



NEWS RELEASE

Athens, 23 January 2018

SWIM-H2020 SM Seminar “Stakeholder involvement in Stream Restoration and Management”

The Activities of EU-funded SWIM-Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism begun in 2018 by organizing a Seminar on “Stakeholder involvement in Stream Restoration and Management” on 16-17 January 2018, Tel Aviv, Israel.

The Workshop supported Israel in implementing its Master Plan for the National Water Sector under the “Management of the Natural Water System” to restore, rehabilitate, preserve and manage the natural water resources (rivers, streams).

During the Seminar examples for involvement of stakeholders (citizens, municipalities, private firms) in stream restoration and management were presented and discussed, mainly from south European countries, such as Spain, Italy and France. Stakeholder involvement comprises of maintenance, monitoring, small scale restoration, education and training and more.

More than 30 stakeholders, representatives of the Ministries of Environmental Protection, Agriculture, Drainage and river authorities, National Nature and Park authority, The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, and the volunteer group NANA, participated in the Workshop during which various examples were presented of stakeholder involvement in stream restoration.

At the end of the 2 day workshop possible actions for initiating more stakeholder involvement in the short and long term were discussed.

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SWIM and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism Project

The **SWIM-H2020 SM EU-funded Project** aims to contribute to the sustainable use of scarce water resources and properly manage municipal waste, industrial emissions and waste water, and therefore enhance, directly and indirectly, resilience to climate variability and change in the entire region with emphasis on the countries of North Africa and the Middle East (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, [Syria] and Tunisia).

The civil society component of SWIM-H2020 SM is facilitated by the UfM labelled BlueGreen project and network.