

**Annex 8: Action Fiche for the 2010 Euro-Mediterranean Partnership  
Regional Action Programme - Global Allocation**

**1. IDENTIFICATION**

Title	<b>Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Global Allocation for 2010-2011</b>		
Total cost	<b>EUR 10 900 000</b>		
Aid method/ Management mode	Project approach – centralised		
DAC code	43010	Sector	Multi-sector

**2. RATIONALE**

The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Global Allocation for 2010-2011 is a flexible “facility” giving the EC the possibility to decide to finance small-scale measures that are in keeping with the objectives of the Southern dimension of the ENPI programme and its operational and policy priorities.

Based on the ENPI Regulation, in particular Article 16 on “Support measures”, the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Global Allocation for 2010-2011 provides funding which allows to implement the ENPI Regulation and achieve its objectives, e.g. supporting activities and studies relating to the country or multi-country programmes, organisation of ENPI South meetings, activities in the fields of culture and information or *ad hoc* operations.

**3. DESCRIPTION**

**3.1. Objectives**

The objective of this Global Allocation is to ensure a rapid commitment decision on action and projects, while enabling the European Commission to act with flexibility by means of an instrument which is capable of adapting itself to evolving circumstances and/or dealing with unforeseen situations.

**3.2. Expected results and main activities**

The Global Allocation will be used as a framework for financing activities in the following fields:

**(1) Support for project cycle management**

This component includes activities linked to:

- identification and formulation of bilateral and regional projects which may result in funding from ENPI South (e.g. sectoral studies, country or region studies, studies on cross-cutting issues or in specialised areas, preparatory activities, etc.);

- small projects and other small-scale activities to back up major projects during implementation (programmes carried out under the country or multi-country programmes);
- audit and evaluation/impact assessment of projects for which financing of such activities could not be foreseen due to the N+1 rule or is no longer available.

The indicative budget for this component is **EUR 3 000 000** to be allocated by means of framework contracts. In the very few cases where the existing framework contracts could not be used (e.g. budget over the EUR 200 000 threshold, experts unavailable for various lots, etc.), other procedures laid down in the Financial Regulation will be followed.

## (2) **Cultural and information activities**

This component covers activities of the EU Delegations in the Mediterranean countries and territories in the following areas:

- culture: support for local or regional cultural activities in the field of audiovisual and multimedia, arts, cultural festivals (cinema, dance, theatre, etc.), dialogue between cultures, etc.;
- information: publications and other information and awareness-raising activities about the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation and partnership which are designed and implemented in coherence with and to complement the regional information and communication programme, in order to enhance the visibility of Commission's activities in each Mediterranean country.

This component will have an indicative budget of **EUR 2 400 000**, to be split among EU Delegations, based on their annual programme of activities. These activities will be implemented by means of grant and service contracts. All grant contracts will be awarded following calls for proposals launched locally by EU Delegations. The required procedures for service contracts will be applied in accordance with the Financial Regulation.

## (3) **Organisation of meetings**

This component covers different kinds of meetings organised by the Commission in the framework of the ENPI Southern Partnership, including ministerial conferences conducted in cooperation with the EU Presidency and thematic working groups, civil fora, sectoral preparatory meetings, etc.

The indicative budget for this component is **EUR 2 500 000**. The technical preparations for and logistical organisation of the meetings will come under framework contracts or other procedures laid down in the Financial Regulation.

## (4) **Ad hoc operations**

This component will be used to finance operations in specific cases which fall outside the scope of the standard country or multi-country programmes, such as the financial contribution to the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean to which a direct grant may be awarded.

The Secretariat will play a key role in the institutional architecture of the Union for the Mediterranean, mainly by taking charge of identifying measures to follow up and promote new projects, but also by seeking funding and partners to implement projects.

This co-financing will have to follow the provisions of the Financial Regulation strictly. The other sources of funding will have to come from the Euro-Mediterranean partners.

The indicative budget for this component is **EUR 3 000 000**. Activities will be financed via service contracts, grant contracts and/or contracts with international organisations according to the needs of each activity.

#### **4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES**

##### **4.1. Implementation method**

Centralised management.

##### **4.2. Procurement and grant award procedures**

All contracts implementing the action must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the procedures and standard documents laid down and published by the Commission for the implementation of external operations and which are in force at the time of the launch of the procedure in question.

The essential selection criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EU external actions. The maximum rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing is possible only in the cases provided for in Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation where financing in full is essential in order to carry out the action in question.

##### **4.3. Budget and calendar**

Contracts can be financed under this part of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Global Allocation as soon as the Commission decision is adopted and until 31 December 2011 in accordance with the “n+1” rule, provided the funds available under the previous Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Global Allocation have been fully used.

##### **4.4. Evaluation and audit**

Certification of expenditure will have to be submitted as part of the contracts implementing this decision. Evaluations of the results achieved by some of the projects financed under this Decision may be conducted by external experts entrusted by the Commission, along with external audits on the initiative of the Commission, if necessary. These evaluations and audits will be funded from other sources because the “n+1” rule applies after the contracting-out period for this Decision.

## Annex 9: Action Fiche for Sustainable Water Management and de-pollution of the Mediterranean

### 1. IDENTIFICATION

Title/Number	Sustainable Water Management and de-pollution of the Mediterranean ENPI/2010/021-935		
Total cost	<i>EC contribution (2009-2010) : 22 M € (of which EUR 15 million to be committed in 2010 and EUR 7 million already committed in 2009)</i>		
Aid method / Method of implementation	Project approach – Direct centralised management		
DAC-code	14010	Sector	Water resources policy and administrative management

### 2. RATIONALE

The present Action Fiche was presented to the Quality Support Group 2 in January 2009. The ENPI Committee approved the Project Fiche (April 2009) and the EC Decision was taken to allocate the EUR 7 millions to the technical assistance component (July 2009). It is expected that another EC Decision will approve additional EUR 15 millions for the Call for Proposals in 2010.

#### 2.1. Sector context

The prevalence of unsustainable water consumption in the Euro-Mediterranean region has resulted in an alarming depletion of water reserves (groundwater and surface water) and damages to aquatic and coastal ecosystems, upon which the economic and social development of the region depends. It also leads to social tensions (competition between the different water uses) and trans-boundary conflicts. This situation is worsened by the already perceptible impacts of Climate Change and the negative consequences of economic globalisation, in particular in the agriculture and tourism sectors.

The recent evolution of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the launch of the Union for the Mediterranean have confirmed the high priority given to environment and water issues by governments in the region, in particular through the Horizon 2020 Initiative agreed in the Euro Mediterranean Ministerial Meeting on Environment held in Cairo (November 2006).

Moreover, the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water which was held in Jordan at the end of 2008 launched the preparation of a new Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWM) and an Action Plan to be defined by the relevant stakeholders by 2010. The main priority areas of this new Strategy had been identified during the Euro-Mediterranean and South Eastern European Water Directors Conferences (2007 and 2008): Water Governance, Water and Climate

Change, Water Financing, and Water Demand Management. In order to further prepare the SWM, meetings of the Water Expert Group took place in Athens (September 2009) and Cairo (November 2009). Unfortunately due to reasons not linked to the content of the Water Strategy no agreement was reached in the Ministerial meeting held in Barcelona (April 2010). However, the main elements of the strategy are not at stake. The SWM would promote the adoption of widely accepted principles and practices needed to ensure the sustainable use of this important natural resource. In any event, the present programme aims at to continue working with the Euro-Mediterranean partners, to ensure the sustainable use of such an essential resource in the region.

It follows the priorities agreed in both Ministerial Declarations: Egypt 2006 for Horizon 2020 and Jordan 2008 for the SWM. It is also in line with the conclusions of the Joint Egyptian-Dutch Water Conference "Towards the new Long Term Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean" (Cairo, November 2009). On this occasion, the participants (EU and Mediterranean partner countries) recognised that climate change presents an additional pressure in the Mediterranean region, which surpasses and aggravates the already existing serious water scarcity and drought problems. Furthermore, they requested further elaboration and urgent implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures applying prevention and precautionary principles in order to address increasing uncertainties. They agreed to send to the Copenhagen Summit a declaration to highlight the need to adapt to increasing climate variability and change through better water management and water services. This requires significant additional efforts within water management and the areas of spatial planning and energy management<sup>9</sup>.

## 2.2. Lessons learnt

Independent evaluations of the two previous regional programmes for environment SMAP and MEDA WATER were carried out in 2008.

The latter has highlighted the fact that despite some valuable results at local level, the regional impact of the programme remains weak, because of an insufficient dissemination of good practices to the relevant decision makers.

The evaluation of SMAP III highlighted the lack of articulation between the individual projects and the national strategies.

The present programme will carry forward the results achieved by these two programmes (awareness raising of the national authorities and relevant actors at national and regional level) in order to maximise the chances of replication of good practices, concerning in particular: treated wastewater reuse possibilities (legislative and technical aspects, financing incentives); irrigation efficiency (technical solutions, effective participation of water users associations); integrated coastal zone management (concrete examples of sound governance and civil society participation).

---

<sup>9</sup>

[http://www.ufm-water.net/meetings/towards-new-long-term-strategy-water/Cairo\\_message\\_version\\_final.pdf](http://www.ufm-water.net/meetings/towards-new-long-term-strategy-water/Cairo_message_version_final.pdf).

### 2.3. Complementary actions

The programme will be implemented complementarily with the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI-Med), whose main objectives are to promote the development of Integrated Water Resources Management (IRWM) policies via National Policy Dialogues, to support the elaboration of the SWM, and to facilitate donors' coordination concerning priority actions to be identified with the countries. A support project runs from 2010-2012 for 30 months with a budget of 1.02 M €.

It should be mentioned that several programmes developed under the ENRTP (Environment and sustainable management of Natural Resources including energy Thematic Programme) concern water related climate change issues in the ENPI Countries, and specifically the Mediterranean. For instance, a World Bank administered Trust Fund addresses climate change in the Middle East and North-Africa (MENA) region (in which the EC and Italy participate as main donors).

Close coordination with the Horizon 2020 Initiative (H2020), including the related ENPI projects and the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development will be ensured, with a special focus on the H2020 components concerning pollution reduction projects (identified Hotspots) and capacity building.

The present programme is also complementary to the "ENPI-Mediterranean Environment Programme" approved in 2008 (€ 7 millions) which aims to support the implementation of the Horizon 2020 Initiative. This Programme includes a Monitoring Component to be implemented under the aegis of the European Environment Agency, aimed at setting up a Shared Environmental Information System for the Mediterranean (SEIS) in cooperation with UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan (Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention).

It also complements another project, the Mediterranean Hot-Spot Investment Programme Project Preparation and Implementation Facility (MeHSIP PPIF). Supported from FEMIP and managed by the European Investment Bank, this project supports the preliminary steps needed to take the projects identified under the analytical work by the Barcelona Convention through to a point where they are picked up by IFIs (total value € 6.2 million).

Synergies with the ENPI Cross-Border Cooperation Mediterranean Sea Programme will also be developed.

This programme will also ensure complementarities with activities under ENPI bilateral programmes, namely, water and environment bilateral projects such as the one ongoing in Egypt (aimed at improving the management of water resources in order to ensure the supply of the population with drinking water; while balancing the conflicting needs of industry, agriculture and other water uses; "Water Sector Reform Programme €80 millions 2005-2009") or the one to be launched in Jordan which intends to assist the water sector stakeholders to enhance mitigation and adaptation to the increasing water scarcity in Jordan, which may be further augmented by the impact of the global warming and climate change. It aims to support effective co-operation of water users in executing strategic government's objectives related to efficient management and conservation of water resources. "Improved Water Resources Security for Low Income Rural and Urban Communities (€10 million,

2010-2012"). Moreover, bilateral water programmes are approved in Morocco (€50 million) and Tunisia (€57 million) or in preparation in Algeria (€30 million) and Lebanon (€9 million). Other activities with a sub-regional nature, such as the programme to "Fostering co-operation on water management between the Israeli, Palestinian and Jordanian water authorities" (which represent the 5<sup>th</sup> phase of the EXACT programme, and is currently under preparation) will also be taken into account.

Furthermore, synergies will be sought with the "Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem – Regional Component: Implementation of agreed actions for the protection of the environmental resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas" supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), UNEP/MAP and the EU among other donors (2008-2009).

#### **2.4. Donor coordination**

Despite the difficulties of coordinating regional activities on environment in the Mediterranean, specific attention will also be given to important infrastructure projects funded by International Financial Institutions (including under the Horizon 2020 Pollution Reduction Component), in terms of complementary capacity strengthening needs and sustainability issues. Moreover, linkages with the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development will be ensured, and synergies will be sought in particular with projects funded through the GEF but also with the African Water Facility and with regional water governance related projects as well.

Regarding the implementation of the principles of the SWM, coordination with EU member states and other international donors should take place via the Water Expert Group (WEG).

Two experts have been hired through a Framework Contract for the preparation of the terms of reference and the guidelines for the call for proposals. Intensive exchange with the concerned DGs, EU Delegations in the region and with the key stakeholders (Water Expert Group Forum, NGOs, EU Member States, International Financial Institutions, UN bodies, etc) is taking place.

During the formulation and implementation of the programme phases, the concerned EU Delegations will be further involved to ensure coordination with other initiatives implemented or planned at national level.

The Guiding Principles of the Backbone Strategy for Reforming Technical Cooperation were taken into account, in particular principles 1 (focus on capacity development), 3 (results orientation), 5 (taking account of country and sector-specific requirements), and 6 (working through harmonised and aligned action).

### **3. DESCRIPTION**

#### **3.1. Objectives**

Overall objective:

- To promote actively the extensive dissemination of sustainable water management policies and practices in the region in the context of increasing water scarcity, combined pressure on water resources from a wide range of users, and desertification processes, in connection with climate change.

Specific objectives:

- Draw the attention of Partner Countries' decision-makers and stakeholders to the existing and forthcoming threats on water resources, on the necessity to adopt a more appropriate water consumption and water use model, as well as on the existence of solutions to tackle the problem;
- Support Partner Countries in designing and implementing sustainable water management policies at the national and the local levels, in liaison with existing international initiatives in the area concerned
- Contribute to ensuring institutional reinforcement and the development of the necessary planning and management skills, in line with Horizon 2020 objectives, and facilitate know how transfer.

These objectives will be pursued with a view to addressing the four interlinked issues referred to in the new SWM (water governance, water and climate change, water financing and water demand management) and the three sources of pollution (municipal waste, municipal wastewater, industrial emissions) of the Horizon 2020 initiative.

### **3.2. Expected results and main activities**

Expected results of the project are:

- (5) Demonstrated increase in the awareness of decision-makers, stakeholders, and the general public of water value and of the continuous depletion of water resources as a consequence of water wastage, climate change, water pollution, demographic pressure and modification of life-styles, particularly in urban areas.
- (6) Sustainable and equitable water resources management becomes a prominent feature of national development strategies and policies in relevant fields (agriculture, industry, tourism, etc).
- (7) Good practices and state-of-art technologies are more well-known and disseminated at national and regional levels.
- (8) Sustainable water management schemes, based on the integrated water management concept adopted for the EU Framework Directive, involving inter-sector dialogue as well as collaboration between stakeholders and incorporating water saving targets, are effectively put in motion in a number of rural areas and municipalities of the Partner Countries.
- (9) Water-related institutions are empowered and stakeholders' capacities are increased (target groups: water utilities, relevant ministries, such as agriculture, environment, industry, tourism and trade, River Basin



Organisations, municipalities, water users associations, universities, regional and national research centres).

**Activities envisaged:**

The project will consist of two main components that together will contribute to the expected results described above.

(F) Support Mechanism:

This horizontal component will take care of the overall coordination of the different programme's activities and contribute to ensuring:

- Awareness-raising on water scarcity and environment related challenges,
- Policy dialogue,
- Dissemination of information,
- Capacity building and liaison with Horizon 2020 and other relevant initiatives.

It will also assist Partner Countries in updating their water management strategies and in introducing new methods regarding e.g. water tariff, water management (including stakeholders' participation), losses control and water saving, on a voluntary basis.

Technical assistance tasks will additionally include support for the beneficiaries of the demonstration projects, monitoring of their activities and overall programme reporting to the Commission.

Main activities:

- Development of a Communication and Awareness-Raising Strategy targeting relevant decision makers and stakeholders, addressing issues related to the consequences of unsustainable use of water and inefficient water management, and encouraging a shift towards water efficient techniques and modus operandi.
- Identification of good practices and success stories in the region and elsewhere (in the framework of the Demonstration Projects, but also of other undertakings);
- Organisation of, or participation in, events aiming to mobilise Partner Countries and other donors, discuss thematic issues, harmonise approaches and policies, and facilitate inter-sector dialogue as well as exchanges of experience, in liaison with Horizon 2020 and the Mediterranean component of the EU-Water Initiative whenever appropriate;
- Capacity Building activities (seminars for middle-level staff, other training sessions, ad hoc support missions on the ground, study visits, etc) in relevant areas; in this respect, regional and national training institutions will be identified to serve as "centres of reference" and will possibly also be involved in designing and implementing these activities;

A Steering Group, assisted in principle by Thematic Task Forces, will ensure overall guidance and supervision of this component. Exchanges with the Horizon 2020 Steering Group and with the "Water Expert Group" set up by the Ministerial Conference on Water and operating under the Mediterranean component of the EU Water Initiative will be developed.

(G) Demonstration Projects:

Up to ten Demonstration Projects will be selected, following a Call for Proposals in order to promote integrated and ecosystems approaches in the fields of integrated water management, or coastal zone management, and in the relevant sectors covered by the initiative Horizon 2020 and the SWM, and to put them into practice at the local level (rural or urban areas). The projects should have high visibility, ensure complementarities with bilateral programmes, in the beneficiary countries and leave a legacy after the project funding is over. A team of experts is meeting the main stakeholders in all the partner countries, and other key EU and international actors in order to prepare the Guidelines for the call for proposals. The aim is to identify a suitable size and number of good quality demonstration projects.

Domains targeted could include:

- Water efficiency (includes identification, control and reduction of water losses, water saving measures in urban or rural areas, water-efficient irrigation schemes, possibly combined with the introduction of low water consuming crops;
- Re-use of grey water, associated with means to assess water status and to define appropriate conditions to utilise this resource in a safe and sustainable manner.
- Water protection and pollution control in liaison with the relevant sectors of Horizon 2020;
- Advanced water–basin management, inspired from the approach set out in the EU Water Framework Directive;
- Innovative tariff-setting and financing methods.

Research-oriented or poorly integrated projects, focussing mainly on technical aspects, will not be considered for funding.

The results of the Demonstration Projects will be communicated regularly to the Steering Group and to the Thematic Task Forces and will also be used by the Horizon 2020 Initiative Steering and Working Groups (in particular the Pollution Reduction and the Capacity Building).

### 3.3. Risks and assumptions

The main assumptions which may have an impact on the successful implementation of the programme are:

- the Water Expert Group will deliver the Regional Strategy and the related action Plan according to the timeframe foreseen in the Ministerial Declaration;

- sustained political stability will prevail in the region;
- a strong and continuous political support from the Partner Countries' governments is expected to introduce in-depth changes in water governance, which involves highly sensitive aspects;
- Demonstration projects of good quality will be identified, which will be achieved by intensive stakeholders consultation and a preference for projects of bigger size.

### 3.4. Crosscutting Issues

Good governance and human rights; By focussing on water governance issues, the present programme undoubtedly contributes to good governance in general.

Sustainable and equitable access to water and sanitation can be seen as a contribution to a better respect of Human Rights, in so far as it is a condition for decent living conditions, and directly impacts access to health, housing, food and dignity, which are already enshrined in international conventions such as the International Bill of Human Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Gender equality; Women are very often excluded from important planning and decision making in water management, as well as from the right to land and water in rural areas. The participation of civil society will be sought in the programme's implementation with a special attention to involvement of women.

### 3.5. Stakeholders

Project partners will include a wide range of institutional, economic and social stakeholders who should be potentially interested in participating in the activities. These include, but are not limited to: among which the concerned ministries (finance, environment, water, agriculture, interior, external relations, etc), and national agencies, water and sanitation utilities, river basin organisations, but also local governments, universities, IFIs, users associations, NGOs and professional organisations.

In this regional context it is difficult to further describe the main stakeholders, but in the framework of both the implementation of Horizon 2020 and preparation of the SWM, the key regional stakeholders are actively participating. This will be complemented at national level by setting up or reinforcing, were existing, inter and intra-institutional coordination mechanisms.

## 4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

### 4.1. Method of implementation

Direct centralised management.

The Support Mechanism and the Demonstration Projects will be managed in close cooperation with the EC Delegations in the region.

The Support Mechanism would be implemented through a services contract, (indicative total duration: **48 months**).

The Demonstration Projects will be implemented through grant contracts with a indicative maximum duration of activities of **36 months**. Additional funding from other donors might be mobilised for the implementation of these projects.

#### **4.2. Procurement procedures**

All contracts implementing the action must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the procedures and standard documents laid down and published by the Commission for the implementation of external operations, in force at the time of the launch of the procedure in question.

Participation in the award of contracts for the present action shall be open to all natural and legal persons covered by regulation EC/1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument. Further extensions of this participation to other natural or legal persons by the concerned authorising officer shall be subject to the conditions provided for in article 21(7) of regulation EC/1638/2006.

#### **4.3. Budget and calendar**

The overall budget for the program is EUR 22 million: EUR 7 million were committed in 2009 and EUR 15 million will be committed in 2010. There will be a new decision for the credits allocated for 2010, under condition of the vote of these credits by the budgetary authority.

- Support Mechanism: **EUR 7 million (commitment 2009)**. This component will be implemented through a service contract which will cover indicatively a four-year period. The Call for Tender is planned to be launched during first semester of 2010.
- Demonstration Projects: approximately **EUR 15 million (to be commitment 2010)**. They will be implemented through grant contracts to be awarded following a Call for Proposals. Implementation will cover indicatively a three-year period from the date of contracts signature.

Both the EU and the ENPI parties involved in the partnership will be required to provide co-financing for the Demonstration Projects, so as to ensure ownership. The minimum amount of co-financing requested for the demonstration projects will be 20%.

#### **4.4. Performance monitoring**

Objectively verifiable indicators (qualitative and quantitative) will have to be part of the methodologies included in the technical proposals for the two components of the programme.

Besides the regular follow up by the EU Delegations and the Headquarter, monitoring missions (contracted by the EU) will ensure an external follow-up. The EC and the project coordinator will pay particular attention to the recommendations expressed by the external experts.

#### **4.5. Evaluation and audit**

Expenditure incurred will have to be certified, as part of the obligations of the contracted parties in the framework of the implementation of this project. Mid term and final evaluations of the results achieved will be entrusted to independent consultants, as well as external audits (which will be carried out if necessary). These evaluations and audits will be funded from other sources than the project budget, since no commitment will be possible once the validity of this Decision has expired ("N+1" rule will apply).

#### **4.6. Communication and visibility**

Special attention will be given to communication aspects.

A specific Communication and Awareness Raising Strategy will be defined and implemented in the framework of the Support Mechanism.

Relevant communication tools will be developed also in the demonstration Projects in order to keep the stakeholders regularly informed and to ensure the visibility of the programme.

Visibility and communication actions in the Partner Countries will be carried out in collaboration with the Delegations, in line with the Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions.

The Euromed Info centre web portal and EuropeAid's ENPI Newsletter will be used regularly and press releases will be prepared when appropriate.