Región de Murcia







# WORKING GROUP ON NEW TECHNOLOGIES: NON CONVENTIONAL WATER RESOURCES AND INFORMATION AND COMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

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# FOUR AXES

# CHAPTER I: IN A CONTEXT OF WATER SCARCITY

CHAPTER II: WATER DESALINATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN

CHAPTER III: WATER REUSE

CHAPTER IV: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICT) AND NON CONVENTIONAL WATER RESOURCES





#### IN A CONTEXT OF WATER SCARCITY

- Evidence that increased hydrologic variability and change in climate will continue have a profound impact on the water sector at the global, regional, basin, and local levels.
- Many economies are at risk of significant episodic shocks and worsened chronic water scarcity and security.



 Water and climate change: understanding the risks and making climate-smart investment decisions. (WB)

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted that climate change has implications for peace and security, as well as serious implications for the environment, societies and economies





#### IN A CONTEXT OF WATER SCARCITY

# **Climate change**





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# IN A CONTEXT OF WATER SCARCITY PROPOSAL FOR ACTIONS

- I. Adopting general policies on water resources reassignment under criteria of sustainable development in order to overcome parochial anachronisms.
- II. Acting on continental water resources by means of new facilities:
  - Modernization of irrigation systems.
  - Conjunctive use of superficial and underground waters.
  - Aquifers recharge
  - Environmental regeneration of ecosystems.
- III. Generating new offer by means of non-conventional resources:
  - Wastewater treatment and re-use
  - Desalination
  - Traditional rain harvesting
  - Others
- IV. Acting on demand:
  - Infrastructure renovation to improve the efficiency.
  - Demand management as a complex set of combined policies





# WATER DESALINATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN

FIGURE 1 Water desalinated distribution according water feed origin in Mediterranean Region Waste Pure 	Country	Production Capacity (m <sup>3</sup> /day)	
River 2,00 % 0,07 % 6,17 % 0thers 0,40 % 19,60 % Seawater 70,46 %	Morocco	85.471	
	Algeria	1.700.046	
	Tunisia	93.276	
	Lybia	809.875	
	Egipt	683.277	
	Israel	1.169.474	
	Jordan	248.855	
	Lebanon	29.125	
Distribution of desalinated water uses in the Mediterranean Region	Syria	13.981	FIGURE 3
Tourism Power 4,38 % 2,03 % Others 1,61 % Industry 12,60 % Municipal 72,10 %	Turkey	468.749	Frequency of water desalination methods in the Mediterranean Region ED EDI MED 4,98 % 0,09 % Others 1,25 % MSF 5,71 % RO 82,37 %
	Greece	149.250	
	Cyprus	228,853	
	Malta	251.151	
	Italy	698.891	
	France	233.104	
	Spain	4.769.582	
	Portugal	17.087	
	TOTAL	11.650.047	

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# WATER DESALINATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN PROPOSAL FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Rec. 1: Desalination policies must consider that water and sanitation is an human right adopted by N General Assembly in July 2010.
- Rec. 2: New resources from water desalination should be conceived as a complement into a clever combination of measures for water management. In principle, desalination should be planned and designed within an IWRM context to sustain socio-economic development of communities. Desalination should not be considered as a mere non-conventional water resource, but as a community development project.
- Rec. 3: Water desalination projects must be conceived, developed and put on line taking into account sustainable development criteria, encouraging mitigation of Green-House Gases emissions.
- Rec. 4: There is an urgent necessity to develop regulation and stablish criteria for brine discharges.
- Rec. 5: It is necessary to join efforts of on research, development and interchange knowledge about water desalination. For that will be useful establish a Mediterranean Observatory of Water Desalination participated, initially by the countries of the Mediterranean basin and hosted by Mediterranean Water Institute.
- Rec. 6: Combination of renewable energies and desalination needs to adapt regulations and policies in order to cover present difficulties. Any case, parallel development promise potential improvements.





# WATER DESALINATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN PROPOSAL FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (CONITNUED)

Rec. 7: New imaginative but physically reliable procedures to provide fresh water to meet humankind needs must to be continuously under research. RO is near to reach its maximum performance in terms of efficiency and no relevant improvement in energy consumption should be expected.

Rec. 8: It is necessary that environmental assessment of water desalting projects contemplate conservation and good status of Mediterranean Sea.









•Definition of water quality levels for each one of the possible uses of the reclaimed water.

•Identification of the treatment processes that can be applied to reach the water quality levels for each use

Reclaimed wastewater reuse requires:

- •Transportation to where is needed.
- •Storage and regulation.

•Minimization of risks through the implementation of good practice regulations.



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# WATER REUSE RECOMMENDATIOS

Rec. 1: Before reuse, a health and ecological **risk assessment** have to be performed, followed by an adequate health and ecological **risk management**. Health risk management involves the development of **standards and guidelines** to determine what management or technology is necessary to limit the risk to an acceptable level.

Rec. 2: Treated wastewater has to undergo additional or complementary treatments in order to make this water suitable for its subsequent use through a **multi barrier approach**. The goal of this approach is to cut off the flow of pathogens and chemicals from the environment (wastewater, soil, crops) to workers and final consumers.

Rec. 3: When discussing treatment for reuse, the key objective is to achieve a quality of reclaimed water which is appropriate for the intended use and is protective of human health and the environment. Regardless of the reclaimed water use, the most critical treatment objective is **pathogen inactivation**.

Rec. 4: It is necessary a **legal framework** for each country which establishes the quality criteria for the reuse of reclaimed water according to the use is intended for, in order to preserve health and the natural environment.





# WATER REUSE RECOMMENDATIOS CONTINUED

Rec. 5: Wastewater collection and treatment must be incorporated within the **regional planning** to ensure long-term sustainability. The most important criteria to achieve sustainability are: affordability, operability, reliability, environmental soundness and suitability in the Mediterranean climate.





## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLGIES (ICT) AND NON CONVENTIONAL WATER RESOURCES



- ✤ ICT AND WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
- INFORMATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT (IWRM)
- **\*** STARTING e-GOVERNANCE





## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICT) AND NON CONVENTIONAL WATER RESOURCES CONCLUSSIONS

Concl. 1: ICT's are necessaries to facing actual challenges of sustainable development. ICT's are fundamental to check day by day climatic change manifestations and for its rational interpretation.

Concl. 2: The application of ICT's to integrated water management will have an essential transcendence to realize human right to water and sanitation.

Concl. 3: ICT's applied to e-governance will provide the most direct way for governments to be in touch with their populations. ICT's are anteroom of water e-governance.

Concl. 4: ICT's are essential to realize in the water sector the right of access to public information, to participate in the public decisions ant to access to the justice.





## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICT) AND NON CONVENTIONAL WATER RESOURCES CONCLUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

Concl. 5: ICT's application to improvement and modernization of irrigated area will support largely increase of irrigation water efficiency with significant reduction of water needs. As well to the management of hydric resources in large reservoirs, water distribution in mayor networks and urban supply services.

Concl. 6: ICT's plays a fundamental role to evaluate in real time environmental impacts of desalination activities. The same transcendence is predicted on management of its energetic demands.

Concl. 7: ICT's provides indispensable tools to water reuse management.





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# THANKS

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