



The Water Strategy in the Western Mediterranean



OCDE Meeting

Edinburgh, 26th May 2015

Water Strategy Western Mediterranean



When ? Who ?



- An Spanish-Algerian initiative, adopted in Algiers, on March 31st, 2015
- By Ministers of the 5+5 Dialogue: Algeria, France, Italy, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, and Tunisia
- With presence and collaboration:
 -  European Commission
 -  Union of the Arab Maghreb
 -  Union for the Mediterranean
 -  MEMBO, FAO, SEMIDE, IME...

Objectives and structure



- WSWM is a **guiding document** with orientations and objectives, agreed by Western Mediterranean countries.
- Objectives: regional sustainable growth, preserve water quality, social prosperity, access to water for all, cooperation, exchange of knowledge,...
- Structure: **13 priorities** issues.
- WSWM implementation → Annexed **action Plan**, will compile proposals from 5+5 members and partners.

rationale (1)

General constraints of water in the Mediterranean

- Sensitive environment (touristic coastal areas, droughts and floods....)
- Growing threats (population growth, pollution..)
- Important agriculture development
- Water demand growth but scarce and irregular resource aggravated by climate change
- Concurrence water uses <-> environmental priorities <-> need economical development
- Protection of water environment



rationale (2)



Different challenges North-South:

- European countries: more water resources, under common policies EU.
- Southern countries: great scarcity, water resource overexploitation,...
- Different scenarios and questions → need collective exchange, approaches and convergence of policies.
- 5+5 dialogue as an example of neighbour collaboration to export to other World Fora.

Priorities

- Priority 1: Developing and starting-up clearly defined legal frameworks
- Priority 2: Establishing governance adapted to integrated water resource management
- Priority 3: Implementing cost-recovery
- Priority 4: Capacity building
- Priority 5: Innovation development in the water sector.
- Priority 6: Water- energy - food nexus
- Priority 7: De-pollution of the Mediterranean
- Priority 8: Mobilising water-related innovative financing solutions for the application of the Strategy
- Priority 9: Climate change adaptation
- Priority 10: Increasing and mobilising the available resources
- Priority 11: Water use efficiency improvement
- Priority 12: Flood prevention
- Priority 13: Protection of water quality and biodiversity