

MODERATION OF THE NATIONAL WORKSHOP IN MOROCCO

Deliverable on activity 1.1.1.1 : " Identify existing CV&C monitoring program and available data in each participating country, as well as options for data sharing in view of developing a multicountry Information sharing portal".

Project title

“Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM protocol in the Mediterranean”

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Hosted by Morocco, May 27, 2013.

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INTRODUCTION

1. Morocco is a party to the Barcelona Convention. Concerning Climate Variability and Change (CVC), the country has adopted a large number of documents since 1994.

The authorities issued three successive papers:

- . the “Communication Nationale Initiale”, in 2001; and
- . the “Seconde Communication Nationale”, in 2009;

In April 2013, the work has been launched to prepare a third “Communication Nationale”.

In addition to them, Morocco has carried out not less than 18 studies on environmental problems out of which:

- . the elaboration of a strategy and an action plan for climate change;
- . Impact of adaptation to CVC on Moroccan coastal zones;
- . vulnerability studies to CVC and natural disasters of North African cities;
- . adaptation to sea level rise on Mediterranean seaside.

The web site¹ of « Département de l'Environnement » provides additional information related to this section.1.

2. Nevertheless, Morocco has no national climate change strategy as such but only a series of sectorial strategies which cover for example town and country planning, waste and water treatment, tourism and so on. Yet, Morocco is well aware of the CVC effects. The main stakes have been identified in the three regions bordering the Mediterranean (Tanger-Tetouan, Taza al Hoceima-Taounate and Nador-Berkane-Oujda): important urban density and infrastructures, tourists concentration, zones of particular fragility, all being vulnerable to climate change and to eventual rise of sea level.
3. The Mediterranean Integrated Climate Information Platform (MedICIP) is the first pillar of the UNEP MAP (Mediterranean Action Plan) and Plan Bleu project towards a regional adaptation framework for climate change in the Mediterranean. Its purpose is to “develop knowledge, data acquisition and exchange of information on climate variability and change in the Mediterranean region, on the expected impact (on society, the economy and rural resources), on vulnerability and on adaptation measures; and document good practices of integrated climate risk management and climate adaptation in support to the integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the Mediterranean Basin, to facilitate the information exchange and to enable scientists, the civil society and policy makers to access these data”.

¹ www.environnement.gov.ma

4. At the same time, it is important to keep in mind that Morocco, although a non-EU country has close relations with her as a neighbor and partner countries. Morocco has indeed entered into a European Neighbourhood Policy (ENPI), the harmonization of policies and tools is a leading principle. For example, Morocco is a member of the project on Integrated Maritime Policy. However, Morocco is not committed to the platform called Climate-Adapt since, according to its choices of development, it covers only the european countries. The idea would be through the project "ClimVar & ICZM" to extend the geographical coverage of this platform.
5. Moreover, from the point of view of Morocco, its Mediterranean coast represent a relatively small part of its maritime façade, most of it is located in the Atlantic coast. in spite of that, it should be noted that the Mediterranean and Atlantic coast of Morocco are considered at the same level of importance and Morocco, when the country develops a policy or strategy that is over its entire territory (example of industrial development, fisheries, tourism...).
6. This report is representing the results of the national workshop held in Rabat, May 27 2013, to validate the inputs of the country -in terms of data, indicators, source of information etc. – to the MedicIP portal

OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE WORKSHOP

7. The objectives of the workshop, taken from the document that was circulated to the participants with the agenda, were presented as follows by the consultant.
8. Objective I: review of existing and missing data
 - Present the main points of the national report prepared during the inception phase;
 - Discuss about the compilation of the existing monitoring programmes on CVC;
 - Select the available data that can be shared in order to feed the MedicIP portal;
 - Identify gaps;
 - Define modalities of data extraction and sharing options.
9. Objective II: start selecting relevant indicators
 - Review the first selection of indicators;
 - Suggest a core set needed for the country;
 - Discuss indicators and data: which methodology for the selection?
10. Objective III: present the MedicIP portal
 - Present and discuss contents of the portal;
 - Analyse the users needs in terms of format (table, graph and links towards report...) and topics/sectors (water, agriculture, tourism...).
11. The expectations were also clearly presented in the documentation and at the beginning of the workshop.
 - Production of a working factsheet for the analysis of user's needs which will be taken into account in the MedicIP portal items;
 - National report completed with the concerned institutions;
 - Validation, by the participants, of data and gaps highlighted in the report;
 - A draft of a first core set of indicators.
12. The agenda of the workshop is presented in Annex I. In total, 24 experts participated to the workshop which was co-chaired by Rachid FIRADI, Head of the Division of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment, and Philippe Coste, from Plan Bleu. The list of the participants is attached in Annex II.

MOROCCO AVAILABLE DATA AND GAPS

13. The working session was based on the excellent report presented by Mr Mohammed Jalil, GIZC (“Présentation de l’expérience nationale dans les domaines de la variabilité et des changements climatiques”), here attached in Annex III.

14. The data available include:

- a detailed description of bio-physic and socio-economic impact of CVC accompanied by two maps and a chart listing the vulnerable areas in the Mediterranean coastal zone and identifying the main stakes in each of them;
- an identification of the different sources of information (list of available documents according to the concerned administrations);
- a detailed description of the administrative services dealing with climate change;
- a comprehensive inventory of the existing data including measuring networks, data bases, simulating models and general documentation.

15. The gaps are clearly identified in each category of data and related to the existing shortcomings or inadequacies (lack of coordination, data not specifically CVC oriented or not easily accessible...).

16. Experts raised issues regarding the need to define a simple architecture for MedICIP and the definition of the organization that will host it and who will manage it ... but the most important issue was about the selection of items/section/information to be filled in and the remaining indicators.

Considering that purpose, experts expressed the wish that MAP & Plan Bleu have to guide countries :

- about the types of data and indicators (legal, technical, institutional, etc ...) which should feed the plateforme,
- to set the scale on which countries should work as well as provide them with a harmonized framework and a common matrix of indicators in a regional cooperative framework for making sense of the portal.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

17. From the vivid debate which took place, the following points stand out.

- **The question was raised of how to define the coastal zone (what precise area?) and how to take into account the fact that Morocco has two maritime facades;**
- **Several participants expressed the need to be granted a guide so as to have a more precise idea about the degree of detailed information which was expected from them;**
- **About the indicators, the idea emerged that it would be appropriate to define them in accordance with the aims of the national strategy**
- **It was generally recognized that many data existed but without enough transparency; the hope was expressed that the different partners should be actively incited to share the information they have and which can be of interest for others;**
- **To fill the data gaps, the proposal was made that specific research could be carried out by academic research centers, if necessary with public or private sponsoring.**

18. The question was also raised about whether some kind of technical assistance could be available to help Moroccan authorities setting up the portal. I promised to convey the request to the Plan Bleu.

19. Generally speaking, the debate showed a very good participation and a keen curiosity and interest for the project.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I: PROGRAMM OF THE WORKSHOP

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 09:00-09:30 | Inscription |
| 09:30-10:00 | Mots d'introduction (MEMEE/ Département de l'Environnement et Plan Bleu) |
| 10:00-10:10 | Présentation des objectifs du projet et de l'atelier (P. Coste, Consultant du Plan Bleu) |
| 10:10-10:30 | Présentation de l'expérience nationale dans les domaines de la variabilité et des changements climatiques (Mohamed Jalil, Consultant national) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Introduction du cadre global. ➤ Présentation des programmes existants de suivi sur le CVC. ➤ Présentation des données disponibles qui peuvent être échangées et identifications des lacunes. ➤ Proposition des modalités pour l'utilisation des données et les options de partage. |
| 10:30-11:00 | Discussion |
| 11:00-11:15 | Pause Café |
| 11:15-11:45 | Présentation du contenu du portail MedICIP et des indicateurs (P. Coste, Plan Bleu) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Présentation des fonctionnalités et du contenu potentiel de MedICIP. ➤ Présentation d'un premier jeu d'indicateurs et de la méthodologie de leur sélection. |
| 11:45-12:15 | Discussion |
| 12:15-14:00 | Pause Déjeuner |
| 14:00-16:00 | Session de travail et analyse des besoins des utilisateurs (Modérateur national et P. Coste, consultant du PB/CAR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Type de données disponibles dans le pays, dans quel format existent-elles ? et comment peuvent-elles être échangées ? ➤ Existe-t-il un réseau d'échange de données ? Comment fonctionne-t-il ? ➤ Comment le partage des données entre les pays doit être réalisé ? |
| 16:30-16:45 | Pause Café |
| 16:45-17:15 | Conclusions et prochaines étapes (Modérateur national et P. Coste, Plan Bleu) |

ANNEX II: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX III: DOCUMENTS MADE AVAILABLE DURING THE WORKSHOP

- « **Présentation de l'expérience nationale dans les domaines de la variabilité et des changements climatiques** », Rabat, May 27th 2013, Mohamed Jalil.

ANNEX IV : FACTSHEET COMING FROM NATIONAL REPORT → a fiare traduire !