



## Agenda

1. The EPAL System
2. Global View
3. The Program with W-SMART
4. Outcomes
5. Future Improvements
6. Final Remarks

# 1. The EPAL System

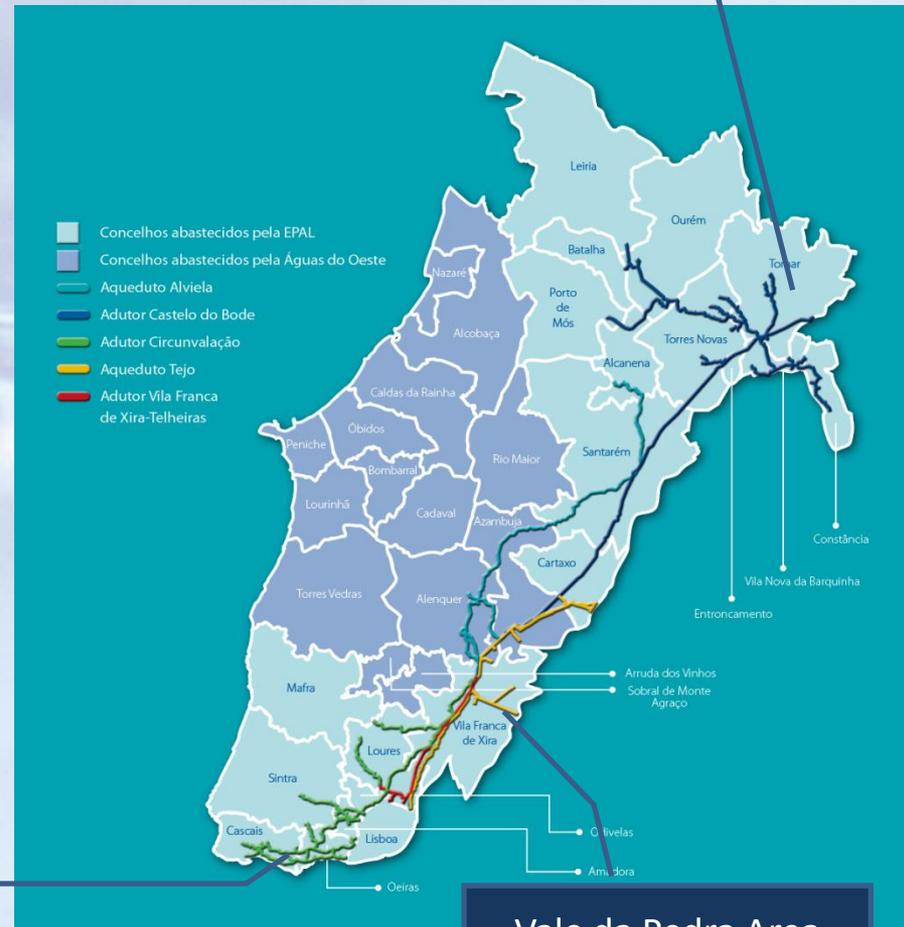
140 year company, supplying water to 350,000 clients in Lisbon and to 35 municipalities.

EPAL supplies water to more than 2.8 million consumers representing 30% of Portugal’s population.

The main facilities are located in Lisbon – a seismic city – the last big event was in 1755, with a magnitude approaching 9.0 on Richter scale and the next big earthquake is expected in the coming years.

EPAL’s mission: ensuring continuous supply of safe drinking water during routine and crisis events.

Asseiceira Area



Lisboa

Vale da Pedra Area

## 2. Global View - Water Resources and Climate Change in Portugal

### Hydrological Extremes Situation

- Floods - concentration of precipitation in shorter periods of time
- Droughts - longer periods and more intense

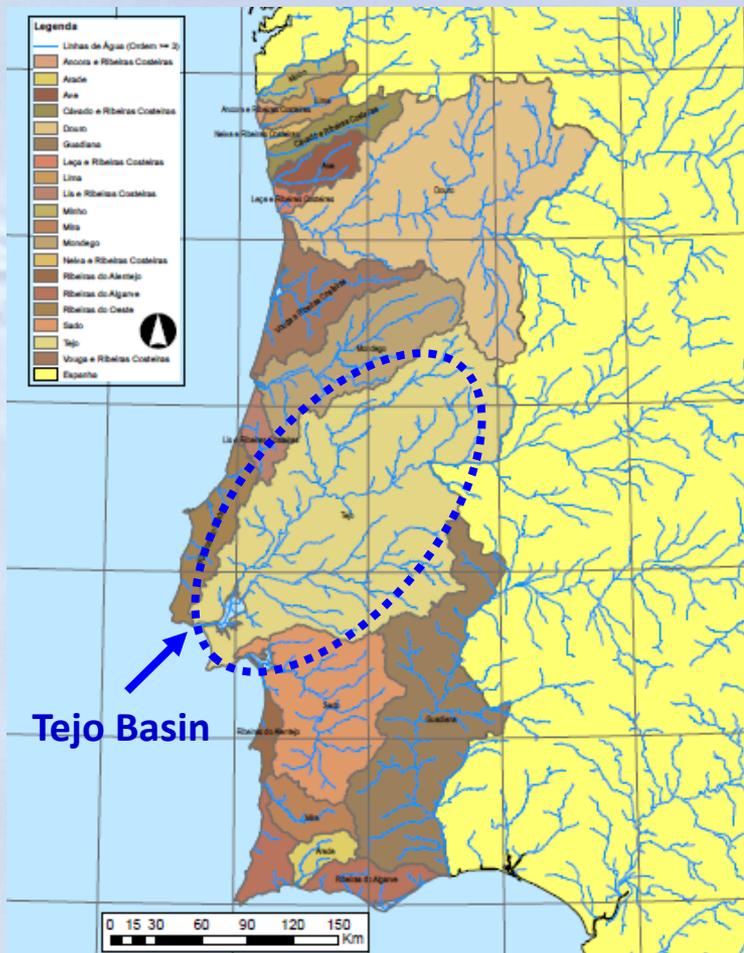
### Water Supply

- Unpredictable availability of water at sources
- Decrease of groundwater resources

### Water Quality

- Diminished dilution capacity of rivers streams, mainly in the dry periods of the year
- Increase in the biological productivity may lead to serious eutrophication problems already existing in Portugal.

## 2. Global View



### EPAL's Sources and Supply System

- The Castelo de Bode sub-system, commissioned in 1987, has a production capacity of 625,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day.
- The Tejo sub-system, commissioned in 1940, has a nominal capacity of daily production of 220,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day.
- Other sources, wells and springs, in operation with a nominal capacity about 265,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day.

## 2. Global View



### EPAL's Water Safety Plan

The implementation of WSP, is aimed at continuous improvement of services, reliability and inherent image of the Company to its customers.



### Main Ideas of the Water Safety Plan Project

- Ensuring the quality and quantity of drinking water supply
- Implementing “*best operational practices*” and preventive measures to manage the identified risks
- Preventive measures for improving public health
- Compliance with legal requirements and recommendations of World Health Organization
- Increased consumer confidence by improving the quality of water produced



### 3. What We Have Done with W-Smart Support

9 months project



#### **Preparation of Guidelines for crisis management in water events**

1<sup>st</sup> version - July 2009 until December 2009

2<sup>nd</sup> version - January 2010 and 3<sup>th</sup> version in March 2010

EPAL Team (Water Supply, Water Security, Water Quality, Maintenance and Asset Management)

#### **Training**

Workshop in 15 – 17<sup>th</sup> December for 36 technicians (4,5%)

Training Exercise in 21<sup>st</sup> January 2010 for 55 technicians (7%)

#### **Exercises**

Full-scale Exercise in 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010 for 76 technicians (9,5%)

## Why W-SMART?

**Offering best practice on water crisis management based on the assessment of the accumulative and diversified experience of W-SMART members**

**Commitment of W-SMART to the experience sharing of its members in order to upgrade security management capabilities of urban water supply.**

**Only water companies can understand the challenges and assist other water companies in improving their crisis management capacity.**

## *The W-SMART Team*

### Oversight committee

- Sion Cohen – Mekorot – Israel - Chair
- Jeff Swertfeger – GCWW - USA
- Bruno Nguyen – Eau de Paris – France

### Expert

- Erich Shaw – WSMART

### Executive Director

- Dr. Ilan Juran – WSMART

## Program Objectives

Changing the corporate culture by improving inter-department communication and real time information sharing

Upgrading the capability for creating a situation picture and consequently preparing a situation analysis

Developing guidelines for crisis management planning, execution, debriefing and performance assessment including severity assessment, management structure, early detection and warning, etc.

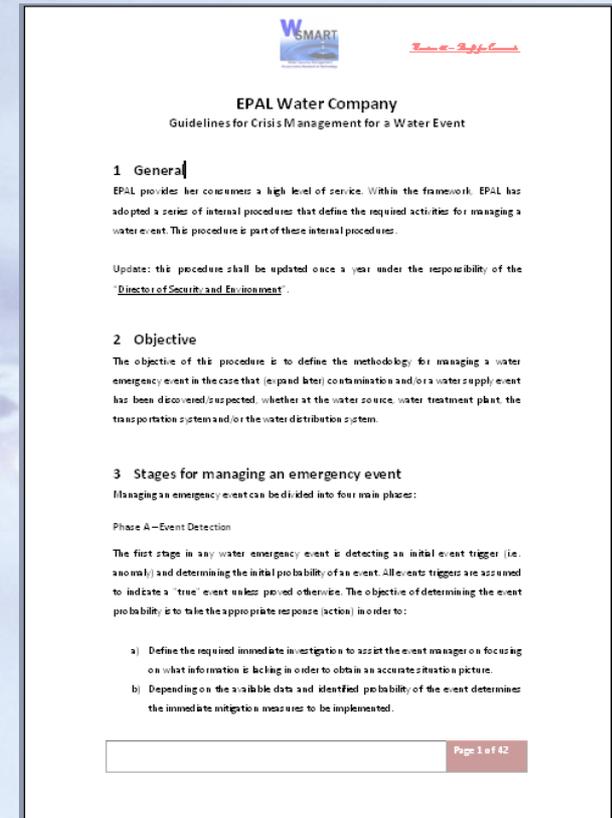
Providing an intra and inter agency uniform language to improve for crisis management, reporting and debriefing.

Building EPAL capacity for emergency response training and exercises.

## 4. Outcomes

### Guidelines for Crisis Management for a Water Event

- 1 - General
  - 2 - Objective
  - 3 - Stages for managing an emergency event
  - 4 - Definitions
  - 5 - Phase A – Event detection
  - 6 - Phase B – Event severity evaluation
  - 7 - Phase C – Event managing
    - Light event
    - Medium event
    - Serious event
  - 8 - Phase D – Final report
- Appendix A – External events that may have implications on water quality/supply



## 4. Outcomes

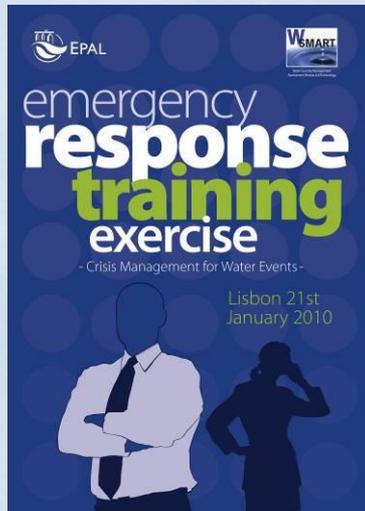
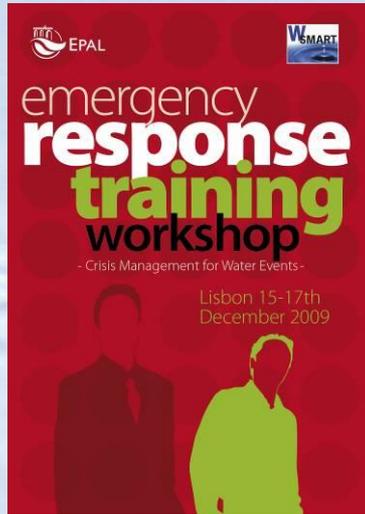
### Training

15-17<sup>th</sup> December 2009

- 36 technicians had participated
- Water Supply events
- Maintenance Events

21<sup>st</sup> January 2010

- 55 technicians had participated
- Water Quality Events
- Water Supply Events
- Maintenance Events



Water Supply Maintenance Water Quality



Debriefing

Water Supply Call Center



Manager



Maintenance Water Quality



# Debriefing & Lessons Learnt

## 4. Outcomes

### Full-Scale Exercise

#### Serious Event

#### 09:00 Quality events

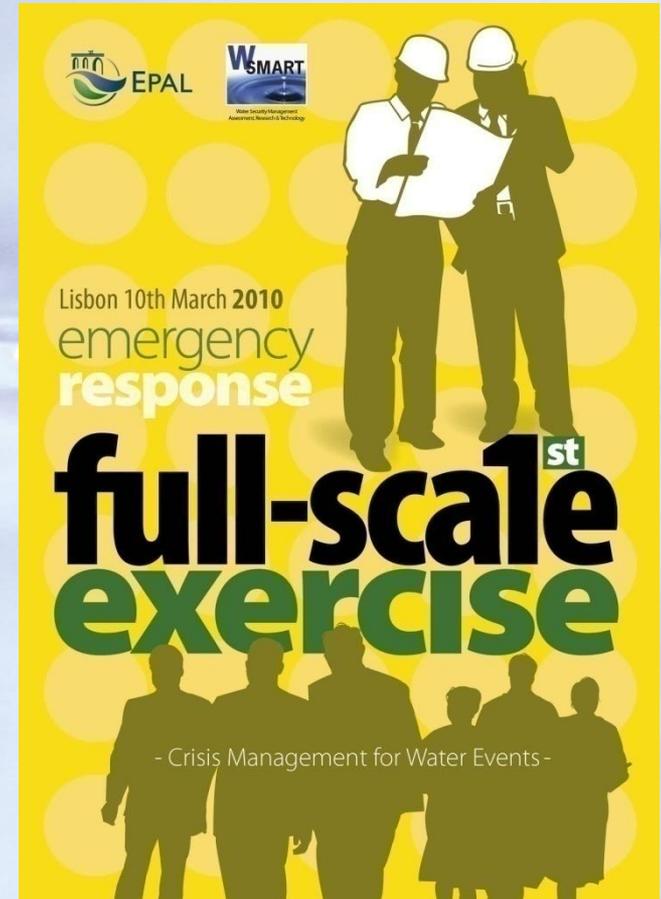
- Cryptosporidium contamination on water wells
- Fire as broken in Central Laboratory

#### 09:10 Supply and Maintenance events

- Big pipe burst
- Sick 1/3 of Maintenance technicians

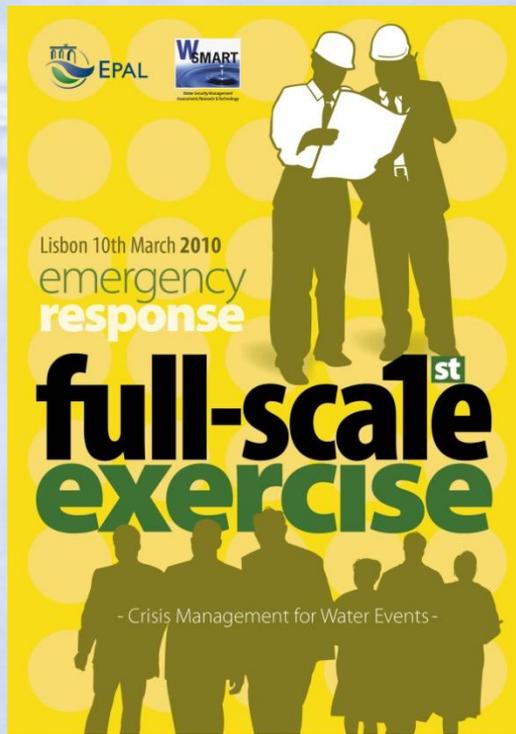
#### 09:30 Security events

- Bomb in Telheiras pumping station



## 4. Outcomes

### Full-Scale Exercise



**PRESIDENT**



**LEGAL & INSURANCE**



**COMMUNICATIONS**



**MEETING ROOM**



**SITUATION ROOM**



**CALL CENTER**



**MAINTENANCE**



**WATER SUPPLY**



**WATER QUALITY**

## 4. Outcomes

### Full-Scale Exercise

The exercise was realized in the main CCC in Olivais/Lisboa and both Water Treatment Plants



Water Treatment Plan - Asseiceira



Water Treatment Plan - Vale da Pedra

## 5. Future Improvements

- Implement simple and workable procedures are essential
- Provide uniform modes of communication for accurate reporting
- Preparing a decision support system for determining whether the information gathered provides the appropriate data for event detection and control under Emergency Situation and deciding when to shift from routine to emergency mode
- Creating a corporate safety culture based on strong cooperation, coordination and real time information sharing between all the departments
- Improving vulnerability assessment capabilities by identifying weak points in the system during exercises without being in real crisis
- Determining when and how to return to Routine after an Emergency Situation



## 5. Future Improvements

### Next 3 months

- Internal and External Communication Plan
- Guidelines improvement through lessons learnt
- Maintenance Plans
- Stakeholders relations and agreements
- Guidelines for improving situation room operations
- Training internal exercise observers
- Logbook improvement

### Next 12 months

- One annual full-scale exercise
- One subunit exercise



# The W-SMART Contribution

**Oversight assessment of guidelines, training and exercises.**

**Active involvement at crucial stages of guideline development integrating the North American utility – EPA practice with the experience of Mekorot and Eau de Paris.**

**On-site participation during exercises as observers offering their assessment and recommendations as summarized in their report.**

## 6. Final Remarks

**Development of Emergency Response guidelines, training and exercise is important in order to achieve:**

- Assurance of the business continuity and sustainable satisfaction of the customers under emergency situations
- The integration of best international reference practices regarding water security and water safety
- Achieving the “best company” reference status among the water utilities in Portugal
- Building corporation image and consumer trust by increasing reliability and improving internal and external communications.



2010 W-SMART WORKSHOP  
“Emergency Response –  
Experience Sharing”  
-Washington, 23-25<sup>th</sup> March 2010 -



ASSOCIATION OF  
METROPOLITAN  
WATER AGENCIES



**Thank you for your attention**



**Under the leadership of EPAL  
Lisbon will be the host for the**

*9th  
World Water  
Congress & Exhibition*

**In September 2014  
Finding Solutions to Assure the Future**

