



NEWS RELEASE

Athens, 19 December 2018

Consultation Workshops on Drought, Water Scarcity and Definition of Protection Zones in Morocco

Two (2) consecutive Consultation Workshops for the finalization of the draft versions of the Decrees on “Drought and Water Scarcity” and “Protection Zones Delimitation”, were organized by the EU funded “SWIM and Horizon 2020 SM” Project on 5th and 6th of December 2018 in Rabat, Morocco.

During these two (2) Workshops, the contents of the two (2) draft Decrees were thoroughly discussed among sixty (60) representatives of the public sector, the ministerial departments concerned (Ministry of Agriculture, Sea Fishing, Rural Development and Water and Forests, Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water, Ministry of Industry, Investment, Commerce, Economics and Finances, as well as from the Ministries of Interior, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Sustainable Development, Hydraulic Basin Agencies, National Meteorological direction, National Office of Electricity and potable water (ONEE)), and the SWIM-H2020 SM team.

The water scarcity and drought, the definition of protection zones and the perimeters of safeguarding and prohibition in Morocco, as well as the specific experience of Euro-Mediterranean were presented to the participants. In addition, the problems encountered, the corrective actions possibly implemented, the technical, legal and institutional issues raised by the draft decrees were also examined.

Indeed, the stakeholders’ comments and exchange of views greatly contributed towards the finalization of the texts of the draft Decrees.

Apart from the two priority axes a. Drought and the scarcity of water and b. Definition of protection zones for safeguard and prohibition areas the SWIM H2020 SM team prepared the application texts of law n ° 36-15 in one more axis the **Desalination of seawater (a water sector’s priority)**, a relevant **Consultation Workshop was organized last October 2018.**

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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

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the SWIM-H2020 SM Project and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.