



NEWS RELEASE

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SWIM-H2020 SM Consultation on the “Promoting the Reuse of Wastewater and developing tools for its effective implementation”

The reuse of wastewater by strengthening the institutional, regulatory and financial frameworks was the topic of the EU-funded SWIM-Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism Consultation that was organized on 23 January 2018, Rabat, Morocco.

The Consultation promoted the reuse of wastewater in its various possible uses (agriculture, watering golf courses and green spaces, recharge groundwater) and the development of the tools necessary for the effective implementation of the National Wastewater Reuse Plan, particularly with regard to its institutional, regulatory and financial components.

It engaged both the state and the private sector through public and private partnership contracts, raised awareness and engaged the parties involved in the reuse of wastewater.

More than 25 stakeholders, representing the Ministry of Environment and its Secretariat in Charge of Water, Ministries of Health, Interior, International Organizations and on-going projects, Academia, water operators and representatives of the private sector participated in the Consultation.

During the Consultation, the findings of the analysis undertaken by the project of the existing Treated Waste Water Reuse (TWWR) projects in Tensift Basin and of the existing Partnership Agreements were presented. The willingness and capacity of the farmers to pay for TWWR and the proposed PPP models for TWWR were discussed. A debate was initiated with the concerned actors regarding the institutional, regulatory and financial measures needed to operationalise the National Wastewater Reuse Plan. In order to achieve significant progress in reuse and reach its full projected potential in the country, it was recommended that indirect reuse of treated wastewater should be adopted. This should minimise the risks related to reuse and reduce the complexity of the corresponding institutional and regulatory landscape in addition to cost minimisation. The timing of the workshop coincided with the latest development in Morocco and is in line with the political will that the Moroccan Government is showing for the development of the reuse of wastewater as an additional water resource that can reduce the country's growing water deficit.

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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).