EMWIS launches the Arabic version of EMWIS Multilingual Water Thesaurus Nov 2006

17. The building and use of the multilingual EMWIS thesaurus based on an aggregation of existing water glossaries and thesaurus (e.g. GEMET from the European Environment Agency, the International Hydrology Glossary from UNESCO, French Water Thesaurus) were presented in the last EMWIS National Focal Point seminar for data managers held in Madrid the days 13-15 November 2006. Today the thesaurus is publicly available online in 3 languages (Arabic, English and French). Spanish will be added in December 2006 and Italian in early 2007. In order to update this thesaurus (e.g. proposing new terms), it was suggested to create one working group for each language using wiki tools or e-forum to reach consensus on new terms, their definition, relevant sources, and relations with the other terms of the thesaurus. Any person willing to contribute to this thesaurus can contact the EMWIS Technical. These terms will then be added by EMWIS Technical Unit that will release a new online version. Further information at [EMWIS website](http://www.emwis.net/thematicdirs/news/snews939882).

9- EMWIS Multilingual Water Thesaurus available now in Spanish and Italian Feb 2007

9- The building and use of the multilingual EMWIS thesaurus based on an aggregation of existing water glossaries and thesaurus (e.g. GEMET from the European Environment Agency, the International Hydrology Glossary from UNESCO, French Water Thesaurus) is publicly available online now in 5 languages (Arabic, English, French, Spanish and Italian). Further information at [EMWIS website](http://www.emwis.net/portal_thesaurus).

23- EMWIS calls for collaborations to update its EMWIS multilingual water thesaurus Oct 2009

23- EMWIS together with its French National Focal Point “the International Office for Water in Limoges” are planning to implement and **update EMWIS multilingual thesaurus:** [http://www.emwis.net/portal\_thesaurus](http://www.semide.net/portal_thesaurus); **mainly its Arabic version.** Currently, this thesaurus is available in English, French, Arabic, Italian, Spanish, Turkish and Greek. We are looking for **your collaboration**, please do not hesitate to [contact us](mailto:jauad.el-kharraz@semide.org) with comments on the current version and/or proposal for new terms that should be added at [EMWIS forum](http://www.semide.net/forum/Arabic_Water_Thesaurus_Validation).

A thesaurus is key for multilingual and multicultural cooperation, to ensure we put the same concepts behind the wording and to understand the connections between these concepts.

Between 2004 and 2009, SEMIDE Technical Unit together with its National Focal Points worked on building a multilingual water thesaurus based on an aggregation of existing water glossaries and thesaurus (e.g. GEMET from the European Environment Agency (EEA), the International Hydrology Glossary from UNESCO, French Water Thesaurus). It resulted in a water thesaurus in 7 languages (Arabic, English, French Greek, Italian, Spanish and Turkish). This thesaurus was used to index documents and information as well to facilitate cross-lingual searches (download RDF format) .

All the terms and concepts have been integrated in the General Multilingual Environmental Thesaurus (GEMET) managed by the EEA, available in a broader range of languages. You can access it below.

itiative at the end of 1999 (the last meeting of the data managers took place in November 2004). It was the occasion to review how to take the best benefits from the new web portal technology introduced by EMWIS and the use the common exchange standards. A specific attention was paid to water documentation management, the use and enhancement of the common multilingual thesaurus/glossary on water (English, Arab, French, Spanish and Italian) and further development of a comprehensive water projects database. The way forward of national water portals was also discussed with a self evaluation of services provided, review of user needs and technological and thematic watch services.  
Further information at [EMWIS website](http://www.emwis.net/documents/meetings/NFP/fol385036).