

**WATER WEB Water resources strategies and drought alleviation  
in western Balkan agriculture**

**FP6 – INCO\_CT2004-509163**  
**<http://www.waterweb.dk/WaterWeb.asp>**

**Communication**

**Role of local and traditional knowledge with science**

2. How have the ideas, skills and tools developed through the project enhanced the development or implementation of locally consistent IWRM?

The new deficit irrigation (DI) methods can easily be integrated in the irrigation of crops in Macedonia. The Waterweb project will facilitate the implementation of new technologies.

**Take up by managers, policy makers, educators**

Stakeholder visits to the research sites will address this issue.

Farmer stakeholders show interest for the new methods of irrigation, first of all as a new way with the possibility for better water management. Also the environmental NGOs are interested for the environmental aspects. Besides, the farmers who are members of the newly formed Water Communities are specially interested in saving water.

Trials in Portugal have been carried out in a commercial vineyard, so the information goes directly to stakeholders. ITQB give technical support on irrigation issues in vineyards to ATEVA (Association of Viticulturists from Alentejo).

**Take up by managers, policy makers, educators**

We are in permanent contact with policy makers through contacts with the representatives of the Ministries for Agriculture, Environment, Education and Science.

**Contribution to capacity building legacy**

Not yet, but we plan for sustainability by passing on expertise to permanent staff.

**Longer-term institutional cooperation**

Too early to say.

**Enduring legacy of the project (political, social, economic, scientific, and connections to traditional knowledge)**

Farm owners, who are at the same time managers, show interest, but more time is needed for evaluating the results. The Waterweb project has had multiple significance in Macedonia. The first being economic, followed by social, scientific and indirectly political. Waterweb in Macedonia has been laid some ground for a lasting cooperation between the science community, water communities, farmers and NGO's.

**Local, 'grass-root' experience that would be valuable as case material for the WWF4 discussions?**

Recommendations arising from the experience of having (or not) impact on discourse and action outside science to be taken into account for future research (e.g. FP7)

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No not yet