

BeWater Concertation Workshop

Brussels, Belgium
1 - 2 March 2017

AGENDA

The context

The BEWATER (Making society an active participant in water adaptation to global change) Project, funded by Europe Commission on seventh framework programme promotes dialogues and collaboration between science and society.

Sustainable water management under climate change is an urgent challenge for the Euro-Mediterranean region. Future climate change projections estimate an increase in water scarcity and droughts in the region, causing substantial socioeconomic losses and environmental impacts. In this context, efforts are needed to strengthen public participation and embed a sense of responsibility within the society concerning water management and adaptation towards these threats. The combination of improved awareness, mutual learning processes and shared responsibility of the civil society and stakeholders are key to ensuring successful adaptation strategies and their implementation, leading to increased resilience of the social-ecological system of a river basin.

BEWATER addresses the above challenges by promoting dialogue and collaboration between science and society, launching a transition from a technologically-focused river basin management approach to a stakeholder driven planning and management process that allows a proactive response to emerging climatic changes and related pressures. Based on a bottom-up approach, the multidirectional and multi-sectoral knowledge transfer throughout the project will raise awareness, feed ownership and ultimately lead to effective adaptation policies.

The results will be translated into generic adaptation guidelines that can be adopted in other river basins and results will be disseminated in a targeted and strategic way. Thus, it is imperative that the above-mentioned challenges become a policy priority for governments.

Taking these objectives into account, BEWATER partners hold events such as the BEWATER Concertation Workshop to help promoting cooperation and dialogue in river basin management between EU and Mediterranean Countries, both for non-EU and EU Member States.

Objectives of Concertation

The concertation meeting main objective is to facilitate the identification of funding mechanisms that can support targeted Countries in water basin and climate change research, including adaptation, and the creation of a roadmap for research and cooperation.

Date and Location

The Conference will take place on March 01 and 02, 2017 at Brussels in Science 14, in the heart of the EU district in Brussels within a stone's throw of the DG Research and Innovation and walking distance from the European Parliament.

Expected Goals of the Workshop

The Concertation Workshop has a dual purpose:

- a) To bring together and enhance dialogue between the facilitators of International Cooperation (projects) and the owners of funding programmes. The national agencies play a relevant role for collaboration;
- b) To stimulate the national Funding and Donor Agencies from the targeted countries to share experiences and practices in order to facilitate the emergence of common positions and encourage the synchronization of support instruments to international cooperation in water and river basin management establishing a joint work plan for collaboration and planning of the future collaboration activities.



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Work will be based on data provided mainly by two BEWATER Project reports: the “Report outlining relevant models or approaches on Frame Work project to international cooperation” and the “Study on national support mechanisms to international water management research”. This will be the “starting point” to motivate representatives of national funding agencies to take position on scenarios on jointly funded activities with the EU.

Organization

The Concertation Workshop will be organized over two days:

March 1st: The day will be open to participation by invited projects representatives and by representatives of the national funding agencies;

March 2nd: This day, titled Future Scenarios and Sustainability, will be restricted to the funding agencies representatives and the BeWater Project, in order to stimulate a more in-depth discussion among the funding agencies to identify future joint challenges and to generally improve the national and international mechanisms to support research cooperation (two Round Tables with Funding, Research & Cooperation Thematics will be defined).

Expected Results

The expected results of conference are described in the following table:

Specific Objectives	Expected Results
Debate over 2 Core Issues: Funding Access (1) and Sustainability (2) (round-table)	Next actions discussed and potential agreements defined
Implementing of policies	Planning for implementing of policies
Discussion over the Funding instruments	Identification of future possibilities with existing funding instruments
Debate over the Sustainability of the group	Sustainability of the group

Expected Audience

The expected audience are:

- Representatives from Ministries of Environment, Economics, Education and Foreign Office;
- National public agencies related to river basin and climate changes;
- Universities, research centers and other institutions involved in river basin and climate changes R&D and Innovation;
- Industries actuating on river basin market;
- BEWATER project partners.



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WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH**LOCATION:**

Science 14 Atrium Rue de la
Science 14b, 1040 Bruxelles,
Belgica

TIME	ITEM
09:30-09:45	Registration
9:45-10:45	Presentation of BEWATER and Introduction to Workshop Objectives and Methodology – Anabel Sanchez (CREAF), Leonardo Piccinetti (EFB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BEWATER Project • Specify objectives for Day 1 and for Day 2 • Day 1 – Geographic Med perspectives on Climate Challenges • Day 2 – Examine 2 Core Issues of Funding Access and Sustainability
10:45-11:15	Issue of Climate & Water in wider perspective including issues such as Migration and links to Economic Development. Jan Debisschop UNESCO Brussels office
11:15-11:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:30-13:30	Session on “Mediterranean Perspectives on Water & Climate Governance”
11:30 - 12:00	GWP Med perspective –Vangelis Constantianos (via video conference)
12:00 - 12:30	JPI Water - Esther DIEZ-CEBOLLERO
12:30 - 13:00	CIHEAM - Maroun Elmoujabber ERA-NET MED
13:00 - 13:30	UFM – Almotaz Abadi
13:30 -14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14:00 - 17:00	Session on “Contribution to the Challenge and Lessons Learnt”
14:00 - 14:20	EC Perspectives: DG RTD – Christopher Gauci
14:20 - 14:40	EC Perspectives: Veronica Girardi DG DEVCO



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14:40 - 15:00	SOST Perspective –Marina Martinez
15:00 - 15:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:30 - 16:00	JRC Perspective –Bernd Manfred GAWLIK
16:00 - 16:30	BEWATER Project–Anabel Sanchez (CREAF)
16:30 - 17:00	INNOVABIC – Alberto Soraci (5TOI)
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17:00	Closing speech
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20:30	Social Dinner
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THURSDAY 2 MARCH: Day 2 Funding Access and Project and Program Sustainability

Objectives:

- Examine 2 core issues of Funding Access and Sustainability, from both the donor perspective and the RDI perspective
- Create “concertation” between engaged participants

TIME	ITEM
09:00-09:30	Registration
09:30-09:45	Summary of Day 1 EFB, Leonardo Piccinetti
09:45-10:00	EFB Study Project Problems in R&D, Cooperation and Development EFB, Nicola Tucci
10:00 -10:15	Roundtables introduction EFB, Leonardo Piccinetti
10:15-10:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>



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10:45-11:30

Present 2 Core Issues: Funding Access (1) and Sustainability (2)**Round table 1 (Development Cooperation Table - DG DEVCO, GIZ, UFM, BTCCTB, ERRIN, Regione Puglia).**

Facilitator: EFB, Leonardo Piccinetti

Invited participants:

Veronica Girardi - DG-DEVCO

Alberto Soraci – INNOVABIC

Jan Debisschop - UNESCO

Ismail Al Baz GIZ

Round table 2 (R & D and Innovation Table – DG RTD, ASRT, PRIMA, SEMIDE, ANR, JPI WssTP, JRC).

Facilitator: NETWERCH2O - Richard Elelman

Invited participants:

Panagiotis Balabanis DG RTD

Bernd Manfred GAWLIK JRC

Andrea Rubini WssTP

Dominique Darmendrail WATER JPI

Amr Radwan ASRT

11:30-12:00

Stop discussion and report summary (2 slides per table)

NETWERCH2O and EFB with participants to the table

12:00-12:30

Reports Back

NETWERCH2O and EFB (2 facilitators, 15 mins per each)

13:00

Walking Lunch


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