



## NEWS RELEASE

Athens, 1 October 2018

### **“Drought Hazard Analysis and Mapping” Regional On-Site Training, Study Tour and Peer to Peer Exchange for Stakeholders from the South Mediterranean Countries**

A combination of Regional Activities, revolving around “Drought Hazard Analysis and Mapping” were organised by the EU funded SWIM and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism on 24-27 September 2018, in Murcia, Spain.

The Activities comprised of a 2-day Regional On-Site Training and a 2-day Study Tour in 5 Facilities incorporating also a session for Peer-to-Peer Exchanges; they were planned and organised following the recommendations made during a similar Regional Training (December 2016, Athens, Greece).

More than 30 participants were introduced to the main concepts and underlying principles of the drought hazard monitoring as an instrument applied in Drought Risk Management Mainstreaming, and issues arisen during its implementation.

They also had the opportunity to visit: 1. La FICA AIHS Station and SPN Automated Hydrological Information System 2. Headquarters of the “Campo de Cartagena Irrigators Community” (CRCC) 3. Water Saving GREENHOUSE at Torre Pacheco 4. San Pedro del Pinatar Seawater Desalination Plant 5. Los Alcázares Waste Water Treatment Plant.

The regional dialogue on issues around drought hazard in semi-arid and arid climates took place among high-level stakeholders such as representatives of Ministries of Water Resources and Irrigation, Government Officials and NGOs from the Project’s Partner Countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

Pioneer scientists and researchers with international acclaimed profile presented their findings and research outcomes in a coherent and holistic way.

Key topics were tackled such as: Drought hazard monitoring and analysis - early warning systems Groundwater drought hazard indices; Drought monitoring with remote sensing and satellite imaging; Operational early warning system for drought based on seasonal precipitation input in Israel; and Crop production and agricultural drought monitoring.

A face to face session under the peer-to-peer exchanges process gave the peers the chance to further interact and plan the next steps for experience sharing and knowledge transfer around “Drought Hazard Analysis and Mapping”.

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## **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.

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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