



Context and objectives

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted in November 2005 the « Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development » (MSSD). This was also endorsed by the Barcelona Euro-Mediterranean Summit (November 2005). The first priority field of action of this framework strategy is improving integrated water resources and demand management.

The Blue Plan has been tasked with assisting the Contracting Parties in building up information to facilitate the implementation and follow-up of the MSSD and the national sustainable development strategies drawn up by the individual countries. In 2006 and 2007 it collected, documented and circulated a first set of indicators for MSSD follow-up, including in particular the five priority indicators from the « water » chapter.

Given the amount of water savings through the introduction of water demand management measures, aimed in particular at improving water use efficiency, the Blue Plan is currently interested in furthering its analysis of the means for producing the basic data needed to calculate the water efficiency index (an MSSD priority indicator: WAT_P01), assessing the progress made in terms of water savings and identifying priority actions to be introduced in order to improve water use, particularly under the national strategies for improving water efficiency. In conjunction with the riparian states, it hopes to evaluate the financial savings to be made through the implementation of water demand management policies (in other words, comparing the cost of water « saved » with that of water newly mobilized and/or produced).

For this purpose, the Blue Plan invited this year the bordering countries to produce a national analysis of these issues. The reports thus carried out will be the subject of a presentation at this experts meeting in order to encourage the exchange of experience and sharing of good practices between countries.

Agenda

09h45 - 10h00 : Reception of the participants

10h00 - 10h15 : Opening speeches

Mr. Henri-Luc THIBAULT, Director of Blue Plan.

10h15 - 10h30 : Regional framing on Water use and feasible potential savings in the Mediterranean countries

Mr. Mohammed BLINDA, programme Officer Water, Blue Plan

10h30 - 11h00 : National reports presentation on water use efficiency

Bosnia-Herzegovina by Ms Erna CORIC, consultant, Hydro Engineering Institute

Cyprus by Mr. Iacovos Iacovides, consultant, I.A.CO Environmental and Water Consultants Ltd

Lebanon by Mr. Fadi COMAIR, General Director, Ministry of Energy and Water

11h00 - 11h30 : Discussion

Discussion: Analyse of collect mode of basic data and the production of the efficiency index's various components? The progress made in terms of water savings (total efficiency and per sector, projects implemented,...), with the estimated cost of the various projects and actions?

11h30 - 12h00 : Coffee break

12h00 - 12h30 : National reports presentation on water use efficiency (continuation)

Malta by Mr. Sapiano MANUEL, consultant, Water Resources Authority

Morocco by Mr. Mhamed BELGHITI, head of division, Ministry for Agriculture and Maritime fishing

Syria by Mr. Housney AL-AZMEH, consultant, General Commission for Environment Affairs

12h30 - 13h00 : Discussion

Discussion: Analyse of collect mode of basic data and the production of the efficiency index's various components? The progress made in terms of water savings (total efficiency and per sector, projects implemented,...), with the estimated cost of the various projects and actions?

13h00 - 14h30: Lunch

14h30 - 14h50 : National reports presentation on water use efficiency (continuation)

Tunisia by Mr. Mohamed LOUATI, consultant, Ministry for Agriculture and Hydraulic resources

Turkey by Ms Selmin BURAK, prof. consultant, Istanbul University Institute of Marine Sciences and Management

14h50 - 15h20 : Discussion

Discussion: Analyse of collect mode of basic data and the production of the efficiency index's various components? The progress made in terms of water savings (total efficiency and per sector, projects implemented,...), with the estimated cost of the various projects and actions?

15h20 - 15h50: Coffee break

15h50 - 16h50 : General Discussion

Round table 5 minutes for each expert

Discussion: Policies and priority actions introduced or to be introduced in order to improve the collection of data items for producing this indicator and water use efficiency, particularly under the national strategies for improving water efficiency by announcing the national objectives?

16h50 - 17h30 : Synthesis and conclusion

Mr. Henri-Luc THIBAULT, Director of Blue Plan.