



NEWS RELEASE

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SWIM-H2020 SM 2nd Regional on Site Training and Study Tour on Decentralized Water Management “Regulatory and organizational issues of decentralized water management; drafting and implementation of management plans at sub-national level”

The Second Regional Training on Decentralized Water Management (DcWM) and a related Study Tour were organized by the EU-funded SWIM-Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism Project (SWIM-H2020 SM), on 16-19 April 2018, in Vienna, Austria, building on the outcomes of the first regional on-site training on the same subject, which took place in July 2017 in Brussels.

The Training aimed to enhance the knowledge of key stakeholders who are involved in different aspects of DcWM in the Project's Partner Countries (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia) to regulatory and organization issues of decentralized water management.

More than 30 stakeholders, such as Representatives of the Ministries of Water Resources, Agriculture, Environment of the Partner Countries, as well as Governmental Agencies, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and Academia, participated in the Training.

The Training was built on four blocks, focusing on initially establishing a mutual understanding of Terminology related to decentralised water management, providing the basic principles of Stakeholder Involvement and public participation as a tool to achieve the goals and objectives set out by decentralized approaches, introducing the role of Water Information Systems (WIS), in the broader sense, focusing on how stakeholders in a decentralized set-up cooperate with each other and exchange information (in terms of data requirements and governance structure), as well as the elaboration of the GroundWater Bodies (GWB) as a management unit for decentralized water resources management at the local level.

During the 2 day Study Tour to water resources managing institutions such as Betriebsgesellschaft Marchfeldkanal (management of groundwater for agriculture purposes), Via Donau (surface water protection), Boden.Wasser.Schutz.Beratung (Advisory Service to the Chamber for Agriculture for upper Austria) and Dingdorf (water and wastewater management), the participants learned about the benefits of public participation in decentralised water management and became familiar with the tool of mapping water data in RBMP.

The on-site Training also involved a session on the peer-to-peer process currently running under the same theme in the Partner Countries.

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Sustainable Water Integrated Management and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism

Working for a Sustainable Mediterranean, Caring for our Future.

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

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).

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Disclaimer

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