



Towards a Water Strategy in the Western Mediterranean



Barcelona, 16th December 2014

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2. The process. From Valencia to Oran, Valencia, and Murcia
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Why a Regional Water Strategy?



We share a very sensitive physical environment...and we face similar challenges



- Water scarcity
- Time/space resources irregularity
- Severe groundwater overexploitation
- Future conflicts due to climate change
- Frequent droughts and floods
- Resources pollution
- Resources salinisation
- Water demand increase
- Difficult Access to clean water
- Deficient sanitation networks
- Social conflicts related to water
- Deficient financing mechanisms



The adoption of a water strategy for the Western Mediterranean basin is a necessary step to promote a common policy that could help prevent conflicts

The process



Where do we come from?

background

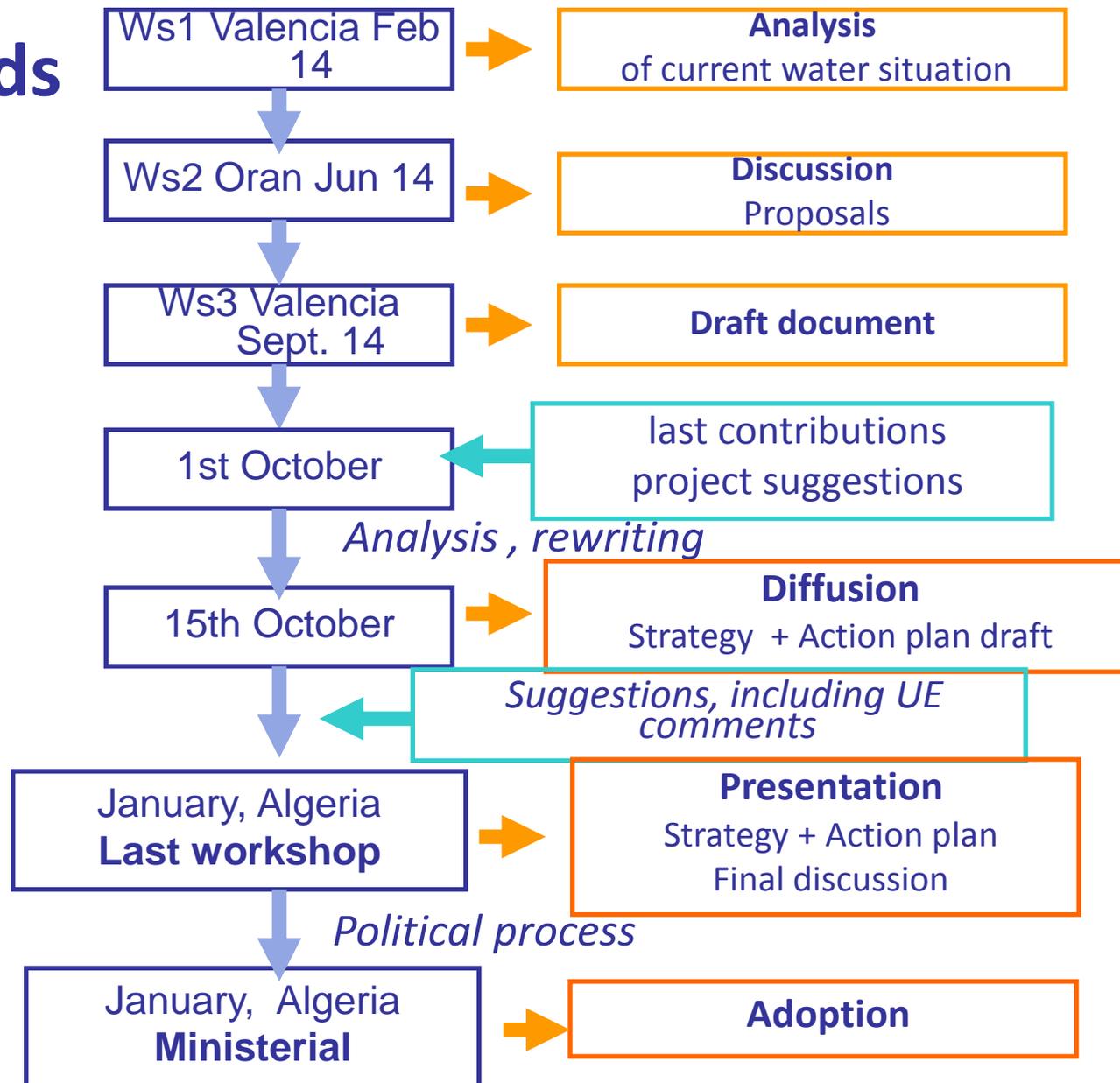
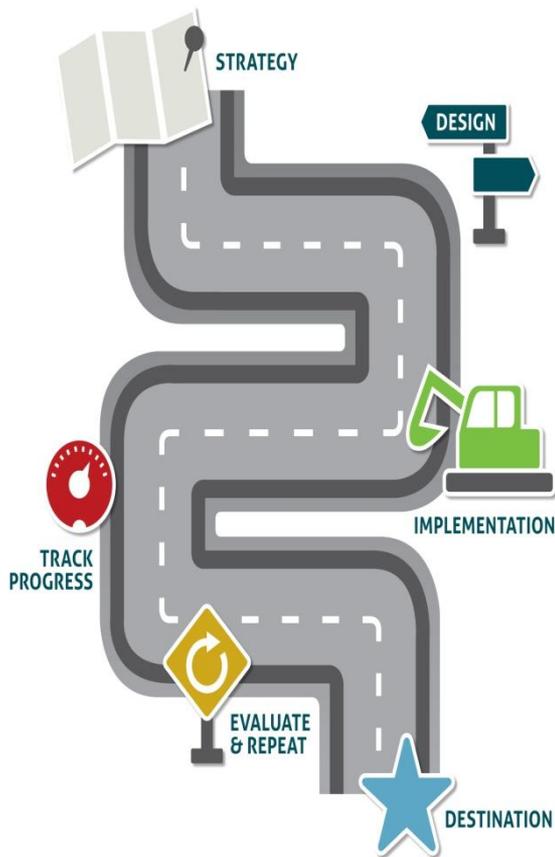


- *Cooperation among Mediterranean countries → mention to UfM*
- *Conference on water. Jordan 2008 → Strategy 2010*
- Rome 1990 → 5+5 dialogue, EU–Maghreb
- Proposal initiative by Algeria and Spain
- Endorsed at Malta summit, 2012.
- Agreement Foreign Ministers. Nouakchott 2013
- Announced during UN General Assembly. New York 2013
- Launched at Economic Forum. Barcelona 2013
- Workshops. Valencia, Oran, Valencia, 2014

The process



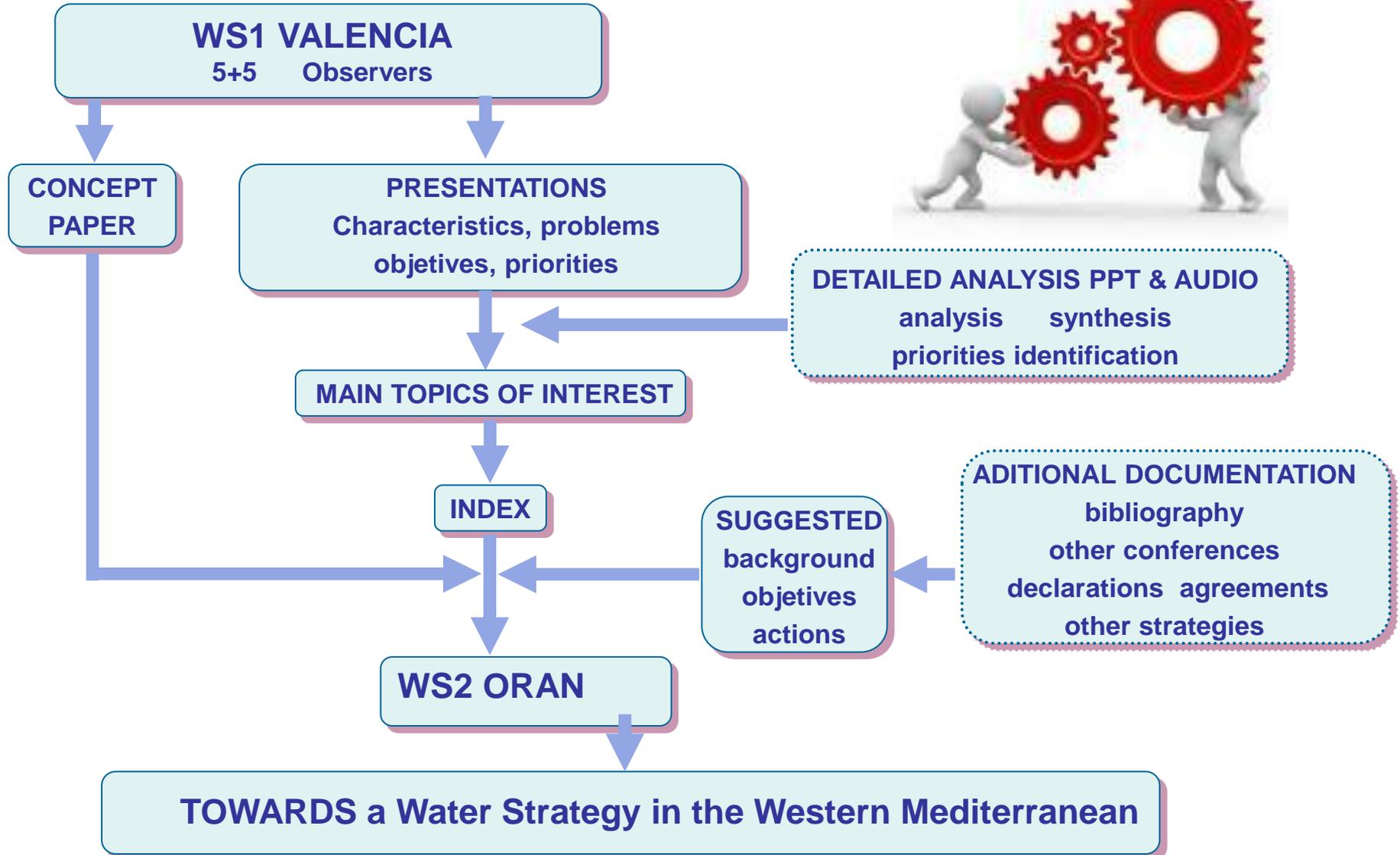
Roadmap towards the Strategy



The process



from Ws1 Valencia to Ws2 Oran



contents

13 major priority themes (ISSUES) in 3 thematic blocks



For each “issue” different **items** on.....

- context
- general objectives
- recommended actions

The strategy



from Ws2 Oran to Ws3 Valencia

index

- 1.Preamble
- 2.General background
- 3.Rational
- 4.Major priority themes (3 blocks)
- 5.Criteria for future projects



ANNEX. Action Plan (to develop)

From Ws2Oran to Ws3Valence
new contributions and changes

rationale (1)

General constraints of water in the Mediterranean

- Sensitive environment (touristic coastal areas, droughts and floods....)
- Growing threats (population growth, pollution..)
- Unique bioclimatic space → agriculture development
- Water demand growth but scarce resource and foreseen climate change
- Concurrence water uses <-> environmental priorities <-> need economical development
- Irregular distribution water → Seasonal management
- Need of prevention of water quality



From Ws2Oran to Ws3Valence
new contributions and changes

rationale (2)



Different challenges North<>South:

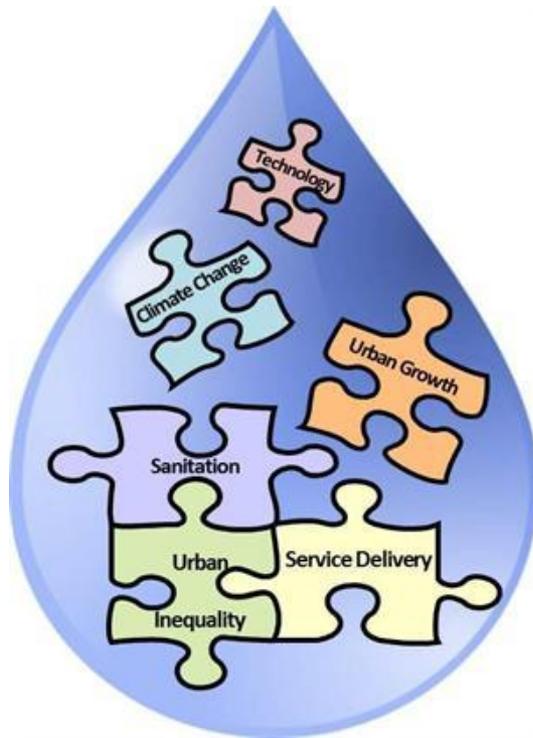
- European countries: more water resources, under common policies EU
- Southern countries: great scarcity, overexploitation, geopolitical space under construction (UMA).
- Different scenarios and questions → need collective exchange, approaches and convergence of policies
- 5+5 dialogue as an example of neighbour collaboration to export to other World Fora.

**Solidarity between shores of the
Western Mediterranean**

Main action blocks

- 1. Enhancing Western Mediterranean country policies' convergence towards the general principles of an adequate water policy**
- 2. Foster cooperation in relation to regional matters**
- 3. Promoting water management improvements**

1. Enhancing Western Mediterranean country policies' convergence towards the general principles of an adequate water policy



Priority 1: Developing and starting-up clearly defined legal frameworks

- Governance development and/or consolidation

Priority 2: Establishing governance adapted to integrated water management

- Integrated resources management
- Trans-boundary resources governance
- Coastal water management

Priority 3: Implementing cost-recovery

- Water service financing
- Polluter-pays principle

2. Foster cooperation in relation to regional matters



Priority 4: Capacity building

- Improving knowledge and training
- Exchanging experiences

Priority 5: Innovation development in the water sector.

- Optimisation and innovation in water uses

Priority 6: Water- energy - food nexus

Priority 7: De-pollution of the Mediterranean

Priority 8: Mobilising water-related innovative financing solutions for the application of the Strategy

Promoting water management improvement

Priority 9: Climate change adaptation

Priority 10: Increasing and mobilising the available resources

- Dams and/or transfers
- Groundwater resources mobilisation
- Treatment and reuse
- Desalination
- Rainwater harvesting

Priority 11: Water use efficiency improvement Irrigation efficiency improvement

- Reducing leaks in networks
- Citizens' awareness

Priority 12: Flood prevention

Priority 13: Protection of water quality and biodiversity



Criteria for future projects (1)

- Level of response and contribution to the Strategy objectives
- Level of compliance with and integration to ongoing and/or planned national or regional plans and framework programmes
- Complementarities with other related processes
- Consistency with IWRM approaches and practices
- Contribution to achieving water efficiency targets



Criteria for future projects (2)

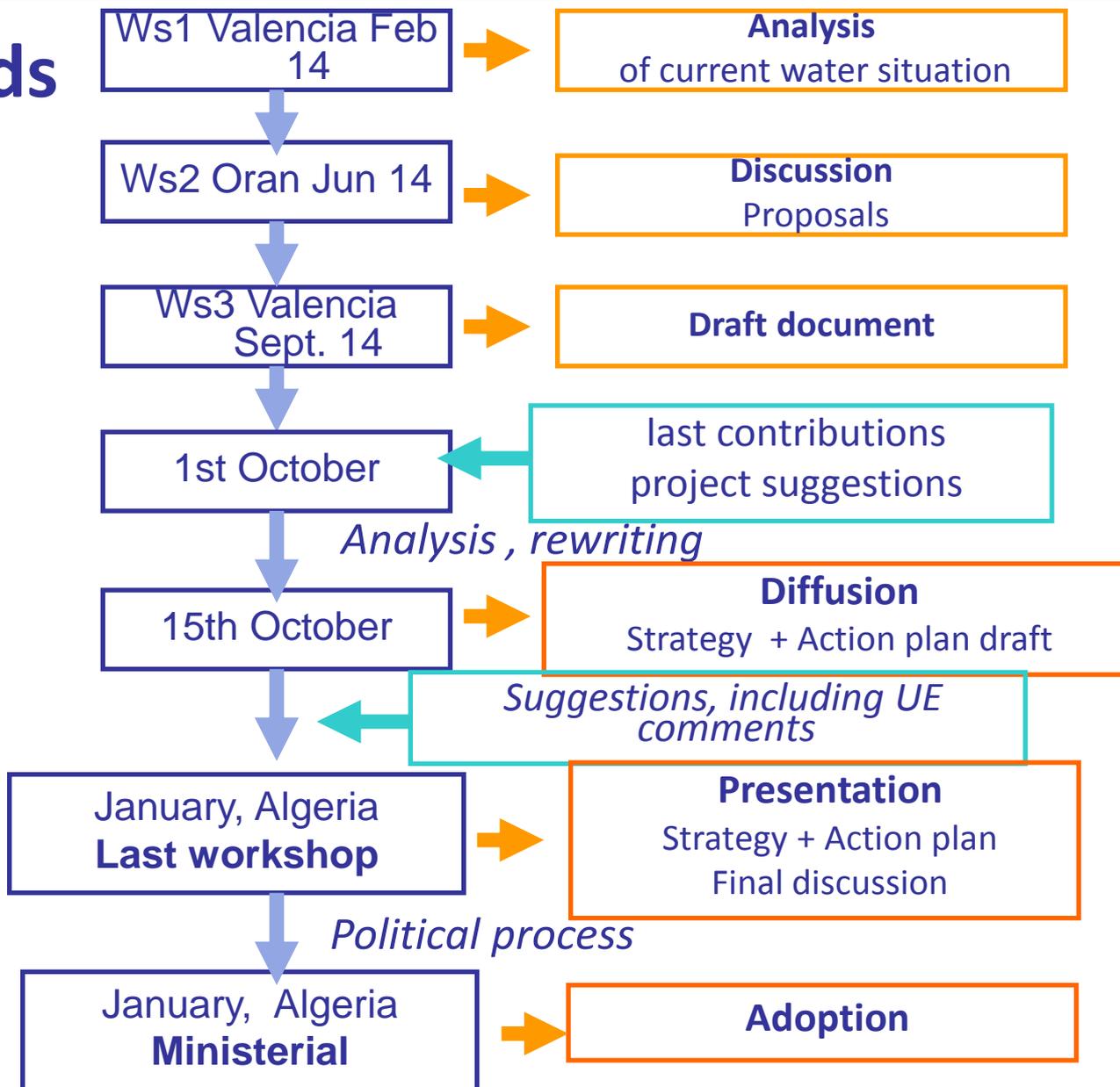
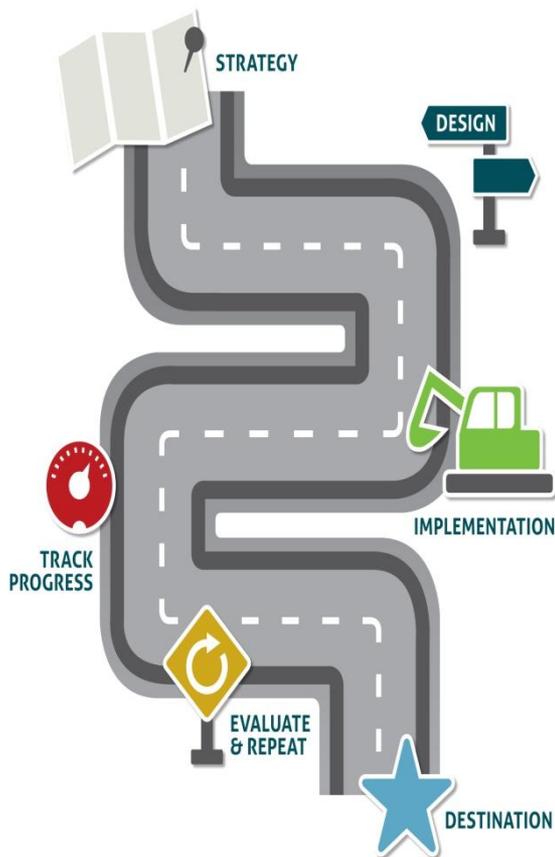


- Consistency with environmental protection objectives
- Contribution to poverty reduction objectives, job creation and education of young people
- Consideration of social, gender and cultural aspects
- Level of secured co-financing
- Economic and financial sustainability
- Level of foreseen operational synergies including with competent stakeholders
- Projected sustainability of outcomes after completion of implementation
- Possibility of replication

The process



Roadmap towards the Strategy



Next steps



- **Next meeting: During Mediterranean Forum, 2th of November**
- **It is expected the document to be ratified**
- **In January the strategy will be approved in a Ministerial meeting**



Conclusions



- Countries of the 5+5 Initiative have been working towards a **Water Strategy in the Western Mediterranean**
- Comments from the EU have been incorporated
- It is expected to be approved in January 2015



Thanks for all contributions



Special thanks for contributions from:

