

BRIEFING NOTE

Workshop: Tools to support and improve Integrated Water Resources Management: STRATEAU and AQUATOOL. A Mediterranean Perspective

➤ What is STRATEAU?

STRATEAU is a decision making tool that was born from the following idea: anywhere in the world, to find the right solutions, we must ask the right questions. We must first consider all relevant data on the terrain: physical, climatic, social, industrial, etc., from the municipal to the country and regional level. These data are processed by a server that, once analysed, offers comprehensive water management scenarios. In the near future, this server will be hosted by ONEMA (France).

STRATEAU was designed for engineering students to reach very quickly the expertise of their elders. Its interface is simple and user-friendly. The confidentiality of the STRATEAU data records is guaranteed.

STRATEAU is used in Lebanon, Morocco and Palestine.

➤ What is AQUATOOL?

AQUATOOL is a tool for Decision Support Systems development for Integrated Planning and Management of Water Resources Systems. AQUATOOL allows the integrated analysis at watershed-scale, of quantitative, qualitative, economic and environmental aspects, also incorporating other aspects such as priorities and management rules. This tool allows gathering all the information in a single application, evaluating multiple alternatives for different scenarios, obtaining exchanges (trade-offs) among the different objectives, sensitivity analysis, and assessing decision making associated risks.

AQUATOOL consists of several modules integrated into a single system. The user control unit allows the graphic definition of water resources system schemes, the databases control, the use of the mentioned modules, and the graphical analysis of the results.

The application of this system to real river basin planning and management cases in Spain (Júcar, Segura, Tajo, Duero, ...) and abroad (Argentina, Chile, Italy, Brazil, Algeria, Bosnia, ...), has provided a valuable experience. These applications demonstrate the robustness and the modeling flexibility of these tools. Every module has been designed oriented to consolidate methodologies for water resources systems analysis, many of them developed in the IIAMA of the Polytechnic University of Valencia (UPV), or their precursor groups from the Department of Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering of the UPV.

➤ The Water Embassy

Founded in 2006, the Water Embassy is an organisation working on water issues in emerging countries. Its activities are divided in several areas: awareness, education, information, and realisation. The Water Embassy organizes among other actions, Water Classes for all levels of school kids with the support of the Water Agency Seine Normandy, as well as decentralised cooperation projects.

Its work focuses on two areas: youth and good water governance. The first is realised through the Mediterranean Union of Young Water Ambassadors (UMJAE), the second is facilitated by the decision making tool: STRATEAU.

➤ **The Mediterranean Network of Basin Organisations**

The Mediterranean Network of Basin Organisations (MENBO) was established as a regional network of INBO (International Network of Basin Organisations) in the year 2002.

Since then the main objective of the network is to promote an integrated water resources management on the river basin level in the Mediterranean Basin, as an essential tool for sustainable development.

To accomplish this objective MENBO seeks to develop lasting relationships among water management organisations in the Mediterranean region, to assist the information exchange between them, to facilitate the implementation of water management tools, to develop information and training programmes, to encourage population's awareness on water management related issues and to strengthen relations among MENBO members to develop joint activities of regional interest.

Currently MENBO counts on more than 30 members from 17 different countries. MENBO Members may be Basin Organisations, governmental administrations in charge of water management, and bi- and multilateral cooperation agencies. In addition other types of public organisations can become "permanent observers" of the network.

➤ **Global Water Partnership Mediterranean**

The Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med) is a Regional Water Partnership of the Global Water Partnership (GWP). GWP-Med, in its present form, was created in 2002. Since then it serves as a platform bringing together competent organisations working regularly on water issues in the Mediterranean region. Its members may come from all over the Mediterranean and beyond.

GWP-Med represents the Global Water Partnership in the Mediterranean, and as such has the responsibility of implementing its principles and initiatives in the region. GWP-Med's goal is to promote and exchange knowledge on IWRM for the sustainable use of the region's water resources.