



I.N.B.O.

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE IN EUROPE

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Capacity building project for Basin Managers

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INBO-CVA : Virtual Collaborative Training Community of water professionals of the International Network of Basin Organizations

(Abstract – Version of 18/01/2002)

This draft was prepared for the call to tenders 2002 of the Leonardo da Vinci Program of the European Commission. At this stage, it is a pre-proposal.

Project description:

The project consists in preparing a system for the continuing training of professionals who encounter the same problems on the European scale, regarding rules and practice of their profession (i.e. the impact of the Framework Directive on integrated water resource management - EFD). The system is based on **cooperation between counterparts** and the model relies on the creation and remote coordination of a **circle of professionals** who think together about the different aspects of water management and the implementation of the Directive.

The targeted public includes executives of basin organizations, members of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) at the European level. The implementation of the EFD generates a highly changing environment in which these professionals have to directly involve themselves. Their participation in the reflection being then a significant factor for training and skill development: it is really "learning in practicing".

Capitalizing these exchanges around specific topics, based on the participants' real working life and prospective reflection, will enable a base of validated information on integrated water management in Europe to become available. It could be used for training and following up the young.

Multilinguism will be especially privileged in order not to hinder exchanges by the use of a badly mastered language. The technological system will be multilingual and will include an automated translation assisting tool (with dictionaries continuously enriched by the participants).

The task of the involved teachers (coming from Universities or Training Centers of the sector) will not be to provide ready made training courses but to supervise discussions and exchanges (role of moderator and tutor), to provide additional resources whenever needed, and to summarize / formalize the results obtained to capitalize the acquired information.

Additional inputs could be the selection of relevant documents, the organization of conferences gathering specialists and researchers, either in the form of teleconferences or of a set of real conferences, the organization of technical visits, etc.

The project will consist in preparing operative specifications for a virtual training community, in developing the technical and methodological tools needed to test them in real size during a sufficiently long period (10 to 12 months). We will then have a methodology and validated tools available for the implementation of long-term collaborative training.

The educational framework of this system will be studied and formalized.

Although it concerns a continuing training approach (meaning during somebody's entire working life), methods for validating the information thus acquired will be looked for in order to confirm the active participation of individuals in this process and thus enhance their career.

At the same time, the establishment of a graduating training program (masters type) at the European level will be studied. This training will address young professionals and will rely on the community with a more constraining educational framework, based on a customized work program and a closer tutorship.

An independent Committee will continuously evaluate the project and information on its progress will be available on a relevant web site.

The project should last 30 months.

Its cost estimate is EUR 396,250, and the help needed amounts to 75 %.

The project partners:

The partnership gathers the members of the Network (promoter), the International Office for Water (technical coordinator) and the basin organizations, such as the National Company Apele Romane (Romania), the Poznan Water Agency (Polish RZGW), the Jucar Hydrographic Confederation (Spain) and a French Water Agency (to be confirmed). Universities, Training and Water-related Information Centers (including Hydrocontrol in Italy) will also be involved.

The project, if retained, will be incorporated into the INBO / GWP – Associated Program relative to the capacity building of basin organizations.

Agenda:

The outcome of the pre-appraisal will be known at the end of March 2002. Should the project be pre-selected; a complete proposal will then have to be formalized at the beginning of May 2002. If retained, the project would start in November 2002.

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