











#### 4th BEIRUT WATER WEEK

Technological Tools and Financing Mechanisms for IWRM: Complementing Hydro-diplomacy & Climate Change Adaptation Efforts

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# A Decision Support System for River Basin Management Insights on the MED EUWI service contract activities in Lebanon

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# Introduction

- Lebanon: 40 rivers and main water courses
  - 17 river-basins (area of around 8000 Km²).
- Two major aquifer-systems (coastal/inland)
  - 30 hydrogeological units or aquifer subdivisions
- Prevailing Mediterranean and semi-arid climates limit precipitation to the winter season
  - result in the seasonality of most rivers
- The geology of the country (i.e. karst system) results in little amount of groundwater available for exploitation
  - increased stress on the accessible water sources

# **Environmental dilemma**

- Water scarcity is believed to be one of the main problems currently facing the country
- The current situation is characterized by:
  - the limitation of water sources,
  - Increased water demands by all sectors
    - · diminishing water availability,
    - · increased pressure on the water sources, and
    - · amplified competition between users
- Socio-economic development putting increased pressures on resources
  - population growth,
  - increased economic activity, and
  - increased urbanization trends
- Pollution of water resources
  - associated to human and agricultural activities and industrial processes,
  - water pollution is contributing to water scarcity
    - reducing the availability and usability of water
- Projected climate change/variability and recurring drought periods are putting additional concerns on the sustainability of the water system

# Institutional & Management Limitations

### There is a lack in

- the collection and distribution of hydrologic and water resources data/information
- the quantification and qualification of surface and ground water resources nationwide
- water governance and legislative and institutional frameworks
  - inadequacy in the development of management and planning practices, and
  - inadequacy in the development of proper water plans

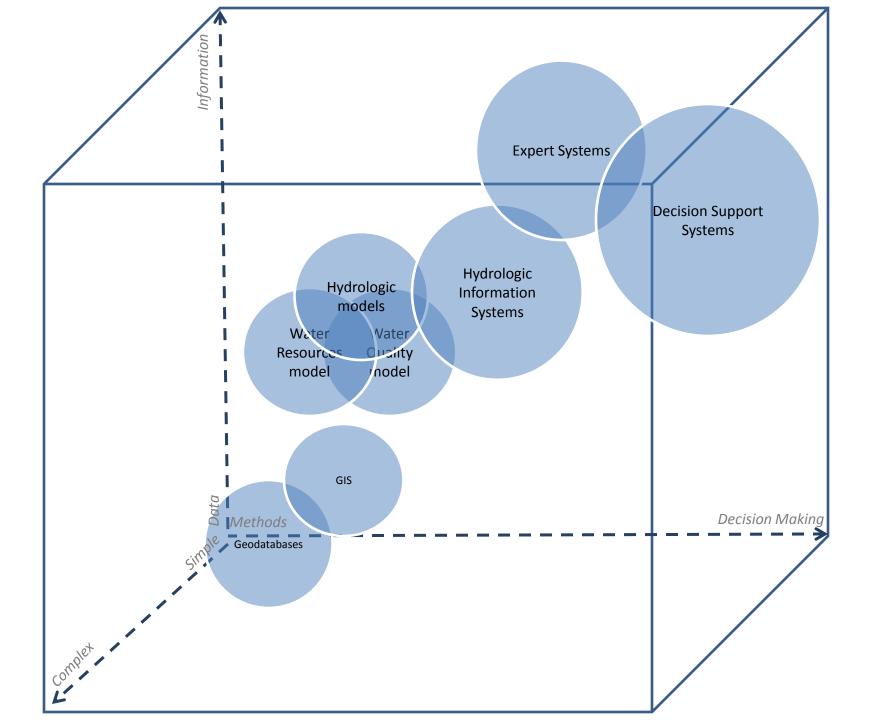
# Objectives

# MED EUWI Project for Lebanon

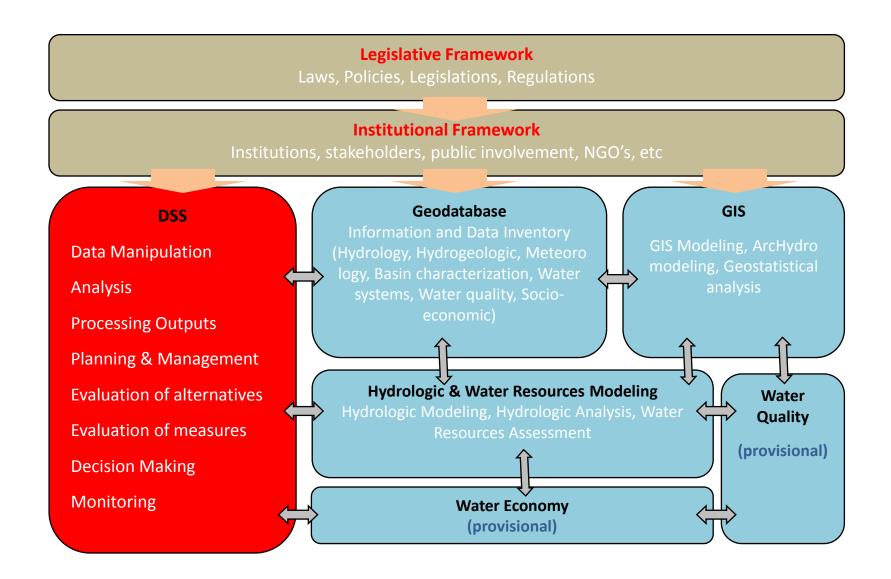
(Oct, 2011 – Dec, 2012)

- Develop a DSS for River Basin Management
  - The model is intended to establish an integrated modeling approach that supports watershed hydrology, water resources management/ planning and scenario evaluation in a single model framework
    - emphasis on the use of a coupled semi-distributed hydrologic and water resources model
    - assess water balance (e.g. runoff, evaporation, recharge, etc)
    - identify water resources use/ management (e.g., agricultural water demand, domestic and industrial water demand, water supply systems, water sources, etc);
    - formulate future scenarios
      - social/agricultural projections (e.g. population growth, increased irrigation),
      - change in management (e.g. develop scenarios that presents different alternatives), and
      - environmental (e.g. recurring drought, climate change)





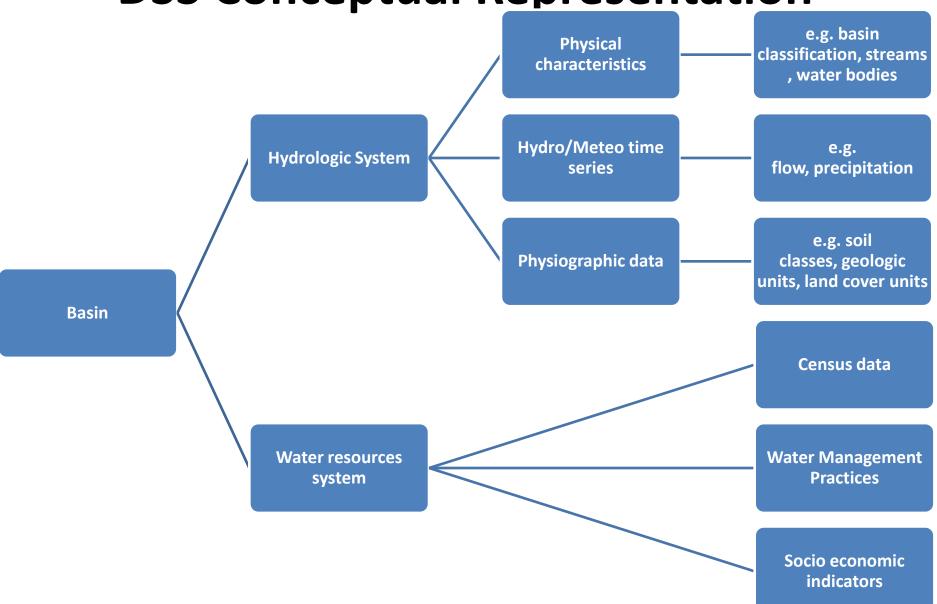
## **DSS Framework for RBM**

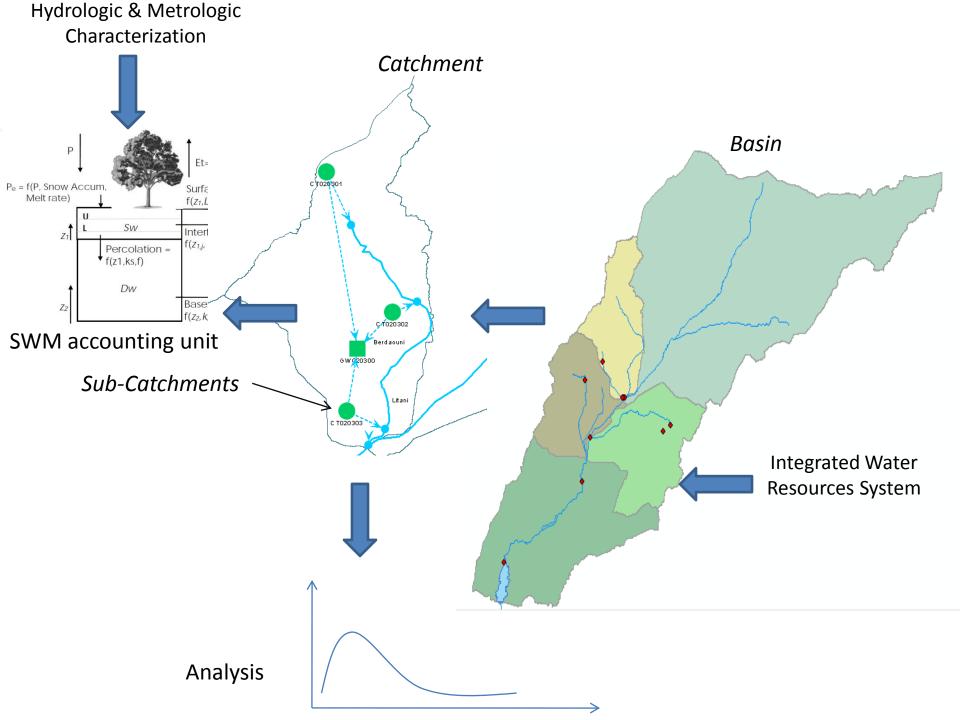


# **DSS Modeling Component: SEI-WEAP!**

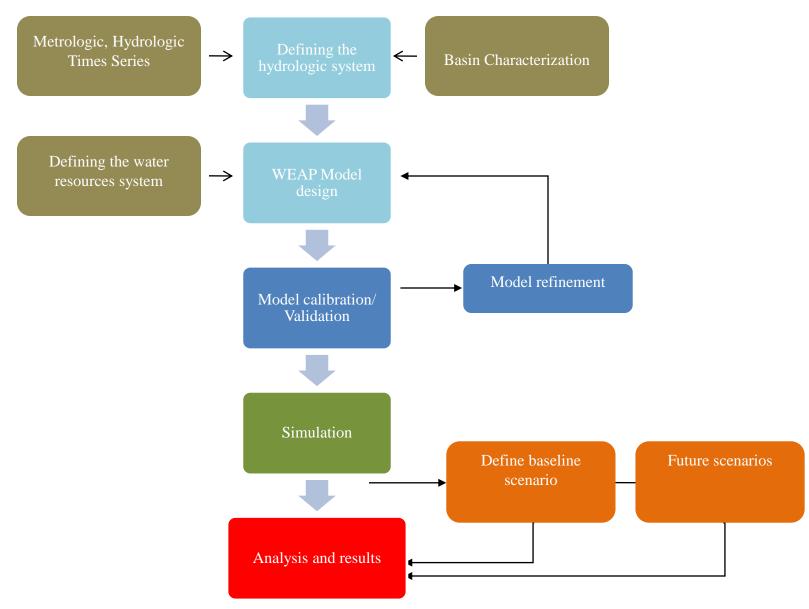
- Fully integrated watershed analysis tool
- Water Balance Simulation
  - Different water balance models
- Simulation model with flexible representation of the water systems (hydrologic cycle) and water resources use (demand/supply)
- Priority-driven water allocation modeling
  - Water supply, Reservoirs, Hydropower
  - Water Quality (with link to QUAL2K)
  - Groundwater (with link to MODFLOW)
- Supports scenario investigations for planning and policy analysis
  - Management scenarios
  - Climate change impacts
- Financial routines

**DSS Conceptual Representation** 

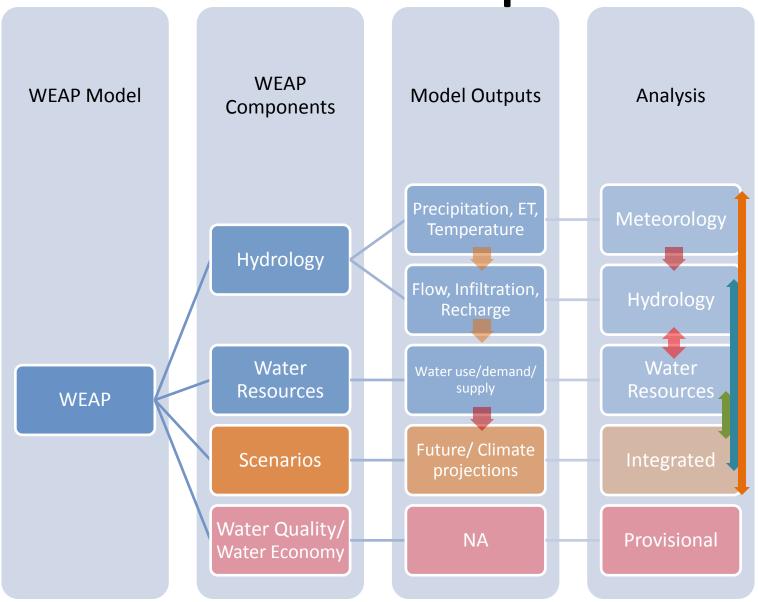


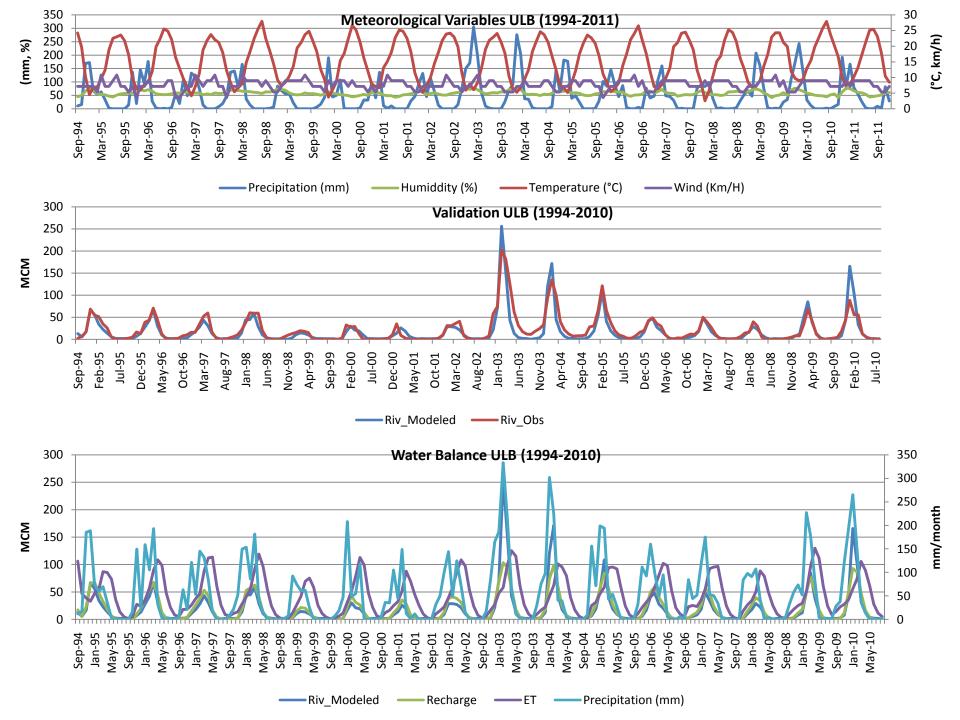


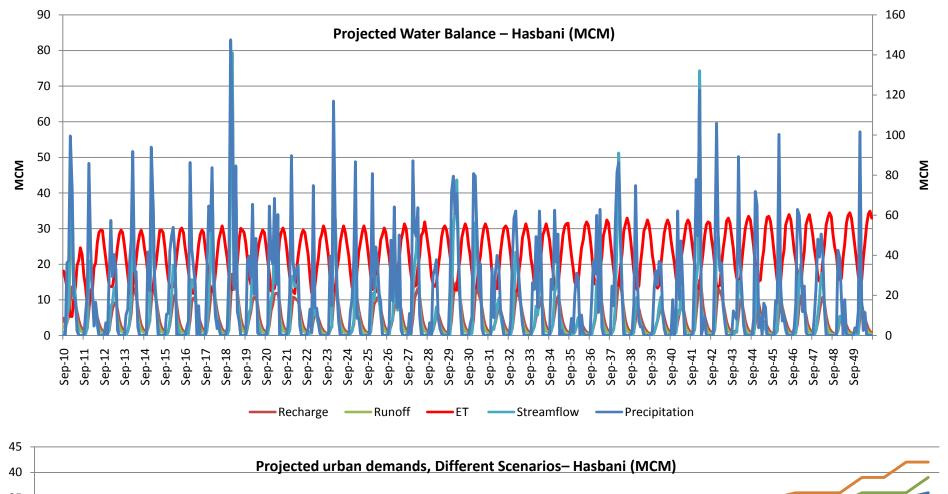
## Model formulation and simulation

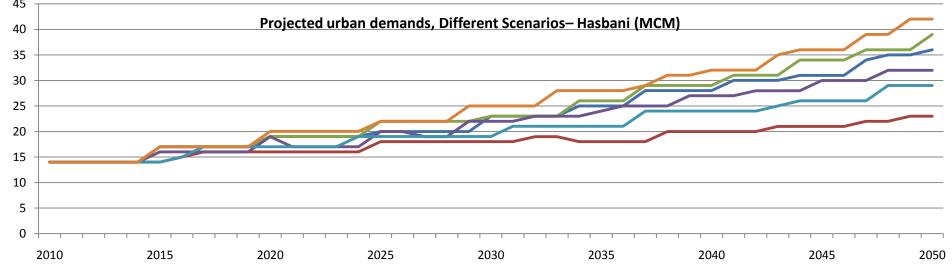


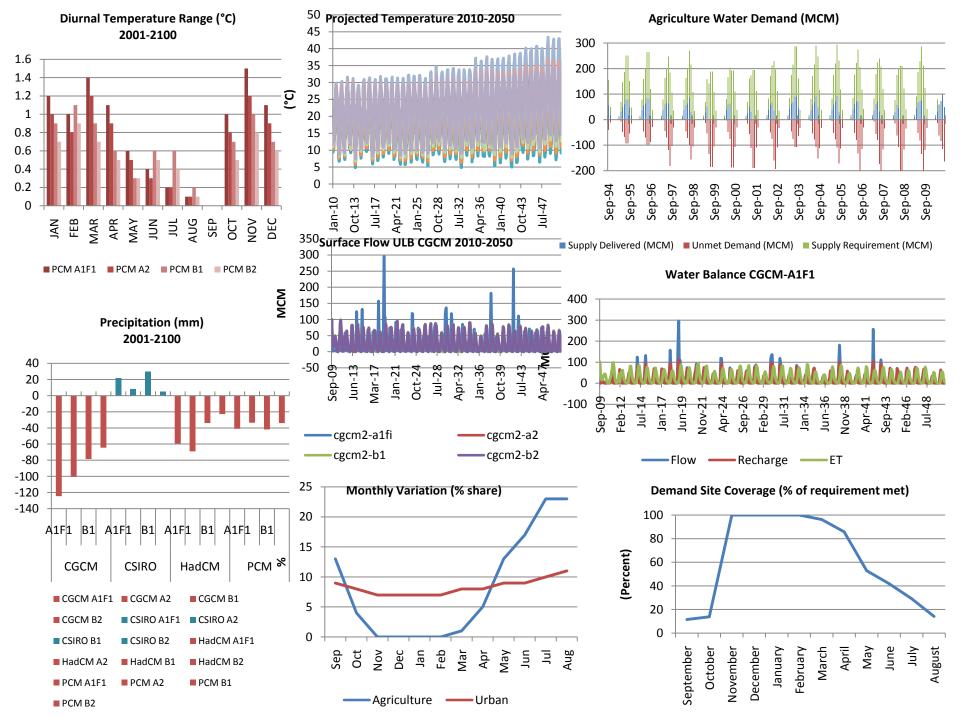
**DSS – WEAP Component** 











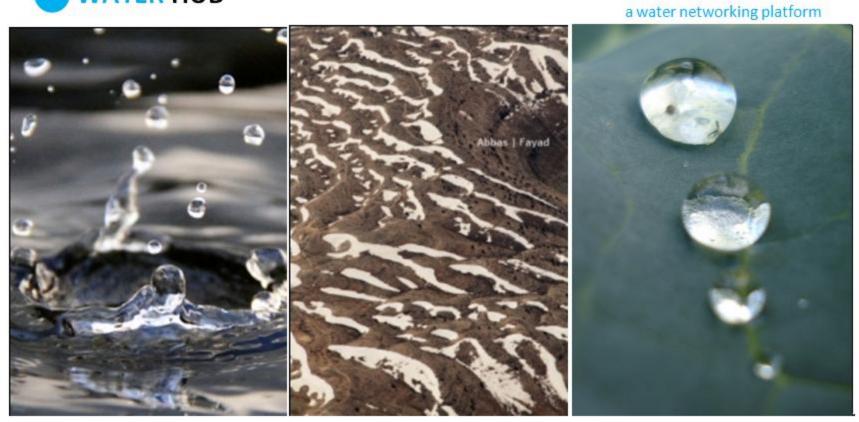
# The Way Forward

## Beyond The MED EUWI Project for Lebanon

- Future work would focus on:
  - Identification of direct stresses
    - water shortage, pollution
  - Identification of major drivers
    - natural (e.g. drought),
    - man-made (e.g. pollution)
  - Identification of indirect impacts
    - human health, overexploitation of resources, degradation of environment/ecosystem
  - Recognizing of long-term potential impacts
    - cultural deterioration, land degradation, biodiversity loss
  - Emphasizing driving forces
    - natural, social, economical/capital, etc

agricultural alternatives analysis availability balance basin change characterization climate data decision defining demand development drought dss etc evaluation flow framework future gis groundwater hydrologic identification impacts increased information institutional integrated legislative management model outputs planning pollution precipitation pressure projected quality resources river scenarios simulation socio-economic sources supply supports system water





http://www.waterhub.net