SWIM and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism

Working for a Sustainable Mediterranean, Caring for our Future

SWIM-H2020 SM - Lessons learned from the External Monitoring of DEMO Projects

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SWIM and Horizon 2020 SM Closing Conference

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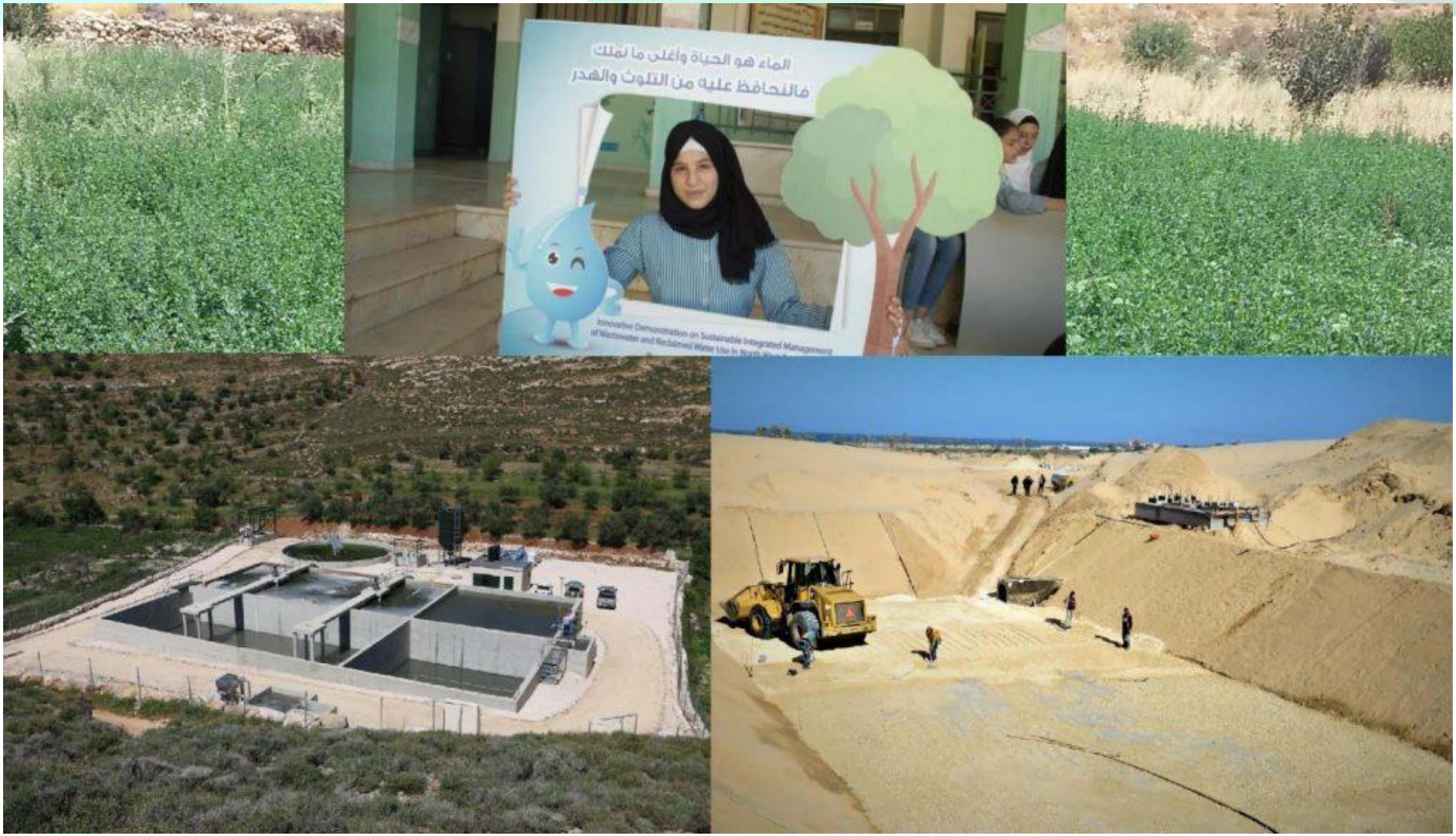
SWIM DEMO projects in a snapshot



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SWIM DEMO projects in a snapshot

Project name:	**Re-use of treated wastewater for agricultural irrigation in Southern part of Gaza Strip**
Contracting party:	OXFAM Great Britain
Provisional duration:	04/2017 – 03/2020
Overall objective:	Contribute to more sustainable water and agricultural practices in Palestine through reducing land-based sources of marine pollution
Specific objective:	Strengthen integrated water resource management in the Gaza strip through innovative environmental and agricultural solutions in southern Gaza by March 2020
Target area:	Rafah and Khan Younis Governorates, Gaza
Target population:	100 Farmers Families; Municipal Wastewater Treatment Staff; Casual Agricultural Laborers; Individuals/ inhabitants across the entire Rafah Governorate
Partners/ Beneficiaries:	Oxfam Great Britain – Lead Beneficiary /Coordinator Palestinian Agricultural Development Association PARC - Beneficiary Palestinian Environmental Friends (PEF) - Beneficiary Oxfam Novib - Affiliated Entity to Oxfam Great Britain
Budget :	€ 2.176.375

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SWIM DEMO projects in a snapshot

Project name:	**Promote wastewater treatment and reuse in the water scarce areas of the Middle East and North Africa through development and demonstration of innovative financial instruments and inclusive management plans**
Contracting party:	Applied Research Institute-Jerusalem (ARIJ)
Provisional duration:	03/2017 – 02/2018
Overall objective:	Promote wastewater treatment and reuse in the water scarce areas of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) by developing scalable and innovative financial instruments and inclusive management plans that can fully recover the costs of wastewater treatment and reuse at a demonstration site in Wadi Al-Arroub, Palestine
Specific objectives:	▪ Demonstrate the feasibility of reducing the operational costs of WWT by generating energy using photovoltaic cells & using innovative, cost-saving technologies for sludge dewatering ▪ Introduce innovate irrigation practices that enhance water productivity ▪ Increase sense of ownership of the local community in water as a resource ▪ Recover O&M costs from the sale of treated wastewater ▪ Achieve maximum benefits of sound agricultural practices
Target area:	Sair town in Hebron Governorate - West Bank / Palestine
Target population:	Al Aroub refugee camp citizens; Sair town citizens; Kwazeba village citizens; Farmers in Wadi Al Arroub
Partners/ Beneficiaries:	No affiliated entities. Main indirect beneficiaries include the following : Ministry of Local Government (MoLG); Sair Municipality; Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)
Budget :	EU: € 948.798 / Total Expected € 1.195.110

SWIM DEMO projects in a snapshot

Project name:	Innovative Demonstrations on Sustainable Integrated Management of Wastewater and Reclaimed Water Use in North West Bank
Contracting party:	Agricultural Development Association (PARC)
Provisional duration:	01/02/2017 – 31/01/2020
Overall objective:	To contribute to improving sustainable water and environment management through the promotion of sustainable and innovative wastewater management systems and reuse schemes in Palestine.
Specific objective:	To create and disseminate innovative solutions in managing wastewater treatment and reuse in a sustainable, socio-economic manner, hence contributing in the reduction of wastewater pollution on ground water and improving food security conditions and access to non-conventional additional water resources for agricultural purposes in the targeted rural area
Target area:	Anin Village / Jenin Governorate
Target population:	Anin Village residents of total population 4700 (2400 males and 2300 females): 800 rural families, 50 small to middle size farmers, Village council and joint service council, Staff of PARC and Birzeit university, School students, Members of water user association, Unemployed workers in Anin
Partners/ Beneficiaries:	PARC; Ecosan Club; Birzeit University – Institute of Environment and Water Studies; The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD)
Budget :	€ 3.578.499 (80% EU contribution : € 2.862.799,20 and 20% community contribution : € 715.699,80)

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Monitoring methodology

DESK RESEARCH by reviewing various DEMO documents

FIELD RESEARCH by using specific survey questionnaire & conducting interviews by the following tools:

Target Groups	Research Instruments
Contract managers	• One-to-one interview (Skype and / or telephone calls and/ or e-mail exchange)
Implementing Partners/ Project coordinators	• One-to-one interview (Skype and / or telephone calls and/ or e-mail exchange - face-to-face discussions) • Questionnaire survey
Project beneficiaries	• One-to-one interviews (face-to-face discussions) • Questionnaire survey
Project end-recipients	• One-to-one interviews (face-to-face discussions)
Indirect beneficiaries	• One-to-one interviews (face-to-face discussions)

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Monitoring methodology

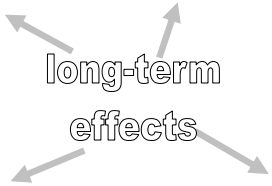
The mid-term assessment was conducted using the DAC evaluation criteria of:

RELEVANCE

EFFICIENCY

EFFECTIVENESS

IMPACT & SUSTAINABILITY



SWIM DEMO projects – Encountered challenges

Reuse of f treated wastewater for agricultural irrigation in Southern part of Gaza Strip - OXFAM

Rejection of AlShouka community as project's target area & identification of AlMawasi as the new project's target area due to opposition of farmers; this has influenced other actions

Promote wastewater treatment & reuse in water scarce areas in the Middle East & North Africa through development & demonstration of innovative instruments & inclusive management plans -ARIJ

The need to purchase different land from the one at which the baseline design was carried out, created some modifications within the project's scope

Changes in the items to be covered by the co-financing, because MoLG could not allocate the budget in the 2017/2018 fiscal year

A risk analysis was not carried out before the project was implemented

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SWIM DEMO projects – Encountered challenges

Innovative demonstrations on sustainable integrated management of wastewater & reclaimed water use in N-W Bank - PARC

The budget of the project was underestimated.

A 20% of the project's budget was assigned as financial community contribution – high percentage to be afforded by the community

No risk analysis study was carried out before the start of the project & it is expected that when the wastewater treatment unit and the sewage pipelines network are constructed, then the project will be under risk

All three DEMO projects are faced with unstable – turbulent external political environment

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Lessons learned

- ✓ All Demo projects are anticipated to have a positive impact to the local communities after their full implementation and enhance the effectiveness of local water resources governance.
- ✓ Design more targeted interventions in consideration of the sectors' needs and the target groups.
- ✓ A thorough risk analysis should be requested if not at the proposal phase, at least at the very beginning of the projects.
- ✓ Emphasis should be given on arrangements for financing and achieving sustainability of the projects, so that up-scaling is fostered in areas with similar conditions.
- ✓ As social acceptance of such projects cannot be guaranteed, consistent efforts for awareness raising are essential, since the very beginning of the projects, including education interventions at schools.
- ✓ The engagement of stakeholders is essential and stakeholders analysis is highly recommended for all projects.

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Lessons learned

- ✓ **Pilot projects should focus more on promoting the capacity building of local institutions / stakeholders and spread modern techniques and methodologies on the topics addressed by the initiatives.**
- ✓ **Knowledge of the region's /intervention area's local dynamics is advisable to avoid hindering issues.**
- ✓ **At the closure of the projects, all partners should be requested to provide recommendations on how they would have drafted differently the call that guided the drafting and design of their work plan, which at certain points had to be revised.**

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Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION 1	Enhance the scope of the call for proposals, increased focus on specific target groups and type of activities, and where appropriate introducing a territorial dimension.
RECOMMENDATION 2	Provide for a greater participation of the private sector.
RECOMMENDATION 3	Support the implementation of similar projects of larger scale, through wide-range grant schemes, including also support to increasing employment opportunities.
RECOMMENDATION 4	Perform Risk Analysis at the beginning of all projects; monitor and update regularly the analysis results.

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Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION 5	Improve project planning and coordination mechanisms and introduce/strengthen partner consultations from the project preparation phase.
RECOMMENDATION 6	Strengthen cross-sectoral / projects fertilization and complementarity among sectors / projects.
RECOMMENDATION 7	Include a cash for work element on TWW interventions should include a cash for work element.
RECOMMENDATION 8	Employ labour force from the areas of interventions.
RECOMMENDATION 9	Increase the sense of community ownership of the three projects.
RECOMMENDATION 10	Engage stakeholders, insist on awareness raising and education actions, since the very beginning of the projects.

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Thank you for your attention.

This Project is funded by the European Union