

# STRIVER Conference

## Integrated Water Resources Management in Theory and Practice

28-29 May 2009

Brussels, Belgium



Strategy and Methodology for Improved IWRM –

An Integrated Interdisciplinary Assessment in Four Twinning River Basins

# STRIVER Conference:

## Integrated Water Resources Management in Theory and Practice

Brussels, 28-28 May, 2009

This open international conference provide an arena for discussions around recent findings in the field of integrated water resources management (IWRM). Besides 45 oral presentations in plenary or parallell sessions, the conference include break-out working groups and a panel discussion.

The blend of representatives and oral presentations from highly qualified research institutes, universities, international water organizations (e.g., SIWI, GWP, UN-ECE, UNESCO, Mekong River Commission), water managers and the European Commission show the high interest in the conference and the IWRM topic.

The conference covers the following topics

- The Science-Policy integration
- IWRM tools and methodologies
- Stakeholders and public participation
- Scenarios as a tool for water management
- Transboundary water management
- Climate change impacts on IWRM
- Water governance

Specific IWRM-problems such as Pollution models, Environmental flows, Land and water interactions will also be covered. Case basin results will also be presented, covering a wide geographical spectrum of the world. This conference will also summarize the major findings from the EC-funded FP6 twinning project STRIVER.

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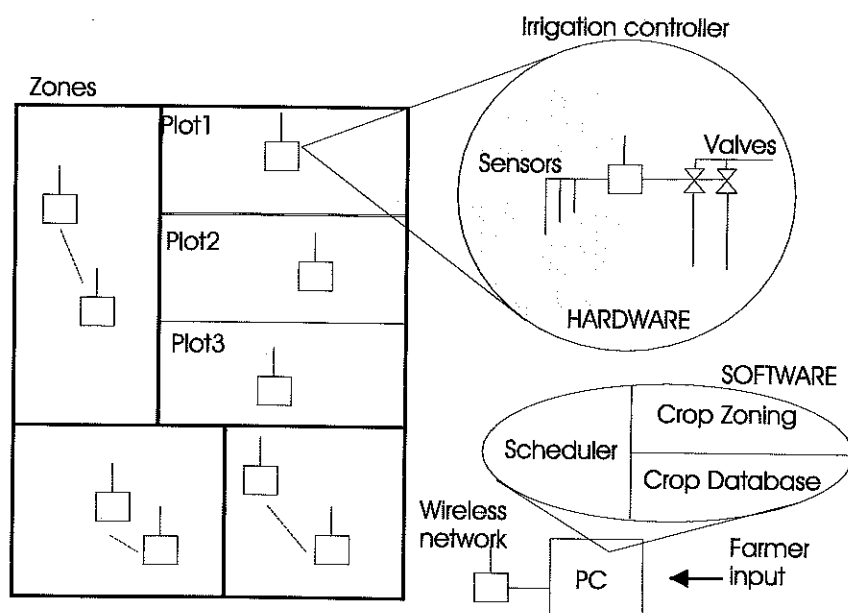


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# FLOW-AID, a farm level tool for irrigation management under deficit conditions: Preliminary case study results

Jos Balendonck, Alberto Pardossi, Hakki Tuzel, Yuksel Tüsel, Munir Rusan & Fadi Karam

FLOW-AID is a 6th Framework European project which started in 2006. Its objective is to contribute to sustainability of irrigated agriculture by developing, testing in relevant conditions, and then optimizing an irrigation management system that can be used at farm level. The system will be used in situations where there is a limited water supply and water quality, generally indicated as deficit irrigation. The work integrates innovative sensor technologies into a decision support system for irrigation management, taking into consideration relevant factors in a number of Mediterranean countries. Its specific objectives are to develop and test new and innovative, but simple and affordable, technical hardware and software concepts for irrigation under deficit, at farms in a large variety of set-ups and constraints. It focuses on a maintenance free tensiometer; wireless, low-power sensor networks; an expert system to assist farm zoning and crop planning, in view of expected water availability, amount and quality; and a short-term irrigation scheduling module that allocates available water among several plots and schedules irrigation for each one (Figure 1). The concepts are evaluated in four test-sites, located in Italy, Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan, where the large future market for deficit irrigation systems is. The case studies are chosen in such a way that they differ in the type of constraints, irrigation structures, crop types, local water supplies, availability of water and water sources in amount and quality, the local goals, and their complexity. This paper will give an introduction on the FLOW-AID system as a total, and will further present the pre-liminary results obtained during growing season in 2007-2008.



**Figure 1** – Water management system for farm level irrigation under deficit irrigation (FLOW-AID).