



GEWAMED

Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions Into Water Resources Development and Management in the Mediterranean Region.

Newsletter
November,
2009

ISSUE n° 14



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FOCUS

GEWAMED International Conference on "Integration of Gender Dimensions in Water Management" Amman - Jordan, 22nd-24th March 2010

The issue of water has been ranked highly on the global political agenda, as water scarcity has become a threat to human survival and sustainable development.

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The Second Non-Aligned Movement First Ladies Summit Rome, 15 November 2009

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World Rural Women's Day and "De@Terra" Award 2009 Rome, 29 October 2009



This year ONILFA celebrated the World Rural Women's Day and the 9th edition of "De@Terra" Award on 29 October at the premises of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies in Rome...

>>> [\(read more at page 2\)](#)

National Seminar on "The Distribution of Gender Roles in Water Resources Management in the Southern Part of Syria" 15 October 2009

The General Commission for Scientific Agriculture Research (CGSAR) of Syria organized a National seminar sponsored by the GEWAMED Project that was attended by more than 70 specialists from the ministries of Agriculture, Irrigation, Environment...

>>> [\(read more at page 5\)](#)



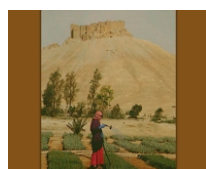
PUBLICATIONS



Books and reports



Cd's and multimedia



[Click on the images to find out more](#)

Meeting of the IFAP Committee for the Mediterranean, 24-26 September 2009 Catania, Italy

From 24-26 September 2009, Mediterranean farmers met in Catania, Sicily, to discuss many issues and identify common priorities for action regarding development of the agricultural sector and the strengthening of producers in the region.

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WEBSITES SECTION



www.tanmia.ma

Tanmia Development Portal is a national internet portal designed to enhance the capabilities of Moroccan associations.



>>> [\(read more at page 11\)](#)



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World Rural Women's Day and "De@Terra" Award 2009 Rome, 29 October 2009

This year ONILFA celebrated the World Rural Women's Day and the 9th edition of "De@Terra" Award on 29 October at the premises of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies in Rome. The conference theme was "Rural Women at the Hearth of Innovation" meaning that women are at the heart of the solutions to the two major challenges that humanity is facing today: hunger and climate change since they are the main producers of food in countries stricken by famine and malnutrition, they are key players in day-to-day agricultural tasks and activities that generate agricultural and non-agricultural income, and the custodians of natural and productive resources. The conference was chaired by Mrs. Veronica Navarra, President of the Observatory.

Relevant were the contributions of the representatives of the Italian Agriculture Organizations, of Mrs. Rosanna Quagliariello, Head of the external relations office of IAMB Institute, who talked about "rural women and innovation, the Institute of Bari commitment", emphasizing IAMB involvement in different projects: from



Source: ONILFA

The enhancement of organic agriculture in the South Mediterranean Countries, to actions aiming to empower rural women and their strategic role for a sustainable rural development. Among the topics covered were organic agriculture as "powerful tool" in the hands of rural women; women at the centre of rural development programmes and the importance of rural kindergartens to help them reconcile work and family life; and the importance of networks to boost communication and information among women entrepreneurs.

As usual, at the end of the ceremony five women entrepreneurs from the north, centre, and south of Italy were granted a prize in recognition of their contribution to the development of Italian agriculture. Due to last minute circumstances the Italian Minister of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies, Luca Zaia, could not be present, however the Cabinet Chief, Giuseppe Ambrosio, came to congratulate with the winners. This particular moment is always very important because it represents a way to encourage female entrepreneurship in the rural sector.



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The First Announcement of GEWAMED International Conference on "Integration of Gender Dimensions in Water Management" Amman - Jordan, 22nd-24th March 2010

Introduction

The issue of water has been ranked highly on the global political agenda, as water scarcity has become a threat to human survival and sustainable development. Human activities and development processes have exerted huge pressure on the already exhausted water resources. Many countries are experiencing scarcity of water, pollution and increase of other environmental disasters that will hinder the sustainable development and threatens peace and continuity of the human being. The poorest categories of people in these countries suffer most from the increasing lack of fresh water, and amongst the poor women are relatively many.

The integration involvement of women in all aspects of development has gained international acceptance. For this reason the European Commission entrusted the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari together with other 17 partners from 14 countries of the Mediterranean the execution of a research project called GEWAMED which ultimate aim is to contribute to the mainstreaming of gender dimensions in the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the Mediterranean Region.

To achieve this objective the Project has promoted a dialogue among the countries of the Region including organizing workshops and an international conference in order to promote the adoption of gender sensitive policies and build a common knowledge base. This conference will be held in Amman during 22-24 March 2010. The conference will be an opportunity to disseminate the work and experience of GEWAMED project and it will be also a mean to enrich the knowledge base of the participants by reviewing major gender and water related issues and identifying future action needs.



Joint Activity with MELIA

Parallel to this conference, the 4th workshop of MELIA project entitled; "Benchmarking exercise and recommendation on the application of the WDF" will be organized. The opening session will be between GEWAMED conference and MELIA project which coincide also with the celebration of the World Water Day.

Themes of the conference

1. Gender and food security in the dry lands of the Mediterranean
2. Gender Mainstreaming in natural resources management and climate change
3. Gender mainstreaming in water policies and institutions



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The First Announcement of the International Conference on "Integration of Gender Dimensions in Water Management" Amman - Jordan, 22nd-24th March 2010

Participation

Project partners are invited and encouraged to send more than one delegate. Individuals representing institutions and civic societies are welcomed to participate and present papers. Invited speakers who can enrich the knowledge base and discussion. Anybody who is interested in the issue of gender and water.

Travel and Accommodation

The campus of the University of Jordan is about 25 Km north of Amman International Airport (Queen Alia Airport). Transportation will be provided to participants from the airport to the Hotel and to the University of Jordan campus. The participants are expected to arrive on 21 March and leave on 26 March 2010. The University will get a special price for the participants in the Jerusalem Hotel

Important Dates

| Deadlines | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Abstract submission | January 5, 2010 |
| Notifications : | January 20, 2010 |
| Full manuscript submissions | January 31, 2010 |
| Final Submissions : | February 15, 2009 |
| Registrations : | February 20, 2010 |
| Hotel Reservations : | March 1, 2010 |

Post Conference Event

A technical and tourist visit will be arranged to visit Petra and stay one night. Departure to Petra will be in the afternoon of 24 March and return back to Amman on the 25 March, 2009. The University will provide transportation to Petra but participants are expected to pay hotel accommodation and other expenses. However, we will arrange for a special offer at a good hotel.

Additional Information

Questions regarding registration, administrative matters, and technical issues can be addressed to Prof. Muhammad Shatanawi, University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan. (Email shatanaw@ju.edu.jo), phone 962-6-5355000 ext. 22441, Fax 962-6-5355578.



Source: Flickr

If you wish to receive regularly, free of charge, the GEWAMED Newsletter or you want to inform us about new relevant events to be inserted in GEWAMED Newsletter, please send a message to: sagardoy@iamb.it



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National Seminar on "The Distribution of Gender Roles in Water Resources Management in the Southern Part of Syria" 15 October 2009



The General Commission for Scientific Agriculture Research (CGSAR) of Syria organized a National seminar sponsored by the GEWAMED Project that was attended by more than 70 specialists from the ministries of Agriculture, Irrigation, Environment, Housing, and Information as well as Farmers Union, Civil Societies and Governmental Organizations concerned with women, and International Organizations attended this event.

Additionally, ten female farmers and five female agronomists from those who participated in the implementation of field work participated also in the event and were honoured with appreciation certificates and in-kind prizes.

At this seminar, the following recommendations were made:

- ▶ Continue in the implementation of field research all over Syrian governorates to get overall average indicators on the tenth equality measurement indicators at country level.
- ▶ Cooperate with government and NGOs concerned with gender issues in the economic life of the country and promote the integration and coordination of activities among them.
- ▶ Promote gender mainstreaming into scientific agricultural research studies.
- ▶ Build a database of information regarding gender gaps in irrigated agriculture and agricultural development.

A report of the event is being prepared. For greater details and information contact:

Dr. Ali Kaisi, (ak-gssar@scs-net.org)



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The Second Non-Aligned Movement First Ladies Summit Rome, 15 November 2009

Food Security and Women's Access to Resources



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On the 15 of November the Second meeting of the First Ladies Summit of the Non Aligned Movement (NAM) took place in Rome. The meeting was held just before the World Food Summit of Heads of State and Government which took place in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009 and therefore provided a good opportunity for a follow-up of the NAM First Ladies Summit. The meeting took place at FAO Headquarters in Rome in full coordination with the Food and Agriculture Organization and its Director General.

The NAM First Ladies Summit addressed many aspects related aspects of hunger and malnutrition, and identifying concrete steps that NAM first ladies could play to address these issues, including through the exchange of national experiences in ensuring women's access to resources, particularly land, water and credit, as well as human capital and knowledge.

Some of the points raised in the concept paper prepared for the summit are quoted below: Women produce between 60 and 80 percent of food in most of the developing countries and are responsible for half of the world's food production. Thus, women are the backbone of food production and family income in developing countries; however they remain limited in their access to productive resources and services:

- **Access to land.** Not even 2 percent of land is owned by women, while the proportion of female heads of households continues to grow (for example in sub-Saharan Africa, 31 percent of rural households are headed by women, while in Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia, women head 17 percent and 14 percent, respectively).
- **Access to credit.** For the countries where information is available, only 10 percent of credit allowances are extended to women,
- **Access to agricultural inputs.** Women's access to technological inputs such as improved seeds, fertilizers and pesticides is limited as they are frequently not reached by extension services and are rarely members of cooperatives, which often distribute government-subsidized inputs to small farmers.
- **Access to education, training and extension services.** Two-thirds of the one billion illiterate in the world are women and girls. Available figures show that only 5 percent of extension services have been addressed to rural women, while no more than 15 percent of the world's extension agents are women.
- **Access to research and appropriate technology.** Women have little access to the benefits of research and innovation, especially in the domain of food crops, which in spite of ensuring food security at the household and community levels, have a low priority in crop improvement research.
- **Access to education, training and extension services.** Two-thirds of the one billion illiterate in the world are women and girls. Available figures show that only 5 percent of extension services have been addressed to rural women, while no more than 15 percent of the world's extension agents are women.

The above-mentioned factors clearly suggest that special attention should be paid to female-headed households within safety-net programmes for facing rising food prices. Without equitable access to productive resources, hunger cannot be eradicated. The meeting was chaired by HE Suzanne Mubarak , First Lady of Egypt and attended by a large participation of First Ladies from the develop and developing countries. More detailed information about this event can be found at: www.namegypt.org



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Meeting of the IFAP Committee for the Mediterranean with a seminar workshop on "Promoting the Participation of Mediterranean Women in Farmers' Organizations" 24-26 September 2009, Catania-Italy

United in Empowering Mediterranean Farmers

From 24-26 September 2009, Mediterranean farmers met in Catania, Sicily, to discuss many issues and identify common priorities for action regarding development of the agricultural sector and the strengthening of producers in the region. Representatives from international organizations, including the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Agri-agencies and members of AgriCord, as well as representatives of regional institutions, took part in the meeting.

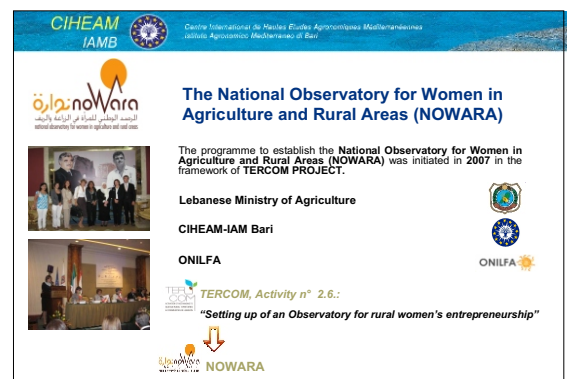


In addition to the meeting of the IFAP Committee for the Mediterranean, a seminar workshop on Promoting the Participation of Mediterranean Women in Farmers' Organizations was held on September 22-23, bringing together women farmer leaders from throughout the Mediterranean.

Gender was among the topics discussed during the meeting with the main objective of defining the priorities for reinforcing the capacities of women leader in the Mediterranean, as well as the main conditions to be met by farmers' organizations to enable women leaders to effectively demonstrate their leadership.

Veronica Navarra, President of the National Observatory for Female Enterprise and Labour in Agriculture (ONILFA), and Rosanna Quagliariello, Head of the external relations office of IAMB Institute, participated in the 4th session of the meeting focused on the strengthening of the role of women in farmers' organizations. Veronica Navarra presented the activities and objectives of the Observatory with particular focus on its experience in the Mediterranean Region.

Rosanna Quagliariello talked about women and rural development with particular reference to the experience of the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute in Lebanon and the set up of NOWARA, the National Observatory for Women in Agriculture and Rural Areas in Lebanon.



Some slides presented by Rosanna Quagliariello (IAM-B) at the workshop



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PUBLICATIONS



Books and reports

World Survey on the Role of Women in Development (2009)

United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)



The World Survey on the Role of Women in Development is the flagship publication of the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW). It provides, at five-yearly intervals, an in-depth analysis of development issues affecting women. It is the main report on women in development presented to the Second Committee of the General Assembly, and thus provides critical input for enhanced attention to gender perspectives in regard to economic and development issues. In addition to intergovernmental bodies and policy makers at the national level, including national machineries for the advancement of women, the World Survey is also

used extensively by entities of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental and civil society organizations, universities and research institutes.

Accordingly, the Survey focuses on selected emerging development issues that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at national, regional and international levels. The Survey provides an assessment of the benefits accruing to women as a result of their effective participation in development, such as income, conditions of work, and decision-making. Ways and means of enhancing women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development at the national, regional and international levels are also covered in the Survey. Key policy recommendations for women's effective mobilization and integration in development are provided

The 1999 World Survey focused on globalization, gender and work and the 2004 World Survey addressed women and international migration. The theme for the World Survey in 2009 is "Women's control over economic resources and access to financial resources, including microfinance".

There is increasing recognition that empowerment is a key strategy for economic and social development. Increased access to and control over resources and opportunities not only improves the economic status of women, their households and communities, but also creates a multiplier effect for economic growth. Lack of economic empowerment, on the other hand, both jeopardizes growth and poverty reduction, and leads to less favourable education and health outcomes for children and can put women at a greater risk of HIV/AIDS and violence.

The World Survey will conceptualize women's economic empowerment in relation to economic and financial resources. It will consider a wide range of policy areas to identify the type of policies and programmes that are conducive to women's economic empowerment. Persistent obstacles to women's economic empowerment will also be addressed. The World Survey will also include a focus on methodologies and indicators for measuring women's economic empowerment.

The Survey is available at <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/ws2009/index.html>



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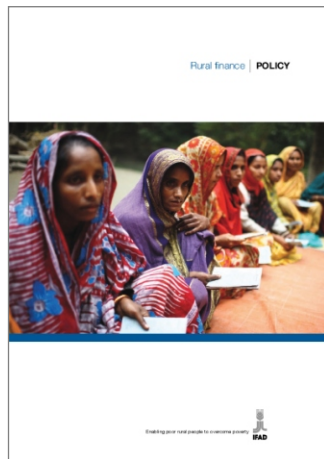


PUBLICATIONS



Books and reports

Revised Rural Finance Policy



With the updated RFP, IFAD reconfirms its commitment to constantly look for more effective ways of enhancing the access of rural poor people and smallholder farmers to a wide variety of financial services on an constant basis so that they can create a sustainable means of livelihood for themselves.

This updated Policy provides guidance to IFAD-supported rural financial services programmes and projects, and offers guidelines to IFAD decision makers, consultants and partner organizations to ensure the development of a coherent and effective rural finance sector. Such guidelines prescribe ways to strengthen the delivery capacity of financial service providers in rural areas and to achieve financial sustainability, Help savings-based models of community-managed loan funds, achieve promising results, and show how distortions of financial markets can be avoided.

Given its focus on women, young people, indigenous peoples and very poor households, IFAD concentrates on rural microfinance, with "micro" referring to the relative size of the financial transactions including savings, remittances, leasing and risk management services and "rural" reflecting the location of the entrepreneurs and small-scale agricultural and livestock producers that IFAD targets. Main goal is to increase the access of poor rural women and men to the rural financial services they require to meet their productive and household needs and mitigate risk.

Providing a full range of financial services to poor families who live in degraded areas may, for example, support natural resource management practices and alternative livelihoods that are less harmful to the ecosystem.

In its approach to rural finance, which is derived from the Strategic Framework 2007- 2010, IFAD also focuses on addressing cross-cutting issues such as gender and the environment in its rural finance interventions. Mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment and considering natural resource management are integral to effective approaches to rural financial services.

The full publication can be downloaded from <http://www.ifad.org/pub/index.htm>



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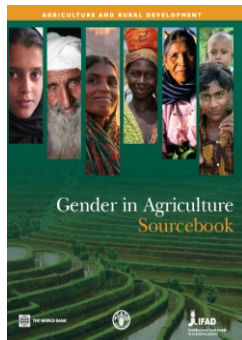


PUBLICATIONS



Books and reports

Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook Update #2



On 15 October 2009 the World Bank issued the second newsletter of the Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook. This issue is particularly interesting because it provides information on the follow-up activities to the Sourcebook a year after its launching. Interesting was the International Expert Consultation on Gender and Agriculture, entitled Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook: From Knowledge to Action, organized by the World Bank, FAO, and IFAD on 16-17 March 2009. Its proceedings are now available at www.worldbank.org/genderinag. From the same link you can also download the new Thematic Notes (TN) and Innovative Activity Profiles (IAP) added to the Sourcebook website.

These sections were not included in the printed copy due to size limitations, but they underwent an equally rigorous selection and review process as the printed book. Relevant is the one added under the Module on water management, prepared by Mr. J.A. Sagardoy (No 6), whose title is "WIN: A Holistic, Gender-Responsive Approach in Irrigation and Water Resource Management Improves Livelihoods and Food Security".

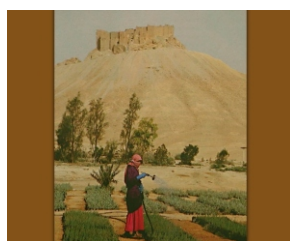
The newsletter also presents new publications providing their full titles along with a brief description of their contents and main issues covered. These are expanded versions of a section of the Sourcebook or new reports from lessons learned and experiences of putting the Sourcebook into action over the last year.

For more information about this Update, and all the reports and documents cited above, please visit: www.worldbank.org/genderinag



Cd's and multimedia

"Water for Life"



"Water for Life" is a CD created by the Italian Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ITAL-ICID), GEWAMED project partner, with the main aim of making rural women in the Mediterranean Region aware of the crucial importance and role of water in a very simple way. The CD is currently available in Italian but it is being translated into English and will be soon published on the GEWAMED website. Basically the CD is the explanation of water as a fundamental resource. It gives an overview of the historical background of water, of its cycle, distribution on Earth,

It also talks about the demand for water by human beings and plants, about water as cause of damage and disasters, and lastly about water and hunger in the world.

For the Italian version please contact: info@italicid.it



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WEBSITES SECTION



Tanmia Development Portal (www.tanmia.ma) is a national internet portal designed to enhance the capabilities of Moroccan associations by utilizing information technology and communication tools. It is a participatory site where associations connect and exchange information.

Tanmia is the result of a collaborative effort between MTDS (Morocco Trade and Development Services), Internet consulting company, and AMSED, the Moroccan Association for Solidarity and Development.

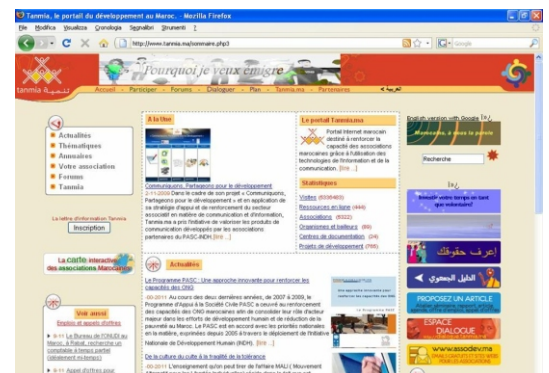
Through a single Internet site Tanmia connects all development actors at national level, both the civil society and donors. They can promote their projects, share information with partners, develop priorities, be informed on all important matters concerning development and training, and establish new alliances with the private and public sectors.

Particularly relevant are the sections of classifieds and discussion forums which allow the development community to better communicate and sharing documents online. Among the tools used are the following:

- A directory of organizations active in sustainable development activities;
- A directory of online resources;
- A directory of development organizations and bailleurs;
- A database of development projects in Morocco

Besides the available databases, information is divided in different themes (e.g. agriculture, rural development, environment, human rights, water, democracy and government, education etc.).

This portal is a good example which could be followed in other countries as well in order to strengthen communication and dialogue among associations, donors and other development actors and be updated on the main topics related to development.





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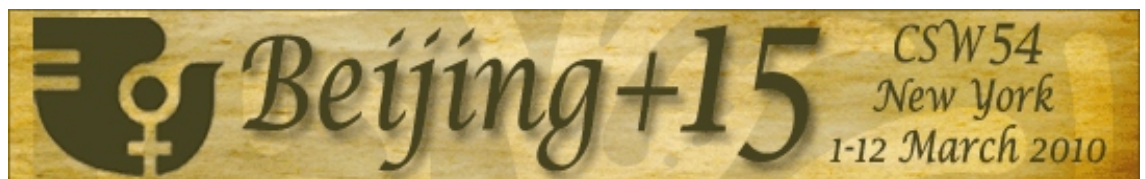
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15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (2000)

In March 2010, the Commission on the Status of Women will undertake a fifteen-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. Emphasis will be placed on the sharing of experiences and good practices, with a view to overcoming remaining obstacles and new challenges, including those related to the Millennium Development Goals. Member States, representatives of non-governmental organizations and of UN entities will participate in the session. A series of parallel events will provide additional opportunities for information exchange and networking.

Ongoing national and regional review processes are feeding into the global review process.

The General Assembly is expected to mark the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in a commemorative meeting during CSW.

For further information please visit:

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing15/index.html>



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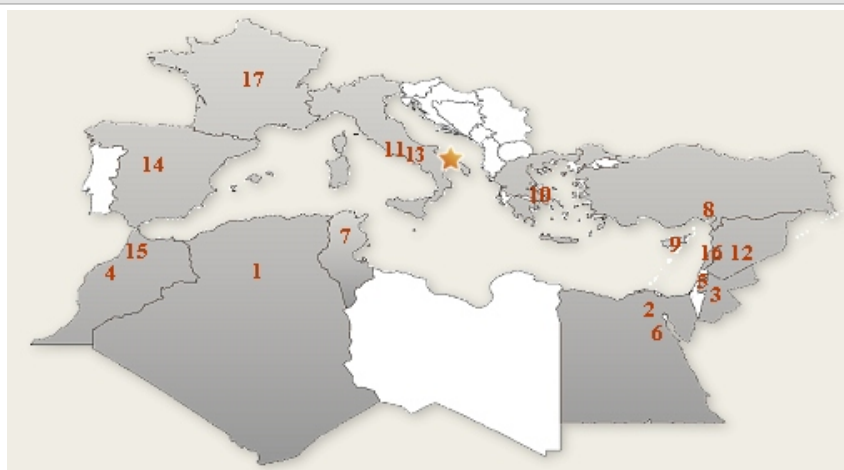
Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions Into Water Resources Development and Management in the Mediterranean Region.

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