

Horizon 2020 – Timetable for the first phase (2007-2013)
Annex to the Cairo Declaration of the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on
the Environment 20 November 2006

This timetable covers the initial phase of the Horizon 2020 initiative, until 2013 corresponding to the period covered by the next EU financial perspectives. Following a 2009 mid-term progress report to Euro-Mediterranean environment ministers the initiative will be reviewed, at a subsequent meeting of Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EMP) environment ministers, to be held in 2012.

Meeting the deadlines of relevant EU environment legislation and policies (including complying with the provisions of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols) will be the most significant contribution of European Union Member States to achieving the goals of the Horizon 2020 initiative. A significant future development in this regard will be the adoption and subsequent implementation of the proposed Marine Strategy Directive.

At a bilateral level, the formal EU-Partner country dialogue should address the Horizon 2020 initiative through the regular meetings of the Energy/Transport/Environment Sub-Committees as they are created.

The timetable is structured under the component headings of the Horizon 2020 initiative¹.

1.1. Pollution Reduction Projects

2007:

- FEMIP²-European Investment Bank(EIB)/World Bank to bring existing project portfolios under Horizon 2020 and work with donor countries, relevant institutions of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and other relevant groupings to identify those projects having the largest impact on Mediterranean pollution levels (priority projects) including upstream and downstream pollution across the Mediterranean Region. Particular attention will be paid to the projects included in the National Action Plans of the Strategic Action Programme to address pollution from Land Based Sources (SAP MED) and to the most pertinent bilateral donor projects in partnership with local communities, non- governmental organisations (NGOs), Mediterranean institutions etc.
- The Commission shall call a meeting of donor organisations to coordinate actions related to pollution reduction projects.

2008 onwards:

- Partners to update information on the major upstream and downstream pollution sources (the Barcelona Convention 'Hot Spots') and feed this information back into subsequent development of the project pipeline.
- Project preparation assistance to preferentially target priority projects.

¹ European Commission Staff Working Document SEC(2006)1082 - September 2006

² Facilité euro méditerranéenne d'investissement et de partenariat

- Horizon 2020 measures to be considered in programming the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) alongside other measures included in the Commission Communication³ establishing an Environment Strategy for the Mediterranean.
- Further development of project pipeline.

1.2. Capacity building measures

Capacity building measures will be identified on the basis of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and its adopted Action Plans, as well as within the ongoing work conducted in the framework of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI)/Water Framework Directive (WFD) Joint Process, taking due account of the lessons from the review of integrated water resources management research and practice⁴. Further measures will be identified in the country strategy papers that the European Commission, the international financial institutions (IFIs) and other donors adopt to guide their cooperation/assistance to Mediterranean partner countries.

2007:

- Based on analysis, identification of priority needs in capacity building measures across sectors and stakeholders by all partners taking into account the ENP and its Action Plans as well as previous identification work such as that carried out by the Short and Medium-Term Priority Environmental Action Programme (SMAP), MAP, the EUWI, the MEDA Water Programme, etc.
- European Commission to start implementing initial capacity building measures using the ENPI and the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument (TAIEX) facility targeted on ENP Action Plan measures.
- The new operational phase of the MAP Programme for the Assessment and Control of Pollution in the Mediterranean region (MED POL) programme, Phase IV programme, adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.
- MAP to begin to develop appropriate capacity building measures through the *InfoMAP* Programme run by the information and communication centre of the Barcelona Convention (*InfoRAC*).
- Development of curricula by partner countries for future water managers, to enable constructively engaged integrated water resources allocation and management.

2007-2008:

- EMP countries not having already done so to ratify the amended Barcelona Convention and its main protocols.
- Partners to advance with implementation at national level of the National Action Plans that they have prepared under the Land Based Sources (LBS) Protocol of the Barcelona

³ COM (2006) 475 final 5 September 2006.

⁴ <http://ec.europa.eu/research/water-initiative>

Convention, in accordance with the deadlines specified in the plans and the objectives of paragraph 2.7⁵ of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD).

- Progress with the capacity building elements of the first ENP Action Plans with Israel, Jordan, Morocco, Palestinian Authority and Tunisia to be assessed in the context of the ENP implementation reports. Follow-up to be organised within the ENP.
- Further dissemination action of the EU's Best Available Techniques Reference Documents (BREFs) in the context of the joint MAP/European Commission work programme.
- Actions to enhance environmental governance to be considered in the negotiation and review of ENP Action Plans.

2008 onwards:

- Partner countries to report on progress in implementing the Euro-Mediterranean Strategy for Environmental Integration, whose framework was adopted at the declaration of the 2nd Conference of Euro-Mediterranean Environment Ministers in Athens in July 2002 (through Euro-Mediterranean sub-committees where they have been initiated).
- Partner countries to issue progress reports on steps taken to implement the MSSD.
- Present summary progress report on the Euro-Mediterranean Environmental Integration Strategy to the regular meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Foreign Ministers.
- Setting and implementing national action plans (within regional context) to meet the needs identified in 2007 by all partners with potential assistance from EU countries to Mediterranean Countries where possible and through genuine partnerships (e.g. twinning projects, NGOs partnering, etc).
- Organisation of a seminar by the Commission in conjunction with partner countries and institutions on integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC).

1.3. Research

2007 – 2013:

- The 7th Framework Programme for research of the EU enters into implementation. It will be open to participation of third countries' research institutions.
- Review and update of existing lists of priority needs in research related to the Horizon 2020 initiative in collaboration with MAP and its Activity Centres, as well as research institutions and networks in the Mediterranean area. These priorities to be considered for inclusion in relevant calls for funding of research projects.
- Diffusion of information on regular calls for proposals for research projects to be funded under the 7th Framework Programme (FP).

⁵ Promoting sustainable management of the sea and coastal zones and taking urgent action to put an end to the degradation of coastal zones.

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- Results of EU research relevant to the Mediterranean environment to be made available to Horizon 2020 partners.

1.4. Review and Monitoring

2007:

- Establish the Steering Group for the Horizon 2020 initiative and hold the first meeting. The Steering Group will adopt its Terms of Reference (ToR) drawing upon on the preparatory work done in the ad hoc SMAP Working Group during 2006.
- All partners, taking account of existing initiatives in particular the MEDPOL programme, European Marine Monitoring and Assessment (EMMA), and European Environment Agency (EEA) country scorecard analyses, to consolidate monitoring data and indicator processes to support the regular review of the initiative.
- MAP to build on existing information and communication initiatives to create multi-sector information and communication partnerships to promote the “key contents” of Horizon 2020 at the regional level.

From 2008 onwards:

- EEA, in cooperation with relevant partners and based on existing and ongoing initiatives, to design a coherent indicator process and framework for regular indicator based analyses, including a “scorecard”, to compare and measure progress. Key indicators to be tested.
- At intermediate dates the initiative will be monitored with the production of:
 - Five yearly reports on the state of the environment in the Mediterranean Sea based on an agreed set of indicators in line with progress in the context of EMMA and the national and regional diagnosis carried out by MEDPOL
 - Biennial synthesis progress report focussing on country profiles in line with UNEP/MAP’s work programme.
- All countries to provide regular data and information on pollution sources and levels to allow preparation of monitoring reports.
- All countries to prioritise pollution sources according to the pollutants and activities included in the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) or the Protocol on PRTRs to the UN/ECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention).
- Commission in collaboration with MAP to develop communication and information campaign to publicise the initiative.
- Include Horizon 2020 and its goals in the MED Day Programme (regional information and communication campaign involving institutions, private sector and civil society) to enhance the visibility of the Initiative and promote public awareness.

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2010/2011:

- Progress reports will be issued for both the infrastructure and capacity building components and examined by the Horizon 2020 Steering Group.

2012:

- Fix future Horizon 2020 work programme and revise approach if necessary based on results of this first phase.
- Provide progress report to Euro-Mediterranean Environment Ministers.

1.5. Existing commitments of EU member states contributing to Horizon 2020

2007:

- October 2007: deadline for full implementation of the Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (IPPC).

2008:

- EU Member States to adopt the first version of the River Basin Management Plans under the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

2009:

- EU MS to finalise and agree WFD river basin management plan including a programme of measures.

2012:

- EU Member States to make operational the programme of measures as defined in the River Basin Management plan under the WFD.