

GREECE

The two rounds of the Greek stakeholder consultations were organized by the Institute of Geology and Mineral Exploration (EKBA-IGME) in collaboration with the Technical University of Crete (TUC) and took place in Athens, on the 7th February (Fig. 1) and on 13th June 2014 (Fig. 2) respectively. More than 90 participants took part in both events representing the Industry and Industry Associations, Planning Authorities and Academic Institutions.

Aims of the consultations:

- ✦ To disseminate information regarding SNAP-SEE project;
- ✦ To increase capacity of stakeholders on key concepts such as SARM & SSM;
- ✦ To collect ideas and suggestions on how to solve the most challenging problems related to aggregates planning;
- ✦ To discuss the major concerns of the industry and define topics for which solutions should be sought;
- ✦ To discuss and receive input on how the Greek aggregates planning scheme could be improved in order to make planning for aggregates sustainable on the regional/local level;
- ✦ To discuss good practices from other European countries;.



Fig. 1. The 1st Greek consultation took place on 7th February in Athens.



Fig. 2. The 2nd Greek consultation, held on 13th June in Athens.

Main topics discussed:

- ✦ The SNAP-SEE project and the SARM and SSM concepts;
- ✦ The current practices in Aggregates' management;
- ✦ The aggregates' planning framework and the exploitation potential of secondary resources in Greece;
- ✦ The sustainable development of the aggregate sector
- ✦ The views of the industry;
- ✦ The aggregates quarrying areas: A tool to primary aggregates planning.

During the open discussions with all the participants specific topics were addressed that included open issues regarding:

- ✦ The collection and incorporation of all the existing separate laws, decisions and other relevant provisions, related to primary aggregate resources planning, into one unique legislative document;
- ✦ The importance and the potential of the extractive and industrial wastes as a secondary aggregate resource;
- ✦ The management of C&DW;
- ✦ Illegal quarrying and trading of aggregate products resulting from illegal quarrying activities;
- ✦ The tremendous understaffing of the extraction activities' controlling authorities.

Both consultation events were very successful and acknowledged as such by all the participants. During the open discussion sessions the participants had the opportunity to debate on open issues and challenges regarding aggregates' planning on national/regional level.

It was agreed that there are open issues in Greece, regarding sustainable aggregates planning. The SSM concept is not yet adopted in the aggregates management and supply policy. Aggregates' planning is not always supported by reliable and up to date data (e.g. demand forecasts are missing). Moreover, planning does not consider both primary and secondary aggregate resources, despite of the enforcement of the relative legislation regulating the management of extractive waste, C&DW and industrial waste. The authorities responsible for the inspection of extraction activities are severely understaffed and there is insufficient cooperation between the authorities responsible for the authorization and management of primary and secondary aggregate resources.

It was acknowledged by all that the results of the two rounds of consultation should be communicated to the Competent Planning Authorities. Prior to this, a thorough review will be carried out from a critical mass of participants.