

# Sustainable Water Integrated Management and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism Working for a Sustainable Mediterranean, Caring for our Future. This Project is funded by the European Union

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

Athens, 2 July 2018

"Integrated Water Resources Management: Best Practices and Technology Transfer"

1<sup>st</sup> Palestine International Water Forum

in partnership with the SWIM-H2020 SM Project

The SWIM-H2020 SM Project was the key partner of the 1<sup>st</sup> Palestine International Water Forum which was organized by the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA) under the Auspices of His Excellency the Palestinian President M. Mahmoud Abbas, on 25-28 June 2018 in Ramallah, Palestine.

The focus of the Forum was on "Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM): Best Practices and Technology Transfer Arab Region", and it served as a multi-stakeholder platform to discuss and jointly identify approaches that can help achieve sustainable water management at regional and international level.

More than 800 stakeholders and delegates participated in the Official Opening Ceremony of the Event, which was followed by an Exhibition where the latest technologies, products, and services in the field of water and wastewater were showcased. The Forum's technical sessions followed in the next two days, where decision makers from the public and private sectors, the water and wastewater utilities/water supply companies, water ministries & authorities, environmental agencies & ministries, municipalities, utility operators, private sector companies and consultants and educational institutions from across the region and beyond were able to actively participate in the discussions.

The Forum's recommendations applicable for the region can also be tailored for the Palestinian water sector, while through addressing topics such as Sustainable development of water resources, Water governance and effective Management, Advancing SDGs and Climate Change and drought management, the Forum contributed to the Palestinian water sector in acquiring best practices, in designing and implementing IWRM policies and plans, in its efforts to manage water scarcity, and to contribute significantly in devising countermeasures and solutions to water sector's institutional and regulatory challenges. It also helped Palestine to connect with the regional and international water agenda and conventions, provide opportunities to make new business and networking with decision makers in order to work together to elaborate joint solutions.

The senior policy and decision makers along with the international water consultants had also the opportunity to learn about the advancements in the practice of IWRM and discuss how best IWRM could work in addressing water resource challenges in Palestine and both regionally and internationally.

Meanwhile, stay updated via: <u>SWIM-H2020 SM Website</u> <u>SWIM-H2020 SM LinkedIn</u> SWIM-H2020 SM Facebook

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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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