

Editorial

ISIIMM Project Mid Term

The end of April 2005 represented the MID TERM time of the ISIIMM Project activities.

This MID TERM event was identified through several specific MID TERM actions:

- MID TERM Report to the European Commission (June 2005)
- MID TERM Financial Report (June 2005)
- Coordinators Meeting (May 2005)
- MID TERM ISIIMM meeting in Marrakech with all ISIIMM coordinators and facilitators (June 2005)
- Scientific Committee (end of June 2005)
- Steering Committee (end of June 2005)
- MID TERM evaluation by the EU Monitoring Unit (end of June 2005)
- MID TERM MEDA WATER Projects meeting in Amman with the new MEDA Water EU Delegation (end of July 2005).

Marrakech Seminar



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What are the results of ISIIMM?

- 92 % of the planned ISIIMM activities for the first two years were realised (completed phase 1 and part of the second phase) involving more than 720 persons from all countries. The MID TERM technical report was approved by the Commission with very few remarks and addenda.
- The Commission has also approved the financial report and the finances conform with the previous budget. The EU Delegation in Amman has already ordered for the third payment.
- A fruitful meeting of Coordinators in Montpellier has enabled the definition and clarification of the activities for the coming year.
- The meeting in Marrakech highlighted the excellent involvement of all the teams in the project and the issue of the sustainability of activities following the end of the project appeared as a common goal for all the teams

This project is funded by the European Union

Coordinators Meeting



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- The Scientific Committee remarked on the good evolution of the project to date and made recommendations for the upcoming activities. All results and coming objectives and activities were approved by the Steering Committee.
- The evaluation of the EU Monitoring Unit and the meeting of projects leaders in Amman did not raise any major issues regarding ISIIMM Project progress.

(to be continued, page 2)

New moroccan team—further development of the partnership

The new Moroccan partners have joined the Project consortium.

The Partnership Agreement has been signed between Agropolis and the Cadi Ayyad University of Marrakech, Faculty of Law, Economic and Social Sciences Daoudiate. A local development NGO Al Majal becomes the executive partner.

We welcome the new Moroccan team and wish them interesting and fruitful work in the ISIIMM project together with other project partners *(see next page)*.

Briefly, in this release

- Egypt-France Exchange Seminar: results and analysis
- Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture
- 3rd EFITA World Congress
- Conflict Management (Egyptian example)
- Revised ISIIMM Workshops and Seminars Agenda
- Good Reads

ISIIMM Project Mid Term: Where are we now?

MEDA Water Projects Meeting
In Amman, July 2005



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After some difficulties during the first year and several problems that have since been resolved, the Project is now making good progress.

However, the two coming years will be complex and a lot of work has to be done. Next year's schedule is very rich in seminars and meetings and will involve a lot of hard work in preparation and common exchanges.

Our water users need be involved as much as possible with a lot of field work

for facilitators. The third phase will start next May. Accompanying strategies, documents and tools need to be prepared. The first step towards ensuring sustainability after the project is to succeed in the implementation of the coming activities.

A lot of good work has been done but it is only a step and we now have to continue our efforts to ensure the complete success of our project.

Michel Soulié, Project Head

Let us introduce to you The New Moroccan Team



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M. Al Faiz,
*National
Coordinator*



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**M. R. Maher
Al Majal**



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M. El Gouch,
*Haouz
Facilitator*



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M. A. El Gueroua,
*Ait Bouguemez
Facilitator*



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M. Raki,
*Scientific
Committee*

"Back-to-back" Seminar

(Egypt - France): lessons learned

The bilateral sharing of experience between the Egyptian and French ISIIMM teams and local stakeholders took place during the 19-25th of March period in the lower Durance river basin (France) and in the Alexandria region (El Resqa & Nubairya areas, Egypt).

According to the participants it was very pertinent and successful despite the high rhythm and intensity, with particular emphasis given to field visits.

Information about this seminar is accessible on the ISIIMM internet site including presentations and photos. It gives a "good push" along in the fine tuning of the ISIIMM architecture for the next events following this formula. These aim to allow our grassroots partners & local stakeholders to meet their own colleagues from other

Exchange seminar Egypt

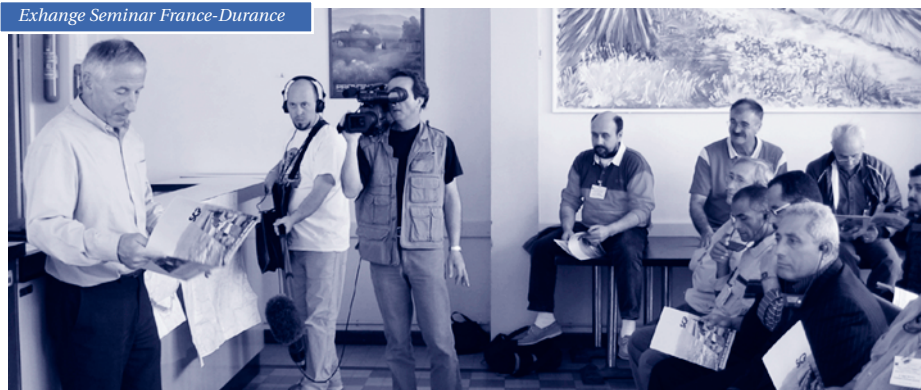


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countries and share their problems and ideas. An adapted formula has been set for the next year:

- Still bilateral (due to language constraints & interpretation costs),
- But in two events, needing a whole week for each,
- One in country A with invitees from country B, then in B with invitees from country A,
- Mandatory preparatory animation from local facilitators before and between these two steps.

Exchange Seminar France-Durance



© T. Soto

Some Other Significant Project Events

Comprehensive Assessment Of Water Management In Agriculture

Six comprehensive assessment (CA) chapter teams (writing teams) met from 31st May to 10th June 2005 in Agropolis International in Montpellier to prepare annotated chapter outlines. Nearly 90 authors and contributors met in parallel workshops to agree on key messages and a common annotated outline. The workshops were organised with the ISIIMM project and IWMI with the sponsorship of CGIAR, FAO and Ramsar. The following workshops were held:

- Poverty and Gender in Water Management
- Institution and Policy in Water Management
- Ecosystems and Water Management
- Land and Water Management
- Marginal Quality Water Use in Agriculture
- Irrigation

The Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture critically evaluates the benefits, costs, and impacts of the past 50 years of

agricultural water development, the water management challenges communities are facing today, and solutions people have developed. The results will enable better investment and management decisions in water and agriculture in the near future and over the next 50 years. The assessment is produced by a broad partnership of practitioners, researchers and policy makers.

First drafts of thirteen CA chapters are expected on 31 July, and will be followed by the first review. CA material is available at <http://www.iwmi.cgiar.org>

3rd EFITA (European Federation For Information Technology In Agriculture, Food And The Environment) World Congress On Computers In Agriculture And Natural Resources

In July 2005, ISIIMM took part in the 3rd EFITA World Congress in Portugal, with the objective to promote the OSIRIS system as a complementary

knowledge diffusion tool of the ISIIMM project and its role in the organisation and dissemination of information on social and institutional irrigation management in Mediterranean local societies.

M. Sergio Vallejo, ISIIMM Webmaster presented the paper entitled « *Use of information and communication tools for social and institutional development: principles, analysis and limits. The ISIIMM project case* ».



ISIIMM Project poster

A word from the facilitator

The ISIIMM Project has entered the active implementation phase. The Emphasis needs to be placed on the "field" work of national teams. We present our new regular article.



Conflict Management In Egypt

Presented by

M. Mohamed Salah Eldin Refa'ei,
Fayoum Facilitator

I. Conflict Management Between Water Users

The ISIIMM project plays a strong role in overcoming contradiction and in conflict management between water users in the pilot area, which is very big and wide. There are differences in relations and attitudes between the water users and increasing conflicts and problems specially between large families and also

large ownerships; this appears in the illegal works and behaviours on the canal such as breaking the vents, weirs and infrastructures.

The project helps the water users to participate in irrigation management system in the area and improves the situation of irrigation water distribution, which leads to decreased illegal works.

II. Conflict Management Between Farmers And Irrigation Stakeholders

The relation between water users and other irrigation stakeholders was bad. This was highlighted by poor understanding and communication amongst them and the high level of contradiction between them.

The ISIIMM project came to the area and began to change this relation and create positive relations between water users and other irrigation stakeholders and built several bridges of trust between them.

This happened through holding many meetings between the water users and

the irrigation authorities and the participation of the water users with the irrigation authorities in irrigation management through elected water users representatives.

Participation appeared through the expressing of opinions and the discussions about the problems which were found in the area such as illegal works and the level of water etc. Most of the problems became more real, touchable and clear for the different stakeholders during the meetings which were held.

In these meetings, water users representatives better understood their role and irrigation's role in facing and solving the problems in the area and this helped to find quick and innovative solutions. The meeting also enabled participation in the planning of the activities of water management with the irrigation stakeholders.

This in turn helps to achieve the important target of fair water distribution, which acts as the root cause of conflicts.

ISIIMM Workshops and Seminars Agenda

Good reads



Social Water Management, concepts, methods and applications

Anne Rivière-Honegger
Thierry Ruf
Ed. CNRS-Univ. Montpellier III

Rural irrigation and companies such is the general set of themes

developed in this work. The adopted approach, "the social management of water, concepts, methods and applications", makes it possible to share with the reader the various designs in the social and economic sciences of the collective management of water.

ISBN: 2-84269-674-3
In French



UNESCO - Civil society and Resolution of the Hydric Conflicts

Philippe Barret,
Alfonso Gonzalez

IHP Technical documents in Hydrology PCCP Series N° 9

Hydric conflicts are expressed in various manners, according to the context; in particular, the local and regional conditions of development, the cultural characteristics and, of course, the hydrogeologic and ecological data. It is thus not easy to describe all of the mechanisms of hydric conflict. This document attempts to gather and classify the various methods of hydric conflicts resolution

This project is funded by the EUROPEAN UNION

ISIIMM news

(also available in PDF, see ISIIMM website)

"Promoting an integrated and balanced management of water resources by reconciling respect for the environment with economically viable irrigated agriculture"

ISIIMM

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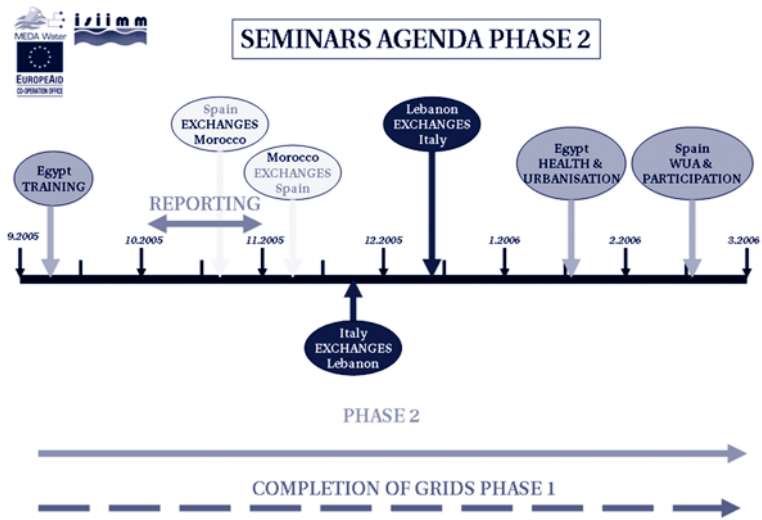
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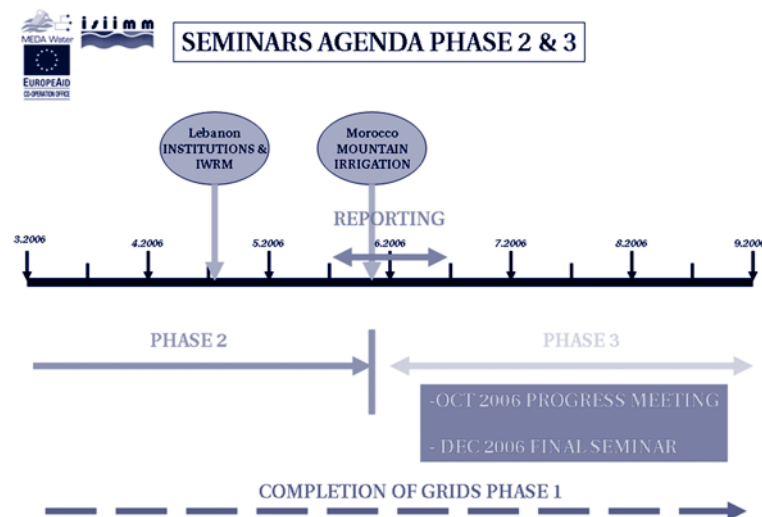
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The new revised schedule of Workshops and Seminars had been initially put together by the National Coordinators and the Coordination Unit during the ISIIMM Coordinator Meeting which was held in the project head-quarters in Montpellier (France) on 27th May 2005.



This agenda was presented and discussed during the Marrakech Mid-Term project meeting with other project partners and finally approved by the Steering Committee on 28-29th of June 2005. This agenda takes into account the recommendations of the Scientific Committee (Treviso, Oct. 2004) and the results of the first exchange France-Egypt seminar. The events better reflect the objectives of the second phase of the project in terms of the targeted public and expected impacts. It will enable the extension of responsibilities and the involvement of the national teams in the organisation and conduct of these events.



Whilst the ISIIMM Newsletter was under press:

The Training Seminar in Egypt planned for the first week of September has been cancelled due to the several reasons.

In place of this it is proposed to organise small country specific Training Workshops with the participation of some representatives from other countries and

external scientific experts. The country coordinators will propose the dates over the coming months. Concerning the Communication Meeting (previously planned for the same period), this will now be probably held in Granada (Spain) between 13 - 15 of September 2005.

Questions about the newsletter or its content?
Write to : isiimm@agropolis.org