



# Towards a Water Strategy in the Western Mediterranean



Luxembourg 23th November 2015



## Dialogue 5+5 (Rome 1990)

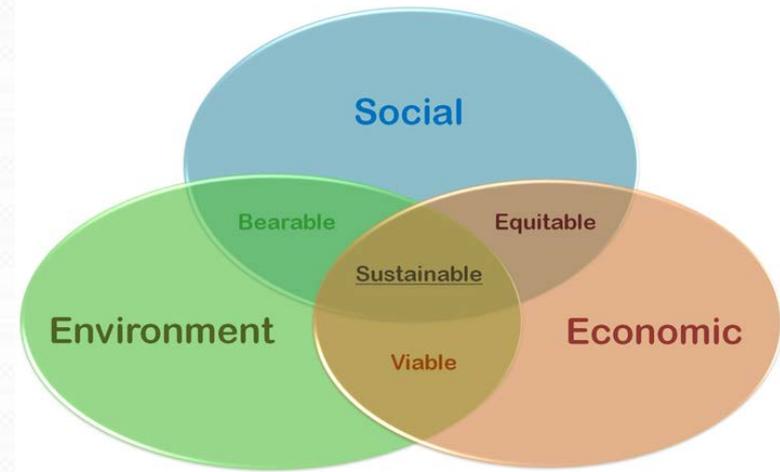
- **10 countries:** Portugal, **Spain**, France, Italy, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, **Algeria**, Tunisia and Libya.
- **3 Official Observers :** COM-EU, UFM, UMA
- **Observers:** Regional entities, institutions and stakeholders
- **MENBO:** Technical Secretariat



*Guide document with orientations, objectives and actions for resources protection and management*

Long term:

- To preserve water **quality** and environment
- Prosperity and **sustainable** growth
- Global **access** to water
- Technological cooperation**
- Capacity building**
- Peace and **stability** in the Western Mediterranean



We share a very sensitive physical environment...and we face similar challenges



- Water scarcity
- Time/space resources irregularity
- Severe groundwater overexploitation
- Future conflicts due to climate change
- Frequent droughts and floods
- Resources pollution
- Resources salinisation
- Water demand increase
- Difficult Access to clean water
- Deficient sanitation networks
- Social conflicts related to water
- Deficient financing mechanisms

# The process

## Where do we come from?

- *Cooperation among Mediterranean countries → mention to UfM*
- *Conference on water. Jordan 2008 → Strategy 2010*

## background



- Rome 1990 → 5+5 dialogue, EU–Maghreb
- Proposal initiative by Algeria and Spain
- Endorsed at Malta summit, 2012.
- Agreement Foreign Ministers. Nouakchott 2013
- Announced during UN General Assembly. New York 2013
- Launched at Economic Forum. Barcelona 2013
- Workshops. Valencia, Oran, Valencia..., 2014



## Bottom-up by Technical Workshops with General Consensus



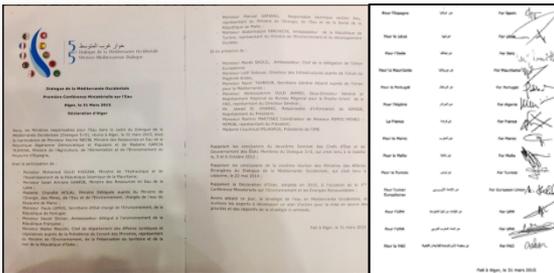
**WS1. Valencia, February 2014**

**WS2. Oran, June 2014**

**WS3. Valencia, September 2014**



## Adoption: Ministerial Conference Algiers, 31<sup>th</sup> March 2015



### Main challenge :

**Scarcity (water and sanitation for all) v.s. environment : sustainable**

**Through : improvement water governance (planning, infrastructures, participation and capacity building)**

**by >>> Information (data and knowledge & shared) <<<**

# The strategy



1. Enhancing Western Mediterranean country policies' convergence towards the general principles of a <b>sustainable water policy</b>	P1: Developing and starting up clearly defined legal frameworks
	P2: Establishing governance adapted to integrated water management
	P3: Implementing cost-recovery

3. Promoting <b>water management</b> improvement	P9: Climate change adaptation
	P10: Increasing and mobilising the available resources
	P11: Water use efficiency improvement
	P12: Flood prevention
	P13: Protection of water quality and biodiversity

2. Foster <b>cooperation</b> in relation to regional matters	P4: Capacity building
	P5: Innovation development in the water sector
	P6: Water-energy-food nexus
	P7: De-pollution of the Mediterranean
	P8: Mobilising water-related innovative financing solutions for the application of the Strategy



WS4 (Action Plan). Madrid 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 !!!!

Brussels, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015

From Ws2Oran to Ws3Valence  
new contributions and changes

## rationale (1)



### General constraints of water in the Mediterranean

- Sensitive environment (touristic coastal areas, droughts and floods....)
- Growing threats (population growth, pollution..)
- Unique bioclimatic space → agriculture development
- Water demand growth but scarce resource and foreseen climate change
- Concurrence water uses <-> environmental priorities <-> need economical development
- Irregular distribution water → Seasonal management
- Need of prevention of water quality

From Ws2Oran to Ws3Valence  
new contributions and changes

## rationale (2)



Different challenges North<>South:

- European countries: more water resources, under common policies EU
- Southern countries: great scarcity, overexploitation, geopolitical space under construction (UMA).
- 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.

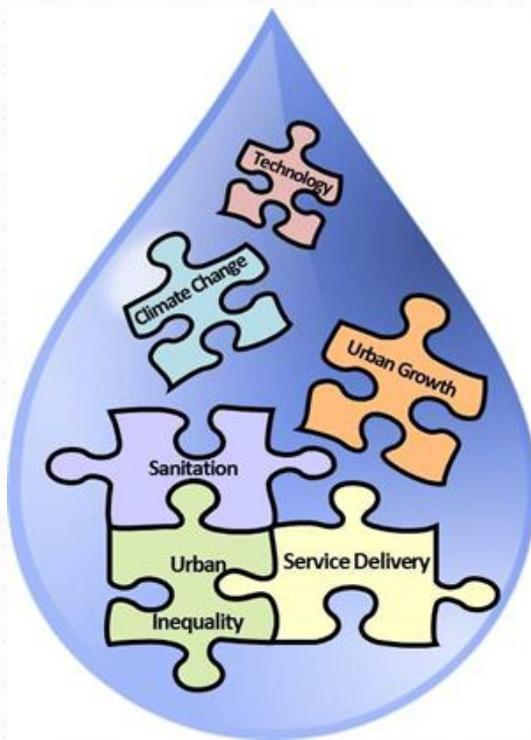
Solidarity between shores of the  
Western Mediterranean

## Main action blocks

1. Enhancing Western Mediterranean country policies' convergence towards the general principles of an adequate water policy
2. Foster cooperation in relation to regional matters
3. Promoting water management improvements

# The strategy

## 1. Enhancing Western Mediterranean country policies' convergence towards the general principles of an adequate water policy



Priority 1: Developing and starting-up clearly defined legal frameworks

- Governance development and/or consolidation

Priority 2: Establishing governance adapted to integrated water management

- Integrated resources management
- Trans-boundary resources governance
- Coastal water management

Priority 3: Implementing cost-recovery

- Water service financing
- Polluter-pays principle

## 2. Foster cooperation in relation to regional matters



### Priority 4: Capacity building

- Improving knowledge and training
- Exchanging experiences

### Priority 5: Innovation development in the water sector.

- Optimisation and innovation in water uses

### 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

# The strategy

Priority 9: Climate change adaptation

Priority 10: Increasing and mobilising the available resources

- Dams and/or transfers
- Groundwater resources mobilisation
- Treatment and reuse
- Desalination
- Rainwater harvesting

Priority 11: Water use efficiency improvement  
Irrigation efficiency improvement

- Reducing leaks in networks
- Citizens' awareness

Priority 12: Flood prevention

Priority 13: Protection of water quality and biodiversity



# Putting the strategy into practice: The action Plan



**WS4 (Action Plan). Madrid 10<sup>th</sup> September  
2015 !!!!**

# Putting the strategy into practice:

## The action Plan

### Which projects?



Actions oriented to **enhance water governance at the national and regional level**, including capacity building programmes and training actions.

Identification of **replicable and cross-country defined national** best practices and solutions.

Development on **national data water systems**.

Identification of **projects aimed at** addressing the following issues:

- From the demand side, **water efficiency and waste water reuse** projects, including proposal to optimize existing water provision systems with a focus on modernization of irrigation systems.
- From the offer side, **development of non conventional resources**, including desalination.
- From an environmental perspectives, projects oriented to **preserve and restore water ecosystems, to develop wastewater treatment at the urban and rural level and to implement ground water monitoring and management systems**

# Next steps

15th December:  
Workshop in  
Valencia

January – June 2016;  
Dissemination Action  
Plan

Mid 2016: Workshop

2nd half 2016:

*Ministerial  
endorsement of the  
Action Plan*



# Facilitator of the process:: Mediterranean Network of Basin Organisations

**MENBO Permanent Technical Secretariat**  
 based in **Valencia (Spain)**  
 at the **Jucar River Basin Authority**



REMOC / MENBO / REMOB  
 Current state of recruitment members



from 2003



**RESEAU INTERNATIONAL DES ORGANISMES DE BASSIN**  
**INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS**  
**RED INTERNACIONAL DE ORGANISMOS DE CUENCA**  
**REDE INTERNACIONAL DE ORGANISMOS DE BACIA**  
**Международная сеть водохозяйственных организаций**  
**الشبكة الدولية لهيئات الأحواض**  
**流域组织国际网**



188 (full members and permanent observers) in  
 71 countries; **6 Regional Networks**

from 1996

**More information;**  
**Mediterranean Network of Basin Organisations**  
**webpage:**  
<http://remoc.org/>



**Thank you for your attention!**