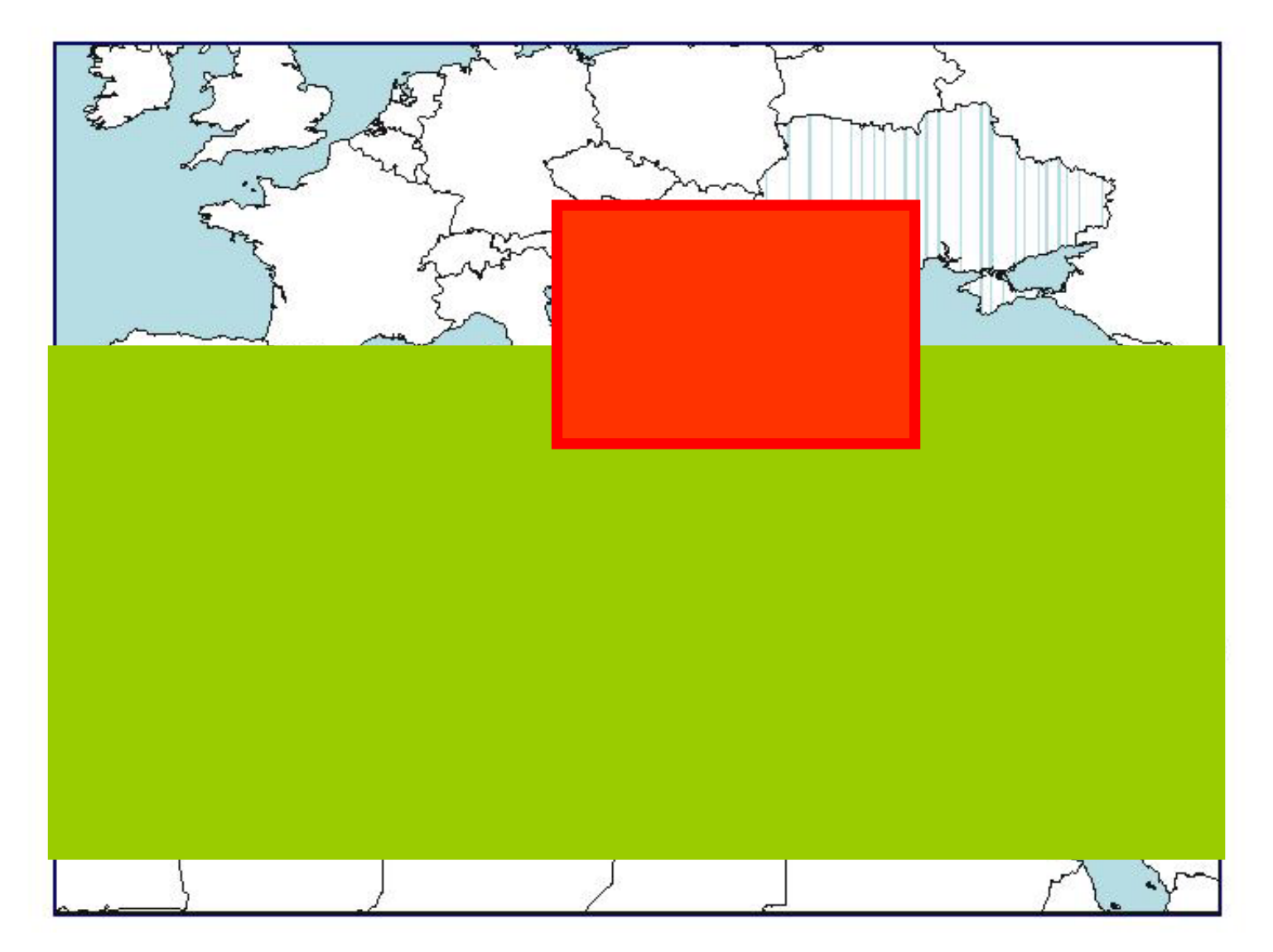


Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative

LEAD COUNTRY : GREECE

**Vangelis Constantianos
Executive Secretary, GWP-Med**

Geographical coverage



Objective

The Mediterranean Component is an integral part of the EU WI and shares its overall objectives

- Reinforce political will and commitment to action
- Make water governance effective and build institutional capacity
- Improve coordination and cooperation
- Increase the efficiency of existing aid flows
- Provide an “umbrella”
- Build on existing initiatives through partnerships

Emphasis will be given on Mediterranean and Balkan priorities, **according** to needs and strategies to be further elaborated in partnership with governments, the EU Commission and major stakeholders

Objective

Main AIMS

- to assist **design** of better, demand driven and output oriented programmes,
- to facilitate better **coordination** of water programmes and projects, targeting to a more **effective use of existing** funds and **mobilizing new** financial resources and,
- to **foster cooperation** for projects' proper implementation, based on enhancing synergies and strategic assessment

Focus Themes (1)

Focus Themes of the Mediterranean Component

- Water supply and sanitation,
with emphasis on the poorest part of the societies
- Integrated water resources management,
with emphasis on management of transboundary water bodies
- Water, food and environment interaction,
with emphasis on fragile ecosystems
- Non-conventional water resources

and **Horizontal Focus Themes on**

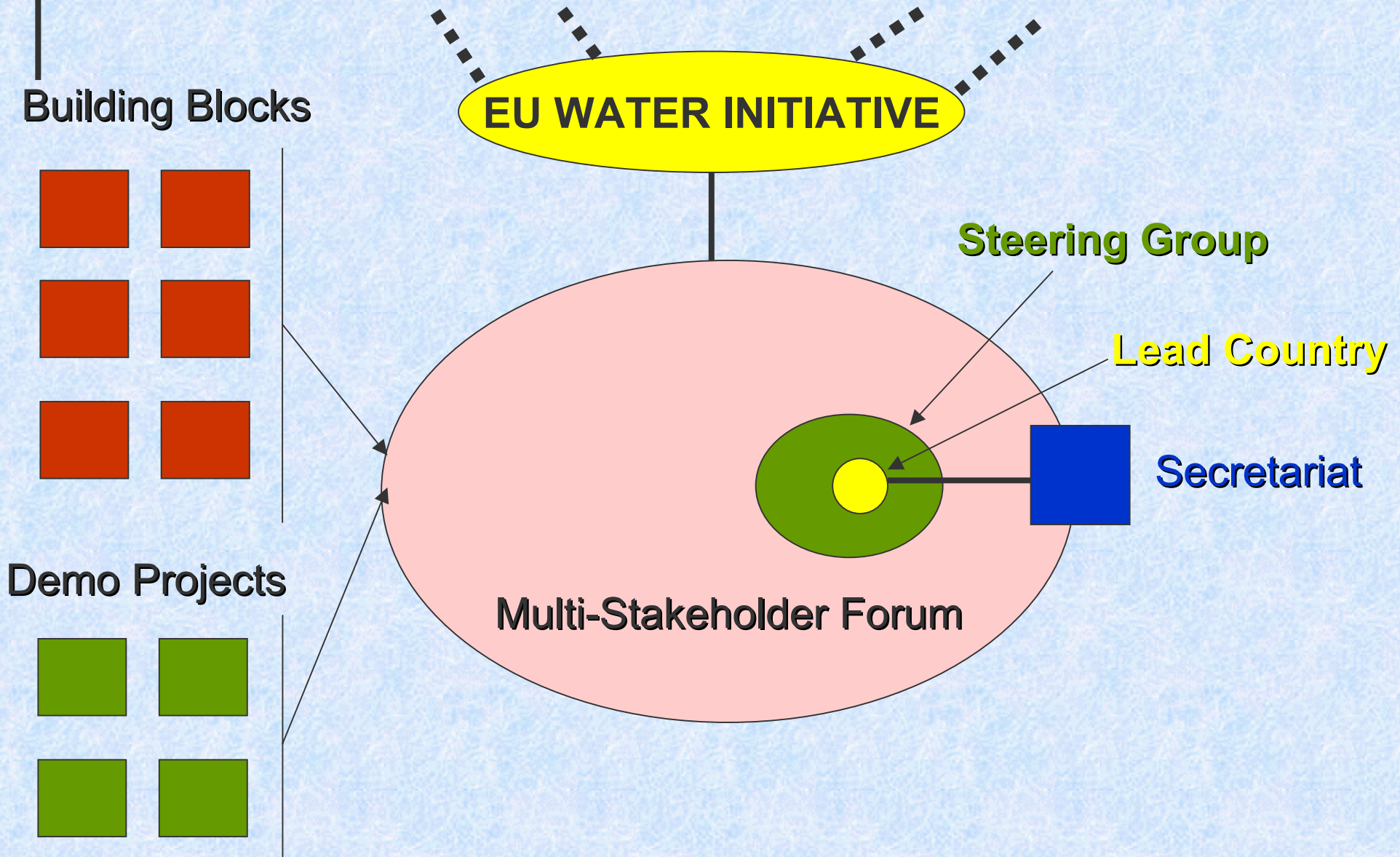
- Transfer of technology and know how & training
- Education

Focus Themes (2)

Within each Theme there will be focus on cross-cutting aspects like :

- Promote internationally agreed principles and good practices
- Assess existing and explore new financial mechanisms
- Develop benchmark and monitoring mechanisms
- Enhance participation
- Build capacity, know how, training and technology transfer
- Raise awareness and promote appropriate education

Proposed structure



Assets (1)

The region has a tradition in cooperation and networking, eg

- Euro-Mediterranean Partnership
- Barcelona Convention and Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development
- EU Stabilization and Association Process (Stability Pact)
- Regional Environmental Reconstruction Programme (RERep)
- Danube-Black Sea Task Force (DABLAS)

Recent major plans of action and recommendations

- Turin Plan of Action (Euro-Med, 1999)
- Water Demand Management – Frejus & Fiuggi (MCSD, 1997, 2002)
- Vision, FFA, Core for Action Plan (GWP-Med, 1999-2001)
- Several relevant Conventions and Action Plans for the Balkans

Assets (2)

- EU Financial instruments

MEDA

SMAP

LIFE

INCO-MED

... more

CARDS

PHARE

TACIS

...more

- Several EU M.S. have bilateral agreements with Med countries

- Other mechanisms exist

World Bank, EIB, ERDB, IDB, UN bodies, GEF, Overseas ODA, etc.

- EU Water Framework Directive

Enlargement of its impact

- Free Trade Zone 2010 – Euro Mediterranean Partnership

- New Neighborhood Initiative

Assets (3)

- High level political will from the Member States and the Commission
- High interest by the Partner countries and national stakeholders
- Existing partnerships – governmental and multistakeholder
CEDARE, CIHEAM, EMWIS, MAP/UNEP (Blue Plan)
CEIR, IME, MedCities, MedWet, MENBO, MIO-ECSDE, MWN
GWP Med
- Involvement of regional stakeholders and partner countries at an early stage
- Adequate implementation capacity
- High visibility: awareness was raised but also expectations

	ACTIONS COMPLETED (2003)	J	F	M	A	M	J
1	NAMCOW Meeting, Cairo		X				
2	MSF Kick-Off Meeting, Brussels		X				
3	3rd World Water Forum, Kyoto			X			
4	CSD XI, New York				X	X	
5	EU Informal Council of Environment Ministers, Athens					X	
6	Shared Waters and Peace Conference, Athens					X	
7	Kiev Ministerial Conference					X	
8	Euro-Med Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers, Crete					X	
9	Operation Plan / Call for B.B.						
10	EU Green Week, Brussels						X
11	Hellenic Water Week, Athens						X

	ACTIONS FORESEEN (2003)	J	A	S	O	N	D
12	Brief Assessment on water financial flows in the region						
13	Basic mapping of key stakeholders						
14	Plan of major political and technical events						
15	Identification of potential donors and donor's meeting						X
16	- Collection of building blocks						
	- Analysis of building blocks						
17	Drafting of the Activity Plan 2004-2005						
18	2nd MSF Meeting					X	

What is needed now ?

- Build on momentum, maintain and transform the commitment expressed by the Member States and the Commission into action
- Involve actively and productively, already from the design phase, the Partner countries and stakeholders
- Draft a meaningful MED EUWI Activity Plan for the next 2-3 years
- Mobilize adequate funds for planning and implementing activities of the MED EUWI Activity Plan, operating the administrative structure