



WES newsletter

Water and Environment Support (WES) project

The “Water and Environment Support (WES) in the ENI Southern Neighbourhood Region” is a regional project funded by the European Union. It aims at protecting the environment and improving the management of scarce water resources in the Mediterranean region. Among the key objectives of WES is to tackle problems related to pollution prevention and water use efficiency. WES capitalises on the experience of previous successful EU funded projects (Horizon 2020 CB/MEP 2010-2014, SWIM SM, SWIM and Horizon 2020, 2015-2019) strives for creating the enabling environment and increasing the relevant capacities of all stakeholders in the partner countries.

WES supports the shift to a more sustainable consumption and production model, promotes an integrated and efficient management of water, combats plastic pollution and marine litter and fosters dialogue on key environmental and sustainable development issues. It operates as a support mechanism to the Partner Countries, creating synergies and opportunities for collaboration and dissemination of information and good practices. WES also provides support to its institutional partners, namely the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan of the Barcelona Convention by facilitating specific regional strategies and dialogues as well as by undertaking joint activities.

The WES Partner Countries are Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Libya, Palestine¹ and Tunisia.

1 This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of Member States on this issue.

Editorial

One of the most difficult issues in designing and implementing capacity building and technical assistance interventions on specific priority areas is how to get into sufficient depth for effectively addressing a specific challenge, while providing adequate and accurate information for the theoretical background and the operational models and frameworks within which the suggested measures could be taken.

This combination is of critical importance for relatively new abstract concepts and new emerging challenges such as “circular economy” and “single use plastics” respectively.

The way WES is trying to address this difficulty, is by combining two things:

1. Regional meetings complemented with study visits and, eventually, Peer to Peer exchanges for all Partner Countries on the most important general issues where new concepts are clarified, discussed and explained on the basis of concrete and tangible examples and good practices.
2. National Activities in addressing specific challenges employing appropriate technical and institutional tools.



The most recent example of such approach was provided within the last few months by implementing, on the one hand, the Regional Training on Innovative Circular Economy Business Models in the Mediterranean, complemented by: (1) a study visit to Barcelona, Spain and (2) an ongoing, for a year, Peer to Peer exchange, and on the other, by implementing a twin activity in Jordan to combat the plastic pollution and particularly that of single-use-plastics (SUPs) by elaborating a public-private roadmap in synergy with recommendations for stakeholders on Green Economy and more specifically on Green Banking and Green Investment opportunities to curb plastic waste.

The resulted report produced by the combined contribution of two groups of experts working both on technical and institutional/green economy aspects of the issue was very well received by a large stakeholder meeting, including also representatives of the EUD, the relevant Ministries at the highest level, the Central Bank of Jordan, the private sector, Academia and the civil society.

It became clear that WES efforts have been instrumental and supportive for discussing a new Strategy for promoting green economy and specific green projects to address SUPs.

Discussions between the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) and the World Bank are in the pipeline for the finalization of the Strategy. Furthermore, WES has identified areas of potential green investment for recycling and replacement of SUPs in Jordan.

WES believes that the promotion of transformation of the current economy into a green one could be obtained in a much more efficient way by combining top-down institutional approaches and bottom-up interventions based on actual green investment, efforts that need identification of opportunities, encouragement and incentives.

Professor Michael Scoullos
WES Team Leader


► [Read more](#)

A new WES Video!

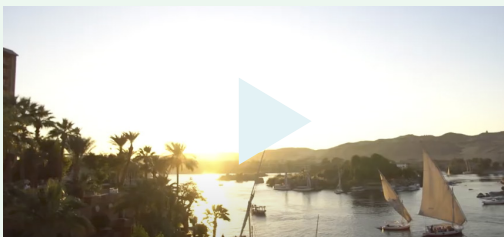
WES project released a video introducing the key components of an Integrated Approach to sustainable Construction & Demolition Waste Management (CDWM), as well as highlights from a relevant WES Study Visit that took place in September 2022, in Marseilles, with participants from seven Mediterranean countries.

The film complements national and regional activities implemented by the WES project for the development of environmentally safe, financially viable and sustainable CDWM solutions adapted to local contexts.

► [Read more](#)



Construction and Demolition Waste Management
full version English subtitles



Construction and Demolition Waste Management
short version English subtitles

► [All WES videos are available here](#)

Two WES activities to support the Ministry of Environment of Jordan towards the Green and Circular Economy

As the WES national “twin” activities in Jordan are nearing their conclusion, the team of WES environment experts organised a consultation workshop, on the 17th of May 2023, in Amman, to present and discuss with key stakeholders, the outcomes of the two interlinked WES national activities on plastic waste management in Jordan, and in particular a draft Roadmap to address SUP items, as well as the draft recommendations for stakeholders on green banking and green investment opportunities to curb plastic waste in Jordan.

► [Read more](#)

WES Activities on Non-Revenue Water Management

EGYPT



As part of WES activity “Strengthen the water utilities capacities to manage/reduce Non-Revenue Water (NRW) and detect leakage in Egypt”, the WES team of water experts have successfully prepared and organised a 3-day Training on 13-15/02/2023, at the headquarters of the Asyut Water and Wastewater Company (AWWC) in Egypt.

During the Training of Trainers, 15 experts of AWWC were introduced to issues such as NRW, Mapping and GIS, Hydraulic Modelling, Zone/DMA design, Water Losses and Water Balance, Developing an NRW Reduction Plan, Monitoring Performances of NRW Management.

► [Read more](#)

JORDAN



H.E. Eng. Mohammad Dweiri, Assistant Secretary General for planning affairs of the Jordanian Ministry of Water and Irrigation, underlined the importance of this WES activity to support Jordan's national strategy for water and therefore to ensure an increased availability of water for Jordanians at lower cost.

WES project continues to support Jordan's water sector in its on-going efforts to reduce Non-Revenue Water (NRW), thus contributing to improved network efficiency, improved service provision and increased cost recovery.

The WES team of water experts have successfully prepared and organised a Consultation Workshop on the 20th of March 2023, in Amman, during which the findings and results of the NRW background policy report were presented, together with a proposal for the main axes/themes around which the final policy paper will be developed.

H.E. Eng. Mohammad Dweiri, Assistant Secretary General for planning affairs of the Jordanian Ministry of Water and Irrigation, underlined the importance of this WES activity to support Jordan's national strategy for water and therefore to ensure an increased availability of water for Jordanians at lower cost.

► [Read more](#)

ALGERIA



Since June 2020, WES project, has been engaged in the implementation of an activity in cooperation with the Ministry of Water Resources of Algeria, to assist the public water service 'L'Algérienne Des Eaux' (ADE) to target the reduction of non-revenue water (NRW) and to pursue its efforts to improve NRW management in the country.

During the last phase of this activity, a national consultation workshop was organised on the 4th of May 2023 in Algiers.

The team of WES water experts presented to more than 40 key stakeholders the summary of the tasks accomplished during the activity, as well as the results, conclusions and recommendations on the subject.

► [Read more](#)

WES is supporting Palestinians to access fresh water at lower cost



Water scarcity and inadequate water infrastructure in Palestine has resulted in water demand exceeding the available supply for all uses. Since 2021, WES project continues to implement an activity to support the Palestinian Water Authority and related stakeholders in improving revenue generation including through out-sourcing to the private sector and thus help improve water services provision and their resilience to external shocks.

The WES team of water experts organised a hybrid Consultation Workshop on the 16th of March 2023, at the Tulkarm Municipality Meeting Hall in Palestine, during which they presented:

1. The results and findings of the rapid review and assessment of the existing institutional and legal framework governing the engagement of the private sector in water services in Palestine.
2. The actions recommended for improved billing and collection practices in the pilot Area of Tulkarm municipality, and the conclusions regarding the feasibility of Micro PSP as an option at this stage to improve the financial management of public water services in the country. Good practices on regional/international level and respective improvements on existing practices were also stated.

► [Read more](#)

For more information, please contact:

Lisa Papadogeorgaki : lpa@ldk.gr

WES Key Expert Communication and networking

Meanwhile, stay updated via: www.wes-med.eu

[f @sustainablemediterranean](https://www.facebook.com/sustainablemediterranean) [t @WesMed19](https://twitter.com/WesMed19) [@Wes_med](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) [in @wes-med-project](https://www.linkedin.com/company/wes-med-project)



WES

The Water and Environment Support project in the Southern Mediterranean Neighbourhood aims at protecting the environment and improving the management of scarce water resources in the Mediterranean region. It will tackle problems related to pollution prevention and water use efficiency. WES is a regional project with emphasis on the countries of North Africa and the Middle East (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia).

Disclaimer

This newsletter was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the WES Project and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.