



# **A**utonomous **D**esalination System Concepts for Sea Water and Brackish Water **i**n **R**ural **A**reas with Renewable Energies - ADIRA

**Potentials, Technologies, Field Experience,  
Socio-technical and Socio-economic Impacts**



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## Context of the Project

- Financed by the European Commission under the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and Regional Programme for Local Water Management
- Contract N° ME8/AIDCO/2001/0515/59610
- Additional Consulting Support as a contribution in kind from MEDREC (Middle East Desalination Research Centre)
- Duration: 4 years (2003-2007)



# Presentation Structure

- Introduction
- The ADIRA project
- ADS Installations
- Expected results & achievements



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## Water demand in rural areas

- Mediterranean is the most water scarce region in the world
- Water crisis hits primarily the rural populations
- Adequate water supply is a main development goal



## Autonomous Desalination

Desalination is possible in two ways:

- Membrane processes (RO, ED)
- Thermal – distillation

Small units can be powered from PV,  
wind or solar collectors

- Offers autonomous operation suitable  
for rural, isolated communities



## Typical Plant Design PV - RO

5 m<sup>3</sup> freshwater per day: Sufficient for 100 people → Covering food and sanitation

Site parameters:

- Water production capacity of 1 m<sup>3</sup> / hour
- Energy consumption: 4 kWh / m<sup>3</sup>
- PV capacity: 8 kWp
- Capital cost: 70.000 Euro
- Cost of water: 3 – 6 Euro / m<sup>3</sup>



## Water supply alternatives

- Large scale desalination: 0,4 – 0,7 Euro / m<sup>3</sup>
- Treated waste water: 0,1 – 0,5 Euro / m<sup>3</sup>
- Truck transport: 2 – 20 Euro / m<sup>3</sup>
- Ship transport: 5 - 10 Euro / m<sup>3</sup>
- PV RO is least cost option in many rural areas and provides reliable and high quality supply
- Limiting factor is cheap electricity from the grid



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## The ADIRA objective:

- To supply rural areas with safe fresh water
- To investigate the on-site performance of various ADS
- To analyse the acceptance of ADS from different user groups



## The ADIRA approach

*Aims to help ADS implementation:*

- i. Identification of suitable areas
- ii. Technical analysis
- iii. Installation of pilot units
- iv. Actors analysis
- v. Training tools and dissemination

# ADIRA target countries and partners



Agriculture  
University of  
Athens (**AUA**) -  
Greece



Egyptian Energy &  
Water Association  
(**EWE**) -Egypt



FONDATION  
MARRAKECH  
21 (**FM21**) -  
Morocco



Fraunhofer  
Institute for Solar  
Energy Systems  
(**ISE**) -Germany



Technological  
Institute of the  
Canary Islands  
(**ITC**) -  
Spain



Istanbul  
Technical  
University  
(**ITU**)- Turkey



The Middle East  
Desalination Research  
Center (**MEDRC**) -  
Oman



National Center for  
Scientific  
Research (**NCSR**),  
DEMOKRITOS -  
Greece



Jordan  
University of  
Science and  
Technology  
(**JUST**) - Jordan



(**WIP**), Germany

**EGYPT**



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# ADS Installations

Country	System design	Use
Cyprus	Humidification/Dehumidification	Eco-tourism
Cyprus	PV-RO	Agriculture
Turkey	PV-RO	Eco-tourism
Turkey	PV-NF	Primary school
Jordan	Solar stills	Education center
Egypt	Greenhouse integrated solar still	Agriculture
Morocco	PV-RO	Rural village
Morocco	Wind-RO	Rural village
Morocco	PV-Wind-RO	Rural village
Morocco	<b>Not decided yet</b>	Rural village
Morocco	<b>Not decided yet</b>	Rural village
Morocco	<b>Not decided yet</b>	Rural village

# ADS Operators

Public Bodies

Utilities

Water Users

Tourist Sites

Manufacturers

TNCs

Charity organisations

Remote Settlements

Medical Centre

Research Organisations

Local Entrepreneur



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## Expected Results (1/2)

1. Full description of the various small-scale desalination installations
2. Detailed business plans for each installation to guarantee the sustainability
3. Installation / operation / maintenance guidelines
4. Monitoring guidelines
5. Decision support tool



## Expected Results (2/2)

6. Data base with market related data
7. Proposal to the national and regional government on how to support the development of rural water supply infrastructure
8. Workshop in each participating country
9. Training of the users
10. Handbook for users, decision makers and installers



**Thank you for you attention**



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