



# Partnership for integrated management of water resources for nature and people in the Mediterranean

In spite of providing important ecosystem services for free, especially those related to water, Mediterranean wetlands suffer from human activities that lead to the overexploitation of this natural resource, such as water abstraction, unsustainable agriculture, hydro-power, and water storage facilities.

## CONTEXT

To tackle the problem of unsustainable water use and management, seven international organizations have started a partnership in the Mediterranean Basin for achieving change on the ground and to build capacity in the region.

This partnership is funded by the MAVA Foundation. The partners work together with local partners in pilot river basins in the southern and eastern Mediterranean, and in an overarching regional project.

## PARTNERSHIP OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the partnership is to reduce the impact of water abstraction and the key sectors driving this (agriculture in particular) and of unsustainable use on the biodiversity and functioning of wetland ecosystems in the Mediterranean.

The partnership aims to promote sustainable water use by bringing wetland

needs and their contributions to society into dialogues around water allocation and management.

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- Promoting Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) and the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) through capacity development and awareness in civil society.
- Improving understanding of the importance of basin ecology, unlocking knowledge gaps and catalyzing dialogue between local stakeholders.
- Influencing policy cycles and legal frameworks and influencing financing of infrastructure development.
- Stimulating sustainability of initiatives.

## THE NEXUS APPROACH

Key in achieving Integrated River Basin and Water resource Management (IRBM and IWRM) is the use of the **Food-Water-Energy Nexus approach**. This approach highlights the existing interdependencies to achieve water, energy and food security for human well-being while ensuring an ecologically sustainable use and conservation of natural resources.

It is a fundamental shift from a purely sectoral approach to solutions that embrace a cross-sectoral, coherent and integrated perspective.



## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Reduce the environmental impact of water abstraction in various river basins in the Mediterranean.
- Increased capacity of civil society in the various basins to engage in IWRM and IRBM following the Food-Water-Energy Nexus approach.
- A Mediterranean water management e-learning platform created, containing relevant training materials for organizations and institutions across the Mediterranean.
- Partner organizations, Civil Society and other stakeholder cooperate to improve policy and legal frameworks, and change investments affecting target basins in the region.
- Successful approaches from the pilot basins are replicated elsewhere and result in new investments and funding.

**More information:** <http://bit.ly/2msfOgl>

**Contact:** **Frank Hoffmann**  
Project Manager;  
Wetlands International  
email: [Frank.Hoffmann@wetlands.org](mailto:Frank.Hoffmann@wetlands.org)



////////////////////

This work was carried out by MedWet as part of the portfolio of Mediterranean wetland projects.

MedWet.org @MedWetOrg

FUNDING



PARTNERS

