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<http://www.emwis.net/thematicdirs/eflash/flash78>) ===== HEADLINE 1- IV Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water, 13 April 2010, Barcelona (Spain) IN BRIEF 2- Barcelona: UfM capital and driver of Mediterranean unity 3- The 8th meeting of Ministers of Agriculture of the CIHEAM: Water scarcity the key challenge for Mediterranean farmers 4- Water experts call for greater coordination & sharing of information among Arab countries to face water scarcity & climate change 5- AFED Annual Conference: "Water: Sustainable Management of a Scarce Resource" 6- International recognition of the right to water 7- SINEAU: the National water information system of Tunisia 8- Tunisia: Results of Water Pollution Monitoring Network (COPEAU) 9- Tunisia: Commissioner Fle signs MoU for €240 million Tunisian cooperation 10- Tunisia: African Development Bank agrees desalination study funding 11- Morocco has a head start in terms of water management according to an expert 12- Egypt: Second National Drainage Project additional financing 13- Egypt: Pressure mounts on authorities over Nile Delta 14- Egypt: Potable water for Egyptian villages 15- Syria: Why the water shortages? 16- Syria: EU supports WFP distribute food to drought affected populations 17- UNEP joins the Water Footprint Network 18- Civil protection programme: GIS not effectively used for risk assessment in Southern partner countries 19- First images from ESAs water mission 20- The EnMAP hyperspectral satellite to be launched in 2014 NOMINATIONS and VACANCIES PUBLICATIONS CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS CALL FOR PAPERS TRAINING EVENTS BRIEF EMWIS SITE MAP CONTACT US / COMMENTS

===== HEADLINE

===== 1- The IV Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water will be held in Barcelona, Spain on 13 April 2010. In this Conference, following the agreements achieved in the Ministerial Conference of Jordan in 2008, the adoption of a "Long-Term Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean" is expected. This document aims at agreeing on a common political, methodological, and financing framework to facilitate the implementation of regional policies in the water field. In addition, this event will provide an excellent opportunity to facilitate the dialogue among Water Administrations and discuss solution to common hydrological problems in the region. Within the framework of the Conference, the following events will also take place: Monday, 12 April: Informal Open Technical Workshop; and Wednesday, 14 April: Technical Visit to the El Prat de Llobregat Complex. For further information, see the website of the conference: <http://www.medaquaministerial2010.net> .

===== IN BRIEF (Full news)

===== 2- Barcelona has become the "capital and driver of Mediterranean unity", according to the new Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) , Ahmad Masadeh , speaking as the UfM presented him at the ceremony to open its new Barcelona headquarters on 4 March. This new stage in Euro-Mediterranean relations is

intended to achieve a more dynamic association of EU countries and their Mediterranean partners, according to a press release from the EU's Spanish Presidency. The ceremony at the Pedralbes Palace in Barcelona was attended by the Foreign Ministers of Spain, France, Egypt and Jordan, the European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy Stefan Fle, the Secretary General of the Arab League Amr Moussa, the High Representative of the UN Alliance of Civilisations Jorge Sampaio, the Catalanian President Jos Montilla, and the Mayor of Barcelona Jordi Hereu. The UfM welcomed, from its beginning, the principles, values and goals set out 15 years ago in the Declaration of Barcelona: to work together to make the Mediterranean a place of peace, development and human and cultural dialogue. The six priority projects of the organisation are the de-pollution of the Mediterranean, maritime and overland highways, civil protection, alternative energies and producing a Mediterranean Solar Energy Plan, the creation of the Euro-Mediterranean University and the development of business in the region. Further information on EMWIS website . 3-

The availability of water is the key issue for farmers in the Mediterranean as a result of climate change, Agriculture Ministers from 13 Mediterranean countries have heard. A Spanish EU Presidency press release said that at the 8th meeting of Ministers of Agriculture of the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), held in Istanbul, Spain's Minister of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, Elena Espinosa, highlighted the importance of implementing policies that encourage the agricultural sector to adapt to climate change. The Minister said water availability was one of the major consequences of climate change for the agriculture of Mediterranean countries and pointed out that water was an essential element for improving food safety, for increasing crop productivity and for promoting the economic development of rural areas. She added that saving water would not be enough and that reusing waste water and using desalination when possible would be needed; she went on to stress the need to continue exploring new ways of obtaining these resources using as little energy as possible in order to reduce their cost and their environmental consequences. Discussions at the meeting focused on 'The effects of climate change on food security and food safety in the Mediterranean Region and actions to be taken'. A CIHEAM press release issued ahead of the meeting said that, "Since all regional climate models agree in considering the Mediterranean region as one of the potentially most severely affected by climate change in the world, attempts to assess the future of Mediterranean food production must consider the complex interaction of factors determining the use of land and water resources, the choice of most suited crops and their interactions with social dynamics." Further information on EMWIS website . 4 -

Water experts called for greater coordination and sharing of information among Arab countries to tackle the challenge of water scarcity and the threat of climate change. During a one-day seminar on 30 March 2010 on water security in the Arab world, experts from Jordan, Palestine, Egypt and other countries discussed means to deal with the current water crisis in the Middle East and beyond. The seminar's recommendations included adopting water security as a permanent file for discussion at Arab summits and conducting studies on the impact of decreasing rainfall on the environment. Experts also called on organisations around the Middle East to look into the impact of recent natural disasters that hit the region, including flash floods in Saudi Arabia and Yemen as well as hurricane Juno which hit Oman in 2007. Water harvesting during rainy seasons and improvement of infrastructure in impoverished countries with high populations were mentioned as important measures to help reduce the water deficit in these countries. Recommendations also included the need to establish a joint database of surface and underground water resources and to identify water borders for Arab countries, particularly Jordan, one of the most water impoverished countries in the world. Experts at a conference held earlier this month warned that water scarcity compounded by climate change may hinder the Kingdom's ability to meet its Millennium Development Goals (MDG). The Ministry of Environment in December 2009 launched a \$4.3 million programme to develop the Kingdom's adaptation to climate change and sustain its MDG

achievements. Experts say natural sources of water such as rain and underground aquifers will not be enough to secure the needs of Jordan's population of six million. They said the Red-Dead Canal and the construction of desalination plants represent the ideal solution to ease the impact of water scarcity and enhance water security in Jordan. Further information on EMWIS website . 5- The Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED) announced its Annual Conference on 4-5 November 2010 in Beirut: "Water: Sustainable Management of a Scarce Resource". The conference will debate a comprehensive report on water, being prepared by AFED experts. The report, highlighting the need for more sustainable management of a scarce resource, is the third in a State of Arab Environment series published by AFED. It follows the publication of two reports, Arab Environment: Future Challenges in 2008 and Impact of Climate Change on Arab Countries in 2009, which were highly acclaimed. AFED's Secretary General Najib Saab explained that, "Policy recommendations will be prominent throughout the report, leading to reforms necessary to develop a sustainable water sector in the Arab region." Describing the water dilemma in Arab countries, Saab said that "Per capita share of water is declining due to swift increase in population, major water sources are from outside Arab borders or shared, and most available water resources are already developed," adding that "needs exceed availability, which requires rational use of available sources in all sectors and developing new sources, such as desalination and rain harvesting." Edited by Dr. Mohamed El-Ashry, former chief of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the AFED water report will be a joint effort of leading experts and research centers across the region and beyond. AFED Annual conference has become the major environmental gathering in the Middle East, due to the timely themes discussed and the wide spectrum of participants, representing major players from the private and public sectors, along with civil society, academia and media. Further information on EMWIS website . 6- Governments of 27 member states of the European Union and 14 other European countries has just recognized that access to water and sanitation is a right for every human being and not merely a need as tried to pretend the United States and some other states during the last World Water Forum. The statement which was joined by 14 other European countries makes more than 160 the number of states that have officially recognized the right to water in international fora. Previously, the highest representatives of the UN, UNESCO, WHO, UNDP, parliamentary bodies of the EU and Europe Council, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the highest religious authorities and representatives of civil society had always defended this right. Further information on EMWIS website . 7- The implementation phase of the National water information system in Tunisia -SINEAU- is now starting, with a national seminar that took place in Tunis on 18 March 2010 supported by EMWIS and the European Commission . With a budget of more than 3 MEuros, SINEAU is a major tool of the 2nd Investment Plan for the Tunisian water sector (PISEAU II), especially for monitoring and evaluation of the various activities foreseen including for environmental impact assessments. SINEAU implementation budget comes from a grant from the African Water Facility and a coordinated loan from the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the French Development Agency. SINEAU follows the approach of a Shared Information System, integrating several sectoral sub-systems and responding to the needs of various institutions. An agreement between 5 ministries is under signature to allow data sharing by a wide range of institutions. The data harmonisation is also a key part of this system, the preparatory activities carried out by EMWIS on the UN water accounting and EU WISE (Water Information System for Europe) standards will also ensure that SINEAU will be able to communicate, when appropriate, with International systems such as a Mediterranean Water Knowledge Hub. Further information on EMWIS website . 8- The presentation of the results of the Network on water pollution monitoring "COPEAU" was the subject of a regional symposium organized last March 22 (on the occasion of the world water day and the Tunisian national water conservation day) in CITET (Tunis) under the patronage of the Tunisian Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Nadhir

Hamada and the initiative of the National Agency of Environmental Protection (ANPE), in collaboration with the European Commission and with the presence of Tunisian and foreign experts. This project was carried out under an agreement signed between the European Commission and the ANPE in 2006. The project cost is around 1 100 000 euros covered by a grant from the European Commission (LIFE programme), a grant from the University of Liege (Belgium) and by the Tunisian government budget. A guide to procedures relating to methods of water pollution monitoring has been developed under this project, in addition to the purchase of 2 mobile laboratories for water pollution monitoring. Opening the symposium, Nadhir Hamada, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, has stressed the importance of the existence of a benchmark for assessing water quality standards in Tunisia. Standards for disposal of wastewater are currently being revised and the standards for the reuse of treated wastewater as well. Mr. Hamada added that an important repository of water pollution monitoring was established. The study identified and examined the sources of pollution and most sensitive environments with the goal of creating a network for monitoring water pollution, noting that 234 natural areas have been identified (134 and 100 lake wadis and groundwater). Following these results, 206 points of surface water and groundwater are now monitored. The results of COPEAU will be integrated as a sub-system of the National Water Information System: SINEAU. Further information on EMWIS website . 9- EU Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy tefan Fle has signed a memorandum of understanding in Tunisia for the new National Indicative Programme (NIP) worth €240 million for the period 2011-2013 . The Commissioner was on a two-day visit to Tunisia, his first visit to a southern Mediterranean country since he took office in February 2010. He met Prime Minister Mohamed Ghannouchi, Foreign Minister Kamel Morjane, as well as the ministers of Development and International Cooperation, and Industry and Technology. Among the issues raised during his visit was the question of advanced status following a proposal submitted by Tunisia, as well as financial and technical cooperation, and issues such as the Union for the Mediterranean or security in the region. Further information on EMWIS website . 10- A study of seawater desalination at Zarat, Tunisia, was one of nine projects and programs given grants by the African Development Bank (AfDB) in agreements signed with the Tunisian government on 12 March 2010. The grant agreements totalled US\$ 6.6 million. The donation for the Zarat study is financed from the resources of the Japanese Fund for African Private Sector Assistance (FAPA), administered by AfDB. The FAPA is a component of the enhanced assistance to the private sector in heavily indebted poor countries, a joint initiative of the Japanese International Cooperation Agency and AfDB. Further information on EMWIS website . 11- Morocco has a head start in terms of water resources management, according to the representative of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Cairo, Mr. Hammou Lamrani. This strategy, which includes no fewer than 22 measures on the management of all water demand, reflects the awareness of the importance of sound management of this vital resource, said at a meeting Mr. Lamrani. This meeting was organized during the training session on "Water demand management in Morocco" (3 to 5 February 2010). Initiated by the research group on Water and Environment under the Al Akhawayn University, in partnership with IDRC and the Arab Water Academy (AWA), this meeting was a good opportunity for Experts working in the field of water, to discuss Morocco's experience in the management of water resources. Among the main focus of this training session: - the water demand and the use of non-conventional water resources: wastewater treatment and reuse in Morocco - Governance: the challenges of decentralization and public participation in water management in Morocco - Water conservation in rural and urban areas. Further information on EMWIS website . 12- The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved last 23 March 2010 a loan for Egypt in the amount of \$ 30 million as additional financing for the Second National Drainage Project. \$30 million to increase the agriculture productivity of irrigated lands through improved drainage and the provision of

subsurface drains to all irrigated areas. The project will help avoid yield and production losses that result from water logging and soil salinity problems. The project aims to support the Government of Egypt's (GoE) efforts to increase the agriculture productivity of irrigated lands through the improved drainage of agricultural lands and the provision of all irrigated areas with subsurface drains. The main objectives of the original project and of the additional financing project are to: a) increase the agriculture productivity of irrigated lands by improving drainage conditions through evacuation of excess irrigation water by subsurface drains; and b) to avoid yield and production losses on this land, which would result if water logging and soil salinity problems were to persist. The original Second National Drainage Project - NDP II (2000 -2008) was financed by about US\$ 143.6 million from the World Bank, KFW, and the European Investment Bank, and a grant from the Netherlands in addition to Government contribution. The Project managed to install sub-surface drains in about 0.91 million feddans and remodeling of open drains, where needed, of about 0.44 million feddans as well as building institutional capacity of the implementing agency. Further information on EMWIS website .

13- Pressure is mounting on the Egyptian authorities to do more to protect the Nile Delta, which provides up to a third of the country's agricultural produce, from rising sea levels. A report released in March by the Arab League said a half-to-one-metre sea level rise over the coming 100 years could cause much of the Delta to be submerged. It also said soil erosion on the banks of the Delta could lead to a decline in agricultural yields. In response, Egyptian Environment Minister Maged George said the government was studying "the adverse effects of climate change in coordination with the specialized authorities" and working "to raise society's environmental behaviours through raising environmental awareness among individuals and institutions". He said the government was offering financial incentives to support environmentally friendly facilities or initiatives and would "toughen penalties against violations and risky environmental practices". Some parts of the Delta nearest to the Mediterranean Sea have already been inundated, including parts of the ancient city of Rosetta. The Mediterranean has risen 20cm in the past century and saltwater intrusion is now a major problem, experts say. They expect the sea level to keep rising and flood large swathes of land in Alexandria, Egypt's second largest city. Alexandria governor Adel Labib said the government gave his office 150 million Egyptian pounds (US\$27.5 million) to take the necessary measures to protect the coast. Irrigation Minister Mohamed Nasr Allam said his ministry had drawn up plans to protect Egypt's shores, but this does not seem to have allayed fears of a sinking Delta. The NGO Egyptian Centre for Economic and Social Rights recently called on the authorities to provide evacuation tips to Delta residents in case of a major flood. It also said the government should to start making plans to compensate residents if they lost their homes and farms. Scientists generally predict that the Mediterranean, and the world's other seas, will rise 30-100cm by the end of the century, flooding coastal areas along the Delta. Further information on EMWIS website .

14- ROOTS TM BLOWERS, MANUFACTURED by Dresser, Inc., a leader in providing highly engineered products for global infrastructure projects, have been specified for a project that is making potable water available to villages in Upper Egypt where it is desperately needed. The project deploys portable, turnkey water treatment plants to rural villages to purify local water and prevent outbreaks of waterborne illnesses. Typically these plants produce 100 m³ (approximately 26,500 gallons) of clean water per hour. The Dresser Roots Egyptian distributor, Tartoussieh Engineering of Cairo, supplied 249 of the ROOTS Universal RAI blower packages to the three contractors - Veolia, Pharoahs Engineering and Aircraft Factory Helwan - who were selected to provide the water treatment plants. ROOTS blowers were chosen for the project because of their rugged construction and flexible configuration to meet a wide variety of installation specifications. Supplying clean water to its citizenry is a high priority and an ongoing challenge for the Egyptian government. The Nile River provides an estimated 97 per cent of the renewable water resources in Egypt. Yet it is subject to pollution by run-off from industrial waste and sewage, the latter because sanitary sewage treatment capacity has not kept pace with the

country's population growth. Conventional water purification processes have sometimes proved inadequate when chlorination treatment has interacted with some of the pollutants and created additional health hazards. The potable water treatment plants are part of a larger, E1.3 billion (US\$240mn) initiative by the Egyptian government, with support from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the National Organization for Potable Water & Sanitary Drainage. The goal of this environmental initiative is to provide safe drinking water and expand the capacity of the country's sanitary sewage treatment infrastructure. Further information on EMWIS website .

15- Poor planning and management, wasteful irrigation systems, intensive wheat and cotton farming and a rapidly growing population are straining water resources in Syria in a year which has seen unprecedented internal displacement as a result of drought in eastern and north eastern parts of the country. Compared to other Middle Eastern countries, Syria is not naturally water poor. According to the UN Development Programme (UNDP) Arab Human Development Report 2009, Syria was ranked 13th out of 20 Arab countries for precipitation per capita. Annual per capita water consumption was 300 cubic metres, making it ninth out of 18 Arab countries but significantly below the global water scarcity mark of 1,000 cubic metres per capita. The global average is 6,750 cubic metres. In 2007 Syria consumed 19.2 billion cubic metres of water - 3.5 billion more than the amount of water replenished naturally, with the deficit coming from groundwater and reservoirs, according to the Ministry of Irrigation. Agriculture accounts for almost 90 percent of the country's water consumption, according to government and private sector. Agricultural policies encourage water-hungry wheat and cotton cultivation, and inefficient irrigation methods mean much water is wasted. The recent influx of hundreds of thousands of people from drought-affected regions into towns and cities is placing a huge strain on urban water supplies. The Damascus water basin is a closed water system and its resources are being depleted. The city water network leaks up to 60 percent of the water it carries, according to the local authorities. Migrants living on the outskirts are having to pay for water from tankers at an inflated price. Further information on EMWIS website .

16- With the support of the EU, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has started distributing emergency food assistance to almost 200,000 people in the rural northeast of Syria, where the drought of 2009 has severely affected small-scale farmers and herding families. An EU Delegation press release said that thanks to donations from the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO) as well as other organizations and countries, the WFP will provide families with a two-month food ration that includes rice, bulgur, oil, wheat flour, chickpeas and salt. The UN food agency has so far received US\$8.2 million out of the required US\$22 million needed to provide food assistance to up to 300,000 people. In addition, the WFP will start distributing supplementary feeding rations to children under five, and to pregnant and nursing mothers in Al-Shadadi district of Al-Hasakeh, one of the worst-affected areas with the highest rate of migration and school closures. Further information on EMWIS website .

17- The United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) has joined the Water Footprint Network as its hundredth partner. Partners of the network subscribe to the need to have a globally shared water footprint standard. A shared standard is crucial given the rapidly growing interest in companies and governments to use water footprint assessments as a basis for formulating sustainable water strategies and policies. The Water Footprint Network has produced the Water Footprint Manual as the current standard. The manual is freely available . Further information on EMWIS website .

18- The EU-funded Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters (PPRD South) has reached the conclusion that Geographical Information Systems (GIS) for civil protection are used mainly for managing assistance and only in a few countries for risk assessment. A press release said that from the information provided by participants to a training workshop on the use of GIS for civil protection organised by the project in Rome, it appears that most of the Civil Protection Authorities of the PPRD South countries are provided with GIS. However, the majority of them use GIS mainly for managing assistance, and only

s few of them have set up GIS for risk assessment. The objective of the €5 million PPRD South programme is to develop and reinforce the prevention, preparedness and response capacities of civil protection services in the Euro-Mediterranean region through increased institutional cooperation between the EU and the Mediterranean partner countries. Further information on EMWIS website .

19- In less than four months since launch, the first calibrated images are being delivered by ESA's SMOS mission. These images of 'brightness temperature' translate into clear information on global variations of soil moisture and ocean salinity to advance our understanding of the water cycle. Launched on 2 November, the Soil Moisture and Ocean Salinity (SMOS) mission is improving our understanding of Earth's water cycle by making global observations of soil moisture over land and salinity over oceans. By consistently mapping these two variables, SMOS will not only advance our understanding of the exchange processes between Earth's surface and atmosphere, but will also help to improve weather and climate models. In addition, the data from SMOS will have several other applications in areas such as agriculture and water resource management. Further information on EMWIS website .

20- The German Aerospace Center (DLR) and the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ) are planning to launch the EnMAP hyperspectral satellite in 2014 to map Earth's surface in over 200 narrow colour channels at the same time. The primary goal of EnMAP is to offer accurate, diagnostic information on the state and evolution of terrestrial ecosystems on a timely and frequent basis, and to allow for a detailed analysis of surface parameters with regard to the characterisation of vegetation canopies, rock/soil targets and coastal waters on a global scale. In 2015, NASA plans to launch the HypSPIRI mission, which will acquire images with 210 spectral bands. It will study the processes that indicate volcanic eruption; analyse the nutrients and water status of vegetation; study deforestation; provide early warning of droughts; among others. Nearly 200 scientists from Europe and North America gathered at ESA's Earth Observation Centre in Frascati, Italy, recently to discuss the current and future hyperspectral/imaging spectroscopy capacity. The 2010 Hyperspectral Remote Sensing Workshop, co-organised by ESA, DLR, GFZ and ASI, covered topics ranging from products and applications of hyperspectral data use in agriculture, geology, land surface, atmosphere, coastal zones, urban areas, etc. that have been built up and supported by ESA's CHRIS Proba mission over the past eight years. Further information on EMWIS website

===== NOMINATIONS and VACANCIES =====

21- New National Focal Point Coordinator for EMWIS in Egypt: Dr. Hesham Mostafa Mohamed Ali has been nominated New director of Water Information Center (WIC) in the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (Egypt) . He replaced Dr. Mohamed Rami Mahmoud in this position, and he became the new National Focal Point for EMWIS (Euro-Mediterranean Information System on know-how in the Water sector) in Egypt . Egypt was one of the first participants in the EMWIS Initiative and has been taking part in it since 1998. Egypt contributed to all the discussions and ideas that led to the promotion of EMWIS such as introducing the Arabic language. In July 2006, Egypt began the development of its EMWIS website sponsored by the Italian Cooperation, which is now available online . Further information on EMWIS website .

22- The Mediterranean Action Plan Secretariat seeks a Coordinator. The Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) is one of the UNEP's Regional Seas Programmes encompassing a comprehensive system of activities for the protection and the sustainable development of the Mediterranean region based on a legal framework (the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols). This coordinator should work under the overall guidance of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Barcelona Convention and the Director, Division of Environmental Policy implementation (DEPI), and closely with the UNEP/DEPI Coordinator for the Coastal and Marine Branch. Deadline for applications: 21 May 2010 . Further information on EMWIS website .

23- WWF, the global conservation organisation, is looking to fill a full-time position in its Brussels European Policy Office (WWF-EPO) to work as Policy Officer, Climate Change and Energy Programme (Brussels, Belgium).

She/he will represent WWF's positions on these matters to the EU institutions and to European and international governments; cooperation and engagement with industry and other NGO stakeholders will be essential, as well as coordination of positions within WWF's network, particularly within Europe. Application letter and CV should reach WWF-EPO no later than 19 April 2010 . Further information on EMWIS website . 24- SIWI Announced the 2010 Stockholm Water Prize Laureate on World Water Day: Dr Rita Colwell, distinguished Professor from the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University's Bloomberg School of Public Health in the United States, has been named the 2010 Stockholm Water Prize Laureate. Dr Colwell's pioneering research on the prevention of waterborne infectious diseases has helped protect the health and lives of millions. Further information on EMWIS website . 25- IMDEA ("Instituto Madrileo de Estudios Avanzados" -Madrid Institute for Advanced Studies) is the new institutional framework established by the Government of the Region of Madrid (Spain) to effectively combine and increase both public and private support for research of excellence in the region. IMDEA comprises a network of research institutes in areas of high economic impact, including: energy, food sciences, materials, nanotechnology, networks, social sciences, software, and water . AMAROUT Europe is a Marie Curie Action (PEOPLE-COFUND) to foster and consolidate the European Research Area by attracting to Europe and, in particular, to the region of Madrid (Spain) top research talent. AMAROUT contributes with IMDEA to turning Madrid into one of the top knowledge generation regions in Europe. To accomplish this, during the next 4 years, the AMAROUT program will finance up to 132 researchers to join the IMDEA network of research institutes for one year (renewable up to twice). Further information on EMWIS website .

===== PUBLICATIONS

===== 26- MEDA Water films: The films (English and Arabic) have been produced under the MEDA WATER (Euro-Mediterranean Regional Water Programme for Local Water Management) programme are now online on the website "audiovisual library" of the European Commission. Further information on EMWIS website . 27 - The presentations of "the International Water Scarcity and Drought Conference: The path to climate change adaptation" that took place in Madrid (Spain) last 18-19/02/2010 are finally available online. Further information on EMWIS website . 28- Water & Sanitation in the cities and the countries around the Mediterranean: This book, written under the direction of Claude Martinand, is the fruit of reflection carried out by the international group set up by Water IPEMED to identify the most efficient actions on clean water in countries around the Mediterranean. An approach more necessary that the land-based pollution is predominant in the region and poses significant health problems for people. The book examines the policies included in the overall management of water services and analyzes the factors that lead to their success. Further information on EMWIS website . (Only in French) 29- "Environment Outlook for the Arab Region" Launched at League of Arab States Meeting in Cairo: The Environment Outlook for the Arab Region (EOAR), compiled at the request of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) says important progress is being made to address sustainability. Much of the progress has focused on the development of the environmental frameworks including the necessary legislation alongside improved public awareness and involvement of countries in the region in international treaties and agreements. The focus now is to translate these institutional gains into transformative action across countries and on the ground in order to catalyze a transition to a low carbon, resource efficient Green Economy. The new report, launched at the headquarters of the League of Arab States in Cairo, has been prepared in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States (LAS), the Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), as well as the Arab Specialized agencies and Global Environment Outlook collaborating centers in the region. The report says the Arab region is predicted to be among the hardest hit by the potential of direct and indirect impacts linked with climate change. Impacts include loss of coastal zones, more severe droughts

International portal

and desertification, increased groundwater salinity, and a surge in epidemics and infectious diseases. The report affirms that the region's natural resources offer a wide ranging opportunities, if these resources are used rationally and sustainably, and if environmental aspects are integrated into the decision making process. Further information on EMWIS website . 30- Finding practical approaches to integrated management of water resources: In this special issue of the critical academic journal "Water Alternatives of local IWRM", Butterworth, J. , Warner, J. , Moriarty, P. , Smits, S. and Batchelor argue an IWRM approach more service oriented (AEHA, irrigation and ecosystem) locally rooted and balanced, which corresponds better to the context and capabilities, and should capitalize on strategies, in addition to the necessary long-term policy reform and institutional strengthening of river basin to higher levels. Further information on EMWIS website . 31- The portal "The technical papers on water" has nearly 31 000 references: The national French library portal created and managed by the National Water and Aquatic Environments (Onema) provides access to documents, techniques in French on topics related to water and aquatic environments, destined for any public water stakeholders and practitioners in particular. The documents contain essentially the reports collected, funded or carried out by the public sector: full content and metadata. The portal also provides access to records of books and articles in scientific journals. Access to documents on geographical criteria is underway. It is continuously fed by the documents produced or collected by "contributors" who are currently: Department of Ecology, Onema, Water Agencies, Offices of water Overseas, International Office for Water (OIEAU), Ifremer, Cemagref, BRGM, INERIS. The contribution to the portal is open to all agencies holding records on the water. Welcoming new contributors based on the production of metadata as a guide to procedures and the establishment of a technical architecture that complies with the principles of portal computing with a protocol for standard data exchange and simple implementation (OAI-PMH). Further information on EMWIS website . 32- The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) released on 15 March its latest report entitled "Progress on sanitation and drinking-water 2010 update". This report provides the most recent data for drinking-water and sanitation, along with the implications and trends towards the drinking-water and sanitation MDG target. Further information on EMWIS website . 33- WHO has published a joint WHO/DFID CD-ROM entitled "Vision 2030", which contains the full technical reports of how climate change may affect drinking-water and sanitation facilities and what can be done to optimize resilience of infrastructure and services in the face of these changes to safeguard human health and development. Further information on EMWIS website . 34- OECD has just published (16 th March) the report Sustainable Management of Water Resources in Agriculture , together with nine background studies, that cover virtual water, water financing and agricultural water pricing in Australia, the EU, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Turkey and the United States. This report calls on policy makers to recognise the complexity and diversity of water resource management in agriculture. It shows the trends and outlook for water use, examines the policy experiences of OECD countries in managing their resources - and makes concrete recommendations on what countries should be doing and why. Further information on EMWIS website . 35- Risk Analysis of Water Pollution published by Wiley VCH: This practice-oriented guide includes developments in risk analysis, water quality assessment and management and the role of ecological water quality in regional and transboundary water resources management according to UNESCO programmes and the EU-Water Framework Directive. Further information on EMWIS website . 36- A Guide to Good Water Management: A guide to good water management in Croatia, particularly in the Gacka Valley. Topics in the report include resources for good drinking water, plants and animals and endemics. The guide tells the story of water through the perspective of visitors, nature lovers from Croatia and abroad, fishermen, children and adults. Combined they tell the story of an energy that is dispersed through a drop of water. That water drop and energy become a bigger story, one illustrated by this guide. This is a story about water

protection and protecting life. Further information on EMWIS website . 37- Template for assessing the governance of public water supply and sanitation service providers: This note proposes a template for assessing the governance of urban water supply and sanitation (WSS) service providers and its impact of the quality of service and performance of operations. The template can be used for decentralized autonomous public corporations responsible for providing the WSS service to customers as well as other institutional arrangements ranging from government departments to autonomous public WSS asset holding companies subcontracting operations to professional operators. Further information on EMWIS website . 38- Water and climate change : understanding the risks and making climate-smart investment decisions : The report illustrates that climate change is affecting the hydrologic cycle and the projected future hydrology will have a direct impact on the water resources base availability, usage, and management. Depending on the type of the water investment, this impact can be positive, negative, or neutral. The report addresses the stress on and vulnerability of the water systems through use of reliability, resilience, and robustness as the key indicators of sensitivity of water systems for climate induced failure. Current practices in the sector are examined in order to better understand the state-of-the-science for incorporating current and future variability. Further information on EMWIS website . 39- Local government perspective on adapting water management to climate change: Cities and other local authorities have a critical stake in the adaptation of water management to a changing climate. Virtually all the world's future population growth is predicted to take place in cities and their urban landscapes. The UN estimates a global increase from the 2.9 billion urban residents in the 1990s to a staggering 5.0 billion by 2030. By 2030, 1 in 4 persons will live in a city of 500,000 people, and 1 in 10 will live in a mega-city of 10 million or more. How will climate change and variability affect water services and water safety for these many millions? What actions should local governments take to adapt water management for climate change? Further information on EMWIS website . 40- The platform of the European U@Marenostrum is now online! This project aims at supporting citizens and local actors to identify and solve important environmental problems related to the management of water and marine environmental protection in the French Riviera, Valencia and Ionian Islands regions in order to enhance their participation in the environmental legislative and decision making processes. Further information on EMWIS website . 41- National Geographic's April 2010 issue on the occasion of the World Water Day (22 March) is a must read for all water and environment professionals. Further information on EMWIS website . 42- "pS-Eau newsletter n61: Mediterranean special issue": This new issue is available online. To read it, you can either a) read it section by section: -> [Http://www.pseau.org/outils/lettre](http://www.pseau.org/outils/lettre) or b) download it in its entirety in pdf format -> [Http://www.pseau.org/outils/ouvrages/pseau_lettre_61.pdf](http://www.pseau.org/outils/ouvrages/pseau_lettre_61.pdf) (900ko). Further information on EMWIS website . 43- The 22nd Newsletter of Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) is now available online. Further information on EMWIS website . 44- WaDimena Monthly Drop - Issue No. 28 - February 2010 is available online. Further information on EMWIS website . 45- GEWAMED Newsletter n15 is available now online. Further information on EMWIS website . 46- FAO-Water last Newsletter issue is available online. Further information on EMWIS website . 47- The Water Footprint Network has launched its Water Footprint Manual, covering a comprehensive set of methods for water footprint accounting. It shows how water footprints can be calculated for individual processes and products, as well as for consumers, nations and businesses, and includes methods for water footprint sustainability assessment and a library of water footprint response options. The current methodology shows how water footprints can be calculated for individual processes and products, as well as for consumers, nations and businesses. A "water footprint" is defined as a spatial and temporal indicator of direct and indirect freshwater use. Following water footprint accounting, the sustainability assessment phase should evaluate the water footprint from an environmental, social and economic perspective generating meaningful data to formulate response

strategies. The WFN and WBCSD are seeking comments and suggestions on this current manual based on studies and experience to info@waterfootprint.org by the end of May 2010 . Further information on EMWIS website . =====
CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS

===== 48- "ENPI-MED CBC: call for strategic projects announced": The Joint Management Authority announced that the call for proposal on strategic projects for Cross-Boarder Cooperation in the Mediterranean will be launched during the second semester 2010. These projects will involve a minimum of four partners representing four different countries, of which at least one EU Mediterranean Country and one Mediterranean Partner Country. Their budget range from a minimum of € 2 million up to a maximum of € 5 million . Budget announced for this call about € 37 million . Water management will be one of the priority topics with 2 sub-themes: i) Quantity and quality of supply, with a focus on alternative water supplies and wastewater re-use; ii) Efficient use of water resources, with a focus on agricultural use. The following partner countries have signed a Financing Agreement with the European Commission : - Egypt - Israel - Jordan - Lebanon - Palestinian Authority - Syria - Tunisia. These countries are now fully eligible to receive Programme funds. All the Financing Agreements have been countersigned by the Joint Managing Authority. Further information on EMWIS website . 49- Service forecast notice for Support Mechanism for sustainable water management and Mediterranean de-pollution programme: A restricted individual service contract forecast for the Support Mechanism for the Sustainable Water Management and De-Pollution of the Mediterranean programme has been announced by EuropeAid, under the publication reference EuropeAid/129399/C/SER/MULTI. The purposes are: to draw the attention of Mediterranean Partner Countries' decision-makers and stakeholders to existing and forthcoming threats to water resources, to the necessity to adopt a more appropriate water consumption and water use model, as well as to the existence of solutions to tackle the problem; to support Partner Countries in designing and implementing sustainable water management policies at national and local levels, in liaison with existing international initiatives in the area concerned; to contribute to ensuring institutional reinforcement and the development of the necessary planning and management skills, in line with Horizon 2020 objectives, and facilitate transfer of know how. These project purposes will be pursued with a view to addressing the four interlinked issues referred to in the new Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean: water governance, water and climate change, water financing and water demand management. The indicative maximum budget, funded under the ENPI South programme, is €7 million. Deadline for receipt of applications: 30 April 2010 (16:00), Central European Time . Further information on EMWIS website . 50- "Water competitions for all" call for projects: For the second consecutive year, the SUEZ ENVIRONMENT Foundation - WATER FOR ALL, based at the Institute of France, launched the competition "Water for All". It aims to develop projects promoting the improvement, development and professionalization of urban services of water and sanitation in developing countries. Two prizes will be awarded in May 2010 in Paris: - Grand Prize, awarded a sum of 100 000 EUR, - Special Prize, awarded a sum of 30 000 EUR. The call for applications is open till December 15, 2010 . Further information on EMWIS website .

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

===== 51- Call for abstracts for the 1st International Conference and Exhibition on Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation (SWSSC'2010): The conference will create a wide and efficient international network of water and wastewater professionals worldwide. The Conference intends to provide a focal point for those engineers, scientists and regulators with an interest in the collection, water pollution control, treatment and supply of water, and recycling of wastewaters management and reuse options. This event will take place at Cairo International Conference Center, Cairo (Egypt) on 25-27 July 2010. Abstracts deadline: 01/05/2010. Further information on EMWIS website . 52 - Call for abstracts for the First

International Seminar in Water, Energy and Environment ISWEE01': This seminar organised by the Algerian Ministry of Higher Education Scientific Research, Laboratory of water and environment Organises in partnership with: The University Hassiba Ben Bouali of Chlef, Algeria; will take place in Tipaza (Algeria) on 10-13 November 2010. Abstract deadline 29th April 2010 . Further information on EMWIS website . 53 - Call for Papers for the 4th International Symposium on Water Resources and Sustainable Development: As part of this symposium to be held on 22-23 February 2011 in Algiers, special attention will be paid to strategies of rigorous, rational use and protection of water resources based on technical & scientific tools. Deadline for receipt of abstracts (one page, character 12): May 15, 2010 . Further information on EMWIS website . 54- SedNet calls for abstracts for platform presentations and posters for the Open Conference. Abstracts related to the main issues of the Conference with a special focus on the Mediterranean area will be particularly welcomed. Issues to be addressed among others are: Sediment management measures and cost-benefit analysis, Climate change and sediment: effects on bio-availability and contaminant biogeochemical cycles, Sediment Environmental Quality Standards and monitoring. Deadline for abstract submission: 1 September 2010 . Further information on EMWIS website .

===== TRAINING

===== 55- Call for applications of the Arab Water Academy (AWA) PhD Programme on "Water Governance and Policies: Building Capacity in the MENA Region through Cross-Learning": As Arab countries begin to acknowledge the centrality of institutional and governance issues in water management, it becomes crucial to respond to this need by training young leaders in the field of water resource management, as well as professionals with a multi-disciplinary approach (for example associating agronomy or rural engineering with social science and management). While such perspectives can be passed on to water decision-makers through capacity building like the training courses organized by the AWA on issues such as water governance, water demand management, or water diplomacy it is also important to increase efforts at the level of academia by supporting the training of students in interdisciplinary Master's and PhD programs relating to water as well as to social sciences and management in general. Acknowledging this challenge, the Academy, in collaboration with several partners in the region and at international levels, is extending support to PhD students interested in addressing and studying the institutional, social, economic/financial and policy dimensions of water management. The deadline for applications is 20 April 2010 . Further information on EMWIS website . 56- WaDImena has organized a National Course on Water Demand Management (WDM) in Cairo from 13 March 2010 for water practitioners in Egypt. The course responds to the need for a better understanding of the opportunities and constraints associated with the effective integration of Water Demand Management in responding to water scarcity in the MENA region-with a focus on Egypt. This activity is organized in partnership with The Water Arab Academy and the National Water Research Center (NWRC) in Egypt. It is a learning program designed as a national course to be delivered in the format of a national exchange platform guided by National Water Resources Centre that will target senior managers in different key ministries and other agencies to reflect collectively on WDM issues and priorities in Egypt and concrete ways for WDM integration and uptake. The course in Egypt has been fine-tuned following a similar activity in Morocco for Moroccan managers and in the UAE, for regional training. Further information on EMWIS website . 57- The Bern University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland organizes a Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) course on the topic of "Integrated Water Resource Management in the context of Developing and Transition Countries " from the 16/08/2010 - 27/08/2010 in Switzerland . Registration deadline is 14th May 2010 . Further information on EMWIS website . [2010/04/26 - 2010/05/14] Training on "Water and Environmental Law and Institutions", Delft, The Netherlands Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/12 - 2010/06/18] UNITAR's e-learning course on Governance in Urban Sanitation - Opening of

registrations? ONLINE Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/06 - 2010/04/23] Water Resources Planning Training, Delft, The Netherlands Further information on EMWIS website .
===== EVENTS (Full Agenda)
===== [2010/04/29 - 2010/04/30] 1st Global Water Roundtable plus Corporate Water Scarcity Summit, London, UK Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/28 - 2010/04/29] Water & Environment 2010 - CIWEM's Annual Conference, London, UK Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/26 - 2010/04/28] WFD Lille 2010 Conference: Integrated River Basin Management under the WFD Conference - Action Programmes and Adaptation to Climate Change in the context of the Water Framework Directive, Lille, France. Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/26 - 2010/04/27] IDA-GWI conference: "Global Water Summit 2010: Transforming the World of Water", Paris, France. Further information on EMWIS website . [2010/04/22 - 2010/04/25] Le deuxieme Workshop International sur le thme : Go-environnement & Dveloppement durable dans le Plateau Central et le Moyen Atlas - WIGET 2 - 2010, Rabat, Oulmes, Khenifra, Azrou, Morocco Further information on EMWIS website . [2010/04/22 - 2010/04/23] All at Sea? Synergies between past and present coastal processes and ecology, Loughborough University, UK Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/19 - 2010/04/23] Partnership and participation for a sustainable tomorrow: continuing the UN Decade of ESD, Bergen, Norway Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/19 - 2010/04/20] WaDImena End of Project Forum in Cairo on April 19-20, 2010 - IDRC 40th anniversary, Cairo, Egypt Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/18 - 2010/04/21] EnviroArabia 2010, Manama, Bahrain Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/15 - 2010/04/17] International Seminar: Water, Social link & local dynamics , Hammamet, Tunisia Further information on EMWIS website . [2010/04/14 - 2010/04/16] 15th German Dam Symposium, Aachen, Germany Further information on EMWIS website . [2010/04/13 - 2010/04/13] IV Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water, Barcelona, Spain. Further information on EMWIS website . [2010/04/12 - 2010/04/12] Informal Open Technical Workshop (before the IV Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water), Barcelona, Spain. Further information on EMWIS website . [2010/04/13 - 2010/04/14] The Ninth International Symposium on Environment, Catalysis and Process Engineering, ECGP9-2010, Settat, Morocco. Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/12 - 2010/04/16] African Ministerial Conference on Weather, Climate and Water Information, Nairobi, Kenya. Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/11 - 2010/04/14] The Water Research Conference, Lisbon, Portugal Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/11 - 2010/04/12] The Academy of Sciences for the Developing World 5th Annual Meeting: "Science Supercourse: A new tool for knowledge dissemination in the Arab Region", Alexandria, Egypt Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/11 - 2010/04/14] Water Desalination Conference, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/08 - 2010/04/09] WssTP Workshop: Climate change & Hyrdo-Climatic Events, Barcelona, Spain Further information on EMWIS website [2010/04/07 - 2010/04/08] Cooperation for Waste Issues - The 7th International Conference on Solid waste, Sewage and Air emissions management, Kharkiv, Ukraine 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 ,



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

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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 , 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: 17623 subscribers), to which you can get a free subscription, click here for an open subscription. - The EMWIS Flash gives you regular and quality information on the water sector in the Euro-Mediterranean area. The main headlines are: Institutions, Documentation, Training, Research and Development, Data Administration. You will also find updates on: international events, relevant web sites, the Euro-Med Water programme of the European Commission, and much more ... - This Flash exists also in French and Arabic, you can