

IRRIGATION



QUELLES STRATÉGIES POUR ÉCONOMISER L'EAU ? WHAT STRATEGIES FOR WATER SAVINGS ?

REGARDS CROISÉS EUROPÉENS
SHARING EUROPEAN VIEWS



13 - 14

nov. 2019

MONTPELLIER

FRANCE



PROJET COFINANCÉ PAR LE FONDS EUROPÉEN AGRICOLE POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT RURAL
L'EUROPE INVESTIT DANS LES ZONES RURALES



Water saving on a gravity- -flow irrigation district Challenges and issues on Lis Valley, Portugal

*José M. Gonçalves¹, Susana Ferreira¹, Rui Eugénio², Manuel Nunes¹, Henrique Damásio²,
Isabel Ferreira³*

¹ Instituto Politécnico de Coimbra, Escola Superior Agrária, Coimbra, Portugal

² Water Users Association of Lis Valley, Quinta do Picoto, Leiria, Portugal

³ Instituto Superior de Agronomia, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal



UNIÃO EUROPEIA

Fundo Europeu Agrícola
de Desenvolvimento Rural

A Europa Investe nas Zonas Rurais



Water savings context

- Society is urging water savings by irrigated agriculture, through the decrease of water consumption
- Sustainable agricultural production with less water requires adaptation through a change of technology and practices compatible with the farmers' technical know-how and farms economics
- Collective irrigation districts play a decisive role in Portuguese agriculture sustainability, being this adaptation a major priority

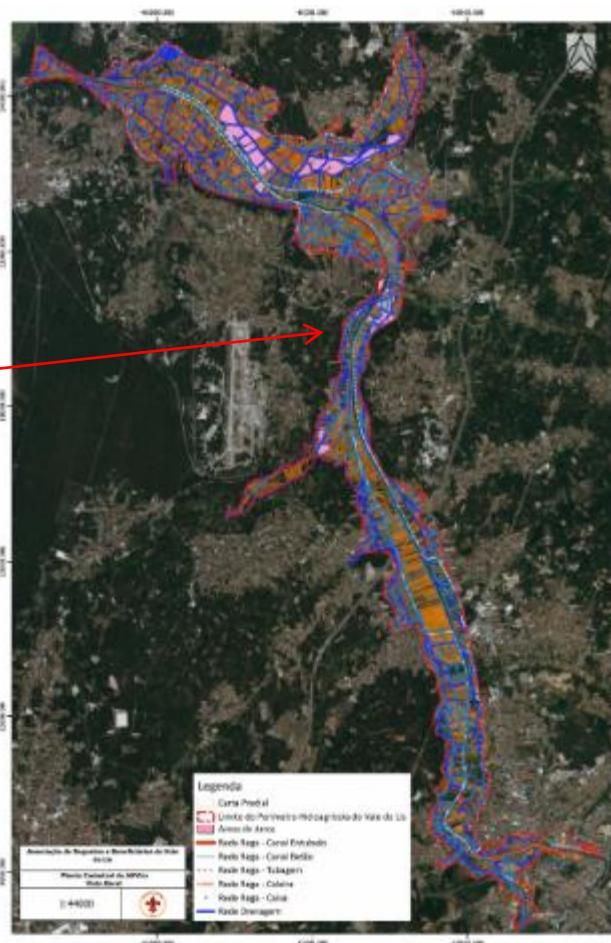
Irrigation water savings issues

- How to water saving: reduction of consumptive use, water losses or water wastage; increase water productivity, or land productivity?
- How to manage the nexus of food-water-energy?
- How to guarantee the irrigation socio-economic sustainability?
- How to balance the equity of environmental and economic impacts on a collective irrigation district?

Gravity-fed irrigation district supplied by surface water runoff

- Gravity-fed conveyance systems supplied by surface water runoff, without upstream reservoirs, do not control the water available for irrigation, implying frequent periods of water scarcity
- They require specific water management practices, to optimize the equity of water distribution to the all irrigation district during the scarcity periods
- To cope with the risks of lack of irrigation water, the management priorities are focused on off- and on-farm irrigation water saving and the downstream water reuse (namely by pumping from ditches), or a more effective use of soil water or groundwater by capilarity rising

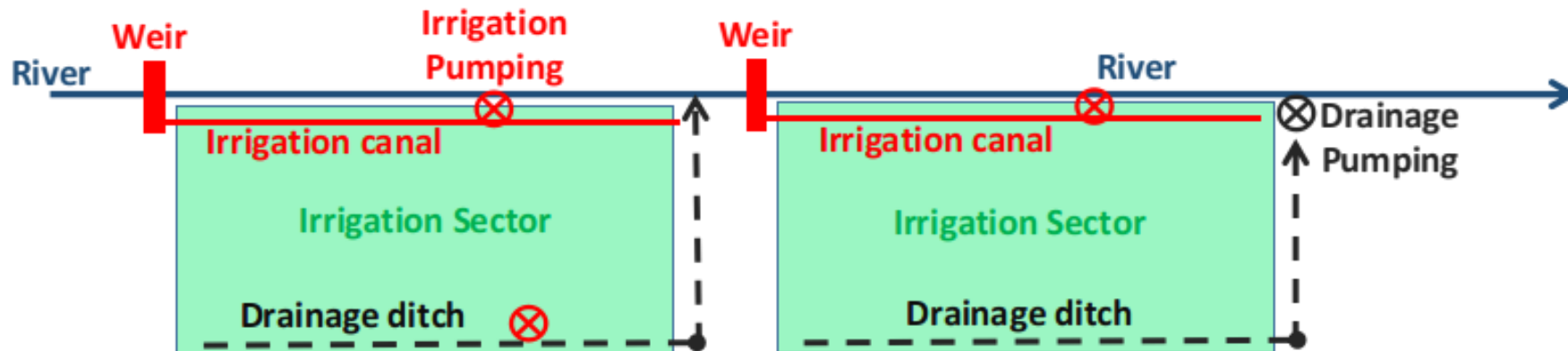
Lis Valley - a gravity-fed irrigation district



Lis Valley - a gravity-fed irrigation district



Scheme of hydraulic system, showing the supply and drainage of two sequential irrigation sectors



Lis Valley Water Management Operational Group

(Agricultural European Innovation Partnership EIP-AGRI)

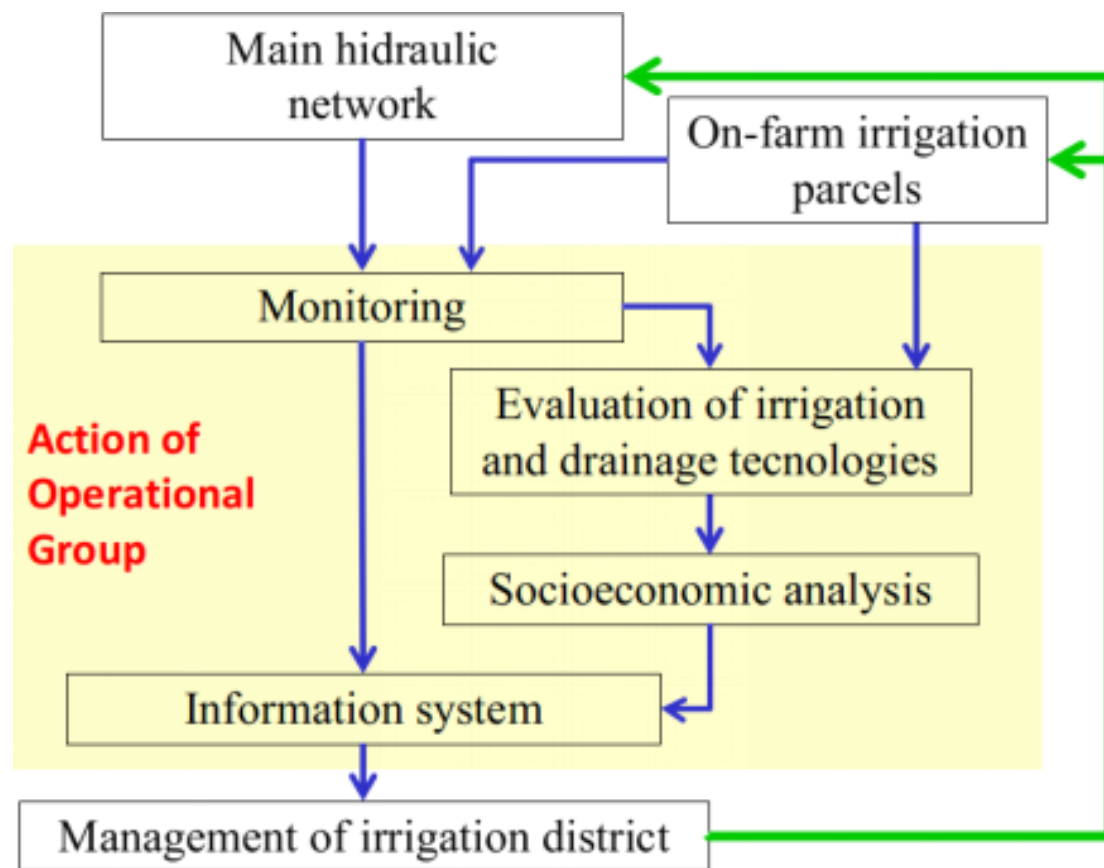
Objectives:

- Water savings and water productivity improvement
- Improve the performance of collective distribution system
- Reduce pumping energy use and costs
- Reduce and control sanitary risks due to water quality
- Improve farms economic competitiveness

Partners:

- Water Users Association, Research Centers, Regional Department of Ministry of Agriculture, Farmers

Metodologies

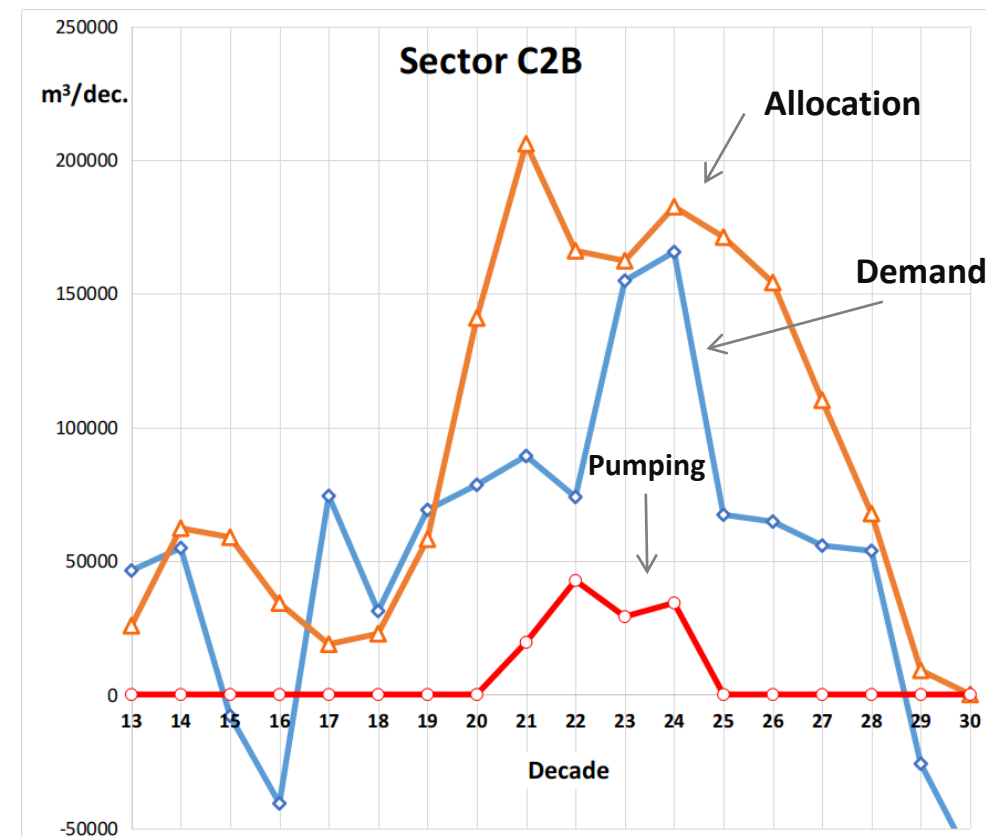


Results - Allocation and demand (2018)

Irrigated area and crops per Sector

SMC	C1A	C1B	C2A	C2B	C4	C5	C7	Total
Blocs	III	III, IIs	IV	V	II	II	I	
Total area, ha	175,6	104,4	189,7	286,2	418,4	207,6	257,1	1639
Irrigated area, ha	114,2	82,8	159,5	214,7	292,8	166,1	205,7	1236
Irrigated area, %	65	80	85	75	70	80	80	75
Maize	20%	18%	43%	33%	61%	60%	9%	38,4%
Pastures	48%	30%	7%	24%	29%	10%	77%	32,6%
Horticulture	5%	13%	14%	11%	4%	0	0	6,0%
Rice	0	5%	0	15%	5%	30%	1%	8,3%
Vineyard	20%	13%	15%	15%	0	0	0	7,3%
Fruits	6%	19%	20%	0	0	0	10%	6,1%

Allocation (TIA) and demand (NID) of one hydraulic sector



Meteorological data and Sector average crop coefficients

Month	May			June			July			August			September			October		
Decade	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
ET0, mm ⁽¹⁾	35,4	41,6	31,6	25,5	44,7	37,9	37,0	38,6	43,9	37,0	76,3	82,0	35,8	35,4	33,9	34,8	21,3	19,8
P, mm ⁽¹⁾	0,0	0,5	26,0	38,9	1,8	17,6	1,7	0,1	0,1	0,7	0,3	0,7	0,9	0,0	0,1	0,0	27,4	42,9
Kc ⁽¹⁾ (C1A)	0,62	0,65	0,74	0,81	0,83	0,85	0,89	0,91	0,91	0,91	0,91	0,91	0,87	0,83	0,77	0,72	0,71	0,71
Kc (C1B)	0,61	0,64	0,72	0,79	0,83	0,85	0,89	0,90	0,90	0,90	0,90	0,90	0,87	0,84	0,77	0,72	0,70	0,70
Kc (C2A)	0,43	0,47	0,58	0,69	0,75	0,79	0,88	0,92	0,92	0,92	0,92	0,92	0,86	0,81	0,68	0,61	0,58	0,58
Kc (C2B)	0,61	0,63	0,71	0,78	0,81	0,85	0,92	0,95	0,95	0,95	0,95	0,95	0,90	0,85	0,77	0,72	0,72	0,72
Kc (C4)	0,53	0,53	0,59	0,66	0,72	0,78	0,91	0,97	0,97	0,97	0,97	0,97	0,91	0,84	0,72	0,66	0,66	0,66
Kc (C5)	0,57	0,57	0,63	0,69	0,75	0,81	0,93	0,99	0,99	0,99	0,99	0,99	0,93	0,87	0,75	0,69	0,69	0,69
Kc (C7)	0,79	0,80	0,82	0,84	0,86	0,87	0,89	0,90	0,90	0,90	0,90	0,90	0,89	0,88	0,85	0,83	0,82	0,82

⁽¹⁾Decade data of Leiria, 2018, from www.ipma.pt; counts of the decades from the beginning of the year; ET0=reference evapotranspiration; P=precipitation; Kc=crop coefficient.

$$ETc = ET0 \times Kc$$

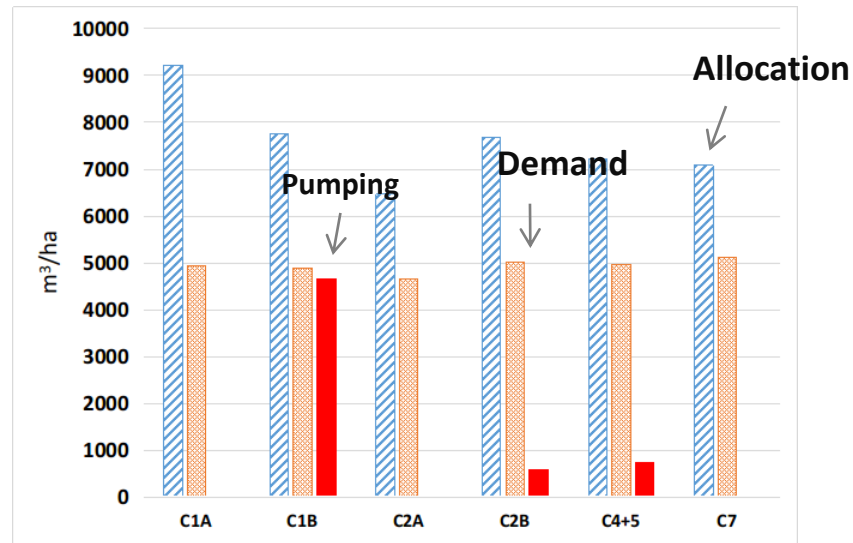
$$NID = ETc - P, \text{ if } ETc > P;$$

$$TIA = GIA + PIA$$

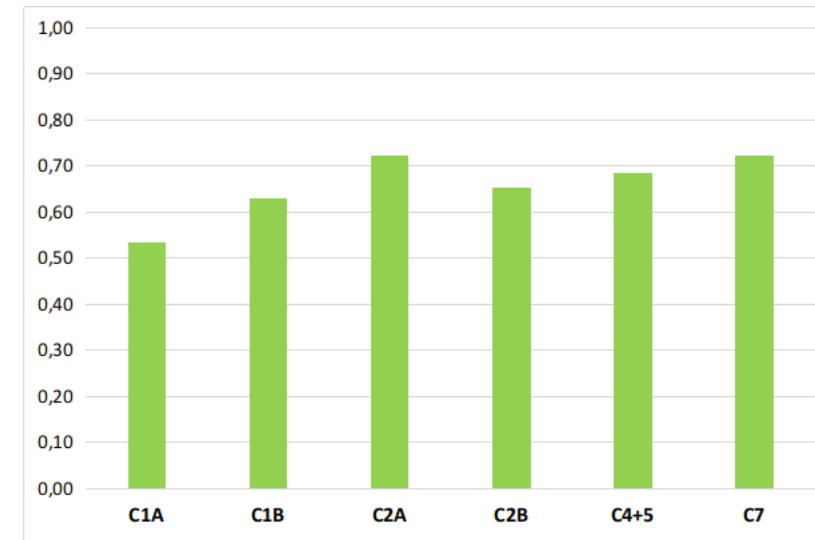
$$GIE = NID / TIA$$

Results - Allocation and demand (2018)

Total allocation (gravity, GIA, + pumping, (PIA) and demand (NID) per hydraulic sector



Global Irrigation Efficiency (GIE)



- Gross applied depths of Sectors: 6470 to 9220 m³/ha
- Major constraints (labor and water losses) on supply due to the precariousness of network
- Global Efficiency varied between 53% e 72% (average 67 %); higher results related with reuse of water drainage by pumping, implying increased cost for energy consumption

Conclusions - Improvements and innovations challenges

- Improve the quality of hydraulic infrastructures to reduce water losses, and better water flow control, to enhance water management
- Improve district water management through the implementation of operational plans based on better estimation of on-farm irrigation demand, using monitoring systems, automatic weather stations combined with soil moisture devices or crop remote sensing
- Improve the on-farm irrigation systems, reducing labour and water losses, and increasing the distribution uniformity
- Improving the reuse of excess flow at the downstream end of irrigated fields, or from drainage ditches, with a better control of water quality.

Water saving on a gravity- -flow irrigation district Challenges and issues on Lis Valley, Portugal

*José M. Gonçalves¹, Susana Ferreira¹, Rui Eugénio², Manuel Nunes¹, Henrique Damásio²,
Isabel Ferreira³*

¹ Instituto Politécnico de Coimbra, Escola Superior Agrária, Coimbra, Portugal

² Water Users Association of Lis Valley, Quinta do Picoto, Leiria, Portugal

³ Instituto Superior de Agronomia, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal



UNIÃO EUROPEIA

Fundo Europeu Agrícola
de Desenvolvimento Rural

A Europa Investe nas Zonas Rurais

