

1st MELIA Workshop on “Water culture and water conflict”

Nabeul-Médenine, Tunisia,
(22 – 25 November 2007)

Organized by



Institut des Régions Arides
IRA – Médenine University
TUNISIA



The Faculty of Agriculture
of Jordan-UoJ
JORDAN



Consejo Superior de
Investigaciones Científicas – CSIC
SPAIN

In collaboration with:



Piccola Società IPOGEA
ITALY



CIHEAM
Mediterranean Agronomic
Institute of Bari (Italy)



Institut National des Recherches en
Génie Rural, Eau et Forêts-INRGREF
TUNISIA

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

The 1st Workshop of MELIA Project (“Mediterranean Dialogue on Integrated Water Management”, Contract FP6 517612) dedicated to “Water Culture and Water Conflicts”, intends to pull together scientists, decision- and policy-makers, water users, relevant NGOs’ and Organisations from all the Mediterranean countries for discussing and sharing views and experiences on Water Culture and Prevention of Water Conflicts, considering terms from the historical, economical and social point of view, and the possible application of the principles of the European Water Framework Directive as a tool for water conflicts remediation.

In particular, the Workshop will look at the following issues:

- ❑ Improvement and sharing of information and knowledge on past cultural heritage of water management between the Mediterranean countries;
- ❑ Evaluation of the cultural linkages between the traditional and the contemporary water management practices. Approach to the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) principles in the MPC in terms of the traditional principles and the principles of the Water Framework Directive;
- ❑ Debate on the perspectives of the New Water Culture in the Mediterranean basin;
- ❑ Historical analysis of the sources and management of water conflicts between competing groups and countries;
- ❑ Assessment of the relations between water culture and water conflict in the Mediterranean;
- ❑ The use of the principles of the Water Framework Directive as a tool to handle Water Conflicts.

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

Thursday 22 November: Water culture:

Topic 1: A historical and contemporary perspective of water culture in the Mediterranean Countries (Plenary lecture and oral contributions on national cases)

POSTER SESSION

Topic 2: Towards a new water culture in the Mediterranean Countries. (Plenary Lecture)
Open debates

Friday 23 November: Water conflict:

Topic1: Overview of water conflict in the Mediterranean regions (Plenary Lectures).

Topic 2: Water management and conflict resolution (Oral contributions on national cases and tools of intervention).

Joint session (General discussion): Water culture and water conflict.

For each topic, a plenary conference and some specific oral presentations will be organized. Contributions to the Workshop should be accepted after evaluation by the Scientific Committee. Oral presentations will be limited, but all the accepted contributions will be uploaded in the 1st Workshop Web site area of the MELIA Web site (<http://www.meliaproject.eu>) for discussion. Moreover, poster presentations as well as audiovisual products (films, etc) can be submitted too. The main aim of this Workshop is to organize a debate between the attendants on the topics and issues defined above. Therefore, discussions sessions about some well specified topics, related to the presentations, uploaded documents, posters and other contributions will be organized and register by one or two “rapporteur” as a collective deliverable of the Workshop.

Posters dimensions will be indicated in due time.

Scientific Committee

Prof. Rafael Rodríguez, CSIC, Spain
Prof. Houcine Khatteli, IRA, Tunisia
Dr. Mohamed Ouessar, IRA, Tunisia
Prof Mongi Sghaier, IRA, Tunisia
Prof. Muhammad Shatanawi, UOJ, Jordan
Dr. Pietro Laureano, IPOGEA, Italy
Prof Néjib Ben Rjeb, INRGREF, Tunisia
Dr. Faycal Chénini, INRGREF, Tunisia
Dr. Claudio Bogliotti, CIHEAM-Bari, Italy
Dr. Maroun El Moujabber, CIHEAM-Bari, Italy

Organising Committee

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Prof. Rafael Rodríguez, CSIC, Spain
Ing. Juan Miguel González, CSIC, Spain
Prof. Houcine Khatteli, IRA, Tunisia
Prof. Muhammad Shatanawi, UOJ, Jordan
Dr. Pietro Laureano, IPOGEA, Italy
Dr. Faycal Chénini, INRGREF, Tunisia
Dr. Maroun El Moujabber, CIHEAM-Bari, Italy

Secretariat of the workshop

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Email (Secretariat): MELIA_WORKSHOP1@yahoo.com
Contact: Mohamed OUESSAR (Local organizer)
(Ouessar.Mohamed@ira.rnrt.tn)
Web link: <http://www.meliaproject.eu/>

FIELD VISIT

By crossing the country from North to South, the two-day (24 & 25 November 2007) field visit will be an opportunity for the participants to discover the main features of water culture and water conflicts in Tunisia. Details will be accessible at: http://www.meliaproject.eu/Members/firstworkshop/MELIA_Workshop1_Field_itinerary.pdf

VENUE

The two days workshop (22 & 23 November) will take place at:

Hotel Kheops (same venue as the Water conference)
Avenue Habib Bourguiba – Nabeul. Tunisia
Tel. : (216-2) 286.555
Fax. : (216-2) 286.024
E-mail : hotel.kheops@planet.tn
Web: <http://www.groupesassi.com/kheops/index.htm>

Special Hotel rates (around 15 Euros) have been negotiated for the participants of the water conference and the MELIA workshop.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND PUBLICATION

The submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee. Their acceptance for presentation and publication and the guidelines to prepare and formatting the full paper, will be communicated by e-mail to the main author, together with a Login and Password to access to the MELIA website (<http://www.meliaproject.eu/>) 1st Workshop area, where the documents will be uploaded. The Workshop proceedings will be published as a special issue of *Options Méditerranéennes* or *Revue des Régions Arides*.

ORGANIZATION

This first MELIA workshop will be held in connection with the International Conference on **'Water resources management and sustainable agriculture development'** to be organized by INRGREF in Nabeul (Tunisia), 20-21 November 2007. More details are found in: <http://www.iresa.agrinet.tn/waterconference-tn>. Contact: waterconference-tn@iresa.agrinet.tn; chenini.faycel@iresa.agrinet.tn

The MELIA 1st workshop will take place in Hotel Kheops in Nabeul, some 10 km. north of Hammamet, the 22 and 23 November 2007 in morning and afternoon sessions. A field tour the 24 & 25 November is planned with visits to present and past hydraulic works. The Workshop will be closed at IRA's headquarters in Médenine.

INSCRIPTIONS

Those persons willing to participate in the Workshop are invited to fill in the Registration form at the web site of MELIA Project: <http://www.meliaproject.eu>

There are no charges for inscription, but all attendants will cover their travel and living expenses during the workshop and the field trip.

DEADLINES

September 1st, 2007: Abstract submission and completion of registration form (<http://www.meliaproject.eu/>).

September 15th, 2007: Notification of acceptance.
September 30th, 2007: Confirmation of participation and hotel reservation.
October 15th, 2007: Full paper due.