



United Nations Environment Programme



UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.161/Inf.3
7 June 1999

Original: ENGLISH
FRANCAIS

MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of the MED POL National Coordinators to review
the implementation of MED POL-Phase III and of the
Strategic Action Programme

Reggio Calabria, Italy, 20-23 June 1999

Review of activities carried out as part of MED POL Phase III

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	1
1. Coordination activities	1
2. Pollution assessment	2
3. Pollution control	3
4. Research	4
5. Implementation of the LBS Protocol/Strategic Action Programme (SAP)	5
6. Implementation of the Dumping Protocol	6
7. Implementation of the Hazardous Waste Protocol	6
Annex	1 - 8

Introduction

This document contains information on the implementation of the activities of MED POL Phase III carried out in the period 1998-1999. In particular, the information cover the activities related to coordination, monitoring and research, capacity building and the LBS, Dumping and Hazardous Wastes Protocols. Although some information is provided on the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), additional details on the subject are given in document UNEP(OCA)MED WG.161/3. This document is submitted to the MED POL Coordinators for information and comments.

1. Coordination activities

As a follow up to the approval of the MED POL Phase III Programme (Montpellier, 1996) and of the general policy lines for its implementation (Delphi, 1997), the MED POL Secretariat, with the assistance of IAEA/MEL of Monaco and MED POL consultants, visited eleven countries (Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Slovenia, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey), and contacted Greece and Monaco, to identify the laboratories/institutions who would participate in the Programme and to assess their capabilities in view of the launching, in particular, of the trend monitoring and the biological effects monitoring activities. As a result, a number of capacity building programmes were prepared on which to base the assistance to be provided to the countries in need.

A letter was also sent to all National Coordinators in May 1998 to explain and solicit comments on how the Secretariat was proposing to follow the decisions of the Contracting Parties concerning the implementation of the Programme and at the same time to ask the Coordinators a number of information needed for the launching of the activities.

Cooperation was strengthened with the European Environment Agency (EEA) on a number of subjects such as biomonitoring, assessment tools and exchange of available data. In this framework, MAP and MED POL in particular were contacted by EEA for the preparation of the report : "State and pressures of the marine and coastal Mediterranean environment" where available Mediterranean data and information were used. The first draft of the report was circulated to MAP Focal Points for comments and suggestions. The final version of the report is expected to be ready by the end of the year.

In view of the starting of the activities of Phase III, and as a request by the Contracting Parties in Montpellier, an independent evaluation of MED POL Phase II was initiated with the assistance of Mediterranean experts. The first draft was completed in May 1999 and it is now being reviewed by additional experts. The final document will be presented to the Meeting of MAP Focal Points to be held in September in Athens.

Concerning MED POL staff, with the recruitment of Mr F. S. Civili as the MED POL Coordinator in January 1998, one post (First Officer, P4) became vacant. The post was re-classified at the P3 level (Programme Officer) and was advertised according to UN procedures. The selection process of the candidates was completed in May 1998 and the results of the ad hoc Panel were sent to UNEP Nairobi for finalization and approval. The post is expected to be filled by the summer 1999. In April 1999, the post of Senior Programme Officer (G.P.G. Gabrielides, P5) became vacant with the departure of the incumbent. The post was re-classified at the P4 level and the vacancy announcement is being prepared. The recruitment procedures are expected to be finalised by the end of the year.

2. Pollution assessment

Draft national programmes covering site specific trend monitoring were sent to the Secretariat by Albania, Greece, Slovenia and Tunisia, which are being discussed and finalised for signature. Other countries are being contacted aiming at finalising the larger possible number of programmes by the end of 1999.

As a follow up to the capacity building programme and the country visits, during the period 1998-1999 (up to May 1999) financial assistance in the form of small equipment and material was given to the participating laboratories as follows: Albania USD 6,500, Algeria USD 34,000, Egypt USD 33,000, Libya USD 29,000, Morocco USD 11,000, Syria USD 28,000 and Turkey USD 23,000.

Concerning monitoring of biological effects, efforts were made to include the relevant activities in the national monitoring programmes. To this effects, contacts were made with Cyprus, Greece, Egypt, Malta and Tunisia. Assistance is available for the implementation of the activities and will be provided as soon as the specific national programmes are finalised.

During 1998-1999, a Manual for the biomarkers recommended for the MED POL biomonitoring programme was prepared and finalised with the assistance of Mediterranean scientists and in cooperation with RAMOGE. In addition, RAMOGE prepared a video cassette which would be attached to the Manual to better explain the use of the selected techniques. The Manual and the video cassette will be soon distributed to National Coordinators and participating institutes.

Contacts were also made with other Convention Secretariats and DGXII of the European Commission concerning the work on biomonitoring to exchange information on scientific and technical aspects related to the selected techniques and to seek additional funds from outside sources to assist countries of the Mediterranean region.

With the assistance of WHO, work continued on the identification of sources and loads of pollution. The MED POL National Coordinators were requested to provide additional data in the framework of the Survey on Mediterranean Land-Based Sources of Pollution - a survey initiated in the preceding years but which still presented large gaps. During the first phase of the collection of data for the Survey of Land-Based Sources of Pollution and the Pollution Hot Spots, documents and questionnaires were used in order to prepare the basis for an inventory of treatment and discharge of wastewater of coastal Mediterranean cities with more than 10,000 inhabitants.

The data gathered, which was organized in a uniform manner, was sent to all MED POL National Coordinators in order to ensure their reliability. A lot of data, however, were still missing from the larger countries due to the difficulty in gathering all the necessary information.

In November 1998, with the assistance of the MED POL Coordinators and through extensive exchange of correspondence, the inventory was completed. The corrected data was sent to all MED POL National Coordinators for verification. Comments were received from a number of countries and were taken into account for the preparation of the final document. The document is now submitted to this Meeting for approval (UNEP(OCA)MED WG161/5).

The Data Quality Assurance programme related to chemical contaminants continued under the technical responsibility of IAEA. In the course of country visits, laboratories were visited by experts and the sampling and analytical techniques were discussed and verified. In

addition, in the framework of the Intercalibration of analytical techniques for organochlorine compounds, two sediment samples (IAEA-383 and IAEA-408) were prepared and sent, respectively in 1998 and 1999, to a total of sixty-nine laboratories in the region.

As in the past, training courses were organised and fellowships were provided to a total of 35 scientists from 16 countries. The training courses were organised in the framework of the analysis of the priority parameters of MED POL and fellowships were provided to assist the attendance of scientists at Meetings related to the MED POL work programme.

3. Pollution control

In the framework of the launching of the compliance monitoring activities, in May 1998 information was requested by the Secretariat to all National Coordinators on the existing legislation related to marine pollution and on national monitoring systems related to control and compliance. In view of the very few responses, a second letter was sent at the beginning of 1999 to a number of countries asking for details on existing national compliance monitoring programmes as well as for their data and results. A total of six countries provided the information requested.

From the little information gathered, it was apparent that the existing compliance monitoring systems were in many cases incomplete and not including information on remedial action to be taken in cases of non-compliance. As a result, a draft document: "Remedial action in cases of non-compliance with established pollution control criteria in the Mediterranean" was prepared with the assistance of Mediterranean experts under the supervision of WHO/MED POL. Following a peer review, the document will be finalized and sent to MED POL National Coordinators for comments.

In addition to the above, questionnaires were prepared with the assistance of WHO in order to collate information from all countries on: (a) the legislative background from which permitting, compliance and enforcement provisions are formulated; (b) the administrative structure currently used for compliance and enforcement; and (c) the characteristics of the permitting process, compliance practices and enforcement organization. In this context, a workshop for experts on Compliance and enforcement of legislation in the Mediterranean for control of pollution resulting from land-based sources and activities was convened jointly with WHO/MAP in Athens from 16 to 18 March 1999. The overall objectives of the workshop were to assess the situation in the Mediterranean on compliance and enforcement of legislation, with particular emphasis on inspectorates, and to propose future measures for action. The report of the Meeting is presented as reference document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG. 160/1.

The workshop was attended by 18 experts, representatives of the Contracting Parties, five international experts and representatives of relevant RACs, IGOs and NGOs. The participants prepared and presented country reports on compliance and enforcement in their countries which were included in the report of the workshop. The above-mentioned questionnaires were completed by all participants for the collection, at the national level, of information on activities related to compliance monitoring and enforcement of legislation with the aim to provide rapid statistical assessment of the existing situation. The Meeting recommended the establishment of an informal regional network for exchange of information and ideas on the subject, capacity-building programmes for the strengthening of the national inspectorate systems, and assistance to countries, upon request, for the improvement of enforcement activities. Additional information on the evaluation of the questionnaires and of the existing international networks on compliance and enforcement, as requested by participants, are attached as Annex to this document.

A Consultation on compliance with maximum permissible levels of contaminants in seafood, convened jointly by UNEP/MAP, FAO and WHO, was held in Larnaca, Cyprus from 24-26 June 1998. It was attended by government-designated experts from 15 Contracting Parties.

On the basis of the reports presented by the experts, it was possible to distinguish three categories of countries: (a) those which had legal provisions, administrative structures and programmes related to monitoring and enforcement; (b) those which had regulations but were weak in enforcement; and (c) those which were in the process of creating structures and enacting legislation. The Meeting recommended that Contracting Parties make every effort to put in place legal provisions for the protection of human health from consumption of seafood (fish and shellfish) and implement relevant monitoring and enforcement programmes. The report of the Meeting is contained in reference document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG. 144/3.

During the implementation of the activities related to the Identification of Regional Pollution Hot Spots, some problematic issues were identified, the most important being the lack of trained personnel for the operation of municipal wastewater treatment plants. As a result, a regional Workshop for wastewater treatment plant operators' trainers was organized in Athens at the SERDC premises from 4 to 9 May 1998. It was attended by 17 experts from Mediterranean countries. The purpose of the workshop was to enable the trainers who participated to organize similar national training courses for operators. The report of the training course was published by WHO as EHCO/050203.

As a follow-up to the above training course and after preliminary contacts concerning the convening of national courses in some countries, a national training course was organized by WHO/MAP in Alexandria from 2 to 5 April 1999. The training course was attended by 19 participants from all the governorates of Egypt, employed as operators, or potential operators, of wastewater treatment plants. The training course was convened at the facilities of the Alexandria General Organization for Sanitary Drainage which is located next to the Alexandria East Wastewater Treatment Plant. For the needs of the course, which was made in Arabic, a training manual was prepared also in Arabic based on the results and the documents used for the regional course, and taking into account the national and local needs. The lecturers were selected by the local organizers. The report of the course was published by WHO as EHCO/050203.

A regional training workshop on wastewater treatment plant management was organized in Sophia Antipolis from 21 to 24 April 1999 at the premises of the International Office for Water. The purpose of the workshop was to provide practical assistance to the Contracting Parties for the effective reduction of pollution generated by land-based sources and to enable experts to organize similar national training courses for managers. The regional workshop organized by WHO/MAP was attended by 15 experts. It is expected that, as a follow-up to the regional workshop, a national workshop would be soon organized in one of the countries represented at the Workshop in collaboration with the trained national experts. The report of the course was published by WHO as EHCO/050204.

4. Research

In view of the very limited funds available during the biennium for research, very few new research proposals were submitted and only a limited number of projects were carried out.

A project was carried out under the technical supervision of WHO entitled: "Assessment and control of coastal sea pollution in the Punat Bay". The project, carried out by the Analysis

and control Technology Institute in Zagreb, Croatia, in cooperation with the Marine Biological Station in Piran, Slovenia, studied the concentration of metals in antifouling paints used in Marina Punat and elaborated and proposed input reduction measures and monitoring. The project also improved the existing mathematical models related to currents, source inventory and transport routes. The project was funded with US \$9,000.

A new research project was initiated under the technical supervision of WMO on wet and dry deposition fluxes of trace elements and major ions from atmosphere to the eastern Mediterranean basin. It was carried out by the Department for Environmental Engineering in Ankara, Turkey, with a contribution of US \$ 5,000.

Two additional projects were carried out as continuation of previous years on the atmospheric input of trace species along the Mediterranean coast of Israel (Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research Institute, Haifa, contribution US \$ 5,000) and on the atmospheric input of inorganic nitrogen to the Adriatic Sea (Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, Zagreb, contribution US \$5,000).

Two projects were initiated under the technical supervision of IOC. The first one was signed in 1998 with the Marine Biological Station in Piran (Slovenia), on indicators for the ecological characterization of the coastal waters affected by municipal waste waters. The project, which includes intensive field and laboratory work for the construction of phytoplankton and zooplankton time series and the study of the effects on nutrient enrichment from municipal wastewater and the identification of stress indicators, received a grant of US \$ 9,800.

The second project is dealing with the study of time-series to determine anthropogenic influences on ecological cycles and long-term changes in the North Levantine Basin. It was signed with the Institute of Marine Science in Erdemli, Turkey, and received a grant for 1998 of US \$ 5,000.

5. Implementation of the LBS Protocol/Strategic Action Programme (SAP)

Following the signature of the revised LBS Protocol (1996), the Secretariat, as requested by the Contracting Parties, worked to set the basis for the implementation of its provisions.

As a result, after obtaining a US \$350,000 PDF-B grant from GEF for the preparation of a Strategic Action Programme to Address Pollution from Land-based Activities (SAP) -which represented a basic requirement of the LBS Protocol- the Secretariat submitted to the GEF Council a proposal for a larger three-year project aiming at preparing the basis for the implementation of the SAP activities in the form of a Project Brief.

A Meeting of the MAP/GEF National Coordinators was held in Athens, on 22-23 January 1998 to discuss, amend and approve the content of the Project Brief which would be submitted to the GEF Council for approval and funding (UNEP(OCA)MED WG.138/2). The Project Brief, which described the content of the Project including the work plan and budget of the activities, was approved by the MAP/GEF National Coordinators who considered it a concrete contribution to the implementation of the SAP and stressed that, considering that the GEF funds were addressed to assist only twelve Mediterranean countries, the funds put in the project by MAP should be used to the benefit of all Contracting Parties for the implementation of the SAP activities. The Project Brief was approved by the GEF Council in April 1998 (see reference doc. "Project Brief: "Determination of Priority Actions for the Further Elaboration and Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Mediterranean Sea") with a contribution from GEF of 6,29 million US \$, a participation of 3,04 million US \$ in cash and kind from the countries and

1,12 million US \$ in cash and kind from MAP.

In view of the ambitious nature of the SAP, the Secretariat further worked to ensure possible additional funds and expertise to complement those put at the disposal of the Project. As a result, an additional 1,6 million US \$ was assured from the French GEF (FFEM) as well as a contribution in kind from METAP who will participate in the coordination and follow up of the activities. Additional contributions are still sought from other sources such as FAO and other Organizations.

Since the approval of the Project Brief by the MAP/GEF National Coordinators and subsequently by the GEF Council, the Secretariat has worked on the preparation of the administrative project document which describes in detail the activities. A number of small meetings and consultations were also held with the partners and cooperating Organizations and Centres to discuss the operational aspects of the Project. The project document is now expected to be approved by the UNEP/GEF Coordination Unit and subsequently by the GEF Secretariat by the end of the year. The activities related to the implementation of the SAP are therefore expected to start at the beginning of the year 2000.

The effective implementation of the SAP activities by the countries, which is directly related to the fulfilment of the requirements of the LBS Protocol, is now concrete and substantially supported by the GEF Project. In particular, the activities foreseen in the three-year Project address a number of necessary actions which will prepare the ground for the fulfilment by the countries of both the mid- and long-term targets and objectives of the SAP.

6. Implementation of the Dumping Protocol

As a follow up to the First Meeting of Government-designated Experts to prepare Guidelines for the Management of Dredged Materials held in Valencia in 1996, a second Meeting was held in Malta from 30 November to 2 December 1998. The Meeting was hosted by the Maltese Government with the financial assistance of the European Commission. The Meeting worked on the draft Guidelines and agreed on a text which is now transmitted to the present Meeting for approval (UNEP(OCA)MED WG.161/6). The document, if later adopted by the Contracting Parties, will substantially contribute to the solution of the problem of the dumping of dredged material which is considered as common in the Mediterranean. The adoption of the Guidelines also responds to a requirement of the 1995 Dumping Protocol.

7. Implementation of the Hazardous Waste Protocol

No specific activities related to the future implementation of the Hazardous Wastes Protocol were implemented during the biennium. However, as part of the work plan of MED POL for the coming biennium, a number of preparatory activities are now proposed to be implemented in view of their inclusion in the Mediterranean GEF Project (see doc. UNEP(OCA)MED WG.161/3).

ANNEX

During the workshop for experts on *Compliance and enforcement of legislation in the Mediterranean for control of pollution resulting from land-based sources and activities*, a request was made for the provision of more information on networks dealing with compliance and enforcement of legislation, and the statistical evaluation of the questionnaires related to the country reports presented during the workshop.

1. Information on networks:

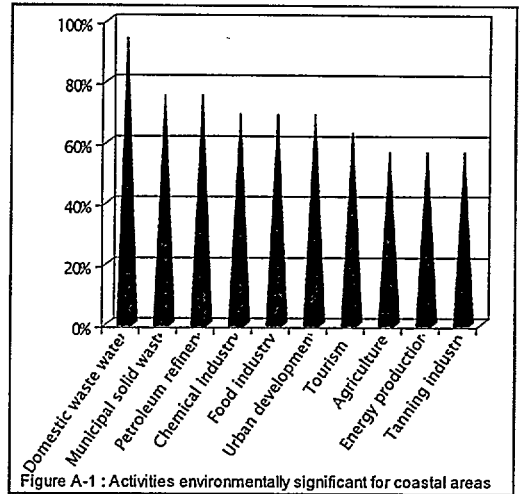
- International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE)
The INECE network started on a global scale in 1990 with the participation of more than 95 countries, 20 institutes and NGOs.
- Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL)
This network, which started in 1991, is a network of member states of the European Union and is in full operation.
- North Africa/West Africa - International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (NAWA-INECE)
This is in the initial starting phase, with Egypt as one the main promoters.
- Informal cooperative networks of environmental inspectors in the UN/ECE region, such as the European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law in Accession Countries (IMPEL-AC), and a network for environmental inspectors in the region of central and eastern Europe and Central Asia, are currently in the preparatory stages of establishment.
- Similar networks are emerging in other parts of the world (Asia, Latin America, North/Middle Africa).

2. Evaluation of the questionnaires

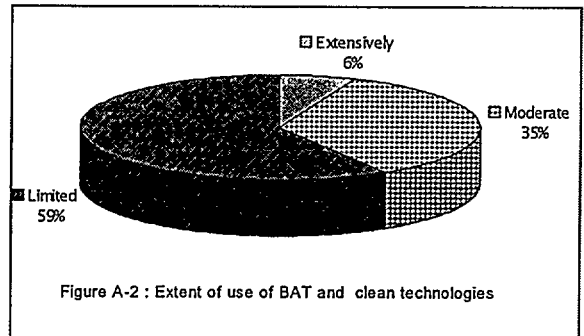
A. Background information on activities

According to the available data from the questionnaires and from the country reports the following resulted:

- (a) The most environmentally significant activities in the Mediterranean area according to the answers of the countries. The ten most environmentally significant activities for the Mediterranean coastal areas are in decreasing order the following (see fig A-1): domestic wastewater (94%), petroleum refinery (75%), urban development (75%), municipal solid waste (75%), chemical industry (75%), food industry (75%), tourism (69%), energy production (56%), agriculture (56%) and tanning industry (56%).



- (b) **The extent of use of BAT and clean technologies** in the Mediterranean countries. 59% of the countries (10 countries from a total of 17) indicate that the use of BAT and clean technologies in their territories is limited. The remaining countries (Israel Italy, Malta, Morocco, Slovenia, and Tunisia) answered that the use of these technologies in their countries is moderate (see fig A-2).



- (c) The **state of the environment** in the Mediterranean countries regarding seawater and inland water quality as well as the protection of habitats (see also fig A-3).

Seawater quality for most of the countries (about 70% - 12 out of 17 countries) is considered good and, in one case, excellent, while four declare that it is moderate and only one that it is poor.

Although the inland water quality generally could be characterized as good, only seven countries answered good; five of them answered "moderate", two poor and one answered "not known". The protection of habitats could be generally evaluated as moderate since a proportion (about 40%) of the countries have answered to this effect. Meanwhile 24% answered good, 12% answered excellent, 12% poor and one county answered "not known".

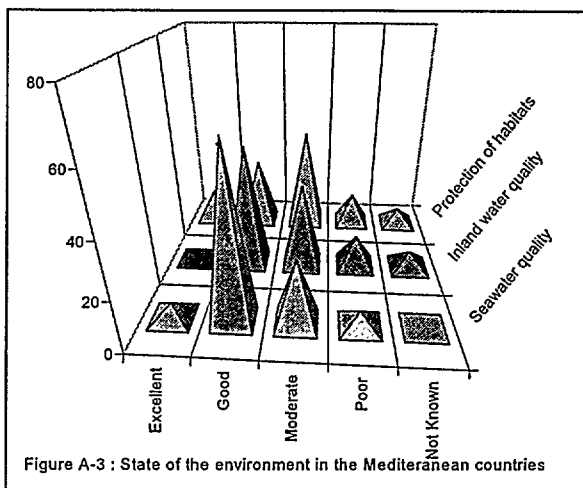


Figure A-3 : State of the environment in the Mediterranean countries

(d) Sectors for which a periodic **environmental monitoring** system is being implemented in Mediterranean countries. Almost the 88% of the countries have a monitoring system for seawater quality and 82% for inland water quality. 75% control domestic wastewater disposal. 70% have a monitoring system for industrial wastewater, 50% for industrial solid waste, 41% for municipal solid waste, 35% for urban development and 20% for the incineration of wastes (see fig A-4).

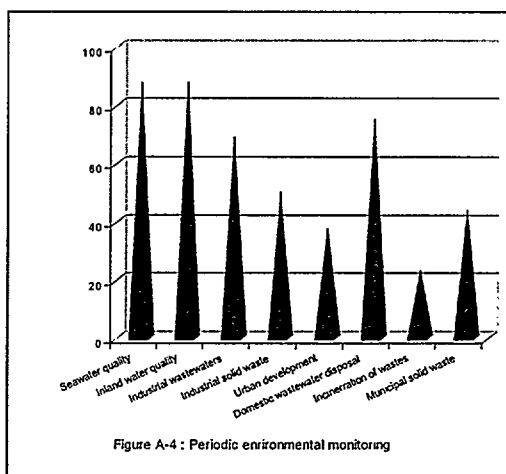


Figure A-4 : Periodic environmental monitoring

(e) **Public awareness on environmental problems** and the **influence of NGOs on decision-making**.... 58% of the countries answered that public awareness could be assumed as moderate, and that the NGOs influence decision-making. 18% indicate that public awareness is high but in only one country do NGOs play an active role in decision-making, as they often influence the decision-makers. For the remainder of the countries it appears that public awareness is weak and that the decision-makers are rarely influenced by the NGOs (see fig A-5a and fig. A-5b).

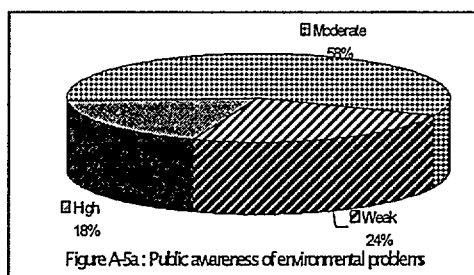


Figure A-5a : Public awareness of environmental problems

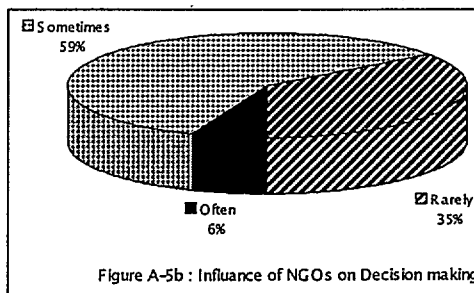


Figure A-5b : Influence of NGOs on Decision making

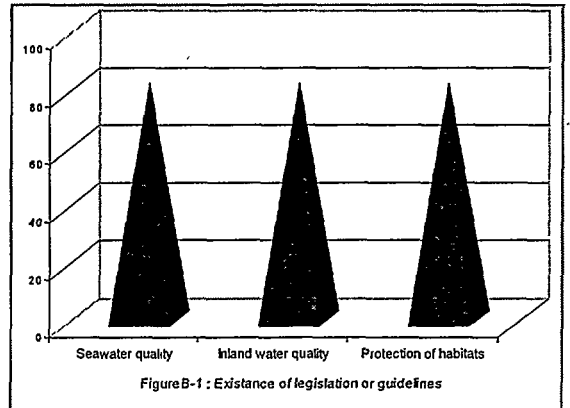
It should be underlined that although in some countries public awareness is high (Cyprus, Greece and Lebanon), decision-making is influenced by the NGOs only occasionally and, in one case, rarely. Furthermore, although in some countries

public awareness is weak, the NGOs sometimes influence decision-making (as is the case in Algeria and Egypt).

B. Legislation

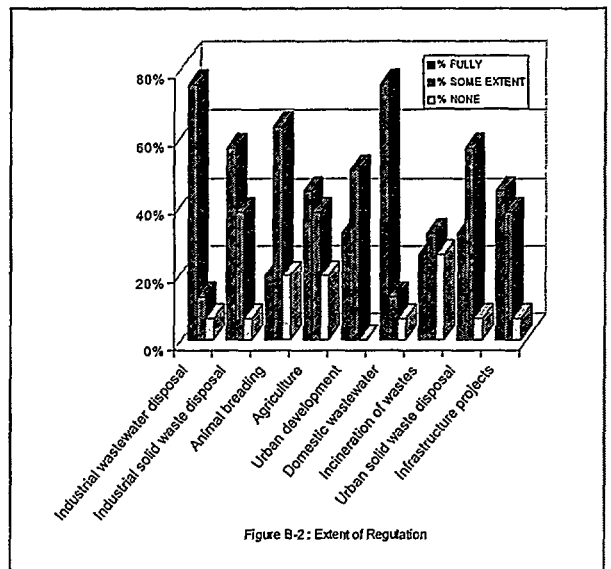
The **existence of framework laws** on the environment in Mediterranean countries. 70% of the countries (12 countries out of 17) affirm the existence of a framework law on the environment. The remainder of the countries either are in the process of adopting an appropriate legislative instrument in order to improve environmental management, or have issued framework laws on different environmental sectors.

- (a) It should be mentioned that despite the absence of framework laws on the environment in some countries, they have developed **legislation or guidelines** for the main environmental parameters, such as seawater quality, inland water quality and the protection of habitats. 82% of the countries have legislation or guidelines for the above mentioned parameters (see fig. B-1).



- (b) Extent of existence of **legislation and guidelines for the regulation of main environmentally significant activities** (also fig.B-2):

- Almost all the countries (about 80%) have a full system of legislation and guidelines which cover most emissions and activities concerning industrial and domestic wastewater. The remainder of the countries have developed a limited system of regulations for this subject (about 13% of the countries). For some countries there are no available data.

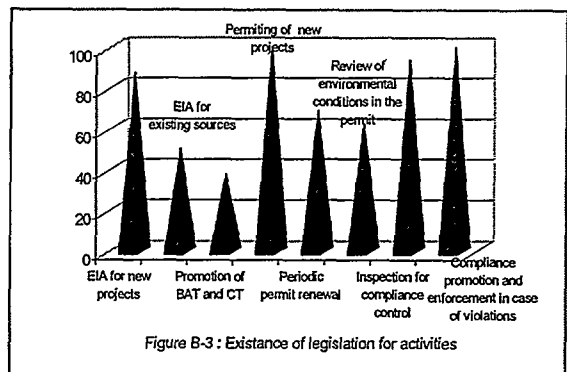


- About 60% of the countries have a full system of regulation for industrial solid waste disposal. The rest have a limited system and one country indicates the absence of regulations of this nature.
- Most of the countries have a system of regulation for agriculture and infrastructure projects. 45% have a full system and a 40% have a limited system of regulations. The remainder of the countries indicate the absence of this kind of system (about 7%). For the remaining countries there are no available data.

- For urban activities such as urban development and urban solid waste disposal, the level of existence of legislation or guidelines is limited. Only in 30% of the countries do relative regulations exist for the majority of sources. In over 50% of the countries there is legislation and/or guidelines on a few critical aspects, and only one country does not have a relative regulation system.
- The incineration of wastes and animal breeding are the activities with the least extensive application of relative guidelines or legislation.

(c) The **existence of legislation on:** EIA, permitting systems, promotion of BAT, inspection and promotion of compliance and enforcement after violations. (See fig B-3):

- 82% of the countries (14 countries out of 17) have **legislation for EIA** for new projects, but only half of them have relative legislation for the existing sources.



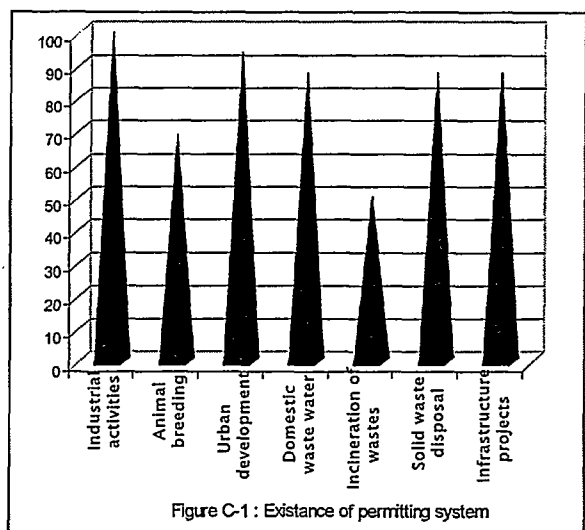
- All countries have **legislation on permitting** for new projects and 12 of them have legislation providing periodic permit renewal. On the other hand almost the 2/3 of these countries (10 out of 17) have legislation providing for the review of environmental conditions in the permit.
- As for **inspection for compliance control** all the countries except Bosnia have relative legislation.
- Half of the countries have developed a legislation frame for the promotion of BAT and clean technologies.

C. Permitting

From answers concerning the existence and the effectiveness of a permitting system in Mediterranean countries, the following are derived:

The majority of countries have implemented a **permitting system** for environmentally significant activities. From the elaboration of the questionnaires the following can be seen (see fig C-1):

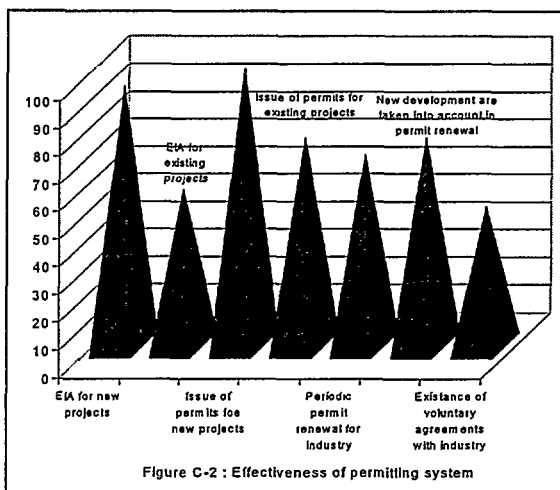
- All countries have a permitting system for industrial activities.
- Almost all countries (94%) have a permitting system for urban development.



- About 88% of the countries (15 out of 17 countries) have developed a permitting system for domestic waste water, solid waste disposal and infrastructure projects.
- 64% (11 out of 17 countries) have elaborated a permitting system for animal breeding.
- Half of the countries (50%) have a permitting system for incineration of waste.

(a) The established **permitting system** generally appears to be reasonably **effective** for most of the countries (see fig C-2).

- In almost all the countries (94%) EIA has been applied to new projects. Meanwhile EIA for existing projects has been implemented in 52% of the countries.
- All countries have issued permits for specific new projects. However in 76% of the countries permits have been issued for existing projects and only in 70% of the countries does a periodic permit renewal for industrial activities exist.



- Finally, in half of the countries (50%) state that they have made voluntary agreements with industry.

(b) Most of the countries consent to public access to environmental information. Access to information about the state of the environment is possible in 64% of the countries (11 out of 17). Access to information on industrial wastes and permitting conditions is possible in 70% of the countries (12 out of 17).

It is noted that in two countries (Malta and Turkey), public access to environmental information is not foreseen.

D. Compliance and enforcement

- (a) **Compliance is promoted** in the majority of the countries. 15 countries out of 16¹ that answered to the relative question (almost 93%) gave a positive answer, although it is not clear to what extent.
- (b) In all the countries **special inspections** are made of industrial plants **for the control of compliance before start up**. Although in 53% of the countries these inspections are always carried out, in the remaining 47% inspections only take place occasionally. Meanwhile, in 30% of the countries inspections are only made occasionally, even after complaints, and in the remaining 70% they are always made after complaints.

¹ One country did not answer this question

- (c) Extent of **periodic inspections for activities with permits**. In all Mediterranean countries periodic inspections of industrial plants are carried out. In 60% of the countries periodic inspections are carried out for all industrial plants and in the remaining 40% periodic inspections are carried out for some of them. For other activities, such as animal breeding and urban development, periodic inspections are made in 56%

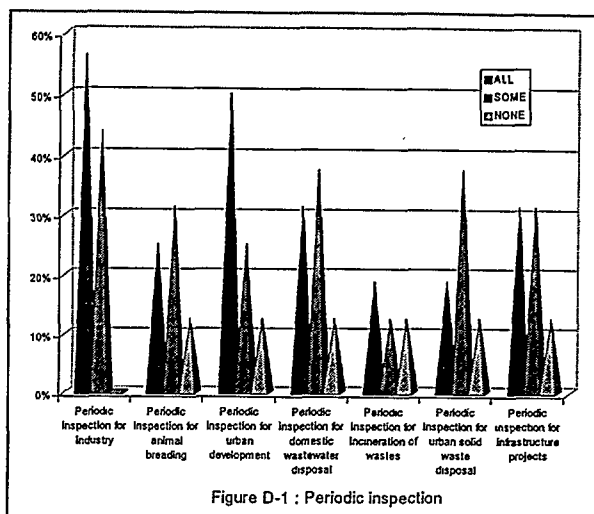


Figure D-1 : Periodic inspection

of the countries; for domestic wastewater and infrastructure projects in 65% of the countries; for urban solid waste disposal in about 60% of the countries and for incineration of wastes in 35% of the countries (see fig D-1).

- (d) Most of the countries have **systematic actions, which are taken after the verification of violations**. (Only three countries have no systematic action). Almost all countries apply an administrative response and re-inspection for corrective actions (94% and 82% respectively, and 71% of them put into practice a criminal prosecution procedure (see fig D-2).

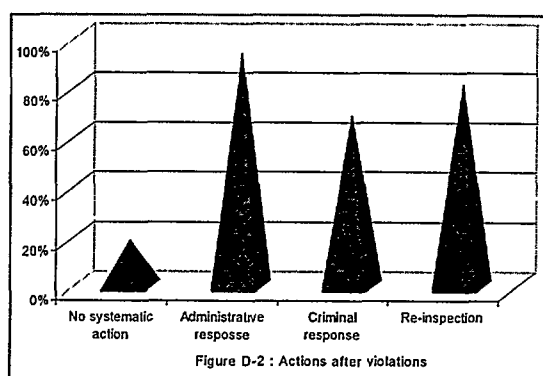


Figure D-2 : Actions after violations

- (e) In almost all Mediterranean countries a **system for the assessment** exists for some parameters **of the state of the environment**. 94% of the countries have a system for the assessment of water quality, 70% have one for the protection of habitats and 58% have implemented a system for industrial emissions (see fig D-3).

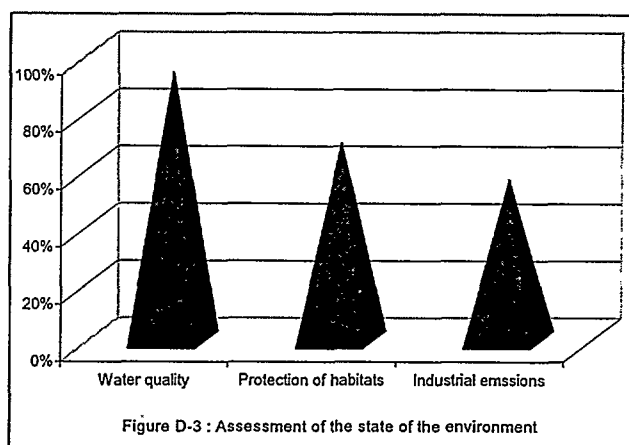


Figure D-3 : Assessment of the state of the environment

E. Conclusions

The most environmentally significant activities in Mediterranean countries are urban activities (mostly domestic wastewater and municipal solid waste), industrial activities, agriculture and tourism.

For the above mentioned activities legislation systems or guidelines exist but the extent of these systems varies. The existing legislative systems cover industrial activities and domestic wastewater in almost all the countries but at different levels of practice. Moreover, some countries have limited legislation and regulation system or, in some cases, have no relative systems for activities that are considered as environmentally significant.

For the main environmental sectors that are affected by these activities and especially for water quality a periodic environmental monitoring system exists in the majority of the countries which has to be expanded. On the other hand there are sectors where the development of a monitoring system is moderate and in some cases (e.g. incineration of wastes) is limited.

Furthermore, the state of the environment, according to available data, can be generally considered satisfactory. Concerning seawater quality, only one country states that it is poor and over of 80% of the countries affirm that it is good. On the other hand, the quality of inland water and the protection of habitats seem to be lower. It should be noted that 80% of the countries have legislation guidelines for these sectors.

Almost 50% of the countries have developed a legislation frame for the promotion of Best Available Technologies and clean technologies; however, in 40% of the countries the use of BAT and of clean technologies is considered as moderate.

Public awareness and the participation of the public in decision-making are at a satisfactory level but need to be promoted, especially in countries where public participation seems to be weak. This is related to the availability of environmental information to the public. It should be noted that in 30% of the countries the public does not have access to environmental information.

All countries have a legislative system on permitting for new projects but only 50% of them have relative legislation for existing sources. The same applies to the EIA process and the inspection for compliance control.

The existing permitting systems seem to be effective for new projects but have not been sufficiently developed for the existing sources.

The existence of voluntary agreements with industries is limited.

Almost all countries promote and control compliance in industries before start up. However, inspections for the control of compliance are made only occasionally in 50% of the countries. In 30% of the countries inspections are made only occasionally, even after complaints on violations.

The practice of periodic inspections for activities with permits is common in almost all Mediterranean countries, mostly for industrial plants and less for other activities (such as animal breeding, urban development etc.)