



Water and Environment Support

in the ENI Southern Neighbourhood region

Capacity building/trainings with pilot farmers' associations and relevant communities on optimal irrigation management and practices

INFORMATION NOTE & AGENDA

Consultation Workshop: Activity No.: N-W-PS-2

9 May 2022 (Videoconference)

WES Project "Water & Environment Support"

I. CONTEXT

As part of the second component of the project "Water and Environment Support (WES) in the ENI Neighbourhood South Region" funded by the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) South, an activity entitled "Capacity building/trainings with pilot farmers' associations and relevant communities on optimal irrigation management and practices" was launched following the kick-off meeting held by videoconference on 2 December, 2020, involving representatives of the WES project, the Palestinian Water Authority and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The activity aims to "improve the productivity and the irrigation water use efficiency (WUE) at the plot level (on-farm) and at the scheme level (off-farm) in two pilot WUAs.

The specific objectives of the activity are:

1. Increase the level of knowledge of the relevant authorities responsible for monitoring irrigation projects and irrigation savings in Palestine, with the aim to enable them to train other government technical staff, farmers and WUAs on:
 - a. Measures to increase WUE in collective irrigation systems.
 - b. The application of irrigation water (freshwater or treated wastewater) and optimal irrigation water management and practices at the on-farm level in order to increase the WUE and water productivity;
 - c. The impact of increased on-farm water productivity on the total freshwater withdrawals at the watershed level and irrigation scheme level
2. Development of awareness-raising materials on on-farm irrigation water savings and management (using fresh and treated waste water) targeting the farmers
3. Elaboration of technical guides targeting the WUAs for monitoring the WUA management performance and for improved management, operation and maintenance of collective irrigation networks.

II. TARGET AREA

The activity will target two farmers' communities and WUAs:





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1. Wadi Arroub Water user Association: Al Arroub – Hebron: in the South of the West Bank for which the water users Association is under establishment. Al Aroub farms are already using the treated wastewater discharged from Wadi Al-Aroub wastewater treatment plant as part of the irrigation reuse scheme that was established under SWIM-H2020 demonstration project. They also need to build their capacity in optimal irrigation management using treated waste water. There are around 30 farmers benefiting from the existing irrigation network. Around 30-40 Dunums are irrigated right now through the irrigation system.
2. Bab Al Sahel Water user Association: Deir al Ghusoun – Tulkarm: This is a newly licensed Water Users Association using groundwater for irrigation. Around 40 Farmers are benefitting from the irrigation system. According to the head of Association, the irrigation network is covering almost 500 Dunums.

III. OBJECTIVES

As part of task 1 of the said activity, it is planned to organize a half-day workshop with the stakeholders, aiming to:

1. Present an overview of the national activity in Palestine
2. Present the summary of the conclusions of the inception mission
3. Define the requirements and resources needed from the partners (as applicable) and agree on the activity's plan.
4. Promote the exchange of “experiences” between the participants and the exchange of “information” with the stakeholders on other relevant activities in the country / region and facilitate the process of capitalization and cross-fertilization
5. Discuss the role of stakeholders and agree on potential follow-up actions once the WES activity is completed including concrete relevant actions that they can undertake to implement during the WES project, and against which the partial impact of this activity could be assessed

Thus, the purpose of the workshop is to achieve the following results:

1. The needs and areas for which the training¹ of the trainers is necessary are agreed upon;
2. Gaps in farmers' awareness of optimal irrigation practices using fresh water or treated wastewater under various irrigation systems for increased WUE and WP are identified and agreed upon;

¹The training aims to improve the productivity and the irrigation water use efficiency at the plot level (on-farm) and at the scheme level (off-farm)





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3. A dialogue between the different stakeholders (including the private sector operating in the irrigation sector) is established;
4. An agreement is reached on the role of the stakeholders and their commitments during and after the end of the activity (through possible follow-up actions) and against which the partial impact of this activity could be assessed.

IV. PARTICIPATION

This workshop will involve:

1. Managers responsible for the studies, operation and maintenance (O&M), monitoring of irrigation water saving projects, planning of water supply and distribution of irrigation water in the pilot areas; from MOA.
2. PWA relevant staff
3. Representatives of the authorities responsible for extension,
4. Technical directors of the pilot WUAs and key educated farmers (with solid technical experience/knowledge),
5. Representatives from the private sector & NGOs/civil society organisations active in the field,
6. Representatives of major suppliers of irrigation technology, services and materials.

Other stakeholders involved:

- The Academia;
- Consumer associations;
- Women's and youth organizations in the region;
- Representatives of local authorities and communities,
- The media concerned with water issues at the local level as applicable.

V. MODERATION & RESSOURCE PERSONS

- Nicola LAMADDALENA – International Non-key Expert (CIHEAM Bari) - (WES)
- Fawzi Abdoh – Local Non-key Expert (WES)
- Abdelouahid FOUIAL – (CIHEAM Bari))
- Michael Scoullos – Team Leader (WES)
- Suzan TAHA: Water Key Expert (WES)

VI. INTEPRETATION

Interpretation EN/AR/EN will be available.





VII. LOCATION

Videoconference

VIII. AGENDA

Capacity building/trainings with pilot farmers' associations and relevant communities on optimal irrigation management and practices

Consultation Workshop:

9 May 2022 (11:00-14:30 Palestinian Time)

(Videoconference)

PROGRAMME

Time (Palestine)	Theme	Moderator
10:30 –11:00	Welcoming of participants	
11:00 - 11:20	Official opening of the workshop	Joao ANSELMO, EU delegation Michael SCULLOS (Team leader - WES) Majeda Alawneh - Palestine TBD - Palestine Nicola LAMADDALENA (Deputy director - CIHEAM Bari) Suzan TAHA, Key-expert in water (WES)
11:20 11:30	Framework of the workshop: objectives and procedures	Nicola LAMADDALENA – Non-key International Expert (CIHEAM Bari) - (WES)
11:30 – 12:15	Outcome of the diagnosis of the situation in the pilot area (including areas/practices that could be improved) (20 mins)	Fawzi ABDOH - Non-key local expert (WES)
	Results of the consultation with the suppliers of irrigation equipment and services (5 mins)	Abdelouahid FOUIAL – (CIHEAM Bari)
	Debate and discussions (20 mins)	Moderators: Nicola LAMADDALENA, Fawzi ABDOH, Abdelouahid FOUIAL
12:15 - 12:40	- Gaps in farmer awareness and in material on Irrigation Best Practices (5 minutes)	Fawzi ABDOH
	- Priority areas for the development of leaflets targeting farmers (5 minutes)	





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Time (Palestine)	Theme	Moderator
	Debate and discussions (15 mins)	Moderators: Nicola LAMADDALENA, Fawzi ABDOH, Abdelouahid FOUIAL
12:40 - 12:50	Break	
2:50 - 13:00	Conclusions of the inception phase and Recommendations for the training of trainers (10 mins)	Abdelouahid FOUIAL
13:00 - 13:10	Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem Nexus	Michael SCULLOS
13:10 - 13:20	Presentation of action plan for the activity	Abdelouahid FOUIAL
13:20 - 13:50	The role of stakeholders and concrete actions that they undertake to implement during the WES project (Debate)	Suzan TAHA (WES), and Emad ADLY
13:50 - 14:10	- Summary of results - Next Steps (Training)	Nicola LAMADDALENA, Fawzi ABDOH, Abdelouahid FOUIAL & Suzan TAHA
14:10 - 14:30	Evaluation of the workshop	All participants

