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Report on the first five years of implementation of SMAP





EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**THE SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM PRIORITY
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROGRAMME (SMAP)**

REPORT ON

**THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF IMPLEMENTATION
(1997 - 2001)**

A Programme of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership

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A great deal of additional information on the SMAP Programme and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the Europa server (<http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/smap/home.htm>).

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword

Acronyms

Executive Summary

1. BACKGROUND

- (1) The wider Euro-Mediterranean Partnership
- (2) Pressures on the Mediterranean Environment
- (3) Regional Co-operation on the Mediterranean Environment before the Euro-Med Partnership
- (4) The Environmental Component of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (SMAP)

2. FROM HELSINKI TO ATHENS: A FIRST REVIEW

- (1) Networking and Reporting
(SMAP Correspondents, NGO Steering Committee, SMAP Meetings)
- (2) Involvement
- (3) Information
- (4) Implementation of SMAP through Projects
 - (a) Regional level
 - (b) National level
- (5) Reflection of SMAP Objectives in Other Components of the EMP
 - (a) Institutional Level
 - (b) Other Co-operation Fields
 - (c) The Euro-Med Free Trade Area

3. BUILDING ON THE LESSONS LEARNT - RECOMMENDATIONS

A. SMAP Design and Project Management

- (1) SMAP Priorities
- (2) Project Procedures and Resources
- (3) Implementation Review
- (4) Involvement
- (5) Co-ordination with other Environmental Programmes in the Region

B. Policy Aspects

- (6) The Concept of Sustainable Development
- (7) Environmental Integration in the Priority Sectors of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership

4. ANNEXES

- (1) Map of Mediterranean Countries and Table showing their Involvement in different Co-operation Programmes
- (2) A. The SMAP Regional Projects selected for funding
B. The SMAP Regional Projects: Statistics and Graphs
- (3) A. EIB Lending in the Mediterranean Countries
B. EU Funding in Med Countries for their Environment
C. EIB Environmental Projects in the Mediterranean Partner Countries
- (4) Terms of Reference for the SMAP Correspondents Network
- (5) Contact Points
 - SMAP Correspondents
 - The NGO Steering Committee

ACRONYMS

AFCCRE	Association Française du Conseil des Communes et Régions d'Europe
COP	Conference of the Parties
CP	Contracting Parties
DG ENV	Directorate-General for the Environment (European Commission)
EC	European Community
EEA	European Environment Agency
EIB	European Investment Bank
EMFTA	Euro-Med Free Trade Area
EMP	Euro-Mediterranean Partnership
EMWIS	European Mediterranean Water Information System
EU	European Union
FEMISE	Euro-Mediterranean Forum of Economic Institutes
IMO	Intergovernmental Maritime Organisation
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MCS D	Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development
METAP	Mediterranean Environment Technical Assistance Programme
MS	Member State
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NIP	National Indicative Programme
REMPEC	Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (MAP Regional Activity Centre)
RIP	Regional Indicative Programme
SIA	Sustainability Impact Assessment
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
SMAP	Short and Medium Term Priority Environmental Action Programme
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WTO	World Trade Organisation

NOTE

The purpose of this Report is double:

(a) It responds to the request of Environment Ministers in Helsinki, as reflected in SMAP itself (in Chapter 8, point 4), to have a Regional Interim Report for the review of implementation of the Programme;

(b) The Conclusions of this Report and the experience gained could be used to justify proposals for future action related to environmental protection and sustainable development within the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

Partners have been consulted on this Regional Report focussing their suggestions in particular on the Recommendations in this double perspective.

SMAP: THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF IMPLEMENTATION (1997 - 2001)

1. BACKGROUND

(1) The wider Euro-Mediterranean Partnership

The creation of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EMP) was a major event and has immense potential for both general multilateral co-operation in the region and environmental integration for sustainable development.

The 1st Euro-Mediterranean Conference, which was held in Barcelona in November 1995, adopted a **Declaration** establishing a new Partnership between the European Union and 12 Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Partners.¹

The Barcelona Declaration covers *3 chapters*:

- **promotion of peace and stability** including the promotion of democracy and respect for human rights;
- **economic co-operation** including the progressive establishment of a Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area. **Environment is one of the priorities** of the economic co-operation;
- **social and cultural co-operation** including health, civil society and youth.

The EMP has a financial instrument, **MEDA**, with an envelope of € 3,425 million for 1995-1999 and € 5,350 million for 2000-2006. Both the initial and the revised MEDA Regulations, provide for close co-operation with the EIB. The EIB committed loans of € 6.1 billion to the region between 1996 and 2001 and is mandated to lend a further € 6.4 billion covered by the Community Guarantee Fund in the period to 2006. In addition the Bank established a further € 1 billion Mediterranean Partnership Facility on its own risk for large cross-regional transport, energy and environment projects.

The collective aspect of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership involving all 15 EU and 12 non-EU Partners is complemented by individual **Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements** governing bilateral relations between each of the 9 non-Candidate Partners and the EU as a whole. These Agreements are gradually entering into force and are very comprehensive. They have individual differences but all cover political dialogue, respect for human rights and democracy, establishment of WTO-compatible free trade over a transitional period of up to 12 years, economic co-operation in a wide range of sectors including environment, co-operation relating to social affairs as well as cultural co-operation. All the Agreements provide for

¹ Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

annual Association Councils at Ministerial level and an Association Committee of officials.

The overall objectives of the Euro-Med Partnership were reiterated and further proposals for its strengthening were made in the "*Common Strategy of the European Union on the Mediterranean Region*" issued in June 2000 as well as in the Commission Communication "*Reinvigorating the Barcelona Process*" issued in early September 2000. A further strengthening of the Partnership was agreed at the 5th Euro-Mediterranean Foreign Ministers Conference in Valencia on 22-23 April 2002, where an "*Action Plan*" was adopted with clear references to the sustainable development objective.

The Valencia Conference stressed the strategic importance of the Mediterranean and called "for a global response based on comprehensive co-operation and solidarity". Ministers also shared the conviction that the peace, stability and security of the Mediterranean region were a common asset, which they pledged to promote and strengthen by all the means at their disposal. Indeed, peace, stability and security are prerequisites to any effort to achieve sustainable development. They are, therefore, also prerequisites of any policy to protect the environment.

(2) Pressures on the Mediterranean Environment

- Environmentally speaking, the Mediterranean is considered as a single region (*Annex 1: Map and table of countries involved*) and is recognised by specialists as one of the richest and most vulnerable in the world, in particular with regard to its biodiversity. It faces **major problems** relating mostly to water scarcity and pollution with increasing salinisation of water tables in some coastal areas, soil degradation, air and marine pollution largely from land-based sources, ecosystems degradation and despoilment of the coastal zones and cultural heritage, which are the very bases of tourism in the region.
- Within the space of half a century (1950-1998) the population of Mediterranean countries has risen from 210 to 430 million inhabitants. **Population growth** has been accompanied by **rapid urbanisation** with which neither water supply nor sanitation and waste collection systems have kept pace, as well as by concentration of the population along the coast, increasing use of inefficient irrigation systems, careless industrialisation and a huge growth in shipping, much of it involving oil. These trends have resulted in the problems mentioned above.
- The Mediterranean is the world's **leading tourist destination**, accounting for 30% of international tourism. Tourism is currently the first foreign currency source in the Mediterranean countries taken as a whole. Domestic tourism is also growing in most of the Mediterranean countries. Pressures on coastal zones are likely to increase in the future (from 135 million arrivals in 1990 to 235-350 million in 2025 → potential rise of over 200%).²

² Information source: EEA/MAP Report on the "State of the Mediterranean Environment", 1999.

- There is a **lack of capacities** (institutional, technical and financial) to deal with the environmental pressures in Mediterranean countries. Furthermore, the environmental integration concept is not very strong as yet, while protection policies and investments made in the region by different actors (including the countries themselves) are **not sufficiently mainstreamed**.
- In several cases it is difficult for **civil society** to have its say on environmental issues. Awareness campaigns and developments at international level have contributed to an improvement of the situation though there is still much work to be done in this respect.

(3) **Regional Co-operation on the Mediterranean Environment before the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership**

The Barcelona Declaration, adopted in 1995 when the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership was established, emphasised our "interdependence with regard to the environment, which necessitates a regional approach and increased co-operation, as well as co-ordination of existing multilateral programmes, while confirming attachment to the Barcelona Convention and the Mediterranean Action Plan".

The environmental component of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership builds upon existing experience and works with programmes in place. Such programmes are:

- ***Barcelona Convention / Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP):***
 - This was the earliest (1976), and remains the most successful of **UNEP's** regional Seas Conventions (accompanied by **6 Protocols**) and the only form of environmental co-operation in the Mediterranean based on legally binding instruments. It was originally designed as a framework for common action (i.e. preparation of regional legislation and provision of technical assistance) needed by the riparian states to combat pollution of the Mediterranean Sea itself. It was extensively **amended in 1995** to give it a sustainable development focus and to deal with the coastal areas as well. The Convention has **21 Contracting Parties**, including the EC and all the coastal states except present-day Yugoslavia (former Yugoslavia was a CP). The four Mediterranean MS who are Parties participate actively in the work of the Convention and the full Council has to approve EC decisions on its legally binding instruments and discusses the EC stance for meetings of the COP. The *European Environment Agency (EEA)* is co-operating with the MAP Secretariat to provide technical assistance on specific methodological matters. A report on the "State of the Mediterranean Environment" was published in 1999 by the EEA in co-operation with MAP.
 - The operating **budget** of the Convention, which covers not only purely administrative costs but also the bulk of the work of its seven technical centres is € 7.5 million a year, growing at 2%. There are also significant in-kind contributions from the four EC MS. The EC contribution to the basic budget is fixed at € 737,000 a year.

- The new sustainable development focus of the Convention is being fleshed out via the **Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD, 1995)**. This is a multi-stakeholder body comprising representatives from government, local authorities, NGOs and socio-economic actors. While currently relatively weak, it has the potential to raise the profile of environmental issues within the region and to press the need to balance the differing priorities of the three pillars of sustainable development.

- ***Mediterranean Environment Technical Assistance Programme (METAP):***

- METAP has existed since 1989. It brings together **big donors** (the World Bank, the European Investment Bank, the European Commission and the United Nations Development Programme, as well as Switzerland and Finland) and was created to **co-ordinate investments** in the region through appropriate project preparation and capacity building.
- The METAP activities during its 3rd phase (1996-2000) corresponded to more than \$ 30 million. The EC contributed to funding of such activities through its own instruments (mostly LIFE-3C and SMAP) with more than € 10 million. Projects worth more than € 200 million have been generated in the region because of this Programme, which has influenced investment lending of more than € 1.5 billion. These projects were mostly managed by the World Bank as well as the EIB, which could offer relatively soft terms thanks to the EC/MEDA interest rate subsidies.
- A 4th phase ("METAP 2001 and beyond") was launched in December 2000 focusing on capacity building for 3 pillars, which cover water, waste and regulatory aspects, and 2 crosscutting issues, which cover knowledge management and sustainable development at local level.

- ***LIFE - 3rd Countries:***

LIFE is a financial instrument that was created by an EC Regulation in 1992 and extended in 2000 for 5 more years.

LIFE has 3 components including LIFE-3rd Countries that covers countries, which are not EC Member States. In fact, 80% of the LIFE-3rd Countries activities and funding has been used so far **for Mediterranean countries**. It provides an amount of € 4-6 million per year and aims at offering **technical assistance** through small-scale projects.

(4) The Environmental Component of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (SMAP)

As set out in the 1995 Barcelona Declaration, the European Commission was entrusted with preparing a **Short and Medium-term Priority Environmental Action Programme (SMAP)**, building on existing experience and knowledge. From the start, all Partners, related International Organisations and major Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) active in the region were involved in the preparation of SMAP.

The resulting SMAP together with a Declaration³ were adopted unanimously by the 27 Euro-Mediterranean Partners (15 EU-Member States and 12 non-EU Mediterranean Countries and Authorities), at the 1st Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on the Environment held in Helsinki on 28 November 1997.

SMAP constitutes the environmental component of the EMP. It is intended as a framework for policy and funding orientation at both the regional and national levels. The objective of *sustainable development and its environmental dimension* are both reflected in SMAP thus building on the Barcelona Declaration, which "recognised the importance of reconciling economic development with environmental protection, of integrating environmental concerns into the relevant aspects of economic policy and of mitigating any potential negative environmental consequences".

SMAP focuses on activities and projects in **five priority fields of action**:

- ◆ integrated water management,
- ◆ integrated waste management,
- ◆ hot spots (including polluted areas, but also of areas of sensitive biodiversity),
- ◆ integrated coastal zone management,
- ◆ combating desertification.

Furthermore, **supportive measures and horizontal actions** necessary to assist the non-EU Partners and to **link with the long-term** have been provided for within SMAP. Examples are capacity building (including structural improvements and adjustments within each individual Mediterranean Partner), development of guidelines for planning, improvement of legislative, regulatory and institutional frameworks, establishment of sustainable development indicators, use of environmental impact assessment, networking including with civil society, awareness enhancement and exchange of experiences.

³ Published in English and French and also put on the internet

2. FROM HELSINKI TO ATHENS: A FIRST REVIEW

Chapter 8 of SMAP foresees a follow-up mechanism consisting of:

- a Network of SMAP Correspondents;
- consultation procedures and involvement of civil society organisations;
- yearly national reporting on implementation by Partners ; and
- a review mechanism.

This evaluation is intended as the basis of the review, which should be completed by the 2nd Euro-Med Environmental Ministers Meeting on 8-10 July in Athens.

(1) **Networking and Reporting (SMAP Correspondents, NGO Steering Committee, SMAP Meetings)**

The creation of a SMAP Correspondents Network was foreseen in SMAP itself, as the first follow-up mechanism needed. The European Commission was charged with co-ordination of this Network and it was decided that Correspondents would meet annually.

Establishing the official channels for exchanging information, consultation and co-ordination of actions was the first concern immediately after the approval of the SMAP by the Helsinki Ministerial Conference. The **SMAP Correspondents Network** was put in place several months later after official nomination of the national representatives (Correspondents) by the respective Environment Ministers of each Euro-Med Partner (an up to date list of Correspondents is in *Annex 5*).

In its broad sense, the SMAP Correspondents Network includes - beyond the Correspondents of the 27 Partners and the European Commission - the NGO Steering Committee ("**Comité de Suivi**", as they prefer to call it in both languages). This "Comité de Suivi" (current membership included in *Annex 5*), co-ordinating the **Mediterranean NGOs**, was established in Helsinki, at the Civil Forum convened on the occasion of the Ministerial Conference. It has been used since 1997 for all consultations and exchanges of information related to SMAP activities and environmental policy in the Mediterranean and has observer status at the SMAP Correspondents meetings.

For reasons of policy coherence, representatives of major international Programmes and institutions operating in the region, namely the Mediterranean Action Plan and METAP, the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the European Investment Bank (EIB) are invited to the **SMAP meetings** as observers.

The SMAP provides for the establishment of a **regular reporting system**. The "yearly Reports on implementation by each Partner should be the basis for discussion at the annual Correspondents meetings". At all four meetings of the SMAP Network held so far, Correspondents and the NGO Comité de Suivi were invited to present Reports orally and in writing, on the basis of a *standardised Outline* proposed by the Commission for reasons of coherence and comparability. However, the information provided thus far by the Partners is neither complete nor comparable. Therefore, this Regional Interim Report could not be based on the National Reports - as initially foreseen - but had to rely mostly on information available within the Commission as well as on MAP and METAP publications.

The **first SMAP Correspondents meeting** took place in Brussels on 16-17 November 1998 and was attended by more than 50 participants. The meeting reviewed the implementation of SMAP by governments and NGOs at regional and national levels. Information was provided by the Commission on the regional projects submitted by Partners in 1998 and particularly on those short-listed for approval. The shortlist was endorsed. The meeting also discussed proposals for consolidation of the Network.

The SMAP Correspondents held their **second meeting**, in Brussels, 13-14 June 2000. Over 50 people attended and information was exchanged on the implementation of the SMAP policy objectives in the form of brief National Reports, which were presented in oral and written form. The new MEDA procedures, which have to be followed for submission of SMAP regional projects, were presented. Contributions were made aiming at co-ordinating activities under each priority field of action and ensuring coherence of policies. Emphasis was put on complementarity of the different existing Programmes, instruments, Conventions and activities in the region.

The **third meeting of the SMAP Correspondents** took place in Brussels, on 25-26 June 2001. The Network of SMAP Correspondents was complete for the first time, since all Partners had officially appointed national Correspondents. Over 60 people attended the meeting.

As usual, there was a review of implementation at regional and national levels on the basis of brief National Reports. The participants attached particular importance to the discussion of Terms of Reference for the Correspondents Network (see **Annex 4**). These were intended to reflect the new more substantial role the Correspondents were invited to play at a strategic and operational level in order to give impetus to the SMAP. The meeting was informed about the selection procedure applying to SMAP regional projects as well as the selection criteria for projects submitted under the SMAP 2000 Call for Regional Proposals. The discussion focused on orientations for future action, in a joint effort to improve performance. Participants discussed ways of promoting environmental integration and stressed the need for a sustainable Euro-Med Free Trade Area and for integration at national level. The Greek invitation to host the 2nd Euro-Med Ministerial Conference on the Environment in mid-2002 was warmly welcomed and participants exchanged some first views on the preparation of this event.

The **fourth meeting of the SMAP Correspondents** took place in Brussels, on 23-25 April 2002. It focused on the preparation of the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference (acting as a Second Preparatory Meeting).

Between regular SMAP Correspondents meetings there are bilateral contacts. The Commission also sends **brief electronic updates** (2 - 3 per year) to all members of the Network whenever there is a need for co-ordination or when new events related to the Programme take place. Correspondents have expressed the wish for more frequent updates and for more information to be posted on the SMAP web site (see below) but action on this is hampered by Commission staff constraints.

Conclusion 1: The limited resources of the SMAP Network have restrained the development of its full strategic and operational potential so far. Further mobilisation of resources at national, regional and Commission levels would increase effectiveness and would result in more substantive exchange of experience among the SMAP Correspondents.

(2) Involvement

Dissemination of information and involvement of major stakeholders (including civil society organisations) are essential tools for policy making and are reflected in SMAP as well.

The Barcelona Declaration makes a special reference to Civil Society. Furthermore, a **Civil Forum** is usually convened just before the Euro-Med Ministerial Conferences of Foreign Affairs, which provide the overall guidance to the Euro-Med Partnership. The NGO "Comité de Suivi" played a strong role in the Civil Forums in Stuttgart (April 1999) and in Marseilles (November 2000), where environment was part of the agenda. However, broader political considerations at that time did not allow better incorporation of the Civil Forum proposals in the Conclusions of the Chairman of these Conferences.

Within SMAP, there was early **involvement of civil society** from before adoption of the Programme. Through its integration in the SMAP Correspondents Network the NGO "Comité de Suivi" is part of the **consultation process** for the implementation and assessment of the Programme. Furthermore, representatives of civil society can participate in SMAP projects. In the period 1997-2001 the Commission provided € 1.3 million for two EU-based NGO Networks active in the Mediterranean, which are also members of the "Comité de Suivi", under its special budget line for environmental NGOs.

Some of the members of the "Comité de Suivi" are also accredited observers at MAP meetings and/or rotating **members of the MCSD**, as well as observers at the UN Convention to Combat Desertification. This increases the effectiveness of their overall input since they can make links between different Programmes, participate in a broader policy dialogue, and network with other representatives of the civil society.

Conclusion 2: Involvement of NGOs as practised in SMAP has been a positive experience and is generally regarded as an example of good practice for co-operation in other fields of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership particularly because NGOs are part of the process from the beginning.

(3) Information

In its concern for broad dissemination of information on SMAP, the Commission promised in the Helsinki Declaration to create a SMAP web site and publish a brochure on SMAP.

- **The SMAP web site** was created in early 1998 and is regularly updated. The site is visited by more than 4000 people per month (many more when a Call for Proposals is open or about to be launched). Visitors can also find many links to other sites related to the SMAP objectives and activities.
- **The SMAP brochure** was published in English and French (in 5000 and 3000 copies respectively) and sent to more than 3000 Mediterranean organisations in 1999. The brochure was up-dated, reprinted (3000 copies in English and 2000 in French) and disseminated again in October 2000. It was also put on the SMAP web site. The Commission hopes to translate this brochure into Arabic and welcomes the recent offers of help made by some of the Partners.

Furthermore, the Commission provides information on SMAP and the Mediterranean environment in general, by way of **Seminars for Journalists and NGOs** (about 200 people from the 12 Med Partners per year) on the Euro-Med Partnership. Information on SMAP activities is also included regularly in all broader Euro-Mediterranean publications reviewing progress of the Barcelona process. The Commission also takes advantage of several **meetings organised in other contexts** to provide information on SMAP to decision-makers and/or potential applicants for funding and to promote the idea of focusing efforts and achieving complementarity and synergies between environmental Programmes. The following meetings have been covered:

- Regular meetings of MAP, MCSD and METAP since 1998 including on the environmental implications of the future Euro-Med Free Trade Area;
- Euro-Med Conference on Sustainable Cities, which was designed to encourage the involvement of Local Authorities, Seville, Jan. 1999;
- Seminar on Waste Management organised for the private sector by Ireland, Brussels, Nov. 1999;
- Preparatory expert meetings in Malta and Sardinia and the Ministerial Conference in Turin on Integrated Local Water Management, 1999;
- Meetings of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification focusing on the Mediterranean, Rome, Feb. 2000 and Murcia, Jun. 2000;
- 3rd and 4th meetings of the Med Wetlands Committee, Djerba, Apr. 2000 and Sesimbra, May 2001;
- Co-ordination of co-funding by big donors in Morocco, organised by the World Bank, Rabat, 2000;

- Seminar for French Local and Regional Authorities, organised by AFCCRE on "Europe and the Environment", Brussels, Dec. 2000;
- Meeting on co-operation between NGOs and the private sector, Lausanne, Feb. 2001;
- Special session of the European Commission's Green Week on Water Management in the Mediterranean, Apr. 2001;
- Euro-Med Youth Programme, Training for Trainers, Sifnos, Aug. 2001;
- Six awareness meetings organised by NGOs sometimes in co-operation with Members of the European Parliament, Brussels, 2000-02.

Furthermore, a **video film** on the Mediterranean was produced and disseminated to TV channels of different countries in April 2002 in view of the forthcoming World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD). It refers to local activities contributing to sustainable development and it focuses on a successful project in Tunisia financed by EC instruments. Another EC information initiative is currently in the pipeline; it aims at providing **background satellite images** of selected Mediterranean areas to be used for the location of environmental projects financed under SMAP and MEDA in general.

Some **Partners** have also taken initiatives for disseminating information on SMAP and its objectives and have organised Inter-Ministerial meetings and public discussions at national level. Furthermore, a training seminar was held in Finland in 1999 on environment for diplomats and another in Syria in 2001 on environmental protection.

Several *NGOs* and a couple of regional SMAP *project co-ordinators* convened meetings of stakeholders on selected themes such as water, waste, coastal zones and desertification, disseminated posters and pamphlets or published diaries with information on their specific project or activity.

The NGO Comité de Suivi organised two meetings in an effort to highlight Mediterranean concerns at the forthcoming WSSD. The first was with stakeholders in Monaco, on 13 November 2001, and the second with Mediterranean NGOs in Nice, on 12 January 2002, which resulted in a joint NGO Declaration for Johannesburg. Furthermore, some members of the CdS have initiated an NGO capacity building project to enable more environmental NGOs from Partner countries to become active within the scope of the EMP.

Conclusion 3: *Correspondents share the view that the visibility of the SMAP is still limited in spite of the efforts made by various stakeholders. Further initiatives by Partners, the European Commission and NGOs are needed to improve dissemination of information and make implementation of SMAP more tangible. Correspondents have stressed that translation of key SMAP publications into Arabic would contribute to SMAP visibility at national level.*

(4) Implementation of SMAP through Projects

Given the long experience of multilateral environment co-operation in the region, from the outset it was felt that SMAP should go beyond simple policy dialogue or general orientations for future action. Instead, its main focus was conceived as practical action on the ground, which would lead to tangible results as regards environmental protection, capacity building and improvement of legislative, regulatory and institutional frameworks as part of the broader objectives of the Partnership. Such action would be based mostly on pilot or demonstration projects for the priority fields set out in the Programme.

The SMAP objectives were expected to be achieved through national action and Commission funded technical assistance projects. Partners were expected to take the initiative and submit projects for the implementation of SMAP, at national level within their National Indicative Programmes / NIPs and at regional level through specific Calls for Proposals.

To ensure maximum impact, the European Commission has sought to exploit complementarity and synergies of funding under different instruments and/or related Regional Programmes. In particular, there are efforts to bring together contributions of actions funded by SMAP, LIFE-3rd Countries, budget lines of DG ENV, the development co-operation budget as well as to ensure interactions with MAP and METAP.

In addition to the above, there is extensive bilateral co-operation between EU-Member States and Mediterranean Partners on environmental protection. Bilateral environmental projects (such as those set out in *Annex 3.B*) are a valuable contribution to the SMAP objectives and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in general.

(a) Regional level

Following a **first Call for Proposals for regional SMAP projects in 1998**, 29 projects were submitted to the European Commission. The 6 regional environmental projects short-listed were presented to the 1st Meeting of the SMAP Correspondents Network for information (Brussels, 16-17 November 1998). They were then presented for endorsement to the Euro-Med Committee (consisting of Ambassadors of the 27 Partners - Brussels, 25 November 1998) and to the MED Committee (made up of Member States representatives - Brussels, 23 November 1999). This widespread consultation procedure is a standard MEDA process. Inevitably, the first time it was used for SMAP it took much longer than hoped, especially as the Commission services responsible for aid delivery were undergoing a major structural reform at the time. Nevertheless, contracts have now been signed for all 6 projects and they are being financed as part of the MEDA Regional Indicative Programme. The total EC contribution to these 6 projects amounts to **more than € 5.5 million** (*Annex 2A*). The graphs (*Annex 2B*) demonstrate the involvement of countries and categories of applicants in the selected SMAP 1998 regional projects and their links with the 5 priority fields of action of SMAP.

A new **Call for regional SMAP 2000 Proposals** was published in July 2000 with a deadline for submissions of 23 October 2000. The Call was based on experience gained and on new MEDA procedures, which have been implemented as a result of Commission internal reform. The overall budget foreseen for this Call amounted initially to € 20 million. Sixty one proposals were submitted to the EC and after completion of the evaluation process, 8 were selected for funding. These projects (*Annex 2A*), together with a project submitted by METAP, were presented to the 3rd Meeting of SMAP Correspondents (25-26 June 2001) for information. The MED Committee (26 September 2001) gave a positive opinion on the Commission's proposal for a global envelope of **€ 30 million**. This covers the METAP project (€ 5 million), a **Monitoring Unit** to assist the Commission (€ 2.5 million) and support to **12 national institutes (Focal Points)** to assist the SMAP Correspondents of the 12 non-EC Partners (€ 2.5 million), as well as the initial regional projects selected from the Call (€ 20 million). The procedure for signature of contracts is under way. It involves consultation with the shortlisted organisations to ensure that all technical and budgetary criteria are met.

The graphs (*Annex 2B*) reflect the selection status and the involvement of countries and categories of applicants in the submitted and selected SMAP 2000 regional projects, as well as the links between the projects and the 5 priority fields of action (sectors) of SMAP.

Conclusion 4: *The delays in processing and implementation of the SMAP regional projects do not yet allow an assessment of the results.*

Conclusion 5: *Recent re-organisation of some Commission services is expected to lead to more effective procedures, more focused and improved Calls for Proposals as well as more clarity on how to formulate project proposals.*

Conclusion 6: *The improved procedures within the Commission will not in themselves solve all implementation problems. Correspondents and other-stakeholders have identified a need for training for project applicants and managers. Training for interested stakeholders could contribute to the improved design of projects, to links with national policies, as well as to more rapid implementation in the future.*

Conclusion 7: *Correspondents and other stakeholders have asked for greater transparency in project selection procedures. While respecting the balance both of openness and fair competition foreseen by EU legislation on the awarding of contracts, there is room for action to better inform Correspondents and applicants of the eligibility criteria used and the selection process followed.*

(b) National level

Information sources are dispersed, which makes it difficult to have a complete picture of the situation. However, it is important to realise that only 10 % of the MEDA funds are used for regional co-operation, while almost 90 % are spent on the National Indicative Programmes (NIPs). Therefore, from the outset Partners have been strongly urged to make use of their NIPs in order to promote the SMAP objectives at national level.

However, **MEDA grants** for environmental projects have been limited in terms of the number of projects, amounts and beneficiary countries. Under the MEDA I NIPs, only Jordan and Morocco received grants for environmental projects, as shown in the table below. Commitments for two more projects were made in other Mediterranean countries in 2000 and 2001 too (see also *Annexes 3A*).

These figures follow the approach used in the SMAP regional programme. Thus MEDA spending on water infrastructure is excluded because its regional equivalent falls under the water, and not the environment, component of co-operation.

MEDA FUNDING FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN ENVIRONMENT (NIPs, 1995 - 2001)		
COUNTRY	PROJECT	Grant (million €)
Jordan	- Management of the Water Unit in Amman	5.00
Morocco	- Solid Wastes in Essaouira	1.90
Tunisia	- Water sewage in Taparura (2000)	8.50
Syria	- Environmental Health programme in a Palestinian refugee camp (2001)	8.00
TOTAL		23.40

As shown in the following table, during the period 1995-2000 (MEDA I, and beginning of MEDA II) almost all Partners have benefited from **EIB** funding and related **interest rate subsidies** for environmental activities⁴. Indeed, more than 20% of total EIB *loans* were used for environmental projects (see **Annex 3A: EIB lending for the Mediterranean Environment**). The priority given to wastewater and solid waste treatment installations by all countries is clearly reflected in this funding.

⁴ Sources: Information based mainly on "The Barcelona Process - 5 years later (1995-2000)", EC/DG RELEX, 2000, and on the "Annual Report of the MEDA Programme - 2000", EC/DG RELEX, 2001.

EIB FUNDING FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN ENVIRONMENT (NIPs, 1995 - 2000)				
COUNTRY	PROJECT	Interest Rate Subsidies (million €)	Loans (million € / year)	TOTAL
Algeria	- Industrial pollution	10.75	50.00 / 1996	60.75
Egypt	- Drainage of surface water in agricultural areas of the valley and Delta of Nile	12.70	50.00 /2000	62.70
Jordan	-Water rehabilitation in Amman	8.20	9.00 /1996 40.00 /1998	57.20
Lebanon	- Coastal Pollution	10.30	50.00 /1996	181.10
	- Tripoli wastewater	20.80	100.00 /1997	
Morocco	- Sanitation	20.40	50.00 /1997	160.40
	- Water and sanitation in rural environment	40.00	50.00 /2001	
Tunisia	- Solid Waste	5.60	50.00	406.40
	- Cleaning up of Lac Sud	9.25	40.00 /1997	
	- ONAS III / Water treatment	9.05	40.00 /1998	
	- Pollution reduction in Gabés	11.50	45.00 /1999	
	- Solid Waste and WasteWater treatment (2001)	31.00	70.00 /2000 95.00 /2001	
Turkey	- Bursa WasteWater treatment	16.10	80.00	
	- Textile environment standards	29.50	n.a.	
	- Industrial Pollution		45.00	
Palestinian Authority	- Water and sanitation in Gaza	11.113	30.00 /1996	81.203
	- Water projects in West Bank	10.90	30.00 /1998	
TOTAL		256.353	894.00	1150.353

A complete list of projects per Mediterranean country with the corresponding EIB loans since 1992 is included in *Annex 3.C*.

In total, funding for the environment corresponded to **around 6 % of MEDA I** at national and regional levels. This is due mostly to the **EIB interest rate subsidies, which corresponded to more than 90% of MEDA environmental funding at national level. The grants for environmental projects corresponded to only 0.7% of total MEDA national allocations, while the SMAP'98 regional projects represented 1.1% of MEDA I regional allocations.**

In January 2002, **7 Country Strategies and the Regional Strategy to 2006** together with the related **Indicative Programmes for the period 2002-2004** were approved by the Commission. Though the sustainable development approach could have been reflected in a clearer way in the Strategy papers, 6 of the NIPs provide for environmental projects. These are Algeria (waste), Egypt (sustainable development of Sinai), Jordan (water management), Lebanon (unspecified environmental protection), Morocco (biodiversity and related social aspects through actions focusing on an endemic tree) and Syria (environmental health). *Annex 3B* illustrate the percentage of environmental funding per country. In total, the NIPs approved for the years 2002-4 under MEDA II allocate around 6% of funding to the environment. At the regional level the percentage is higher: funding for the next Call for regional SMAP projects corresponds to 16% of the allocation for the RIP 2002-4; however, at present commitment is only foreseen in the year 2004. **At both national and regional levels, environment represents around 9% of the MEDA II funding for the period 2002-4.** EIB interest rate subsidies are declining since only 3 countries: Algeria, Egypt and Morocco have chosen to use part of their MEDA II allocations for this.

Thus **interest rate subsidies** will amount to **49% of environmental funding at national level** this time compared to 90% under MEDA I. Including funding of regional projects in other co-operation fields (mostly research, energy and water/desertification) related to the environment leads to a higher percentage of MEDA funding devoted to the environment. This suggests a welcome if modest move towards environmental integration.

Allocations under MEDA need to be set in the context of the overall picture of environmental funding by different sources compared to the global investments for each Mediterranean country. An attempt at this is reflected in **Annex 3B: Table on EU funding in Med Countries**. To aid future work, general information related to the environment of each Med Partner was gathered from dispersed sources and is provided in **Country Profiles**, which have been printed separately and are also available on the SMAP website. It is hoped that the profiles will allow all actors to better understand the current situation and identify needs for further action.

Conclusion 8: *Much more could be done to achieve the SMAP objectives through National Indicative Programmes if the benefits of a sustainable development approach were taken into account when setting priorities. To help this process, the Partners need to promote environmental integration and have this concept endorsed at the highest possible level within the EMP. Civil society representatives could play a positive role in promoting these objectives at national level.*

(5) Reflection of the SMAP Objectives in other Components of the EMP

(a) Institutional Level

Correspondents report that involvement of Environment Ministries in negotiation of the **Association Agreements** was extremely limited. Although the single environment article in each of the Agreements vary, for timing and other reasons none has highlighted all five of the SMAP priorities. Moreover, Environment Ministries have only been involved in the meetings and deliberations of the Association Councils and Committees in a couple of countries so far.

However, a few Mediterranean Partners whose Association Agreements have entered into force, have taken recently the initiative to propose specific actions for bilateral co-operation on environmental issues with the European Commission in an effort to promote structural adjustments.

(b) Other Co-operation Fields

So far, integration of environmental considerations in other fields of co-operation of the Euro-Med Partnership has been rather limited. The following positive examples financed by MEDA. show what can be done:

(a) Environmental Statistics in the MEDSTAT

Since 1996, the European Commission has undertaken a € 20 million capacity building project in the 12 Partner countries called MEDSTAT, which is co-ordinated by EUROSTAT. The aim is to prepare statistical data. The elaboration of the sub-project on the Environment (one of the 9 themes) was entrusted to the Blue Plan, one of the Regional Activity Centres of MAP. At their 2000 and 2001 meetings, the Euro-Med Directors of Statistics welcomed the Commission proposal to incorporate into future work the Indicators of Sustainable Development, adopted in 1999 by the Environment Ministers of all Mediterranean countries, following a proposal by the MCSD. These have been reflected in the questionnaires sent to Partners in 2001 to get input for the MEDSTAT II Programme, which is currently under preparation.

(b) *Integrated Local Water Management*

Water is itself one of the six priorities for economic and financial co-operation of the EMP. In 1999 the European Commission financed the Euro-Mediterranean Water Information System (EMWIS) with € 1.9 million. EMWIS is managed by France and Italy with involvement of some Med Partners foreseen at a later stage. When preparing the policy framework for co-operation in this field, at the Turin Conference on Integrated Local Water Management in 1999, efforts were made to ensure policy coherence with the SMAP provisions, as well as with other related regional and international environmental commitments. The Turin Declaration and the priority actions agreed upon successfully responded to this quest for synergy and coherence and in 2001 the European Commission committed € 40 million to implement the provisions of the Declaration. A Call for Regional Proposals for this allocation was published in early January 2002 and will be open until the end of May. It will be important to ensure complementarity between the proposals selected under this Call and the water actions under SMAP.

(c) *Project on Energy and the Urban Environment*⁵

Funding was approved in 2001 for this project, which has a total cost of € 3.25 million and a Community contribution of € 1.9 million. All 12 Med Partners are involved together with 4 EU-countries (France, Greece, Italy and Spain). The project concerns energy management and planning and conservation in urban areas. Actions will include training and exchange of best practices as well as specific actions such as street lighting and clean public transport in particular cities. It also provides for dissemination of results through a newsletter and a web site.

(d) *Project on Port Reception Facilities*

Funding has been approved in 2001 under MEDA as part of the Regional Maritime Transport Programme for Port Reception Facilities aiming at collecting ship-generated garbage, bilge waters and oily waters. REMPEC/MAP/IMO will co-ordinate the € 700,420 project amounting at (€ 560,365 of which is the EC contribution), which will identify required capacities, propose optimum solutions, prepare standard design of port reception facilities and organise a regional seminar in the course of the next two years.

⁵ Source: Information included in "The Barcelona Process - The Euro-Med Partnership: Synthesis 2001", EC/DG RELEX, 2001.

(e) *Project DELTA of Euromed Heritage II*

One of the ten projects contracted in 2000 under Euromed Heritage takes into account the preservation of the environment as part of actions to give value to cultural heritage within an integrated spatial approach. The EC contribution is € 2,915,896 for 3 years. Algeria, Israel, Malta, Morocco and the Palestinian Authority participate in this project in co-operation with France, Greece, Italy and Spain.

(f) *Projects on Water and Desertification in the Middle East, as part of the Confidence-Building Measures*

Activities on Water Management and Combating Desertification in the Middle East are financed under the MEDA Peace Process initiative, which complements the Barcelona Process. The Commission allocated € 5 million for a *Water Initiative*, which involves the World Bank, € 7.1 million for a Water Data Bank (Phases 1-4) and € 3 million for the Middle East Desalination Research Centre. A *Regional Initiative to Control Desertification* involves Egypt, Israel, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority and Tunisia. The Commission allocated € 3 million for this project, which has three components: Watershed Development Programme, Treated Wastewater and Biosolids Use, as well as Socio-Economic Policy Options. The project takes a multi-donor approach and is co-ordinated by the World Bank.

Outside MEDA, 45 projects addressing environmental needs of Mediterranean Partners were financed under *LIFE-3rd Countries* during the period covered by this Report at a cost of € 13,681,126 million. LIFE-3rd Countries projects are addressing a wide range of environmental issues including nature protection and prevention/reduction of pollution through development of appropriate local and national tools. As foreseen in the new LIFE Regulation, adopted in July 2000, the specific objective of LIFE -3rd Countries now is to contribute to the strengthening of capacities and administrative structures. This approach is complementary to the regional dimension of capacity building promoted also by SMAP.

Furthermore, the *5th Research Framework Programme* contributes to similar policy objectives through its International Co-operation component and in particular *INCO-MED*:

- Five out of the ten projects contracted in 2000 under INCO-MED are related to the environment. They concern:
 - Sustainable Irrigation System for Efficient Water Use without Reducing Fruit Yield (EC contribution: € 1,179,900. Partners: UK, Cyprus, Morocco, Portugal, and Turkey)
 - Mediterranean Usage of Biotechnological Treated Effluent Water (EC contribution: € 580,000. Partners: Portugal, Morocco, Turkey, Tunisia, Italy and Spain)
 - Wastewater recycling of olive mills in Mediterranean countries - Demonstration and sustainable reuse of residuals (EC contribution: € 899,240. Partners: Germany, Greece, Spain, Morocco, Belgium and Tunisia)

- Development of cost-effective reclamation technologies for domestic wastewater and the appropriate agricultural use of the treated effluent under arid climate conditions (EC contribution: € 895,050. Partners: Netherlands, Palestinian Authority, Egypt, Jordan, Greece and Ireland)
- Photo-electrochemical Purification of Water (EC contribution: € 770,000. Partners: France, Austria, Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Spain and Israel).
- Two further projects under the INCO programme financed as a contribution to the implementation of the objectives of Annex IV of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification deal with:
 - Concerted Action to support the Northern Mediterranean Regional Action Programme to Combat Desertification (EC contribution: € 300,000. Partners: Italy, Portugal, Greece, Spain, France and Turkey)
 - Combating Desertification in Mediterranean Europe: Linking Science with Stakeholders (EC contribution: under negotiation. Partners: UK, Italy, Spain, Greece, Netherlands and Portugal).
- A further 36 EU research projects related to tropospheric ozone in the Mediterranean were financed in the context of the European Photoreactor (EUPHORE), the world's largest facility to study atmospheric chemistry. Seven of these projects documented the specific behaviour of air pollutants in the Mediterranean and the links between ozone problems and climate change.

Conclusion 9: *The experience of environmental integration in other EMP co-operation fields is not very extensive but has shown the potential for such activities.*

Conclusion 10: *Correspondents would welcome greater dissemination of information within the SMAP network on other EU financed activities related to the SMAP objectives.*

Conclusion 11: *There is considerable EC funded relevant research. It would be useful to disseminate the findings thereof to the SMAP Correspondents Network.*

(c) The Euro-Med Free Trade Area (EMFTA)

Trade has always been a major element of the co-operation between Mediterranean countries and it is also vital in the Euro-Med context. EU imports from the 11 Med Partners (data for the Palestinian Authority are not available) increased from € 27,844 million in 1990 to € 63,805 million in 2000 (an increase of 229.1 %). Similarly, EU exports increased from € 37,161 million to 84,973 million € (an increase of 228.6 %).

The Barcelona Declaration provides for the establishment of a Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area (EMFTA) with the year 2010 as a target date. The Association Agreements and the MEDA funding will be the major tools for the Partners' preparation for EMFTA.

To ensure that trade and environment policies will be mutually supportive in this context, the European Commission announced at the Euro-Med Conference of Foreign Ministers in Stuttgart in 1999 that a Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) of the EMFTA would be launched. This intention was greatly welcomed by the Civil Society representatives, and the SIA was mentioned among the actions planned in the context of the 2000 Communications on the Euro-Med Partnership. In order to avoid duplication and ensure complementarity, existing work in the MCSD and METAP is being taken into account in the Terms of Reference for this SIA. The SIA will complement a study conducted by FEMISE on the implications of Free Trade in the Mediterranean, which covered economic and social aspects. In the course of the preparations for the 5th Conference of the Euro-Mediterranean Foreign Ministers held in Valence 22 – 23 April 2002, the Council of the EU called for a timetable to be established for the SIA and stressed the need for its timely completion.

Conclusion 12: Establishment of the EMFTA is advancing. To ensure that environment and trade policies will be mutually supportive in the context of this Partnership, it is now urgent to launch the SIA urgently taking into account work done in the context of the MCSD and METAP, and to use the conclusions of the SIA to promote a sustainable EMFTA.

3. BUILDING ON THE LESSONS LEARNT - RECOMMENDATIONS

A. SMAP Design and Project Management

(1) SMAP Priorities

The five priority fields foreseen in the SMAP highlight the most important environmental problems in the Mediterranean (water, coasts, waste, biodiversity, desertification), and are at the same time broad and flexible enough to allow specific problems to be tackled under the hot spots envelope. Since projects started only in mid-2000, there are no visible results so far and, therefore, it is not possible to evaluate the relevance and performance of the SMAP projects. As a consequence, there is no evidence at this stage of any need for modification of the current sectoral environmental priorities of the SMAP Programme.

SMAP Correspondents have drawn attention to the enormous impacts of developments in agriculture and tourism, both of which are of great economic significance to the 12 Mediterranean Partners. However, given their nature as major sectors of economic activity, which are not currently priority sectors under the Partnership, these cannot become new separate priorities within SMAP. Instead greater efforts are needed to consider their links with the SMAP priorities.

There is one further element that needs to be considered: since the adoption of SMAP in 1997, there has been considerable development on **climate change** issues, even though the problem is not completely new in the Mediterranean context. Case studies carried out by MAP during the '80s warned of the environmental implications of the sea level rise due to climate change if measures were not taken in time. In the light of the recent successful UNFCCC COP VII, which involved the Euro-Mediterranean Partners, it might be of common interest to **explore ways of achieving the goals** set out at international level through regional approaches. The financial envelope for regional SMAP is too small to allow major initiatives at this stage but dialogue between the Partners could launch a more long-term co-operation process.

Recommendation 1: *The existing SMAP priority fields should be retained and emphasis should be put on implementation of the policy objectives reflected in the Programme.*

Recommendation 2: *Partners should promote better environmental integration in the agriculture and tourism sectors by strengthening the existing links with the SMAP priority fields and by considering their environmental consequences.*

Recommendation 3: *Partners should explore the possibilities of regional dialogue and co-operation on climate change effects as a crosscutting issue, aiming at promoting environmental integration in other Euro-Mediterranean co-operation fields and strengthening related capacities.*

(2) Project Procedures and Resources

Delays in SMAP implementation are due to several factors.

Procedures: SMAP implementation is subject to the MEDA Regulation and procedures since SMAP is financed mainly by the funds of the MEDA budget. The fact that these procedures were in the process of being completed and finalised over the last few years, together with the re-organisation of the European Commission's services, resulted in delays in implementation of the Programme and slow disbursement. Only 26% of total commitments were disbursed at the end of the 1st phase of MEDA in 1999. This increased to 36% in 2000 and 53% in 2001).

Decreasing the time between submission of the proposals and signature of the contracts for the selected projects, while respecting the procedures necessary for transparency and the need for quality, would be greatly appreciated by all.

Resources: Staff shortages are a factor in delays to SMAP implementation. Measures have now been taken to remedy this, particularly through the **creation in late 2000 of EuropeAid** (known also as AIDCO), a new Commission service for the management of the entire project life cycle for all co-operation fields.

Feedback always helps good planning and improvement of policy implementation. Major input for feedback can be given through regular **monitoring of approved projects**. Such monitoring would assist both the Commission and the partners involved in improving the efficiency of project implementation. The EC has approved an initial amount of € 2.5 million to be used for the operation of a **SMAP Monitoring Unit**, which would assist the Commission for the next three years to monitor progress more effectively. This Unit, which is expected to be in place in a few months time, will facilitate networking of professionals involved in the SMAP projects, provide training on project cycle management and monitor projects on a regular basis.

Recommendation 4: SMAP Correspondents and Focal Points should work actively with the Monitoring Unit once established in order to accelerate approval and improve implementation of the SMAP projects.

Project quality: The rather high percentage of non-eligible regional proposals submitted so far reflect difficulties in understanding the Calls for Proposals. The need for long negotiations before eligible projects were of sufficient quality for signature of contracts added to the delays. Current experience in management of the approved projects suggests the need for a two-pronged approach aimed to improving performance and decreasing disappointment:

(a) **More clarity in procedures and criteria** described in the Calls for Proposals is needed;

(b) Further **strengthening the capacity** of current and major potential applicants in both preparing projects and managing the entire project cycle.

Recommendation 5: *The Commission should provide clear guidelines on requirements for project applications and make these readily available.*

Recommendation 6: *The Commission should explore what it can do to further assist local partners to improve the quality of project proposals. To this end, the Commission foresees training of primary stakeholders in improved management of the project cycle and better understanding of the logical framework approach.*

(3) Implementation Review

SMAP will continue to evolve as the environmental pressures on the Mediterranean and the international context for action change. Thus, further reviews of the framework will be essential to ensure that it continues to be a useful vehicle for meeting common objectives. Reporting by the Monitoring Unit will play a role in determining the appropriate timing and scope of a future Review, as will progress at the national level.

Recommendation 7: *The Commission should take the initiative to launch the next Review of the SMAP implementation in about 4-5 years time. To assist in this process, the Commission has allocated funds for the evaluation of the regional pilot projects when these are completed. Information on project progress will continue being presented to the SMAP Correspondents network at its annual meetings.*

(4) Involvement

Involvement of a wide range of stakeholders, including civil society representatives, in the SMAP regional projects has been encouraged from the outset in an effort to promote better understanding and consensus. Yet, so far there have been few projects with such a wide partnership. People find it easier to co-operate with those belonging to the same category of stakeholders. **Regional environmental projects require considerable preparatory work and imply a cost** that cannot be easily borne by some categories of applicants. Small applicants such as NGOs and municipalities risk being left out of regional projects unless they get involved in much broader partnerships.

At the moment, some potential applicants do not have enough information to participate. They seek information mainly through the EC channels: web sites, publications, and personal contacts. While this is welcome it cannot substitute for local contacts with SMAP Correspondents. **Mobilisation and information at national level** would be very useful for the generation of good proposals that correspond to national priorities and international commitments. The Commission has approved an initial amount of € 2.5 million to be used to **support the SMAP Correspondents**, through appropriate existing national institutes (**Focal Points**), which are still to be selected. The Focal Points should order to assist the Correspondents to fulfil their responsibilities according to their agreed mandate. It is hoped that the Focal Points will also allow the Correspondents to contribute more fully to an effective SMAP Network. The Commission will propose detailed terms of reference for the Focal Points.

Recommendation 8: *Networking needs to be further strengthened at all levels and for all categories of stakeholders. This would also facilitate involvement of a wide range of stakeholders in the regional projects submitted.*

Recommendation 9: *Procedures to put in place the mechanism of administrative/financial support to the 12 SMAP Correspondents through Focal Points (national institutes) should be accelerated in order to contribute to better implementation of the SMAP.*

Recommendation 10: *Further mobilisation of resources at national, regional and Commission levels would increase effectiveness of the SMAP Network and result in more substantive exchange of experience among the Correspondents.*

(5) Co-ordination with other Environmental Programmes in the Region

Resources are scarce and duplication should be avoided. Furthermore, each existing Co-operation Programme has its own history, special characteristics and added value.

From the outset, the Barcelona Declaration provided a privileged role for the **Barcelona Convention/MAP** in the Partnership in recognition of its long existence and experience in environmental co-operation in the region. In fact, as suggested in the Barcelona Declaration, **SMAP built upon** this experience and foresees **complementarity** with MAP as well as with **METAP** and with **EIB** in its actions.

Furthermore, a number of **global Conventions**, such as the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, represented by MEDWET in the Mediterranean, and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, have specific provisions applying to the Mediterranean. There is a need to look for synergies with these Conventions when implementing the respective priority fields of SMAP.

Effective co-operation amongst these Organisations and Programmes needs to be based on close **co-ordination** of their respective Secretariats and on **reciprocal exchange of information** aimed at **policy coherence**. This basic co-operation has been in place from the beginning of consultations for SMAP and is continually intensified. Yet, there is a need to use all possibilities and take another step to promote **further coherence**. Thus, SMAP/MEDA funding could be focused on demonstration projects and capacity building facilitating the implementation by Mediterranean countries of commitments they have made in the context of MAP in particular. Special emphasis should be given to the **implementation of the Recommendations adopted by the Contracting Parties** of the Barcelona Convention (including those developed and proposed by the MCSD).

Recommendation 11: The European Commission, which co-ordinates SMAP, the MAP Co-ordinating Unit and the METAP Secretariat should further strengthen their co-operation building on their respective experience and comparative advantages in order to optimise the use of available resources and increase effectiveness of actions in the region.

Recommendation 12: SMAP Correspondents and Secretariats of related Conventions/Environmental Programmes could be invited to take the initiative and use the possibilities offered by SMAP in addition to their own national policies to facilitate the implementation of the commitments made by the Mediterranean countries in those contexts. To this end, further co-ordination of SMAP Correspondents with the national Focal Points of these Conventions/Environmental Programmes in their respective countries would be of great importance.

Further efforts should be made to ensure **policy coherence and complementarity among projects funded by different instruments** in the same geographical areas (at local, sub-regional, national and regional levels) both within and beyond the Euro-Med Partnership. METAP and other donors could be invited to join efforts to the same end. The existence of clear national environmental/sustainable development policies would help everyone to respect nationally agreed priorities. The Reviews of national policies from the sustainable development perspective, that MAP assists the Mediterranean countries to carry out, are a very useful tool to this end. Some of the Med countries have already prepared such Reviews with the assistance of MAP (the Co-ordinating Unit for the National Brochures on environment and sustainable development and the Blue Plan/RAC for Reviews of the Country Performance).

Recommendation 13: *The 2nd Euro-Med Environment Ministerial should be used to explore possibilities for improving coherence of donor support for environment at the national and regional levels.*

B. Policy Aspects

(6) The Concept of Sustainable Development

Experience has shown that there is a general confusion in the Euro-Med process about **the concept of "sustainable development"**. The Barcelona Declaration itself does not use the term but instead includes "sustainable economic and social development". This reflects the fact that it was adopted in 1995 - when the role of environment as one of the three components of sustainability was not yet so clearly understood. As a result, some actors still show a certain reluctance to deal with the environment as a horizontal dimension to be mainstreamed in all aspects of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and instead have the impression that the environment can be treated as simply a vertical/sectoral policy isolated from the others. What is obvious for Environment Ministers and is reflected in a very brief way in the SMAP objectives has not been perceived in the same way by those representing different policies. Fortunately, the Valencia Summit made progress in better assimilating the sustainable development concept in the Partnership.

Recommendation 14: *It is imperative to balance the economic, social and environmental components of sustainable development within the 2nd chapter of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. In Athens, Environment Ministers should welcome the affirmation by Euro-Mediterranean Foreign Ministers at Valencia that sustainable development is guiding principle of the Partnership, Ministers and the SMAP need to work to bring the sustainable development concept into the all aspects of the Partnership.*

(7) Environmental Integration in the Priority Sectors of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership

In the EMFTA: Early co-operation among the different sectors involved in the process will contribute to **making the EMFTA environmentally sound and sustainable**. Making trade and environment policies mutually supportive still needs a lot of work to translate aspirations into practical terms. The existence of the Euro-Med Partnership and of the long-standing environmental co-operation makes the Mediterranean region a very appropriate case for implementation of the international commitments on mutual supportiveness. This could contribute to transforming the EMFTA into a real and effective tool to achieve a Euro-Med area of shared prosperity, peace and stability, and of mutual respect of the rich cultural identities of the region.

Recommendation 15: *It is essential to develop a strict timetable for the Sustainability Impact Assessment and complete it as a matter of urgency. Its conclusions should be taken into account in order to promote sustainability of the EMFTA through necessary policies and operational measures.*

Recommendation 16: *Euro-Med Ministerial Conferences on Trade and on Environment are invited to explore appropriate ways to make these two policies mutually supportive in practical terms and to give particular attention to the development of an environmental integration strategy in this context.*

In the Priority Sectors as reflected at the NIPs and RIP: On the basis of the available information set out above, the links between sectoral policies and the environment as reflected in projects financed by MEDA at regional and national levels seem rather weak. The commitment of around 6% of the total MEDA I for environmental activities in a broad sense, mostly through interest rate subsidies provided by MEDA for EIB environmental lending, cannot be considered as very satisfactory. Greater emphasis on environmental protection would have reaped benefits far in excess of the costs. Of course, the Programme is still young and the RIP/NIPs for 2002-4 are more promising. Furthermore, environmental awareness is growing and there is greater political understanding of the Sustainable Development concept. These two elements allow for some optimism regarding more sustainable and coherent planning of the different components of the Euro-Med Partnership. On-going dialogue at international level could also contribute to this process.

Recommendation 17: *Environmental considerations should be integrated in EMP policies, programmes and projects at regional and national levels. Integration will be of particular importance in other priority sectors of the second chapter of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership with special emphasis on water, industry, transport and energy.*

A Strategic Framework: SMAP implementation and promotion of a sustainable development approach would be considerably strengthened if the Partners agreed upon a **joint Euro-Mediterranean Strategy for Environmental Integration**. The Valencia Conference of the Euro-Med Foreign Ministers has already accepted the Commission proposal to launch such a process. This Strategy would not substitute but complement and strengthen the SMAP since it would need to be prepared primarily by other sectoral formations of the Partnership rather than in the SMAP context. The role of the Environment Ministers would be to provide a general framework to guide the work of others. A commitment by the Partnership to practical steps for environmental integration would be an important Euro-Med contribution to the forthcoming World Summit for Sustainable Development.

In order to take decisions on the basis of the above Recommendations, Partners could use the forthcoming Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conferences and in particular that on the Environment. Reviewing progress of the implementation of both the SMAP activities and the environmental integration strategy would be necessary.

Recommendation 18: *In accordance with the Action Plan adopted at the Valencia Conference, a framework for a Euro-Mediterranean Strategy for Environmental Integration should be prepared for adoption by the 2nd Euro-Med Ministerial Conference on the Environment to be held in Athens on 8-10 July 2002. This framework could be subsequently submitted to the 6th Foreign Ministers Conference for endorsement. Those involved in the priority economic and social sectors of the Partnership could be invited to adapt and implement the framework in the context of their own work and to provide reports thereon to the 7th Conference of Euro-Mediterranean Foreign Ministers.*

Partners are invited to consider these recommendations in the context of preparation for the Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Environment Ministers.

4. ANNEXES

- (1)** Map of Mediterranean Countries and Table showing their Involvement in different Co-operation Schemes
- (2)** A. The SMAP Regional Projects selected for funding
B. The SMAP Regional Projects: Statistics and Graphs
- (3)** A. EIB Lending in the Mediterranean Countries
B. EU Funding in Med Countries for their Environment
C. EIB Environmental Projects in the Mediterranean Partner Countries
- (4)** Terms of Reference for the SMAP Correspondents Network
- (5)** Contact Points
 - SMAP Correspondents
 - The NGO Steering Committee

Annex 1:

Map of Mediterranean Countries and Table showing their Involvement in different Co-operation Programmes

	<i>Page</i>
Map of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership	(cover page)
Table of Involvement of the Mediterranean Countries in different Co-operation Programmes	40

Parties to the Barcelona Convention, Partners of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and METAP Beneficiaries

<i>Country</i>	<i>Barcelona Convention</i>	<i>Euro-Med Partnership</i>	<i>METAP Beneficiary</i>
Albania	✓		✓
Algeria	✓	✓	✓
Bosnia & Herzegovina	✓		✓
Croatia	✓		✓
Cyprus	✓	✓	✓
Egypt	✓	✓	✓
Israel	✓	✓	
Jordan		✓	✓
Lebanon	✓	✓	✓
Libya	✓	(observer)	✓
Malta	✓	✓	
Monaco	✓		
Morocco	✓	✓	✓
Palestinian National Authority		✓	✓
Slovenia	✓		✓
Syria	✓	✓	✓
Tunisia	✓	✓	✓
Turkey	✓	✓	✓
Ex-Yugoslavia/Serbia	(before the split-up)		
Austria		✓	
Belgium		✓	
Denmark		✓	
Germany		✓	
Greece	✓	✓	
Finland		✓	
France	✓	✓	
Ireland		✓	
Italy	✓	✓	
Luxembourg		✓	
Netherlands		✓	
Portugal		✓	
Spain	✓	✓	
Sweden		✓	
United Kingdom		✓	

Annex 2A:

The SMAP Regional Projects selected for funding

	<i>Page</i>
SMAP 98-99: Projects Selected for Funding.....	41
SMAP 2000: Projects Shortlisted	42

SMAP 98-99: Projects Selected for Funding

(ME8/B7-4100/1B/99/0233,1-6)

No.	Project Title	Applicant Name/ Country	Countries involved	Total Cost €	EC Contribution €	%	Category/ Duration (months)	Signature of contract
1	Conservation and Management of Biodiversity Hot-Spots: Developing a Mediterranean Network	WWF - European Policy Programme, Italy	Italy, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey	1.397.811	1.117.800	79,97	Biodiversity/ 24	19.12.00
2	Promoting Sustainable Use of Agricultural Land through the introduction of Organic Farming Methods	EBDA - Egyptian Biodynamic Association, Egypt	Egypt, Germany, Tunisia, Turkey	1.157.585	810.310	70	Desertification/ 24	29.10.00
3	Regional Community Solid Waste Management Programme	RAED - The Arab NGO for Environment and Development, Egypt	Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Netherlands, Tunisia	1.113.762	902.147	81	Waste/ 24	24.10.00
4	Integrated Coastal Management between Jbeil/Amsheet and Latakia	ENVIROTECH, Lebanon	Italy, Lebanon, Syria	1.611.300	1.401.100	86,95	Coastal Zone/ 24	03.11.00
5	Mediterranean Urban Waste Management Programme	UNDP - Regional Bureau for Arab States, UN	Cyprus, Egypt, Jordan, Spain	908.480	720.840	79,35	Waste/ 18	01.12.00
6	S.E. Mediterranean Water Community Programmes	Friends of the Earth - Middle East (ex-EcoPeace), Israel	Belgium, Israel, Jordan, Palestine	703.729	561.063	79,73	Water/ 36	23.12.01
Total Contribution SMAP 98-99				6.892.667	5.513.260			

SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals

Shortlisted projects (Budget line B7-4100)

No.	Project Title	Applicant Name/ Country	Countries involved	Total Cost €	EC Contribution €	%	Category/ Duration (months)	Signature of contract
2000/014-1	Integrated Waste Management for the Olive Oil Pressing Industries in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan	United Nations Development Programme, Lebanon	Jordan, Lebanon, Spain, Syria	2.196.790	1.738.412	79,13	Waste/ 28	
2000/032-2	Regional Project for the Development of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Region	Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA), Tunisia	Algeria, Cyprus, France, Israel, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Spain, Syria, Tunisia	2.304.881	1.748.374	75,86	Coastal zones/ 30	01.02.02
2000/004-3	The Fara'a and Jerash Integrated Watershed Management	Ministry of Environmental Affairs, Palestinian Authority	Jordan, Palestinian Authority, The Netherlands	4.872.105	3.812.105	78,24	Water/ 36	
2000/033-4	Implementation of a PV Water Pumping and Purification Program in Mediterranean Countries	Universidad Politécnica de Madrid - Instituto de energía solar, Spain	Algeria, France, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia	3.296.779	2.291.013	69,49	Water/ 34	22.12.01
2000/008-5	Demonstration Project on Strategies to Combat Desertification in Arid Lands with Direct Involvement of Local Agropastoral Communities in North Africa	Nucleo di Ricerca Sulla Desertificazione Università di Sassari, Italy	Italy, Morocco, Tunisia	4.266.463	3.413.171	80	Desertification/ 36	
2000/005-6	Mise en place de systèmes de suivi-évaluation des programmes d'action de lutte contre la désertification dans les pays maghrébins de la	Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel, Tunisia	Germany, Italy, Morocco, Tunisia	2.241.383	1.589.383	70,91	Desertification/ 36	

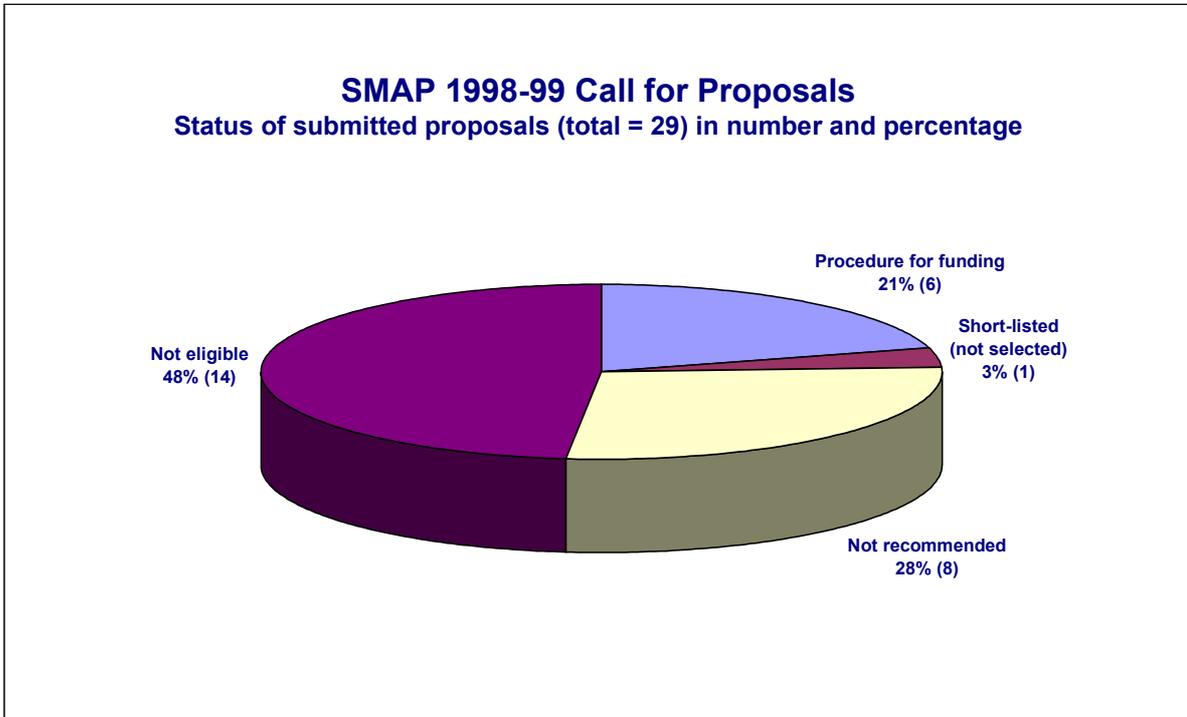
	Méditerranée							
2000/027-7	Urban air quality improvement through Air Quality and Mobility Plans and the institutional strengthens of local administrations on air quality	ICAEN (Institut Català d'Energia), Spain	Cyprus, Lebanon, Morocco, Spain	2.673.906	2.020.745	75,57	Hot spots/ 36	01.02.02
2000/013-8	Preparation of an Environmental Master Plan and a Short-to-Medium Term Action Plan for the Nahr-Al-Kabir River in Lebanon and Syria	The National Center for Remote Sensing, Lebanon	Lebanon, Syria	1.629.726	1.269.782	77,91	Water/ 28	
2000/061-9	Regional Solid Waste Management Project in METAP Mashreq and Maghreb Countries	The World Bank - Rural Development, Water and Environment MNSRE, International	Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, Palestinian Authority	6.250.000	5.000.000	80	Waste/ 36	01.02.02
	SMAP 2000: Projects contracted				11.060.132			
	Total Cost SMAP 2000 Projects			29.732.033	23.336.841			

Annex 2B:

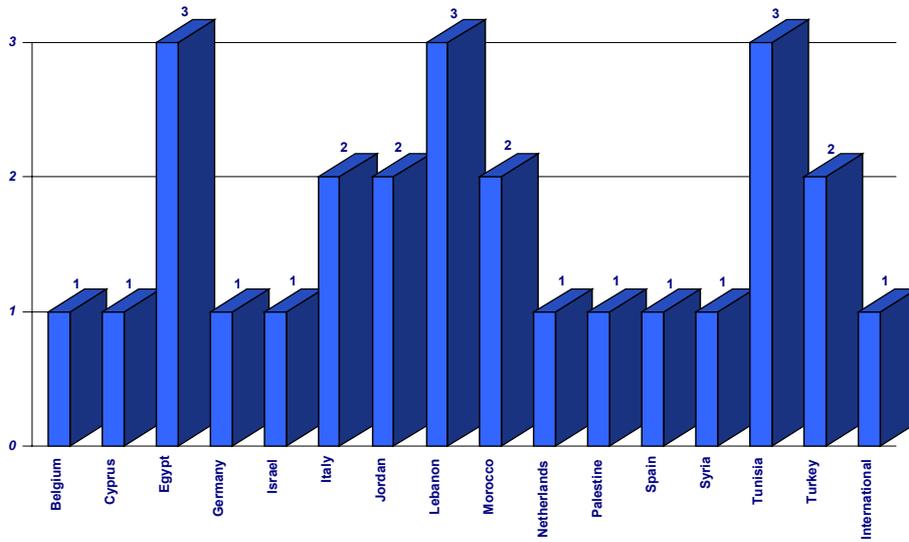
The SMAP Regional Projects: Statistics and Graphs

	<i>Page</i>
1. SMAP 1998-99:	
Status of submitted proposals.....	47
Participation per Partner Country in number.....	48
Participation per Partner Country in percentage.....	48
Contractors by category.....	49
Projects by sector.....	49
2. SMAP 2000:	
Status of submitted proposals.....	50
Participation per Partner Country – submitted proposals (no).....	51
Participation per Partner Country – submitted proposals (5).....	52
Participation per Partner Country – shortlisted proposals (no).....	52
Participation per Partner Country – shortlisted proposals (%).....	52
Participation per Applicant Country – submitted proposals (no).....	53
Participation per Applicant Country –submitted proposals (%).....	53
Applicant Countries involved in shortlisted project.....	54
Partners by category – shortlisted project.....	54
Submitted proposals by sector.....	55
Shortlisted proposals by sector.....	55
Applicants by category – submitted proposals.....	56
Applicants by category – shortlisted proposals.....	56

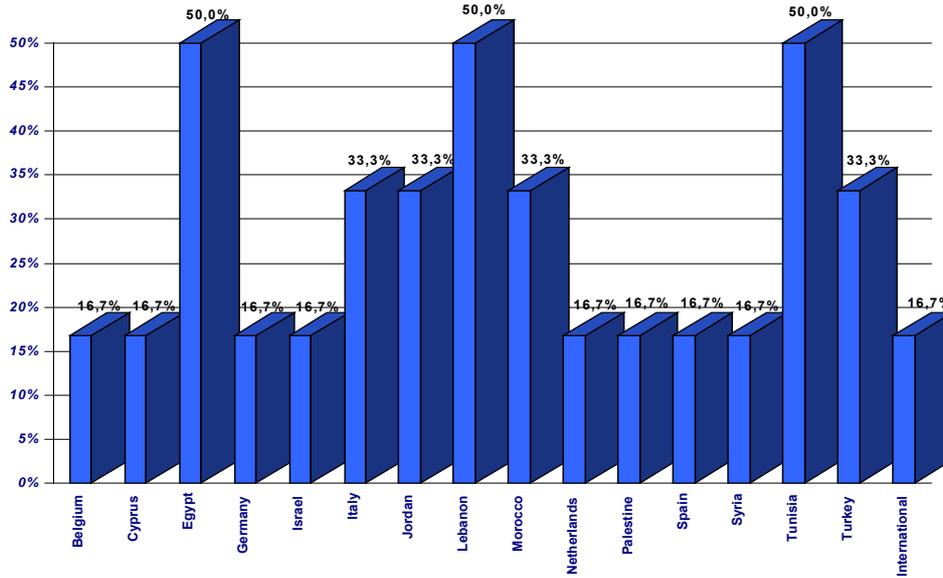
1. SMAP 1998-99



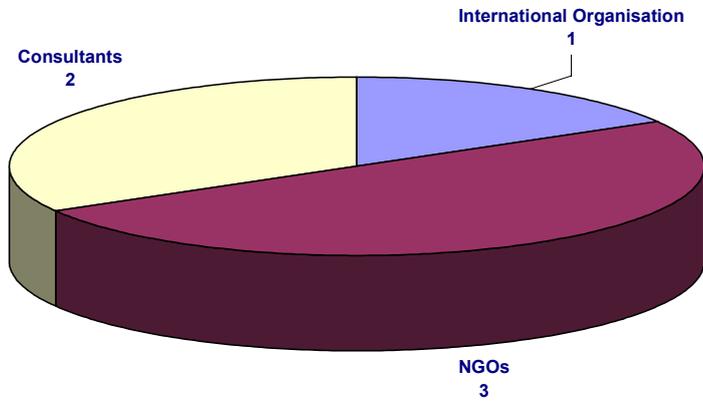
SMAP 98-99. Projects selected for funding
 Participation per Partner Country (no. of projects selected for funding = 6)



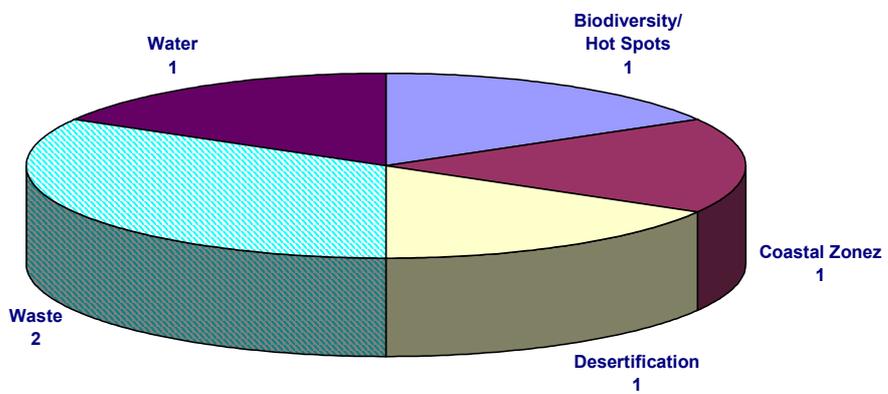
SMAP 98-99. Projects selected for funding
 Participation per Partner Country (% of projects selected for funding = 6)



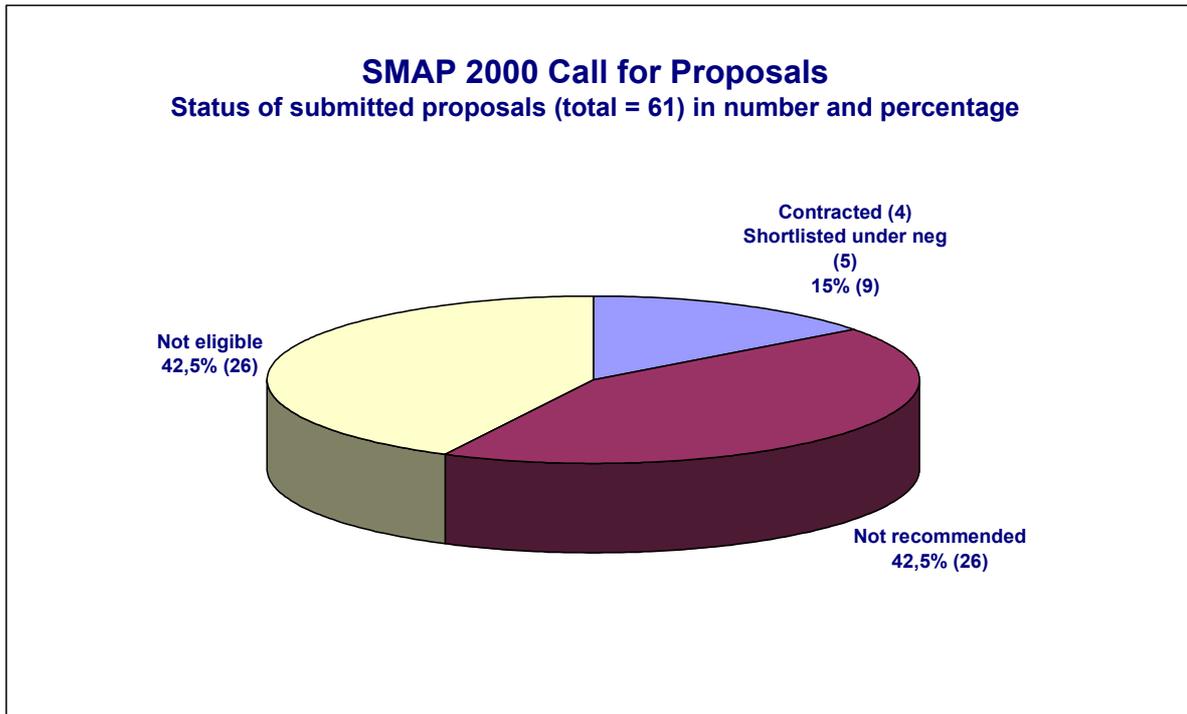
SMAP 98-99. Projects selected for funding
Contractors by category



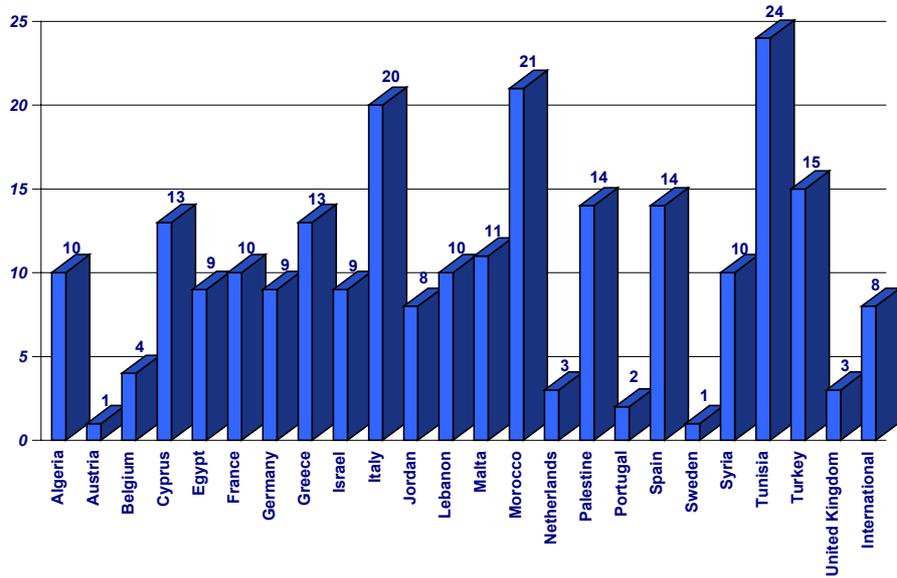
SMAP 98-99. Projects selected for funding
Projects by sector



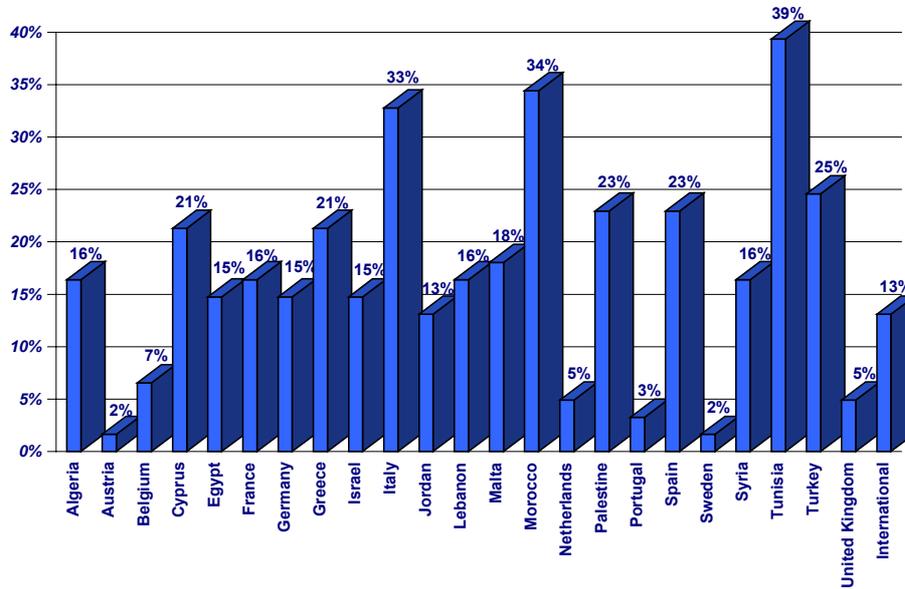
2. SMAP 2000



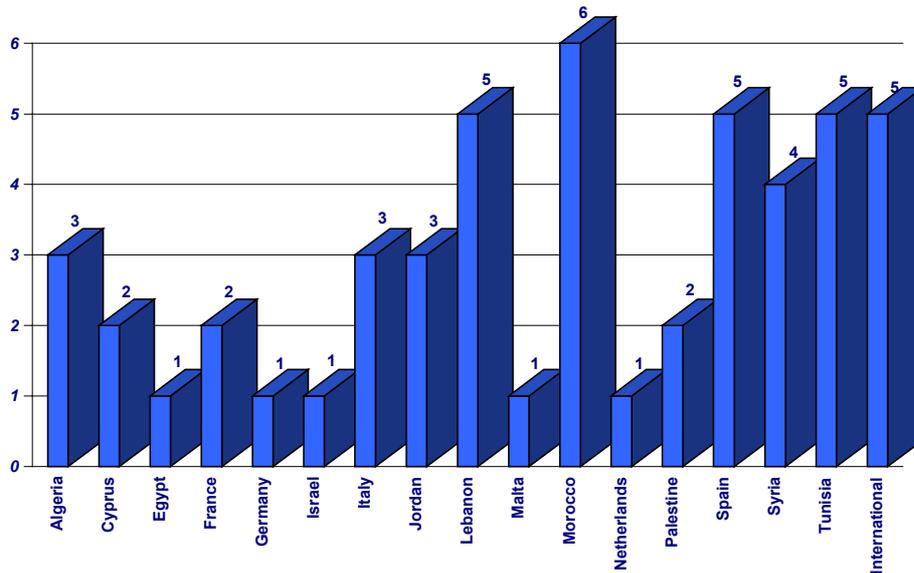
SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
Participation per Partner Country (no. of submitted proposals / total = 61)



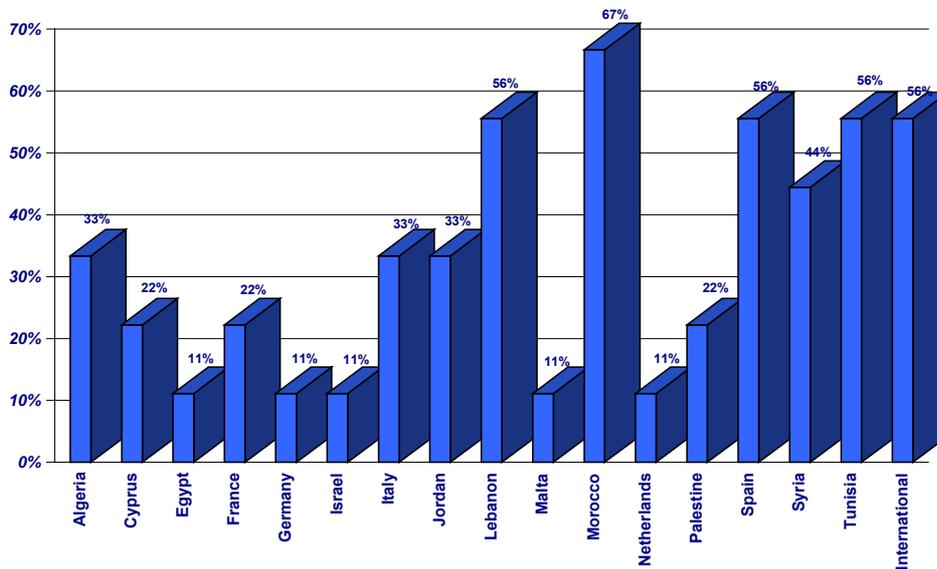
SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
Participation per Partner Country (% of submitted proposals / total = 61)



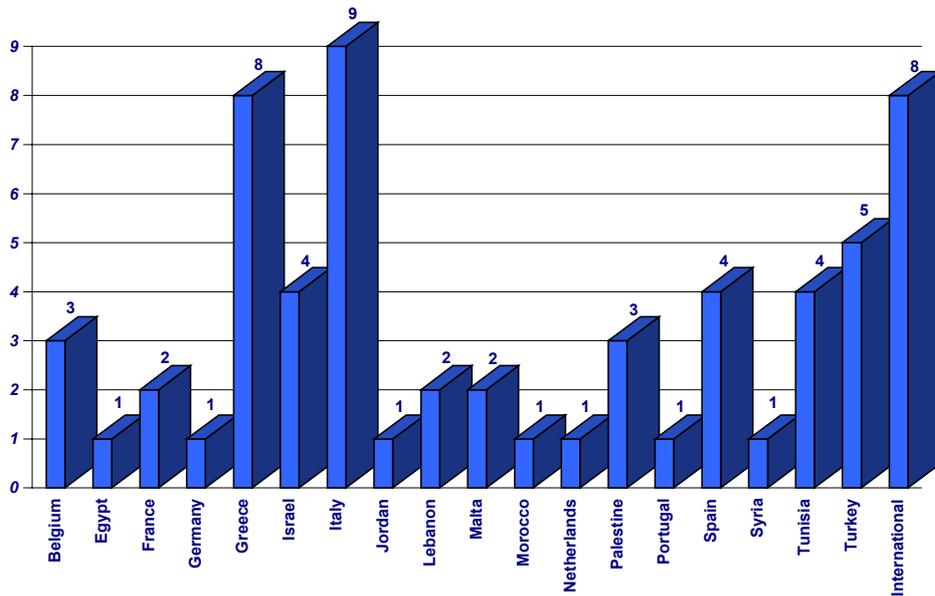
SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
 Participation per Partner Country (no. of shortlisted proposals / total = 9)



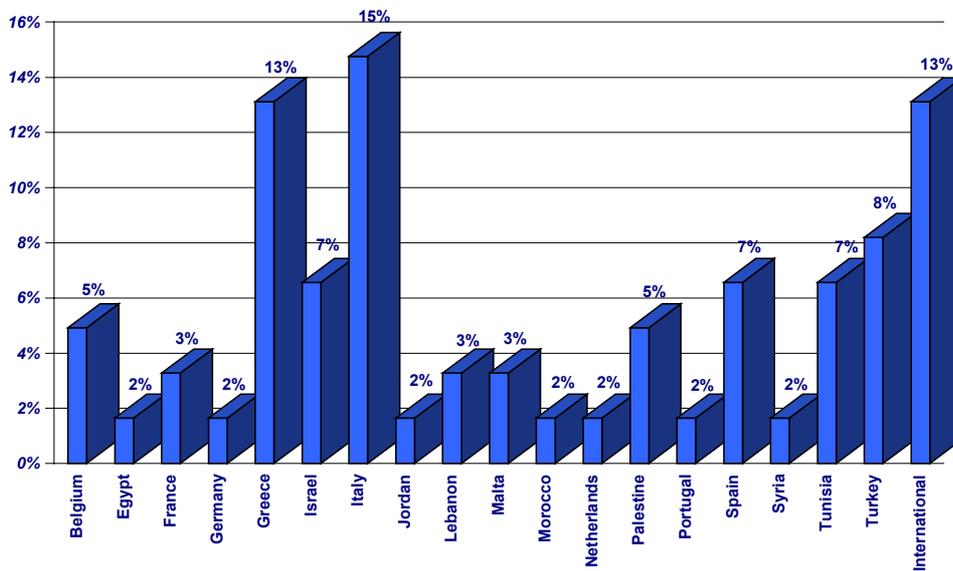
SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
 Participation per Partner Country (% of shortlisted proposals / total 9)



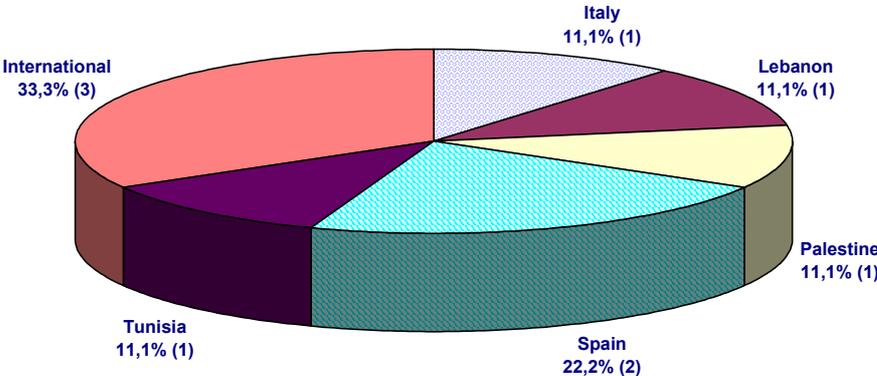
SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
 Participation per Applicant Country (no. of submitted proposals = 61)



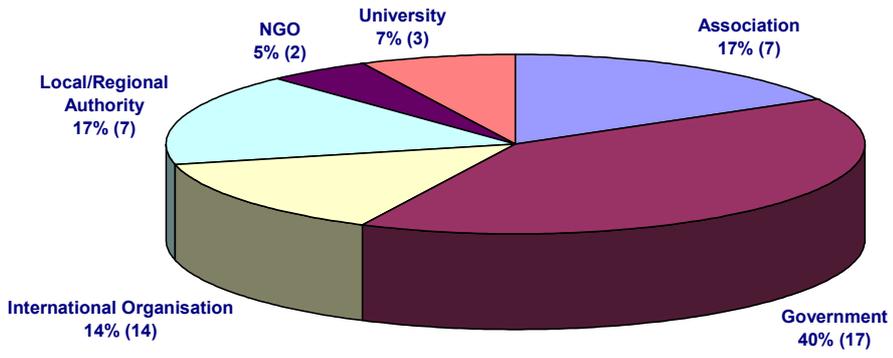
SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
 Participation per Applicant Country (% of submitted proposals = 61)



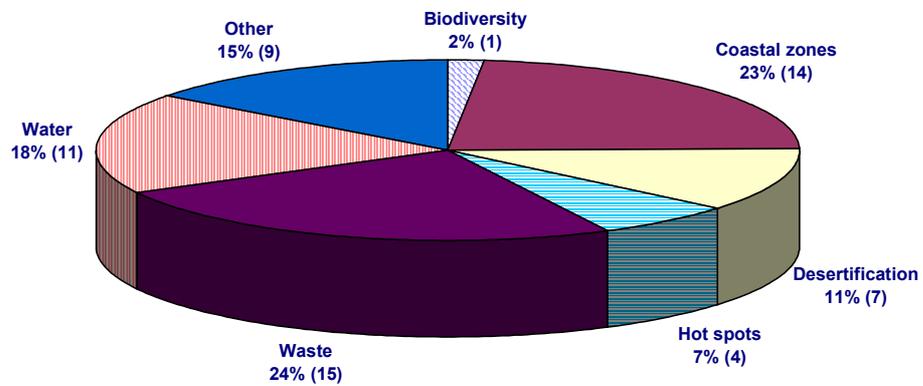
SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
Applicant Countries involved in shortlisted projects (total = 9)



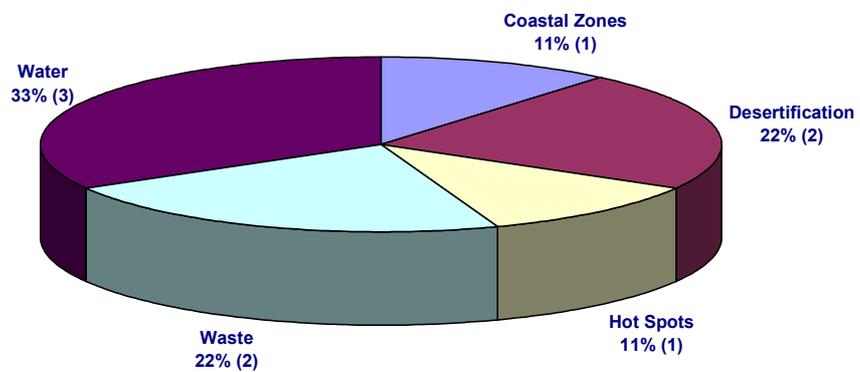
SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
Partners by category (no. and % of shortlisted projects = 9)



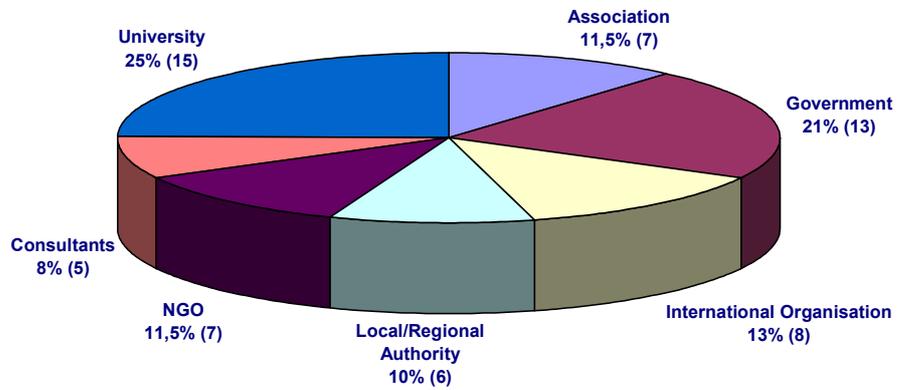
SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
Submitted proposals by sector (number and percentage; total = 61)



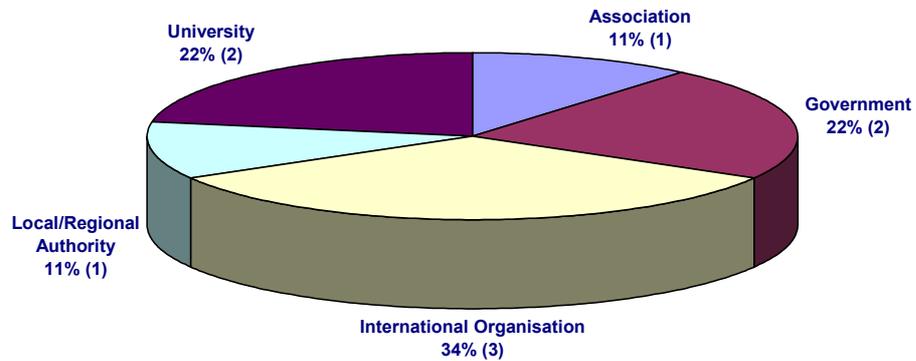
SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
Shortlisted proposals by sector (number and percentage; total = 9)



SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
Applicants by category (no. and % of submitted proposals = 61)



SMAP 2000 Call for Proposals
Applicants by category (no. and % of shortlisted projects = 9)



Annex 3:

EU Funding in Mediterranean Countries for their Environment

A. EIB lending for environmental protection in the Mediterranean.....	58
B. EU funding in Mediterranean Countries for their environment	59
C. EIB environmental projects in the Mediterranean Partner Countries.....	61

**EIB lending for environmental protection
in the Mediterranean
(1992 - November 2001)**

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Total
Egypt	45,0				105,0	10,0	25,0	55,0	50,0		290,0
Jordan	5,0		12,0	18,0	9,0		40,0				84,0
Lebanon	16,0			60,0	50,0	100,0					226,0
Syria	20,4										20,4
Algeria	53,0	60,0			50,0		30,0			225,0	418,0
Morocco			40,0		30,5	50,0	9,0	44,0		50,0	223,5
Tunisia	17,0	60,0	25,0	15,0		40,0	40,0	45,0	70,0	95,0	407,0
Cyprus			17,0	10,0	15,0	30,0					72,0
Gaza/ West Bank					30,0		30,0	10,0			70,0
Israel				58,0							58,0
Malta		7,0		15,0							22,0
Turkey				80,0	90,0	45,0	32,0	38,0	150,0	60,0	495,0
Total	156,4	127,0	94,0	256,0	379,5	275,0	206,0	192,0	270,0	430,0	2385,9

Total EIB Lending in the Mediterranean											
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Total
	320,8	680,5	607,0	1037,5	681,0	1122,0	886,0	801,0	1214,0	1401,0	8750,8

of which environment as a % of total EIB lending in the Mediterranean:											
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Total
	48,8	18,7	15,5	24,7	55,7	24,5	23,3	24,0	22,2	30,7	27,3

**EU funding in Mediterranean Countries for their environment
(commitment in million Euro)**

Country	Protocols (1977-96)	MEDA I (1995-2000)						Member States 1)		MEDA II (2001-04)			Other programmes 1) Environment (1995-2001)		
		EIB loans Total	Env	EIB Cap. risk	EC special loans	Grants Total	Env	EIB IRS	Total	Env	NIP (incl 2001)	Of which Env			
Algeria	214,00	620,00	50,00 (1996)	11,00	–	194,00	–	10,75	n.a.	20,00	150,00	5,00 ca 3%	(IRS)	LIFE 3C WB UNDP	0,05 90,26 2,59
Egypt	661,00	531,00	50,00	31,50	–	615,00	–	12,70	1.650,00	250,00	351,00	31,00 24,00 ca 16%	(IRS) (Sust.)	Compl BL UNDP USAID Canada	20,30 2,14 1.067,50 19,80
Jordan	414,00	283,00	40,00 (2000?)	–	–	269,00	5,00	8,20	1.200,00	192,55	142,00	5,00 ca 4%		USAID WB	164,31 63,64
Lebanon	163,70	553,00	–	3,00	7,00	166,00	–	31,10	900,00	29,71	80,00	22,00 ca 28%			
Morocco	1.091,00	867,00	–	45,00	–	797,00	1,90	60,40	1.373,66	111,23	426,00	30,00 10,00 ca 9%	(IRS)	LIFE 3C MAP Compl BL	0,51 2,50 5,50
Palestine 2)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	208,00	–	22,02	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		n.a.	
Syria	50,00	200,00	–	–	–	137,00	8,00 (2000- 2001)	0,00	144,25	42,80	44,00 ³⁾ 93,00	8,00 ca 6%			
Tunisia	742,00	620,00	50,00	60,00	–	504,00	8,50 (2000- 2001)	35,40 (2001: 31,0)	832,60	258,50	248,65			WB	98,18
Turkey 2)	n.a.	n.a.	80,00	n.a.	n.a.	685,00	-	45,60	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		n.a.	
Sub-total	3.335,70	3.674,00	270,00 ca 7%	150,50	7,00	3.575,00	23,40 ca 0,7%	226,17	6.100,51	904,79	1.534,65	135,00 ca 9%			1.537,28
Regional	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	557,00	10,62 ca 1,9% 4)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	93,00	49,90 ca 54% 5)			

Total	3.335,70	3.674,00	270,00	150,50	7,00	4.132,00	34,02 ca 0,8% 6)	226,17 6)	6.100,51	904,79	1.627,65	184,90 ca 11%			1.537,28
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1) Information might not be complete

2) Information not yet available // n.a. = not available

3) Preparation started in 2001 / project not started by spring 2002

4) 6 (SMAP'98)+4.62 (Research)

5) 30 (SMAP2000) + 15 (SMAP2002) + 1.9 (Energy) + 3 (Desertification)

6) EIB IRS and Grants for the environment add up to 260,19 million € and correspond to 6,3% of the total funding under MEDA I

Sources: Information based mainly on DG RELEX Country Strategy Papers 2002-2006 and National Indicative Programme 2002-2004

EIB lending for environmental protection in Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Countries

Country /Year	Description	EUR million	Total
EGYPT	MASHREQ COUNTRIES		
1992	Construction of new sewerage mains in Greater Cairo	45	
1996	Extension of sewerage treatment plant (Gabal El Asfar) north-east of Cairo on east bank of Nile	55	
1996	Extension of wastewater collection system in center of Cairo on east bank of Nile	35	
1996	Global loan to National Bank of Egypt for financing investment in environmental protection in industrial and productive sectors	15	
1997	Construction of two motorway sections and bridge over branch of Nile	10	
1998	Construction of two motorway sections and bridge over branch of Nile	5	
1998	Rehabilitation or replacement of existing irrigation pumping stations south of Cairo	20	
1999	Upgrading and extension of wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure in Alexandria	30	
1999	Global loan for financing environmentally-friendly infrastructure associated with Hotel and other tourist projects in South Sinai and the Red Sea Region	25	
2000	Rehabilitation and extension of agricultural drainage networks in the Nile Valley and Delta	50	
			290
JORDAN			
1992	Wastewater collection and treatment facilities in Irbid and Ramtha, in northern Jordan	5	
1994	Rehabilitation and modernisation of water supply and sewerage systems in town of Salt	12	
1995	Modernisation of drinking water supply and wastewater treatment systems in Amman, Zarqa, Souf, Fuheis and Mahis	18	

1996	Restructuring and rehabilitation of water supply network in Greater Amman	9	
1998	Restructuring and rehabilitation of drinking water distribution network in the greater Amman area	40	
			84
LEBANON			
1993	Reconstruction of water supply, sewerage and treatment systems throughout country	16	
1995	Reconstruction of drinking water supply and sewerage facilities in north of country	60	
1996	Modernisation of sewerage and sewage disposal facilities serving coastal conurbations of Kesrouan, Saïda and Sur	50	
1997	Modernisation of sewerage and sewage disposal facilities serving Greater Tripoli area	100	
			226
SYRIA			
1992	Construction of Al Thawra earth fill dam and irrigation infrastructure covering 10 500 ha in coastal basin of Lattakia	20,4	
			20,4
ALGERIA	MAGHREB COUNTRIES		
1992	Construction of earthfill dam in Taksebt (Kabylia) to supply drinking water to Algiers and four towns in Kabylia	53	
1993	Construction of dam with reservoir in Hammam Boughrara to supply drinking water to Oran	60	
1996	Measures to reduce pollution in three industrial plants on north-east coast at Skikda and Annala	50	
1998	Construction of dam at Taksebt to supply water for domestic and industrial use in Algiers and Wilaya of Tizi Ouzou	30	
2001	Construction of drinking water supply network between Taksebt dam and Algiers	225	
			418

MOROCCO

1994	Improvements to sewerage, sewage disposal and water management systems in towns of Casablanca, Agadir, Rommani, Beni Mellal, Essaouira and Ouled Teima	40
1996	Rehabilitation and extension of sewage and storm water collectors and construction of sewage treatment plant in Marrakech	30,5
1997	Drinking water supplies in a number of large or average-sized urban centers	50
1998	Rehabilitation and extension of sewer network in city of Settat	9
1999	Rehabilitation and extension of the wastewater and storm water network; construction of a treatment plant in the city of Meknès	23
1999	Rehabilitation and extension of the wastewater and storm water network and construction of a treatment plant in Agadir	21
2001	Improvement of drinking water supply in a number of Moroccan towns	50

223,5

TUNISIA

1992	Construction of sewerage systems and wastewater treatment plants in Menzel Bourguiba, M'saken, Monastir, Kelibia and northern Sousse	17
1993	Water schemes on rivers Barbara and Melila designed to build up drinking water reserves for north and center of country	60
1994	Extension of sewerage and sewage disposal systems in towns of Tunis, Medenine, Menzel Bourguiba, Kelibia, M'saken, Sousse and Monastir	25
1995	Global loan to Republic of Tunisia for financing environmental protection equipment in industry	15
1997	Dredging and backfill of Lac Sud de Tunis, opening up and redimensioning of Radès canal	40
1998	Improvements to wastewater collection networks and construction of sewage treatment plants in 19 medium-sized towns	40

1999	Construction of landfill site for the disposal of gypsum, a waste product from a fertilizer producer at Gabès	45
2000	Setting up regional solid waste management systems and expanding the power transmission and supply grid in Tunisia	70
2001	Upgrading of drinking water supply to eastern coastal regions of Sahel and Sfax	95
		407
CYPRUS	OTHER COUNTRIES	
1994	Modernisation of drinking water treatment and supply facilities in Nicosia and Larnaca	17
1995	Extension of sewerage system of Limassol	10
1996	Construction of sewerage network and sewage treatment facilities for towns of Paralimni and Ayia Napa	15
1997	Construction of sewerage collection and treatment system and storm water drainage system in Pafos urban area	30
		72
GAZA/WEST BANK		
1996	Upgrading of water supply, drainage and wastewater collection and treatment systems in Gaza	30
1998	Rehabilitation of water supply networks	30
1999	Rehabilitation of small and medium-sized transport, water, sewerage and solid waste disposal infrastructure in relatively small communities	10
		70
ISRAEL		
1995	Wastewater collection and treatment facilities in Sorek Valley	25
1995	Global loan to Industrial Development Bank of Israel for financing environmental protection schemes	33
		58

MALTA

1993	Wastewater collection and treatment systems on islands of Malta and Gozo	7
1995	Wastewater collection and treatment systems on islands of Malta and Gozo	15

22**TURKEY**

1995	Construction of sewerage network and wastewater treatment plant in Antalya	35
1995	Construction of sewerage network in Ankara	45
1996	Collection and treatment of household and industrial effluent in Greater Municipality of Izmit	50
1996	Retrofitting of flue gas desulphurisation equipment at Yeniköy power station on Aegean coast	40
1997	Extension of sewer network and construction of two sewage treatment plants in Adana	45
1998	Expansion and rehabilitation of sewerage system in Diyarbakir	32
1999	Extension and rehabilitation of the sewer network in Tarsus, on the south coast; construction of a storm water network and a biological wastewater treatment facility	38
2000	Extension and modernisation of the sewer network in Bursa, West Ankara	80
2000	Wastewater treatment plants and related wastewater collection systems, air pollution abatement measures and industrial process improvements	70
2001	Wastewater treatment plant and sewerage networks in city of Mersin	60

495**GRAND-TOTAL****2385,9**

Annex 4:
Terms of Reference
for the SMAP Correspondents Network

TERMS OF REFERENCE

FOR THE SMAP CORRESPONDENTS NETWORK

INTRODUCTION

The **SMAP Correspondents Network** consists of the **SMAP Correspondents** and the **European Commission** representatives. The **NGO Steering Committee** for SMAP is associated with this Network. *Meetings* of the SMAP Correspondents will normally take place once a year, with the possibility of organising supplementary meetings when necessary. Representatives of the NGO Steering Committee are invited to attend the annual meetings as observers.

- The *SMAP Network* as a whole *aims* at facilitating the implementation of the SMAP, adopted in Helsinki in 1997. It also aims at promoting a strong environmental pillar in the Euro-Med Partnership in order to contribute to the sustainable development of the region including through a sustainable Euro-Med Free Trade Area (EMFTA).
- The *role of the SMAP Correspondents and the EC* are based on section 8 of the SMAP itself ("follow-up mechanism") and the experience from the SMAP implementation so far.
- The *NGO Steering Committee* is an important mechanism for consultations and mutual information between the EC and SMAP Correspondents and the environmental NGOs. It is up to the Committee itself (often called "Comité de Suivi") to define its own terms of reference.

ROLE OF SMAP CORRESPONDENTS

1. Regional level

A. Strategic

- Contribution to a *dialogue on environmental and sustainability issues* within the Euro-Med context and in particular in relation to the SMAP objectives
- Contribution to *strengthening the environmental integration* of the Euro-Med Partnership including the EMFTA
- Contribution to the *Review of the SMAP implementation* and to the consultation process that might lead to *proposals to the Ministerial Conference* on policy orientation (see also under "Role of the EC")

B. Operational

- Contacts with the *European Commission* (reciprocal information, co-ordination)
- Contacts with *other Partners* on specific issues (including for generation of regional projects) and exchange of views on *policy issues*
- Presentation of an *annual National Report* to the SMAP Correspondents Meeting

2. National level

A. Strategic

- Contribution to *coherence* of national activities related to the SMAP priority fields, through contacts and co-ordination with *other Ministries* (in particular Foreign Affairs, Development, Planning, ...)
- Contribution to *synergies with other international programmes* applying in the region (in particular MAP, METAP, GEF, etc), in which their countries are involved (e.g. through co-operation with Focal Points of the same country for other relevant Programmes and Instruments)

B. Operational

- Dissemination of *information on SMAP inside the country*, bringing together potential interested applicants, *mobilisation of interested stakeholders* for the implementation of the SMAP objectives and activities within the country
- Contribution to strengthening the environmental component of the *MEDA National Indicative Programmes (NIPs)* by including environmental projects in accordance with the SMAP provisions <this applies to the 12 non-EC Med Partners>
- Co-ordination of the *support letters by the competent authorities* for SMAP regional projects, in an effort to promote policy coherence and clear commitments to the sustainability of the activities proposed
- Contacts and consultations with *national NGOs*
- *Awareness campaigns*
- Facilitation of *complementarity of funding opportunities* (e.g. contacts with Focal Points of the same country for other Programmes and Instruments, use of coherent and complementary priority lists of requests)
- Efforts to promote *visibility*

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

A. Strategic

- Contribution to increasing environmental awareness and capacity building in the region; encouragement of environmental activities on the ground and promotion of operational tools aiming at protecting the Med environment and contributing to its sustainable development
- Encouragement of *synergies* between existing relevant Programmes, Conventions, potential donors etc, in order to strengthen environmental integration and increase the effectiveness of actions
- Provision of guidance to Partners to promote environmental integration including a *sustainable EMFTA*
- Launching of broad *consultations* (including with civil society) to ensure consensus on actions and contribute to the SMAP implementation, assessment and future proposals
- Co-ordination of a *Review of SMAP*, on the basis of an Interim Regional Report, in co-operation with the SMAP Correspondents. Preparation of *proposals to the Ministerial Conference* on future policy orientation and the possible adjustment of SMAP, as a result of this Review.

B. Operational

- *Co-ordination* of the SMAP Correspondents Network as well as of SMAP actions and implementation
- Preparation of a more focused *3-year programme of regional activities* and an *Interim Regional Report*, in consultation with the SMAP Correspondents and on the basis of the annual National Reports and the experience gained
- Assistance to the SMAP Correspondents of the 12 non-EC Med Partners to fulfil their role at national and regional levels, by funding some activities and functions (meetings, equipment, staff, information material, ...) through a *national institute to be designated* by their respective competent authorities
- Selection of *projects* and provision of funding; evaluation of project results and reorientation of action if needed
- Provision of *information to the members of the SMAP Network* (docs, training, web, funding, contracts, ...) and *dissemination to the public* of results and information on activities (through media, etc)

Annex 5:

Contact Points

	Page
SMAP Correspondents Network 2002	72
NGO Steering Committee for SMAP	75
The EC Delegations in Mediterranean Countries	76
Other related organisations	79
European Union Institutions	80

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MAP Regional Activity Centres

- ***Blue Plan*** (development and environment)

Web address: <http://www.planbleu.org>



- ***PAP*** (coastal zone management)

Web address: <http://www.pap.gradst.hr>



- ***Specially Protected Areas*** (biodiversity)

Web address: <http://www.rac-spa.org.tn>



- ***REMPEC*** (pollution by oil and chemicals)

Web address: <http://www.rempec.org/barcelona.html>



- ***Clean Production***

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