



Final Consultation Workshop of the Policy Dialogue in Palestine

Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector

Project labelled under the Union for the Mediterranean

2 December 2015

Movenpick hotel, Ramallah, Palestine

The Fourth and Final Consultation Workshop of the Palestinian Policy Dialogue, within the *Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector* project, is organised under the patronage of H.E. Mazen Ghuneim, Minister and Chairman of the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA), in Ramallah, on **Wednesday 2 December 2015**.

Aim of the Workshop

This Workshop represents a concrete milestone of the Policy Dialogue that marks the **Conclusion of the Policy Dialogue** and **Official Launch** of the **Report 'Water Governance in Palestine: Sector Reform to include Private Sector Participation'**, product of the inclusive consultation process and the comprehensive technical work. The Report includes a diagnostic part on the main governance challenges in Palestine's water sector impeding its sustainable financing, including through the Private Sector Participation (PSP), and the ways to overcome those through targeted action in the form of a set of recommendations and an Action Plan.

Further to the Report's launching, the Workshop will discuss the ways forward and the implementation of the country-tailored roadmap for action.

Background

Following the formal request from PWA, the Palestinian Policy Dialogue was launched in November 2014 during a multi-stakeholder event (First Consultation Workshop, 13 November 2014, Ramallah) with the main objective to identify and effectively address the key governance bottlenecks in the sustainable financing of water services, including through PSP. The work involved a wide range of stakeholders from public authorities, private sector, civil society, academia, and donor community, in a structured Policy Dialogue that through regular consultation workshops and bilateral meetings supported the development of analytical/technical work for informed decision-making. During the Second Workshop (6 May 2015, Ramallah), key actors in the country's water and wastewater sector deliberated upon the draft National Report 'Water Governance in Palestine: Sector Reform to include Private Sector Participation', outlining the key governance obstacles to sustainable financing so as to build a common understanding on the *status quo* and identify plausible ways forward to overcome the challenges with due reference to gender-sensitive and pro-poor considerations. In the Third Consultation Workshop (16 June 2015, Ramallah), this multi-stakeholder platform assisted with refining the recommendations and agreed on an Action Plan containing actions based on international tools and best practices and tailor-made to the Palestinian context. Throughout the process and further to the regular consultation workshops, bilateral/multilateral meetings supported the development of the technical work. The key findings of this work can support informed decision-making and serve as a tool in the hands of policy makers as well as the actors involved in the sector.



Agenda <i>Wednesday, 2 December 2015</i>	
09:30 – 10:00	Networking Coffee & Registration
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Welcoming remarks</p> <p><i>Eng. Yousef Awayes</i> on behalf of <i>H.E. Mazen Ghuneim</i>, Minister/Chairman, Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)</p> <p>Remarks by the institutional partners of the project <i>Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector</i>:</p> <p><i>Eng. Almotaz Abadi</i>, Senior Expert, Water and Environment, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Secretariat</p> <p><i>Dr. Anthi Brouma</i>, Project Coordinator, Global Water Partnership- Mediterranean (GWP-Med)</p>
10:30 – 11:30	<p>Main highlights from the technical findings</p> <p><i>H.E. Koussai Quteishat</i>, Former Secretary General at the Jordanian Ministry of Water and Irrigation & Lead expert</p>
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 13:15	<p>Next steps and the Action Plan</p> <p>Brief outline of the roadmap for action followed by open discussion</p>
13:15– 13:30	Closing remarks
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch



About the Water Policy Dialogue

The Palestinian Policy Dialogue (2014-2015) was conducted by the Global Water Partnership- Mediterranean (GWP-Med) in close collaboration with the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA) and within the framework of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) labelled project 'Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector' with the financial support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the GEF – UNEP/MAP MedPartnership programme. The Dialogue aimed at building a shared consensus among key stakeholders on the main bottlenecks to sustainable financing, including from the private sector, in Palestine's water sector and on actions to effectively address them. These actions –based on best practices and internationally recognised tools– are included in an analytical country Report, based on technical work conducted by GWP-Med with the assistance of PWA.

The overall project 'Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector' has been designed by GWP-Med and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Strategic partnerships with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the FEMIP Trust Fund (FTF) of the European Investment Bank (EIB), the GEF – UNEP/MAP MedPartnership programme and the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI) have been instrumental in setting the project in motion and under effective implementation.