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Annual Report 2014



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1 Abbreviations

ACE-Water	African Centres of Excellence in Water	ERA-NET	European Research Area Network	SADC	Southern African Development Community
ACP	Africa Caribbean Pacific	EU	European Union	SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
AFDB	African Development Bank	EUROCLIMA	Climate Change Regional Cooperation Programme	SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
AFDB-ICA	African Development Bank Infrastructure Consortium for Africa	EUWI	EU Water Initiative	SIWI	Stockholm International Water Institute
AGW-NET	Africa Groundwater Network	GEF	Global Environment Facility	SPLASH	European Union Water Initiative Research Area Network (EUWI ERA-net)
AMCOW	African Ministers' Council on Water	GWP(O)	Global Water Partnership (Organisation)	SWA-HLM	Sanitation and Water for All High Level Meeting
ANBO	African Network of Basin Organisations	ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
ANEW	African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation	IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management	UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
AWG	Africa Working Group	JAES	Africa-EU Joint Strategy	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
BGR	Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (in German)	JRC	Joint Research Centre	UNESCO	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation
CAP-NET	Capacity Building for Sustainable Water Management Network	LA	Latin America	UNSGAB	United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Group on Water and Sanitation
CARICOM	Caribbean Community and Common Market	MDG	Millennium Development Goal	UfM	Union for the Mediterranean
CODIA	Conference of IberoAmerican Water Directors (in Spanish)	MED	Mediterranean	WACDEP	Water and Climate for Development Programme
CoE	Centres of Excellence	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding	WEDC	Water, Engineering and Development Centre
CEWP	China Europe Water Platform	MSF	Multi-Stakeholder Forum	WHO	World Health Organisation
CG	Coordination Group	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation	WSA	Water and Sanitation for Africa
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)	NPD	National Policy Dialogue	WSS	Water supply and sanitation
DSS	Decisions Support Systems	OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development	WWW	World Water Week
EAP	Environmental Action Programme	OMVS	Organisation pour la mise en valeur du fleuve Senegal		
EC	European Commission	OSCE	Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe		
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States	RALCEA	Latin American Centres of Excellence in Water (in Spanish)		
EECCA	Eastern Europe, Caucases and Central Asia	Rio+20	United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development		
		RBO	River Basin Organisation		

2 Background and Organisation



The world population has tripled over the last century and is expected to reach 9 billions by 2050. Right now 780 million people still lack access to safe water and 2.5 billion people are without adequate sanitation. The growing pressure on water resources will dramatically affect water availability and increase global water scarcity, with major regional disparities.

To supply safe water and to ensure sustainable access to both water and energy will require stronger national and international efforts on governance, an effective action framework to channel activities from the local to the global scale, and concerted political engagement to ensure the preservation of vital natural resources.

Apart from its own intrinsic importance for the maintenance of life, water is a catalytic resource for the associated sectors of energy, food, economic development and health. The EUWI mission is to contribute to the strengthening of political commitment, through innovative partnerships and collaboration, in order to promote a multi-stakeholder approach to water and sanitation and to the water-food-energy nexus.

With increasing scarcity, women suffer the most

The EUWI focuses attention on water-related issues, addressing a broad selection of stakeholder interests and concerns relevant to sustainable social and economic development. Although not itself a funding mechanism, the EUWI aims to improve coordination among the EC and EU member states to support the delivery of improved water supply and sanitation services.

The EUWI works through strategic partnerships in specific regions to facilitate government, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders as they work together to achieve, in particular, the water-related Millennium Development Goals. There are four EUWI Working Groups, each with a regional focus:

- Africa (AWG).
- Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA).
- Latin America (LA).
- Mediterranean (MED).

The EUWI has five specific objectives to which its Working Groups contribute:

1. Strengthening political commitment to action and innovation-oriented partnership.
2. Promoting better water governance, capacity-building and awareness.
3. Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of water management through multi-stakeholder dialogue and coordination.
4. Strengthening cooperation by promoting river-basin approaches in national and transboundary waters.

5. Identifying additional sources of funding and mechanisms to ensure sustainable financing.

The main research element of the EUWI is through the JRC Centres of Excellence Programme, complementing the earlier work under SPLASH, and research activities supported by the EC. The EUWI Coordination Group ensures the coherence of EUWI activities. An annual Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) held during World Water Week in Stockholm provides overall policy guidance. The EC provides the secretariat for the EUWI, which reports on its activities and achievements through its Annual Report published to coincide with World Water Week.

2012 was the 10th Anniversary of the establishment of the EUWI and a special 10 year retrospective was published to celebrate the event (The First Ten Years of the European Union Water Initiative 2002-2010): http://www.euwi.net/files/EUWI_10Anniversary_Web.pdf. Full details of the history, organisation and context of the EUWI and its regional and thematic Working Groups can be found in this.



Eradicating extreme poverty is our most urgent priority, sustainable development our guide. Universal access to safe water, sanitation and energy will be critical. In the poorest communities around the world, hundreds of millions of people –especially women and children -- spend hours each day collecting firewood and water. The health toll from unclean water and household air pollution is immense. Inadequate sanitation presents a further threat to health, dignity and development... We must improve water quality and the management of water resources and wastewater...

By 2030 we will need 35 per cent more food, 40 per cent more water and 50 per cent more energy. The strong link between water and energy demands coherent integrated policies and innovative strategies. We must use water and generate electricity equitably and efficiently, so all users get a fair share – upstream and downstream and across all sectors. We must be aware of the needs of ecosystems, and the increasing strains being placed on them. And we must factor in the growing threat of climate change. Climate change will exacerbate water stress and scarcity in many regions. If we allow the current warming trend to continue, we will undermine all our efforts to provide universal and equitable access to water and energy.

Ban Ki-moon, New York, February 2014

<http://www.un.org/sg/statements/index.asp?nid=7464>

3 Highlights

3.1 2013-2014

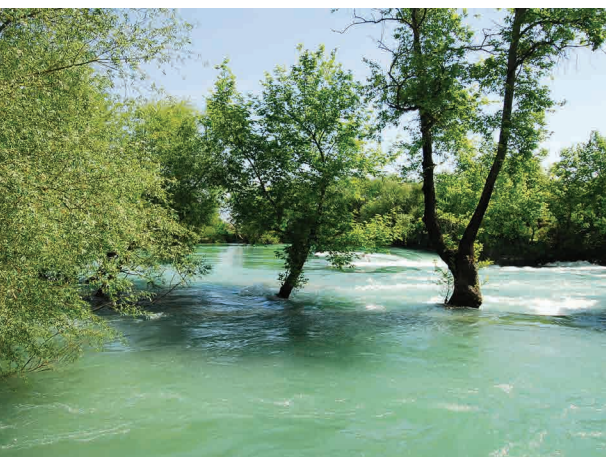
Brochure: EUWI Water Policy Reforms in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

Last June the EECCA countries released the brochure *Water Policy Reforms in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Achievements of the European Union Water Initiative since 2006*.

This booklet represents the key achievements from the EECCA component within the EUWI initiative and a policy document related to the Water diplomacy's approach to implement the IWRM. It examines possible future paths to further promote cooperation at the local and transboundary level.

This report underlines the role played by Working Groups in facilitating information sharing among EECCA countries and by the NPD to implement transboundary basin cooperation, coordination with energy and food policies, and to contribute to the water-energy-food-security nexus.

The report is available from: http://www.euwi.net/files/Brochure-Water-Policy-Reforms-in-EECCA.pdf_0.pdf



Policies have real consequences

The 18th meeting of the EU Water Initiative / EECCA with the UNECE and the OECD

The EECCA working group met in Geneva, Switzerland on 24th June 2014 at the premises of the UNECE. This 18th meeting of the EECCA gathered EUWI members from the region but also international organisations, multilateral and bilateral donors. It aimed at monitoring the progress and results of the Working Group in particular, the revision of NPD at the local, national and transboundary level.

Main discussions related to transboundary cooperation, managing water for green growth, and the water-climate-food-energy nexus. Discussions were based on the Report on implementation of the European Union Water Initiative National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Supply and Sanitation.

Read the report on the EUWI NPD on IWRM and WSS from: <http://www.oecd.org/environment/outreach/EUWI-report.pdf>

Over 780 million people do not have access to safe drinking water and over 4,000 children under five die every day from diseases associated to the lack of access to clean drinking water. This is not only a tragedy, it is simply unacceptable. This is why the EU provides almost EUR 400 million per year to help 60 countries build infrastructure for drinking and waste water systems and provide basic sanitation and hygiene worldwide. EU aid has already helped to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water. It has allowed more than 32 million people to gain access to improved water supply and 9 million to sanitation facilities. Preserving water is about preserving life itself; it is about health and well-being, but it is also about economic growth and prosperity. It is a way of ensuring that agriculture, fisheries, transport, energy, tourism and many other industries develop and prosper. Water is certainly a 'pillar of life', but it is also a pillar of economic and social development. All of us should care about protecting our supplies of water, one of our most precious resources.

EU Commissioner for Environment Janez Potočnik, Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs and Commissioner for Internal Market and Services Michel Barnier, March 2013

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-13-270_en.htm

The EU-Africa Summit 2014, April 2-3 2014, Brussels

More than 60 EU and African leaders attended and a total of 90 delegations were represented to discuss the future relations between the EU and Africa. This summit strives to reinforce political relations between Africa and the EU and jointly address global common challenges such as climate change, the protection of the environment, or peace and security.

The agreement set out by EU and African leaders in the declaration includes several mentions of water resources, pointing the political and economic significance of water for both continents. It recalls the importance of strategic coordination for the progress of infrastructure, agriculture, natural resources, and energy in order to promote human development. After the Summit the Africa Working Group issued a background paper pointing out the important progress made by the roadmap framing EU-Africa relations for 2014-2017: the new framework should allow a stronger interaction between water and related sectors of agriculture, energy, climate change, science, peace and security.

http://www.euwi.net/files/Focus_on_the_EU_Africa_Water_partnership_in_the_fourth_EU_Africa_summit.pdf

More on the EU-Africa Summit: <http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/4th-africa-eu-summit>



Water resources in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) are experiencing growing pressures due to increasing demands from agriculture, energy generation, industry and urban centres. Such pressures encompass on the one hand the supply side, where available water quantities are diminishing in a number of areas and, on the other hand, the quality side, mainly due to the growing emissions of pollutants into surface water bodies. In addition, in a context where climate change is creating uncertainty about future water availability the need to protect freshwater resources is stronger than ever. Addressing these challenges appears to be even more urgent because of the trans-boundary nature of a large share of such water resources in the region, which can cause tensions between bordering countries.

Štefan Füle, Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy European Commission, Water Policy Reforms in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, June 2014

Water is an expected part of urban environments

**Proposed goal 6:
Ensure availability and sustainable
management
of water and sanitation for all**

6.1. By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.

6.2. By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.

6.3. By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater, and increasing recycling and safe reuse by x% globally.

6.4. By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity, and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.

6.5. By 2030 implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate.



6.6. By 2020 protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.

6.a. By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water and sanitation related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies.

6.b. Support and strengthen the participation of local communities for improving water and sanitation management.

Reference: Outcome Document - Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals.

Source: <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html>

Water Proposed as Sustainable Development Goal, Open Working Group, July 19 2014

The UN Open Working Group (OWG) was created in January 2013 to develop a set of sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the frame of the commitments taken during Rio+20. The group is composed of Member States representatives who endorsed to The Future we want in Rio 2012. The OWG met every month to propose the set of SDGs based on several contributions including the public platform the World we want or individual contributions. The group's last session was held on July 14th-18th and released their official document. They identified a list of 17 goals which will be presented to the UN General Assembly as part of the post-2015 development agenda to be submitted during the international Summit in September 2015. Water and sanitation access is mentioned in the stand-alone goal 6: ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>

Press Release:
<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/4538pressowg13.pdf>

Securing Sustainable Water for All, UN-Water recommendations for a global goal on water

UN water released recommendations to deliver a unified message for water in the context of the post 2015 agenda on 27th January 2014. The framework for this global goal established five targets all connected and interlinked:

1. Drinking water, sanitation and hygiene
2. Water resources
3. Water governance
4. Water-related disasters and
5. Wastewater pollution and water quality.

This document advocates a water-dedicated goal as opposed to sub-objective as in the current MDGs. UN-Water argues for a coherent, cohesive and mutually reinforcing set of targets to ensure that water is integrated in its multiple functions and as a cross-cutting issue for all main challenges. The document also points to the importance of articulating this global goal with existing mechanisms and to building on local communities. UN Water highlights major gaps in the previous development agenda in order to reinforce all dimensions of the water cycle impacts on people and the environment.

Read the UN-Water paper from:
http://www.euwi.net/files/UN-Water_paper_on_a_Post-2015_Global_Goal_for_Water_-_27_January_2014.pdf

More information:
<http://www.unwater.org/topics/water-in-the-post-2015-development-agenda/en/>

3.2 Trends

Although the MDG target on drinking water has been reached there remain important disparities between regions. Sanitation is still one of the most off-track sectors, with an estimated 2.5 billion people lacking access to basic levels of sanitation. Much evidently still needs to be done, not just for drinking water and sanitation but for water in a wider context.

It is anticipated that the number of people living in seriously water-stressed river basins will double between 2000 and 2050, affecting 3.9 billion people. Sustainable economic growth, with progress towards poverty eradication and ecosystem preservation, cannot be achieved if water supplies remain inadequate, with the consequential impacts on food security and energy. So water continues to be at the forefront of the EU development agenda as a cross-cutting element. Political attention is being focused increasingly on access to food and energy, linked to issues of climate change, in line with the new EU development policy defined by the “Agenda for Change”.

This year the UN celebrates “Water and Energy”. As emphasised during World Water Day 2014, connecting the water and the energy sectors is imperative in order to create “coordinated, coherent and concerted policies”.



Sustaining complex ecosystems

The proposed global goal for water seeks to be universally applicable while responding to specific national circumstances. It is designed to be tailored to the contexts and priorities of each country. Implementing this goal for water should create social, economic, financial and other benefits that greatly outweigh its costs. These benefits will extend well beyond the water domain as it is normally understood. The development of health, education, agriculture and food production, energy, industry and other social and economic activities all depend on the effective management, protection and provision of water and the delivery of safe water supply and sanitation services. Communities also need protection from the dangers that water-related hazards can present.

Meeting the goal will call for improved water governance and actions in the realms of policy-making, legislation, planning, coordination, and administration. Tools for project preparation, monitoring, and management will also need to be developed to enable effective implementation to take place. All this will require enhanced institutions and human capacities at all levels.

Reference UN Water Recommendations: Document, Securing sustainable water for all, January 2014.

The missions of EUWI directly contribute to strengthening political commitment to establish innovative partnerships and collaboration, but also to promote the multi-stakeholder approach.

The EUWI has been working on the water-food-energy nexus since 2012, being at the leading edge of new paradigms for better water resources management, in order to channel the forces necessary to tackle key societal challenges. Looking at the coming year, we emphasise how important water must remain and continue to grow as a key priority for the international political agenda. By promoting an integrated 'water-energy-food security nexus' approach for inclusive and sustainable growth, EU co-operation contributes to the conversion of the nexus principles into action on the ground. This emphasis responds also to the commitments made in July 2013 by the Foreign Affairs Council's conclusions on EU Water Diplomacy, stressing the importance of water co-operation across the world.

This new emphasis relates also to current international discussions on a post-2015 development framework, building on the Rio+20 outcome document "The Future We Want". The work of the UN Open Working Group includes recommendations for a dedicated, water-related sustainable development goal, and the Budapest Water Summit in October 2013 maintained a political commitment to the importance of the water sector.

This preparatory work will contribute to the intergovernmental negotiations starting in September 2014, whose outcomes will be presented at a "post-2015" summit in September 2015.

The recent Communication from the European Commission "A decent life for all: from vision to collective action", includes water and sanitation among the potential targets and priority areas, recommending that the new development framework needs to promote access to safe drinking water and sanitation, and also integrated water management, including water efficiency, in order to manage the challenges of climate change and water scarcity. 2015 will be the European Year of Development, constituting an important opportunity to place water, in its multiple dimensions, firmly on the political agenda.

The first European Citizens' Initiative, Right2Water, submitted on 20 December 2013 and signed by 1.6 million Europeans, invited the EU to "increase its efforts to achieve universal access to water and sanitation". In response to this call for action the European Commission is committed to stimulating innovative approaches for development assistance in water and sanitation, and to advocating universal access to water and sanitation as a priority area for the future Sustainable Development Goals.

The EUWI Multi Stakeholder Forum 2013

In September 2013 the EUWI Multi-Stakeholder Forum held during World Water Week in Stockholm focused on using a nexus approach for water, food and energy security. This focus builds on the catalytic role of EUWI and the achievements of each regional EUWI component which were highlighted in 2012 to celebrate 10 years of EUWI's work.

The nexus approach responds to the changing priorities of the partner regions in Africa, Mediterranean, Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia, China and Latin America. It recognizes changes in the global policy framework, i.e. the post-2015 agenda and the EU Development Framework Agenda for Change.

Panel discussions at the MSF considered suggestions for concrete regional opportunities within the water-energy-food security nexus, commencing with Africa. Work on the nexus in Africa responds to the 'water for growth' priority theme of the African water agenda, and strives to strengthen the institutional framework for transboundary water management, as well as to build capacities and knowledge.

A second panel provided insights from the EECCA, Mediterranean, and Latin America regions and the China-EU Water Platform, the newest EUWI component. Opportunities were and are being developed for river basin and groundwater management, managing water for green growth, and in desalination. With each region having different priorities and agendas, and different patterns of operation, a spectrum of opportunities was forthcoming and matched by an equal range of constraints.

A final panel discussion, with a representative from the German WASH network providing an NGO perspective, looked forward to collaborating on the nexus approach. This was followed by a final summary from the European Commission highlighting the value of the EUWI multi-stakeholder dialogue in catalysing the nexus debate.

4 The EUWI Regional Components

4.1 Africa

Organisation and context

The EUWI Africa Working Group (AWG) works to implement the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership on Water Affairs and Sanitation which was launched in 2002 with the signing of the Johannesburg Declaration. The purpose of the partnership is to provide a platform for African and European countries to work together to make an effective, joint contribution to the achievement of water-related goals in sub-Saharan Africa.

Members include EU Member States, the European Commission, the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) and civil society. The AWG is co-chaired by the Chair of the AMCOW Technical Advisory Committee and

a representative from Europe. Since the beginning of 2013, the African co-chair was AMCOW TAC chairs from Egypt and Libya, while the European Commission took over from The Netherlands in July 2012. The EC is presently a co-chair on an interim basis during the review of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy.

Key results 2013 - 2014

EUWI AWG continued to facilitate coordinated EU aid for water supply, sanitation and water resources management in Africa and to contribute to Africa-EU policy development. This included providing support to the implementation of AMCOW's work plan, which guides AMCOW, the five regions and national governments in Africa on the key actions to be taken to achieve the political commitments in the water sector.

Successes in strengthening policy dialogues

Two policy dialogues were closely followed: the global post-2015 development agenda process, and the intercontinental Joint Africa-EU Strategy review. Since Rio+20, a large number of 2013-14 activities related to the process towards a global, post-2015 development agenda and the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The main activity of the AWG support team was to keep AWG members up to date on the complex set of parallel activities undertaken by multiple actors, using briefing notes, newsletters and meetings, and to contribute technically and financially to the different activities in order to place development of the water sector as high as possible on the agenda. In the framework of the post-2015 agenda AMCOW took the lead in formulating and vocalising the African vision. A whole process of consultation was initiated, including:

- Consultation sessions on the post-2015 development agenda for water in Monrovia, preliminary to the 3rd meeting of the High Level Panel of Eminent persons that lead to the Monrovia Declaration.
- Tunis meeting, producing water targets and indicators for Africa.
- Dakar Declaration of the last AMCOW General Assembly "reaffirming a distinct development and the achievement of total health outcomes".

The African conviction remained the need for a distinct water goal and targets, based on the unfinished business of the present MDGs.



Complementing the numerous expert meetings and UN events, in the online thematic consultations on the internet and social media (The World We Want 2015), the need was expressed to reach out to stakeholders across the world, with face-to-face meetings, to hear the voice of the stakeholders in their own places.

Together with the governments of Netherlands and Switzerland, with UNDP and GWP, the AWG cooperated in several national consultations on water in the post-2015 development agenda. At first, 22 countries were consulted. The AWG covered the costs for the consultations conducted in the eight African countries. The country consultations highlighted the need for water security and particularly for:

- Achieving improved water resources management using an integrated approach, with planning based at the system level (usually river basin), founded on a good understanding of available water resources and quality.

- Achieving safe and reliable drinking water supplies and sanitation for all people in urban and rural areas, with adequate treatment of wastewater to reduce or prevent pollution.
- Managing risk with operational plans and actions to mitigate the impacts of extreme events and climate change.

A second session of national consultations was organised between February and April 2014 to cover 29 countries, giving the opportunity to stakeholders to voice their comments on the proposals for a water goal and the five targets proposed in the UN-Water Technical Advice paper. The AWG contributed to the financing of the consultation in 10 African countries.

The report formulated the stakeholders' broad consensus that a dedicated water goal is fundamental for the post-2015 development agenda, their strong support for comprehensive and inter-related targets that further advance integrated approaches to water, and their clear

preference for a "dashboard" approach, with flexibility for setting national targets, supported by clear definitions of terms and indicators.

2014 is also an important year for the Africa-EU partnership. In 2-3 April, Brussels hosted the 4th Africa EU Summit that discussed the review of the Joint Africa EU Strategy. This involved important preparatory work for the AWG members. It was a high priority for the AWG to monitor this review process and to keep its members informed on how members could be actively involved to ensure that the African water agenda would not be neglected during this important process, as this might also have implications for future financial support.

The AWG support team facilitated contacts between the AWG co-chairs, representatives of EU member states, the AMCOW Secretariat and the staff at the African Union Commission (AUC) involved in the JAES review process. The Summit produced two important documents: the summit Declaration and a Roadmap.

The agreement set out in the Declaration and adopted by the Summit addresses the multipurpose uses of water and highlights the political and economic significance of water for both continents. The Declaration confirms the importance of water as a "non-traditional challenge to peace and security". Developing "access to drinking water" is also seen in the context of "greater economic integration". The declaration confirms a joint commitment

to continuing efforts towards reaching the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, including sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. The Declaration also emphasises the need for cooperation in monitoring ecosystems, particularly in relation to water-stressed situations and in the preservation of biodiversity and ecosystems, and calls for good governance in the management of natural resources. The Roadmap for the 2014-2017 EU-Africa relations offers frameworks for the future of the EU-Africa water partnership and its modus operandi.

The two documents confirm that the private sector is a critical partner for achieving the objectives of the JAES and those of the MDGs. The EU-Africa Business Forum remains the main platform for this engagement.

Promoting better water governance, capacity-building and awareness

At the 2012 World Water Week, discussions between the AWG, ICA, AfDB and Cap-Net were initiated regarding the co-organisation of training workshops on national planning and sustainable financing strategies for African countries. The collaboration, together with GWP (the SITWA and WACDEP programmes), allowed the organisation of one anglophone and one francophone training activity on the Sustainable Financing of Water Resources Management for more than 60 stakeholders from African River Basin Organisations. Training events were organised in 2013 and 2014.

Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of water management through multi-



Adequate waste water treatment is essential

stakeholder dialogue and coordination

As a complement to the 2012 IWRM Status report, the Africa Working Group commissioned research on the financing of transboundary water management in Africa. The study, launched at the AMCOW Executive Committee meeting in 2013, provides conclusions and identifies actions required to enhance aid effectiveness and division of labour processes in the area of transboundary water management.

Under the Joint Africa-EU Under the JAES Support Mechanism, and looking towards the future, a study was produced, The Future of Water in the Africa EU Partnership, proposing strategic orientations for the Partnership. This working document attempts to crystallise a common understanding of a more efficient and effective support to water sector development in Africa.

Future Perspectives

Since its inception, the AWG has striven to strengthen political ownership and commitment to water in the EU and in Africa by facilitating the dialogue between EU donors and African counterparts in the water sector, and channelling input to key policy processes. With the Declaration and the Roadmap delivered by the 4th Africa EU Summit, the AWG received a very clear strategic direction for its future activities. The Roadmap urges a joint entry point for strategic infrastructure coordination in the domains of energy, water, transport and ICT. The coordination of future support mechanisms will be ensured through the Reference Group on Infrastructure, in coherence with the PIDA project (the Programme for

Infrastructure Development in Africa), with a particular emphasis on the water-energy nexus.

The Roadmap also details the framework for addressing the water-food nexus, through the Contact Group between the EU and the AU commissions and the CAADP partnership (the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme). Access to sanitation is also identified as one of the areas for joint action in the framework of the JAES.

The priority given to cooperation in investments in science, technology and innovation is of particular relevance for the water sector, a major environmental component, a major societal challenge and a sector of key economic importance. Financing opportunities from EU instruments including Horizon 2020 might complement support from bilateral and multilateral donors. Further development can build on ongoing EU support to the NEPAD Centers of Excellence, where AMCOW has endorsed the proposal to establish a Human Capacity Development Programme in the water sector.

The focus on agriculture, food security and food safety in the future of EU-Africa relations offers further opportunities for the EU-Africa water partnership. "Nutrition sensitive actions" in particular may cover interventions in the WASH sector. The AWG will also attempt to play its own role in enhancing the participation of the private sector in Water Resources Management.

Natural supplies are under increasing strain



4.2 Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

Context and key results 2013-2014

The EECCA is the regional component of the EUWI focused on Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. It supports the work of the European Neighbourhood Policy and of the EU-Central Asia Platform for Environment and Water Cooperation. In addition, it helps to promote the progressive approximation to EU water policies, particularly to the EU Water Framework Directive, in EECCA countries.

Implementation of the EECCA is facilitated through activities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). UNECE is the strategic partner for integrated water resources management (IWRM). OECD is the strategic partner for economic and financial aspects of water resources management, including water supply and sanitation (WSS).

OECD and UNECE have actively promoted water policy reforms under the EUWI over the past decades. Jointly the two organisations have a good experience of how to initiate and sustain policy reforms that are well adapted to the situation in EECCA countries.

The current action builds on outcomes and the political momentum initiated by the OECD and UNECE under the EU-funded contract DCI-ENV/2008/149-674, carried out in 2008-2012. That project supported mapping of the

situation and the initiation of National Policy Dialogues on water in eight EECCA countries.

The dialogues are continued in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Ukraine; activities in Russia are in progress. Negotiations with Uzbekistan are ongoing about possibility this country also joining the process of National Policy Dialogues 2014. The latest visit of an Uzbek delegation to UNECE in Geneva to study the activities of the NPD took place in May 2014.

A considerable amount of work materialised in June 2013 - May 2014. Dialogues are active in ten countries, and are substantiated by significant analytical work. A number of policy outputs have been delivered and are being implemented. Some of the major directions of work and outputs include:

- In Tajikistan the Water Sector Reform Strategy was finalised in 2013 and its implementation started in late 2013 with the key institutional change. Policy-making stays with the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, and operational functions are with the newly established Agency of Irrigation and Land Reclamation. In parallel, the legal working group finalised a detailed report in December 2013 about necessary changes to the Water Code and other key legal acts for implementation of IWRM.
- In Georgia the new Water Law was drafted and went through thorough discussions with different governmental agencies and other stakeholders. The law will be handed to Parliament in the Summer of 2014.

Main activities under the ongoing NPDs on water in EECCA

Instruments/frameworks	AM	AZ	GE	KG	KZ	MD	UA	RU	TJ	TM
Water Framework Directive's principles.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
EU Urban Wastewater Directive										
UNECE Water Convention (transboundary waters)		X	X		X				X	X
UNECE-WHO Protocol on Water and Health	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
Climate change adaptation (EU, OECD and UNECE instruments)						X	X			
EU Flood Directive/UNECE instruments							X			
Institutional frameworks (e.g. River Basin Councils)		X	X	X		X				
Overcoming fragmentation in, and sustainable business models for, WSS systems						X	X			
Economic instruments for, and financing of, water resources management	X			X		X		X		
New water legislation/strategy on IWRM		X	X		X				X	X

- In Turkmenistan the new draft Water Code was finalised by the legal working group in May 2013, bringing it into line with the main principles of IWRM. In the second part of 2013 a consultation was held with relevant ministries and agencies to accommodate their comments. The National Parliament started preparations for adoption of the Code in January 2014.
- Work on strengthening the use of economic instruments for water management was completed at the national level in Armenia and Kyrgyzstan and is underway at the sub-sovereign and basin levels in Russia (Republic of Buryatia, Lake Baikal basin) and at the transboundary level (in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia).
- A new project was launched in Moldova, on a review of domestic financial support mechanisms for water supply and sanitation.

In addition to analytical work, a number of other meetings have been organised:

- 11 high-level EUWI NPD Steering Committee meetings were held in 7 countries.
- 17th meeting of the EUWI EECCA Working Group (24-35 October 2013, Helsinki).
- Plenary session of the Third Meeting of the Parties of the Protocol on Water and Health, dedicated to the NPDs (26 November 2013, Oslo).
- EUWI seminar, World Water Week (September 2013, Stockholm).
- A communications strategy was developed and communication activities remained strong, with different target groups being targeted.

Armenia

Since 2006, the NPD in Armenia has facilitated implementation of the IWRM principles in the national legislative and institutional frameworks and the development of realistic financial strategies. The 10th Steering Committee meeting was held on 26 September 2013 in Yerevan.

An expert group presented a draft baseline analysis of Armenia's health and environmental situation and legal framework on water, a first step towards setting national targets under the UNECE- WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health. The target setting process is co-financed by Finland. The EU-funded project Environmental Protection of the International River Basins was presented, as well as the proposal for reform of economic instruments in Armenia.

Three Steering Committee meetings were held during the year, in September, December 2013, and May 2014. Draft national targets under the Protocol on Water and Health were discussed, developed and approved during these three meetings. Armenia signed the UNECE-WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health in 1999 and is currently in the process of its ratification. It has also been discussed at the Steering Committee meetings.

The Armenian State Committee of Water Systems expressed a demand for a new activity aimed at developing a national strategy for sustainable sanitation. The strategy should provide specific orientation to increase the coverage of the Armenian

population with wastewater collection and treatment in a financially realistic way. OECD launched this activity in 2013.

In April 2014 a workshop was organised to discuss the state of sanitation services and future trends in Armenia, current sources of funding for the sector and the main financing challenges. In the frame of this study the OECD is providing the Government of Armenia with recommendations on institutional and regulatory reform, market structure, and reforming financing arrangements.

Azerbaijan

The First Steering Committee in Azerbaijan was organised in October 2010. The NPD focuses on development of a governmental strategy for the management of water resources.

Around 30 representatives of different stakeholders and donors attended the 3rd NPD Steering Committee meeting in Baku on 23 January 2014. Development of the Water Strategy has been stalled in 2013 but it was agreed to finalise the State water strategy within the next few months.

The Steering Committee discussed the potential for applying new economic instruments in the water sector, such as a reform of water abstraction fees. It is anticipated that the Strategy will be passed to the Government for approval later in 2014.

Pollution of water sources reduces supplies





Participants welcomed the proposal to initiate the process of target setting under the Protocol on Water and Health. In order to meet the priorities set in the 2014 workplan, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan will establish three working groups under the NPD process. The working group on economic aspects will look at economic models that could help to achieve financial sustainability of the water management. A legal working group will first finalise the State water strategy, then analyse further needed legislative changes. The third working group will deal with water quality monitoring issues with special attention to the state of transboundary rivers.

The expert workshop organised on 24 January 2014 in Baku was a first step towards the assessment of the economic benefits to be gained from cooperative action in water management between Azerbaijan and Georgia. Different development paths that combine consumptive and non-consumptive water uses will be developed, e.g. the extension of irrigated areas. The OECD will assess how these paths affect water availability and demand.

The potential benefits of concerted action will be assessed and mechanisms to share the costs and benefits between the two riparian countries will be explored. The project

addresses a series of pragmatic issues regarding the consistency of Polluter Pays or Beneficiary Pays principles and Payments for Ecosystem Services. It will contribute to a major initiative by UNECE on the economic benefits of transboundary water management in support of the diffusion of the Water Convention.

Georgia

As one of the priority areas of work in Georgia under NPDs is the Protocol on Water and Health, work was undertaken to raise political support for the Protocol which Georgia signed in 1999 but never ratified. In November 2013 a mission to Tbilisi was conducted to raise the issue of ratifying of Protocol. On 6 November a roundtable meeting on the issue was organised, chaired by Ms. Nino Sharashidze, First Deputy Minister of Environmental and Natural Resources Protection. As result a working group has been organised in Government to prepare the ratification process.

During the reporting period input has been gathered from relevant ministries and other stakeholders to the draft new Water Law, prepared by a UNECE-financed expert group in early 2013. A new consolidated version was prepared and presented to Parliament.

On 25-27 November 2013 a bilateral workshop was organised in Kachreti with participants from Georgia and Azerbaijan to discuss the plans of the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems pilot project on the river Alazani/Ganych. Results from the workshop were

Apparently free and abundant, but not enough, and not free

presented on 23 January 2014 at the NPD Steering Committee meeting in Baku. The Alazani Nexus assessment report was sent to stakeholders for comments in May 2014.

Kazakhstan

The National Policy Dialogue on water policy in Kazakhstan was launched in June 2013 when the 1st meeting of the NPD Steering Group was held. It was decided that in 2013-14 the NPD would focus on two topics: the Protocol on Water and Health, and sustainable business models for rural water supply and sanitation (WSS). A project on sustainable business models for WSS in small towns and rural settlements in Kazakhstan was prepared and launched by the OECD EAP Task Force to inform the dialogue. The 2nd NPD meeting was held in April 2014, back to back with to a national seminar on water and health issues. Inter alia, it discussed the draft Interim report on the aforesaid project.

Kyrgyzstan

As follow-up to the decision of the March 2013 NPD Steering Committee on national targets on the Protocol on Water and Health, targets were formally adopted in June 2013 by the joint order of the Minister of Health and the Minister of Agriculture and Amelioration of Kyrgyzstan. This is significant as Kyrgyzstan is not yet a party to the Protocol. The NPD Steering Committee met twice: in October 2013 and March 2014.

The Steering Committee gave guidance on the River Basin Management Plan for the

Chu River Basin, which is part of the work to apply the principles of IWRM embedded in the national Kyrgyz Water Code.

On 18 October 2013 the 10th NPD Steering Committee meeting was held in Bishkek. The meeting was attended by over 30 representatives of different stakeholders and donors.

The UNECE-financed expert group presented the inventory of available data about the Chu Basin. The Chu Basin council is a key target group for the data gathered. Members of the Steering Committee agreed with the proposal of UNECE to concentrate its assistance on implementation of the national targets on water and health, adopted in June 2013.

On 20 March 2014 the 11th NPD Steering Committee meeting was held. Continuation of support towards development of the basin management plan of Chu basin was confirmed to remain the main activity of UNECE within the National Policy Dialogue programme for next year. The Steering Committee also discussed a draft Action plan on improving the use of economic instruments for water resource management in Kyrgyzstan. Prior to the NPD meeting, an expert workshop was held in Bishkek in March 2014, to discuss the draft Action plan.

The Republic of Moldova

The main focus of the NPD on IWRM is the implementation of established targets under the Protocol on Water and Health. On 10 October 2013 the official opening of the

Clearing House under the Protocol on Water and Health took place in Chisinau on the occasion of the second Steering Committee meeting.

The Clearing House is a hub for information on water and health issues and a resource centre for governmental officials, non-governmental organisations and the general public. The Clearing House is co-financed by SDC. The Steering Committee meetings on October 2013 and May 2014 reviewed findings related to one of the key outputs of the project co-financed by SDC: the action plan on the implementation of targets and its resource mobilisation strategy.

Priorities for future work on the economic and financial dimensions of water resources management were identified at the NPD meeting in October 2013. A new project

for a review of domestic financial support mechanisms for water supply and sanitation in Moldova was prepared and launched at the NPD meeting in May 2014.

Russian Federation

Following on the recent (2012-13) review of economic instruments for water resources management in Russia undertaken at the Federal level, a new project was launched focusing on the use of economic instruments for WRM at sub-sovereign and basin level in the Republic of Buryatia (Lake Baikal basin).

The project will inform the ongoing policy dialogues on water management in Buryatia for which a Steering Group (the Inter-ministerial Coordination Group) was established by a joint Ordinance # 69 dated 01 October 2013, signed by the Ministers of



Economy and Natural Resources of Buryatia upon agreement with other stakeholder institutions. A preparatory stakeholder meeting was held in July 2013 and the 1st meeting of the Steering Group was held in January 2014.

Tajikistan

The NPD on IWRM in Tajikistan started in 2010. The main focus is to support the development of the water sector reform strategy, including legal and institutional frameworks based on IWRM principles. By Spring 2013 the water sector reform strategy was completed. Its implementation started in late 2013 from the key institutional change. Policy-making stays with the new Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, and operational functions are with the newly established Agency of Irrigation and Land Reclamation.

The Legal working group was busy in the second half of 2013 proposing the necessary legal changes to support institutional reform. It finalised a detailed report in December 2013 about necessary changes to the Water Code and other key legal acts for implementation of IWRM. The work on changes in the Water Code is to be continued by the World Bank in 2014-2015. The concrete amendments to by-laws proposed in the report will be processed by Government agencies and adopted in 2014.

The May 2014 Steering Committee took stock of the ongoing institutional and legal

reforms. It was confirmed that the next stage of the reform will concentrate on making the necessary changes in legislation to implement the principles of integrated water resources management.

The Steering Committee meeting adopted the proposals on the scope of changes needed in the Water Code proposed by the national working group. Once the new Water Code is adopted, the introduction of the basin principle of water management is expected to be the next step of reform.

Different donors, including the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and Switzerland, confirmed at the Steering Committee meeting that they are planning to support the development of basin management plans and the creation of basin administrations.

Turkmenistan

Starting in February 2012, UNECE organized two missions to Turkmenistan where consultations were held with different ministries and agencies to facilitate implementation of policy recommendations. This work culminated in the decision of the Parliament of Turkmenistan on 4 August 2012 on the country's accession to the Water Convention.

The involvement of UNECE high-level officials, namely meetings of the Deputy Executive Secretary with the President of Turkmenistan and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, facilitated this important development.

The new draft Water Code was finalised by a legal working group in May 2013, bringing it in line with main principles of IWRM. In the second part of 2013, formal consultations were held with relevant ministries and state agencies to accommodate their comments and obtain formal approval for the draft Code. In January 2014 the President requested Parliament to begin working on changes to the existing Water Code.

The 4th NPD Steering Committee of 3 April 2014 decided to initiate a road map for implementation of the principles of integrated water resource management in Turkmenistan.

Ukraine

The NPD is currently on hold, because of the political instability in the country.



4.3 Mediterranean

Context and Organisation

The Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI) aims to assist developing countries in the region to meet the water-related Millennium Development Goals and the Johannesburg (WSSD) Targets.

MED EUWI has been led by the Government of Greece (Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change and Ministry of Foreign Affairs), since its launch in 2003. The MED Secretariat, within the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med) Secretariat, provides technical support and day-to-day running. Its reference group evolved over the years from an ad-hoc Working Group of governments and regional stakeholders (up to 2005), to the Forum of the Euro-Mediterranean Water Directors (up to 2009) and currently the Water Expert Group under the Union for the Mediterranean.

MED EUWI has been supported by the European Commission, Greece, and other multilateral and bilateral donors, as well as with contributions from governments of beneficiary Mediterranean countries.

Since 2003 the Component has developed operational synergies with a range of international and regional institutions, organisations, programmes and initiatives, inter alia the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), the Global Environment Facility (GEF) including the MAP/UNEP GEF MedPartnership, GEF IW: LEARN and the GEF MAP/UNEP

Climate variability and Change Programme, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Petersberg Phase II/Athens Declaration Process, the AMCOW/GWP Water and Climate for Development Programme (WACDEP) etc.

Key results 2013-2014

Regional level

The Regional Programme on Governance and Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector was officially launched (5/2013, Barcelona) and advanced. The Programme is coordinated by GWP-Med and OECD and is formally labelled as a Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Project. The Programme follows up the systematic activities undertaken by MED EUWI, GWP-Med, OECD and other partners on Private Sector Participation for Water Infrastructure, in previous years in Egypt and Lebanon, and currently in Tunisia and Jordan and more (see under National Activities). It is supported by SIDA (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency), EIB (European Investment Bank) and GEF MAP/UNEP MedPartnership. The following activities on climate variability and change took place:

- A Meeting of Mediterranean Parliamentarians on Climate Variability and Change with emphasis on Impacts and Responses in the Coastal Zone, in collaboration with the GEF MAP/UNEP Climate Variability Project and the EU SWIM-Support Mechanism Project (11/2013, Athens).

- An assessment of capacity building needs for climate change adaptation in North Africa (04/2013).
- ToRs, agreements, activities for a range of tasks on climate change adaptation e.g. climate vulnerability mapping in Tunisia, elaboration of water and land strategies at basin level in Tunisia. Activities were coordinated by GWP-Med.

The Integrated Methodological Framework for Integrated Coastal Zone Management and IWRM is under final review. Activities were implemented by the UNEP/MAP Priority Action Programme, GWP-Med and UNESCO, in the framework of the GEF MAP/UNEP MedPartnership.

National Dialogue Workshops on the Post 2015 Agenda were organised in Jordan (04/2013) and Tunisia (4/2014) in the framework of structured consultations on the context and themes of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Clear support for a dedicated SDG on water emerged from the consultations. Activities were implemented by GWP-Med as part of a global process coordinated by GWP for UN Water.

Dialogue, visibility events and presentations on IWRM, governance and financing, and transboundary water resources management in the Mediterranean, were organised in the context of key regional events e.g. Beirut Water Weeks (2/2013 and 5/2014). Activities were coordinated by GWP-Med.



National level

Jordan

A structured National Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Private Sector Participation in Water Infrastructure was launched in 10/2013 and completed in 06/2014. It included an assessment and a diagnostic analysis of the present situation regarding private sector involvement in water services, and a set of recommendations for institutional, legal and structural changes along with an action plan for their implementation.

The aim was to enhance the understanding and thus the capacity of stakeholders to promote/take action on the enabling environment for greater and more effective involvement of the private sector, while ensuring the social character of water supply and sanitation and respect for the respective human right.

Three national consultation workshops were organised (10/2013, 2/2014, 6/2014 in Amman) with national partners (public authorities, utilities, users, NGOs, private sector) and donors, with the last workshop also launching the National Report for Jordan.

Tunisia

A structured National Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Private Sector Participation in Water Infrastructure was launched in 6/2013 and completed in 6/2014. It included an assessment and a diagnostic analysis of the present situation on private sector

involvement in water services, and a set of recommendations for institutional, legal and structural changes along with an action plan for their implementation. The aim is to increase the understanding and thus the capacity of stakeholders to promote action on the enabling environment for greater and more effective involvement of the private sector, while ensuring the social character of water supply and sanitation and respect for the relevant human right.

Four national consultation workshops were organised (6/2013, 10/2013, 3/2014, 6/2014 in Tunis) with national partners (public authorities, utilities, users, NGOs, private sector) and donors with the last workshop also launching the National Report for Tunisia.

Palestine

A similar national dialogue process is in the making for Palestine and will be formally launched in Autumn 2014.

All national dialogues are part of the Regional Programme on 'Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector', implemented by GWP-Med, OECD, and UfM, with support by SIDA (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency), EIB (European Investment Bank) and GEF MAP/ UNEP MedPartnership.



*Centuries old systems,
and exploding demands*

Transboundary

The following activities for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Shared Vision for the Management of the Extended Drin River Basin (Drin MoU), signed at Ministers' level 11/2011 in Tirana, were implemented in close cooperation with UNECE:

- Drin Core Group (DCG) meetings were organised (8th DCG 5/2013, 9th DCG 12/2013, Tirana).
- The first annual Ministerial Meeting of the Parties to the MoU was organised (5/2013, Tirana) and adopted the Action Plan for the implementation of the Drin MoU.
- The Drin Stakeholders Conference was organised (12/2013, Tirana) involving governments, users, NGOs, scientific institutes, international organisations and donors. Progress made on Drin co-operation was presented, good practices and programs implemented in the region were showcased, and content of the new GEF project in support of the process (anticipated to commence at the end of 2014) was discussed. The conference was organized by GWP-Med in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture of Albania and GIZ. Activities were implemented by GWP-Med and UNECE, with support by the German Ministry of Environment, and GIZ with contributions by GWP-Med and UNECE.

Promoting the Water-Energy nexus at transboundary level in the Balkans.

An International Roundtable on the subject was organised (11/2013, Sarajevo), involving government authorities, national energy

regulators, water and energy users, private companies, NGOs, scientific institutes, international organisations and donors. The meeting elaborated on multi-level water / energy interaction and ways to improve the coordination of policy options and actions for water management and energy production in the Balkans, with an emphasis on the transboundary level. The Roundtable was organised by GWP-Med in cooperation with the German Ministry of Environment, the Regional Cooperation Council and the Global Environment Facility. The event was financed by the German Ministry of Environment.

Buna/Bojana ICZM/IWRM Plan (integral part of the Drin Basin watershed)

The Plan is in the final stages of completion, and should be finalised before the end of 2014. Activities were implemented by the UNEP/MAP Priority Action Programme, GWP-Med and UNESCO, in the framework of GEF MAP/UNEP MedPartnership. A replication activity has been designed for Lebanon (in Awali River Basin) and is under discussion with competent authorities in the framework of GEF MAP/UNEP MedPartnership.

Planning of activities for supporting enhanced transboundary collaboration in the North Western Sahara Aquifer (shared among Algeria, Libya and Tunisia) advanced, with an emphasis on the Nexus (Water-Food-Energy) agenda as well as its linkages with climate change. Collaboration has been established between the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS), GWP-Med and UNECE and funding options are under exploration.



Exploratory activities for supporting enhanced transboundary collaboration in the Medjerda River Basin (shared between Algeria and Tunisia) continued and a coordination meeting between representatives of water authorities of Algeria and Tunisia, AMCOW and GWP-Med was organized (3/2013). No further concrete steps have been taken, though exploration of options for promoting activities continue.

Future perspectives

MED EUWI continued its spectrum of activities during the reporting period, notwithstanding the inherent difficulties arising from the ongoing socio-political turbulence in many of the countries of the region, posing at times serious challenges in the smooth conduct of activities. Interventions proceeded within the planned timeframe largely thanks to the commitment of the beneficiary governments and the active involvement and dedication of a range of stakeholders.

Synergies and co-operations with institutions, programmes and initiatives were fully utilized and proved most valuable for the whole endeavour.

Overall, despite the fact that, for political reasons, the UfM draft Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWM) has not been yet officially approved, and the process for the elaboration of its Action Plan is pending, MED EUWI actions steadily contribute to and promote the priorities encompassed in the draft SWM.

Activities will continue in the next reporting period and beyond with an emphasis on:

- Water Governance and Financing, with a focus on private sector participation, primarily through the UfM-labelled Project implemented by GWP-Med and OECD, with regional as well as national (Palestine in full, and preparatory in Morocco) activities.
- The Water-Energy-Food Nexus agenda at regional (launching conceptual dialogue), sub-regional (e.g. SEE activities in coordination with Regional Cooperation Council), national (launching targeted tailor-made dialogues according to country priorities) and transboundary (North Western Sahara Aquifer, Drin and possibly more) levels. Related fund raising efforts are underway.
- Adaptation to Climate Variability and Change, primarily through synergies/cooperation with the AMCOW/GWP WACDEP Programme and the GEF MAP/UNEP Climate Variability and Change Project focusing on regional, national (in Tunisia)

- and transboundary (in the North Western Sahara Aquifer) activities.
- Support for the UfM regional climate change process as outlined at the UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Climate Change (5/2014, Athens), the MCSD MAP UNEP Regional Framework for Climate Change Adaptation, as well as the inter-linkages of the two processes.
- Transboundary water resources management, in the Drin with UNDP and UNECE, and exploring options for promoting co-operation cases in the south and east of the Mediterranean.
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and IWRM, in Buna/Bojana (Albania-Montenegro) and Lebanon, in close cooperation with MAP/UNEP PAP RAC, GWP-Med and UNESCO under the GEF MAP/UNEP MedPartnership.
- The post-2015 agenda, with national and regional dialogue on Mediterranean priorities and perspectives regarding the elaboration and adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as their translation in the Mediterranean.
- Regional preparations for the 7th World Water Forum (2015, South Korea), both under the Regional and the Thematic Processes.



Hard labour for a diminishing resource

4.4 Latin America

Organisation

Since 2004 Spain has led the Latin American Component of EUWI through the Conference of Iberoamerican Water Directors (CODIA). CODIA was established in compliance with the mandate of the First Forum of Iberoamerican Ministers of Environment in 2001 which expressed the need to establish a Conference of Iberoamerican Water Directors responsible for water management.

CODIA brings together the Public Institutions responsible for water resources management in the 22 Iberoamerican countries: Andorra, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Spain, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Context

In recent years CODIA has strengthened the link with the Iberoamerican Forum of Ministers of Environment, as well as the Iberoamerican Summit of Heads of State and Government, with support from the General Iberoamerican Secretariat. CODIA has developed numerous technical activities with the highest institutional and political support in the region, and is a rich forum for debate between Iberoamerican water directors who share common concerns regarding the management of water resources. By delivering training and capacity building for water sector professionals, improving

the governance of water management, and promoting innovation and technology transfer, CODIA has strengthened ties and built bridges of cooperation between the countries of the region.

Key results 2013

The Iberoamerican Water Programme

Since its adoption at the XVIII Iberoamerican Summit of Heads of State and Government (El Salvador, October 2008) the Iberoamerican Cooperation Programme for training and technology transfer in integrated water resources management (the Iberoamerican Water Programme) has been the initiative through which the main activities of CODIA have been developed.

The Programme aims at capacity building and technology transfer in water resources management, with special emphasis on small-scale water supply and sanitation, thus increasing access to water supply and sanitation access for the most vulnerable populations in the region. The Programme has the following activities:

- Training in IWRM throughout Latin America, at political, managerial and technical levels.
- Institutional strengthening at local, regional and national levels to facilitate better planning and governance.
- Supporting CODIA and the work of its technical secretariat.

*Co-operation and good governance
are the goals*





The Iberoamerican Water Training Programme

In 2013 two new formal training courses as well as 9 on-line courses were presented. 2,000 applications were received, 347 participants selected.

Formal courses

- Hydrological modelling as a key tool to sustainability, November 11st-15th, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia
- Application of GIS and remote sensing in water resources management, December 9th-13rd Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia.

Both courses were held with the collaboration of the Spanish General Directorate of Water and AECID (The Spanish Cooperation Agency).

On-line courses

- Water quality and purification for human consumption, April 22-June 9
- Techniques and algorithms in hydrologic and hydraulic studies, May 20-July 7
- Planning, administration and management of river basins, June 20-July 17
- Social dimension of governance for an equitable use of water, June 3-July 21
- Challenges of hydrogeology: human actions and climate change, April 22 -June 9
- Water Quality, April 15 -June 2
- Iberoamerican course on glaciers, May 20-July 7

Effective transboundary management improves the quality of rivers

- GIS applied to water resources
May 20-July 7
- Operation and safety of
dams, June 3-July 21

These on-line courses were funded by the Spanish General Directorate of Water and the Economic and Technological Development Distance Learning Centre Foundation. Since 2009, 72 training activities have been organised by CODIA in collaboration with Iberoamerican Institutions, UNEP and other countries, with over 6,927 applications and 1,912 participants.

Virtual network for the exchange of knowledge and experience in water management

This network began work in the second semester of 2012.

Network activities 2013

Thematic fora	5
Experts fora	1
Virtual workshops	4
Working groups	3
Presentations	2
Newsletters	2
Workbooks	2
Welcoming activities	2

XIV CODIA

From October 1st to October 4th, the XIV CODIA meeting was held in Mérida (Spain) and Elvas-Alentejo (Portugal) where the Water Directors of 20 Iberoamerican countries participated, with various national institutions e.g. the Public Works Studies and Experimentation Center, the Spanish Cooperation Agency (AECID), the General Iberoamerican Secretariat, and various private sector water-related enterprises. The XV CODIA meeting will be organized by Panama and is scheduled in Panama City October 7-10 2014.

International activity

The following international events took place:

- Participation in the workshop Strengthening community management of water and sanitation in Latin America, organised by CONAGUA and CLOCSAS, World Water Week, Stockholm, 4 September.
- Presentation of the CODIA Sustainable Development Objectives, Budapest Water Summit, 8-11 October.
- Participation in the Friends of the UN Water Group, New York, 19 November.
- Participation at "Agua y Saneamiento" (Water and Sanitation"), AECID Centre, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 26-28 November, to commemorate 25 years of AECID.

Lessons learnt

It has become clear during the year that there is a continuing need to:

- Strengthen and enhance cooperation and coordination between the processes of EUWI and CODIA, and to seek mechanisms for strengthening collaboration and the participation of EUWI in the activities promoted by the CODIA.
- Ensure greater political commitment from the EC.
- Continue to ensure the adaptability of regional activities and initiatives to specific socio-economic conditions.
- Promote better water governance, capacity building and awareness.
- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of water management through multi-stakeholder dialogue and coordination.
- Strengthen cooperation by promoting the river-basin approach in national and transboundary waters.
- Promote increased gender equality among participants and decision-makers.

Looking ahead

The level of participation in the 2013 capacity-building activities confirms the growing interest and recognition in Iberoamerica of CODIA activities. The online training courses and the virtual network have been well received, confirming that CODIA activities are on the right path.

During the XII CODIA the state members decided to adapt the Iberoamerican Water Training Programme to the new regional concerns regarding water resources management. This commitment was strengthened at the XIV CODIA and the training programme is currently being redesigned. In 2014, 5 training courses and 2 online courses are scheduled. Many new virtual network activities are also planned. At the XIV CODIA it was agreed to:

- Continue working towards a singular framework of co-operation and knowledge exchange and to increase the visibility of the CODIA at the Ministers Forum and the Iberoamerican Summit.
- Before the end of 2013 to adopt a strategic plan and an operational regulation, and to approve the CODIA financing mechanism.
- Reinforce the international scope of the CODIA as a reference for Iberoamerican cooperation.
- Recognise the value and success of the Iberoamerican Training Programme.
- Accept Panama's offer to host the XV CODIA in 2014 and accept Bolivia's interest in holding the XVI CODIA in Santa Cruz de la Sierra in 2015.

4.5 China Europe Water Platform

The China Europe Water Platform was launched during a ceremony at the 6th World Water Forum in Marseilles, March 2012, and the same year the Secretariat was established. The Secretariat is led by the Ministry of Water Resources, representing the Peoples' Republic of China, and the Ministry of Environment from Denmark, representing the European side for an initial 3-year period.

The first Annual Policy Dialogue Meeting took place in Zhengzhou in September 2012, while the second Annual Policy Dialogue Meeting took place in Budapest in October 2013. The third Annual Policy Dialogue Meeting will take place in China and is scheduled for the 4th quarter of 2014. These meetings each focus on an overall theme and allow for high-level dialogue among Chinese and European stakeholders. Activities at the Policy Dialogue Level are implemented by the Secretariat.

The Annual Theme for 2014 is Water and Urbanisation. To provide input for the dialogue on the annual theme, a joint study is carried out. In 2015 it is planned that Water and Food Security will be the theme.

The CEWP has been recognised at the political level, through incorporation in the Declaration of the EU-China Summit in 2012 and 2013. At the second Steering Group Meeting in Jinan, China, in May 2013, a number of Co-Lead Programs were approved.

The Co-Lead Programs add a new dimension to the CEWP, as they facilitate a number of in-depth dialogues on selected issues. The issues and the Co-Lead Partners in charge of these dialogues are listed on the table.

A number of actors have assumed joint responsibility for the facilitation of the CEWP. The Co-Lead Programs were launched at a joint workshop in Beijing in March 2014, when a large number of stakeholders took part in discussions on key challenges, priority issues, objectives and proposals for activities.

At the Stockholm Water Week in 2014, Co-Lead Mobilisation and Working Group events will take place, in order to facilitate further discussions as well as mobilising additional participants. CEWP is an open platform where in principle all interested stakeholders can take part. Sharing and involvement are two core values of CEWP. On the other hand CEWP is not a funding mechanism, and participants take part at their own cost. Ideally the participants will jointly identify funding sources. In reality, however, the mobilisation of funds is both time- and resource-demanding, and this will inevitably become a subject for discussion at upcoming Steering Group Meetings.

During early 2014 the CEWP launched a call for a consortium to develop and submit an application to the EU Horizon 2020. The consortium is led by BOKU, Austria. To ensure success and achieve high impact, a

Work Areas and Programs	Chinese Partner	European Country
Rural Water Challenges		
Groundwater Management	Shandong Province	Denmark
Irrigation efficiency and management	CIDDC	Spain, Portugal
Small scale hydropower	International Institute of Small Scale Hydropower	Austria
Urban Water Challenges		
Integrated Urban Water Management (tba)	China Academy of Urban Planning and Design	Denmark
Water – Energy – Food Security Nexus	Nanjing Hydrology Research Institute	Sweden, UK
River Basin and Flood Risk Management		
Flood risk management and River Basin Management	Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research, Hai He River Basin Commission	Netherlands, France

consortium of 9 leading European partners from both the public and the private sectors, and 13 leading Chinese partners, has been established.

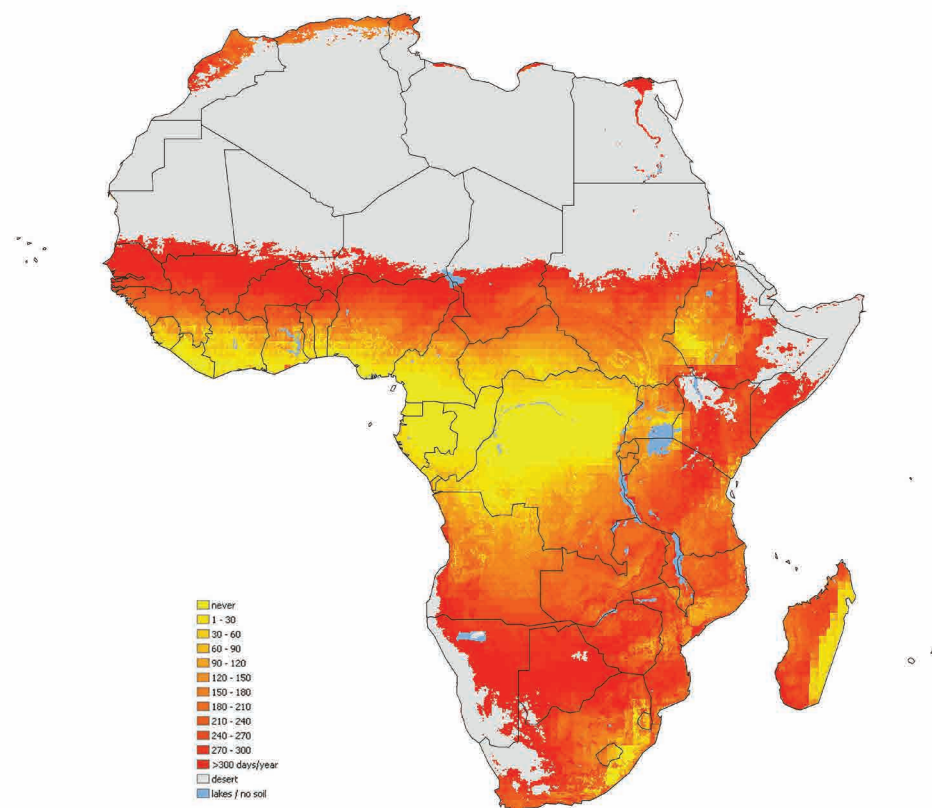
CEWP is based on three pillars: governance, research and business, and this signals its broad-spectrum approach. During the next stages a particular focus will be on gaining momentum for the business pillar. As the Chinese market is expected to become the world's single biggest market by 2016 according to Global Water Intelligence, indicating strong business interest from both Chinese and European companies, this

indicates that a number of new products, services and systems will be developed in the coming years.

CEWP has become a platform with wide-ranging potential for in-depth dialogue among policy makers, researchers, politicians and business which may produce substantial benefits for both Europe and China. At the same time, CEWP is still at a very early stage, with a structure in need of further strengthening, particularly at the financial level.

5 EUWI and Research

The EC's Joint Research Centre (JRC) is implementing several projects on Integrated Water Resources Management and supporting the networks of Centres of Excellence (CoE) in Africa and Latin America. These activities, funded by DG DEVCO, are concrete scientific and technical activities of the EUWI. The CoEs promote the development and empowerment of regional organisations for research, training, higher education and capacity building in water.



African Centres of Excellence on Water

DG JRC H01 implemented the project Support to the New Partnership for Africa's Development of water centres of excellence, completed at the end of 2013.

The achievements have included:

- 2 Southern Africa and Western Africa CoE networks with coordinator.
- Workshop: Exchange of experiences in water resources management between Europe, China, Africa and Latin America, with 40 senior water experts from 4 continents, JRC, Ispra, October 2012.
- MoU signed between ECOWAS and the Western African Centres of Excellence.
- Business plan of Southern African CoEs endorsed by SADC.
- The African Union institution African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) acknowledged the Networks of Water CoE as a resource for Africa, entrusting them with implementation of the AMCOW EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/17 declaration on "junior professional and technician level capacity challenges in the water sector".

A submission for a proposed second phase is currently under evaluation by the EU.

Number of days per year that there is not sufficient water for vegetation growth
© EU, 2012

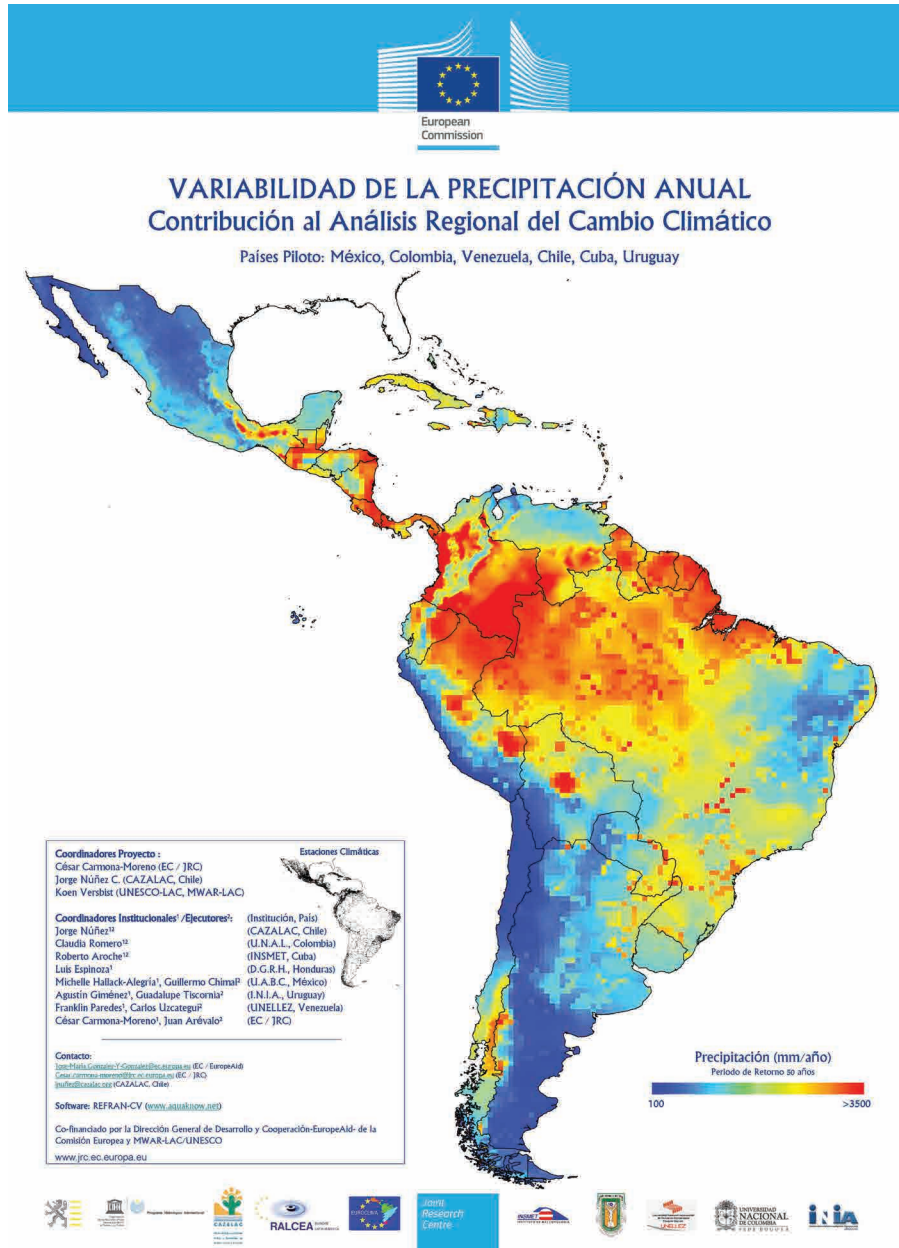
RALCEA (Latin American Network of Knowledge Centres in the Water sector)

The RALCEA network offers a platform for cooperation and dialogue in the Latin America water sector between national government focal points dealing with the water sector and the scientific Centres of Excellence. This dialogue has strengthened the capacities of authorities responsible for water resources as well as increasing regional cooperation. During 2014 the RALCEA network implemented activities in three thematic working areas:

- Regional Hydrological Balance.
- Stakeholders mapping and Capacity Building.
- Water Quality and Sanitation.

The Regional Hydrological Balance working group has developed the Latin America regional precipitation frequency map, and has pursued the development of national mapping with the release of national maps of precipitation frequency for Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Honduras, Jamaica, México, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba, Chile, Venezuela, Colombia and Uruguay.

These maps are useful for addressing water resources management and defining specific public policies through analysis of the frequency of extreme weather events. In addition, the L-Moments method has been applied to the river basin of the Rio Bogota' in Colombia. A methodological guide on this subject will be compiled and published by the end of 2014.



The Stakeholders Mapping and Capacity Building Group delivered 8 training events based on Focal Point requests. These activities related to three issues:

- Integrated water resources management at river basin level.
- Stakeholder participation and conflict management.
- Floods and groundwater management.

The target audience was officials and technicians dealing with water resources management.

The next meeting of this working group will be 23-27 June 2014 in Lima, to discuss lessons learned and to plan future activities.

The Water Quality and Sanitation Group implemented three training events to support capacity on water sampling and analysis methods, water quality and quantity monitoring methods, and treatment and reuse technologies. In addition, three projects were identified by Focal Points and seek funding:

- OCLA, to set up an observatory of five river basins for establishing standards, measures and methodologies.
- YCAPARAÍ, related to the application of diagnostic procedures, rehabilitation and prevention of eutrophication water ecosystems.
- INDICA, focusing on indicators and methods to measure water quality and quantity.

The number of water experts profiting from the capacity building courses was 800. The outline and presentations of the capacity building sessions made in the framework of RALCEA are available online: <http://www.aquaknow.net/en/news/cursos-ralcea-publicacion-en-linea>.

The 4th RALCEA regional meeting will be held in November 2014.

BASAL (Bases Ambientales para la Sostenibilidad Alimentaria Local)

The JRC implements the BASAL project in Cuba, to develop tools for the more sustainable use of water in agricultural production. The new tools will help in understanding the impacts of climate variability, climate change and land use change on food production and water availability. The project has a local approach, being implemented in three study areas which face problems relevant at the national level:

- Depletion of agricultural yields, with rice being a strategic crop at the national level.
- Deterioration of groundwater resources related to pollution and salt water intrusion.
- Impacts of drought on cattle.

The project relies on close collaboration between the JRC team and its counterpart in Cuba, including representatives from the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture and related research institutions.

The Cuban counterpart will be taking a relevant role in the implementation of the tools, ensuring effective maintenance and application. A diagnosis of local issues in the

study areas has been carried out by Cuban experts. A review of available modelling systems has been undertaken by JRC in order to facilitate the choice of modelling system by the Cuban counterpart. A workshop was held at the beginning of 2014 at JRC premises, where training was given to Cuban colleagues on the use of the selected modelling approach. The model-building process, including awareness activities with stakeholders and capacity building for an extended group of users of the tools, will take place throughout 2014.

BeWater - Making society an active participant in water adaptation to global change

Sustainable water management under climate change scenarios is an urgent challenge for the Mediterranean region. Future climate change projections estimate an increase in water scarcity and droughts in the region, causing substantial socioeconomic losses and environmental impacts. BeWater addresses these challenges by promoting dialogue and collaboration between science and society.

This FP7 project launches a transition from a technologically-focused river basin management approach to a stakeholder-driven planning and management process, to allow a pro-active response to emerging climatic changes and related pressures. The project proposes, with tests in four case study river basins across the Mediterranean, a process of building resilience based on the engagement of a wide group of stakeholders, with the goal of identifying river basin water management options and adaptation plans.

The JRC is leading the work package to evaluate the methodology and implementation progress of the project and its potential impacts on society. The JRC is also responsible for developing a protocol for data compilation and harmonisation to guarantee spatial and temporal homogeneity. For the correct compilation of scientific information, the protocol will emphasise the compulsory data required to define water management options. These data include:

- Thematic cartography.
- Meteorological and climatic projections.
- Hydrological and water quality information.
- Demography.
- Water uses.
- Socio-economy.
- Agriculture and natural systems.

Water for growth and poverty reduction in the Mekrou transboundary river basin (Burkina Faso, Benin and Niger)

The overall objective of this four-year project is to support Economic Green Growth and Poverty Reduction in Burkina Faso, Benin and Niger, sharing the Mekrou river basin, ensuring water availability to developing areas, to tackle the high hydroclimatic variability of the region and the competing demands for water from the different countries.

Sharing water resources entails the management of common challenges and

Livelihoods and human well-being bound up with water-management

requires investments in:

- Transboundary water management plans.
- The development of sustainable policy.
- Institutional capacity building.

The specific objectives include the establishment of a co-operation framework on water for long-term growth planning, and the development of an Integrated Water Resource Strategy for green growth in the Mekrou River basin, addressing food security, appropriate urban and rural development and environmental conservation to meet challenges arising from climate change. The project will consider water management in the context of the Water-Agriculture-Energy-Ecosystems nexus approach.

The project launched with a kick-off meeting in Ougadougou on 18-20 March 2014, attended by all key actors in data sharing, problem identification, and scientific expertise in meteorology, hydrology, water management, drawn from universities, research centres, agrometeorological services, national hydrological services.

The first year will see the identification of data for the development of a transboundary information system. Following a participatory approach and the identification of development priorities the JRC will work with local partners to develop a Spatial Decision Supporting System to support policy makers while defining the developing strategies for their countries.





6 Looking Ahead

Since 2002, the EUWI has been active in bringing partners from the water world together. This approach has been particularly implemented through the Multi-Stakeholder Forum held each year. As such, many important organisations have been consulted and involved in the process of strengthening political commitment towards supporting the development of water and sanitation access and better governance.

In the perspective of the post-2015 agenda, different international organisations including the UN have been setting public consultation in order to involve stakeholders to have their say about the main future priorities of our planet. So far, most successful initiatives have been conducted at the national level and on the Internet in order to get the general public's involvement as for example, the initiative: "The World We Want".

In this framework, the European Commission has also been proactive in gaining stakeholders' support. The DG Development and Cooperation organised its first forum on international development cooperation late in 2013 in Brussels. The event gathered more than 7,100 participants, 80 sessions and 380 speakers.

The EC and EU Member States are the world's largest donors of development assistance, providing more than half of official aid worldwide (€53 billion in 2011) and 85% of Europeans think it is important to help people in developing countries (Eurobarometer report 392, October 2012).

The European Year 2015 for development will continue to target public's interest and to facilitate cooperation between EU Member States and EU partners under the motto "our world, our dignity, our future". As stated by EU foreign affairs chief Catherine Ashton and European parliament president Martin Schulz, the European development policy is "*a true success story of which the European Union can be proud*".

The year 2015 should be a key year for the EUWI to bring more awareness of the role played by water and sanitation to social and economic development and expand partnerships and cooperation to promote this development.

The September 2015 UN meeting on Water and Sustainable Development to discuss key issues for the "post-2015 agenda", and the July 2015 Ministerial meeting organised by the UN ECOSOC, will be important milestones. In this context, EUWI needs to showcase and build on its main achievements and the collaboration among its partners.

The EUWI has been successful so far in helping to share a common vision to help meet the MDGs and it will continue to play a pivotal role in the implementation of new objectives set by the Agenda for Change and the new, post-2015 development agenda.



The European Year for Development 2015 is indeed set to be a special year, as the deadline for meeting the 2015 Millennium Development Goals and for their replacements to be put in place. This year provides an unparalleled opportunity for us to engage with EU citizens, to showcase our strong commitment to eradicating poverty worldwide and to inform them how every euro of support helps to make a difference in the lives of so many, in some of the world's poorest countries.

**Commissioner Andris Piebalgs,
April 2014.**

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