

## EMWIS Flash - March 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>

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(French & Arabic versions are available few days later)



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**In this issue N°68** (<http://www.emwis.net/thematicdirs/eflash/flash68>)

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#### HEADLINE

1- The 5th WWF: the Ministerial Declaration and the Istanbul Water Consensus

#### IN BRIEF

2- World leaders call from Istanbul for sustainable development of water

3- The 6th FEMIP Conference on: "Sustainable Water Financing & Climate Change in the Mediterranean"

4- Spain reaffirms its will to organize the next Ministerial Conference on water for the first semester of 2010

5- Water Information Systems at the 5th World Water Forum

6- The Muscat Declaration on Water: G-77 calls for enhanced regional push on water

7- EC Delegation to Jordan presented the outputs of MEDA Water programme at the 5th WWF

8- EU heads of state reiterate support to Union for the Mediterranean

9- UN: Water deserves higher priority on development agenda

10- Palestine: Japan, PWA and UNDP/PAPP sign a 6.2 million \$ agreement to manage wastewater

11- Syria: Drought blamed for food scarcity

12- Libya: a "river" of \$ 33 billion

13- Algeria: Transfer of German know-how in the water sector

14- Algeria: Suez Environnement wins two contracts of 133 million euros

15- Malta: Suez Environnement subsidiary Degrémont signs a 257m contract and helps clean up the Mediterranean

16- Spain: A fleet of boats carrying water to Barcelona where reserves are dry

17- Spain: Dow begins work on water technology centre

18- Middle East and Africa: USAID and IWA sign strategic partnership to advance water utilities

19- Italy: EC warns Italy on its urban waste water treatment

21- IDRC: Water treatment kit for household grey water

22- Innovation: transportation of fresh water in large quantities and over long distances by an underwater flexible pipeline

23- Call for standard indices to measure droughts

24- Desalination Concentrate Disposal: Salt Production For Zero-Discharge System

25- Researchers predict Mediterranean Sea level rise

26- "Water wikipedia" seeks partners to go multilingual

27- EU-FP6 Project: EAQC-WISE

**Latest news:** [Dr. Fadia Daibes Murad: Palestinian water law and policy expert dies in car crash](#)

Our condolences to her family, friends and colleagues in the PWA and the GWA. (EMWIS Family)

[NOMINATIONS and VACANCIES](#)

[PUBLICATIONS](#)

[CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS](#)

[CALL FOR PAPERS](#)

[TRAINING](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[BRIEF EMWIS SITE MAP](#)

[CONTACT US / COMMENTS](#)

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## HEADLINE

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1- The Ministers and Heads of Delegations assembled in Istanbul (Turkey), on 20-22 March 2009 on the occasion of the 5th World Water Forum, 'Bridging Divides for Water', got a consensus and adopted a Ministerial declaration, which addressed the global challenges related to water within the context of sustainable development. The Ministerial Declaration includes commitments to, inter alia: Intensify efforts to achieve MDG targets; Implement IWRM at the river-basin level; Improve water-demand management; Prevent and respond to water-related disasters; Improve water-related monitoring systems and ensure the availability (freely) of information for all concerned populations, including neighbouring countries; Improve water governance at national level; Support scientific research, education, development and adoption of new technologies and broadening of technological choices in the field of water; Invite international organizations and institutions to support international efforts to enhance the dissemination of experiences and sharing of best practices on sustainable water resources rehabilitation, protection, conservation, management and utilization; Promote effective use of financial resources from all sources; Recognize water as a basic human need and acknowledge work on human rights and access to water in the UN system; Prioritize water and sanitation in development planning; Promote cooperation on sustainable use and protection of transboundary water resources; and Agree to respect international law protecting water resources during conflict. The main session summaries with presentations and photos, including the very popular sessions on "Basin Management and Transboundary Cooperation" are available online at [5th WWF main session summaries](#). Further information on [EMWIS website](#).

[Istanbul Ministerial Statement](#) - [Istanbul Water Guide](#) - [Istanbul Water Consensus](#)

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## IN BRIEF ([Full news](#))

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2- World leaders signed a water consensus at the 5th World Water Forum, underlining the importance of sustainable development of water. Leaders pledged in the consensus to show political will for solidarity, dialogue and cooperation with their neighbouring countries regarding cross-border waters, and said the world could be more prosperous and stable by sharing water. Diplomats said that the consensus would be sent to the G8 countries and the UN as a base for more comprehensive international documents. More than 25,000 participants from all over the world, including a number of heads of state, more than 90 ministers, 63 mayors, 156 delegations and 148 parliamentarians were gathering in the largest water-related event organized every three years by World Water Council (WWC) together with the host country. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

3- 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](#) and thus to contribute to the further development of the Mediterranean Water Strategy in the framework of the Union for the

Mediterranean. 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](#)

4- During its intervention at **the Mediterranean session of the 5th World Water Forum** in Istanbul last 19th March, Spanish Minister of Environment, and Rural and Marine Affairs, **Mrs. Elena ESPINOSA MANGANA**, expressed the commitment of Spain to the Barcelona Process - **Union for the Mediterranean**, and reaffirmed Spain will host **the next Ministerial Conference on Water by the first semester of 2010**. She also expressed the commitment of Spain to support a solid Mediterranean water strategy through strengthening the institutional organisations in the region, creating and reinforcing training and technology transfer programs, and establishing a common drought observatory, which could collect suitable data and indicators of the Mediterranean region. In her speech, she highlighted the experience of Spain with drought management plans, and insisted on the necessity of basing future works on existing tools and networks, such as **the European Water Information System (WISE)** and **the Euro-Mediterranean Information System on know-how in the Water sector (EMWIS)**, in order to acquire a knowledge base that can be shared. Finally, she also underlined the importance of new technological tools applied to water management (e.g.: desalination, water treatment or water reuse, irrigation modernization) in which Spain has made very important advances in the last years. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

5- A session dedicated to water information systems has been organised the last 18 March at the French Water Partnership (FWP) Pavilion during the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul (Turkey). It was organised by the International Office for Water (IOWater) and the French National Agency for Water and Aquatic Environments with presentations of EMWIS, African-Wis, the European Environment Agency, I'ANA (Brazil), the World Water Council, and AISH. A set of recommendations have been adopted at the end of this session titled: **"Tools to support knowledge and management of water resources, aquatic environments and their uses"** and were also presented during the official topical session 6.4 "Data for All". A side from the recommendations, some questions remained opened, such as: how to ensure adequate funding for long-term sustainable monitoring networks, especially in developing countries, and the need for regulatory and enforcement rules or the possibility to develop incentives for the implementation and use of shared information systems. The Spanish information system SIA was also presented on March 19th. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

6- The three-days G-77 Ministerial Forum on water concluded last 25th February calling for an enhanced co-operation in the areas concerned of preservation and judicious consumption of water. The forum also reached a consensus on a set of joint decisions called **"The Muscat Declaration on Water"**. Highlighting the vital importance of water as a source of life, the Muscat Declaration on Water recognises the human right to clean water and hygienic sanitation as the key goal. The main challenges namely the lack of capacity, finance and political will to implement the decisions and other actions recommended by numerous meetings were stressed. The forum highlighted the importance of strengthening the networking of research and development of institutions on water as well as data information, equipped by new technology in national and regional information centres on water resources received unanimous support from the delegates. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

7- The Mediterranean area had its own corner at the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul with a stand dedicated to the Euro-Mediterranean regional initiatives: MEDA Water Programme, Euro-Med Information System on Know-how in the Water Sector (EMWIS) and the Mediterranean component of the EU Water Initiative, which implementations are supported by the European

Commission Delegation to Jordan. In the Euro- Mediterranean Regional Programme for Local Water Management - MEDA Water programme, 9 different consortia grouping EU and Mediterranean non-profit organisations (NGOs, Universities and Government Agencies) received grants up to ? 5 million for the implementation of measures related to enhance local water management. The MEDA Water programme has contributed to the priorities of the [Turin Action Plan](#), such as: the improvement of wastewater management and the reuse of wastewater in irrigation, the decentralization of water supply and sanitation, the involvement of water users in decision making, the improvement of water use efficiency in irrigation, the mitigation of effects of droughts and the reclamation of brackish water resources by decentralized desalination. Further information on [EMWIS website](#).

8- The EU heads of state or government have called for the acceleration of the work to establish the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) permanent secretariat and the resumption of the implementation of projects identified. The European Council has reiterated its support to strengthening the partnership with the southern Mediterranean partners in its conclusions adopted March 20. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

9- A top United Nations official claimed that water must be given higher priority on the development agenda, stressing that the problems the world faces with regard to this precious resource are enormous. "Developing countries themselves need to increase investment in water, and systematically integrate water in poverty reduction strategies," Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization ([UNESCO](#)) told the opening of the [5th World Water Forum](#). On the other hand, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Sha Zukang said that water and sanitation issues are critical to achieving the Millennium Development Goals ([MDGs](#)), the internationally-agreed targets to slash extreme poverty and other ills by 2015. The Istanbul meeting comes ahead of International World Water Day, observed annually on 22 March to focus attention on the importance of freshwater and advocate for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

10- The Government of Japan, in partnership with the [Palestinian Water Authority](#) and the United Nations Development Programme/[Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People](#) signed a US\$6.2 million agreement on Monday, 16th March 2009, to launch the cross boundary wastewater management project. The project will include the construction of three wastewater collection systems in the Jenin, Tulkarem and Qalqyia Governorates serving 16,500 persons, in addition to building the capacities of the service providers and the Palestinian Water Authority regarding waste management issues. This project will also bring new jobs to the Qalqyia, Jenin, and Tulkarem areas and create a platform for cross boundary cooperation between Palestinian and Israeli municipalities on environmental problems. Approximately 35% of the population of the West Bank has access to wastewater network collection systems and there are only three treatment plants located in the Ramallah, Jenin, and Tulkarem districts. Due to old existing collection systems, sewage leakage reaches up to 50% in the areas of Tulkarem and Qalqyia. Poor wastewater management and lack of infrastructure development are one of the leading causes for environmental pollution and degradation of natural resources in the West Bank. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

11- Two years of drought has left many farmers and herders without any income and has severely limited cereal production in Syria, pushing up local food prices and putting pressure on basic food supplies, according to UN and Syrian government officials. In 2008, Syria had to import wheat for the first time after a shortage caused by a second year of drought, which, the Syrian government says, has affected about a million people so far. Emergency wheat stocks have been depleted though adequate supplies remain. Syria is usually self-sufficient in providing food for its 21.6 million population. UN agencies warn that the country could become more food insecure if rainfall over the

next two months remains as low as it has been at the start of 2009. A drought appeal was launched by UN agencies in Syria in September 2008. A US\$1.8 million emergency operation by the FAO identified 9,630 farmers to receive 300kg of wheat seeds or 150kg of barley seeds - enough for each farmer to plant a two-hectare crop. These were distributed in December and January. This effort will continue until May 2009. But if rainfall continues to be low, a new appeal will be launched. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

12- On the occasion of 5th World Water Forum held in Istanbul, Libya has presented its gigantic project to extract water from deep desert to be able to reach the cities of the coast. It is installing nearly 4,000 km of pipes 4 meters in diameter to carry water pumped deep into the desert to the north coast of the country, where 6 million of inhabitants are living. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

13- The German Minister of Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety, Mr. Sigmar Gabriel, was on a visit to Algeria where he met Secretary General of the Ministry of Water Resources, Mr. Zidane Merah. The German minister has called for the establishment of a sustainable partnership with Algeria, believing in the fact that such cooperation can be achieved through training and transfer of know-how. According to the Algerian-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce - AHK, more than 200 German companies are actually operating in Algeria, many of which specialized in the field of hydraulics. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

14- The French group Suez Environnement announced it won two new contracts in Algeria for a total of 133 million euros. The Wilaya of Algiers has allocated to Degremont (Suez Environnement's subsidiary) in partnership with the Chinese Civil Engineering "China Geo Constructon", the reconstruction and doubling the capacity of the Waste Water Treatment Plant of Baraki for a total of 108 million euros. The station will complete the wastewater treatment for 1.8 million residents of Algiers. In addition, the "Agence Nationale des Barrages and Transfers (ANBT)" chose Safege, engineering subsidiary of Suez Environnement for the project of water transfer "East System" and "West System" that will fuel the two regions by drinking water, for an amount of 25 million euros. Further information on [EMWIS website](#).

15- Degrémont with two Italian civil engineering companies (CCC & CMR) has signed a contract with the Maltese Ministry of Finance, for the design and construction of the most important wastewater purification plant on the main island. The objective is the design, construction and one year of operational support for a treatment plant that, with a capacity of 500.000 population equivalents, will process 80% of Malta's wastewater, including the quantity generated by the summer tourist population. With a number of similar initiatives, Degrémont contributes to the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), for which pollution control is one of priorities. Degrémont Italy opened a wastewater treatment unit last year to serve Gozo, Malta's second island. In Lebanon, Degrémont is currently completing a purification plant for Tripoli's 1 million inhabitants in the north of the country. In Egypt, Degrémont has recently won the contract for the design and construction of a plant in East Alexandria. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

16- Marseille will send water by ship to the Barcelona area, victim of endemic drought and unable to ensure the needs of its 4.5 million inhabitants. Paradoxically, this precious liquid, shipped at great cost by sea from the city, come from the driest region in France. The companies concerned (Canal de Provence et Eaux de Marseille) were quick to reassure their customers, somewhat worried. Deliveries beginning in May with a fleet of 7 tankers with a capacity of more than 28 000 cubic meters. The Catalan regional government had indicated earlier this year that very seriously considering importing water from France in case of persistent drought. However, no significant

precipitation is filled this winter, the large deficit of rainfall and water reserves are currently at a lower level of 22% to normal in Catalonia. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

17- Dow Water Solutions has started the construction of its Water Technology Development Center at the Dow facilities in Tarragona , Spain . The centre, a key component of Dow Water Solutions growth objectives, will include capabilities for application development and component testing, and is designed to accelerate the commercialisation of Dow's water treatment technologies, which help to enable the production of clean drinking water from various water sources, including sea water. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

18- The U.S. Agency for International Development ([USAID](#)) and the [International Water Association](#) (IWA) signed an agreement at the Fifth World Water Forum [on 20 March 2009] to work together to increase access to clean drinking water and sanitation throughout the Middle East and Africa by strengthening water utilities and their regional associations. This partnership focuses specifically on access to clean drinking water and sanitation for the urban poor, water safety and quality management, leadership gaps and climate change. USAID and IWA will work to strengthen water utilities and their regional associations, such as the Arab Countries Water Utility Association ([ACWUA](#)) and African Water Association ([AfWA](#)). Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

19- The European Commission sent a final written warning to Italy for non-compliance with EU legislation on urban waste water treatment. A list of 299 cities and towns that do not treat urban wastewater in line with European standards has been established. The main wastewater treatment provided by the directive is biological or "secondary." This infrastructure should have been put in service no later than 31 December 2000. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

21- A kit designed to treat household waste water for reuse could be one of the ways to tackle water scarcity in rural areas of the Middle East and North Africa, according to the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), based in Canada. The kit consists of two large PVC barrels about 1.2m high, each able to contain up to 200 litres of water, pipes and sand. Before reaching the barrels, the waste water goes through a separate filter where things like small bits of food are removed. The barrels are filled with sand; there is an anaerobic digestion of the organic matter when the water goes through the sand filter and becomes cleaner. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

22- **Via-marina** is a young engineering and construction company developing the submariver® system for **the transportation of fresh water in large quantities and over long distances by an underwater flexible pipeline**. This innovative system was presented at **the 5th World Water Forum** last 20 March in Istanbul. Many water authorities around the Mediterranean are considering potential projects using this system for reliable transportation of fresh water. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

23- Can we tell if there are more or fewer droughts as a result of climate change? How does one compare the intensity, duration and spatial coverage of agricultural droughts in countries? These were some of the questions raised at the recent International Workshop on Drought and Extreme Temperatures, organized jointly by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the China Meteorological Administration (CMA), which pondered ways to cope with the unwelcome impact of droughts and extreme temperatures on agriculture and forestry. The problem is that there are at least 20 kinds of drought indices - numerical scales based on data such as rainfall and temperature - used to measure three types of droughts: meteorological, agricultural and hydrological. Many times, appropriate indices are not used, as there are no standards or guidelines for the use of drought

indices. The workshop has asked the WMO to develop standards for agricultural drought indices. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

24- Since large-scale desalination started, the question of how to dispose of the reject material produced by the process has occupied the minds of engineers and economists. The quantity of brine discharged from desalination plants is increasing, and this trend will be maintained for the near future. The minerals extracted must have a value, but how can this best be realised? A recent paper presents the current state-of-the-art in brine disposal, updating a paper originally presented at the European Desalination Society's EuroMed conference in Jordan in November 2008. The methods outlined provide both the production of a byproduct and environmental protection by processing the outfall brine from desalination plants. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

25- Climate change and increased greenhouse gases will raise the level of the Mediterranean Sea and ocean temperatures in this area, a Spanish-British research team has forecast. The scientists from the Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Studies (IMEDEA) and the National Oceanography Centre of Southampton in the UK analysed simulations based on three scenarios. Their aim is to predict the sea level, salinity and temperature of the Mediterranean in the 21st century. The study's findings were recently published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research-Oceans*. The models used in the study comprised a series of socioeconomic scenarios capable of predicting what lies in store for the area. Concerning the salinity of the area, the models showed that the Mediterranean will become saltier. But the scientists said the forecast is not 100% accurate. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

26- Akvo, an open-source water and sanitation web portal, is seeking partners and supporters to help provide its content in various languages. Akvo is targeting a large number of small drinking water and sanitation projects in developing countries to collect information about low-cost water and sanitation technologies there. It put them online on a website called akvopedia. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

27- The project "European Analytical Quality Control in support of the water framework directive via the Water Information System for Europe" aims to support Member States implementing the WFD and designing water monitoring networks, the EAQC-WISE project was built with the ultimate objective to provide a BLUEPRINT of an efficient and potentially sustainable pan-European Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC) system in order to guarantee data reliability and comparability at river basin scale as well as at European scale. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

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**NOMINATIONS and VACANCIES**  
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28- Egypt: Egyptian President has issued a Republican Decree last March 11 by holding a limited ministerial reshuffle appointing Mosheera Mahmoud Khattab as Minister of State for Family and Population and **Dr. Mohammed Nasreddin Allam as Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation**. Earlier, outgoing Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources **Mahmoud Abu Zeid** has asked for relieving him due to health problems. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

29- Morocco: New assignments in the Secretary of State to the Minister of Energy, Mining, Water and Environment, in charge of Water and Environment. **Mr. Abdelmajid Ben Biba** was nominated General Director of the Hydraulics division. **Mr. Abdelouahed Eddiani** was nominated Director of resources and water planning. **Mr. Belkassem Dhimi** was nominated head of the organisation & methods

division in substitution of **Mr. Ahmed Skim** who moved to the secretary in charge of Environment as director of "Pilot Projects & Impact studies" division. Mr DHIMI is the new EMWIS national focal point coordinator. On the other hand, the directors of basin agencies have also changed. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

30- France: At the Council of Ministers on 25 February, **Mrs. Odile Gauthier** has been appointed director of water and biodiversity into the general direction of development, housing and nature (DGALN) in the Ministry for Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Planning and Development. (MEEDDAT). She replaces **Mrs. Judith Jiguet**, who after 6 months as water director was nominated Director of Cabinet of **Mrs. Chantal Jouanno**, the new State Secretary for Ecology, with Jean-Louis Borloo, Minister for Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Planning and Development. (MEEDDAT). Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

31- During the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul, Irfan Aker, World Water Council Board of Governors, on behalf of Turkey's Prime Minister, presented the **Turkish Prime Minister's Water Prize**, which honors media representatives for coverage of national and international water issues. The international prize was awarded to **Alison Bartle, Aqua-Media International**. On the other hand, Moroccan Prime Minister Abbas El Fassi introduced the **third King Hassan II Great World Water Prize** for cooperation and solidarity in the fields of management and development in water resources. Abdelkébir Zahoud, Morocco's Secretary of State in charge of water and environment, presented the prize to **Abdulatif Yousef Al-Hamad, Director General of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD)**. Al-Hamad commended Morocco's leadership in water management and enumerated water projects funded by his organization. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

32- Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak, founder of Sulabh Sanitation Movement in India, has been named the 2009 Stockholm Water Prize Laureate. As the Founder of the Sulabh International Social Service Organisation, Dr. Pathak is known around the world for his wide ranging work in the sanitation field to improve public health, advance social progress, and improve human rights in India and other countries. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

33- SIWI and the [Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council](#) (WSSCC) welcome entries for the third edition of the [WASH Media Awards](#) competition open to journalists who publish or broadcast original investigative reports between March 2009 and April 2010 on water supply, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) issues in their countries. Journalists can submit one piece of work such as an article from traditional print or recognized online newspapers, magazines or journals; a radio broadcast; or a television documentary or report. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

34- Short term assignment job opportunities in **Syria: Feasibility Study "Banias Water and Wastewater Project"**. The mission requires the expertise of different professionals, such as: water supply and treatment engineering, hydraulic network modelling, waste water process and sewerage/stormwater engineering, treated wastewater product reuse (water and sludge), agriculture engineering, economic and financial analysis, tariff regulation, water utility operations, water utility financial management, environmental and social impact assessment, public procurement. Note that English is the required language and the **deadline for submission is 12 April 2009**. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

35- The Networking and Knowledge Management department, Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council's (WSSCC) is seeking a technical officer. This position is currently listed as temporary to speed up recruitment but the role will be established as a permanent one before expiration of the first 12 months of this position. Application deadline: **03 April 2009**. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

36- 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](#)

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## PUBLICATIONS

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37- The Global Water Partnership and International Network of Basin Organisation -GWP/INBO- Handbook on Integrated Water Resources Management in Basins was launched at the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul the 20 March 2009. This comprehensive manual is available online in English and French. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

38- The World water Assessment Programme has launched the 3rd edition of the World Water Development report on March 16 at the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul. The report is a collaborative effort of 26 UN agencies. The report, entitled Water in a Changing World, warns of additional pressure on water resources triggered by such factors as population growth and mobility, as well as climate change. According to the report, the estimated cost of adaptation to climate change varies from US\$37 billion - to \$100 billion a year in several decades from now. Most of these investments will need to be made in developing countries where financial resources are limited. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

39- The Workshop on Water Governance Benchmarking organized by the [International Resources Group \(IRG\)](#) under the framework of [REWAB project](#) funded by the USAID has published all the presentations. This workshop took place in Ain Sokhna (Egypt) in 2-3 March 2009. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

40- The report, '**Arab Environment: Future Challenges**', published by the regional nongovernmental organisation [the Arab Forum for Environment and Development \(AFED\)](#), was launched last 3 March in Beirut (Lebanon). The water resources chapter provides information on the present availability of fresh water in the Arab world and discusses predicted future water demands in selected Arab countries by section. The report calls for mitigation and adaptation strategies to be integrated into national and regional development strategies and for more funding and facilities for climate change research. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

41- The 25th session of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC-25/GMEF) took place from 16-20 February 2009, at the UN Office in Nairobi, Kenya. Over 1000 participants from 147 countries, including 110 ministers, representatives of UN agencies, international organizations, academia, NGOs, business and industry, and women and youth organizations, attended the week-long gathering. Delegates welcomed the decision on the establishment of a ministerial consultative process on international environmental governance. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

42- Some 1.735 billion euros was allocated in 2008 to projects and assistance programmes under the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI,) including some ?1.160 billion for southern Mediterranean countries, according to the General Report on the EU's activities in 2008. The report says "relations between the European Union and its Mediterranean partners were given fresh impetus this year" with moves towards establishing a Union for the Mediterranean including the Member States of the EU and the non-EU Mediterranean coastal states. This culminated in a meeting in November 2008 in Marseille, where the foreign ministers of the 43 Euro-Mediterranean partner

countries adopted the mandate, structure and institutional arrangements of the Union for the Mediterranean. They also agreed on priorities for the 2009 working programme. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

43- A new report by the European Environment Agency (EEA) confirms that in many parts of Europe water use is unsustainable and provides recommendations for a new approach to managing water resources. The EEA report '**Water resources across Europe - confronting water scarcity and drought**' highlights that while southern Europe continues to experience the greatest water scarcity problems, water stress is growing in parts of the north too. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

44- "Climate Change Adaptation in the Water Sector": The book consists of two parts: the first part describes the general issues and the second part contains specific case studies. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

45- SIWI, in collaboration with the [Council for Scientific and Industrial Research of South Africa](#) (CSIR) and Phillips Robinson and Associates of Namibia has issued a report "[The TWO Analysis - Introducing a Methodology for the Transboundary Waters Opportunity Analysis](#)". Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

46- The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) published its annual Statement on the Status of the Global Climate in 2008. The WMO Statement contains information for 2008 on global temperature, regional temperature anomalies, global precipitation, droughts, flooding and storms, La Niña, tropical cyclones, Antarctic ozone hole and Arctic sea ice extent, as well as an article on benefits for climate monitoring and assessment of data rescue activities. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

47- "Water Safety Plan Manual: Step-by-step risk management for drinking-water suppliers": This much-anticipated workbook describes how to develop and implement a WSP in clear and practical terms. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

48- WaDImena Monthly Drop 19 - February 09: This newsletter published by the WaDImena initiative is a bulletin of information issued on monthly basis and provides information, news and resources related to water demand management in the Middle East and North Africa region. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

49- Marrakech 21 Foundation has produced two documentary films on the results of the project ADIRA (one of MEDA Water programme projects): The first is in French and it shows the two production units of drinking water by desalination installed in two rural villages. The second is in English, it introduced the six units of production of drinking water by desalination, which were installed in Morocco. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

50- "Water Financing and pricing: the role of government policy": Horizontal Water Program of the OECD on "sustainable financing to ensure access to water and sanitation at an affordable cost" met on 1 and 2 December 2008. The main results of this 2 years program are combined into a report and were presented for review and comments. The report was finalized in the light of the discussion, and presented at the 5th World Water Forum held in Istanbul from 16 to 22 March 2009. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

51- Tunisia hosted an international conference on the development of wastewater treatment and its transport to areas of high demand. The conference, held February 17, outlined the opportunities for wastewater reuse. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

52- The Embassy of water, in partnership with RMEI (Network of Mediterranean Engineering Schools), introduced the Mediterranean Union of Youth Ambassadors to the 5th Water World Water Forum in Istanbul. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

53- Just released the latest issue of Rural Economy (No. 309, January-February 2009) coordinated by Alexandre Brun and devoted to the theme: "Water Management in France: Actors and public policies". Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

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### CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS

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54- National Authorities from EU member states and European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) South partner countries are being invited to participate in a Call for Tender (**reference EuropeAid/127372/C/SER/Multi**) for the **ENPI South Mediterranean Environment Programme**. The objective of the Service Contract is to strengthen environmental governance within the Mediterranean Partner Countries, mainly by supporting the implementation of the road map of the Horizon 2020 Initiative for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean, through capacity building and awareness raising activities. The maximum budget is **?4.5 million**, funded under ENPI financial co-operation with Mediterranean countries. **Deadline for receipt of applications: 03/04/2009, 16:00 Central European Time**. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

55- The first call for proposals on standard projects for the ENPI CBC 'Mediterranean Sea Basin' Programme will be launched by the end of March, according to a press release. Representatives of participating countries approved the text and other details of the call at a meeting of the second Joint Monitoring Committee in Jordan on January 14-16. The Programme aims at promoting cross-border projects between local actors from the two shores of the Mediterranean Sea in the fields of socio-economic development, **environmental sustainability**, mobility of persons, goods and capitals, cultural dialogue and local governance. The Programme has a budget of **?173 million for the period 2007-2013**. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

56- A Call for proposals (EAC/01/2009) has been published under the Tempus IV programme. The Call invites the submission of cooperative projects under two actions types, '**Joint Projects**' and '**Structural Measures**', from partnerships comprised of higher education institutions, enterprises, ministries, NGOs, associations etc., from the EU and the Partner Countries. The indicative total budget for this Call amounts to approximately ?53 million in total, and the individual projects grants from ?0.5 to ?1.5 million. Proposals must be submitted by **28 April 2009**. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

57- The intergovernmental 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](#)

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

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58- The 3<sup>rd</sup> European Water and Wastewater Management Conference, will be held on 22-23<sup>rd</sup> September at the ThinkTank, Birmingham (UK). 150 word abstracts can be submitted by email before **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

59- The Moroccan Association of land improvements, irrigation, drainage and environment (ANAFIDE) organizes the 12th Inter Regional Water Enviro conference on 9- 11 November 2009 in Marrakech (Morocco) . Four themes are provided in this seminar: Theme 1: Management of water scarcity; Theme 2: quantitative and qualitative aspects of water; Theme 3: Socio-economic aspects of water management; Theme 4: Management and planning of multifunctional use of water and land. Abstracts can be submitted before 30 April 2009. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

60- UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science at the University of Dundee, Scotland, UK, will hold a two day Conference on Water Utilities and Law in Scotland in 3-4 September 2009. Abstracts should be received by **April 15th, 2009**. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

61- 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](#).

62- Call for abstracts for the RSPSoc2009: The 2009 Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry Annual Conference. This conference will be held in Leceister, UK in 8-11 September 2009. **27th March 2009**: Deadline for abstract submission. Further information on [EMWIS website](#).

63- The Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies (JBGIS) and UN-SPIDER jointly invite to contribute to a " Best Practises Booklet on Geo-information for Risk and Disaster Management". The deadline for submitting the abstracts is **30 April 2009**. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

64- The IMPETUS Africa Conference "Global Change in Africa - Projections, Mitigation and Adaptation" will be held from June 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> 2009 at the University of Cologne (Germany). Deadline of abstract submission: **31st March 2009**. Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

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## TRAINING

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65- [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](#)

66- "Financial Management of Water Organizations": The aim of this course is to prepare participants for positions of leadership in water sector and utility management. The course will be held from 27 April to 15 May 2009 in Delft (The Netherlands) and the deadline for applications is **27 March 2009**. Further information on [EMWIS website](#).

67- Bicultural Master Course "Integrated Water Resource Management for Arab and German Professionals": This new Master will be offered to 10 selected Arab applicants and 10 selected German applicants. **Application Deadline for Applicants: March 31st, 2009.** Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

68- [2009/04/06 - 2009/04/24] Short course on Negotiation and mediation for water conflict, Delft, the Netherlands.  
Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

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**EVENTS** ([Full Agenda](#))

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[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] The 8th International Conference "Odpadní vody - Wastewater 2009", Plzeň (Pilsen), Czech Republic  
Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/05/05 - 2009/05/07] Agritech Israel 2009 - The 17th International Agricultural Exhibition, Tel Aviv, Israel  
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 - 2009/05/05] 3rd Annual Middle East Waste & Water Congress, Dubai, UAE  
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](#)

[2009/04/23 - 2009/04/24] EMAN 2009: Environmental Accounting and Sustainable Development Indicators, Prague, the Czech Republic

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/22 - 2009/04/23] B4E, the Business for Environment Global Summit, Paris, France

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/22 - 2009/04/23] Workshop on Transboundary Flood Risk Management, Geneva, Switzerland

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/20 - 2009/04/23] HydroEco '2009: 2nd International Multidisciplinary Conference on Hydrology and Ecology, Vienna, Austria

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/15 - 2009/04/17] 3rd International Conference "Remote Sensing - Synergie of High Technologies", Moscow, Russia

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/14 - 2009/04/15] ECGP'8 - 2009, The eighth International Symposium on "Environment, Catalysis and Process Engineering", Gabes, Tunisia

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/13 - 2009/04/15] The Second International Conference on Water Values & Rights, Jericho, Palestine.

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/15 - 2009/04/16] Rencontre internationale Fondations Pour la Méditerranée, Monaco

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/07 - 2009/04/07] Workshop: 'Economie des Infrastructures: Secteur "Eau" ', Paris, France

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/08 - 2009/04/09] Cooperation for Waste Issues - the 6th International Conference on Solid waste, Sewage and Air emissions management, Kharkiv, Ukraine

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/06 - 2009/04/09] Infrastructure Syria 2009, Damascus, Syria

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/06 - 2009/04/07] Conference : "Responding to the Challenge of Sustainable development in the Mediterranean", Nice, France.

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/02 - 2009/04/03] 2nd European Water Conference 2009, Brussels, Belgium

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/02 - 2009/04/02] Water Supply and Ressource Protection: Seminar at Congress WASSER BERLIN 2009, Berlin, Germany

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/01 - 2009/04/02] 10th River Restoration Conference 2009: 'River restoration benefits: past, present and future', Nottingham, UK

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/01 - 2009/04/02] Analyzing microbial contaminants in water and wastewater: WHO-UNEP Consultation meeting on health-related monitoring of coastal waters: Analyzing microbial contaminants in water and wastewater, Athens, Greece

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/04/01 - 2009/04/01] 3rd Stakeholders Event, WssTP, the Water European Technology Platform, "Risk and crisis in the water and sanitation sector", Berlin, Germany

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/31 - 2009/04/01] Final MBR-Network Workshop: Selected results of European research projects on MBR technology, Berlin, Germany

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/31 - 2009/04/01] Colloque SHF - "Utilisation de l'imagerie satellite pour l'étude de l'eau dans le sol et le proche sous sol », Toulouse, France.

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/30 - 2009/04/03] 5th IWA Specialist Conference: Oxidation Technologies for Water & Wastewater Treatment, Berlin, Germany.

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/30 - 2009/04/03] Wasser Berlin - International Trade Fair and Congress for Water and Wastewater, Berlin, Germany.

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/30 - 2009/04/02] International Workshop on Status and Perspectives of Hydrology in Small Basins, Goslar-Hahnenklee, Germany

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/30 - 2009/04/03] Improving the ecological status of fish communities in inland waters - International Symposium and EFI+ Workshop, Hull, UK

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/30 - 2009/03/31] Arabian Power & Water Summit, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/27 - 2009/03/29] Le Forum de Paris 2009: « SAUVER LA MEDITERRANEE », Paris, France.

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/26 - 2009/03/27] 5th International Monaco and the Mediterranean Symposium: Fair and sustainable management of fresh water in the Mediterranean, Monaco

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/26 - 2009/03/27] UNEP-MAP: 2nd Meeting of the Compliance Committee, Athens, Greece

Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

[2009/03/25 - 2009/03/29] 10th Mediterranean Research Meeting (Workshop11): "Law of Water Management in the Mediterranean - Past, Present, Future", Florence and Montecatini Terme, Italy  
Further information on [EMWIS website](#)

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**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 PROJECTS](#) ([ADIRA](#), [EMPOWERS](#), [EMWater](#), [IrWA](#), [ISIIMM](#), [MEDAWARE](#), [MEDROPLAN](#), [MEDWA](#), [ZerO-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)

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