

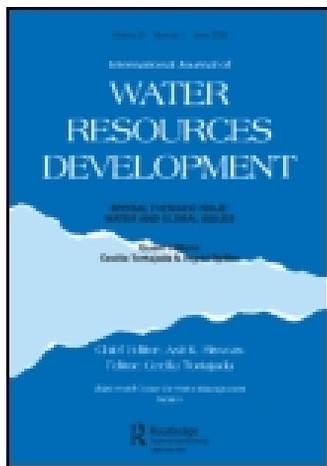
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## Conference Reports

### **International Conference on Land and Water Resources Management in the Mediterranean Region**

*Mai-Bari, Italy 4–8 September 1994*

An International Conference on Land and Water Resources Management in the Mediterranean Region was held in Bari (Italy) during the period 4–8 September 1994 and was organized by the CIHEAM-Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari in cooperation with IWRA and Water Research Center of Cairo, Egypt. The Conference attracted the attention of more than 250 participants from 50 countries and international and non-governmental organizations. Some 115 papers were presented in topics related to:

- water resources management in the Mediterranean region;
- irrigation techniques and management;
- salinity and saline irrigation practices and management;
- integrated land and water resources management;
- water harvesting and soil conservation;
- environmental aspects of water and land resources;
- waste water reuse;
- capacity building and farmers' participation.

The Conference came up with several recommendations among which are the following:

- (1) Integrated land and water planning and management requires extensive re-evaluation of academic programmes and education of transfer agents or extension advisers who truly understand the holistic approaches to the long-term sustainable use of the land and water.
- (2) There is a need to develop a global Mediterranean strategy for sustainable development, protection and use of land and water resources.
- (3) NGOs such as IWRA and other professional NGOs concerned with the environment and water should be enlisted to utilize their network of members to enhance the sustainability of water, soils and other natural resources.
- (4) Comprehensive impact studies are needed to assess the value or otherwise of major water development facilities.
- (5) Small demonstration projects for desalination of brackish waters should be undertaken to determine actual costs in areas remote from fresh water supplies.
- (6) Considering the need to provide more and more water to satisfy the increasing requirements of the people in arid and semi-arid regions, water