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*Thematic Network*

*C.I.H.E.A.M*



**CIHEAM**

*Mediterranean Agronomic Institute  
Bari-Italy*

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## **MINUTES OF THE KICK-OFF MEETING**

### **MEDCOASTLAND PROJECT THEMATIC NETWORK**

**INCO-MED PROGRAMME  
Contract ICA3-CT-2002-10002**

**International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies  
CIHEAM  
Mediterranean Agronomic Institute  
Valenzano, Bari, Italy  
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## Summary

1. The MEDCOASTLAND Project is a thematic network aiming the “Mediterranean co-ordination and dissemination of land conservation management to combat land degradation for the sustainable use of natural resources in the Mediterranean coastal zone”
2. The project is funded by the European Commission (EC) in the frame of the 5<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme (FP5th) Programme INCO-MED. The Network, co-ordinated by CIHEAM-IAM Bari, is composed by a total of 36 partners from 13 countries, which include Italy, France, Spain, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Malta, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Turkey. (For the full list of partners and the Institutions they represent see the Annex IV of this report, page 60).
3. The contract has been signed by the EC on 9 October 2002 and the Kick-Off Meeting was launched accordingly without any delay. The project has a duration of four years.
4. The Kick-Off Meeting was carried out from 14-16 October 2002 at the CIHEAM-IAMB premises in Valenzano, near Bari.
5. The objective of the Kick-Off Meeting was to make present to the partners of the Network the detailed programme of the work, explanation of duties and responsibilities of each partner, and give a first opportunity to all of them to express freely their ideas and to have a chance to know each other.
6. The Kick-Off Meeting was attended by 38 persons representing a total of 26 institutions from 11 countries of Southern Europe and North Africa and the Middle East. Both three partners from Algeria did not attend the meeting. Missing were also the Farmer Associations from Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Morocco. From the decision makers were missing the Ministry of Environment of Lebanon and the Ministry of Agriculture of Morocco.
7. The working agenda of the project includes seven Work Packages (WP) aiming very specific objectives, all related to the processes of land degradation in the Mediterranean region and the sustainable use and management of land resources.
8. A total five workshops and one international conference will be organised during the duration of the project. Workshops will be held in Turkey, Morocco, Egypt, Lebanon, and Malta, while the international conference will be held at IAM Bari, in Italy.
9. One significant aspect of the project is the creation of the web page and the WEB-FORUM that via Internet will connect all the partners and will make available to all of them and beyond, the results of previous research that eventually will bring to the creation of a database composed of several layers of information in close relation with the objectives of the project and more specifically of the work packages.
10. There are five Work Package Leaders that will be in charge of selecting, sorting out and standardising the retrieved information in easy-to-use format. They are also responsible for organising the workshops in their respective countries.

## 1. Introduction

The MEDCOASTLAND Project is aiming at the “Mediterranean co-ordination and dissemination of land conservation management to combat land degradation for the sustainable use of natural resources in the Mediterranean coastal zone” consisting in the creation of a thematic network that will carry out retrieval and dissemination of information under the programme “Confirming the International Role of Community Research”.

In many Mediterranean coastal areas the fragile ecosystem continues to degrade. Land degradation represents the most evident process in the Region, involving deep degradation of soil, water and losses of productivity. All this is taking place despite the political recognition of the problems and the existence of policy instruments. The main causes of coastal area degradation are urbanisation, population pressure, soil and wind erosion, salinisation, intensive agriculture production through improper use of irrigation, development of industry, energy, and tourism. However, in spite of several causes identified, land (including surface water) and soil (including groundwater) remain the main focus and centre of a system to which the impact of human activity converge.

Degradation of the natural ecosystem and degradation of land in the Mediterranean is in many ways a product of human activities; nevertheless it is significantly amplified by physical factors such as climate, topography, soil erodibility and local vegetation status. Human communities in their role as hunters, fishermen, and farmers have over the centuries structured and restructured the physical environment. Within the South Mediterranean, the evidence of degradation is much clear, with entire landscapes no longer able to sustain cultivation. In addition, we assist today to an increasingly and rapid urban growth and the effects of burgeoning tourism.

It is for these reasons that in December 1999, in concertation with the European Commission, some of the partners of the proposed Thematic Network were invited to attend the first Euro-Mediterranean Meeting on soil information. As a result of this meeting, all the participating countries signed, as a first step, a Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of an Euro-Mediterranean Network of Soil Information and showed the willingness to build up a Thematic Network on land degradation. Almost all the these signatory countries are now logged on in the MEDCOASTLAND Project.

The International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) and the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari have been working extensively throughout the region in many agricultural areas. With an expertise in irrigation research, design, and project implementation, the Institute is the perfect focal point for the task of co-ordinating and managing the project. Moreover, the already established network of governmental officials, scientists, and students, who have studied or collaborated with IAMB over the past several years, serve as a strong base for this undertaking.

## 2. Objectives of the Kick-off Meeting

The meeting was organised at the facilities of the IAMB in Valenzano, Bari and lasted for full three days of intensive discussions and debate. The following were the main objectives:

1. Review to partners the logical framework behind the project;
2. Make an overview of the work packages;
3. Presentation of the web-prototype page of the project;
4. Attribution of tasks, duties and responsibilities for every member (or partner) of the network;
5. Creation of the working groups in relation to the work packages of the project;
6. Establishment of the Steering Committee;
7. Explanation of time table of activities and milestones;
8. Promotion of debate and exchange of ideas;
9. Provide all the members of the network the chance to know each other;
10. Clarification of administrative/financial issues;

### **3. Opening remarks**

Dr. Cosimo Lacirignola, director of the IAMB, provided the welcome address to all the participants of the Meeting. He emphasised the fact that the Institute has been working for a long period of time in the Mediterranean Region and has accumulated over the years valuable experience. This experience was largely enriched in the area of soil information and assessment of land degradation especially after the 1999, year in which in Bari, at the facilities of the IAMB, was held the first Meeting of soil experts of the region that agreed to exchange experience and information among themselves.

Dr. Lacirignola pointed out that the already well-established network of specialists that have studied and conducted research at the Institute, but not only, could be used as a good starting point to ensure success in the work of this newly created network. The IAMB is well positioned from the scientific and logistic point of view to make this possible. The director confirmed his ongoing commitment to support and strengthen further this thematic network that aims such important issues like land degradation and soil conservation.

After this welcome address, all the participants presented themselves by telling what institution they represent and what type of activity they conduct. They come from 12 countries (Egypt, France, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, and Turkey). Only the partners from Algeria did not attend the Meeting. (The problem with Algeria's participation in the networks was discussed thoroughly during the first meeting of the Steering Committee). A total of 27 participants of the above-mentioned countries attended the meeting. They represent three levels of activity: decision-making, scientific research, and farmer's associations or NGOs. For the full list of participants including their complete contact information see Annex II at the page 35 of this report.

#### **3.1 The Logical Framework of the Project**

Dr. Claudio Bogliotti explained the logical framework of the project that basically follows the rules, regulations and methodologies developed by the European Commission for preparing and assessing the performance of its funded projects. Dr. Bogliotti explained a step-by-step procedure that was used to prepare initially the project-proposal and lately, to establish the final objectives and the necessary methods for achieving the required results.

The speaker emphasised the fact that during the preparation of this project-proposal the main problem that was identified was the non-sustainable use of the natural resources in the Mediterranean region. This problem is influenced also by the lack of communication and dissemination of existing information and knowledge at regional and national level. Another limiting factor when trying to improve the impact on the quality of land resources is the lack of participation of the rural communities. At the end, the lack of national and regional policies and regulations, as well common guidelines and protocols for exchanging information exacerbates the problems.

All these considerations make the basic part or “the heart” of the project that are reflected in a series of Work Packages. There are a total of seven Work Packages. Each of them clearly addresses a particular problem of land degradation in the region (detailed explanations follow). The projects itself has very well established long term and short term objectives. Both of them point at the sustainable use and management of the natural resources in the Mediterranean coastal areas. The short objective however, indicates the need that all stakeholders (private, public, or institutional) should pursue quickly towards immediate actions that are necessary at present to halt the irreversible effects of land degradation.

One specific objective of the project deals with the socio-economic aspects of land degradation. We do not look at land degradation only from the damages that are caused but also from the perspective of the land user/owner that he can generate some income in the areas that are prone to land degradation and can improve his living conditions. Work Package 3 deals with this objective.

Finally Dr. Bogliotti pointed out that achieving the ardent goal of sustainable use and management of natural resources, specifically those of the highly populated Mediterranean coastal areas requires the integration of several levels of the society. They include politicians, decision-makers, farming communities, landowners, and moreover, the political and societal willingness to address the issue and provide long-term solutions. The MEDCOASTLAND project is based on the same logic. Complete information on the presentation of Dr. Claudio Bogliotti is provided in Annex III (page 40).

The presentation of Dr. Bogliotti was followed by some comments and short discussions by several participants. Most of them appreciated the presentation for its unique values and its inputs on the way the European Commission request for the preparation of the projects. Prof. Mohamed Badraoui (Partner 10, Morocco), mentioned that there are many projects dealing with land degradation in Morocco alone, let aside other countries of the region, therefore the duty of collecting this information remain stronger and actual as ever. Mr. Basim Dudeen, (Partner 18, Palestine) raised the issue of drafting and enforcing legislation dealing with land degradation, while Prof. Selim Kapur (Partner 11, Turkey) suggested that the participatory approach and especially training of the farmers and land users towards sustainable use and management of land resources remains a priority.

### **3.2. Overview and Introduction to the Project**

Dr. Pasquale Steduto, Co-ordinator of the Project, explained the overall content of this Project. Specific objectives of the project include the review of the existing scientific research, development of indicators to be able to assess the relationships between the status of

environment and the economic viability, establish an Mediterranean-wide permanent structure between researches, decision-makers and land users, and provide a framework to assist in regional planning and development of the coastal areas of the region.

Despite the fact that land degradation is widely recognised throughout the region as a serious factor affecting the livelihood of millions of people and several international donor (including the EU) have spend considerable funds, land degradation still continues. Dr. Steduto tried to address the problem by looking from several angles.

The first is the complexity of the problem, followed by lack communication and repentance of the same mistakes, since studies remain still scattered and fragmented. On the other side, human-induced land degradation is accelerating these negative impacts. Other influencing factors include the gaps in communication between governmental institutions, scientists, and local communities.

Therefore the MEDCOASTALND project tries to address all these issues through a set of Work Packages that are well connected and interrelated with each other. They tent to identify the problems, and then look at possible ways of remediation of the degraded areas through incentives of increasing income for the rural communities by involving them in the decision making process and more specifically in the implementation of the approaches. Finally the project address the issues of drafting policies, guidelines and legislation for sharing data, experience, and information.

Dr. Steduto emphasised that “no conventional research” is foreseen for the whole duration of the project. This means that we will retrieve as much information as possible, and will elaborate and extract knowledge from them and then disseminate the significant outcomes by all means of communication, including the web page of the project or the FORUM (described in detail in the WP1).

Then, he described the major activities of the project that include the continued review of research results, studies, and projects, five workshops to be held in several member countries, three site visits in pilot projects, the establishment of the FORUM and the virtual campus, the newsletter to be distributed every six months to all the members and other persons included in the mailing list (to be developed), and the organisation of the international conference at the end of the project, as well as the distribution of several CD ROMs and Videos addressing the major issues of the project. Some of the possible weakness may include lack of experience in socio-economic analyses and more specifically in the management of coastal zones.

The milestones of the project, in addition to the ones mentioned above will include the drafting of the Agreement for establishing the background for long-term cooperation in the Mediterranean region, even after the MEDCOASTLAND Project is over. Dr. Steduto mentioned that there have been a number of project related to the theme of MEDCOASTLAND that were funded by the EU. It is very important that we draw from them the information that we need and make that available to others.

He explained then the management structure of the project. This include the Co-ordinator (Dr. Pasquale Steduto), the Project Manager (Dr. Pandi Zdruli), the Monitoring Adviser (Dr. Claudio Bogliotti), the support staff at the IAMB, the Steering Committee, Work Package Leaders, and

all the partners. At the end of his presentation Dr. Steduto elaborated the budget of the project and some administrative aspects.

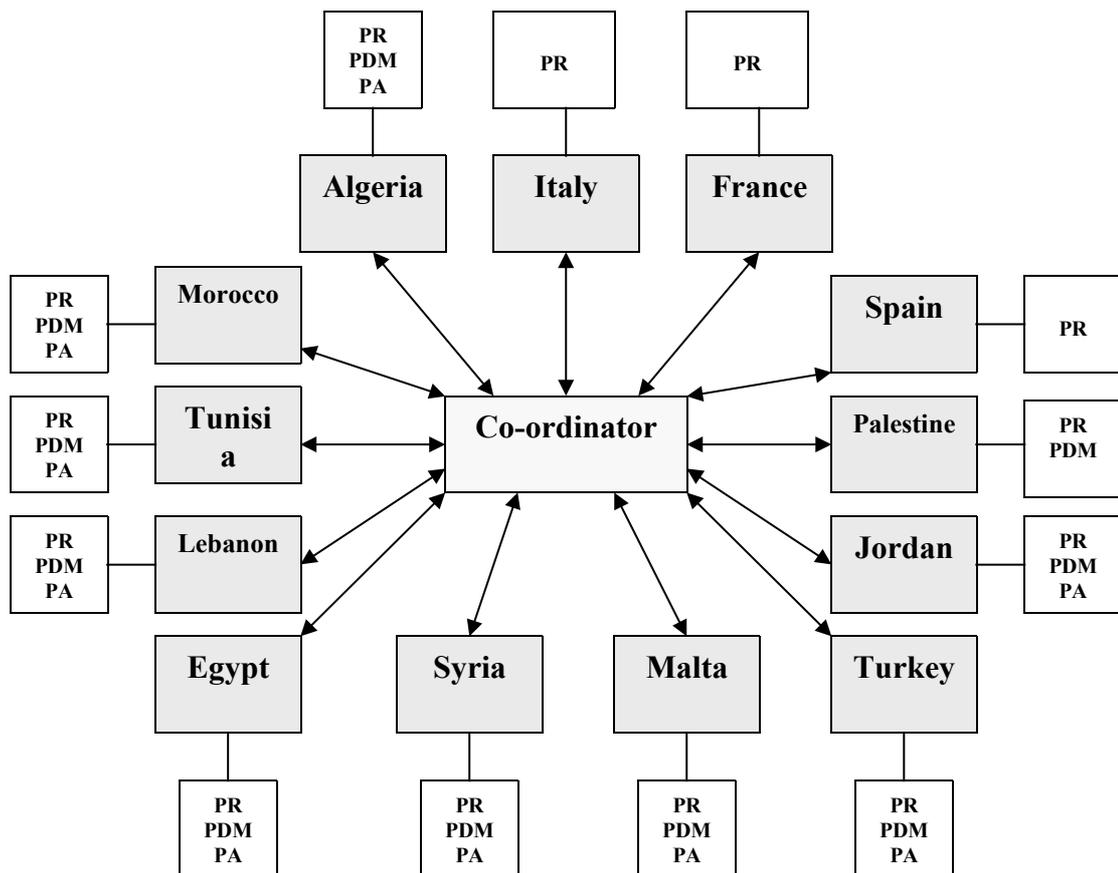
Lively and interesting discussions followed the presentation. In particular Dr. Khalaf (Partner 13, Egypt) pointed out the fact that we have to be very careful with the overuse of acronyms since they are widely used in the literature and often are misleading. He explained that the dominant problems related to land degradation in Egypt are related to urban development, tourism, and population pressure. He inquired whether the project could address also problems related to fisheries.

### 3.3 Short description of the Work Packages

Dr. Pandi Zdruli and Dr. Pasquale Steduto described in detail the content, objectives, goals, deliverables, and milestones of the Work Packages. They pointed out also the specific duties of each partner included in the Network.

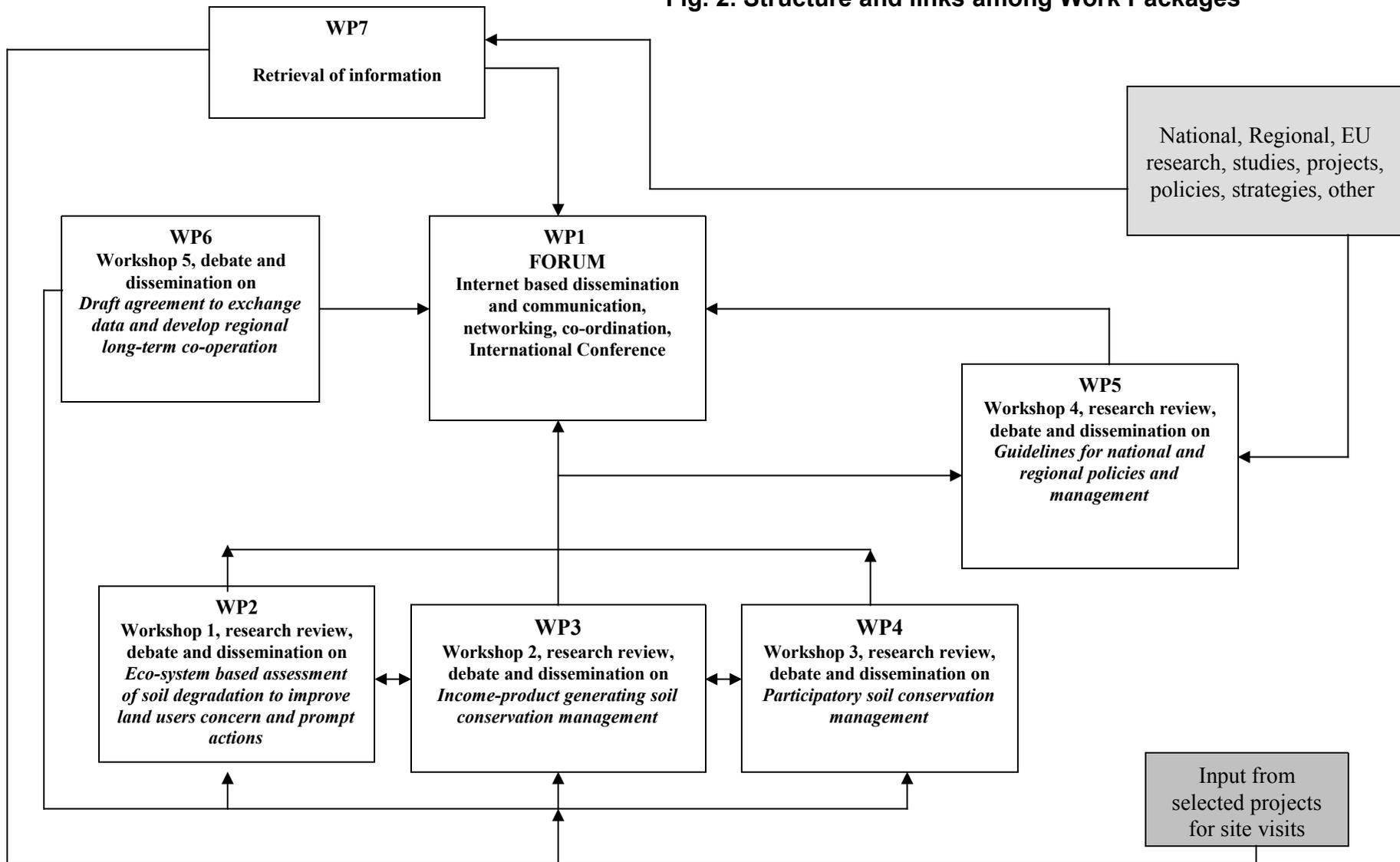
The design of the Network is given below.

Fig. 1. Composition of the Thematic Network MEDCOASTLAND



Network structure: PR = Researcher, PDM = Decision Maker, PA = Association of land / soil users, NGOs'

Fig. 2. Structure and links among Work Packages



Information on distribution of tasks according to each Work Package is provided in the table below:

Table 1. Main tasks and the responsibilities of the partners

<b>Work Package and partner responsible</b>	<b>Main tasks and partners involved</b>
WP1 – FORUM - P1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Design Internet-base FORUM (P1)</li> <li>1.2 Activation of Internet-based FORUM and virtual campus (P1)</li> <li>1.3 Promotion &amp; maintenance of internet-based Forum and communication (P1)</li> <li>1.4 Online access to and availability of Database (P1, P34)</li> <li>1.5 Development of online/off-line multimedia material (CD Rom/video) (P1, P34)</li> <li>1.6 Preparation of International Conference (P1, P3, P5, P6, P10, P11, P32, P33, P34, P35, P36)</li> <li>1.7 Print International Conference Proceedings (P1)</li> <li>1.8 Preparation of six-monthly electronic newsletter (P1, P34)</li> <li>1.9 Preparation of TN's brochures, leaflets (P1)</li> <li>1.10 Steering Committees and minutes (P1, P3, P5, P6, P10, P11, P32, P33, P34)</li> </ul>
WP2 – ECOLAND – P11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1 Dedicated internet page-discussion on DPSIR indicators (P1, P11, P21, P31)</li> <li>2.2 Review – abstract of research results (P11, P21)</li> <li>2.3 Prepare/organise Workshop 1 (P1, P11, P21, P31)</li> <li>2.4 Dedicated thematic CD Rom - video (P1, P11, P21)</li> <li>2.5 Workshop and visit to demonstration project (P11, P21, P31)</li> <li>2.6 Proceedings (P1, P11)</li> </ul>
WP3 – IPSM – P10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1 Review – abstract of research results (P10, P20)</li> <li>3.2 Prepare/organise Workshop 2 (P1, P10, P20, P30)</li> <li>3.3 Dedicated thematic CD Rom -video (P1, P10, P20)</li> <li>3.4 Workshop and site visit to demonstration project (P10, P20, P30)</li> <li>3.5 Proceedings (P1, P10)</li> </ul>
WP4 – PMLAND – P3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.1 Review – abstract of research (P1, P3, P13)</li> <li>4.2 Prepare/organise Workshop 3 (P1, P3, P13, P23)</li> <li>4.3 Dedicated thematic CD Rom -video, (P3, P13)</li> <li>4.4 Workshop and site visit to demonstration project (P3, P13, P23)</li> <li>4.5 Proceedings (P1, P3)</li> </ul>
WP5 – GUIDE – P5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5.1 Review and structuring of results of WP 3, 4, 5 (P1, P5, P15, P25, P28) to support guidelines</li> <li>5.2 Prepare/organise Workshop 4 (P1, P5, P15, P25, P28)</li> <li>5.3 Draft guidelines (P1, P5, P15, P25, P28)</li> <li>5.4 Workshop 4 (P1, P5, P15, P25, P28)</li> <li>5.5 Proceedings (P1, P5)</li> </ul>
WP6 – DADR – P6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6.1 Organising info + review (P1, P6, P16, P26)</li> <li>6.2 Preparation of Workshop 5 (P1, P6, P26)</li> <li>6.3 Workshop (P1, P6, P16, P26)</li> <li>6.4 Proceedings and Draft Agreement (P1, P6, P16, P26)</li> </ul>

WP7 – REINFO – P1	6.5 Writing to all institutions (P1 + P23) 6.6 Compile addresses and mailing list (P1 + P23) 6.7 Retrieval of information (P1 + P34) 6.8 Information compiled into database (P1, P34)
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### 3.3.1 Work Package 1: Internet based communication, dissemination and share - FORUM

This Work Package has the aim of disseminating and sharing the results of research and contribute to the exchange of experiences among partners and land users. WP1 supports the activation of a permanent WEB-FORUM and an online database. Through the WEB-FORUM the information will be available to all partners and external potential parties. The FORUM will be activated in the form of “virtual campus” for communication and dissemination. Specific tasks to be addressed are: i-) elaboration, structuring and organisation of research input for knowledge extraction from the FORUM; ii-) activation of the internet FORUM on land degradation; iii-) implementation of the database; iv -) Promotion and maintenance of distance networking of partners; v-) Thematic multimedia – Video-CD Rom; vi-) Preparation of six-monthly newsletter. Included in the budget of WP1, are a series of off-line events which include: i-) organisation of one International Conference; ii-) the realisation of 6 Steering Committee meetings; and iii -) preparation of project brochures.

Mr. Enrico Nerilli, the Web-Master of the Project provided an up-to-date on the status of the work for creation and establishment of the web page of the project. At present, it is prepared the framework of the portal of the project with opportunities to upload and download files and the exchange of information between the partners of the Network through the FORUM.

It has been created also the database for storing all the files that contain information on the review of research and results of existing projects. Once the web page is launched the user can click on several modules and can access and make queries for the items of interest. The FORUM follows the logic and the definition of the Work Packages. Each Work Package (WP) constitutes a separate “folder” where abstract of articles or summaries of scientific and technical papers are stored. They all are related to the subject of the WP.

Some information in the page of the Project is restricted only for the members of the Network while other users can assess only general information open to public. For instance users outside the Network cannot download or upload files that are prepared by the partners. At least this is the policy for the moment, however it could change in the future, if all agree to expand the area of distribution of information.

Each partner of the Network has its own account that could be accessed by introducing the username and the password. Once this information has been included the user can enter in the restricted area where he can introduce newly collected information in his “folder” or read what other partners have already included in their “folders”. A special feature here informs on the “Last 10 comments made by the Partner” or “Last 10 submissions made by the Partner”. This feature helps the Co-ordinator to monitor the activity of the partners and asks them active participation when needed.

A special feature of the web page helps the user to “search” by key words the information of interest. This could be done in regard to the specific activity of the Work Packages or in general for the any related subject included in the FORUM. The web page will have also several links

with other pages tackling the problem of land degradation. They will include the page of the European Commission, United Nations organisations (FAO, UNEP, UNCCD, etc), the International Union of Soil Sciences, and the pages of the organisations included in the thematic network MEDCOASTLAND Project.

Prof. Mohamed Badraoui (Partner 10, Morocco) said that the work to be done in regard to WP1 was clear. He elaborated further on by saying that the long-term goals of the EC in the southern Mediterranean included reduction of the desertification process, poverty alleviation, and reducing immigration towards Europe.

He was convinced that increasing the income of poor farmers meant also the opening of the markets by the developed countries. As the next venue of the of the Workshop 2 will be in Morocco, he invited all the members to participate not only in this Workshop, but also in the 8<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of Soils with Mediterranean Type of Climate to be held in Morocco in 2003.

Prof. Abdel Kader (Partner 3, Egypt) suggested that in order that this Network could reach as many people as possible, the abstracts of the research projects should be translated also in French (in particular important for the Maghreb countries) and Arabic.

### **3.3.2 WP2 – ECO-system based assistance to LAnd users and laND owners - ECOLAND**

Activities of WP2 addresses to the implementation of one Workshop (WSH 1) on the area of assessment of land degradation and to other activities of communication and dissemination like preparation of a CD Rom, Video, research results reviews. The main research is focused in land and soil degradation as seen in terms of environmental factors influencing land degradation: water, climate, topography, geology, soils, vegetation, etc. Simultaneously, time will be devoted to the formulation of indicators and guidelines for assessing the intensity and the damages of land degradation.

The thematic area of WP2 regards also the assessment of interactions between land degradation in coastal areas and physical and non-physical processes such as: soil erosion, badlands, tillage, agriculture, etc. Through the identification of relevant state and dynamic variables and the use of indicators, the Thematic Network will formulate and propose indicators for land conservation, which could be assessed in terms of economic and production needs of the land users / owners (WP3). Scientists together with decision makers and farmers will carry out the formulation and assessment activities.

Detailed discussions were devoted to the methodology developed by the European Environmental Agency (EEA), which is known as the Driving Forces, Pressure, State, Impact, Response (DPSIR) and incorporates the interaction of the above-mentioned factors. Many participants raised concerns that they were not familiar with this methodology and more information was needed to address make better use of it.

It was then the time that Drs. Guliana Trisorio Liuzzi of the University of Bari took the floor and made an overall introduction to the main concepts of the DPSIR and how the methodology could be used to make assessments of land degradation, but moreover to assess the way in which the society react to the adverse factors that change the natural equilibrium of the eco-system. Drs.

Liuzzi mentioned several examples where the methodology has been used in Europe and suggested that the DPSIR method could be expanded also in the whole Mediterranean Region.

Prof. Selim Kapur (Partner 11, Turkey) as the leader of the Work Package 2 and responsible for the organisation of the First Workshop to be held in Adana, Turkey in June 2003, provided a brief explanation on the pilot area of Seyhan Delta located in the Adriatic coastal zone near Adana. The dominant land degradation factors of the area relate to extreme rapid urbanisation in the fertile soils and soil salinity.

He stressed the fact that an interdisciplinary approach is necessary to tackle the problems of land degradation. This requires the participation of landscape architects, civil engineers, biologists, ecologists, and economist.

Prof. Kapur elaborated further that similar problems of the coastal area of Adana, soon could be faced also in the Middle East as the population still continues to grow at a steady and fast pace. He elaborated that historically the Mediterranean region has faced also in the past severe problems of land degradation, since ancient civilisations often misused and mistreated the limited land resources of the area.

In addition, Prof. Kapur suggested that, time permitting, during the Workshop in Adana, the organisers will explore the possibility to include in the programme of the pilot sites to be visited, also the large Haran Project in the eastern part of Adana. This is the largest irrigation project in Turkey, where millions of dollars have been invested, but the long-term sustainability of such investments is not always done carefully, since many problems of salinity for instance are appearing in the area. (For more information on the schedule of events and for the time table of distribution of tasks for each partner see conclusions of the Working Group 1 given in the Annex VI, page 63).

Dr. Khalaf (Partner 13, Egypt) said that there are several aspects of land use in Egypt and suggested that it could be useful to use the DPSIR methodology in North Africa. "We often create problems while we are trying to solve them"- said he. Dr. Bogliotti (Partner 1, Italy) recommended being pragmatic, since the nature of the problems is complex and there are several factors involved including soil, water, climate, pollution, etc.

Drs. Paola Mairota (consultant, Italy) said that there is a difference between the theory of DPSIR and the selection of indicators to be used in the process of assessment of land degradation. She said while theory is relatively easy, the indicators should be selected on the basis of data availability. Dr. Steduto suggested that we should make every effort to collect the data needed, but the indicators should be carefully selected and screened.

Dr. Abdulrahim Loulou (Partner 36, ACSAD, Syria) told the audience that land degradation indicators were important not only for the assessment of negative effects but also of the positive effects that are achieved when conservative measures are implemented. Drs. Liuzzi who said that indicators should be developed initially at the local scale and then expanded at national and regional level supported this idea.

Prof. Badraoui again emphasised that there have been a lot of projects in the Mediterranean region that could provide interesting and important data. Collection of this information is of

paramount importance. It is necessary however, pointed out Prof. Badraoui that we have to know the status of the land resources before their management started. Therefore the indicators have to be dynamic and flexible.

Drs. Inma Alados (Partner 33, Spain) raised the concern that in the Mediterranean part of Europe too many mistakes were done in the past in the management of the coastal zones, often destroyed by intensive urbanisation and tourism industry, therefore this mistakes should not be repeated in the north African countries.

Dr. Murat Ozden (Partner 21, Turkey) said that duplication of work should be avoided, however he was concerned that it is very difficult to agree on indicators of land degradation, since not all of them are physically available and feasible.

### **3.3.3 WP3 – “Income-Product generating Soil conservation Management” - IPSM**

The Work Package has the aim of reviewing past and ongoing experiences of the subject and preparing a Workshop (WSH2) to promote communication and exchange of experience on land users and landowners related economic and production aspects generated by sustainable land and soil management. It is also foreseen the preparation of CD Rom - Video.

The research area of WP3 regards mainly the economic assessment of physically related solutions-measures formulated according to “Eco-system based assistance” (WP2), and at the formulation of economically driven solution that may lead to the mitigation or reduction of soil degradation processes, also through product quality improvement.

As the leader of this Work Package, Prof. Badraoui took the floor and made several comments (for more information on the timetable of events and tasks of this WP see the conclusions of the Working Group 2 given in the Annex VI). He stressed that it is very difficult to increase the income of the farmers when they are already very poor, and when on the other side the farming subsidies in the developed countries continue at very high levels.

Many project in Morocco are trying to alleviate poverty. One of them conducted by the Ecole Nationale d’Agriculture de Meknes, which is also the site of the pilot project to be visited during the Workshop 2, is combination of participatory approach and government intervention. The government provides incentives and advantages for the farmers that make conservation efforts in their lands. Similar examples were reported to be taken in Tunisia as well. Dr. Fouadd Rachidi (Partner 20, Morocco) made a presentation of the pilot area to be visited during the Workshop 2.

Dr. Khalaf (Partner 13, Egypt) said that they find it very difficult to materialise in economic terms the damages of land degradation, let aside the generation of income in low-fertility of poor-quality lands. In Egypt there two types of soils: the old ones (very fertile and productive) and the newly reclaimed soils where the government has invested a lot of money, but their productivity remain very low. Better management and new technologies are needed to make them more productive and economically viable.

Dr. Loulou (Partner 36, ACSAD, Syria) emphasised that the tradition of local population and their customs play a role in the way they use land resources. Changing these will mean introducing new concepts that not always are easily accepted. In addition Dr. Al Qudah (Partner

4, Jordan) raised the objective that increasing income will mean also improving the conditions of women.

### **3.3.4 WP4 – “Participatory Management in LAND and Soil– PMLAND**

The Work Package has the aim of reviewing past and ongoing experiences on the subject and preparing a dedicated Workshop (WSH3). WP4 has identified three tasks for discussion during the dedicated workshop:

- assess assumption of landscape and soil conservation management functions in order that land users / owners can handle themselves the reducing social costs;
- need of a bottom-up process of decision making based on participatory management approach in landscape preservation and soil conservation;
- decentralisation of management to respond more quickly to problems or changes in the system

Prof. Abdel Kader (Partner 3, Egypt) as the Leader of this Work Package made an explanation of the pilot area to be visited during the Workshop 3 to be held at the Alexandria University in Egypt in October 2004. The NW Coastal zone of Egypt typifies the challenges of sustainable natural resource management and agropastoral systems development in semi-arid environments. Participatory approach is now used during decision-making. The area extends over 350 km from west of Alexandria to the Libyan border with about 120,000 Bedouin whose livelihood largely depends upon agriculture.

The production systems visible in the area today result from a series of government initiatives, which commenced in 1959 to sedentary the Bedouins and were reinforced by the closure of the border with Libya in the 1970's. World Food Programme activities commenced in the area in the 1960. The programme subsidised the construction of cisterns (for both domestic and livestock water supply, but more importantly to permit the establishment of orchards), cheek dams, houses, animal sheds for Battening sheep, the planting of figs and olives and to a lesser degree, the planting of fodder shrubs. In addition the Egyptian government subsidised concentrates for animal feed through a system of co-ops and licensed export sales of livestock. The effect of these programmes has been very positive.

In addition to the dramatic changes in agriculture, the NW Coast has witnessed a considerable increase in the construction of "tourist villages" (towns of vacation condominiums) in the past 5 years, which now stretch in a virtually unbroken line along the beach strip from the outskirts of Alexandria to the west of El Alamein. Additional villages are being constructed on the outskirts of Mersa Matrouh. These villages draw water from the Alexandria/Mersa Matrouh pipeline, whose capacity is presently being doubled to satisfy the demand. The expansion of tourism on the coast will undoubtedly have an impact on Bedouin communities, however, the nature and dimension of these impacts, both positive and negative, are under assessment within the frame of a wide participatory approach. (The timetable and scheduling of the events for this Work Package are given in the conclusions of WG 3 at Annex VI of this report)

Prof. Badraoui, stressed that in rural areas often there are conflicts related to land use planning and moreover implementation of these plans, therefore local communities should be involved. Dr. Loulou agreed on the issue and added that integrated policies should be applied, especially by introducing socio-economic analyses. He said that his institution (The Arab Centre for the

Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands, ACSAD) has accumulated over the years of its existence a lot of experience on the issues of participatory approach. He also welcomed the idea that ACSAD could prepare a keynote paper for the Workshop 3 providing an overview of the regional aspects. “ACSAD will be deeply involved in the MEDCOASTLAND Project and we will co-operate actively with all the members of the Network”- concluded Dr. Loulou.

Prof. Kapur raised also an interesting question. Not all the farmers are poor, he said. In the coastal area of Adana in Turkey, there are many well-off farmers that can afford to purchase expensive fertilizers and chemical inputs. Therefore we should consider also their participation in the efforts of conserving land resources and reducing chemical pollution resulting from intensification of agriculture.

Dr. Talal Darwish (Partner 5, Lebanon) pointed out however, that often farmers are let alone and are in conflict with input companies that establish their prices based on market demand. In this case the Government intervention could be encouraged. Other comments were made on the efforts of international seed companies (i.e. Monsanto) that try control the market and impose on farmers their products.

Dr. Murat Ozden (Partner 21, Turkey) elaborated on the top-down and bottom-up approaches. “Let’s make the issue clear, sometime the top-down approach is needed,” said Dr. Ozden. He brought the example of an irrigation project in Turkey funded by the World Bank that considered the suggestion of farmers that several small reservoirs were needed for a specific area. It turned out latter that the water resources were too low to supply the needed water for irrigation, therefore the project failed at the end.

Dr. Faoud Rachidi (Partner 20, Morocco) using some examples from Morocco explained that a good equilibrium between top-down and vice versa is necessary for achieving good results. Drs. Mairota supported the suggestion and brought to the attention of participants that the European Union supports mainly the bottom-up approach to preserve also the cultural heritage.

### **3.3.5 WP5 – “GUIDELines for national and regional policies and management in soil conservation – GUIDE”**

After carrying out a joint review of existing EU and Mediterranean guidelines (and strategies, policies), a dedicated Workshop (WSH 4) concerning guidelines in landscape and soil degradation management is foreseen. The Workshop will address discussion and assessment concerning formulation of guidelines, not only on the base of existing regulations and strategies but also on the base of results of the work done in WPs 2 and 3.

Formulation of guidelines will consider the benefit of both environmental and socio-economic factors. In other words, guidelines will provide basic indication on what best economically and environmentally sustainable strategies should be adopted to implement landscape and soil conservation management in the Mediterranean coastal area.

Leader of this Work Package is Dr. Talal Darwish from Lebanon. He emphasised that the lack of rules and regulations is accelerating the damage of land degradation in the area. We lack environmental impact assessments in many developing projects and are not aware of the risks that are caused on the status of the environment. Soil databases and maps are still mainly used for

crop production and agricultural purposes and not much for environmental analyses. Therefore it is necessary that regional policies and guidelines be developed. Dr. Basim Dudeen (Partner 18, Palestine) said that sharing information and setting policies and guidelines at regional level was very important.

The preparatory phase for the Workshop 4 includes a series of activities that will have to look at the socio-economic factors, as well as results from WP2 and WP3 and more importantly using existing policies at EU level. Collection of existing legislation is especially a priority of this Work Package as for many partners of the Network this is a totally a new experience. (For the scheduling of the events related to this Work Package and WP6 see the conclusions of the WG4 given in Annex VI).

### **3.3.6 WP6 Draft Agreement on data share and Development of Regional co-operation - DADR**

Long-term collaboration and co-operation among South-Mediterranean countries on landscape and soil degradation management could be ensured, after the MEDCOASTLAND-NET Project is over, only if there is clear political willingness of the relevant institutions within each Mediterranean country. The specific objective of the Work Package is the signature of an agreement among the Mediterranean countries for sharing and exchange of data, and development of regional co-operation. The formulation of this draft agreement will be discussed within a dedicated Workshop by all participants and then will be brought to the attention of the relevant country's representative. Therefore, in the frame of WP6 a Workshop will be organised in February 2006 and will focus on:

- i -) main issues related to trans-national co-operation on land degradation and conservation management in the Mediterranean coastal zone;
- ii-) organisation of regional land management to combat land degradation;
- iii-) research needs and issues to be targeted by future research in the relevant subject in the Mediterranean coastal zone.

The leader of this Work Package is partner P6 (Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of Malta). It was selected because Malta is the only country at the moment being close to membership into the EU and also because possesses very good legislation not only in regard to environment in general but also to conservation of land resources.

This Work Package has a strategic importance because it will create the foundation for continued collaboration between the members of the Network even after the MEDCOASTLAND Project will terminate. Ms. Sonya Vella (Partner 6, Malta) considered still premature to make accurate statements on the content and organisation of the Workshop, however, she expressed the commitment of the institution she represents that they will do the best to make this even a success.

Dr. Ozden asked about the type of data that will be shared among the members. The conclusion was that we are not asking each participant to share statistical data but information on existing projects and especially on their findings. The most important aspect of this work package will be the signing of an agreement between the partners at highest-level possible, to establish the basis for future collaboration. Dr. Steduto informed that CIHEAM would use its influence to convince at least its member states to sign such an agreement.

Dr. Ezio Rusco (Partner 35, European Soil Bureau, EC-JRC, Italy) brought some experiences at European level in regard to the distribution of soil data in Europe. It is very important that we have to agree first what type of data will be shared among us and then we have to draft special agreements, concluded Dr. Rusco.

Partner 36 inquired whether the agreement for sharing information and data should be only between the all the members of the thematic network or also separate agreements could be possible. Dr. Steduto responded that separate agreements could be possible as well, but at this point in time is still premature to reach to final conclusions.

### **3.3.7 WP7 – REtrieval of INFOrmation - REINFO**

Each partner in the project will be allocated a sufficient number of days per year in order to retrieve information from their countries and in function of their status and mission in relation to each Work Package. This WP is very well related to WP 1 and will provide be completed and up-dated continuously throughout the duration of the project

## **4. The work plan of the Project**

Dr. Pandi Zdruli explained the duties and responsibilities of all the members of the Thematic Network. A preliminary general plan has been prepared for the whole duration of the project as given in the following table (Table 2). The duties of each member were given in the Table 1 and were discussed thoroughly, however the biggest responsibilities remain for the partners that are leaders of the Work Packages 2-6 and for the organisation of the workshops.

The Coordinator (Partner 1, IAMB, Italy) is responsible for a number of activities. Some of the most important ones include coordination tasks and establishment and maintenance of the Internet site, manage the project in all administrative and financial aspects and be responsible to the European Commission for the overall development and well-functioning of the Network. P1 will be responsible for completing the Work Packages 1 and 7, including the release of related deliverables and achievement of projected milestones.

Other important activities include the coordination of the meetings of the Steering Committee, expanding the activities and the visibility of the Network to other external interested parties and preparing the interim and the final report of the Project. Specific duties of the Co-ordinator are related to the assistance that will provide to Partners P3, P5, P6, P10, and P11 in the implementation of their Work Packages and the organisation of the Workshops. The Co-ordinator will also edit and publish the proceedings of the workshops and prepare and distribute the Newsletter of the Network and accelerate and facilitate the data collection process.

<b>Table 2. Timetable of activities and milestones for WP 1,2, and 3</b>																
	FIRST YEAR				SECOND YEAR				THIRD YEAR				FOURTH YEAR			
	2002	2003			2003	2004			2004	2005			2005	2006		
<u>ACTIVITIES</u>	14.10- 14.12	14.1- 14.3	14.3- 14.6	14.6- 14.9	14.9- 14.12	14.1- 14.3	14.3- 14.6	14.6- 14.9	14.9- 14.12	14.1- 14.3	14.3- 14.6	14.6- 14.9	14.9- 14.12	14.1- 14.3	14.3- 14.6	14.6- 14.9
General co-ordination and Project administration																
Kick-off Meeting	KoM*															
<b>WP1 - FORUM</b>																
Design Internet FORUM																
Activation Internet based Forum																
Promotion and maintainance of Forum																
Online access to and availability of Database																
Multimedia platform / Video CD (off line, on line)																
Preparation of International Conference																
International Conference**															IC**	
Print Conference proceedings																
Preparation of TN brochures and distribution																
Steering Committee & minutes																
<b>WP2 - ECOLAND</b>																
Preparation of DPSIR indicators																
Review / abstract of research																
Preparation of Workshop 1																
Dedicated thematic Video/CD																
Workshop & site visit to pilot			WS1 <sup>1</sup>													
Print proceedings																

Timetable of activities and milestones for WP 1,2, and 3 (cont.)																
	FIRST YEAR				SECOND YEAR				THIRD YEAR				FOURTH YEAR			
	2002	2003			2003	2004			2004	2005			2005	2006		
ACTIVITIES	14.10-14.12	14.1-14.3	14.3-14.6	14.6-14.9	14.9-14.12	14.1-14.3	14.3-14.6	14.6-14.9	14.9-14.12	14.1-14.3	14.3-14.6	14.6-14.9	14.9-14.12	14.1-14.3	14.3-14.6	14.6-14.9
<b>WP 3 – IPSM</b>																
Preparation of IPSM indicators																
Review / abstract of research																
Preparation of Workshop 2																
Dedicated thematic Video/CD																
Workshop & site visit to pilot						WS2 <sup>2</sup>										
Print proceedings																
* 14-17 October 2002																
** 5-8 June 2006																
<sup>1</sup> 2-7 June 2003																
<sup>2</sup> 2-7 February 2004																

### Timetable of activities and milestones for WP 4,5,6 and 7 (cont.)

ACTIVITIES	FIRST YEAR				SECOND YEAR				THIRD YEAR				FOURTH YEAR			
	2002	2003			2003	2004			2004	2005			2005	2006		
	14.10-14.12	14.1-14.3	14.3-14.6	14.6-14.9	14.9-14.12	14.1-14.3	14.3-14.6	14.6-14.9	14.9-14.12	14.1-14.3	14.3-14.6	14.6-14.9	14.9-14.12	14.1-14.3	14.3-14.6	14.6-14.9
<b>WP4 – PMLAND</b>																
Review / abstract of research																
Preparation of Workshop 3																
Dedicated thematic Video/CD																
Workshop & site visit to pilot									WS3 <sup>3</sup>							
Print proceedings																
<b>WP5 - GUIDE</b>																
Organisation info + review																
Preparation of Workshop 4																
Draft Guidelines																
Workshop 4											WS4 <sup>4</sup>					
Prepare / print proceedings																
<b>WP6 - DADR</b>																
Organising info + review																
Preparation of Workshop 5																
Draft Guidelines																
Workshop 5														WS5 <sup>5</sup>		
Prepare / print proceedings and Draft Agreement																
<b>WP7 - REINFO</b>																
Writing to all institutions																
Compile addresses and mailing list																
Retrival of information																
Info compiled into Dbase & Report on data retrived																
<b>PROJECT REPORTING</b>																
Annual report																
Final report																
<sup>3</sup> 4-9 October 2004																
<sup>4</sup> 23-28 May 2005, <sup>5</sup> 6-11 February 2006																

Information on Workshops, Meetings of the Steering Committee and the Euro-Mediterranean Conference

<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Institution and person responsible</b>
Kick-off Meeting	Valenzano, Bari, Italy	14-16 October 2002	IAMB: Steduto, Zdruli, Bogliotti
Workshop 1: "Ecosystem-based assessments of soil degradation to improve land users concern and prompt actions" Visit to the pilot project site in the Seyhan Delta, South-eastern Turkey. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee	Adana, Turkey	2-7 June 2003	University of Çukurova: Kapur
Workshop 2: "Income-product generating soil conservation management" Visit to the pilot project site on soil conservation in the Oued Nakhla watershed, Northern Morocco 3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee	Rabat, Morocco	2-7 February 2004	Agronomic and Veterinary Institute HASSAN II Rabat Rabat Institute: Badraoui
Workshop 3: "Participatory soil conservation management" Visit to pilot project site in the north-western coast of Egypt 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee	Alexandria, Egypt	4-9 October 2004	Alexandria University: Abdel-Kader
Workshop 4: "Guidelines for national regional policies and management" 5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee	Beirut, Lebanon	23-28 May 2005	National Council for Scientific Research: Darwish
Workshop 5: "Draft agreement to exchange data and develop regional long-term co-operation" 6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee	Ghammieri, Marsa, Malta	6-11 February 2006	Ministry of Agriculture, Agricultural R & D Centre: Vella
Euro-Mediterranean Conference on natural landscape and soil	Bari, Italy	5-8 June 2006	IAMB: Steduto, Zdruli, Bogliotti

conservation management			
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**Distribution of tasks for each partner in regard to the Workshops**

<b>WORKSHOP 1</b>		<b>WORKSHOP 2</b>		<b>WORKSHOP 3</b>		<b>WORKSHOP 4</b>		<b>WORKSHOP 5</b>	
<b>Oral presentations</b>		<b>Oral presentations</b>		<b>Oral presentations</b>		<b>Oral presentations</b>		<b>Oral presentations</b>	
1	P11 Çukurova University Turkey	1	P4 MOA Jordan	1	P3 Alexandria University, Egypt	1	P5 CNRS Lebanon	1	P6 MOAF Malta
2	P21 GDRS Turkey	2	P8 MOA Palestine	2	P7 MOF Tunisia	2	P4 Univ. Çukurova, Turkey	2	P13 NARSS Egypt
3	P31 AFA, Turkey	3	P10 IAV Hassan II Morocco	3	P9 MAAR Syria	3	P12 MOA Algeria	3	P15 MOE Lebanon
4	P2 INA Algeria	4	P19 University of Tishren, Syria	4	P13 NARSS Egypt	4	P14 University of Jordan, Jordan	4	P16 Univ. of Malta
5	P9 MAAR Syria	5	P20 MADREF Morocco	5	P24 Center for Desert. Cntrl. Jordan	5	P15 MOE Lebanon	5	P20 MADREF Morocco
6	P14 University of Jordan, Jordan	6	P26 Farmer Assoc Malta	6	P32 INRA France	6	P16 University of Malta	6	P21 GDRS Turkey
7	P17 INAT Tunisia	7	P29 ENA Meknes Morocco	7	P33 CSIC Spain	7	P21 GDRS Turkey	7	P29 ENA Meknes Morocco
8	P18 LRC Palestine	8	P32 INRA France	8	P34 University of Sassari, Italy	8	P25 ACA Lebanon	8	P32 INRA France
9	P19 University of Tishreen, Syria	9	P33 CSIC Spain	9	P35 ESB Ispra, Italy	9	P32 INRA France	9	P33 CSIC Spain
10	P32 INRA France	10	P34 University of Sassari, Italy	10	P36 ACSAD Syria	10	P33 CSIC Spain	10	P34 University of Sassari, Italy
11	P33 CSIC Spain	11	P35 ESB Ispra, Italy	11	P1 IAMB Italy	11	P34 University of Sassari, Italy	11	P35 ESB Ispra, Italy
12	P34 University of Sassari, Italy	12	P1 IAMB Italy	12	P11 Univ. Çukurova, Turkey	12	P35 ESB Ispra Italy	12	P36 ACSAD Syria
13	ESB Ispra, Italy	13	P6 MOAF Malta	13	P18 LRC Palestine	13	P1 IAMB Italy	13	P1 IAMB Italy
14	P36 ACSAD, Syria	14	P7 MOF Tunisia	14	P10 IAV Hassan II Morocco	14	P10 IAV Hassan II Morocco	14	P4 Univ. Çukurova, Turkey
15	P1 IAM Bari, Italy	15	P36 ACSAD, Syria	15	P21 GDRS Turkey	15	P36 ACSAD Syria	15	P7 MOF Tunisia

16	P6 MOAF Malta	16	P3 Alexandria University, Egypt	16	P5 CNRS Lebanon	16	P29 ENA Meknes Morocco	16	P19 University of Tishreen, Syria
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**Distribution of tasks for each partner in regard to the Workshops (cont.)**

	<b>Invited experts</b>								
	To be defined		<u>To be defined</u>		To be defined		To be defined		To be defined
	(minimum 5)								
	<b>Posters</b>								
1	P22 SALAMA3 Algeria	1	P27 EL-OUESLATI Tunisia	1	P23 GRAWALA Egypt	1	P36 ACSAD Syria	1	P26 Farmer Assoc. Malta
2	P28 GUP Syria	2	P30 WRSP, Morocco	2	P25 ACA Lebanon	2	P25 ACA Lebanon	2	P25 ACA Lebanon
3	P30 WRSP, Morocco	3	P25 ACA Lebanon	3	P28 GUP Syria	3	P28 GUP Syria	3	P28 GUP Syria
4	P26 Farmer Assoc. Malta	4	P28 GUP Syria	4	P31 AFA Turkey	4	P31 AFA Turkey	4	AFA Turkey
		5	P31 AFA Turkey	5	P26 Farmer Assoc. Malta	5	P26 Farmer Assoc. Malta		

In addition it was decided also that all the members of the network should send to the Co-ordinator the logos and the web page addresses of their organisations in order that these links are incorporated in the FORUM of MEDCOASTLAND Project. Other important issue on the discussions was the fact of establishing definitely the representatives for each partner. It was requested that partner P16 (University of Malta, Institute of Agriculture) should decide whether Prof. Anthony Sciluna-Spiteri or Dr. George Attard will be the representatives for that institution.

Following a proposal of Dr. Ozden, it was requested that the first draft of the logo of the MEDCOASTLAND Thematic Network be revised in order to make more visible all the participating countries.

In the afternoon the four working groups started (look at Annex V for their composition) their discussions in separate rooms. For the conclusions and time table of deliverables for each of them look again in Annex VI, or consult previous remarks.

## **5. Establishment of the Steering Committee**

After some initial informal consultations held in the plenary session at the end of the first day of the Kick-Off Meeting, it was decided that, the Steering Committee (SC) should be formed by eleven members representing the three groups included in the Network (namely: decision-makers, researchers, and farmer associations). The members of the SC are:

1. Partner 1 (the Co-ordinator IAMB, Italy)
2. Partner 3 (Alexandria University, Egypt)
3. Partner 5 (National Council for Scientific Research, Lebanon)
4. Partner 6 (Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Malta)
5. Partner 8 (Ministry of Agriculture, Palestine)
6. Partner 10 (Institut Agronomique et Veterinaire Hassan II, Soil Science Department, Morocco)
7. Partner 11 (University of Cukurova, Faculty of Agriculture, Turkey)
8. Partner 27 (Parcelle El Oueslati, Tunisia)
9. Partner 35 (European Soil Bureau, JRC, Ispra, Italy)
10. Partner 33 (Cosejo Superior de Investigaciones Scientificas, Spain)
11. Partner 36 (Arab Centre for the studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands, League of Arab States, Syria)

Originally it was proposed that Partner 32 (INRA, France) be also member of the SC, but with proposition of Drs. Christine Le Bas (Partner 32) was decided to include the European Soil Bureau instead of INRA, as the continuation of the Euro-Mediterranean Soil Database will be managed by the ESB. Following the same logic was decided to include ACSAD in the Steering Committee.

The first meeting of the SC established some important decisions. Following a proposal from Mr. Azam Tubeilah (Partner 8, Palestine) it was agreed that the chairman of the SC should be rotated according to the time schedule of the Workshops. Therefore, the first chairman was appointed

Prof. Kapur, as the leader of the WP 2 or the first workshop. Right after this workshop, he will be replaced by Prof. Badraoui (Morocco) and it will continue in the same way until the end of the project.

Some of the major duties of the SC include:

- Dissemination of activities
- Create visibility for the project
- Make relevant the project
- Distribute the outcomes of the project
- Link the project with other related initiatives
- Discuss and assess the performance of each partner and take the necessary decisions
- Propose minor changes in the scheduling of the events
- Agree on the list of invited experts that will address keynote speeches in the workshops
- Continuous consultation

It was stressed however, that the Steering Committee has no legal status and the Co-ordinator remain the only interlocutor and responsible body before the Commission for the performance of the Project.

In the discussions concern was raised for the absence of both three partners from Algeria. The SC asked Prof. Badraoui to discuss the issue with these members during his visit in Algeria in December 2002 and inform as soon as possible the members of SC on the outcomes of such discussions.

## **6. Outcomes of the Working Groups**

Four working groups were formed (see Annex V for their composition) to discuss the duties, working agendas and the follow-up activities of Work Packages 2,3,4,5, and 6. Given the fact that Work Packages 5 and 6 have strong similarities in common, they were grouped together.

### **6.1 Outcomes of Working Group 1**

Under the direction of the Work Package Leader, Prof. Kapur from the University of Cukurova, Turkey, the working group hold intensive discussions on the subjects to be addressed in the context of Work Package 2. The working schedule is divided in several steps until the final completion of the Workshop 1. The main points are as follows:

- Information retrieval/abstraction and construction of database;
- Development of the conceptual framework on DPSIR methodology;
- Identification of major land degradation factors at country and regional level;
- Natural and human aspects of land degradation;
- Land use planning and sustainable management of natural resources.

The first workshop to be held in Adana will be a great test for the project and will show either the strength or its weakness. Prof. Selim Kapur conveyed to the members of the Network the willingness of the University of Cukurova to make this event a success. He explained that his

institution has a great deal of knowledge and expertise from the scientific and logistic perspectives.

He informed the audience that in the first meeting of the Steering Committee was decided that the following persons should be the invited experts to address the Adana Workshop:

1. Dr. Hari Eswaran, National Leader, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington DC and chairman of the International Working Group on Land Degradation and Desertification
2. Dr. Salah Taouhun UNEP Office in Cairo, Egypt
3. Drs. Guliana Trisorio Liuzzi, University of Bari, Italy
4. Dr. John Ryan, International Centre for Research in Dry Areas ICARDA, Syria
5. Dr. C. Kosmas, Agricultural University of Athens, Greece

Other tentative names: Dr. Awni Taimeh from Jordan.

Intensive discussions were devoted to the use of DPSIR indicators in the workshop. Several participants repeated their difficulty in understanding the methodology and then applying it. Dr. Claudio Zucca (Partner 34, Italy) was somehow sceptical about the use of DPSIR since these indicators could not be applied easily at country or regional level. Prof. Badraoui expressed the same concern, indicating he was not familiar with DPSIR method and could be difficult to use.

Following these concerns it was decided that we would like to have an open discussion on the factors of land degradation in each country and their intensity. It could be admirable to use the DPSIR as a methodology for preparing the presentations, but this will not be a perquisite. Dr. Khalaf from Egypt agreed to prepare a paper on some degradation factors in the coastal area of Egypt by addressing also wetland degradation. The colleague from Tunisia proposed to write a similar paper.

Latter Prof. Kapur showed the timetable of events until the opening of the workshop that will be held in Adana in June 2003 (For more information look at the Annex VI on the conclusions of Working Group 1). It was emphasised often, that the major activity of the Work Package is not only the Workshop, but also the continuous collection of information and the feeding up of the FORUM as the major form of dissemination of information.

In regard to the Workshop the detailed programme is as follows:

End of December 2002:	Defining and allocating a DPSIR framework in the country
End of December 2002	Circulate the 1 <sup>st</sup> Announcement of the Workshop
End of February 2003	Submission of 1 page abstract
End of March 2003	Circulate the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Announcement of the Workshop
15 <sup>th</sup> of May 2003	Submission of full papers

## 6.2 Outcomes of Working Group 2

The working group 2 was convened under the leadership of Prof. Badraoui, Morocco. The main tasks of discussion included:

- Data collection and database creation, including CD Rom, Video etc;

- Information retrieval should include technical and scientific sources tackling socio-economic and cultural constraints related income-product generating and soil conservation;
- Preparation of the brochure of the Workshop 2;
- Effective preparation of the Workshop;
- Printing proceedings;
- Effective continuous communication with all the partners.

### **6.3 Outcomes of Working Group 3**

Prof. Abdel Kader of the University of Alexandria, Egypt chaired working group 3. The main items of discussion included:

- Preparation of keywords to help partners in selecting appropriate documents about participatory management;
- Collection of information at country level;
- Linking activities with the Work Package 2, WP3, WP1 and WP7;
- Effective preparation of the Workshop 3;
- Translation and preparation of abstracts in English, French and Arabic;
- Accepted framework of participatory approach to soil management and conservation.

### **6.4 Outcomes of Working Group 4**

The working group 4 included both aspects of Work Packages 5 and 6 and was led by Dr. Talal Darwish from Lebanon. The main tasks of discussion in regard to the guidelines & national and regional policies in soil management and the draft agreement on data sharing included:

1. In the frame of policies and guidelines:
  - Preparation of the LOGFRAME for each participating country;
  - Preparation of a draft list of natural and socio-economic factors which can be used in the context of national and regional policies;
  - Linking activities with Work Package 2 and 3 in relation to environmental and socio-economic factors;
  - Collection and dissemination of EU policies;
  - Collection of country policies;
  - Collection and assessment of regional policies;
2. In the frame of draft agreement:
  - Identification of offices and institutions for lobby;
  - Definition of LOGFRAME for each participating country;
  - Agreement on the form and content of the Agreement.

For detailed working agendas of all the four working groups see Annex VI.

## **7. Plenary session and conclusions of the Meeting**

The Kick-Off Meeting for launching the MEDCOASTLAND Thematic Network was attended by 38 persons representing a total of 26 institutions from 11 countries of Southern Europe and North

Africa and the Middle East. Only the representatives from Algeria did not attend the meeting. Missing were also the Farmer Associations from Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Morocco. From the decision makers were missing the Ministry of Environment of Lebanon and the Ministry of Agriculture of Morocco.

The members of this Network agreed that the project is very ambitious in its goals and objectives. To achieve them are necessary the inputs and the support of all the members. The final conclusion was that the logic of the Project permits every participant to be equally important and to provide his inputs in a rational manner. The fact that the Network incorporates three levels of management and research for each country mean that results and failures are shared equally to all of them.

The Network function in a round table, where there are no people that talk and others that listen. All have a saying to make and an experience to share. The Workshops are the places where the floor would be given to all the members. However, the continuous flow of information and exchange of ideas will be through the FORUM of the network, where virtually the contacts could be even weekly, if not daily. Members are encouraged to write and check frequently the web page of the Project.

Another important conclusion was also the fact that there is a lot of work to do. The deadlines that were established in the discussions of the working groups should be maintained and fully satisfied. Many participants pointed out that all of them have other activities to follow, but this should not conflict in any way with the objectives and goals of this Project.

Since some of the issues included in the Work Packages of the Project are typically related to specific disciplines (i.e. WP2, WP5, WP6) it was considered very important that experts with high reputation should be selected as invited speakers. This does not exclude young emerging scientists that could be invited as well in the quality of keynote speakers.

The Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari as the Co-ordinator of the Project provided scientific, technical, and logistic support for the whole duration of the Meeting. Participants were accommodated in the facilities of the Institute. At the end, all of them appreciated the way the meeting was conducted and managed.

The next biggest event of the Project is the Workshop in Adana, Turkey in June 2003. Until then all the members of the Network have to complete their duties. The event will be also the biggest test for all of us that will show whether the path we are following is the right one and what could be done to improve it better.

## ANNEXES:

- I. Programme of the Meeting
- II. List of participants and their contact information
- III. Key-note presentations:  
(Dr. Pasquale Steduto, Dr. Claudio Bogliotti, Dr. Pandi Zdruli,)
- IV. Partners of the Network
- V. Composition of the Working Groups
- VI. Conclusions of the Working Groups

## **MEDCOASTLAND Thematic Network**

### **Kick-off Meeting**

14-16 October, 2002 – Valenzano (BA) – ITALY

#### **PROGRAMME**

#### **Monday, 14 October 2002**

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 8:30 – 9:00   | <b>Registration</b>  |
| 9:00 – 9:15   | <b>Welcome addresses</b><br>(Cosimo LACIRIGNOLA – IAMB Director)                     |
| 9:15 – 10:00  | <b>Presentation of Partners &amp; IAMB staff involved in MEDCOASTLAND</b>            |
| 10:00 – 10:20 | <b>The Logical Framework of the MEDCOASTLAND project</b><br>(Claudio BOGLIOTTI)      |
| 10:20 – 10:45 | <b>Overview &amp; Introduction to the MEDCOASTLAND project</b><br>(Pasquale STEDUTO) |
| 10:45 – 11:00 | <i>Coffee Break</i>  |

#### Presentation of main project components (Work Packages - WP)

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 11:00 – 12:00 | <b>WP1 - Establishment of internet-based communication and networking</b> (Pandi ZDRULI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Objective &amp; methodology</li><li>✓ Structure &amp; management</li><li>✓ Deliverables, milestones, results</li></ul> <b>Short description of the WEB-Forum</b><br>(Enrico NERILLI)<br><b>WP7 – Retrieval of Information</b> (Pandi ZDRULI)<br><br><i>Discussion</i> |
| 12:00 – 13:00 | <b>WP2 – Ecosystem based assessment of soil degradation</b><br>(Pandi ZDRULI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Objective &amp; methodology</li><li>✓ Structure &amp; management</li><li>✓ Research review &amp; knowledge base</li><li>✓ Deliverables, milestones, results</li></ul>  |

**Ecosystem assessment: DPSIR indicators accounting for land degradation** (Giuliana TRISORIO-LIUZZI)

**Discussion**

13:00 – 15:00

*Lunch Break*

15:00 – 15:45

**WP3 – Income-product generating land & soil conservation**  
(Pasquale STEDUTO)

- ✓ Objective & methodology
- ✓ Structure & management
- ✓ Research review & knowledge base
- ✓ Deliverables, milestones, results

**Discussion**

15:45 – 16:30

**WP4 – Participatory management in land & soil**  
(Pandi ZDRULI)

- ✓ Objective & methodology
- ✓ Structure & management
- ✓ Research review & knowledge base
- ✓ Deliverables, milestones, results

**Discussion**

16:30 – 16:45

*Coffee Break*

16:45 – 17:15

**WP5 – Preparation of guidelines for national-regional policies and management in soil conservation**  
(Pasquale STEDUTO)

- ✓ Objective & methodology
- ✓ Structure & management
- ✓ Research review & knowledge base
- ✓ Deliverables, milestones, results

**Discussion**

17:15 – 18:15

**WP6 – Proposal of draft agreement on data share and development for regional co-operation**  
(Pasquale STEDUTO)

- ✓ Objective & methodology
- ✓ Structure & management
- ✓ Review & knowledge base
- ✓ Deliverables, milestones, results

**Discussion**

18:15 – 19:00

**Plenary discussion**

## Tuesday, 15 October 2002

9:00 – 10:00	<b>Detailed Work Program for the next 12 to 24 months</b> (Pandi ZDRULI)
	<b>Discussion</b>
10:00 – 11:00	<b>Attribution of tasks and creation of WP working groups</b> (Round table)
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:30 – 12:00	<b>Dissemination activities</b> (Pasquale STEDUTO)
	<b>Discussion</b>
12:00 – 13:00	<b>Visit to MEDCOASTLAND &amp; IAMB Laboratories</b>
13:00 – 15:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Presentation of the MEDCOASTLAND “logo” &amp; approval</b>
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Overview of administrative aspects</b> (Claudio BOGLIOTTI)
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:30 – 17:30	<b>Establishment of the steering Committee and definition of duties</b>
17:30 – 19:00	<b>Formalities &amp; administrative clearances</b>
19:30 – 20:30	<i>Dinner</i>

## Wednesday, 16 October 2002

9:00 – 10:00	<b>Round table &amp; discussion by the Steering Committee</b>
10:00 – 13:00	<b>Parallel sessions of the different working groups</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Definition of priorities</li><li>✓ Definition of partner’s input</li><li>✓ Detailed planning for the next 12 to 24 months</li></ul>
13:00 – 15:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>

15:00 – 17:00	<b>Plenary session by all partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Presentation of outcomes by the working groups</li><li>✓ Presentation of outcomes by the steering committee</li><li>✓ Discussion</li></ul>
17:00 – 17:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
17:30 – 18:00	<b>Closing session</b>
19:30 – 20:30	<i>Dinner</i>

## ANNEX II. List of participants and their contact information

PARTICIPANTS OF THE KICK-OFF MEETING									
Countr	Partn No.	Reference Person	Institution	Business address	e-mail	Office telephone	Home/mobile telephone	Office fax	Photo
ITALY	1	STEDUTO Pasquale	C.I.H.E.A.M. – Istituto Agronomico Mediterraneo of Bari	Via Ceglie, 9 – 70010 Valenzano (Bari)	<a href="mailto:seduto@iamb.it">seduto@iamb.it</a>	+39 0804606224	+39 3298075552	+39 0804606274	
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## ANNEX III. Keynote presentations

### 3.1. Presentation of Dr. Claudio Bogliotti

*EC/INCO-MED:Medcoastland-Net  
Kick-off Meeting: 14-16 October 2001  
Presentation: Dr. Bogliotti Claudio, IAMB*

**Call for Proposal INCO-MED (5<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme)**

**Submission: September 2001**

**Priority area identified: Regional Environmental Sustainability**

**Focused theme: the sustainable development in coastal areas and impact of human activities on natural resources**

**Decision of addressing land degradation in Mediterranean coastal areas**

Designing MEDCOASTLAND-NET

Designing process during project preparation using LOGFRAME



Problem Analysis regarding Land Degradation: 3 hierarchic levels (main problem, specific problem/s, direct causes)



Objective Analysis: 3 hierarchic levels linked with problem analysis (main objective, project purpose, project results)



Definition of activities for each identified result



Identification of indicators for each objective level and activities



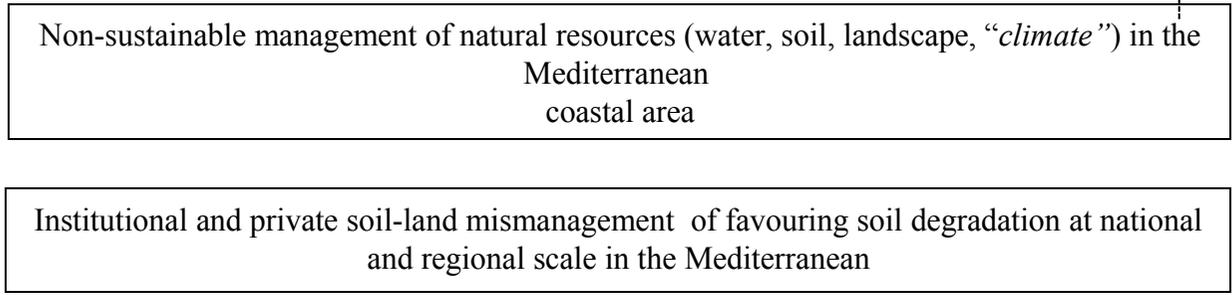
**Editing the LOG FRAME**

	Intervention logic	Indicators	Source of Verification	Assumptions
Main objective				
Project Purpose				

Results				
Activities				

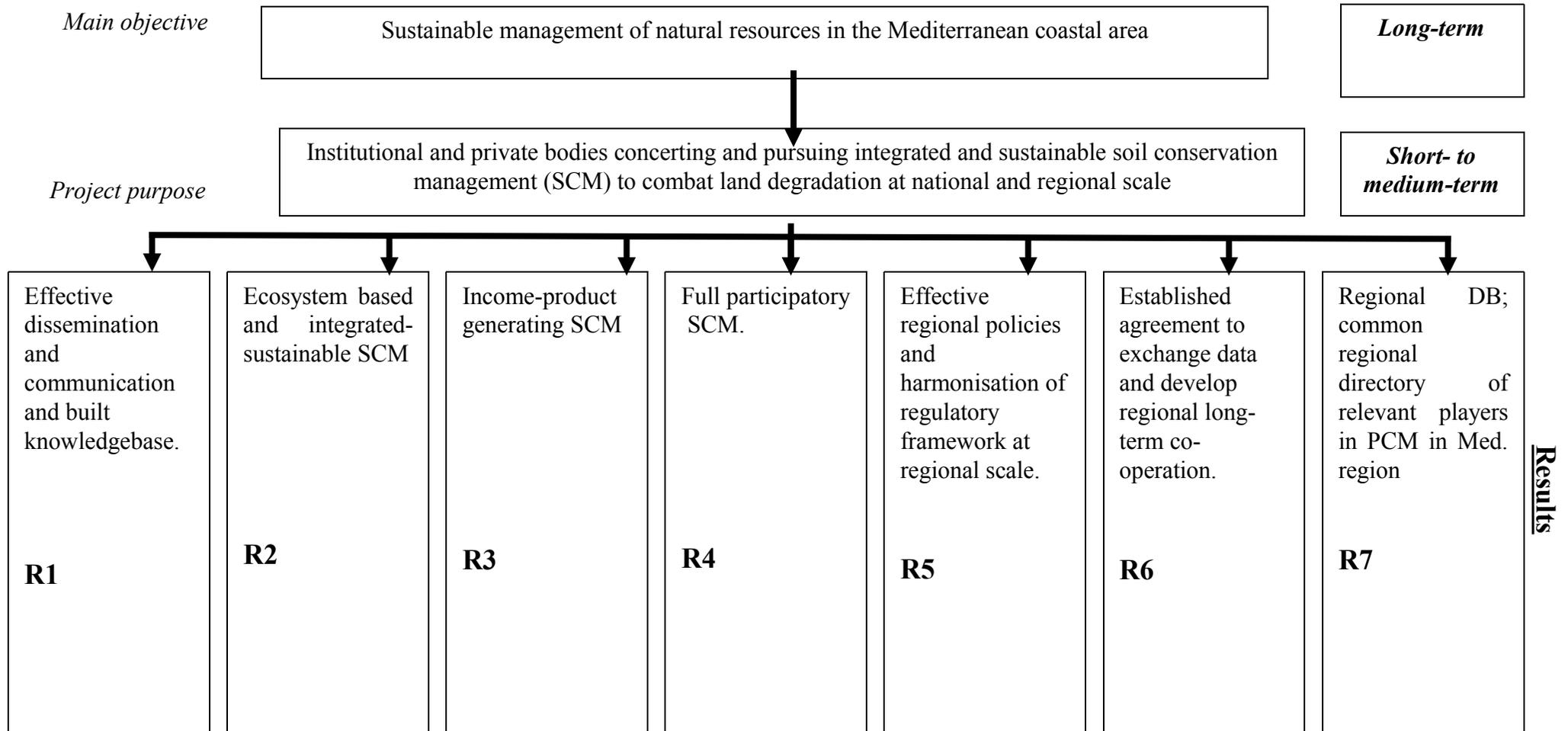
**Translate the LOG FRAME into MEDCOASTLAND project structure**

**Problem analysis**



- Lack of effective dissemination and communication need of common rational knowledgebase
- Lack of or low level promotion of environmentally friendly and integrated-sustainable approach
- Lack of rational land degradation management accounting for different societal economic interests
- Limited societal participation in land-soil conservation management
- Lack of regional policies and lack of harmonisation of regulatory framework at regional scale
- Lack of data-exchange; common protocols for a long-term perspective of regional co-operation
- Lack of common regional database (DB) and common regional relevant players directory

## Objective analysis



<b>Main objective</b>	<i>Indicators</i>
Sustainable management of natural resources in the Mediterranean coastal area	% of reduced degraded land / 10y % improvement of selected socio-economic and environmental parameters / 15 years N. of regional policies in place / 10 years

<i>Project purpose</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
Institutional and private bodies concerting and pursuing integrated and sustainable soil conservation management (SCM) to combat land degradation at national and regional scale.	N. of institutions coming into formal co-operation agreement  X < thresholds chemical-physical parameters (soil and water)  % improvement environmental indexes

<i>Project results</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
Effective dissemination and communication, and built knowledgebase	- Degree of awareness - N. of published papers - N. of players reached by and responding / accessing Forum
Ecosystem based and integrated-sustainable SCM	- N. of published papers - N. of DPSIR indicators agreed by all partners categories
Income-product generating SCM	- N. of published papers
Full participatory SCM	- N. of published papers - Degree of participation / categories within Forum discussion and Workshops
Effective regional policies and harmonisation of regulatory framework at regional scale	- N. of new guidelines agreed by all categories
Established agreement to exchange data and develop regional long-term co-operation	- % data rate exchange - official agreement signed

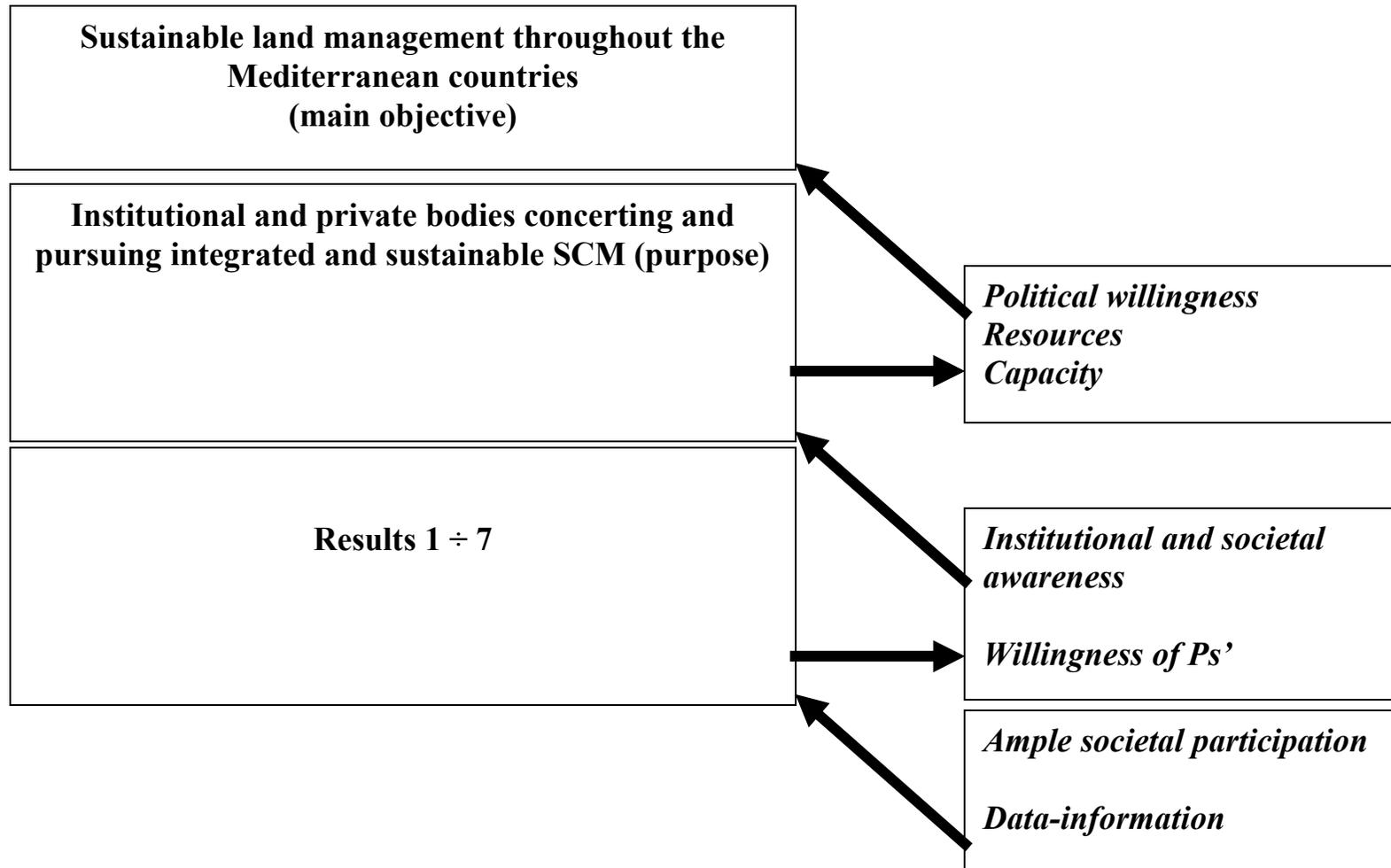
**ACTIVITIES LINKED TO RESULTS (R1÷R7)**

<b>Activity</b>	<i>Indicators</i>
<b>Result N. 1</b>	
1.1 Design Internet –based Forum	6 months
1.2 Activation of Internet-based Forum	6 months
1.3 Promotion & maintenance of Forum	N. of visitors / 4 y
1.4 Online access to DB	350 visitors / y
1.5 Development of and mail multimedia (CDRom)	200 / 4y
1.6 International Conference	150 participants
1.7 Conference Proceedings	40 contr. / 350 prints
1.8 Six-monthly e-newsletters	250 / y
1.9 Project brochures	500 mailed / 4y
<b><u>Result N.2</u></b>	
2.1 Dedicated I-page/discussion on DPSIR	150 visitors /y
2.2 Review of research results / knowledgebase	40 contributions / W 2 scientific papers /y
2.3 Workshop N.1	40 participants
2.4 Dedicated mailed CD-Rom	150
2.5 Proceedings	350 prints
<b><u>Result N.3</u></b>	
3.1 Review of research results / knowledgebase	40 contributions / W 2 scientific papers /y
3.2 Workshop N.2	40 participants
3.3 Dedicated mailed CD-Rom	150
3.4 Proceedings	350 prints

<b><i>Result N.4</i></b>	
4.1 Review of research results / knowledgebase	40 contributions / W 2 scientific papers/y
4.2 Workshop N.3	40 participants
4.3 Dedicated CD-Rom	150
4.4 Proceedings	350 prints
<b><i>Result N.5</i></b>	
5.1 Review-structuring results of IO3-4-5	40 contributions / W 2 scientific papers /y
5.2 Workshop N.4	40 participants
5.3 Dedicated CD-Rom	150
5.4 Proceedings	350 prints

<b><i>Result N.6</i></b>	
6.1 Organising info and review	30 contributions / W
6.2 Workshop N.5	40 participants
6.4 Proceedings	350 prints
6.4 Draft Agreement	10 Med countries
<b><i>Result N.7</i></b>	
7.1 Mailing to Institution	600 / 4y
7.2 Compile addresses and mailing list	300 relevant addresses
7.3 Retrieval of information	36 months
7.4 Information compiled into DB	2000 references / 4y

## ASSUMPTIONS



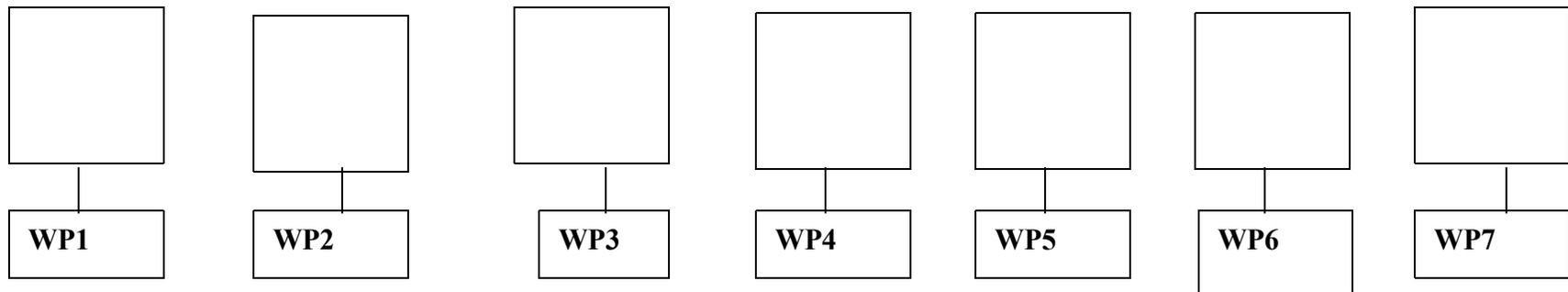
## Translate the Log Frame into MEDCOASTLAND structure

Results' activities (in results) become project tasks (in Work Packages - WP)

Link project results with WPs

Tight project purpose and/or main objective with project title

Results = WP



### **Project purpose**

Institutional and private bodies concerting and pursuing integrated and sustainable soil conservation management (SCM) to combat land degradation at national and regional scale



### **Title**

Mediterranean co-ordination and dissemination of land conservation management to combat land degradation for the sustainable use of natural resources in Mediterranean coastal zone

## Logical Framework of MEDCOASTLAND-NET

	<i>INTERVENTION LOGIC</i>	VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
<b>MAIN OBJECTIVE</b>	Sustainable management of natural resources in the Mediterranean coastal area	% reduced degraded land / 10 years % improvement of selected socio-economic and environmental parameters / 15 years  N. of regional policies in place / 10 years	Ministries annual report  Countries annual statistical book  Surveys	
<b>PROJECT PURPOSE</b>	Institutional and private bodies concerting and pursuing integrated and sustainable SCM to combat land degradation at national and regional scale	N. of Institutions coming into formal co-operation agreement Thresholds of relevant chemical-physical parameters 25% improved selected environ. indexes	Ex-post monitoring report  Ministries report  Surveys	Political willingness  Available future resources  Capacity of Institutions
<b>RESULTS</b>	<p><b>R1.</b> Effective dissemination and communication and built rational knowledgebase</p> <p><b>R2.</b> Ecosystem based and integrated-sustainable SCM</p> <p><b>R3.</b> Income-product generating SCM</p> <p><b>R4.</b> Full participatory SCM</p> <p><b>R5. Effective regional policies and harmonisation of regulatory framework at regional scale</b></p> <p><b>R6.</b> Established agreement to exchange data and develop regional long-term co-operation</p> <p><b>R7.</b> Data-base/directory</p>	<p>- Degree of awareness (low-medium-high)</p> <p>- N. of published papers</p> <p>N. of relevant players reached by and/or responding/accessing Forum</p> <p>- N. of published papers</p> <p>- N. of DPSIR indicators</p> <p>- N. of agreed options</p> <p>- N. of published papers</p> <p>- N. of agreed options</p> <p>- N. of published papers</p> <p>- Degree of participation/categories within discussion-decision making</p> <p>- N. of guidelines</p> <p> </p> <p>- % rate of data exchange</p> <p>-official agreement signed</p> <p> </p> <p>-N. of references and data</p>	<p>Project progress reports</p> <p> </p> <p>Project final report</p> <p> </p> <p>Proceedings</p>	<p>Institutional and social awareness</p> <p> </p> <p>Willingness of partners and countries' relevant players</p>
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	R1 group of Activities R2 group of activities R3 group of activities R4 group of activities R5 group of activities R6 group of activities	Detailed list	INPUT EC Funds	Ample societal participation Data-information available
<p><b>Pre-conditions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strength of partners</li> <li>- Willingness of partners</li> <li>- Resources</li> </ul>				

### 3.2. Presentation of Dr. Pasquale Steduto

**MEDCOASTLAND**

**MED**iterranean co-ordination and dissemination of **LAND** conservation management to combat land degradation for the sustainable use of natural resources in the Mediterranean **COAST**al zone

**Keywords:**

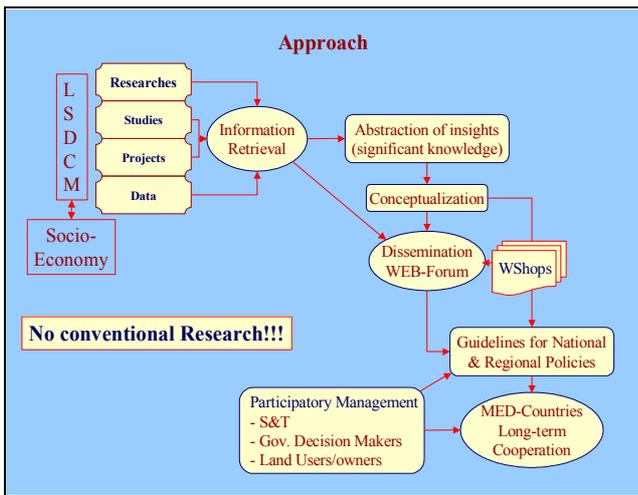
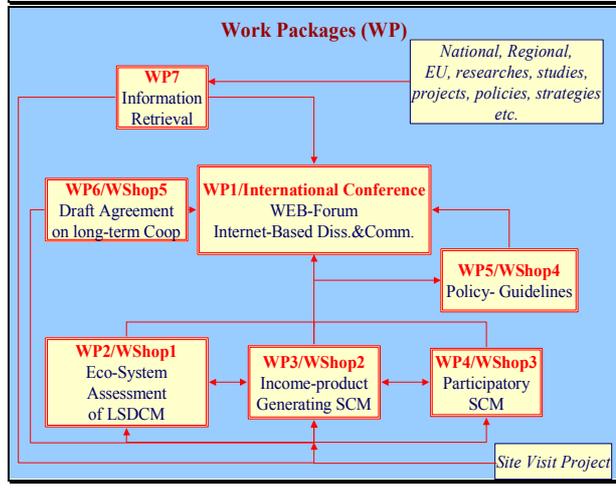
- Co-ordination and dissemination
- Conservation management to combat land degradation
- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Coastal zone

**Overall Objective**

Planning and management of natural resources in Mediterranean coastal areas with particular regard to **Land & Soil Degradation and Conservation Management (LSDCM)**, ... with **LSDCM** contributing to the sustainable development of coastal areas and their natural resources

**Specific Objectives**

- effectiveness of co-ordination and dissemination of researches, studies and projects on **LSDCM**, in the Mediterranean Region
- research reviews, indicators and guidelines to implement **LSDCM** with assessment of “environment-economy” relationships
- link research activities to needs arising from Mediterranean coastal zone management
- provide extraction of relevant knowledge (effective, easy to read) and allow access to organized information (large use of **ICT**)
- establish Mediterranean-wide permanent communication structure between researcher, decision makers & users
- provide a framework to assist regional planning in Mediterranean coastal zones



**Activities**

- Researches/Studies/Projects reviews & abstracts
- 5 Workshops (with proceedings/leaflets)
- 3 site visits
- WEB-Forum/Virtual Campus
- 6-month electronic newsletter
- 1 International Conference (with proceedings)
- 3 thematic multi-media CD-Rom/Video

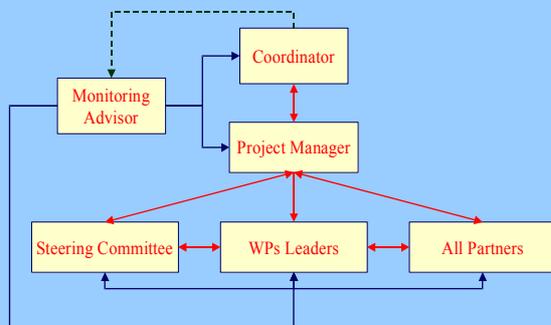
### Milestones, Deliverables & Expected Results

- 5 Workshops (with proceedings/leaflets)
- 1 International Conference (with proceedings)
- WEB-Forum/Virtual Campus
- On-line accessible Researches/Studies/Projects reviews & abstracts
- Guidelines to support Regional Policies
- Signature of the Draft Agreement for long-term cooperation on LSDCM

### In carrying out the project, particular attention will be paid to ensure that:

- Previous and current researches & experiences of the partners involved in the Network are fully integrated & incorporated
- Previous and current EU-funded projects & experiences are fully integrated and incorporated
- The most ample participation of the Southern Mediterranean countries is achieved
- Relevance is given to sustainable management of the Mediterranean coastal zone
- Integrators, guidelines or any planning framework arising from the discussion within the Network will be formulated with all involved key players and stakeholders

### Management Structure of the Project



### Budget Administration

- Total project budget is 1,305,001 €
- The advanced amount will be of 391,501 € (subdivided in proportion to all partners)
- Every 12 month there will be an amount corresponding to the budget breakdown, ...but only after the Annual Report
- At the moment, the kick-off meeting costs are anticipated by IAMB since no budget arrived yet from EC (...November is the most probable period of funding)

### ...some considerations

- Land degradation is well recognized in the Mediterranean ...at political and other components of society
- Many research projects have been carried out to understand LSDCM
- Literature is rich of land degradation assessment, environmental impact and economic analysis
- Nevertheless, ...land degradation continues

### ...why??

- Complexity
- Studies & researches still fragmented & scattered (sharing of experiences)
- Human activities remains the primary agent of land degradation (socio-economics)
- Lack of integration/interrelation between physical and economic criteria to evaluate land degradation
- conflicts due to different temporal and spatial scale of processes involved in land degradation
- Gaps among governmental institutions/scientists/ local communities (disregarded bottom-up approach)
- .....

### Distinctive features (...and challenges) of MEDCOASTLAND

- Looking at **Income-Product Generating Conservation-Management practices** to enforce sustainability of LSDCM
- Establishing an effective **participatory approach**, allowing dialogs between scientists, Gov. decision makers & users
- Stimulation of **Nationals Governmental interest** into MEDCOASTLAND
- **Scaling-up** from National to Regional level
- Drafting an agreement for **long-term cooperation** among all Mediterranean countries
- Abstraction of researches/studies/projects results into a format readable by audiences other than scientists
- Production of **Policy Guidelines** for LSDCM
- Establishment of a **permanent WEB** communication & dissemination structure (360° around)

### ...weaknesses

- Socio-economics
- Coastal experience in LSDCM

### ...beyond the project

- The partners involved in the MEDCOASTLAND Thematic Network are representing almost the whole scientific and institutional community involved in the Mediterranean LSDCM, in addition to a highly qualified representation of end-users
- The project can be seen as an opportunity to add a value to what is already going on in LSDCM, as well as to invest for the future
- Maintaining a Mediterranean-wide dimension of the Network beyond the life-span of the project is a way of ensuring future funding in LSDCM

### Dissemination of Activities

From the problem analysis of the Log-Frame, “lack of effective **dissemination and communication**... of knowledge base” was identified as one of the **key** aspects of the project

In the title “**MED**iterranean co-ordination and dissemination of **LAND** conservation management to combat land degradation for the sustainable use of natural resources in the Mediterranean **COASTal** zone”, the keyword **dissemination** was purposely maintained

MEDCOASTLAND is, then, heavily relying on all those activities related with **dissemination & communication**

### Disseminate what

- The Project existence (...visibility)
- The Project relevance for LSDCM
- The Project outcomes (...knowledge base)
- All possible Project-related links
- ...

### Disseminate to who

- To higher level officials of the Partner Institutions
- To other scientists
- To Governmental Decision Makers involved in LSDCM
- To Land users/owners communities
- To Politicians involved and/or sensitive to LSDCM
- To Environmentalists movements
- ...

### Disseminate how

### Tools

- **Information & Communication Technology (ICT)**
  - ✓ WEB-Page & Forum
  - ✓ Internet-based comm./file-exchange
  - ✓ On-line access to Data/Knowledge Bases
  - ✓ Electronic Newsletters
  - ✓ E-mailing
  - ✓ CD-Rom/Video
  - ✓ Virtual campus (library, lectures, seminars, etc.)
  - ✓ Video-conferences
  - ✓ ...

- Printed documents

- ✓ Brochures
- ✓ Reports
- ✓ Proceedings
- ✓ ...

- Scientific & Technical Publications

- ✓ Guidelines/Books
- ✓ Papers on Scientific Journals
- ✓ ...

- Encounters

- ✓ Workshops
- ✓ Conferences
- ✓ Meetings
- ✓ Seminars
- ✓ ...

- Publicity

- ✓ Newspapers
- ✓ TV
- ✓ ...

However, dissemination per se is not the objective.

All indicators you have seen are, after all, indicators of activities carried out, ...but not necessarily indicators of the impact obtained by these activities

We need to achieve the ultimate purpose of dissemination, i.e., make the “receivers”

- ✓ aware of the “subject” dealt by MEDCOASTLAND
- ✓ benefiting of the “knowledge” produced by the project
- ✓ convinced of the “validity” of the outcomes of the project
- ✓ motivated to “use” such outcomes

### WP3 – Income-Product Generating Land/Soil Conservation Management

Responsible Partner (P)

→ P10 – IAV Hassan II (MOROCCO)  
Prof. Badraoui

Participants Partners (P)

→ P1 – IAMB (ITALY)  
Dr. Scardigno  
P3 – Univ. of Alexandria (EGYPT)  
Prof. Abdel-Kader  
P5 – CNRS (LEBANON)  
Dr. Darwish  
P6 – MoA&F (MALTA)  
Dr. Vella  
P11 – Univ. of Çukurova (TURKEY)  
Prof. Kapur  
P20 – MoARD&WF (MOROCCO)  
Dr. Ljouad  
P30 – Village Committee (MOROCCO)  
Dr. Bakkali

### Approach

- Analyze conflicts between short- & long-term objectives
- Analyze cost-benefit of long-term investments
- Eventual use of bio-economic models for long-term impact assessment
- Consider adequate policies incentivating farmers to implement SCM
- Analyze trade-off between farm revenues & land conservation objectives
- Show farmers successful pilot areas with examples of successful SCM implementation

### Activities

- Reviews & of researches/studies/projects
- Abstraction of knowledge
- Conceptualization
- Workshop + Visit to pilot areas

### Deliverables

- IPSCM indicators
- Abstraction of reviews
- Proceedings of Workshop
- CD Roms & Videos

### Milestones /Expected impacts

- Workshop, IPSCM indicators, consensus on effective and economically viable SCM

### WP5 – Guidelines for National and Regional Policies

Responsible Partner (P)	→ P5 – CNRS (LEBANON) Prof. Darwish
Participants Partners (P)	→ P1 – IAMB (ITALY) Dr. Scardigno P3 – Univ. of Alexandria (EGYPT) Prof. Abdel-Kader P6 – MoA&F (MALTA) Dr. Vella P10 – IAV Hassan II (MOROCCO) Prof. Badraoui P11 – Univ. of Çukurova (TURKEY) Prof. Kapur P15 – MoE (LEBANON) Dr. Lamia P25 – Agric. Coop. Assoc. (LEBANON) Dr. El Haji P28 – General Union of Paesants (SYRIA) Dr. Souliman

### Approach

- Positive impact at Regional scale is possible if strategies or policies can be deliberated by Governments on the basis of Guidelines formulated within an ample participatory context
- Guidelines must account of outcomes of WP2, WP3, and WP4
- Guidelines should account for a wide range of boundary conditions (National & Regional) for analysis & implementation
- Guidelines must include indications for the establishment of incentives to land-users (e.g., micro-credit)
- Guidelines should indicate how to assess SC measures in economic & environmental terms
- Guidelines should indicate how to develop economically sustainable measures that match with environmental sustainability

### Activities

- Reviews of existing Euro-Mediterranean regulatory framework & Policies
- Abstraction of knowledge
- Draft Guidelines
- Workshop

### Deliverables

- Abstraction of reviews
- Guidelines
- Proceedings of Workshop
- CD Roms & Videos

### Milestones/Expected impacts

- Workshop, consensus on the application of Guidelines in each country

### WP6 – Draft Agreement on data share & Development of Regional co-operation

Responsible Partner (P)	→ P6 – MoA&F (MALTA) Dr. Vella
Participants Partners (P)	→ P1 – IAMB (ITALY) Dr. Zdruli P3 – Univ. of Alexandria (EGYPT) Prof. Abdel-Kader P5 – CNRS (LEBANON) Dr. Vella P10 – IAV Hassan II (MOROCCO) Prof. Badraoui P11 – Univ. of Çukurova (TURKEY) Prof. Kapur P16 – University of Malta (MALTA) Dr. Spiteri P26 – Farmers Central. Coop. Soc. (MALTA) Dr. Galea

### Approach

- Looking for long-term cooperation among South Mediterranean countries on LSDCM (clear political willingness needed)
- Identification of Data & Information to share useful for LSDCM
- Identification of trans-boundary or Regional issues
- Identification of common programs of LSDCM
- Configure a structure of norms & rules for the Draft Agreement

### Activities

- Reviews of existing draft agreement on data sharing
- Preparation of Draft Agreement
- Workshop

### Deliverables

- Proceedings of Workshop
- Draft Agreement

### Milestones/Expected impacts

- Workshop, Draft Agreement signed, establishment of a permanent co-operation on LSDCM

## 3.3 Presentation of Dr. Pandi Zdruli

## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Background:

- Long term experience of CIHEAM in the Mediterranean region (more than 40 years);
- Existing contacts between CIHEAM and the students, researchers, and governments of the region;
- EC request to CIHEAM-IAMB to organise an International meeting in Bari to discuss the possibilities of Euro-Mediterranean collaboration on soils (June 1999);
- International Meeting for the establishment of the Euro-Mediterranean Network on Soil Information (December 1999), Memorandum of Understanding signed by 10 countries, publication OPTION Méditerranéennes No. 34;
- INRA/ESB: Instruction Guide for the elaboration of the Soil Geographical Database of Euro-Mediterranean Countries at 1:1 million scale, (June 2000);
- INRA/ESB/CIHEAM activities (Lebanon, January 2001, Morocco July 2001);
- 7th International Meeting on Soils with Mediterranean Type of Climate, Bari, (7th IMSMTC September 2001);
- Publication of Proceedings and Selected Papers of the 7th IMSMTC (2001-2002);
- MEDCOASTLAND-NET is a follow up of these activities.

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Major Land Resource Stresses in the Mediterranean region

#### Natural conditions

- Water and wind soil erosion;
- Desertification;
- Salinisation;
- Scarcity of water resources;
- Decrease of organic matter
- Large extend of shallow, stony, and desertic areas;

#### Human induced

- Urbanisation;
- Chemical pollution;
- Overgrazing;
- High population pressure per land unit;

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Major Objectives:

- Planning and management of natural resources particularly in the Mediterranean coastal areas, with particular regard to land degradation & resource base conservation and management;
- Establish a Mediterranean-wide permanent communication structure between researchers, decision makers, land users (farmers' association) and non-profit organisations involved with combating land degradation;
- Link research activities and future needs with actual concerns;
- Provide and disseminate knowledge from research and practical experience and allow access to easy-to use information;
- Provide a framework to assist regional planning and EU-funding in Mediterranean areas.

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Specific objectives:

- a. A series of five workshops at more or less six monthly intervals to address respectively the following issues:
  - i. Eco-system based assessment of soil and natural landscape degradation (i.e. use of DPSIR indicators);
  - ii. Income-product generating soil conservation management and related socio-economics mainly in coastal areas. In other words, combating land degradation through promotion of production and increased income for rural communities;
  - iii. Promoting participatory approach to combat land degradation and increase conservation of land resources;
  - iv. Drafting guidelines for national and regional policies and management of natural resources;
  - v. Formulation of draft agreements to exchange data and share regional databases to enhance permanent co-ordination among countries in their fight to land degradation;

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Specific objectives:

- b. Three site visits to demonstration projects;
- c. Euro-Mediterranean Conference on natural landscape degradation and soil conservation & management;
- d. Development, installation, and maintenance of an Internet-based FORUM (WEB-FORUM) that in the course of the project will provide: i-) elaboration, structuring and organisation of inputs for knowledge extraction from the FORUM; ii-) permanent "virtual campus" for communication and dissemination;
- e. Preparation and mailing of six monthly electronic newsletter;
- f. Preparation of research abstracts and research result reviews;
- g. Six meetings of the Steering Committee;
- h. Preparation of 3 thematic and 1 multi-thematic Video-CD Rom
- i. Corresponding with partners external to the Thematic Network (significant institutions, agencies, and organisation) to stimulate interest and wider communication.

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

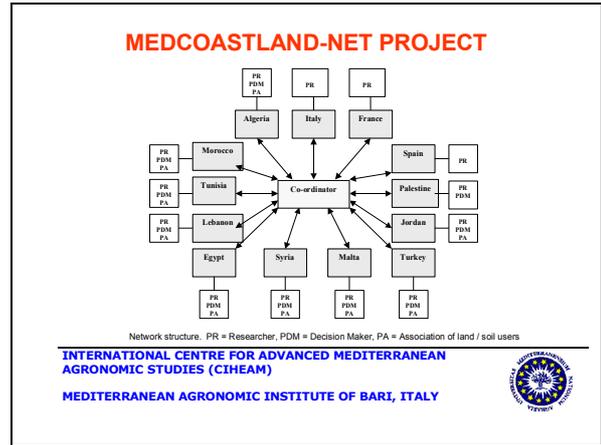
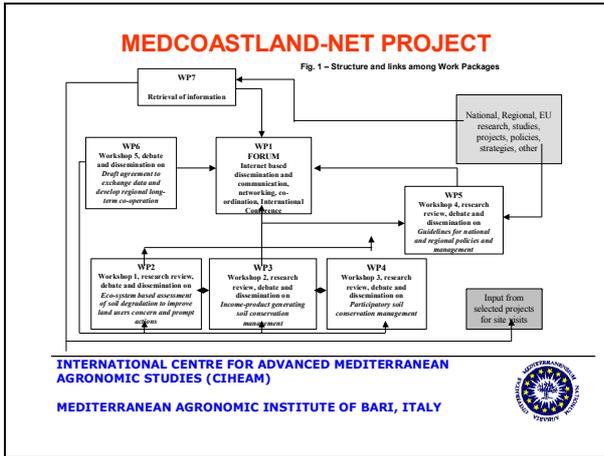
### The expected impacts of the project will be:

1. Better understanding the research needs resulting from involved institutions and end-users;
2. Better communication structures within players involved in land use planning and soil management, easy access to potential project partners, and improved accessibility to information on relevant research;
3. The formulation of an eco-system based assistance methodology to prompt actions by land users, decision makers and scientists involved in soil conservation;
4. The development of an income-product generating soil conservation management. In other words, promoting communication and exchange of experience among land users and land owners in relation to economic and production aspects generated by sustainable land management practices.
5. Identifying major gaps in information and knowledge to a proper regional understanding of land management.
6. Formulation of more adequate planning policies in coastal areas.
7. Identification of research priorities for future funding, giving particular attention to future EU research programmes in the Mediterranean in relation to land degradation and management of natural resources.
8. Better interaction between Southern Mediterranean Countries and the European Union.
9. Dissemination of research results.
10. Effective communication between researchers, decision makers and landowners/landusers.

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### MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Work package 1 WP1 – Internet based communication, dissemination and share FORUM

Responsible partner P1 (IAMB)

Main tasks and partners involved

- Design Internet-base FORUM (P1)
- Activation of Internet-based FORUM and virtual campus (P1)
- Promotion & maintenance of internet-based Forum and communication (P1)
- Online access to and availability of Database (P1, P34)
- Development of online/off-line multimedia material (CD Rom/video) (P1, P34)
- Preparation of International Conference (P1, P3, P5, P6, P10, P11, P32, P33, P34, P35, P36)
- Print International Conference Proceedings (P1)
- Preparation of six-monthly electronic newsletter (P1, P34)
- Preparation of TN's brochures, leaflets (P1)
- Steering Committees and minutes (P1, P3, P5, P6, P10, P11, P32, P33, P34)

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### MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Work package 1 WP1 – FORUM - Responsible partner P1 (IAMB):

Objectives

- Establish Mediterranean-wide permanent communication structure between researchers, decision- makers (Institutions), land- users (farmers' association), environmental protection associations, and other relevant organisations involved in land conservation management in Mediterranean coastal area.
- Link research activities to the needs and issues arising from Mediterranean coastal areas management.
- Provide rational extraction of knowledge from research, and allow easy access to organised information.

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### MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Work package 1 WP1 – FORUM - Responsible partner P1 (IAMB):

Methodology-Structure-Management-Results

- WEB FORUM will give an overview of the situation of land and soil degradation in Mediterranean coastal areas.
- Information on data-base on land-soil conservation;
- Abstraction of knowledge after organisation and structuring of research inputs;
- Links to research institutions and categories involved in soil degradation;
- Links to other information resources;
- Overview of the research situation in the South-Mediterranean and in Europe;
- Research news;
- Newsgroups, including links to existing electronic newsgroups and discussion list;
- The project database aims to be central database for ongoing research. It will be publicly accessible and will provide up-to-date information also after thematic network's lifetime.

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### MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Work package 1 WP1 – FORUM - Responsible partner P1 (IAMB):

Deliverables

D1 Internet site [www.ciheam.it](http://www.ciheam.it) accessible for public and online database  
D2 Virtual campus accessible;  
D3 Accessible database;  
D4 Electronic newsletters;  
D5 Proceeding of the International Conference;  
D6 Multi-thematic CD Rom and Video accessible – downloadable.  
D7 Minutes of Steering Committees n. 1,2,3,4,5,6.

Milestones:

- Activated and self-maintained internet FORUM on land and soil management to combat land degradation
- International Conference;
- Ample access, contribution and debate of TN partners and external visitors into the Forum;
- Improved national and regional communication structure within partners;
- Effective communication between researchers, decision makers, and land users;
- Ample dissemination of background, data, results at local, national and regional level

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Work package 7 WP7 – REINFO - Retrieval of Information

Responsible partner P1 (IAMB):

- All other partners involved;
- Collect information on research activities/needs on Mediterranean scale;
- Encourage participating institutions to interact with the internet site and give input with information on projects, researchers, institutions and results;
- Compile addresses and mailing lists of research institutions involved in the management of natural resources with particular attention to coastal areas;
- Supply updated information for each country to be included at the annual reports and to the final report;
- Contributing to the five workshops by retrieving relevant information and viewpoints from each participating country.

Deliverables and milestones

- On-line supply of data;
- Reports on retrieved data;
- All collected information (including literature databases), EU-research projects (CORDIS), and research networks will be compiled and included in the database of WP1 by end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the project

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Work package 2 WP2 – ECO-system based assistance to LAnd users and laND owners - ECOLAND - Responsible partner P11 (Univ. Chukurova, Turkey)

Main tasks and partners involved

- Dedicated internet page-discussion on DPSIR indicators (P1, P11, P21, P31)
- Review – abstract of research results (P11, P21)
- Prepare/organise Workshop 1 (P1, P11, P21, P31)
- Dedicated thematic CD Rom - video (P1, P11, P21)
- Workshop and visit to demonstration project (P11, P21, P31)
- Edit and print Proceedings (P1, P11)

Objectives

- Organisation of Workshop1, encourage debate and dissemination of a conceptual integrated assessment framework for eco-sustainable soil/land management.

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Work package 2 WP2 – ECO-system based assistance to LAnd users and laND owners - ECOLAND - Responsible partner P11 (Univ. Chukurova, Turkey)

Activities:

- Identification of common DPSIR indicators on the basis of available data and knowledge, taking into account differences among local, national and regional scale;
- Implementation of a conceptual integrated assessment framework for eco-sustainable soil/land use;
- Preparation of synthesis and review of research results;
- Site visit to pilot area. Location: Seyhan Delta near Adana, Coastal Area Turkey. Title of pilot: Management for developing sustainable land use strategies of a coastal area in Adana, Turkey.

Expected results:

- Consensus, formulation and dissemination of an eco-system based assistance methodology to prompt co-ordinated actions by land users, decision makers and researchers involved land management.

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Work package 4 WP4 - Participatory Management in LAND and Soil- PMLAND - Responsible partner P3 (Alexandria University, Egypt)

Main tasks and partners involved

1. Review – abstract of research (P1, P3, P13)
2. Prepare/organise Workshop 3 (P1, P3, P13, P23)
3. Dedicated thematic CD Rom -video, (P3, P13)
4. Workshop and site visit to demonstration project (P3, P13, P23)
5. Proceedings (P1, P3)

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Work package 4 WP4 - Participatory Management in LAND and Soil- PMLAND - Responsible partner P3 (Alexandria University, Egypt)

Research aspects

- What exactly do we mean by participatory land management in the Mediterranean coastal area ?
- Can bottom level (farmers) perform management functions necessary to operation of land management and how ?
- Is participation always necessary ?
- Does participation interfere with efficient management ?
- Do we have to allow farmers to come into decision makers rooms and advise them on how to do their job? and to what extend ?
- Are there some natural limits to what soil professionals should be responsible for and what farmers should become involved in ?

Activities :

- Review – abstract of research
- Prepare/organise Workshop
- Dedicated thematic CD Rom and video
- Dedicated site visit to pilot area. Location: NY Coast Egypt

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Work package 4 WP4 - Participatory Management in LAND and Soil- PMLAND - Responsible partner: P3 (Alexandria University, Egypt)

Deliverables:

- Abstract – review of research results and conceptual scheme
- Proceeding of Workshop n. 3
- CD Rom and Video

Milestones:

- Workshop realised

Expected results:

- Continuous communication and debate with users (project partners and external players) during all the duration of the project
- Consensus and formulation of participatory schemes to combat land degradation

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Tentative timetable of major events (workshops and International Conference)

ACTIVITIES	First year				Second year				Third year				Fourth year			
	Tn1	Tn2	Tn3	Tn4	Tn1	Tn2	Tn3	Tn4	Tn1	Tn2	Tn3	Tn4	Tn1	Tn2	Tn3	Tn4
Kick-off Meeting	11/00															
1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee	11/00															
Workshop 1: Ecosystem-based assessments of soil degradation to improve land users concerns and prevent actions				10/00												
2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee				10/00												
Workshop 2: Income-product generating soil conservation management							2/01									
3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee							2/01									
Workshop 3: Participatory soil conservation management								4/01								
4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee								4/01								
Workshop 4: Guidelines for national regional policies and management													20/01			
5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee													20/01			
Workshop 5: Draft agreement to exchange data and develop regional long-term co-operation														6/02		
6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee														10/02		
Euro-Mediterranean Conference on natural landscape and soil conservation management																10/02

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Information on Workshops, Meetings of the Steering Committee and the Euro-Mediterranean Conference

Kick-off Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee

14-17 October 2002

Mediterranean Agronomic Institute

Via Ceglie 9, 70010 Valenzano, Bari, ITALY

Persons responsible: Dr. P. Sieduto, Dr. P. Zdruli, and Dr. C. Bogliotti

Workshop 1: "Ecosystem-based assessments of soil degradation to improve land users concern and prompt actions"

Visit to the pilot project site in the Seyhan Delta, South-eastern Turkey.

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee

2-7 June 2003

University of Çukurova

Balçali, ADANA 01330, TURKEY

Person responsible: Prof. Dr. Selim Kapur

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Information on Workshops, Meetings of the Steering Committee and the Euro-Mediterranean Conference

Workshop 2: "Income-product generating soil conservation management"

Visit to the pilot project site on soil conservation in the Oued Nakhla watershed, Northern Morocco

3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee

2-7 February 2004

Agronomic and Veterinary Institute HASSAN II Rabat

Rabat Institute, B. P. 6202, MOROCCO

Person responsible: Prof. Dr. Mohammed Badraoui

Workshop 3: "Participatory soil conservation management"

Visit to pilot project site in the north-western coast of Egypt

4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee

4-9 October 2004

Alexandria University, El-Chatby, Faculty of Agriculture

Aflaton Street, 21545 Alexandria, EGYPT

Person responsible: Prof. Fawzi Hassan Abdel-Kader

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Workshop 4: "Guidelines for national regional policies and management"

5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee

23-28 May 2005

National Council for Scientific Research

P.O. Box: 11-8281, Beirut 2047-8602, LEBANON

Person responsible: Dr. Talal Darwish

Workshop 5: "Draft agreement to exchange data and develop regional long-term co-operation"

6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee

6-11 February 2006

Ministry of Agriculture, Agricultural R & D Centre,

Ghammieri, Marsa, MALTA

Person responsible: Ms. Sonya Vella

Euro-Mediterranean Conference on natural landscape and soil conservation management

5-8 June 2006

Mediterranean Agronomic Institute

Via Ceglie 9, 70010 Valenzano, Bari, ITALY

Persons responsible: Dr. P. Sieduto, Dr. P. Zdruli, and Dr. C. Bogliotti

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

Distribution of tasks for each participant

WORKSHOP 1	WORKSHOP 2	WORKSHOP 3	WORKSHOP 4	WORKSHOP 5
1 P11 Chukurova University, Turkey	1 P4 MOA Jordan	1 P1 Alexandria University, Egypt	1 P5 CNRS Lebanon	1 P6 MOAF Malta
2 P21 GDRS Turkey	2 P8 MOA Palestine	2 P1 MOF Tunisia	2 P1 Univ. Chukurova, Turkey	2 P13 NARSS Egypt
3 P31 AFA, Turkey	3 P10 IAV Hassan II Morocco	3 P9 MAAR Syria	3 P12 MOA Algeria	3 P15 MGR Lebanon
4 P2 INA Algeria	4 P11 University of Tishreen, Syria	4 P13 NARSS Egypt	4 P14 University of Jordan, Jordan	4 P16 Univ. of Malta
5 P9 MAAR Syria	5 P20 MADREF Morocco	5 P24 Center for Research, Conf. Jordan	5 P15 MGR Lebanon	5 P20 MADREF Morocco
6 P14 University of Jordan, Jordan	6 P26 Farmer Assoc Malta	6 P32 INRA France	6 P16 University of Malta	6 P21 GDRS Turkey
7 P17 INAT Tunisia	7 P29 ENA Meknes Morocco	7 P33 CSIC Spain	7 P21 GDRS Turkey	7 P29 ENA Meknes Morocco
8 P18 LRC Palestine	8 P32 INRA France	8 P34 University of Sassari, Italy	8 P25 ACA Lebanon	8 P32 INRA France
9 P19 University of Tishreen, Syria	9 P33 CSIC Spain	9 P35 ESB Ispira, Italy	9 P32 INRA France	9 P33 CSIC Spain
10 P22 INRA France	10 P34 University of Sassari, Italy	10 P36 ACSAD Syria	10 P33 CSIC Spain	10 P34 University of Sassari, Italy
11 P33 CSIC Spain	11 P35 ESB Ispira, Italy	11 P1 IAMB Italy	11 P34 University of Sassari, Italy	11 P35 ESB Ispira, Italy
12 P34 University of Sassari, Italy	12 P1 IAMB Italy	12 P1 Univ. Chukurova, Turkey	12 P35 ESB Ispira, Italy	12 P36 ACSAD Syria
13 ESB Ispira, Italy	13 P6 MOAF Malta	13 P18 LRC Palestine	13 P1 IAMB Italy	13 P1 IAMB Italy
14 P36 ACSAD Syria	14 P7 MOF Tunisia	14 P10 IAV Hassan II Morocco	14 P10 IAV Hassan II Morocco	14 P4 Univ. Chukurova, Turkey
15 P1 IAMB Italy	15 P36 ACSAD Syria	15 P21 GDRS Turkey	15 P36 ACSAD Syria	15 P7 MOF Tunisia
16 P6 MOAF Malta	16 P3 Alexandria University, Egypt	16 P5 CNRS Lebanon	16 P29 ENA Meknes Morocco	16 P19 University of Tishreen, Syria

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

| Invited experts           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| To be defined (minimum 5) |
1 P22 SALAMA3 Algeria	1 P27 EL-OUESLATI Tunisia	1 P23 GRAWALA Egypt	1 P36 ACSAD Syria	1 P26 Farmer Assoc. Malta
2 P28 GRIP Syria	2 P30 WRSP Morocco	2 P25 ACA Lebanon	2 P25 ACA Lebanon	2 P25 ACA Lebanon
3 P30 WRSP, Morocco	3 P25 ACA Lebanon	3 P28 GRIP Syria	3 P28 GRIP Syria	3 P28 GRIP Syria
4 P26 Farmer Assoc. Malta	4 P28 GRIP Syria	4 P31 AFA Turkey	4 P31 AFA Turkey	4 AFA Turkey
	5 P31 AFA Turkey	5 P26 Farmer Assoc. Malta	5 P26 Farmer Assoc. Malta	

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Role of Participants

#### Role of P1 (co-ordinator)

- a) Co-ordination tasks and functioning of the Internet site
- Co-ordinate and manage the project in all administrative and financial aspects;
  - Be responsible to the European Commission for the development of the Network;
  - Check the performance of all participants against work plan and the tasks;
  - Maintain communication within the Network;
  - Be responsible of Work Packages 1 and 7, including release of related deliverables and achievement of related milestones;
  - Co-ordinate the meetings of the Steering Committee;
  - Compile the minutes of the meetings of the Steering Committee;
  - Co-ordinate the Thematic Network's activities with other possible networks and external players;
  - Co-ordinate, compile and edit the interim and final reports;
  - Co-ordinate all the partners in the other activities foreseen in the Work Packages
  - Assist P6 in the preparation of guidelines booklet
  - Assist P3, P5, P6, P10, P11 in the implementation of their Work Packages (Workshops, site visit)

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Role of Participants (role of the Co-ordinator, cont.)

- b) Workshop organisation tasks
- Organise the International Conference;
  - Assist P3, P5, P6, P10, P11 with the organisation of the Workshops and site visits;
  - Technically edit and publish the proceedings of the Workshops (print and Internet);
  - Distribute the invitations, information and results of the Workshops;
- c) National data collection tasks
- Send reminders to all research institutions through the electronic mailing lists;
  - Co-ordinate WP7 for data retrieval.

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Role of Participants

#### Role of P32, P33, P34:

- a) Co-ordination tasks and inputs for the Internet site
- General scientific and technical development of the Network;
  - Assisting P1 with co-ordination;
  - Assist P1 in research reviews and abstraction of useful results;
  - Quality checking of all projects that go into the internet database;
  - Assisting P1 with the compilation of annual and final reports;
  - Attend the meetings of the Steering Committee;
- b) Workshop organisation tasks
- Assist P1 in the organisation of the International Conference.
- c) National co-ordination and data collection tasks
- Contributing information on own activities for the database;
  - Information retrieval;
  - Compile addresses for mailing lists and contact within own country.

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Role of Participants

#### Role of P3, P5, P6, P10, P11

- a) Co-ordination tasks
- Attend the meetings of the Steering Committee;
  - Assist P1 in the preparation of the Steering Committee Meeting and its minutes;
  - Assist P1 in the preparation of progress and final reports;
  - Assist P1 in research reviews and abstraction of useful results;
- b) Workshop organisation tasks
- Organise Workshops and visits to selected pilot projects;
  - Assist P1 in the organisation of the International Conference;
  - Assist P1 to distribute the invitations, information and results of the Workshops.
- c) National co-ordination and data collection tasks
- Contributing to the FORUM and database with information from own country;
  - Data retrieval in own country;
  - Compile addresses for mailing lists and contacts within own country.

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Role of Participants

#### Role of P2, P14, P15, P16, P17, P19, P29

##### Their role is:

- Data retrieval in their own country;
- Provide addresses for mailing list in their own country;
- Research results review and provision to P1;
- Attending the Workshops and present contributions/paper;
- Provide a permanent link to relevant research in the country throughout the life of the Network;
- Assist P3, P5, P6, P10, and P11 in the preparation of Workshops.

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Role of Participants

#### Role of P4, P7, P8, P9, P12, P13, P15, P20, P21

##### Their role is:

- To act as contact points for their country;
- Provide data on national projects;
- Attending and contributing to the Workshops, particularly to Workshops 3, 4, 5;
- Be active during the preparation of the guidelines and assist P5;
- Assist P6 in the preparation of the draft agreement and motivate the higher institutional-political level to sign the draft agreement;
- Aware and motivate all the external relevant players in their own country;
- Writing to all the complementary institutions to encourage them to participate with the internet FORUM and submit information on relevant projects and actions;
- Supply information on existing regulatory framework in their own country;
- Contribute to the Internet based FORUM and its database.

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Role of Participants

#### Role of P18, P22, P23, P24, P25, P26, P27, P28, P30, P31

These members are "non-profit organisations" or associations (farmers associations, environmental associations, international or regional centres). Their role is:

- to attend and contribute to the Workshops and the International Conference;
- to provide the internet based FORUM with information, reviews on users experiences, needs, basic program;
- support P3 and P5 in the activities related to WP4 and WP5;
- support P1 to provide the FORUM with the permanent assessment of research results or project, flowing to WPI, in terms of users needs.

#### Role of P35:

- Assist P1 in the implementation of the FORUM and assist P6 and P1 in the formulation of guidelines for the WP5

#### Role of P36:

- Attend workshops and the International Conference and contribute with scientific papers
- Assist in the preparation of the draft agreement WP6

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Detailed plan for the next 12-24 months

ACTIVITIES	Timetable of activities and milestones											
	FIRST YEAR			SECOND YEAR			THIRD YEAR			FOURTH YEAR		
	2002	2003	2003	2004	2004	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	
General co-ordination and Project administration												
Kick-off Meeting												
WP1 - FORUM												
Design Internet FORUM												
Activated Internet based Forum												
Promotion and maintenance of Forum												
Online access to and availability of Database												
Mailings platform (Video CD) on-line												
Preparation of International Conference												
International Conference*												
Print Conference proceedings												
Preparation of TN brochures and distribution												
Steering Committee & minutes												
WP2 - ECOLAND												
Preparation of DPSIR indicators												
Review / abstract of research												
Preparation of Workshop 1												
Dedicated Thematic VideoCD												
Workshop & site visit to pilot												
Print proceedings												

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Detailed plan for the next 12-24 months

ACTIVITIES	Timetable of activities and milestones											
	FIRST YEAR			SECOND YEAR			THIRD YEAR			FOURTH YEAR		
	2002	2003	2003	2004	2004	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	
WP3 - IPSM												
Preparation of IPSM indicators												
Review / abstract of research												
Preparation of Workshop 2												
Dedicated Thematic VideoCD												
Workshop & site visit to pilot												
Print proceedings												
* 14-17 October 2002												
** 4-8 June 2003												
*** 2-7 June 2003												
**** 2-7 February 2004												

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## MEDCOASTLAND-NET PROJECT

### Detailed plan for the next 24-48 months

ACTIVITIES	Timetable of activities and milestones											
	FIRST YEAR			SECOND YEAR			THIRD YEAR			FOURTH YEAR		
	2002	2003	2003	2004	2004	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	
WP4 - ITALAND												
Review / abstract of research												
Preparation of Workshop 3												
Dedicated Thematic VideoCD												
Workshop & site visit to pilot												
Print proceedings												
WP5 - EURIP												
Organization info + review												
Preparation of Workshop 4												
Draft Guidelines												
Workshop 4												
Preparation / print proceedings												
WP6 - IAMB												
Organization info + review												
Preparation of Workshop 5												
Draft Guidelines												
Workshop 5												
Preparation / print proceedings and Draft Agreement												
WP7 - MEDCO												
Writing to all institutions												
Contract agreements and finalization												
Review of information												
Final contract info Meeting + Report on data collected												
PRELIMINARY REPORTING												
Final report												
Contract final												
* 15-28 May 2005												
** 4-8 October 2005												
*** 8-11 February 2006												

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## ANNEX IV. Partners of the Network

<b>PARTNERS OF THE NETWORK MEDCOASTLAND</b>		
<b>Partner n</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>
<b>P1</b>	CHIEAM – IAMB	ITALY
<b>P2</b>	Institute National Agronomique	ALGERIA
<b>P3</b>	Alexandria University, Faculty of Agriculture	EGYPT
<b>P4</b>	Ministry of Agriculture	JORDAN
<b>P5</b>	National Council for Scientific Research	LEBANON
<b>P6</b>	Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries	MALTA
<b>P7</b>	Ministere de l'Agriculture Direction des Sols	TUNISIA
<b>P8</b>	Ministry of Agriculture	PALESTINE
<b>P9</b>	Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform	SYRIA
<b>P10</b>	Institut Agronomique et Veterinarie Hassan II Soil Science Department	MOROCCO
<b>P11</b>	Faculty of Agriculture-University of Cukurova	TURKEY
<b>P12</b>	Ministrere de l'Agriculture	ALGERIA
<b>P13</b>	The National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences	EGYPT
<b>P14</b>	Faculty of Agriculture University of Jordan	JORDAN
<b>P15</b>	Ministry of Environment	LEBANON
<b>P16</b>	Institute of Agriculture University of Malta	MALTA
<b>P17</b>	Institut National Agronomique de Tunisia	TUNISIA
<b>P18</b>	Land Research Center	PALESTINE
<b>P19</b>	University of Tishreen	SYRIA
<b>P20</b>	Ministere de l'Agriculture du developpement Rural et Eaux et Foret	MOROCCO
<b>P21</b>	General Directorate of Rural Services	TURKEY
<b>P22</b>	Groupement de Mise en Valeur Salmatre	ALGERIA
<b>P23</b>	Grawala Agriculture Farm Association	EGYPT
<b>P24</b>	The Jordanian Society for Desertification Control & Badia Development	JORDAN
<b>P25</b>	Agricultural Cooperative Association	LEBANON
<b>P26</b>	Farmers central Co-operative Society, Ltd	MALTA
<b>P27</b>	Parcelle El Oueslati	TUNISIA
<b>P28</b>	The General Union of Peasants	SYRIA
<b>P29</b>	Ecole Nationale d'Agriculture de Meknes	MOROCCO
<b>P30</b>	Village Committee/Assoc. Product. Oliv. Nakhla Watershed	MOROCCO
<b>P31</b>	Adana Farmers Association	TURKEY
<b>P32</b>	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique	FRANCE
<b>P33</b>	Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas	SPAIN
<b>P34</b>	Centro Interdip. d'Ateneo, Nucleo di Ricerca sulla desertifi., Università di Sassari	ITALY
<b>P35</b>	European Commission – General Directorate JRC-ESB	ITALY
<b>P36</b>	Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands – League of Arab States	SYRIA

## ANNEX V. Composition of the Working Groups

### Group n. 1 - **ECO**-system based assessment of soil degradation to improve **LA**nd users and **lanND** owners concern and prompt action

<b>KAPUR Selim</b>	<i>(Chairman)</i>	University of Cukurova - TURKEY
<b>AKCA Erhan</b>		University of Cukurova - TURKEY
<b>OZDEN Murat</b>		Directorate of Rural Services -TURKEY
<b>DOGRU Cumali</b>		Adana Farmers Association-TURKEY
<b>ALADOS Inma</b>	<i>(Rapporteur)</i>	CSIC – SPAIN
<b>DAOUD Youcef</b>		INA - ALGERIA
<b>LOULOU Abdoul Rahim</b>		ACSAD - SYRIA
<b>DAGHARI Hedi</b>		INAT - TUNISIA
<b>ZDRULI Pandi</b>		IAM.B -ITALY
<b>KHALF Fakry</b>		NARSS – EGYPT

### Group n. 2 - Income-Product generating **Soil** conservation Management – **IPSM**

<b>BADRAOUI Mohamed</b>	<i>(Chairman)</i>	I.AV. Hassan II - MOROCCO
<b>LJOUAD Lahcen</b>		Ministry of Agriculture - MOROCCO
<b>RACHIDI Fouad</b>		Ecole d’Agric. de Meknes - MOROCCO
<b>MADRAU Salvatore</b>	<i>(Rapporteur)</i>	University of Sassari – ITALY
<b>ISSA HATTAR Boutros</b>		University of Jordan – JORDAN
<b>HABIB Leila</b>		University of Tisrheen – SYRIA
<b>SCARDIGNO Alessandra</b>		IAM.B - ITALY

### Group n. 3 - **Participatory Management in LAND and Soil – PMLAND**

<b>ABDEL-KHADER F. Hassan</b>	<i>(Chairman)</i>	University of Alexandria - Egypt
<b>LE BAS Christine</b>	<i>(Rapporteur)</i>	INRA - FRANCE
<b>AZZOPARDI Clemente</b>		Farmer Central Coop. Society - MALTA
<b>DUDEEN Basim</b>		LRC –PALESTINE
<b>EL OUESLATI Faouzi</b>		Parcelle El Oueslati - TUNISIA
<b>STEDUTO Pasquale</b>		IAM.B - ITALY

### Group n. 4 - **Guidelines for national and regional policies and management in soil conservation – GUIDE & Draft Agreement on data share and Develop Regional co-operation – DADR**

<b>DARWISH Talal</b>	<i>(Chairman)</i>	NCSR - LEBANON
<b>VELLA Sonya</b>		Ministry of Agriculture - MALTA
<b>ATTARD George</b>		University of MALTA - MALTA
<b>RUSCO Ezio</b>	<i>(Rapporteur)</i>	JRC Ispra - ITALY
<b>LAHOUATI Ramdane</b>		Ministry of Agriculture - ALGERIA
<b>AL-QUDAH Baker</b>		Ministry of Agriculture - JORDAN
<b>TUBAILEH Azzam</b>		Ministry of Agriculture - PALESTINE
<b>WAAD Ibrahim</b>		Ministry of Agriculture - SYRIA
<b>HAMROUNI Hedi</b>		Ministry of Agriculture - TUNISIA
<b>BOGLIOTTI Claudio</b>		IAM.B - ITALY

## ANNEX VI. Conclusions of the Working Groups

### Conclusions of the Working Group 1

WP 1 ECOLAND

			TIME							
			15-Nov-02	30-dec-02	30-jan-03	28-Feb-03	30-Mar-03	15-May-03	2-7 june 03	30-sept 03
PARTNERS	ACTION TYPE	ACTIONS								
P1 (Trisorio- Mairota)	Information retrival and abstraction (Knowledge base construction)	Conceptual framework on EBM and DPSIR to be provided to the network (partners and web site)								
P11 P1, P33, P13, P5, P36, P18, P7, P14, P2, P21, P6, P9, P10, P35	Information retrival and abstraction (Knowledge base construction)	I STEP DOCUMENT Identification of coastal zone land degradation ISSUES by country Selection of "case issue/s" by country DPSIR 1st tentative implementation (specific for "case issue")								
P11	Abstraction (Knowledge base construction)	Assessment of I STEP document and feedback to the network and partners involved for them to go ahead								

P11

P1, P33, P13, P5,  
P36, P18, P7, P14,  
P2, P21, P6, P9, P10,  
P35

II STEP DOCUMENT  
I STEP DOCUMENT revised  
including Assessment of  
possible DPSIR model  
dynamics in terms of internal  
feedbacks among classes  
features  
AND  
Scaling issues  
AND  
Feedback for ABSTRACT  
preparation

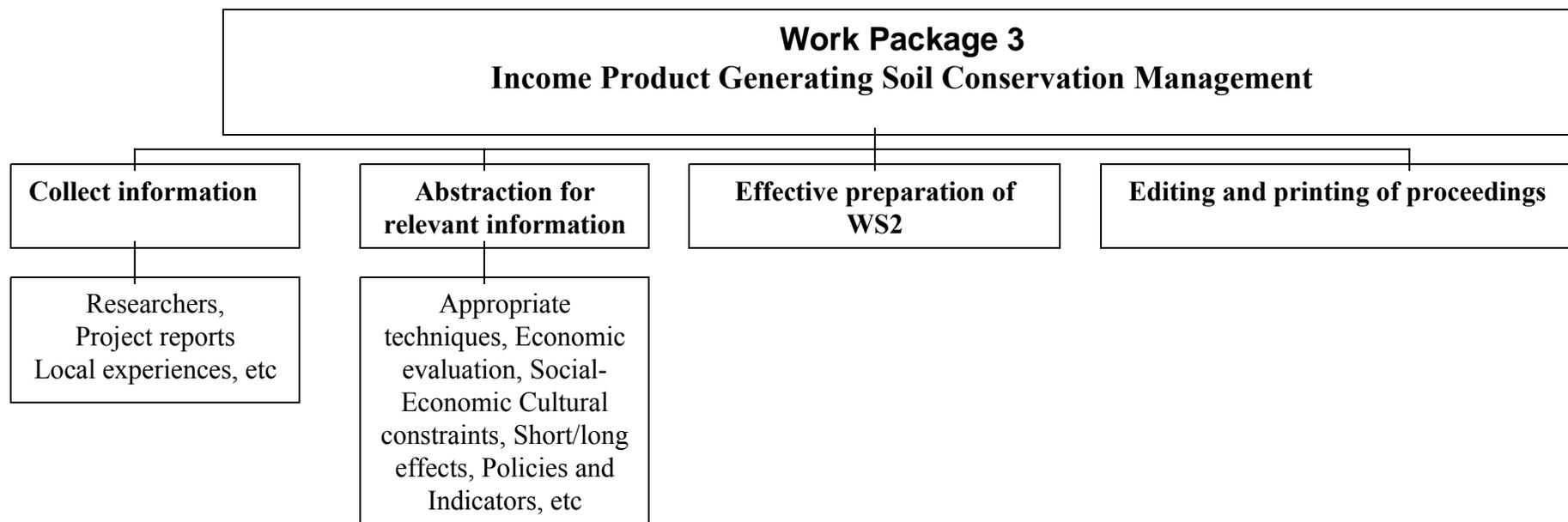
P11, P1

WSP Preparation

WSP 1st announcement  
Abstract submission  
WSP 2st announcement with  
provisional programme  
Paper submission  
WSP in Adana  
Proceedings edited and printed

Conclusions of the Working Group 2

*Income Product Generating Soil Conservation Management IPSM*



**Conclusions of the Working Group 2 (cont.)**

**Work Package 3**  
***Income Product Generating Soil Conservation Management IPSM***  
***Agenda***

Workshop 2 Agenda									
	Oct/02	June/03	Sept/03	Nov/03	Dec/03	Feb-Mar/04	Apr/04	June/04	Dec/04
<b>Phase 1</b>									
Data collection									
Progress evaluation									
Summary collection									
CD and Video on site (F,E,A lang.)									
8 <sup>th</sup> IMSMTC				?		?			
<b>Phase 2</b>									
Invited experts									
Brochure for WS2									
Call for presentations									
Final paper collection									
Print proceedings									
<b>Phase 3</b>									
Effective preparation WS2									
<b>Phase 4</b>									
Continuous communication between all groups.									

## Conclusions of the Working Group 3

Workpackage 4

### List of priorities for the next 12 months

- Give keywords for helping partners in selecting documents about participatory management (PM)
- Collecting from partners literature from their country about:
  - Concept of PM
  - Case studies
- Complete literature using search on web
- Synthesis of literature review
- Links with the WP2 :
  - how the WP2 can be related to WP4

Workpackage 4

### Priorities for the second year

- Preparation of the workshop
- Preparation of the CD-ROM
- Links with WP3 :
  - how the WP3 can be related to WP4
- Links with WP1 and 7 :
  - Give literature abstracts and review
  - Participation to e-newsletter

Workpackage 4

### Timetable for the next 12 months

- Preparing keywords : by the end of the 2nd month
- Sending keywords and collecting literature: by the end of the 4th month
- Collecting on web : by the end of the 7th month
- Links with WP2 : by the beginning of 6th month
- Synthesis on literature : by the end of 12th month (could be extended on the 2nd year)

Workpackage 4

### Problems for retrieval of information

- Translation of non english documents (french and arabic)
- How non numerical documents can be available
- Role of each partner for retrieval of information : a preliminary work to do (abstract) and not only sending the documents
- Level of access to documents (confidentiality)

Workpackage 4

### Partner tasks

- All partners : collecting information about PM
- P3 (WP4 responsible partner) : elaborate keywords, collect literature from all partners, make synthesis of literature in co-ordination with P1, P13



