



ALGERIA

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The National Focal Point team is composed of :

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- **Mr. Rafik ASSAS**, IT manager.
- **Ms. Yasmine BENMOSTEFA**, documentalist.

The Water Director is :

- **Mr. Tahar AICHAOUI**,
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At the end of 1999, the Hydrographic Basin Agency Constantinois-Seybousse-Mellegue (ABH-MSM) was designated as EMWIS Algerian National Focal Point by the relevant services of the Ministry of Works and Territorial Planning, later becoming the Ministry of Water Resources (MRE). The Ministry reviews each year the mission of the NFP and provides a specific budget.

Algeria has been one of the first countries launching a national website within the framework of EMWIS in June 2000. This website is trilingual (Arabic, English and French) and has more than 764 press articles, compilation undertaken with 16 information sources. There have been over 700 000 hits since the launch of the site. The NFP gave rise to an article on good practice for the Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation on Water (EuroMed Info Center).

Algeria is also a pioneer in the field of water data management with the development of a national system, considered by the other countries as a reference on the technical and organizational levels.

DATA

- **Area** : 2 381 741 km²
- **Population** (mill) : 33,4 *
- **GDP per capita** : 2 770 € **
- **Water per capita** :
400 m³/inhab./year *
- **Access to improved water resource** :
 - Urban : 92% *
 - Rural : 80% *
- **Water withdrawal** :
irrigation : 88% *
- **Access to sanitation** :
- Urban : 86% *

Sources :

* Algerian ministry of Water Resources, 2008

** Medstat 2007 (Access to water and sanitation considering the house connections)

Algeria

⇒ Legal Framework

The Water law 05-12 was approved on August 4th, 2005. It revises the water code that was the subject of the law 83-17 of July 1983.

⇒ Right to Water

The Water Law mentions: "The supply of drinking water, in sufficient quantities for domestic needs and satisfactory hygiene, is a permanent objective of the State and a citizen's right".

⇒ Main institution

The Ministry of Water Resources (MRE) defines the general policy and coordinates local and regional bodies, including the basin agencies (ABH). Five national public institutions under MRE supervision complete its action: the Algerian Waters (ADE), the National Office for sanitation (ONA), the National Agency of Hydraulic Resources (ANRH) for the resources inventory, the National Agency of dams and transfers (ANBT) for the mobilization and the Office for irrigation and drainage (ONID) for the development and management support of large-scale irrigation schemes.

	Water Resource Management	Drinking water supply	Sanitation	Irrigation
MRE and related bodies	✓			
ADE		✓		
ONA			✓	
ONID				✓

The territorial water management : Five watersheds agencies (ABH) in collaboration with the Wilaya hydraulics services ensure the integrated water resources management on the 19 watersheds of the country. The ABH are responsible for resources allocation planning, the water resource registry (cadastre); the integrated water resources management and also for developing and maintaining a database at basin level.

Inter-ministerial coordination : The National Water Council (CNE) is the main coordination and regulation body at the national level. At local level, the basin committees work as small parliaments in charge of water distribution.

⇒ Main issues of Water Resource Management

The country is mostly subject to problems of resource availability and launched major desalination projects on the Mediterranean shore (14 stations in 2010, production of 2,39 million m³/day); North-South transfer (5000 km -- 600 million m³/year) and a south-south transfer (760 km to 100 million m³/year)

⇒ Water pricing and cost recovery

The pricing is defined by decree. It is based on the principles of selectivity (categories of users) and progressive consumption in three territorial areas taking into account the average costs of water and sanitation services. The pricing covers services operation, maintenance, renewal and development of infrastructures. The potential differential is covered by governmental budget allocations for the public service.

	Institutions responsible for water pricing	Level of cost recovery (%)
Households	Ministry of Water Resource	60
Industry	Ministry of Water Resource	80
Agriculture : Irrigation	Ministry of Water Resource	20

⇒ Water master plan

The National Water Plan is being updated with targets to 2030. Master Plans of Water resources development (PDAR) are completed for the five main watersheds. A master plan for major hydraulic infrastructures 2006-2025 was adopted by the Council of Ministers in 2006.

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