



NEWS RELEASE

Athens, 14 December 2018

Consultation Workshop on Supporting the Rural Sanitation Strategy in Tunisia

A Consultation Workshop to review and discuss the final report that was prepared under the activity “Supporting the Drafting of the Rural Sanitation Strategy in Tunisia” was organized by the EU-funded SWIM and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism, on the 6th of December 2018 in Tunis.

This Workshop contributed to the development of the country’s strategy by preparing a pilot action in 3 rural areas: El Makhsouma, En Nwayel and Garet Enaam.

As by its completion, the key stakeholders/participants exchanged opinions on the recommendations made by the consultant related to the proposed practical arrangements for implementing individual or semi-collective sanitation for rural areas of less than 1,000 inhabitants, the possibilities of cooperation with local authorities and the draft outline of a rural sanitation strategy in Tunisia, that cover the institutional framework, as well as mechanisms for setting up an individual or semi-collective sanitation in accordance with the state of the art.

In addition, issues such as the awareness-raising campaigns, the capacity building of key stakeholders, the full-scale testing of this strategy and last but not least, the adaptation of the legislative framework, were addressed and thoroughly discussed during this Consultation.

More than 30 stakeholders, such as representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, Local Affairs and Environment, Health, Higher Education and Research, as well as representatives of the Agricultural Development Groups and the municipalities of Bir Lihfay in Sidi Bouzid, Talabet in Kasserine and Ragada in Kairouan participated in the Consultation Workshop.

According to a decision made by a Ministerial Council held in June 2016, the areas of more than 3,000 inhabitants will be supported by the National Office of Sanitation (ONAS), the areas of 1,000 to 3,000 inhabitants by the municipalities and the areas of less of 1,000 inhabitants by the services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, under the responsibility of the General Direction of Rural Engineering and Water Exploitation.

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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).

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

Disclaimer

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