

## Draft joint action plan EEA-EMWIS

2007-10-16 – Copenhagen

### Objectives:

Interfacing WISE and the “Mediterranean Water observatory mechanism/information system”

Stimulating the production and sharing of data by Med Partner Countries

## 1. Adding a Mediterranean entry point to WISE

### 1.1. Analysing the potential architecture, design rules and content outline

The entry point could be EU neighbourhood countries under the common WISE umbrella page (Policy, Theme&Data, Research, Links), with the Mediterranean as a starting point. The WISE design and design rules will need to be adapted to take into account this new dimension.

### 1.2. Agreement by WISE Steering Group

Once the entry point will have been validated by the WISE Steering Group (EC DG ENV, EEA, JRC and Eurostat) –next meeting 22 November 2007-, the design of WISE sub-webs will have to be adapted (e.g. navigation).

### 1.3. Content of the Mediterranean section

A feasibility of providing the following services will be analysed:

- Metadata catalogue of water information sources
- Access to existing data from EU med countries and at river district level using thematic maps (e.g. with a light web map viewer) for a subset of themes interesting Med countries e.g. Urban waste water treatment, Use of freshwater resources
- New editorial sections
  - Analysing “obligations”/recommendations for Med countries in the field of water reporting
  - Thematic analysis
  - Web mapping listing to announce organisations offering map services
- Common tool kit for developing interoperable National Water Information Systems –NWIS- (or only for some services) supporting a distributed architecture necessary to realise the EU SEIS principles (Shared Environmental Information System)
- Access to EMWIS

### 1.4. Implementation

Some services will be hosted on EEA server (e.g. web map viewer) others on EMWIS server (e.g. metadata catalogue). The Arabic language will be added at the level of the Mediterranean access.



## 2. Metadata catalogue

- Review of existing tools and selection of one
- Rules for metadata
  - Using different languages
  - Agreement on a list of keywords (small glossary, e.g. abstract of Gemet)
  - Selection of a metadata profile (ISO, Inspire)
  - Definition of a geographical glossary
  - Versions management
  - etc.
- Definition of themes for the metadata collection
- Meta data collection

## 3. Tool kit for interoperable NWIS in Med Partner countries

Although all the specifications for building shared water information systems have not been yet fully defined by WISE, the existing rules, guidance documents and tools will be put together as they become available to help non EU countries to build their systems. The main building blocks are:

- Inspire directive and related tools
- GIS guidance document
- A set of definitions and data structures, e.g.:
  - competent authorities
  - (hydrological and administrative) Geographical reference data set (including monitoring stations/networks)

As part of the definition of this tool-kit, it will be important to propose incentives for Med countries to adopt these building blocks (e.g. funding NWIS if some part is opened for joint med activities).

## 4. Preparation of Mediterranean information products (outputs)

The development of outputs (indicators, thematic maps, reports) will bring an added value at the regional level by exploiting the information collected. Various issues of interest have been identified: urban waste water treatment (e.g. for H2020 monitoring), waste water reuse (Med EUWI Joint Process). But for the period 2008-2009, it was decided to focus on “water scarcity and drought” ((Med EUWI Joint Process)

- Identification/definition of indicators and related basic data items based on the work of the EU WS-D working group of the WFD (next meeting 15 November)
- Selection of a subset of indicators that can be collected by Med Partner Countries
- Definition of a realistic level of aggregation: basin or aquifer level, administrative sub level (when relevant), by month (or any other relevant period) and by sectors
- Collection of metadata (see above)
- Interoperability rules (common identification framework)
  - Preparation of common definitions (e.g. withdrawal)



- Reference datasets
  - Identification rules
- Definition and set-up of services (Inspire concepts):
  - Searching (discovery)
  - Consultation
  - Downloading
  - Data transformation
  - Invoking services
- Rules for sharing data
- Data collection
- Gap analysis for missing data with recommendations for further steps (provision of data)
- Analysis and production of an output (e.g. report, map, indicators)

## **5. Resources for implementing this joint work plan**

The implementation of some activities of this plan will require additional resources (e.g. through DG ENV contract).

