



Sustainable Health Care Waste Management

**WES NATIONAL ACTIVITY CO-ORGANISED WITH
THE ENVIRONMENT QUALITY AUTHORITY (EQA) IN PALESTINE**
(ACTIVITY NO: N-E-PS-1)

CONSULTATION AND TRAINING WORKSHOP

DATE AND PLACE: 16-18 May 2023, Ceasar Hotel, Ramallah, Palestine

GENERAL BACKGROUND:

Health care waste management in Palestine is driven by a number of concerns about potential health and environmental impacts. Some improvements in health care waste management have been noticed since 2006 (issuance of Health Care Waste Master Plan) in terms of preparedness and willingness to improve some practices in governmental as well as private hospitals and in the legal framework (new legislation adopted in 2012). Nevertheless, a number of studies and reports still refer to a number of challenges and problems. A recent one, conducted by the Japanese cooperation agency (JICA) in 2019, identified several gaps and needs, including inadequate waste management, high operational cost, improper and poor control over disposal practices, insufficient financial resources and level of awareness about health hazards (see Activity N-E-PS-1 Inception report, WES 2021).

Aiming at further improvement in health care waste management in the country, the Environment Quality Authority (EQA) of Palestine has asked the EU funded « Water and Environment Support (WES) in the ENI Neighbourhood South Region» project to implement a technical assistance activity on the issue of health care waste management. As a result, since December 2020, WES has been providing technical assistance to the EQA for a more sustainable health care waste management with the following objectives:

- support Palestine in the update of the Master Plan for Health Care Waste Management (and its Roadmap) and to reinforce the capacities of different actors to improve management practices;
- define a set of measures and actions to develop a contingency / emergency plan to be executed in crisis situations (outbreaks, conflicts, earthquakes, pandemics, etc.).
- strengthen national stakeholders' capacity in specific areas of Health Care Waste Management

The WES project is a regional technical support project that aims to protect the natural resources in the Mediterranean context and to improve the management of scarce water resources. WES mainly aims to solve the problems linked to environmental pollution and the unsustainable use of water.





OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTATION AND TRAINING WORKSHOP:

The 3-day meeting combines the below:

- Presentation and discussion on the revised Master Plan for Healthcare Waste Management and the Contingency Plan for Medical Waste Management. A dedicated Consultation meeting on the draft versions of both documents took place in November 2022.
- Delivery of a training on Health Care Waste Management practices, highlighted as of high importance during the revision process of the Master Plan.

PARTICIPANTS INVITED TO THE CONSULTATION AND WORKSHOP:

The participants invited to the training workshop are Environment Inspectors; Health Care waste operators; officials from the Environment Quality Authority (EQA), the Ministry of Health (MoH), the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG); other stakeholders involved in the sector.

TEAM OF WES EXPERTS:

This activity is implemented with the support and services of Ms. Françoise Bonnet of ACR+ (Association of Cities and Regions for Sustainable Resource Management), Mr. Jeroen Peter Kool of RHDHV (Royal Haskoning DHV), Ms. Mina Paidousi from LDK Consultants, and with the valuable support and contribution of the national experts Mr. Mohammad Hmaidi and Mr. Abdelmajid Nassar on behalf of MIO-ECSDE (Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development).

WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE 3-DAY MEETINGS:

The working languages will be English and Arabic



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DAY 1- TUESDAY 16TH OF MAY 2023

AGENDA

09:00 - 09:30	Registration
09:30 - 10:00	Session 1: Welcome and opening remarks
	Welcome and opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ahmed Abu Thaher, Environment Quality Authority • Mr. Suleiman Abu Mfarreh, Ministry of Local Government • Mr. Mahmoud Othman, Ministry of Health • Dr. Emad Adly, WES Stakeholder Engagement and Impact Assessment expert
10:00 - 10:45	Session 2: Current legal and institutional setup for Health Care Waste in Palestine
	Current legal and institutional setup for Health Care Waste in Palestine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gaps and challenges for Health Care Waste in Palestine - WES contribution to addressing the challenges <i>Mrs. Françoise Bonnet, WES Expert</i> Moderated discussion <i>Moderator: Mr. Mohammad Hmaid, WES expert</i>
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 - 12:30	Session 3: The updated Health Care Waste Master Plan and Contingency Plan
	Presentation of the updated Health Care Waste Master Plan and the Contingency Plan <i>Mr. Mohammad Hmaid, WES expert</i> Moderated discussion for stakeholder inputs <i>Moderator: Mrs. Françoise Bonnet, WES Expert</i>
12:30 - 13:15	Session 4: Introduction to the Training on HCWM
	Overview of the training needs to be addressed over the next 2 days <i>Mr. Jeroen Peter Kool, WES Expert (on-line)</i>
13:15 - 14:00	Session 5: Wrap-up and closing of day 1
	Wrap-up of day 1 and consultation conclusions <i>Moderator: Mr. Mohammad Hmaid, WES expert</i>
14:00	Lunch



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DAY 2- WEDNESDAY 17TH OF MAY 2023

AGENDA

08:30 - 09:00	Registration
09:00 - 09:15	Opening and introduction to day 2 <i>Mr. Ahmed Abu Thaher, EQA and Mr. Mohammad Hmaid, WES expert</i>
09:15 - 10:30	Session 6: Understanding Healthcare Waste: Risks to Health and the Environment
	Opening quiz Definition of Health Care Waste <i>Mr. Mohammad Hmaid, WES expert</i> Environmental and public health risks that may be caused by Health Care Waste: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the most important public health risks and how can they be mitigated? What are the main environmental threats and how can they be prevented? <i>Mr. Jeroen Peter Kool, WES Expert (on-line)</i> Discussion
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee break
10:45 - 12:15	Session 7: Health Care Waste security and environment measures
	Operational challenges, Health Care Waste security measures, environmental protection checklist <i>Mr. Jeroen Peter Kool, WES Expert (on-line)</i> Discussion
12:15 - 13:30	Session 8: Effective Standard Operating Procedures
	Effective Standard Operating Procedures: A Comprehensive Guide to Data, Organizational, and Financial Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard operations procedures Data requirements, quality, and reporting Required human resources and staffing capabilities KPIs and benchmarking <i>Mr. Mohammad Hmaid, WES expert</i> Discussion
13:30 - 14:00	Wrap-up and closing of day 2
14:00	Lunch



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DAY 3- WEDNESDAY 18TH OF MAY 2023

AGENDA

08:30 - 09:00	Registration
09:00 - 09:15	Opening and introduction to day 3 <i>Mr. Ahmed Abu Thaher, EQA and Mr. Mohammad Hmaid, WES expert</i>
09:15 - 10:45	Session 9: Managing Healthcare Waste: Requirements for on-site Storage, Transportation, Treatment, and Disposal Facilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz Requirements for storage of Health Care Waste. Requirements for transportation of Health Care Waste. <p><i>Mr. Mohammad Hmaid, WES expert</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 - 12:30	Session 9 (Cont.): Managing Healthcare Waste: Requirements for on-site Storage, Transportation, Treatment, and Disposal Facilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment options of Health Care Waste and disposal site requirements. HCW facilities requirements. <p><i>By Mr. Mohammad Hmaid, WES expert</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
12:30 - 13:30	Session 10: Contingency and emergency requirements
	<p>Contingency and emergency planning inspection requirements</p> <p>Grievance mechanisms</p> <p><i>Mr. Jeroen Peter Kool, WES Expert (on-line)</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
13:30 - 14:30	Session 11: Evaluation, follow-up and closing
	<p>Closing quiz</p> <p>Training evaluation and trainee commitments</p> <p><i>Mr. Mohammad Hmaid Mr. Jeroen Peter Kool (on-line).</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Emad Adly TBC (On-line)</i></p> <p>Wrap-up and closing of the training workshop</p> <p><i>Mr. Ahmed Abu Thaher, EQA and Mr. Mohammad Hmaid, WES expert</i></p>
14:30	Lunch