



SEMIDE

<http://www.semide.org>

Systeme Euro-
Méditerranéen
d'information sur les
savoir-faire dans le
domaine de l'Eau

EMWIS

<http://www.emwis.org>

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

النظام الأوروبي - متوسطي للإعلام
حول المعرفة في ميدان المياه

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Presentation outline

- **Brief summary on EMWIS**
- **Main results of the feasibility study on the Mediterranean water Observatory mechanism**
 - **Demonstrations during breaks**
 - **Website – www.semide.net/medwip**



OBJECTIVES OF EMWIS

To create a tool for cooperation between the European and Mediterranean countries whose aim is to:

- **Facilitate access to the existing information** on know-how;
- **Develop the sharing of information** to enable anyone to make known his activities, his topics of interest ...;
- **Create common products and cooperation programmes** to develop available information and to promote the collection of the lacking information.

In the water sector



NFP: 20 - 16 web sites

AT	Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management	JO	Ministry of Water and Irrigation
BE	Aminal - Afdeling Europa en Milieu	LB	Ministère de l'Eau et de l'Energie
CY	Water Development Department - Ministry for Agriculture	LU	Ministère de l'Environnement
DZ	Agence de bassin Constantinois-Seybousse-Mellegue	MA	Ministère de l'Aménagement du Territoire, de l'Eau et de l'environnement
ES	Centro de Estudios y Experimentacion de Obras Publicas (CEDEX)	MT	Malta Resources Authority
EG	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation	PS	Palestinian Water Authority
FR	Service National d'Information et de Documentation sur l'Eau (SNIDE)	PT	Instituto de Agua (INAG)
GR	Ministry of Environment	SY	Ministry of Irrigation
IL	Hydrological Service of Israel	TN	Ministère de l'Agriculture - BIRH - Direction Générale des Ressources en Eau -
IT	SOGESID	TR	General Directorate of State Hydraulic

NFP main developments



DZ	First components of a NWIS, including adaptation of legislation	LB	Redesigned of the website NWIS strategy under development
EG	Development of a national website with relevant agencies	MA	Review of the website with stakeholders Broadening existing WIS
IL	New content: national legislation, water resources	PS	Launch of a new website involving national stakeholders
JO	New portal launched in concertation with national stakeholders Master plan for NWIS	TN	Launch of a virtual library NWIS studies finalised, legislation under revision, planning data harmonisation
		TR	Redesigned and upgraded website Setting up a WIS

- Joint standards for knowledge management
- Most of them undertook feasibility studies of NWIS
- Joint activities with national stakeholders through workshops

Online services provided



« who does what »

40 000 monthly visitors

National portals

Common taxonomy
(multilingual thesaurus)

Clearing house for EU programs and initiatives

Regional water projects databas

Thematic forums/folders

Ground water, water scarcity
Water glossaries, satellite images, etc.

Monthly eNews Flash in
Arabic, English and
French



Action Plan 2007-2010



Public Regional and National water information services

Regional and National water observation mechanism

Euro-Med Water Directors forum



Main current cooperations

Med-EUWI	Euromed water directors forum & dissemination
Med-Joint Process	E-forum for all WGs, supporting WD participation, involvement in 3 WGs
World Water Council	Promoting Med experience abroad & contribution to the water monitoring alliance
INBO/MENBO	Promotion of basin management approach
SMAP RMSU	Knowledge management : Environment and water
EEA	Water information systems (action plan)
IME	Monitoring of trans-national projects
UNEP/MAP/Plan Bleu	Linking Med water information system with the Med system on environment & sustainable development (under preparation)
MEDA-Water RMSU	Dissemination
BALWOIS	EMWIS extension to Balkan countries

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Organisation of the feasibility study

➤ Objective

- feasibility regarding a “**regional water observation mechanism in the Mediterranean region** for monitoring the indicators towards the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals related to water and sanitation in the Mediterranean, as well as on the implementation of the “water” related section of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, based on information coming from the national water information systems, when they exist.

➤ An open steering group

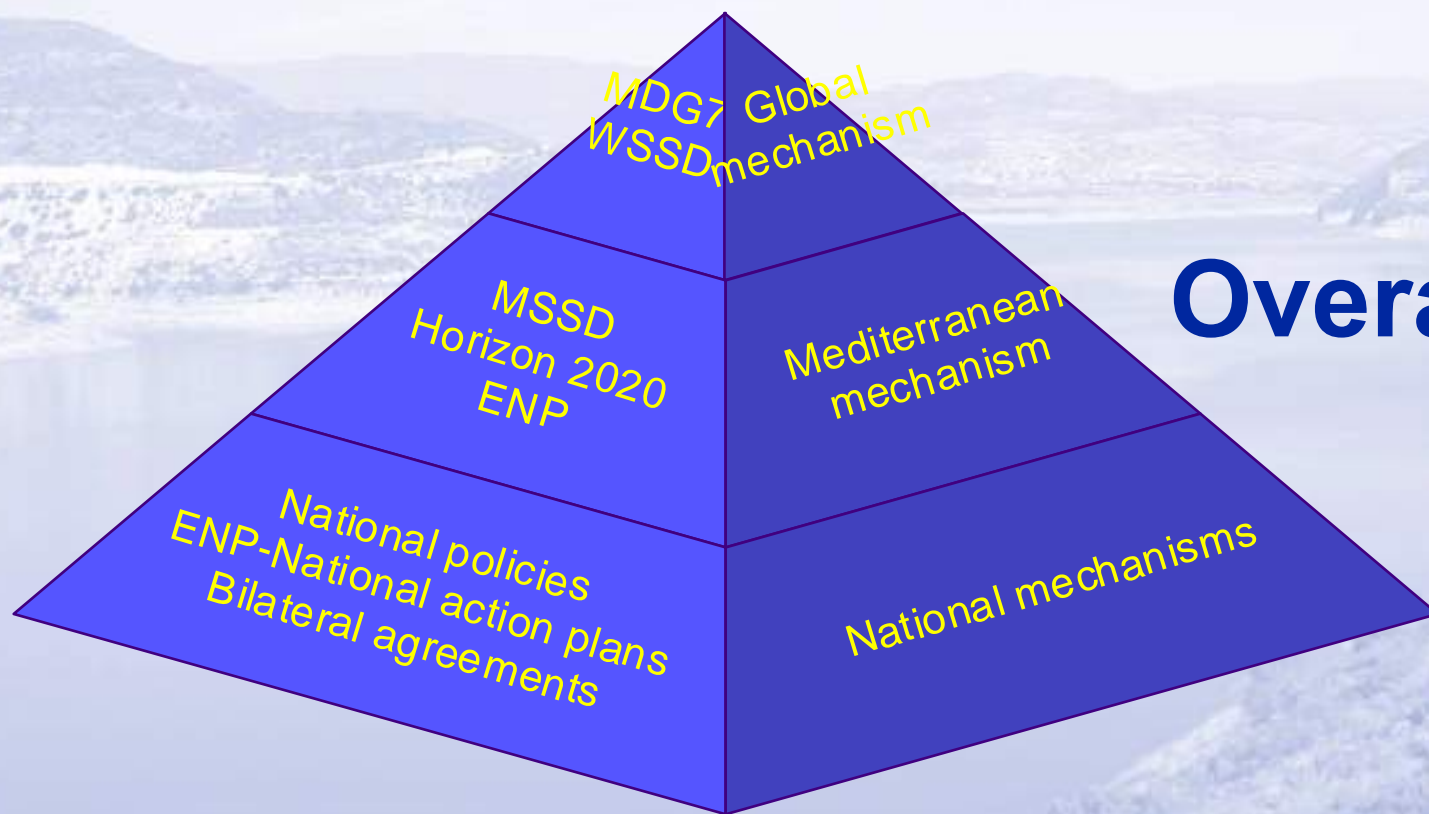
- **National water authorities, EC, Eurostat, EEA, MAP-Medpol, MAP-Blue Plan, MAP-Info-RAC, IME, MENBO, OECD, Unesco/WWAP, AfDB-AWF, PSEau-Med, ...**

➤ Two Phases

- July-December 2006 - **key orientations -> validated by the Euromed water directors (Athens, Nov'06)**
- February-December 2007 - **Recommendations**

➤ Activities

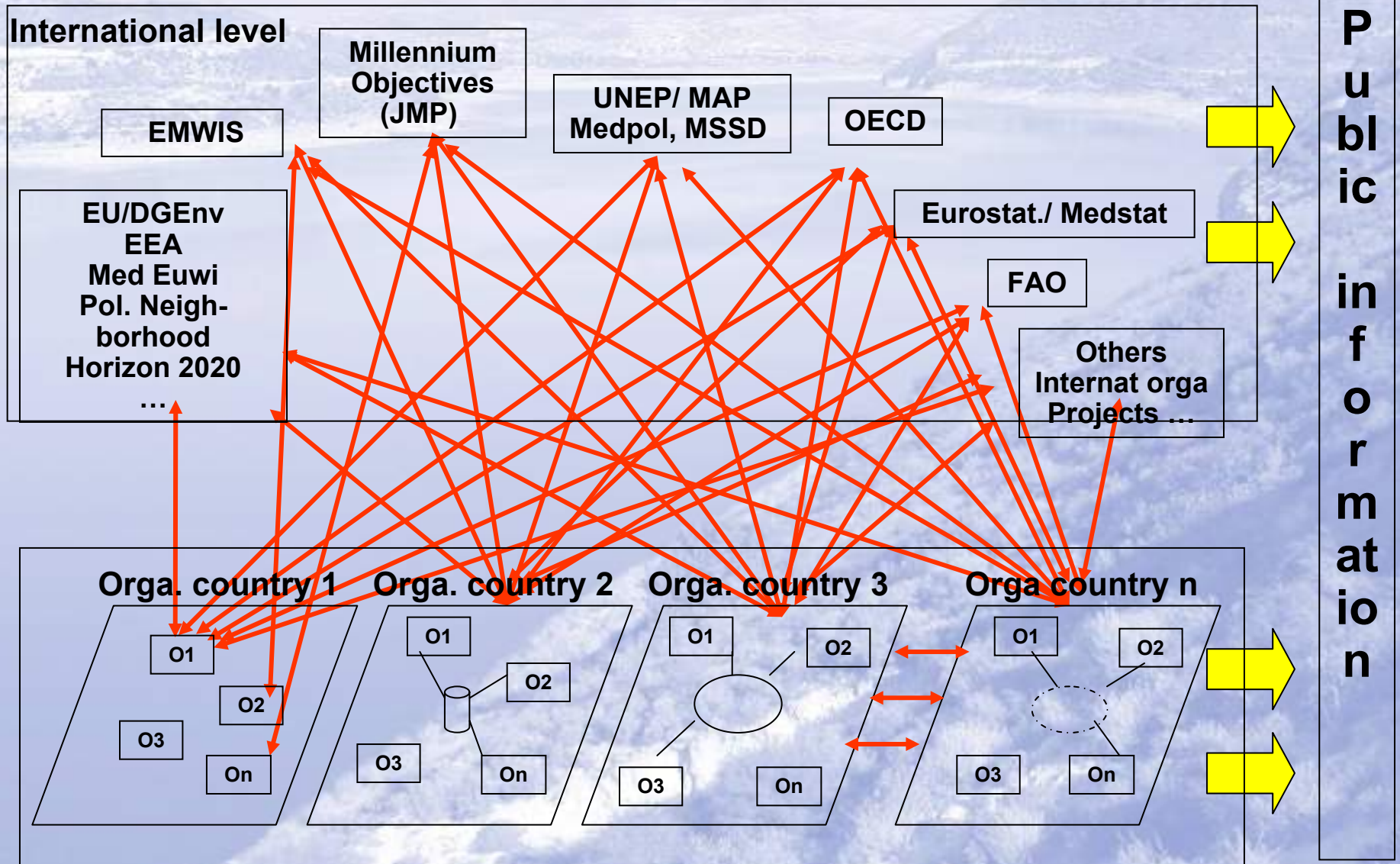
- **Diagnostic studies in 7 volunteer countries: Cyprus, Jordan, Malta, Morocco, Tunisia, France and Spain**
- **Study of the collection and dissemination processes at international level**
- **Analysis of data availability and access on 6 topics (MDG, MSSD, WSSI, Agriculture, Drought, Climate changes)**
- **Specific analysis on MSSD indicator with 5 countries with Bleu Plan**
- **Concertation with regional initiatives, experts and national stakeholders**



Overall principle

- To ensure effective and long term participation of the Med countries
- To reinforce existing networks and avoid any duplication with on-going or planned actions
- To seek for synergies between the various organisations involved, either national, local or international

Current situation





Threats

- Lack of legal framework for reporting water data
- Many international initiatives and political processes
- “Observation”/”monitoring” seen as intrusive for national water management

Opportunities

- Strong demand of international stakeholders
- Commitment to NWIS, but not yet developed
- Common basic data used for the calculations of indicators
- Organisational problems rather than lack of data

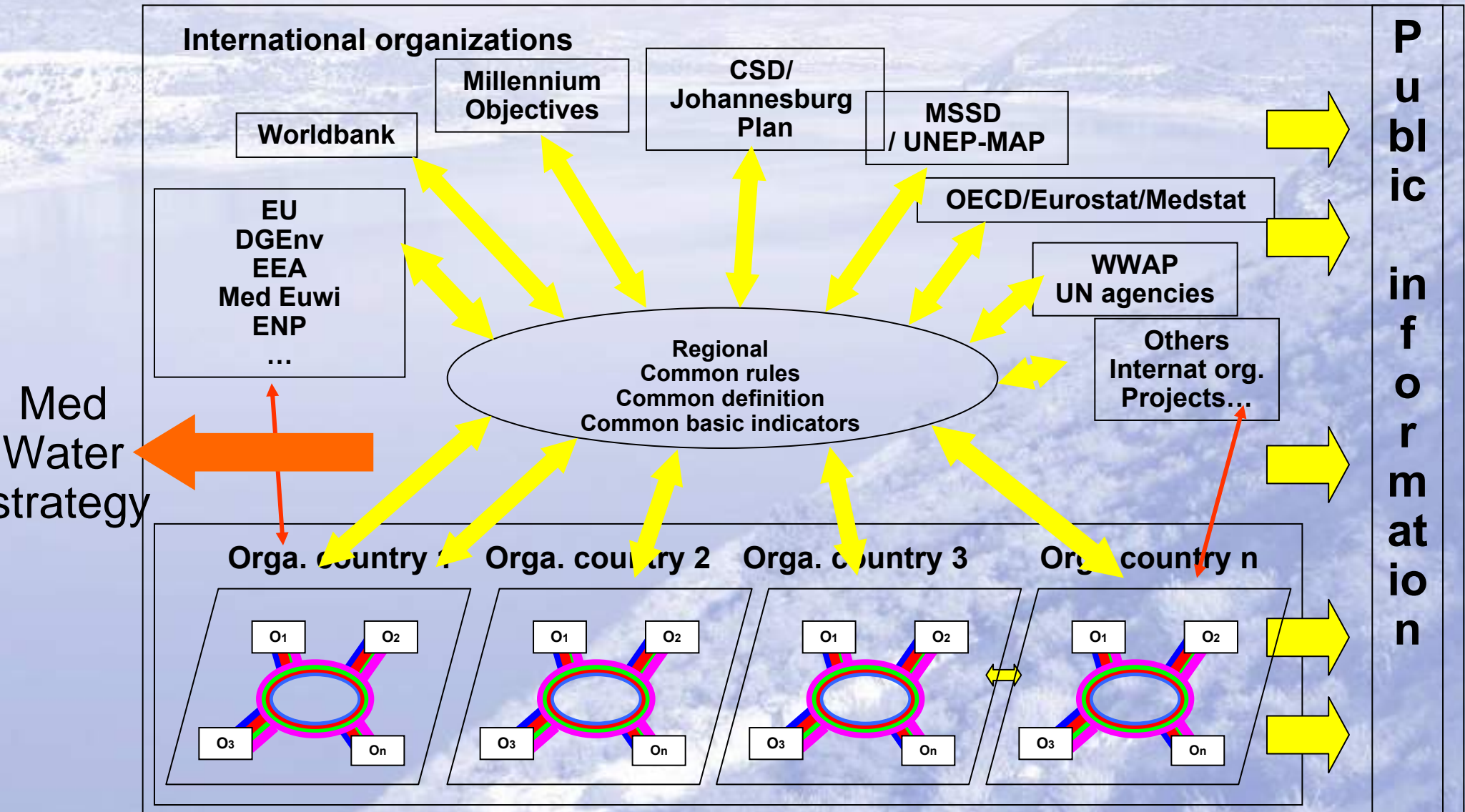


A Mediterranean Water Information mechanism for the follow-up of the regional water strategy

- **Facilitating identification and access to quantified data**
 - Internet portal
 - Data providers (national & international)
- **Having comparable data allowing the production of quality indicators**
 - Guidelines (harmonisation, interoperability, sharing)
 - Organisations defining indicators / collecting / providing data
- **Assisting countries in the management of quantified water data**
 - NWIS (or sub –components)
 - Data providers / users – international organisation providing technical assistance - funding agencies
- **Carrying out additional regional analyses**
 - Reports
 - National /international organisations of the concerned sector



Overall vision





Starting with a limited number of data of common interest

- The assessment of renewable water resources;
- The assessment of exploited volumes by sector (domestic water, irrigation, industry) and by source (surface water, groundwater);
- The assessment of coverage for drinking water supply and sanitation;
- The assessment of pollutant discharges into the Mediterranean.



Proposed governance

- **Steering by the WDF of Euromed and South-East Europe countries:**
 - Choice of topics
 - Validation of produced analysis

- Participation based on voluntary basis with a priority to Med border countries

- Openness to national & local institutions dealing with water data

- Openness to international organisations dealing with water data in the recognised framework

- Coordination of the implementation by EMWIS as an extension of its current mandate on the proposal of the countries involved in its Steering Committee



Implementation

Based on:

- National and local organisations, producing/managing/using water data working together to set-up an NWIS
- International initiatives working on targeted topics for data standardisation and sometimes technical or financial assistance to the national level;
- Existing/emerging technical infrastructures in terms of federating tools, in particular:
 - Water Information for Europe - WISE – with a Mediterranean module
 - that emerging from the National Water Information Systems.
- Potential evolution as a component of a Shared Environment Information System



Next steps

➤ Finalising the study:

- Comments from the Bled conference
- **Validating potential contributions from international organisations**

➤ Implementation

- **First steps in the framework of EMWIS – EEA action plan**
- Will be based on the Med water strategy to be defined at the Ministerial conference, end 2008

Thank you



➤ For additional information:

www.semide.net/medwip

Demonstrations
during breaks

The screenshot shows the website interface for the Mediterranean Water Information Mechanism (MEDWIP). At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, e-Flash, Thesaurus, Agenda, and Sitemap. Below this is a header section with the SEMIDE EMWIS logo and the text "Mediterranean Water Information Mechanism Portal under development for the feasibility study". A secondary navigation bar includes links for "About This Study", "National Level", "Regional Level", "Thematic Data And Information", "Tools And Method For Water Data Management", and "Restricted Area". A search bar is located on the right side of this bar.

The main content area features a quote: "The improvement of information systems on water, aquatic environments and their use is one of the essential pillars for better governance and integrated water resources management. Such systems should be created or developed in each country as well as in the framework of the regional cooperation." Recommendation from the Euromed water directors (Rome, 2005). Below the quote is a map of the Mediterranean region with several white location markers. The map is titled "Conditions d'utilisation".

On the left side, there is a vertical menu with the following items: "About this study", "National level", "Regional level", "Thematic data and information", "Tools and method for water data management", and "Restricted area".

On the right side, there is an "EVENTS CALENDAR" for December 2007, showing a grid of days from 1 to 31. Below the calendar is an "UPCOMING EVENTS" section with an RSS feed icon.

At the bottom of the page, there are logos for SEMIDE EMWIS, WISE (Water Information System for Europe), and MEDA Water (Mediterranean Environmental Data Acquisition).







Added value

- **For countries**
 - Support to developed harmonised NWIS
 - Simplified and transparent reporting (incl. identification of information sources)
- **For international initiatives**
 - Systematic data collection processes
 - Harmonised data and exchange procedures
- **For both:**
 - Comparison of data / indicators
 - Easier identification and access to relevant and quality data