

Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector

Overview and update on the project

5th Beirut Water Week
22-23 May 2014
Notre Dame University, Beirut

Snapshot of the project

Regional geographical scope

Duration: mid 2013 - mid 2016

Labelled under the UfM framework

Designed & implemented by:

GWP-Med & OECD

2 components: national & regional

Pilot Countries: Albania, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Morocco & Tunisia, with additional countries to be included

Budget: 2.5 million Euros

Financially supported by Sida, EIB and GEF MedPartnership



Overall objective is to

Identify and provide realistic and implementable solutions (in the form of a set of operational guidance and a compendium of good/bad cases and best practices) to the governance challenges for the mobilisation of financing for the Mediterranean water sector

Specific objectives

The work will focus on two interlinked areas:

- ❑ Assess the opportunities and institutional and regulatory challenges arising from public-private partnerships in water infrastructure, *as a tool* in the hand of policy makers to advance the government objectives of managing water resources and financing services in an effective, sustainable and affordable manner.
- ❑ Stemming from the assessment, provide a diagnosis of the key governance and capacity building bottlenecks that impede the efficient use and mobilisation of much needed financing and of the mechanisms to overcome them. The work will seek to identify the main policy responses for managing cooperation across different governance levels, catalysing in-house government expertise and strengthening the institutional set-up that can underpin increased investment flows.

Components & outputs

A set of country reviews, developed through national consultations

- At country level, a questionnaire will be developed and used to identify the institutional and regulatory factors inhibiting the flows of financial resources and PPPs. The in-depth research based on the questionnaire will be complemented by multi-stakeholder policy dialogues and will pave the way for recommendations and an action plan for reforms, based on international best practices.

Regional dialogues to share experiences and promote the diffusion and replication of successful practices

- At regional level, the Project will support the exchange of policy experiences through regular meetings among Mediterranean and OECD countries and facilitate the interface between policy-makers and private sector actors on governance reforms that will help achieve financial sustainability in the water sector. The potential for setting up a regional platform for such interface will be explored.

Regional Component

□ Annual Regional Meetings to:

exchange good practices and the sharing of experiences in the region and with other countries (EU, overseas, OECD)

identify common denominators, as well as replicable experiences and practices using the compiled report of country case studies.

develop of a set of guidelines tailored to the region based on the experiences detailed in country case studies.

□ **Facilitate a broad network of experts dedicated to water governance dialogue**, in line with OECD's Global Water Governance Initiative and the Med Process of the World Water Fora

□ **Facilitate the set up of a regional interface/roundtable among public, private and other actors**

National Component

- ❑ **In-Country Policy Dialogues** (of about 9-12 months) - specific focus defined in each country
- ❑ **Country-specific Reports** informing and be guided by the Policy Dialogues
using tested methodologies and tools:
 - Diagnosis of the framework underpinning affordability and long term financial sustainability of PSP projects in the water sector
 - Customised guidance on how to overcome the bottlenecks & discussion of the various options for reform
 - Action plan on key areas of improvement, building on the experience in other sectors/countries, comparison with international best practices
- Questionnaire and interviews** with key players to support the collect information, inform the diagnosis and mobilise key stakeholders in the policy dialogue
- Series of policy workshops** organised by GWPMed and the OECD in the countries to discuss the analytical reports
- Involvement of peer reviewers** to share experience on how similar bottlenecks have been or can be addressed
- Annual regional meetings** to share experiences

How to do it - Methodology

Builds on **well received earlier work** by GWP-Med/OECD in Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia (in progress)

Long tradition of **providing neutral platforms for building consensus & sharing good practices** among wide range of stakeholders through evidence-based policy dialogues

Based on **tested methodologies and tools** to help countries **strengthen institutional capacity to attract financial resources & manage water resources and service delivery more efficiently**

Allows direct interface between citizens, users, governments and the private sector, thus **enhancing ownership and securing active participation**

How to do it - Synergies

Based on ongoing work and linkages that the promoters have established in the Mediterranean region, operational linkages with EU and UN initiatives, processes and programmes can be secured, including, but not limited to, the:

- EU Water Initiative (EUWI) and particularly the Mediterranean Component (MED EUWI) and the Joint Process MED EUWI/WFD
- GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean
- EC-funded Sustainable Water Integrated Management (SWIM) Support Mechanism and Demo projects
- Horizon 2020 Initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean
- UN Barcelona Convention & Protocols, MSSD, UNEP MAP, UNDP WGP-AS, UN ESCWA, etc
- Marseille Centre for Mediterranean Integration (SustainableMed)

Strategic partnerships with the EIB (secured) and others (in progress) will ensure an adequate diagnosis of the governance bottlenecks, support the project financially and bolster the work's impact

Progress during 1st year of implementation (2013-2014)

- ❑ Regional Conference officially launching the programme
UfM Headquarters, Barcelona, 28-29 May 2013

- ❑ Policy Dialogue in Tunisia
 - ❑ Technical background work – elaboration of Scoping Note
 - ❑ First Consultation Workshop, Tunis, 1 October 2013
 - ❑ Second Consultation Workshop - elaboration of draft National Report (5 March 2014)
 - ❑ Launch of National Report – Third Consultation Workshop (9 June 2014)

- ❑ Policy Dialogue in Jordan
 - ❑ Technical background work – elaboration of Scoping Note
 - ❑ First Consultation Workshop, Amman, 23 October 2013
 - ❑ Second Consultation Workshop – elaboration (5 February 2014)
 - ❑ Launch of National Report – Third Consultation Workshop (4 June 2014)

Next steps in 2014

- ❑ Completion of Policy Dialogue in **Jordan**
 - ❑ Launch of National Report – Third Consultation Workshop (4 June 2014)
 - ❑ Elaboration of Policy Brief (by September 2014)

- ❑ Completion of Policy Dialogue in **Tunisia**
 - ❑ Launch of National Report – Third Consultation Workshop (9 June 2014)
 - ❑ Elaboration of Policy Brief (by September 2014)

- ❑ Policy Dialogue in **Morocco**
 - ❑ Scoping Note to set off the work (end May 2014)
 - ❑ Technical work at national level

- ❑ Set off & advance the Policy Dialogue in **Palestine**
 - ❑ Exploratory mission (31 May -2 June)
 - ❑ Scoping Note (by end of Sep 2014)
 - ❑ First Consultation Workshop (last week of Oct 2014)

- ❑ **Annual Regional Conference**, 2nd week of September 2014

Thank you
for your kind
attention

مع خالص شكري
وامتثاني

Merci pour
votre
attention