



## NEWS RELEASE

Athens, 18 March 2019

### Defining Policy Targets and Designing Water Demand Management Measures in Lebanon

**A Consultation Workshop and a back-to-back Training were organised by the EU funded project SWIM and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism in Beirut, Lebanon, during the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2019.**

**The first day was dedicated to defining indicative policy targets and a relevant programme of measures to manage water demand in the Nahr El-Kelb River Basin which has been selected as a pilot river basin.**

**During the second day, key stakeholders from competent authorities who are involved in water allocation, management and planning at the decentralized level were trained in the process of designing and evaluating measures at the local level, through ex-ante assessment, and defining policy targets through a participatory approach.**

Via a range of presentation on the results of model simulation, the participants were informed on of the future state of water resources and water balance in the Nahr El-Kelb river basin for the target year 2040, and the resulting impact of the implementation of different water saving and increase supply measures as simulated by the model application. They were also engaged in a multi-stakeholders consultation process to develop a suggested Programme of Measures (PoM) mitigating unmet demand in the Nahr El-Kelb river basin and defining relevant policy targets.

Through the training conducted during the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, the participants gained valuable knowledge on the importance of ex-ante assessment and public consultation when evaluating measures, and increased their capacity in designing Programmes of Measures and defining policy targets based on a stepwise participatory process.

**More than 50 stakeholders** participated in this 2-day activity, coming from authorities who are involved in water allocation, management and planning at the decentralized level, the Ministry of Energy and Water/General Directorate of Hydraulic and Electrical Resources (MoEW/ GDHER), the Ministry of Environment/ Department of Natural Resources Protection, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Beirut Mount-Lebanon Water Establishment (EEBML), the Council of Development and Reconstruction (CDR), local authorities, and NGOs.

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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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