

# Cyprus



## The Tamassos area

The Tamassos area is located in a zone of great archaeological significance in the central area of Cyprus, approximately 21 kilometres southwest of the capital city of Nicosia.

To achieve the enrichment/tackle the depletion of the **deep water** aquifer in the area, to increase the **quantity of drinking water** available and to alleviate the **occasional flooding** that occurs in the Tamassos area, the **Community Boards of villages** in the vicinity of the Dam (Pera Orinis, Pano Deftera, Kato Deftera, Episkopio, Politiko, Anayia, Ergates, and Psimolophou) proposed to **build a Dam**. In fact, this initiative/appeal to the relevant authorities originated in the 1940s: the **Water Development Department (WDD)**. The Water Development Department agreed to undertake a **Technical Feasibility Study**, so as to determine whether the Dam was necessary, and-if it is indeed needed- what type of dam it should be.

The Decision-making followed an **interactive process**, where every effort was made to arrive at an outcome satisfactory to all **stakeholders**: they were **formally involved** and gave their contribution in all the phases of the analysis.

The **WDD determined** that the dam should be of the "enrichment" type, and its sole purpose would be the collection of rainwater for the enrichment of the deep-water aquifer.

The **farmers can however draw water** from the Dam on an occasional basis (in Pera Orinis continuous abstraction is allowed to compensate for the destruction of a chain of wells), once sufficient quantities of rainwater had been collected for the enrichment of the deep-water aquifer.



## DSS tools and approaches in Cyprus

*Since the foundation of the Republic of Cyprus in 1960, the water management policies have constantly evolved. Mechanisms are being continuously adapted as progresses in knowledge (i.e. monitoring data related to the pattern of water use and changes) take place.*

*There has been no systematic endeavor to develop DSS tools in Cyprus but rather DSS approaches, as explained in this leaflet.*

*DSS tools could however be useful for this kind of processes by providing for instance support to the communication activities.*

**Keywords:** Technical Feasibility Study, Groundwater, Public participation

**Further readings:** See the NOSTRUM-DSS *Cypriot National Report*, available at <http://www.nostrum-dss.eu>  
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