

The development of EMWIS and NWIS in Cyprus

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Presentation Outline

- Overview of Cyprus EMWIS Activities
- NWIS in Cyprus
- The Road Ahead

CYPRUS NFP

- The Water Development Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment is the NFP for EMWIS

Overview of EMWIS NFP Activities

Developing the Euro-Mediterranean Information System on the Know-how in the Water Sector WDD aimed to :

- Enable exchange of information, experiences and good practices with other Mediterranean countries
- Facilitate synergies between national institutions
- Improve access to stakeholders
 - « who does what »
- Exploit new information and communication technologies
- Serve as a water portal
- A node of the Euro-Med system



Accomplishments

- EMWIS National Focal Point website
 - Designed, implemented by the WDD
 - Second, upgraded version in preparation
 - The public part of the NWIS
 - Linked with the WDD website
 - Daily updates on water information
 - Wealth of information on water issues in Cyprus
- Feasibility study completion and evaluation
- Preparatory meetings with main stakeholders
- Successful seminar on May 10th 2007
 - Participants from all water related authorities expressed an interest to cooperate in supporting EMWIS and NWIS

EMWIS-Cy WebSite

http://www.emwis-cy.org/ - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.emwis-cy.org/

SEMIDE
EMWIS

CYPRUS Focal
Point

Water Context

News

Institutions

D. Management

Documentation

Training

R & Development

Legislation

PAFOS

LEMEOS (LIMASSOL)

LARNAKA

LEFKOSIA (NICOSIA)

KERYNEIA (KYRENIA)

AMMOCHOSTOS (FAMAGUSTA)

[Euro-Mediterranean Information System on the know-h](#)

Done Internet 100%

NFP Functions

- Managing the national water information server as an EMWIS node
- Collects Information and implements the thematic directory
- Agreements with information source managers for access through EMWIS
- Development of common access to these information sources
- Defining a set of technical, financial and organizational recommendations and a roadmap for the improvement or implementation and operation of a NWIS

EMWIS Implementation Problems

- Difference in level between the participating countries
- Lack of coordination between organizations and institutions
- Difficulties in access to water data
- Differences in Information and Communication Technology between organizations and institutions

From EMWIS to NWIS

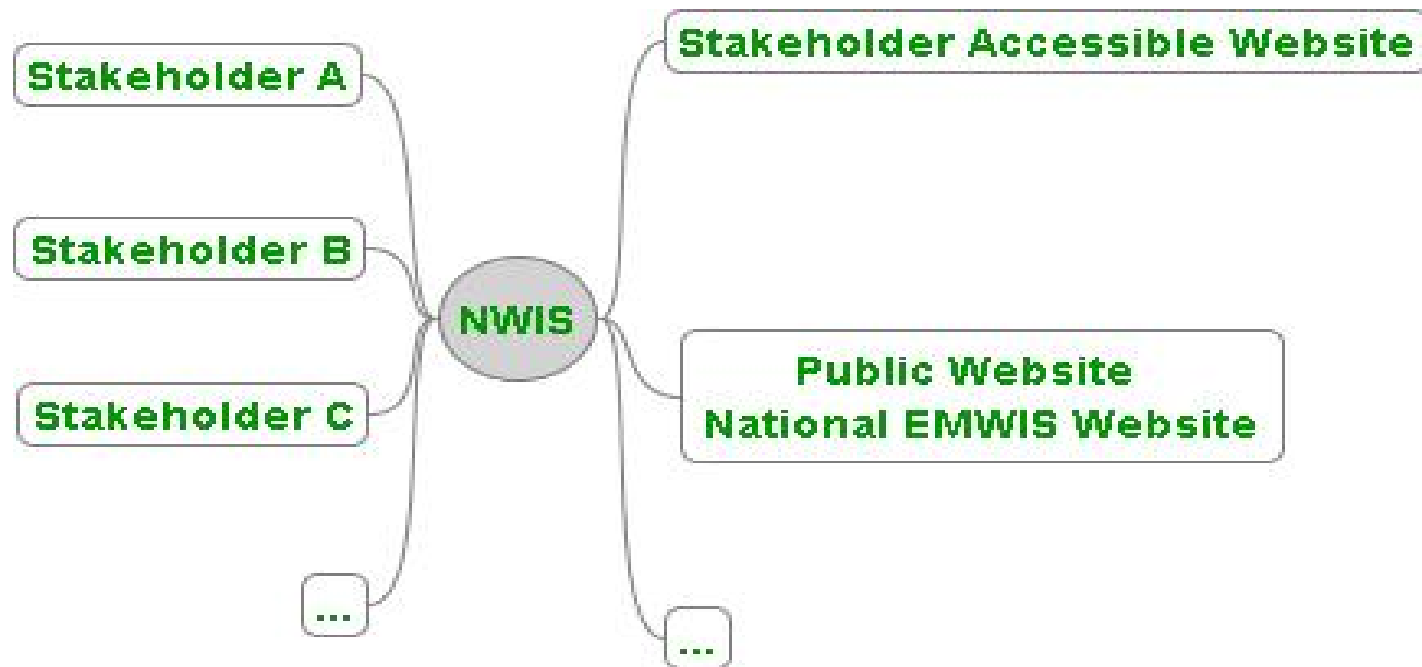
- Enhancement of National Water Information Systems will improve the overall EMWIS system.
 - Remove all obstacles at the national level that impede the advancement of EMWIS
 - Facilitate and harmonise data and information exchange

NWIS: A Gateway to National Water Information

- A National Water Information System (**NWIS**) is an online system that:
 - integrates data and know-how from all national stakeholders
 - makes available all stored information to all parties interested
 - Serves as a decision support tool to water management
- NWIS can also be used for a variety of tasks
 - More than a simple “computerized system”



NWIS Vision



NWIS in Cyprus

- Feasibility study
 - EasyInfo Consulting Company
 - Completed July 2005
- Deliverables
 - Stakeholders identified
 - Problems detected
 - Suggestions

Stakeholders Identified

- Water Development Department-NFP
- State General Laboratory
- Water Boards
- Meteorological Department
- Geological Survey Department
- Medical Services and Public Health Services
- Department of Agriculture
- Environmental Service
- Department of Fisheries and Marine Research
- Municipalities
- Sewage Boards
- Research Institutions
- Farmers
- Tourism Sector

Problems Identified

- Lack of policy on data sharing
- Lack of standard operating procedures
- No standard data exchange format and structures
- Lack of staff
- Some stakeholders have no database system
- Availability, suitability of data

Suggestions

- Establish a NWIS committee
 - Each stakeholder nominate a representative
- Utilize the currently available systems
- Develop the system
 - Web-base application
 - GIS interface
 - Distributed database
- Include information other than quantitative data
- Give access to other stakeholders and users of water information

Pre-existing Work

- Environment Information System – ENVIS
 - Funded by USAID and implemented by USGS
 - Three major stakeholders involved:
 - WDD, GSD and Meteorological Department
 - Four subsystems covering
 - Surface water
 - Ground water
 - Water Quality
 - Meteorological data
 - Of limited use
 - Restricted number of users
 - Cannot accommodate all required type of data
- Phased out to be replaced by CYMOS



Ongoing Work

- CYMOS –CYprus MOnitoring System
 - Data base of quantity and quality information on surface water and groundwater
- Part of The Transition Facility Project
 - Development of Integrated Water Monitoring Programs and Tools for cost effective monitoring and Assessment to Support Sustainability of Water Resources and the implementation of WFD 2000/60/EC in Cyprus
- EU funded project
 - Departments to be involved in CYMOS:
 - WDD, SGL, DFMR, GSD
- A first step towards a Cyprus NWIS



CYMOS Specifics

- Create groundwater and surface water monitoring networks
- Set environmental quality criteria for target chemicals
- Standardize data collection/recording
- Improve data accessibility
- Enable development of ArGIS applications
- Facilitate coordination and interaction of stakeholders

Vision for Cyprus NWIS

- Overcome Deficiencies of current systems
 - Not XML-based
 - Not web-based
 - Limited stakeholder participation
- Envisioned NWIS will address the above problems and:
 - Provide an integrated framework for water management
 - Serve as a knowledge repository for the involved stakeholders
 - Operate as a water information portal

The Road Ahead

➤ Actions

- Stakeholders awareness campaign
- Forming a NWIS committee
- Data gathering and organization
- Upgrading of the EMWIS National Focal Point portal to include information from all significant stakeholders in Cyprus
- Design and implement a plan for information sharing and knowledge dissemination

➤ Visit us at:

- <http://www.emwis-cy.org>
- <http://www.moa.gov.cy/wdd>

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Thanks For Your Attention!

