



INFORMATION NOTE FOR THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON PLANNING OF WATER RESOURCES IN SWIM-SM COUNTRIES

13-14 June 2012, Athens

1.1 Background

Within the scope of Work Package 1 (WP1) entitled “Water governance & mainstreaming”, the EU-funded SWIM-SM project is performing several tasks with the aim to develop mechanisms and procedures to facilitate regional dialogue, consultations and exchange of experience among the most water intensive sectors such as agriculture, tourism and urban development.

To this effect, SWIM-SM is carrying out a regional review of national water plans and/or strategies (activity 1.1.1). The report aims to provide the PCs with an assessment and close-up look on the status of national water planning in one of the most arid regions of the world. This report is designed to move beyond the traditional description and compilation of information on national plans and strategies. The report aims to examine, analyze and interpret the compiled information in order to assess achievements, constraints, challenges and shortcomings of the current water plans and/or strategies, identify opportunities and formulate recommendations and socially sensitive policy options towards effective implementation of water plans and/or strategies in PCs within an IWRM context.

The outcomes of this analysis are intended to be used as a background material and food for thoughts to establish a dialogue among decision makers, including high level officials, from water and water relevant sectors to underline the necessity of mainstreaming and integration in water management. This dialogue shall be enriched through the involvement of eminent national and international experts on sustainable water resources management.

In this connection, SWIM-SM is planning to convene the regional workshop in Athens from 13 to 14 June 2012 to discuss the outcomes of the regional review and suggest policy options for further actions towards mainstreaming water in non-water sectors within IWRM context.

1.2 Objectives & expected results

1.2.1 Objectives

The main objective of the workshop is to review, discuss, complement and validate the findings of the regional review of national water plans and/or strategies with the view of suggesting a series of policy options for further actions towards mainstreaming water resources management in non-water sectors. The following are the specific objectives:

1. To discuss degree of success and achievements of PCs in planning and implementing IWRM principles such as level of participation of stakeholders, horizontal coordination, gender balance, institutional and legislative reforms, etc.



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2. To deliberate the main constraints, shortcomings, and main gaps facing proper implementation of IWRM principles and the most applicable measures to bridge these gaps.
3. To discuss the main challenges to sustainable water resources management such as population growth, urbanization, climate change, inadequate financing, etc. and identify measures to overcome these challenges.
4. To examine available opportunities, discuss and agree on a series of measures, policy options and propose further measures to expedite implementation of IWRM principles with a main focus on mainstreaming sustainable water resources management in non-water sectors.

1.2.2 Approach to meet workshop objectives

The targeted participants to this dialogue are national water and/or environment policy makers and officials, invited eminent experts and representatives of regional and international water programs. In order to achieve the meeting objectives, a highly dynamic, interactive, facilitated and participatory approach will be adopted, including the following:

- Power point presentations on the outcomes of SWIM review to stimulate discussions and identify priority areas for discussion.
- Review of selected case studies from three PCs.
- Briefs from PCs on national experience in achievements, challenges, constraints, opportunities and suggested policies for effective planning and implementation of IWRM.
- Facilitated round table discussions and brain storming to identify techno-economically and socially sensitive policy options to ensure mainstreaming of water management in non-water sectors.
- Presentations and interventions from invited international eminent experts to bring regional and international experience into perspective.

1.2.3 Expected Outcome

- A validated, complimented and/or amended report on regional review of national water plans and/or strategies;
- A proposed series of measures and policy options to expedite implementation of IWRM principles with a special emphasis on mainstreaming water management in non-water sectors.
- A dialogue is established between national water policy makers, experts and international experts.



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1.3 Outline of the Agenda

Day 1: 13 June 2012

9:00-9:20 Session I: Workshop Opening

- Opening remarks (Project Director – SWIM-SM)
- Orientation remarks (Technical Director – SWIM-SM)
- Introduction and orientation (Team Leader – SWIM-SM)

9:20-11:00 Session II: Reflections and Comments on the Regional Review of National Water Plans and/or Strategies study:

- Presentation on current status and achievements in PCs. (20 minutes) – Anthi Brouma NKE (GWP-MED)
- Round table discussion of the findings (80 minutes)

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break (30 minutes)

11:30-13:00 Session III: Constraints, challenges and gaps confronting proper implementation of IWRM principles:

- Presentation on identified constraints, challenges and gaps (20 minutes) Hosny Khordagui SWIM-TL
- Facilitated round table discussions on root causes of constraints and gaps with emphasis on feasible measures to bridge the gaps.

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break (60 minutes)

14:00-15:30 Session III: Opportunities and policy options for mainstreaming water into non-water sectors:

- Presentation on opportunities and suggested policy options (20 minutes) Anthi Brouma NKE (GWP-MED)
- Facilitated round table discussions on factors to be considered by decision makers in assessing and selecting the best policy option. (70 minutes)



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15:30-16:00 Coffee Break

16:00-17:00 Session IV: Country briefs by National experts:

- Algeria, (15 minutes)
- Egypt, (15 minutes)
- Israel, (15 minutes)
- Jordan, (15 minutes)

Day 2:

09:00-11:00 Session V: Country briefs by National experts (continue)

- Lebanon, (15 Minutes)
- Libya, (15 Minutes)
- Morocco, (15 Minutes)
- occupied Palestinian territory, (15 Minutes)
- Tunisia. (15 Minutes)
- Discussions (45 Minutes)

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break (30 minutes)

11:30-13:00 Session VI: Identification of feasible measures and policy options:

- International expert presentation on suggested policies for better implementation of IWRM. (20 minutes)
- Facilitated round table discussions on socially acceptable measures and policy options to enhance and expedite sustainable water resources management. (35 minutes)
- Facilitated round table discussions on suggested institutional and legislative reforms to ensure implementation of IWRM. (35 minutes)

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break



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14:00-15:30 Session VII: Suggested policy options to realize mainstreaming.

- International expert presentation on creation of enabling environment and policies formulation for mainstreaming water in non-water sectors. (20 minutes)
- Facilitated round table discussions on mainstreaming (70 Minutes)

15:30-16:00: Session IIX: The way forward, wrap up and closing remarks

1.4 Proposed Location and Date

The workshop is planned to be held in Athens for two days on Wednesday and Thursday 13 and 14 of June 2012. Planned arrival in Athens is 12 June and departure 15 June.



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