



CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION VERSUS LOCAL INITIATIVES – ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING POLICY APPROACHES TO NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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Outline

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- * EMPOWERS Approach
- * Greywater Reuse
- * Conclusions and Recommendations



About the ENPI CBC MED

The multilateral cross-border cooperation "Mediterranean Sea Basin Program" is part of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and of its financing instrument (European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument - ENPI) for the 2007-2013 period: it aims at reinforcing cooperation between the European Union (EU) and partner countries regions placed along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea.



Program Priorities

Four Priorities jointly defined by the participating countries:

- 1) promotion of socio-economic development and enhancement of territories
- 2) promotion of environmental sustainability at basin level
- 3) promotion of better conditions and modalities for ensuring the mobility of persons, goods and capitals
- 4) promotion of cultural dialogue and local governance.



Objective and Types of CBC Programs

Objective

The general objective is to contribute to promoting the sustainable and harmonious cooperation process at the Basin level by dealing with the common challenges and enhancing its endogenous potential.

Types

Land border programs

Sea crossings programs

Sea Basin programs



Program Principles

CBC Programs should be based on a series of principles, to be jointly identified by the participating countries:

Co-ownership: Program contents as well as its implementation modalities result from a joint elaboration based on the contribution of all the participating countries.

Common benefits: the Program shall benefit to all the territories involved by combining local partners' capacities to solve common problems and to improve social cohesion and competitiveness in the cooperation area.

Partnership: it is the essential condition to ensure the Program effectiveness, guaranteeing the participation of the two shores of the Mediterranean sea and contributing to a better governance of the local development process.

Sustainable development: environment protection, management of natural resources, promotion of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency, sustainable socio-economic development and social cohesion should be considered in an integrated approach.



Program Principles (cont.)

Equality of opportunity, non-discrimination, respect for human rights: while implementing the Program and projects, a special attention should be paid to the principle of non-discrimination in order to be avoid any discrimination based on race, sex, nationality, language or religion.

Territorial dimension of the development processes and enhancement of endogenous potential of the cooperation area: this is to ensure that disadvantaged areas are also taken into account (for example, rural areas, small towns, declining industrial areas, landlocked territories, insular areas, etc.), with the aim of reinforcing a process of balanced and polycentric development.

Reinforcement the level of competitiveness: the process of integration of the Euro-Mediterranean region should also be complemented with a joint effort oriented towards a progressive definition of a coherent strategy of competitiveness of the area on the world scene. Coordination with other national and local initiatives should be pursued to ensure a better impact of the projects.

Co-financing: to promote the beneficiaries' appropriation of the Program and to maximize its leverage effects, it is necessary to mobilize public and private additional resources in order to ensure the sustainability of the undertaken projects.



INWRDAM Initiatives

- * Partnership agreement between IFS, COMSTECH and INWRDAM for strengthening capacity of young researchers in OIC countries for water resources research (*Started since 2004 for 10 years*);
- * Cooperation between INWRDAM and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa, Canada on Community based greywater reuse (*2004 to 2009 and research is continued by INWRDAM till now*);
- * Euro-Mediterranean Regional Program for Local Water Resources Management; (*Awarded in 2004 and successfully completed on 2008*)
- * New Energy Efficient approach to the operation of Membrane Bioreactors for Decentralized Wastewater Treatment (*February 2006 and completed successfully on June 2009*).



The EMPOWERS Project

The EMPOWERS Project

EMPOWERS was a four-year regional project from 2003 to 2007, piloted in Egypt, Jordan and the West Bank. The aim was to improve long-term access and rights to water for underprivileged populations in local communities, to a context of improved local water governance. Various means have been adopted to disseminate project outputs and to advocate for improved systems of local water governance that lead to more sustainable, efficient and equitable access to and use of water resources.

Unlike any other project in the region, EMPOWERS did not focus on the implementation of solutions to individual problems. Instead, it aimed to nurture the capacity of people, especially end users, to engage proactively with the challenges they face and to work with the authorities to achieve an equitable water situation in their society.



Outcomes of INWRDAM Initiatives

- * These are available on INWRDAM website:
<http://www.inwrdam.org>
- * INWRDAM-EMPOWERS outcomes are available at:
<http://www.empowers.info>





Conclusions and Recommendations

- * CBC programs can be a good tool if well designed and well implemented to transfer and share success stories of local initiatives among participating countries;
- * There is a need to identify more programs based on CBC approach for OIC Regions; e.g. Focus on Africa; Gulf Region MENA Region, and the Central Asian Region
- * The OIC Water Vision, which INWRDAM started and OIC General Secretariat is now finalizing must be flexible enough to accommodate new CBC programs that can be developed in the future for the benefits of the 57 OIC Member States



Thank You for your kind attention

