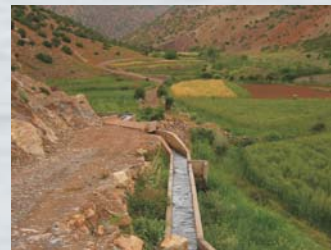


MEDA Water



MEDA Water  
The programme and its projects

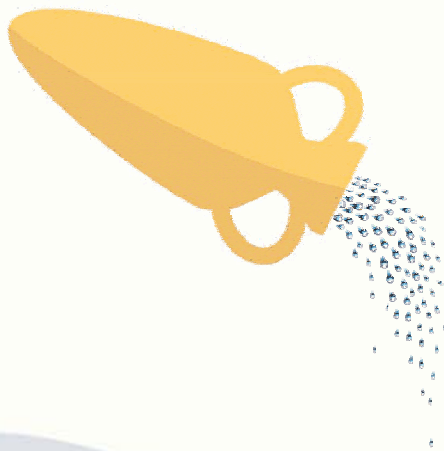


The MEDA Water programme is funded by the European Union

“The European Union is made up of 25 member states who have decided to gradually link their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, tolerance and individual freedom.

The European Commission is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with communities and people beyond its borders.”

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MEDA WATER  
The Programme and its Projects

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-  EU countries
-  MENA countries

Countries involved in the MEDA water programme

## The MEDA Water programme

The official name of the MEDA Water programme is *Euro-Mediterranean Regional Water Programme for Local Water Management*.

The programme is part of the support of the European Union for the development of the water sector in the North African and Middle East (MENA) countries under the *MEDA Regional Indicative Programming*. The available budget for MEDA Water is € 40 million. From this amount, nine different consortia of non-profit organisations (NGOs, Universities and Government Agencies) receive grants up to € 5 million for the implementation of measures related to local water management.

The programme started in 2002 with a call for proposals. Out of more than 40 applications, 9 projects were selected for implementation. Implementation of the first projects started in May 2003 and activities will last until the end of 2008. The EMWIS project, though not financed from the MEDA Water programme but from the general MEDA budget, has important dissemination tasks with respect to the MEDA Water programme and is therefore also included in this brochure.

The programme intends to improve local water management conditions through co-operation of non-profit organisations from EU countries and non-profit organisations in the MENA countries, capacity building, construction of demonstration plants, technology transfer and creation of awareness. It aims mainly at three technical components, (i) water supply and wastewater reuse (in agriculture and in an urban set-up), (ii) irrigation water management and (iii) improvement of decision-making structures in irrigation, rural water supply and sanitation, and drought management.

Encouraging results have been achieved in all sectors mentioned above. Successes can be reported in many fields. Farmers increasingly manage their water resources themselves; villages now plan improvement of water availability and its use, and negotiate their investment needs with local, regional and national authorities; through clear guidelines and pilot projects wastewater reuse is becoming more accepted. North-South academic exchanges have taken place on a large scale on subjects such as drought management, wastewater treatment, wastewater reuse, autonomous desalination, irrigation technology, dissemination technology and others. The capacity of MEDA countries to solve their problems has therefore increased. Due to this, the European Commission now considers to implement a follow-up phase of selected Programme activities.

MEDA Water



## Programme management

The EC Delegation in Amman, Jordan, which has assigned a special programme manager to the programme, manages the MEDA Water programme. This includes among others the follow up on the progress of the projects and taking decisions on issues of contract and budget amendments and important issues regarding content, directly related to the achievement of project results and objectives.

In its management tasks, the EC Delegation is supported by the Regional Monitoring and Support Unit for the MEDA Water projects and the EU Water Initiative (RMSU), which started its work in October 2005. The RMSU has three important fields of actions.

- The improvement of the performance of the MEDA Water projects through improvement of planning and follow up of activities and progress towards achievement of objectives;
- The improvement of co-ordination between the MEDA Water projects through the facilitation of information exchange, the organisation of workshops and the stimulation of interaction between the projects; and
- The promotion of the MEDA Water programme through the preparation of promotion materials, the development of a MEDA Water website, promotion of MEDA Water activities towards decision-makers and support of the MEDA Water projects in their promotion activities.

The RMSU is managed by a consortium lead by the Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) from France, joined by the International Office for Water (OIEau), also from France and the Finnish Environmental Institute (SYKE). The RMSU has its main office in Amman and a second office in Marseille for easier contact with the Maghreb region and institutions based in the EU. It is anticipated that the activities of the RMSU will last until autumn 2008.



## MEDA Water projects according to subject

### Improvement of decision-making in rural water supply and sanitation

EMPOWERS

### Irrigation water management

MEDWA

IRWA

ISIIMM

### Integrated management of local water supply and sanitation; wastewater reuse; use of non-conventional water resources

ADIRA

EMWater

MEDAWARE

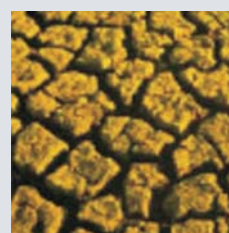
Zer0-M

### Drought management

MEDROPLAN

### Improvement of availability of water information

EMWIS/SEMIDE



# Euro-Med participatory water resources scenarios (EMPOWERS)

## Objective

EMPOWERS aims at the improvement of local water management by involving water users in the planning and decision-making processes. The project expects that active involvement of local end-users will strengthen bottom-up planning and will improve water access and rights for women and other vulnerable groups. Egypt, Jordan and Palestine are the target countries.

## How does EMPOWERS work?

EMPOWERS has developed a dual approach that consists of a participatory water planning cycle for integrated water resources management and a stakeholder dialogue for concerted action. This approach is implemented at the level of the three involved Governorates and in nine selected communities in the three target countries. The planning cycle provides the different stakeholders with an interactive planning framework, which makes their participation in making decisions on the use and management of scarce water resources more tangible. The stakeholder dialogue uses capacity building and awareness raising as a foundation to strengthen the negotiation powers of the involved communities.



EMPOWERS demonstrates its approaches by implementing community level pilot projects that respond to the concerns of end users. By involving national level stakeholders in the community planning and by developing water strategies at the Governorate level, EMPOWERS ensures that local activities relate to national policy formulation. As men and women are both important stakeholders in water management, EMPOWERS ensures that they are equally involved in planning and implementing the pilot projects.

## Project results

Through concerted actions over the past three years, each of the nine communities has already developed its own village level vision and water development plans. Some of the communities went already one step further. They implemented their planning by carrying out a first round of water related community projects and are developing follow-up proposals.



## The project partners

EMPOWERS works with 15 Government and NGO institutions in the MEDA partner countries Egypt, Jordan and Palestine and the EU countries the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. The project is coordinated by CARE International, a NGO from the United Kingdom

**Total Budget:** € 4.80 million  
**Duration:** 52 months  
**Estimated end:** August 2007



# Stakeholder participatory sustainable water management at farm level (MEDWA)

## Objective

The objective of the project is to improve on-farm irrigation water management and farm outputs. The project involves farmers in decision-making, which should ultimately lead to the creation of water user associations and cooperatives. The project is carried out in Jordan and Palestine.

## How does MEDWA work?

The project tackles the problem of irrigation water delivery of an acceptable quality and combines it with intervention in the relationship between water suppliers and farmers. As water suppliers and farmers have different interests, the project supports the communication process between the two parties. Water storage facilities are built and small scale wastewater treatment is introduced at the village level in order to increase the availability of water resources.



The project stimulates the farmers to form water user organisations and cooperatives, in which structures they can exchange views, experiences and good-practice. It also strengthens stakeholder and community capacities, where special emphasis is put on women to play a decisive role in these organisations. Women are responsible for most of the agricultural activities, but are, because of tradition and lack of know-how, marginalised and largely excluded from the decision-making processes.

MEDWA gives training in institutional capacity building and organises activities in the fields of information exchange and the transfer of know-how and technology. Awareness-raising and mobilisation of the population (in order to obtain their commitment) are vital components of the project.

## Added value of the project

MEDWA increases the opportunities for water supply and demand management for farmers. It provides solutions for urgent problems like water storage and wastewater treatment. In addition, it improves the framework for a participatory approach to water resources management.

## The project partners

The MEDWA consortium consists of four institutions from the MEDA countries Jordan and Palestine and EU countries Austria and Spain. The Austrian development agency Hilfswerk Austria is responsible for the project co-ordination.

**Total Budget:** € 5.49 million  
**Duration:** 36 months  
**Estimated end:** March 2007

# Improvement of irrigation water management in Jordan and Lebanon (IRWA)

## Objective

IRWA aims at the optimisation of irrigation efficiency and farm outputs in the intervention areas along the Litani River between Qaraoun Lake and Bar Elias village in Lebanon and in the Central - Southern Jordan Valley in Jordan

## How does the IRWA work?

In Lebanon, IRWA has been working on the rehabilitation of the Litani river to control inundations and soil erosion. At the same time, the project has built an Agricultural Service Centre in the Bekaa Valley and supports the Litani River Authority in its daily operation. In Jordan, an upstream filtering system is being installed in one of the pumping stations along the King Abdullah Canal, which will improve the quality of irrigation water. IRWA also upgraded the Laboratory for Soil and Water Analysis in the Deir Alla Research Station.



Field trials on on-farm filtration techniques are being conducted to guide farmers in acquiring appropriate technology. In both countries, altogether 14 extension agents received advanced on-the-job training.

For 2006-2007, the project will train farmers in water management and related issues.

Pilot farms for proper operation and maintenance of the irrigation networks, on-farm filtration and fertigation will be established. Field data will be collected and analysed to support the preparation of dissemination materials for the extension services as well as for the upcoming IRWA Regional Conference on irrigation water management.

## Added value of the IRWA project

The IRWA Project is strengthening the capacity of the local partners in terms of facilities and human resources. Through coordination between the local partners, provision of reciprocal support and networking with other local organisations that deal with water management, IRWA will contribute to the enhancement of regional cooperation on irrigation water issues.

## The project partners

The IRWA project consortium consists of 5 institutes from the MEDA countries Lebanon and Jordan and the EU countries Italy and Spain. The Institute for University Cooperation, an Italian NGO for development cooperation, is leading the consortium.



**Total Budget:** € 6.29 million  
**Duration:** 48 months  
**Estimated end:** June 2007

# Institutional and social innovations in irrigation Mediterranean management (ISIIMM)

## What does ISIIMM want to achieve?

The aim of the project is to share experiences and knowledge and to build new perspectives for sustainable water management in Mediterranean agriculture. It helps rural communities to adapt to problems resulting from water resources pressures through institutional changes. The project is active in Egypt, Lebanon and Morocco.

## How does the project work?

ISIIMM works on eleven specific case studies inside the river basins of six Mediterranean countries. The project develops its main activities with full participation of the target groups. It involves local partners, water users, development agents, researchers, NGOs, public services and administrations, in the development of water management strategies and action plans. It also discusses institutional arrangements for the sustainable management of water resources with them. This leads to new water-sharing behaviours and institutional innovations.



project to introduce community based solid waste management.

All this together forms the basis for a learning process that covers the whole range of issues of collective water management. ISIIMM makes considerable efforts to dissemination of its results through books, films, newsletters, guides and other media.

## Added value of ISIIMM

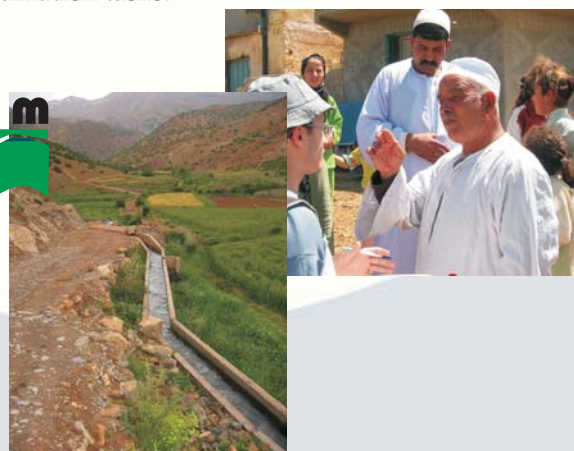
ISIIMM is extending knowledge on the social and institutional aspects of irrigation management in the Mediterranean. It creates adapted institutional tools and new perspectives for irrigation development policies and innovation at the local level. This is done through the development of guidelines and documentation of the eleven ISIIMM case study river basins. It contributes to mutual learning and knowledge transfer at local, national and regional scales.

## The project partners

The project consortium comprises twelve institutes from the MEDA countries Egypt, Lebanon and Morocco and the EU countries France, Italy and Spain. Agropolis from France is the leading organisation of the consortium and performs all administrative and coordination tasks.

A wide range of training workshops and seminars are being executed. These allow the target groups to gain a better understanding of the problems in Mediterranean irrigation management and enable them to solve these in a more suitable way.

In Mostafa Agha, a village in Egypt where solid waste has a heavy impact on water and sanitation, ISIIMM also implements a micro-



**Total budget:** € 5.7 million  
**Duration:** 48 month  
**Estimated end:** May 2007

# Autonomous desalination system concepts for sea water and brackish water in rural areas with renewable energies – potentials, technologies, field experience, socio-technical and socio-economic impacts (ADIRA)

## Objective

The objective of the ADIRA project is to develop concepts to supply rural areas with fresh water produced from sea or brackish water. This will alleviate water shortage in areas with scarce water resources. Target countries are Cyprus, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Turkey.

## How does ADIRA work?

The project focuses on autonomous desalination systems (ADS) powered by solar or wind energy. Existing concepts and technologies are being adapted for this use and their potential for the Mediterranean region is being evaluated. Environmental, organisational, and socio-economic aspects are taken into account as well.

## Activities

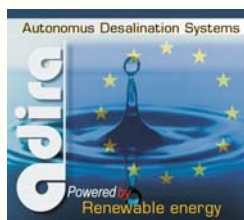
The project has assessed water supply conditions in the rural areas of the target countries and selected suitable sites and operators for pilot installations.

At the same time, institutional obstacles for the implementation of ADS have been identified.

Technical information for the design and construction of each unit has been collected and training and awareness-raising has been conducted among designers, installers, future operators and water users.

The project has recently entered the phase where more than 10 autonomous systems will be installed in the target countries. These systems will be tested on reliability of the used technology.

Finally, local stakeholders and authorities will be supported to develop concrete plans for the operation of the installations and the transfer of the technology to new sites.



## Project partners

ADIRA works with seven institutions from the MEDA partner countries Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Turkey, and the EU countries Greece and Spain. The project is coordinated by the Agricultural University of Athens in Greece. WIP-Renewable Energies from Germany is subcontractor. The Middle East Desalination Centre in Oman contributes as an additional sponsor.

**Total Budget:** € 3.41 million

**Duration:** 56 months

**Estimated end:** May 2008

# Efficient management of wastewater, its treatment and reuse in the Mediterranean countries (EMWater)

## What does EMWater want to achieve?

The project focuses on efficient management of wastewater, its treatment and reuse in Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Turkey. It wants to achieve this through the implementation of improved treatment technology and management practices. The exchange of relevant information between partner countries in the EU and the MEDA regions and capacity building of all actors in the wastewater sector are important means to reach this goal.

## How does EMWater work?

With the support of its partners and local and regional steering committees, the project has carried out several activities. Policy guidelines for wastewater treatment and reuse have been elaborated.

A number of training and capacity building programs have been developed. Experts from the MEDA region are being trained to act as multipliers to transfer their know-how to professionals and stakeholders in their countries. Five pilot plants for training and demonstration purposes are under construction. In October 2006, the project will organise a regional conference on wastewater reuse in the Mediterranean countries.



## Added value of the EMWater project

EMWater strengthens networking activities between stakeholders in the MEDA/EU region and supports decision makers in the MEDA countries in revising their water policies and strategies. The project also provides stakeholders from the water sector with capacity building programs. The whole set of activities of EMWater contributes significantly to the improvement of the water and wastewater situation in the beneficiary countries.

## The project partners

The EMWater consortium consists of nine institutes from the MEDA countries Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Turkey and the EU countries Germany and Italy. The consortium is lead by the German international organisation for capacity building InWent.



<b>Total Budget:</b>	€ 3.98 million
<b>Duration:</b>	56 months
<b>Estimated end:</b>	December 2007

# Development of tools and guidelines for the promotion of sustainable urban wastewater treatment and reuse in agricultural production in the Mediterranean countries (MEDAWARE)

## Objective

MEDAWARE focuses on the promotion of efficient wastewater treatment systems and sustainable wastewater reuse in agriculture. Target countries are Cyprus, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Turkey.

## How does MEDAWARE work?

The project has collected information on a number of themes related to urban wastewater treatment and reuse in the participating countries. Based on this information, the project made an analysis of best practices and success stories. As a follow-up, the project has developed specifications for innovative urban wastewater treatment technologies and systems. It also developed methodology and a database for the control and monitoring of urban wastewater treatment plants.



The development of a multi-criteria guiding support software tool for the assessment and valuation of safe wastewater reuse in agriculture is well on its way.

The project organized a number of local training workshops, study tours and an international conference in Nicosia-Cyprus.

In June 2006, an international conference on wastewater reuse was organised in Marrakech together with the ZERO-M project. Field trips will be organised for farmers, to make them aware of wastewater reuse options

## Added value

MEDAWARE strengthens mutual understanding and co-operation in the wastewater sector among Mediterranean partners. It introduces improved policies, planning and sustainable management methodologies with respect to wastewater treatment and safe reuse. Information is transferred and ex-change of know-how and technology is promoted. A regional network between national administrations, international funding agencies, and research/training institutions has been built to promote capacity building. MEDAWARE raises awareness and mobilises the population for opportunities to reuse wastewater in agriculture.

## The project partners

The MEDAWARE consortium consists of 10 institutions from the MEDA countries Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Turkey and the EU countries Cyprus, Greece and Spain. The National Technical University of Athens in Greece is the coordinator of the project consortium.



**Total Budget:** € 2.35 million  
**Duration:** 48 months  
**Estimated end:** April 2007

# Sustainable concepts towards a zero outflow municipality (Zer0-M)

## Objective

Zer0-M aims at testing and refining concepts and technologies for a close-loop usage of all water flows in small communities: the Zero Outflow Municipality. The target countries are Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey.

## Sustainable Water Management (SWM)

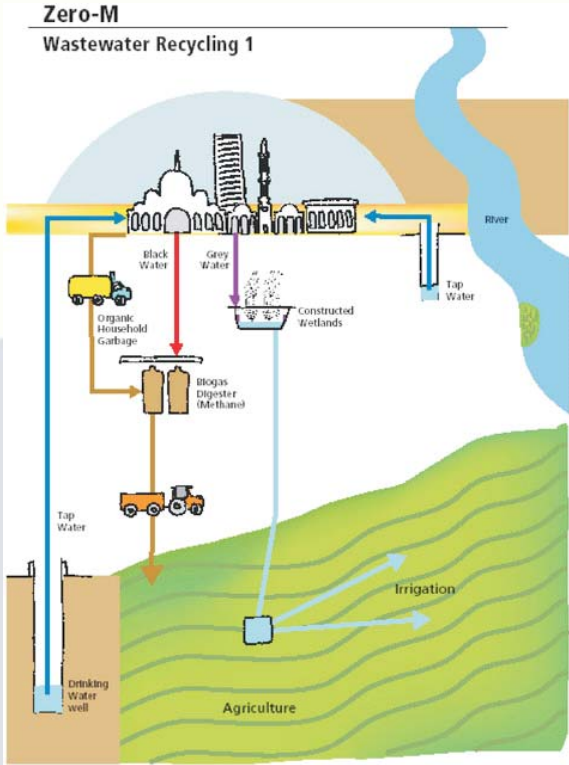
The key idea of Zer0-M is to integrate water supply, wastewater treatment and reuse. Systems will be developed that minimise freshwater consumption. The best-quality freshwater will be reserved for high-grade use (i.e. for drinking), while wastewater will be treated specifically for the planned purpose of reuse. Segregation of wastewater into different fractions will be one option to ease treatment. In that way, all resources that are found in the wastewater (water *and* nutrients), will be reused. The intention is to introduce “low tech - high concept” solutions that are specially developed for small communities. Important in this innovative concept is the use of non-conventional water resources.

## Activities

In each of the target countries, one centre will implement and demonstrate SWM solutions. Activities comprise the exchange of know-how and transfer of technology. Training and workshops will address engineers and other experts from the administration and planning entities and raise their interest to use the Zer0-M approach and technologies. Through the production and distribution of a DVD, containing a video and information about SWM, the technologies and the approach will be promoted among authorities and consumers. Awareness raising measures are also targeting schools and interested public.

## The project partners

The Zer0-M consortium consists of 10 partners from the MEDA countries Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey and the EU countries Austria, Germany and Italy. AEE INTEC from Austria, a NGO executing applied research for sustainable use of energy and water resources, is coordinating the project.



**Total Budget:** € 5.52 million  
**Duration:** 48 months  
**Estimated end:** August 2007

# Development of guidelines for drought preparedness plans (MEDROPLAN)

## Objective

The main objective of MEDROPLAN is to develop guidelines for drought preparedness plans and to set up a network for drought preparedness actions in Mediterranean countries. The target countries are Cyprus, Morocco and Tunisia.

## Project approach

MEDROPLAN focuses on the understanding of drought and its causes. It studies the impacts of drought on the economy, the environment and on society. It works on the transfer of know-how, technology and expertise, institutional strengthening and public awareness. To achieve this, MEDROPLAN develops participative and educational activities, involving stakeholder groups, regional policymakers, resource management planners and regional scientists.

The guidelines will provide partner countries with an integrated approach to minimise the impacts of drought on their people and resources. These will change the present way of facing drought from "Crisis Management" to a proactive "Risk Management".

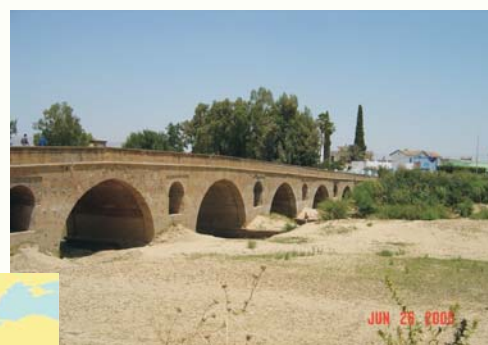
These guidelines will be adapted to the physical and socio-economic environment of the Mediterranean countries and their elaboration will follow a common methodology. The guidelines will be translated into seven languages.

## Added value

Once the guidelines are adopted by the different countries, this will result in a better understanding of the causes of drought and its social and environmental impacts. Transfer of know-how and technology, exchange of information and expertise, and institutional capabilities will be improved. Awareness-raising will mobilise the commitment of the population.

## The project partners

The MEDROPLAN consortium consists of nine institutions from the MEDA countries Morocco and Tunisia and the EU countries Cyprus, Greece, Italy and Spain. The Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (IAMZ) in Spain is the coordinating agency.



**Total Budget:** € 3.06 million  
**Duration:** 48 months  
**Estimated end:** June 2007



# The Euro-Mediterranean information system on know-how in the water sector (EMWIS / SEMIDE)

## Objective

EMWIS seeks to facilitate access to existing information on know-how in the water sector. It promotes sharing useful information from different institutions and stimulates the development of co-operation programmes at the regional and national levels.

## How does EMWIS work?

EMWIS is providing validated water information using the Internet in a decentralised way. The project supports and encourages the partners in the Mediterranean area to establish their own water information systems. The information is not put in a common database but remains at the level of the providers. Each information source will guarantee the quality, updating and the reliability of the information. This approach is followed in Latin America by SIAGUA and in Africa by AWIS.



EMWIS has a central Technical Unit and a National Focal Point in each country. The central Technical Unit is based in France and is a permanent structure. The National Focal Points are small teams within a public or semi governmental organisation in charge of the collection and dissemination of information related to the water sector. Together with the National Focal Points, the Technical Unit prepares implementation strategies and annual action plans and it supports the National Focal Points in their implementation.

## Added value

EMWIS has been the first operational initiative and co-operation system of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership in the water sector at the regional level. It provides a framework for cooperation between national water authorities around the Mediterranean area. EMWIS is acting as a public access point for water information and facilitates the exchange of experiences and the access to water knowledge. In the longer term, the development of National Water Information Systems initiated by the project will allow for better water management and creates a mechanism to monitor the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development in the field of water and sanitation.

## Project partners

EMWIS works with 10 institutions from the MEDA countries Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey and 10 institutions from the EU countries Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal and Spain. The project is coordinated by UT SEMIDE, a specially created consortium of 3 institutions from the EU countries France, Italy and Spain.



**Total Budget:** € 3.33 million  
**Duration:** 36 months  
**Estimated end:** November 2006



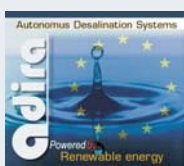
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#### Development of Tools and Guidelines for the Promotion of Sustainable Urban Wastewater Treatment and Reuse in Agricultural Production in the Mediterranean Countries (MEDAWARE)

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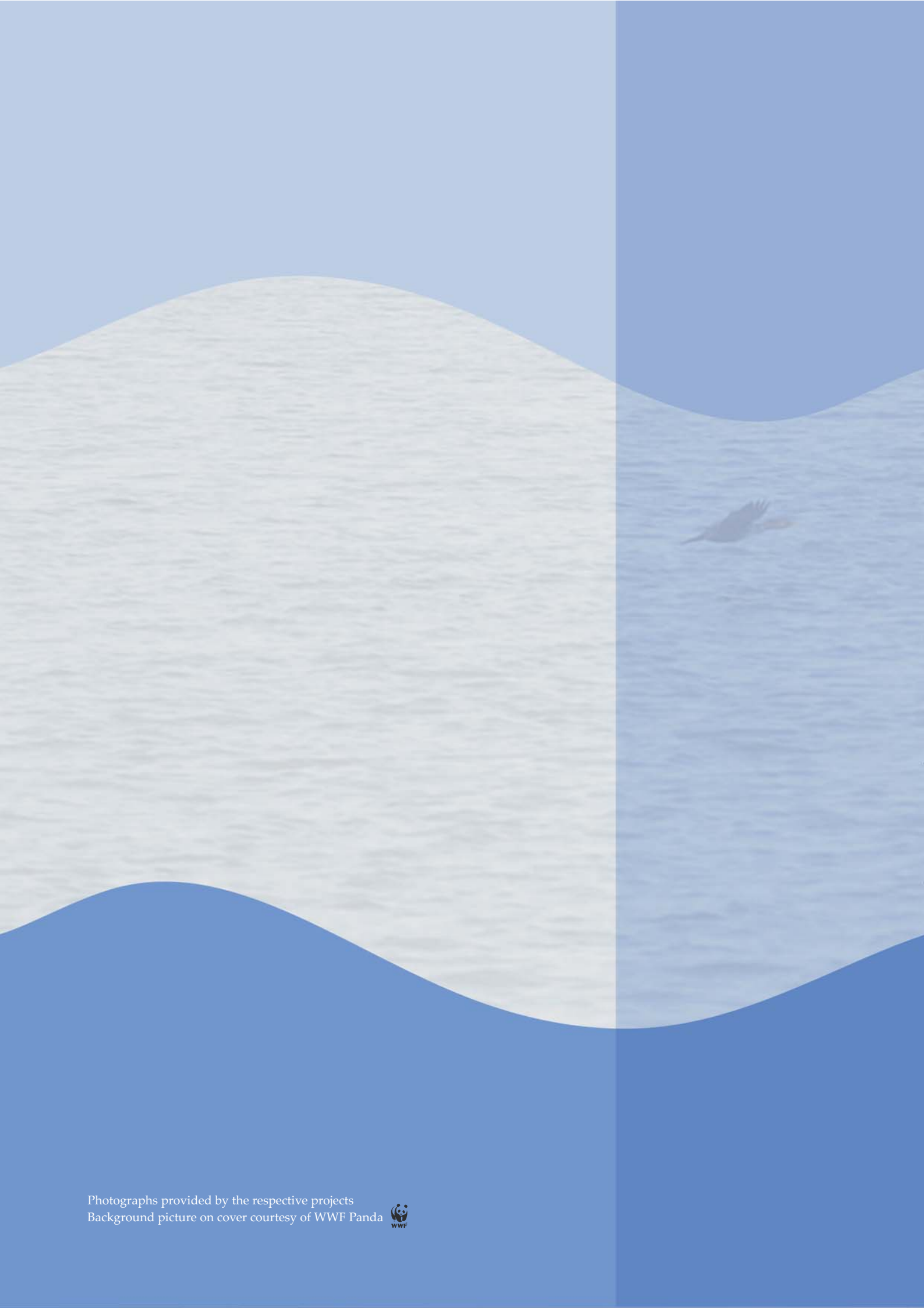
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Background picture on cover courtesy of WWF Panda

