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SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES TRAINED IN EVALUATING AND STRUCTURING PUBLIC-PRIVATE-PARTNERSHIPS IN THE WATER SECTOR BY EU-FUNDED PROJECT

PRESS NOTE

Twenty-nine representatives from relevant institutions, the private sector (investors/operators) and NGOs from **Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia**, participated in a **Training on Evaluating and Structuring Public-Private-Partnerships (PPPs) in the water sector** that was organized by the EU-funded Sustainable Water Integrated Management – Support Mechanism (SWIM-SM) project on **8-10 June 2015 in the Dead Sea, Jordan**.

Aiming at developing the capacity of water and financing officials in addition to other participants the training provided knowledge on **how the public sector can assess opportunities for PPPs in the water sector**, taking into account all parameters to structure the PPP transactions, from financial sustainability and bankability to legal clauses, performance monitoring, guarantees, insurance, staffing, reporting etc.

Specific successes and failures in water PPPs were also showcased, including a complete analysis of the As-Samra Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) structuring in Jordan, with risks, benefits, financial configuration, modus of collaboration between public sector and private operator, reporting of the private entity and approvals needed to be provided by the two parties during operation, plus all responsibilities on the implementation and on new investments that might be needed.

The training was carried out by high caliber experts in PPPs, including representatives of the European Investment Bank (EIB), the PPP Centre of Poland and PPP Units' representatives from Morocco, Jordan and Egypt, who shared the experience of how Water PPPs are administered in their countries.

Trainees expressed their satisfaction for the training, through which they gained a good insight on the different forms of PPPs, and particular benefit from the case-studies and the practical examples, especially the walk-through of the As-Samra WWTP.

The training is organized in the framework of SWIM-SM activities directed to enhance the understanding of South Mediterranean countries on how to promote successful PPPs, since most of them are already partnering (or considering to) with the private sector for mobilizing investments through PPPs and with a view of expanding the coverage of their water and wastewater infrastructure.

To download all materials and presentations related to the training [click here](#)

Other related SWIM-SM activities have included:

- [Review and Analysis of Private Sector Participation: Modalities in Water Service Delivery, with emphasis on the Southern Mediterranean Region](#)

- [Training workshop on Strengthening Public Sector Capacity to Mobilize Depollution Investments and Private Sector Participation](#)
- [Training workshop on risk and insurance in PPPs for water infrastructure](#)
- [1st Regional Conference of the Union for the Mediterranean \(UfM\) labelled project Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector organized by the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean with SWIM-SM support](#)
- [Regional training course on Public Private Partnership \(PPP\) in Water infrastructure](#)

For more information:

e-mail : info@swim-sm.eu

SWIM website: www.swim-sm.eu

Note to editors:

The SWIM Programme

Sustainable Water Integrated Management (SWIM) is a Regional Programme launched by the European Commission to contribute to the extensive dissemination and effective implementation of sustainable water management policies and practices in the Southern Mediterranean Region. This is in the context of increasing water scarcity, combined pressures on water resources from a wide range of users, desertification processes and in connection with climate change.

The Programme, with a total budget of approximately € 22 million, is implemented under the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), following the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conferences on Environment (Cairo, 2006) and Water (Dead Sea, 2008).

SWIM Partner Countries are: **Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, the occupied Palestinian territory, Syria*¹ and Tunisia.**

SWIM consists of two major Components, which are inter-related and complement each other:

- A Support Mechanism, funded with a budget of € 6.7 million and
- Demonstration Projects funded with a budget of € 15 million

SWIM – Support Mechanism (SWIM-SM)

SWIM-SM is the Component of the Programme that provides Regional Technical Assistance to the Partner Countries. This Component, of the duration of 4 years (2010-2014), aims at:

- Providing strategic assistance to the Partner Countries in designing and implementing sustainable water management policies and plans, involving inter-sector dialogue as well as stakeholder consultation and participation;
- Contributing to institutional reinforcement, to the development of the necessary planning and management skills and to know-how transfer;
- Raising awareness on the threats on water resources, the necessity to switch to more sustainable consumption models and possible solutions to face challenges.

Furthermore, SWIM-SM also:

- assists technically the Demonstration Projects implemented under the second Component of the SWIM Programme and;
- undertakes Capacity Building activities related to water resources management identified under the Horizon 2020 Capacity Building – Mediterranean Environment Programme (H2020 CB/MEP).

SWIM-Support Mechanism is implemented by a Consortium formed by a combination of nine international and regional companies and institutions:

- LDK Consultants Engineers & Planners SA: Leader of the Consortium
- Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med): SWIM-SM Technical Direction
- Arab Countries Water Utilities Association (ACWUA)
- Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)
- DHV B.V.
- Greek Ministry of Environment, Energy & Climate Change, Department of International Relations & EU Affairs
- Lebanese Ministry of Energy and Water, General Directorate of Hydraulic and Electrical Resources
- Tunisian Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, Bureau de l'Inventaire et des Recherches Hydrauliques / Direction Générale des Ressources en Eau
- Umweltbundesamt GmbH - Environment Agency, Austria

* In May 2011, the European Union decided to suspend all cooperation with Syrian authorities

SWIM Demonstration Projects

- 1- **Adaptation to Climate Change of the Mediterranean Agricultural Systems (SWIM-ACLIMAS)**
Leader of the Project's Consortium: International Center for Advanced Studies on Mediterranean Agriculture – Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEAM-MAIB), Italy
- 2- **All Across the Jordan: the NGO Trans-boundary Master Planning of the Lower Jordan River Basin**
Leader of the Project's Consortium: Friends of the Earth Middle East (FoEME)
- 3- **Innovative Means to Protect Water Resources in the Mediterranean Coastal Areas through Re-injection of Treated Wastewater (SWIM-IMPROWARE)**
Leader of the Project's Consortium: Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea
- 4- **Network of demonstration activities for sustainable integrated wastewater treatment and reuse in the Mediterranean (SWIM-Sustain Water MED)**
Leader of the Project's Consortium: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German International Cooperation - GIZ) GmbH
- 5- **Water harvesting and Agricultural techniques in Dry lands: an Integrated and Sustainable model in MAghreb Regions (SWIM-WADIS MAR)**
Leader of the Project's Consortium: Desertification Research Group (Centro Interdipartimentale di Ateneo) University of Sassari, Italy