



Strengthening Water Information and monitoring in the Mediterranean

Eric MINO
EMWIS Technical Unit

High level of expectations

- **Civil Society:**
 - *"underline the need for reliable data and to enable the free flow of information and sharing of data"*
- **Ministerial declaration:**
 - *"reaffirm the importance of data, information and statistics on water, based on internationally agreed definitions and methods, structured within information system "*
 - *"call for strengthening the coordination of existing Euro-Mediterranean initiatives and networks on information and expertise, policy planning and monitoring "*
 - *"underline the importance of exchange of good practices, including through EU, Mediterranean, and other relevant programme "*

Background



- **EMWIS**
 - ❑ 8 years of operation
 - ❑ 20 countries
 - ❑ About 50 000 visitors per month
- **Feasibility studies of National Water Information Systems (NWIS) 2005**
 - ❑ Algeria, Cyprus, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, Turkey
- **Preliminary analysis for a Mediterranean Water Observation Mechanism - 2006-2007**
 - ❑ 7 national diagnostic studies
 - ❑ 25 international initiatives consulted
- **MSSD Indicators (Blue Plan)**
 - ❑ Agreed by Contracting Parties of the Barcelona convention
 - ❑ First evaluation in 2007, Saragoza

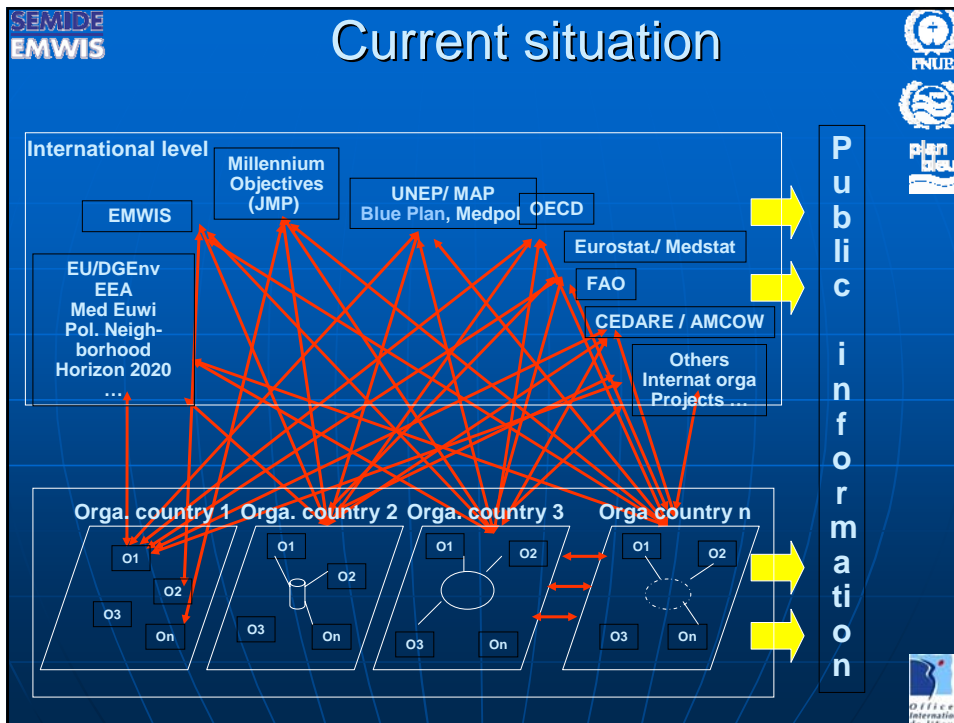


Value of Water Information



- **Policy planning and assessment**
 - ❑ Knowledge of the resource, its status and evolution
 - ❑ Aggregated indicators with socio-economic data
- **Integrated water resources management and risk prevention with all stakeholders**
 - ❑ Operational monitoring at local level
- **Accountability, public information, awareness raising and participatory approaches**
 - ❑ (local) status, simulation
- **Research and development**
 - ❑ Data series
- **Projects and programmes monitoring**
 - ❑ Simultaneous combination of geographical levels





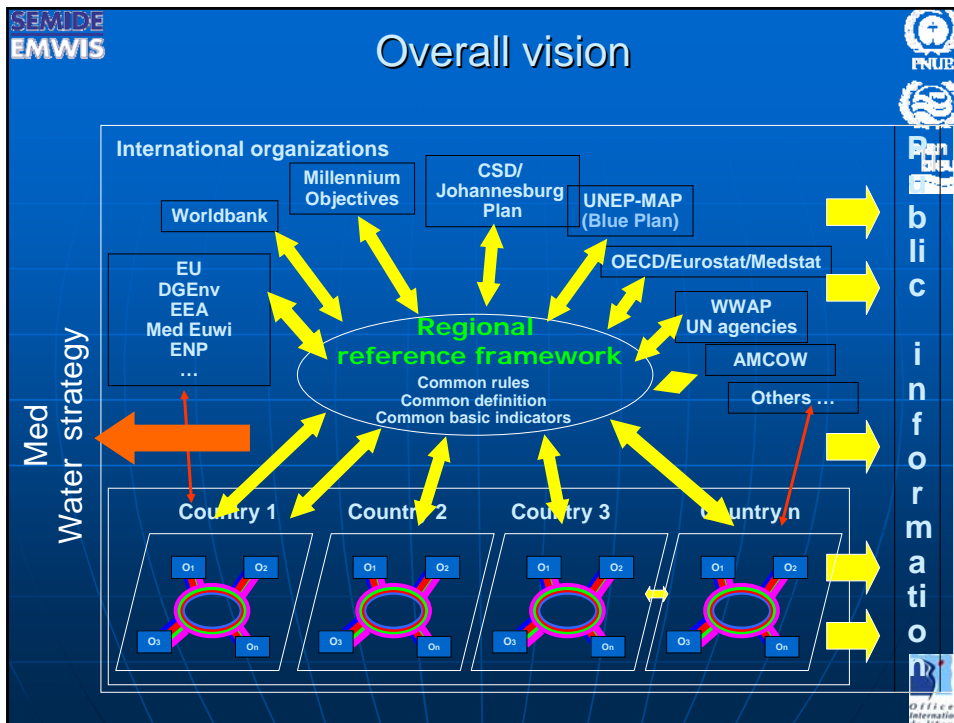
SEMIDE EMWIS PNUE
plan bleu
Office International Méditerranéen

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
- Union for the Mediterranean (Mediterranean Water Strategy)



SEMIDE EMWIS PNUE
plan bleu
Office International
Méditerranéen

Key principles for success

- Information must be managed at the appropriate level (i.e. national/local)
- Information is provided once and used for many purposes
- Each information/data is associated with a unique "official" provider
- Participation is based on voluntary basis
- Data standardisation and exchange at regional and national level
- Stronger involvement of all national stakeholders
- Capitalising on past experiences

Lessons:

Existing regional initiatives & valuable expertise at local level



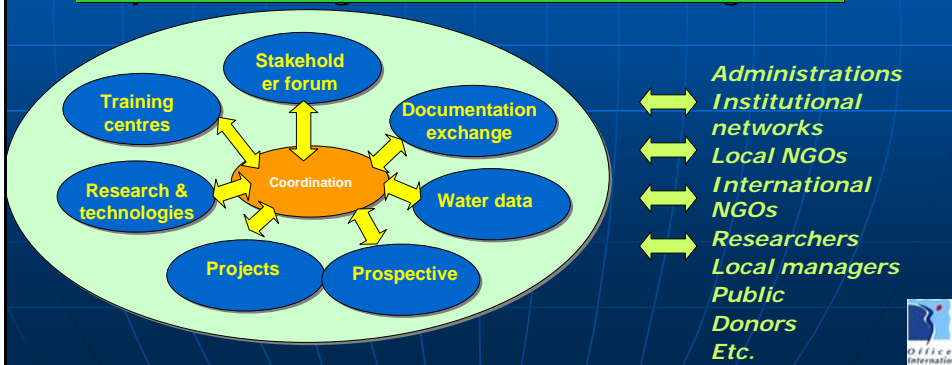
- **EMWIS**
 - ❑ Information & documentation
 - ❑ Data management
- **MENBO**
 - ❑ River Basins Organisations
- **Med-EUWI / GWP-Med**
 - ❑ National dialogues
- **UNEP-MAP-Blue Plan**
 - ❑ Prospective on sustainable development
 - ❑ Protecting the Mediterranean sea
 - ❑ SIMEDD - MSSD
- **MEDA-Water**
 - ❑ Pilot projects
- **.....**
- **National water authorities**
- **Research centers / universities**
- **Basin organisations**
- **Local/regional public, National authorities**
- **User associations / NGO**
- **Related ministries**
 - ❑ Environment, Agriculture, health ...
- **.....**



What to do?



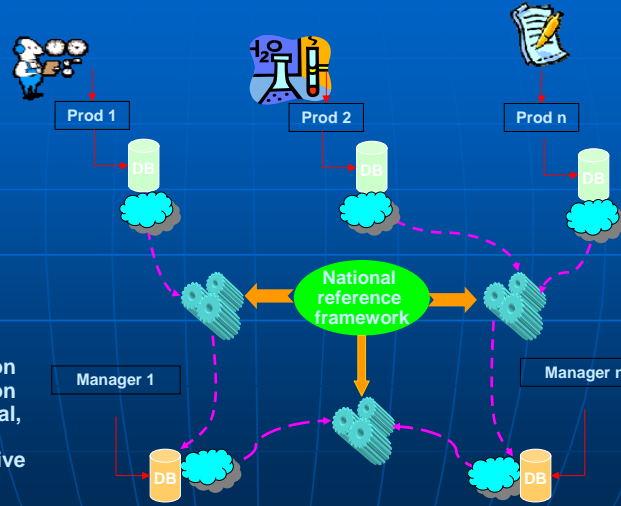
- **Improving National water data systems in coherence with international standards**
- **Developing, at regional and national level, exchange systems related to information and monitoring.**
- **As part of a regional water knowledge hub**



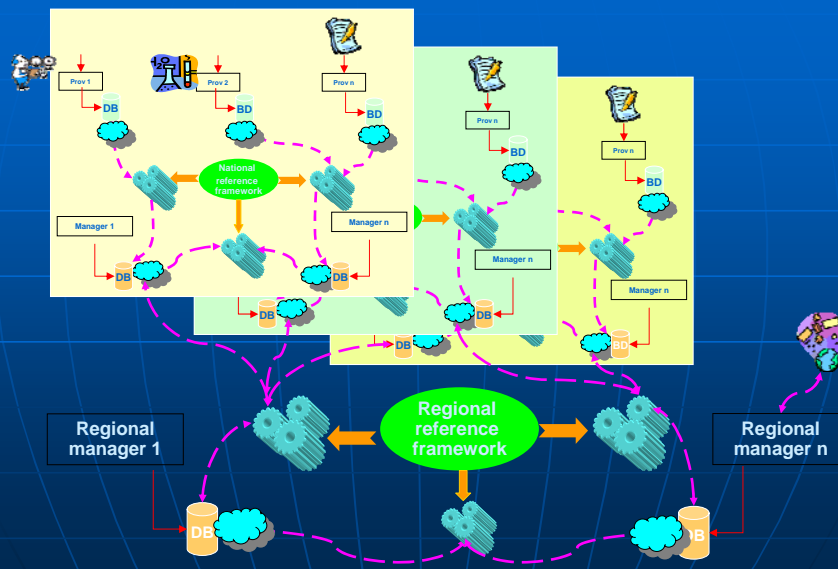
Organising national exchanges

Initial data provider

Aggregation /exploitation
e.g. national,
basin,
administrative
unit level



Organising regional exchanges



Content of a reference data framework

- Hydrological networks (e.g. rivers, watersheds, lake, aquifers)
- Water management areas (e.g. protected areas, administrative units)
- Data dictionaries (data models, reference lists)
- Definition of indicators, data collection methods
- Interoperability specifications (exchange formats/ service protocols)

Preparing a coordinated horizontal activity

- Who? a small drafting group with:
 - ❑ Mediterranean "networks" involved in information/data management
 - ❑ Experienced Mediterranean countries
 - ❑ But full openness during the operational phase
- Objectives:
 - ❑ Identifying quantified objectives,
 - ❑ Defining a concerted operational work programme
 - ❑ Governance and management options
 - ❑ Financial requirements
- Means: limited to existing resources
 - ❑ Electronic communication facilities
 - ❑ Already planned meetings

Timeframe

- **Jan-Feb 2009:**
 - ❑ concept note, informal discussions
- **March 2009: 1st drafting group meeting, Istanbul**
 - ❑ Agreement on concepts & activities
- **May 2009: EMWIS Steering Committee**
 - ❑ Consolidated concept paper (action plan & budget) approved
 - ❑ Request to go ahead with pilot countries
- **June 2009 UpM Ministerial meeting on sustainable Dvlp**
 - ❑ Presentation of consolidated concept note
- **Nov. 2009: Contracting Parties Barcelona convention**
 - ❑ Presentation of the activities (linked to the SIMEDD)
- **End 2009: UfM water expert group**
 - ❑ Presentation of the horizontal activity as a UpM project
- **1st semester 2010: UfM ministerial conference**
 - ❑ Validation of the horizontal activity / project

Potential activities at national level

- **Organisational and institutional actions**
 - ❑ Collaboration framework between institutions
 - ❑ Production of metadata
 - ❑ Rules for production, management and sharing
 - ❑ Semantic interoperability on priority data
 - ❑ Organisation of regular data collection, production of indicators and other information products
 - ❑ Procedure effectiveness and needs for reinforcing information infrastructures
 - ❑ Production of a national action plan for data administration (data master plan)
- **Drafting terms of reference for technical development and training**
- **Technical development and capacity building**
 - ❑ Development of infrastructures for information management
 - ❑ Training of human resources

Potential activities at regional level

- **Development of priority tools for the regional infrastructure**
 - ❑ Regional Web portal
 - ❑ Platform of the exchange of information and best practices
 - ❑ Regional catalogue of metadata
 - ❑ Data base of the indicators used by the partners
 - ❑ Production of information (indicators, maps graphs, ...)
- **Development of rules and common reference frames for data and service interoperability**
 - ❑ Rules for the production and declaration of metadata
 - ❑ Rules for data confidentiality and sharing
 - ❑ Data templates and reference frames for semantic interoperability on priority topics
 - ❑ Rules necessary for technical interoperability
 - ❑ Development of the first on-line services between regional organisations
- **Generation of priority synthetic products expected at the regional level**
- **Actions for technical co-ordination and enhancement of the « acquis »**
 - ❑ Regional workshops for dialogue /validation
 - ❑ Co-operation with and support to the other regional bodies
 - ❑ Drafting and dissemination of the guidance documents and technical procedures

Budget overview for regional activities

Two years budget overview	Costs years 1+2 (€)
Regional activities	
Set-up of priority tools for the regional infrastructure	250 000
Preparation of guidance documents	350 000
Data aggregation, quality control and first regional synthesis	300 000
Organisation of 4 regional workshops	200 000
Overall management and coordination	150 000
Sub-total Regional level	1 250 000

Budget overview for national activities

Standard support to national activities (per country for 6 months)

Contribution to investment costs (computer, telecom, software)	10 000
Contribution to the coordination / awareness activities	5 000
Strengthening organisational and institutional frameworks (technical assistance)	90 000
Preparations of terms of reference for setting up a national system	20 000
<i>Sub-total National level support</i>	<i>125 000</i>

Countries for pilot activities

- **Declared at the last Steering Committee meeting:**
 - Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco
 - France, Italy, Spain
- **Other potential countries:**
 - Tunisia
 - Turkey,
 - Balkan country to be identified

What's next?

- Definition of TdR by pilot countries
 - ❑ Adapted detailed national activity plan
 - ❑ Related budget
- Agreement on key data for pilot exercise
 - ❑ Resources
 - ❑ Withdrawal by sector
- Fund raising for national activities
- Organisation of a regional workshop with international initiative
 - ❑ Harmonisation of data collection processes
 - ❑ End 2009 (to be confirmed)
- Afternoon meeting with pilot countries representative to define what to do

Status

	<u>Jordan</u>	<u>Lebanon</u>	<u>Morocco</u>	<u>Tunisia</u>	<u>Turkey</u>
<u>NWIS feasibility (2005)</u>	X	X	X	X	X
<u>Water Obs. Mechanism (2007)</u>	X		X	X	
<u>Other NWIS studies</u>		X <u>Implemen- tation Strategy</u>		X <u>Prefunding Audit</u>	
<u>Funding</u>				<u>2 M€</u>	
<u>Pilot harmonisation</u>		X <u>To be launched</u>		X	

SEMIDE
EMWIS



Thank you

