiversity were the two main issues on the agenda at the environment ministers' meeting held in Syracuse (Sicilia) last 22-24 April. The G8 member countries were joined in Syracuse by the Czech Republic, which is currently the European Union duty presidency, by the European Commission and by a number of other invited countries including Egypt and Denmark, as well as several international organisations and representatives of civil society attended also the meeting. During this meeting, France reiterated the importance of the creation of a right of access to water and sanitation. For the first time, the G8 countries have discussed the links between children's health and the environment. They have adopted a document on biodiversity "Syracuse Charter", which is in the eyes of France a first positive step but it is now necessary to create a specific platform that will, like the IPCC for the climate, to act as an interface between science and politics. France has called to launch this IPBES before 2010. Further information on EMWIS website . 5- On 6-7 April 2009, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) organised a conference on the theme "Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region" in Nice, France. It was organised in cooperation with the City of Nice. The event focused on three themes: water quality and prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea; water management and prevention of drought; and sustainable governance of cities . Closer cooperation between the two shores of the Mediterranean and the full involvement of civil society organizations in this process are essential for achieving sustainable development in the Mediterranean region. This is the main finding adopted at this conference. Further information on

EMWIS website . 6 - The European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Principality of Monaco are joining forces to organise the VIth FEMIP Conference on Sustainable Water Financing and Climate Change in the Mediterranean . This high-level event, which will be honoured by the presence of H.S.H. the Sovereign Prince , will take place on 10 & 11 May 2009 in the Principality of Monaco . It offers the opportunity to follow up on the Ministerial Conference on Water held in Amman on 22 December 2009 . The Conference will bring together government officials as well as representatives of the private sector and international financing institutions and will provide a forum to exchange views on the following topics: Sustainable cost recovery and financing of water services; Water scarcity and climate change in Mediterranean countries; and Improving water efficiency and the role of the private sector. Further information on EMWIS website 7- The participants at the Fifth Session of the Paris Forum (27-29 March) organised by the UNESCO, convinced of the relevance of the UfM approach, appealed Member States, civil society and the economic & policy actors to take proactive action without further delay to meet the aspirations of the Mediterranean citizens. As such, they reiterate their full support to the ten proposals submitted to the Heads of States and Governments at the fourth session of the Forum and during the preparation of the Paris Summit of 13 July 2008. They consider that the degradation of the environment and quality of life of the Mediterranean requires a strong and immediate response at the institutional level, the mobilization of all Mediterranean actors and allocation of adequate scientific, technological and financial resources . Further information on EMWIS website 8- Launched in July 2008, the Arab Water Academy (AWA) was created with the aim of becoming a regional "center of excellence" for executive education in water. AWA focuses on strengthening the knowledge and skills of the Middle East and North Africa's decision-makers to address and manage effectively the region's water challenges. The Academy is based in the Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi's (EAD) headquarters in Abu Dhabi. Its management, administration and academic development is undertaken by the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA). The Arab Water Academy is launching a first series of programs, one of them focusing on water governance. This water governance program will involve three one-week modules that will take place in Abu Dhabi (27th June - 2nd July 2009, November 2009, February 2010) . Mid-level professionals involved in water governance issues with the government, a university, the private sector, or an NGO in the Middle East North Africa region are invited to apply. Applicants must be nominated by a host organization from Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. This programme is organised in collaboration with the USAID. Further information on EMWIS website 9- European citizens rank water quality as one of their main environmental priorities and a number of LIFE projects are helping to guide the implementation of EU water policy. The EUs Water Framework Directive (WFD) provides Member States with an important policy tool to manage water quality and quantity in our rivers, lakes, ground waters and seas. A core aspect of the WFD involves promoting water management that addresses environmental, economic and social factors within an integrated package of inclusive actions. River basins districts are highlighted in the WFD as the most effective platforms for implementing coordinated approaches. These natural geographical and hydrological areas make more environmental sense for planning water quality measures than administrative or political boundaries, since many rivers cross regional and national frontiers. In recognition of these facts, the WFD has established legal requirements for environmental authorities to develop River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) by December 2009. The recent European water conference, that took place in Brussels on 2-3 April 2009 , was a key milestone for RBMP preparation . Further information about LIFE projects links with the aims and objectives of RBMPs can be found in the brochure LIFE and Europes rivers , which features various examples of LIFE actions supporting integrated river basin management. Further information on EMWIS website 10- The Eurobarometer survey shows that as many as 2/3 of EU citizens say that quality and/or quantity of water is a serious problem. As many as 85 % of the population believe that there will be impact on

water from climate change, but the feared threats vary across the EU. The activities of most concern to citizens are industrial and agricultural water use and pollution. On a positive note many EU citizens try to limit their own impact on the water environment. Although on average few of the citizens polled were aware of consultations on the draft River basin management plans, many expressed a wish to be active and express their opinions ! Further information on EMWIS website

11- The Syrian Arab Republic has recently signed a Financing Agreement with the European Commission for the Cross Boarder Cooperation Programme of the European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument ( ENPI CBC) . This document, countersigned by the Joint Managing Authority, lays down administrative, legal and financial provisions for the participation of Syrian beneficiaries in the ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme. Negotiations are currently underway with the other Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPC) involved in the Programme. Financing Agreements shall be signed before December 31st 2009 in order to allow MPC partners to receive Programme funds. Further information on EMWIS website

12- A World Bank report blames Palestinian mismanagement and Israeli restrictions for severe water shortages in Palestinian areas. Palestinians get only a quarter of the water Israelis have access to. The existing problems effect not just daily supply but the development of water resources, water uses and wastewater management. For their water Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are completely dependant on scarce resources controlled by Israel. This has led to "systematic and severe constraints on Palestinian development of water resources", says the report, despite the joint governance rules and water allocations established under the 1995 Oslo interim agreement. But the Palestinian Authority (PA) too gets part of the blame. It is struggling to establish even a basic water infrastructure and management, concludes the report. Further information on EMWIS website

13- The Vice-President of the European Investment Bank, has completed a two-day visit to Lebanon. Invited by Lebanese Prime Minister, he inaugurated the Tripoli wastewater treatment plant which benefited from an EIB loan, and signed a loan of 70 million euros to support new water treatment facilities in the Kesrwan region. Supporting efficient infrastructure is a priority for the EIB and its arm dedicated to the Mediterranean region, FEMIP, to create an investment-friendly environment and improve quality of life. It is also part of the EIB pledge to lend 960 million in the next five years made at the Paris III conference on the reconstruction and development of Lebanon in 2007. The new loan in favour of water infrastructure in the Kesrwan region will improve sanitation services to a densely populated and touristic region. It will prevent untreated water from being discharged into the sea. It is included in the priority list of projects H2020 for Lebanon and is part of the National Action Plan for pollution reduction in connection with the Barcelona Convention. The Kerswan water treatment facilities will also benefit from EUR 4 million of technical assistance from the European Commission through the newly established Neighbourhood Investment Facility (NIF). Further information on EMWIS website

14- In Jordan, the Ministry of Environment and the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) signed recently an agreement to intensify monitoring of the Kingdom's water resources to prevent pollution. Under the JD175,000 agreement, RSS laboratories will monitor water quality at 118 sites across the Kingdom in a bid to prevent contamination and ensure the water is in line with the country's standards. The RSS will test water stored at the country's 10 major dams and 25 bodies of water in addition to 14 underground water sources across 10 governorates. The society's labs will also monitor industrial wastewater discharged by 40 factories in nine industrial areas as well as 33 sewage treatment plants run by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and 11 operated by the private sector. Minister of Environment said data collected on water quality would help provide accurate information for lawmakers to develop policies to protect the environment. F urther information on EMWIS website

15- Jordan sent a letter to Syria objecting to the cultivation of crops upstream and downstream on the Yarmouk River. The Jordanian side believes the farming activity is slowing the rivers water flow and storage at Wihdeh Dam, a senior water official said yesterday. During a meeting of a technical

subcommittee affiliated with the Jordanian-Syrian Committee of the Yarmouk River Basin, Jordan Valley Authority Secretary General told the Syrian delegates that violations of water-sharing agreements were unacceptable. The rivers flow dropped from 1,200 litres per second last year to 900 litres per second currently, which is blamed on the cultivation of crops on the rivers banks, the water official noted. Further information on EMWIS website . 16- The public company Canal Isabel II, which is in charge of water services in the Madrid area, has awarded a contract for the management of Spain's biggest wastewater treatment plant (in terms of daily flows treated) to a consortium headed by Veolia Water. It covers the operation and maintenance of the "South" plant, the main treatment plant for Madrid. The four-year contract, which has a two-year extension clause, is worth cumulative revenue of approximately €16.4 million for Veolia Water. This is the second operation and maintenance contract to be awarded to Veolia Water by Madrid's public company. Further information on EMWIS website 17- France is strongly in favour of the universal recognition of the right to water as a human right. Regretting that the right to water was not included in the Ministerial Declaration of the World Water Forum held last month in Istanbul, Mrs. Chantal Jouanno, French Secretary of State for Ecology told the National Assembly: "We will continue the struggle for right to water in the UN because we are convinced that the right of access to water is the basis of all human rights." In South Africa: Johannesburg court determines the right to water at 42 liters per person per day. Recently the Court confirmed the illegality of using prepaid meters set at 42 liters per day per person to provide free water to the very poor people. It must be noticed that the same amount is also used in Flanders in Belgium since 1997 for the free allocation of water. Following the court case, a more advanced system of rates will be set-up in July to avoid the criticisms of the court on automatic disconnection in case of arrears. The Johannesburg experience has the merit to seek to reconcile the right to water and the pricing requirements that must be protected to ensure the continuity of the service. Further information on EMWIS website 18- Implementation of the Water Framework Directive and other (European) water related policies requires the use of the best available knowledge. Most of this knowledge is, however, often poorly accessible. The WISE-RTD Web Portal " [www.wise-rtd.info](http://www.wise-rtd.info) " aims to improve this situation. WISE-RTD is one of the pillars of the Water Information System for Europe (WISE, [water.europa.eu](http://water.europa.eu)). This Web Portal guides different user groups to find specific information in a huge pool of available knowledge on water related research, technology, development and experiences. The WISE-RTD Association offers you an extended visibility for your water related activities, solutions or products towards a huge potential of interested organisations and governmental bodies from all over Europe and abroad. Further information on EMWIS website 19- Water shortages, aggravated by climate change, are likely to increase in the future. Significant savings in drinking-quality water could be made if recycled water was used for household laundry. A recent study suggests that recycled water is safe to use in domestic washing machines and is not a health hazard. Although the study suggests there is minimal risk to users of recycled water, consumers are also concerned about the appearance of water; for example, its clarity and colour. The researchers suggest this study can support regulations to supply recycled water and to reassure the public that the use of high quality recycled water for domestic laundry purposes is safe. Further information on EMWIS website 20- AIREAGUAPURA company is providing systems that collect moisture from the atmosphere to produce drinking water. Today, AIREAGUAPURA is able to deliver systems that produce at a daily basis between 6 and 10 000 liters of pure water of quality. Quantities are depending on the humidity and the temperature. The higher the humidity and the temperature, the higher the production is important. Further information on EMWIS website . 21- Agriculture imposes a heavy and growing burden on Europe's water resources, threatening water shortages and damage to ecosystems. To achieve sustainable water use, farmers must be given the right price incentives, advice and assistance. Agricultural water use is unevenly spread. In some southern European regions, agriculture accounts for more than 80 % of

water abstraction. And peak abstraction typically occurs in the summer when water is least available, maximizing detrimental impacts. The EEA's recent report, Water resources across Europe confronting water scarcity and drought, that was discussed at a session during the last World Water Forum, describes the grave impacts of excessive abstraction. Overexploiting resources increases the likelihood of severe water shortages during dry periods. But it also means diminished water quality (because pollutants are less diluted) and the risk of salt water intrusion into groundwater in coastal regions. Further information on EMWIS website 22- Extremes of heat and drought, rain and flooding are affecting many parts of Europe. Last summer, while Spanish daily newspaper El Pais ran photographs of dry riverbeds, the Guardian in Britain ran alarming headlines about floods. While the local government in Barcelona made plans to import water by ship, the British government assessed its flood defences. There are many causes but climate change is expected to increase both the frequency and the severity of these events. Further information on EMWIS website 23- Following confirmation from Eurokot Launch Services that they will launch ESA's SMOS mission on 9 September this year, the satellite has just been taken out of storage before it is prepared for shipment to the launch site in Russia. The Soil Moisture and Ocean Salinity (SMOS) mission is the next Earth Explorer in line for liftoff after the successful launch of the Gravity field and steady-state Ocean Circulation Explorer (GOCE) six weeks ago. After being in storage at Thales Alenia Space in the south of France for almost a year, the SMOS satellite has just been unveiled and presented to the media at a one-day event held on 24 April. Leading journalists from around Europe gathered in Cannes (France) to view the SMOS satellite first hand and learn more about how this mission will employ new technology to improve our understanding of Earth's water cycle. SMOS will measure concentrations of moisture in soil and salt in the oceans for a deeper understanding of the water cycle and a better understanding of how a changing climate may be affecting patterns of evaporation over the ocean and land. Data on salinity in the surface waters of the oceans will also advance our knowledge of ocean circulation, which is important in moderating the climate. Further information on EMWIS website 24- Some of the developing world's largest rivers are drying up because of climate change, threatening water supplies in some of the most populous places on Earth, say scientists. Researchers from the US-based National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) analysed data combined with computer models to assess flow in 925 rivers nearly three quarters of the world's running water supply between 1948 and 2004. Rivers are losing water for a variety of possible reasons, say the researchers, including the installation of dams and the use of water for agriculture. But in many cases the decrease in flow is because of climate change, which is altering rainfall patterns and increasing evaporation because of higher temperatures. Flow has increased in some developing world rivers. As well as endangering water supplies, the decreased river flow could affect the world's climate. If less freshwater is discharged into the oceans they become saltier, which could affect salinity- and temperature-driven ocean circulation patterns that in turn play a fundamental role in climate regulation. The research will be published in the American Meteorological Society's Journal of Climate next month (15 May). Further information on EMWIS website

===== NOMINATIONS and VACANCIES  
===== 25- France: Mr. Laurent Fayein has been appointed as President of the Directors Board of the Water Agency "Rhne-Mditerrane & Corse". Further information on EMWIS website 26- Following BUSINESSMED annual Ordinary General Assembly, Mrs Shhrazade Berrehouma has been appointed Secretary General of the Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises BUSINESSMED. Mrs Berrehouma took up her position on March 10th, 2009. BUSINESSMED is a regional professional Organisation representing the South Mediterranean private sector. BUSINESSMED includes within its network 24 employer federations as founder, associated and observer members from the Mediterranean region and from EU member States. Further information on EMWIS website 27 - The Institute for Environmental

Studies (IVM) IVM (University Amsterdam) is looking for a Full Professor in Environmental Spatial Analysis. The Spatial Analysis and Policy (SPACE) department is one of four departments at IVM, conducting research in environmental spatial analysis, with a special focus on land use, land-water interactions, climate change, and risk management, applying a range of methods, including remote sensing and GIS techniques. The new Professor in Environmental Spatial Analysis will focus on spatial aspects of the interaction between land use, hydrological, ecological and social systems. Deadline for submissions of applications: May 18th, 2009 . Further information on EMWIS website 28- IUCN Regional Office for West Asia (ROWA) in Amman (Jordan), is seeking a new staff member with immediate effect to assist in the implementation of the Regional Water Resources & Drylands Programme (REWARD) in Jordan. The Process Documentation Officer will be stationed in Amman, Jordan in the offices of IUCN. This position requires regular travel to the field in Zarqa and Azraq; in addition to the travel to other REWARD demonstration projects in Palestine, Egypt and Yemen. Deadline for submissions is May 9th, 2009 . Further information on EMWIS website 29- The Unesco-IHE in Delft (Netherlands) is looking for a Professor of Water Supply Engineering. Application deadline: 03 May 2009 . Further information on EMWIS website

===== PUBLICATIONS

===== 30- GMES presented during the 'Towards e-Environment' conference in Prague: A GMES session has been presented during the international conference "Towards e-Environment" held in 24-27 March 2009 in Prague. The programme of the session focused mainly on GMES services for end-users from new Member States and on its atmosphere and land services. As an outcome of the conference, it was recommended that the activities of the three EU initiatives - SEIS (Shared Environmental Information System) , INSPIRE and SISE - should be further integrated to improve data use. The conference conclusions consisted also of seven recommendations to Commission and to Member States. Further information on EMWIS website 31- The CIRCLE-MED is online. It is an important tool for information exchange within the CIRCLE-MED community and will allow you to follow the projects progress and achievements. CIRCLE-MED is a geographical group which addresses issues of common interest to the Mediterranean countries. CIRCLE-MED is a geographical group in the frame of CIRCLE ERA-Net . The first CIRCLE-MED pilot joint call was dedicated to integrated coastal zone management and water management. Eight projects were funded. Further information on EMWIS website 32- The International Network of Water-Environment Centres for the Balkans (INWEB) has new Website: INWEB started as a non-governmental association operating as a network of networks, each of the 10 Balkan member countries having a focal point for its own country's members. Concentrating on transboundary waters, it aims to ensure top quality information on water problems in SEE, resolve conflicts in shared basins and develop a common approach for sustainable water management. In 2003 it was appointed as a UNESCO Chair on sustainable management of water and conflict resolution. Further information on EMWIS website 33- In April 2009 the European Commission presented a policy paper known as a White Paper which presents the framework for adaptation measures and policies to reduce the European Union's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. Decisions on how best to adapt to climate change must be based on solid scientific and economic analysis. It is therefore important to increase the understanding of climate change and the impacts it will have. The White Paper outlines the need to create a Clearing House Mechanism by 2011 where information on climate change risks, impacts and best practices would be exchanged between governments, agencies, and organisations working on adaptation policies. Further information on EMWIS website 34- From 19 to 23 January, the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation held a regional workshop in the city of Hammamet (Tunisia) regarding the Geographical Information System (GIS) applied to freshwater biodiversity assessment. These work sessions enabled the 32 water-resource managers and environmental planners from the five North African

countries to incorporate spatial information on freshwater biodiversity, particularly information coming from Red List assessments (distribution of threatened species), into their planning activities and development processes. Given the participation and the feedback received, the meeting held by the International Institute for Geo- Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) , together with experts from IUCN-Med, turned out to be a great success. Further information on EMWIS website 35- The Issue No 12 of the GEWAMED Newsletter (Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions Into Water Resources Development and Management in the Mediterranean Region) has been published with the new graphic presentation. Further information on EMWIS website 36- A common vision for water innovation is the theme of the new WssTP Newsletter of April 2009 . Further information on EMWIS website . 37- IUCN Mediterranean Flashnews n30 is available online. Further information on EMWIS website . 38- European Commissioner for External Relations and the ENP Benita Ferrero-Waldner has launched the EuroMed News project, which aims to broaden knowledge about the EU's policies in the region and the relationship between the EU and individual Mediterranean countries. EuroMed-News is funded under the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument ( ENPI ) through EuropeAid's regional information and communication programme. Further information on EMWIS website 39- WaDImena at the WWF5: WaDImena was heavily involved in the thematic, regional and political processes which are integrated during the development of the Forum, as well as in taking part in the Forum activities. WaDI mena and IDRC supported 22 participants, mostly from the MENA region, to attend the forum. Also, convened and took part in four main activities, those are: Thematic Session 4.2.5 "Opening Glass Doors: What regulation can improve openness and transparency? co-convened by WaDImena, AWC and UN-Habitat; MENA/Arab Countries regional day, convened by the AWC; IFAD/IDRC side event Addressing water scarcity in rural and marginal areas of Arab countries: Innovative solutions; Way Dialogue session between the regions 'In and around Turkey', 'MENA' and the 'Mediterranean'; and IFAD Booth. Further information on EMWIS website 40- The European Regional Document for the 5th World Water Forum : This document is the first result of an intensive 1.5 year European Regional Process in which hundreds of European organisations and individuals worked together on identifying and addressing eight major themes that represent Europe's main water challenges (climate change, water and energy, water scarcity and drought, and sanitation) and key ingredients for solutions (a water vision for Europe, basin management and transboundary cooperation, research and financing). Further information on EMWIS website 41- Public water supply and sanitation utilities in France - The French experience : It summarizes the following points: A local management within a national legislative framework, A funding based on mutualization, with a moderation of water tariff, Transparency and performance assessment obligations and An internationally renowned experience. Further information on EMWIS website 42- OECD Report Managing Water for All: an OECD Perspective on Pricing and Financing . Further information on EMWIS website 43- Key Messages on Water and Climate for the 15th Conference of Parties (COP-15) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) : Presented by the Global Public Policy Network on Water Management, March 2009. Further information on EMWIS website 44- The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI) has published the GSDI Cookbook in a wiki environment and would like to invite contributions to this resource from a broad community of geographic data providers and users. Further information on EMWIS website 45- The World Business Council for Sustainable Development - WBCSD - has updated its Global Water Tool with more recent water datasets, due to its successful uptake since its launch in August 2007, as well as the increasing media attention around managing corporate water use. The Global Water Tool is a free and easy-to-use tool for companies and organizations to map their water use and assess risks relative to their global operations and supply chains. The tool, which was developed by CH2M HILL and an advisory board of 22 WBCSD member companies, aims to help corporations better manage their water use. Further information on EMWIS website 46- The

"Glossary of Water in 6 languages" is a book of 750 pages containing nearly 5,000 terms used in the field of water, all translated into 6 languages (French, English, German, Spanish, Italian & Portuguese). It has six distinct entries, allowing the user to understand each of these terms in all six languages. Further information on EMWIS website 47- " Public services of drinking water and sanitation in France : The French experience " : This document is published at the initiative of the Directorate for European and International Affairs (Secretary General), in collaboration with the Directorate of Water and Biodiversity ( General Directorate of Planning, Housing and Nature) in France . Further information on EMWIS website 48- The Encyclopaedia of Sustainable Development in line with its mission of popularizing scientific knowledge, promote discussion and awareness of militant actions for sustainable development and provides a free access. Further information on EMWIS website . 49- " Drinking water at an affordable price. State s practice s" is the latest book of Henri Smets , Member of the French Water Academy . In this book, he describes the social measures in place in over 50 countries and the existing laws to ensure affordable water for the poor. He examines the prices paid for water by the poor users in Europe and the world. There is some convergence in countries' practice and it is possible to choose an affordable level for water on a rational basis. Further information on EMWIS website 50- ENPI CBC Mediterranean Basin: Publication of the Work Program 2009 subsidy on strategic projects . The heads of delegations of countries participating in the program approved at a meeting in Rome on 26 March, 2009 the Work Program subsidy on strategic projects. A call for proposals on strategic projects should be published by the end of the year on two of the four priorities of the Program: Priority 1 "Promoting the socio-economic development and enhancement of territories" and Priority 2 "Promotion of environmental sustainability at the basin level " . The Joint Monitoring Committee will now define the strategic themes for this call and the terms of reference. The total resources available for this call is about 37.5 million euro. Further information on EMWIS website

===== CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS ===== 51- 2009 best practices for spatial data infrastructures: The objective of the eSDI-NET+ project is to establish a network for communication and knowledge exchange of best practices on European Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI), which will enhance the use of geographic information provided by the GMES. Recently, a call for submission of best practices on SDI's has been launched, focusing on sub national level, for the purpose of a board assessment campaign. After all the applicants have been evaluated through interviews and local workshops, successful ones will be awarded during an international conference planned for the end of 2009. Further information on EMWIS website 52- MED-EUWI scheduled restricted call for tender: (EuropeAid/128393/C/SER/Multi): The overall objective is to promote the adoption of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) governance principles through their use for the definition and implementation of water management policies and measures, at both national and regional levels, including the support to measures enabling the success of these processes. As regards the specific objectives: 1) To promote the development of integrated water resources management policies and measures in partner countries. 2) To promote the development of integrated water resources management policies and measures at regional level, in particular to support the elaboration of the Mediterranean Water Strategy; and 3) To identify priority actions to be undertaken, assisting in estimating the related costs and, where appropriate, facilitate reinforced donors' coordination. The Indicative maximum budget is of EUR 1 025 000 . This call is intended to be launched in May 2009 . Further information on EMWIS website 53- Mediterranean projects for scientific cooperation between universities (MERS) Call for tender 2009: "L'Agence universitaire de la Francophonie" will co-finance 10 projects to enhance the cooperation and take advantage of scientific and academic skills that make up the Mediterranean basin. Deadline: 31 August 2009 . Further information on EMWIS website 54- The intergovernmental

**International portal**

Group on Earth Observations (GEO) has issued a Call entitled Earth Observations in Decision Support Projects that seeks to identify projects that demonstrate the benefits of Earth observation applications to end users in developing countries, particularly in the fields of agriculture, energy, human health and water. Concept Proposals Due: 4 June 2009 . Further information on EMWIS website ===== CALL FOR PAPERS =====

55- GI\_Forum 2009 calls for Poster Submission and Participation: GI\_Forum focuses on an international audience that shares an interest in Applied Geoinformatics. This Call for Participation aims at researchers who design, develop and apply advanced methods and techniques of Geoinformatics to a broad range of application domains. Deadline for submission of extended abstracts for poster presentation: June 5, 2009 . Further information on EMWIS website 56- Call for Papers for the International Conference "Water, Waste and Environment - Union for the Mediterranean". This international conference will be held on 26-27 November 2009 in El Jadida (Morocco). Deadline for submission of abstracts: 31 July 2009 . Further information on EMWIS website .

===== TRAINING =====

57- SMAP launches e-learning course on Environmental Economics: The SMAP programme for the Environment and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region is inviting anyone interested to sign up for its e-learning course on Environmental Economics, available in English and Arabic. The module is aimed at anyone interested in discovering the advantages and the mechanisms of environmental economics, as well as understanding how it can support decision-making. The course is divided into 9 lessons, each of which should take 2 to 3 hours to complete. Theory is presented in clear, accessible language and is complemented by practical examples, mainly from the Euro-Mediterranean context. Further information on EMWIS website 58- The Transboundary Water Management for the MENA Region international training programme is now accepting applications from mid-level water professionals based in the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, West bank and Gaza. The course takes place in Jordan, November 1 -12, 2009 and in Sweden, February 22- 26, 2010. Application Deadline: May 4, 2009. Further information on EMWIS website 59- WATENV is a research oriented international Master of Science Programme hosted at Leibniz University of Hanover, Germany. Students obtain interdisciplinary knowledge and key qualifications in the field of sustainable water resources management. There is a growing demand for experts in water related subjects, which offers great job opportunities in the developing countries above all. Duration: 2 years (1.5 years in-class, 0.5 years Master thesis). Final Degree: Master of Science (MSc). Further information on EMWIS website 60- [2009/04/27 - 2009/05/15] Financial Management of Water Organizations, Delft, The Netherlands Further information on EMWIS website . ===== EVENTS ( Full Agenda ) ===== [2009/05/28 - 2009/05/29] 2nd IWA International Symposium on Water and Wastewater in Ancient Civilizations , Bari, Italy Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/28 - 2009/05/29] STRIVER Conference: Integrated water resources management in theory and practice , Brussels, Belgium Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/27 - 2009/05/31] Festival Africain sur l'Ecologie et le Dveloppement Durable de Casablanca: Leau cest la vie. , Casablanca, Morocco Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/27 - 2009/05/30] Global Change Challenges for Soil Management , Tara Mountain, Serbia Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/26 - 2009/05/28] Conference Sustainable Development: A Challenge for European Research , Brussels, Belgium Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/25 - 2009/05/29] Sminaire sur le suivi et valuation de la mise en uvre de la Gestion Intgre des Ressources en Eau (GIRE) , Tunis, Tunisia Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/25 - 2009/05/27] Regional Conference: Applying WEAP as a Decision Support

System for IWRM , Damascus, Syria Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/20 - 2009/05/24] Salon International de Leau : Leau expo & forum de leau 2009 , Casablanca, Morocco Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/17 - 2009/05/20] Conference and Exhibition on "Desalination for the Environment", Clean Water and Energy , Baden Baden, Germany Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/15 - 2009/05/18] 26th Information and Training Seminar for Euro-Med Diplomats , St. Julians, Malta Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/13 - 2009/05/14] Les 5mes journées Internationales des Goscience de l'Environnement , Fez, Morocco Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/12 - 2009/05/15] Sminaire International "Sciences et Technologies Membranes" - STM 9 , Montpellier, France. Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/12 - 2009/05/12 ] 13th EMWIS Steering Committee meeting , Monaco Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/11 - 2009/05/13] BOSICON 2009 the 2nd International Conference on Polluted Sites Remediation , Rome, Italy Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/10 - 2009/05/11] The Sixth FEMIP Conference on: "Sustainable Water Financing and Climate Change in the Mediterranean" , Monaco Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/08 - 2009/05/14] Mediterranean seminar on seawater desalination for agricultural, domestic and industrial uses, Tangiers, Morocco Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/05 - 2009/05/07] Agritech Israel 2009 - The 17th International Agricultural Exhibition , T el Aviv, Israel Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/05 - 2009/05/07] The 8th International Conference "Odpadn vody - Wastewater 2009" , Plzeň (Pilsen), Czech Republic Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/05 - 2009/05/07] Water Footprint Reporting , Brussels, Belgium Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/04 - 2009/05/08] 33rd International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment Sustaining the Millenium Development Goals(ISRSE33) , Stresa, Lago Maggiore, Italy Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/04 - 2009/05/08] 7th IAA Symposium on Small Satellites for Earth Observation , Berlin, Germany. Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/04 - 2009/05/05] 3rd Annual Middle East Waste & Water Congress , Dubai, UAE Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/04 - 2009/05/08] 2nd Lund Regional-scale Climate Modelling Workshop: 21st Century Challenges in Regional-scale Climate Modelling , Lund, Sweden Further information on EMWIS website [2009/05/03 - 2009/05/06] WaterTech 2009: Implementing successful techniques and technologies for sustainable water resources and infrastructure management that meets future demand , Dubai, UAE Further information on EMWIS website [2009/04/29 - 2009/04/30] CIWEM Annual Conference 2009: Water & The Global Environment , London, UK Further information on EMWIS website [2009/04/28 - 2009/04/29] Water Investment World Middle East 2009 , Dubai, UAE Further information on EMWIS website [2009/04/28 - 2009/04/29] 2nd Meeting of the Task Force on Water-related disease , Rome, Italy Further information on EMWIS website [2009/04/27 - 2009/04/28] Blue, Green and Gold - The Future of Water, Environment and Finance , Zurich, Switzerland Further information on EMWIS website

===== BRIEF EMWIS SITE MAP  
===== ABOUT EMWIS ( Priorities , Activities , Objectives , Structure , Funding , Team ) WATER in the EURO-MED PARTNERSHIP ( MEDA programme , Key dates , European Neighbourhood Policy ) EMWIS NATIONAL WEBSITES : Algeria , Egypt , Israel , Jordan , Lebanon , Morocco , Palestine , Syria , Tunisia , Turkey , Cyprus , Malta , Spain , France , Italy , Portugal , Austria , Greece , Belgium , Luxembourg EMWIS WATER MULTILINGUAL THESAURUS (Available in English, French, Arabic, Spanish & Italian)- Water glossaries WATER PROJECTS DATABASE (MEDA-NIPs, MEDA-Water, LIFE, SMAP, INCO-MED, FP4-FP6, INTERREG, etc) DOCUMENTATION ( EMWIS meetings , Documentary database , Funding for water , Key documents , Water Legislation ) WHO DOES WHAT IN THE WATER SECTOR (By contacts, organisations & information sources) PARTNERS & SPONSORS ( OIEau, CEDEX, SOGESID, EC , INBO , IME , GWP-Med , MED-EUWI , SMAP-RMSU ) MEDA-WATER



## Euro-Mediterranean Information System on know-how in the Water sector

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PROJECTS ( ADIRA , EMPOWERS , EMWater , IrWA , ISIIMM , MEDAWARE , MEDROPLAN , MEDWA , Zer0-M ) WATER INITIATIVES ( MED-EUWI , WFD , INCO-MED , LIFE , MEDSTAT , SMAP , EXACT , UNEP-MAP , MSSD , HORIZON 2020 , Union for the Mediterranean ) & Mediterranean Water Information Mechanism FORUM ; FAQ ; TOPICS ( MedWIP , Water scarcity , groundwater , wastewater reuse , desalination , satellite data , etc) SEARCH EMWIS WEBSITE EMWIS SITEMAP ===== CONTACT US ===== - This is a monthly Flash provided by the EMWIS Technical Unit (sent to: 17157 subscribers), to which you can get a free subscription,