



2nd Roundtable report: Title

Chaired by
Ms. María Ángeles URENA

Report by
Mr. André MATOSO
and
Mr. Mustapha HASNAOUI

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Key issue: Water and agriculture in the Mediterranean

- EIC (Mr. Andrés DEL CAMPO):
 - New irrigation techniques needed to improve water use efficiency.
 - Irrigation contributes to food security.
 - Irrigation and biotechnology will be solutions to overcome food demand challenges.
 - Need for more water regulation (reservoirs/transfers).

Key issue: Water and agriculture in the Mediterranean

- Guadiana RBA (Mr. José Ángel RODRÍGUEZ):
 - Groundwater abstraction = aquifer overexploitation = need more efficient management.
 - By adapting crop adaptation – reduction of groundwater abstractions.
 - Hydrological management measures in new RBMPs.
 - Shift from water intensive crops to water efficient crops.

Key issue: Water and agriculture in the Mediterranean

- Ms. Edith KAUFFER:
 - 2 specific features that affect agriculture: climate and long history.
 - Emblematic species: olive trees and grape vines.
 - 48% use of water in the North of Europe, 82% in the South.
 - 35 transboundary basins: indicators to evaluate current and future conflicts.
 - Lack of precise data.

Key issue: Water and agriculture in the Mediterranean

- Faculty of Sciences and Technology (Mr. Lahcen BENAABIDATE):
 - Sebou geography and demography constraints.
 - 52% of exploitable water resources in Morocco.
 - Problems: pollution, overexploitation of aquifers, dam sediment, water losses to sea, etc.
 - Most important area regarding agriculture: 20% of the useful irrigated area.

Key issue: Water and agriculture in the Mediterranean

- Guadalquivir RBA (Mr. Juan LLUCH):
 - Donana National Park: environmental protection framework.
 - Typical Mediterranean ecosystems: transformations in land use management and irrigation.
 - Water licenses revision: abstraction plans.
 - Restrictions for environmental objectives.
 - Improving crops leads to saving water.

Key issue: Water and agriculture in the Mediterranean

- Ministry for Sustainable Development, Environment and CC (Mr. Marco DIMECH):
 - Importance of agriculture and livestock in Malta.
 - Agriculture directorate: policy development and implementation of regulations.
 - Initiatives on Capacity Building, public awareness and consultations, “open days”, etc.
 - Project FOWARIM: Fostering Water and Agriculture in Malta.
 - Importance of data collection.

General Conclusion of the roundtable

- Uncertain future of agriculture.
- Increase of demands, decrease of availability.
- Need for regulations and stakeholder involvement.
- Efficient and improved management for practical solutions to general constraints.
- Diversity of realities depending on countries.
- Adaptation of crops and irrigation modernisation techniques to save water.