



CYPRUS

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The National Focal Point team is composed of :

- **Mrs. Artemis ACHILLEOS NICOLAOU** ,
coordinator and data manager.
- **Mr. Chrysanthos CHRYSANTHOU**,
IT manager.

The Water Director is :

- **Mr. Christodoulos ARTEMIS**,
Director of the WDD.

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In 1999, the Government of Cyprus has appointed the Water Development Department (WDD) within the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment (MANRE) as the Cyprus National Focal Point (NFP). The WDD is responsible for the implementation of the water policy, including: data collection and processing; study, design, construction, operation and maintenance of works (e.g. dams, ponds, irrigation, domestic water supply and sewerage schemes, sewage treatment and desalination plants); and the protection of the water resources from pollution.

The NFP has achieved many results, with the creation of a national website and a number of promotional materials widely disseminated. On the other hand, EMWIS has given an added value to the country by assisting in better communication between stakeholders for setting up a National Water Information System (NWIS) in coordination with national water information providers, which helped to implement the Water Framework Directive (WFD). The NFP also contributed to the Greek version of the multilingual water thesaurus provided by EMWIS. In 2005, the WDD director was vice president of the EMWIS Steering Committee.

DATA

- **Area** : 5 696 km²
- **Population** (mill) : 0,77 ****
- **GDP per capita** : 18 900 € ****
- **Water per capita** :
1 046 m³/inhab./year ***

Sources :

* UN-JMP 2004 (Access to water & sanitation considering house connections)

- **Access to improved water resource** :

TOTAL : 100% *

- **Water withdrawal** :

irrigation : 75% ***

domestic & industry : 25% ***

- **Access to sanitation** :

TOTAL : 53% **

- Urban : 75% *

- Rural : 11% *

** Water Development Department (access to sanitation: 53% served by collection systems and 35% by wastewater treatment)

*** World Bank 2004 – World Factbook 2005

**** Eurostat - MEDSTAT 2007

All of the above figures represent the Government Controlled Area of Cyprus.

Cyprus

⇒ Legal Framework

A unique water management and protection law has been adopted in 2004. It takes into account the principles of the EU Water Framework Directive.

⇒ Right to Water

The Republic of Cyprus legislation promotes the access to water through the laws that relate to water management.

⇒ Main institution

The Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment –MANRE- is responsible for proposing national water policy to the Council of Ministers. Other important ministries are the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism. The executive level is tackled by i) the Ministry of the Interior, through the District Officers, oversees water distribution agencies and issues permits for ground water abstraction; and ii) the MANRE through the Water Development Department –WDD- and the Environment Service has the technical responsibility to monitor, manage and protect water resources.

	Water Resource Management	Drinking water supply	Sanitation	Irrigation
MANRE	✓			
Water Development Department	✓	✓	✓	✓
Department of Agriculture				✓
Local Authorities (Water Boards and Community Councils)		✓		
Sewerage Boards			✓	

The territorial water management : The Water Development Department is responsible for implementing the water policy for the whole of Cyprus. At the regional level, the District Administrations of the Ministry of Interior are in charge of implementing and enforcing water-related laws. All municipal water supplies and non-government irrigation schemes are in principle under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Interior.

Inter-ministerial coordination : The Government is preparing a revision of the existing legal and institutional framework through the establishment of a new Directorate for Integrated Water Management.

⇒ Main issues of Water Resource Management

The demand for water is expected to increase in following years, placing additional pressures on the limited water resources of the island. A more integrated approach to water management is pursued, one that emphasizes water conservation and the protection of water-related ecosystems. Furthermore, the involvement of different stakeholders in the decision-making process is increasingly recognized as an essential element of effective water management.

⇒ Water pricing and cost recovery

The level of cost recovery for government water projects has defined for the EC in March 2005; it does not include data for Private resources (boreholes).

	Institutions responsible for water pricing	Level of cost recovery (%)
Households and Industry	Water Boards & Community Councils	60,4 %
Agriculture: Irrigation	MANRE & WDD	67,4%

⇒ Water master plan

Strategic planning of water resources management consists of long-term actions to improve the reliability of each system to meet future demands under scarcity conditions and short-term actions, which try to face a particular drought event within the existing framework of infrastructure and management policies. Today, a Drought Mitigation and Response Plan is applied. By 2009, a River Basin Management plan and a program of measures in accordance to WFD will be prepared.

<http://www.semide.org>

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