

LAND EROSION BY WATER AND ITS IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT OF NORTHERN ALGERIA

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Abstract:

Land erosion by water poses serious problems in Northern Algeria, where more than 70 % of the population is concentrated. In terms of its geological setting, Northern Algeria is crossed on a tellienne chain from West to East, separating the littoral from the interior plains. Several basins are tributaries of the Mediterranean, discharging into 1200 km of coastline.

Each year, more than a million m³ of sediment are deposited within the coastal sea.

The contribution of sediments, to the sea, contributes largely to the coastal system stabilisation, according to oceanographers. However, it presents a serious problem in the conservation/management of the groundwater and water resources of northern Algeria.

The question posed concerns the necessity to preserve the coastal sea, by leaving the sediments which have arrived at coastal sea, for the stabilisation of the littoral (development of tourism), or to combat erosion and the silting up of the dams (water mobilisation).

The economic interest is high, to determine whether tourism is developed, as imposed by the integrated management of the coastal systems.