Tables on the Mediterranean basins

Renewable natural fresh water resources (of surface and underground), expressed in km3/year, represent the maximum potential of water resources "offered by nature" on average. They are the sum of the product from surface and underground flows forming the "**Internal natural Water resources"** and those generated by external resources or "**Actual external inflow"** (surface or underground flows coming from other countries).

The renewable water resources consist of flows and not of stocks, like for other raw materials, and these fresh water flows are naturally maintained by the water cycle with its continental influences.

The average values of renewable natural fresh water resources, calculated over a long period, characterize the hydrology of the basin.

A part only of these natural resources is exploitable because of various technical-economic and environmental constraints.

The **"Total water demand"** of quantity is considered here as all the volumes of water mobilised (not including « green » water and « virtual » water) to meet the various uses, including the volumes « lost » in transport and usual practices. The demand is, therefore, the addition of the water withdrawals, the imported water and unconventional production (desalination, clean wastewater reuse, drainage, etc.).

The **Final Consumption** is the part of withdrawal that does not return to natural environment (continental fresh waters) after having been used. This, because either consumed by users, which is net consumption; or rejected into the sea or unusable continental water (brackish waters) or into evaporation areas (blind watershed).