



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Addressing industrial pollution from the Olive Oil mill and Tanning industries of Palestine**

**Two back-to-back Trainings were conducted by the EU funded SWIM and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism together with the Environment Quality Authority, in Ramallah from 28-31 January 2019. The aim was to support Palestine in addressing industrial pollution from the Olive Oil and Tanning sectors. The first two days were dedicated to waste prevention, resource efficiency and environmental management, while the two last days focused on inspection aspects.**

The **two Trainings** targeted public officials and professionals of tanneries and olive oil mills and apart from the capacity building aspects, it served to co-develop and finalise guidelines and tools for pollution inspection/control in the mentioned industries in Palestine. Among the topics presented and discussed were environmental management at the company level and environmental management system standards; Environmental performance indicators and their monitoring; EU Environmental Best Available Techniques (BAT) and technological innovations for the two industries; Cooperative approach for environmental management of industrial areas and clusters. Apart from theoretical aspects, practical cases and engagement exercises of environmental management and inspection experiences applied in the EU in the olive oil and the tanning industries were applied.

**Over the four days, some 60 stakeholders**, such as technical staff from the Environment Quality Authority (EQA), the Ministries of Agriculture, National Economy, Health, Joint Services Council for Solid Waste Management, Committees of public health and safety in Governorates, Industries Unions, the industries themselves, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the Palestine Police Department and others participated in the Trainings.

#### **For more information, please contact:**

Ms. Lisa PAPADOGEORGAKI  
Communication Officer SWIM-H2020 SM  
Email: [lpa@ldk.gr](mailto:lpa@ldk.gr)

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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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