



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Enabling Egyptian educators to implement in practice Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)**

Two (2) consecutive Trainings on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) were organized by the EU-funded SWIM-Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism, from the 2<sup>nd</sup> till the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2018, in Cairo, Egypt. To support the policy mainstreaming mainly between the Ministries of Education and Environment, an inter-institutional consultation took place on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2018, focusing both on the primary and secondary educational levels, as well as on the tertiary educational level.

Egypt faces a number of environmental and sustainability challenges such as the imbalance between population growth and economic development; urbanisation; air, water, soil and sea pollution. Solid waste management issues (including limited recycling levels, marine litter) are indeed important pressures. These problems cannot be addressed without proper awareness and education at all levels.

The Trainings and Consultation contribute to the country's efforts towards implementing ESD through the adoption and implementation of the Action Plan of the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MSESD). Egypt is trying to harmonise its formal curricula and strengthen educators' capacities in line with the region-wide effort to achieve an education that truly promotes a Sustainable Development. The trainees obtained a deep understanding of the regional and global policy framework on ESD and were able to experience hands-on how a SWIM-H2020 SM priority theme (solid waste management) can be delivered within formal curricula and non-formal education schemes by developing their competences on how to design and implement an ESD programme and campaigns on topics related to sustainable management of solid waste and especially marine litter (minimisation, sustainable consumption, circular/green economy, etc.). They also had the opportunity to connect with the EuroMed-wide "[MEDIES](#)" network of educators.

Approximately 100 formal and non-formal educators and administrators of primary and secondary schools, University professors, educators and facilitators working with NGOs, institutions for the Environment and Sustainable Development, facilitators, educational inspectors, school principals, the Ministries of Education, Environment, the Egyptian Sustainable Development Forum, participated in the training sessions.

Similar Trainings have already been organized in Algeria, Jordan, Palestine and Tunisia and one (1) Regional in Cyprus, in conformity with the SWIM-H2020 SM Work plan on "Awareness/Education for Sustainable Development".

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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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