

1st Regional Conference

Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector

Project labelled under the Union for the Mediterranean

Conference organised in cooperation with the **EU-funded SWIM-SM project**

28-30 October 2014

Athens, Greece

Venue: Acropolis Museum & Hotel Divani Acropolis

Agenda

DAY 1 - 28 October 2014 Venue: Acropolis Museum	
14:00 - 15:00	Registration and light lunch
15:00 - 17:30	<p>Opening Session Chair: <i>Prof. Michael Scoullas</i>, Chairman, Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming remarks by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>H.E. Naser Tahboub</i>, Deputy Secretary General, Environment and Water Division, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) ○ <i>Julien Serre</i>, Policy and Strategy Advisor, European Investment Bank (EIB) ○ <i>Gaetano Leone</i>, Coordinator, UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan • Remarks and reflections on financing water infrastructure in the Mediterranean <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>H.E. Djana Bejko</i>, Deputy Minister of Environment, Republic of Albania ○ <i>H.E. Mohammed Najjar</i>, Former Minister, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan • Keynote on the status of water PPP in the Mediterranean Region, <i>Koussai Quteishat</i>, former Secretary General, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan • Brief introduction to the projects and the scope of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Stavros Damianidis</i>, Project Director, SWIM-SM ○ <i>Nick Malyshev</i>, Head, Regulatory Policy, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) ○ <i>Anthi Brouma</i>, Head, MENA Region, GWP-Med
18:00 - 19:00	Guided tour at the Acropolis Museum
20:00	Dinner

DAY 2 - 29 October 2014 Venue: Hotel Divani Acropolis	
09:00–10:45	<p>Session I: Addressing the bottlenecks in the governance-financing nexus for the water sector <i>Part I: The Results of the Policy Dialogues in Jordan and Tunisia</i></p> <p>Chair: <i>H.E. Naser Tahboub</i>, Deputy Secretary General, Environment and Water Division, UfM Facilitators: GWP-Med & OECD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the core findings from the policy dialogues in Jordan and Tunisia, <i>Celine Kauffmann</i>, Deputy Head, Regulatory Policy Division & <i>Aziza Akhmouch</i>, Head, Water Governance Programme, OECD Public Governance & Territorial Development Directorate (25') <p>Open discussion (20')</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking forward the reforms of the water sector in Jordan, <i>Iyad Dahiyat</i>, Director, Programme Management Unit, Jordanian Ministry of Water and Irrigation (15') • Taking forward the reforms of the water sector in Tunisia, <i>Belgacem Ayed</i>, General Director of Infrastructures, Tunisian Ministry of Development and International Cooperation (15') • The perspective of the EIB, <i>Edouard Perard</i>, Economist, EIB (10') <p>Open discussion (20')</p>
10:45-11:15	Coffee Break
11:15-13:00	<p>Session I: Addressing the bottlenecks in the governance-financing nexus for the water sector <i>Part II: Taking forward the reforms of the water sector in Jordan and Tunisia into the wider region</i></p> <p>Chair: <i>Dionysia Avgerinopoulou</i>, President, Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD) Facilitators: OECD & GWP-Med</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences from relevant work outside the Mediterranean, <i>Celine Kauffmann</i>, Deputy Head, Regulatory Policy Division, OECD (10') <p>Panel interventions by (45')</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Abdenour Ait Mansour</i>, General Director, National Water Utility (ADE), Algeria • <i>Atter Hannoura</i>, Director of PPP Central Unit, Ministry of Finance, Egypt • <i>Diala El Chaar</i>, Financial Expert, Higher Council for Privatisation, Lebanon • <i>Abdelhafid Reffouh</i>, Head of Research Division, General Directorate for Local Government, Department of Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Interior, Morocco • <i>Mohamed Hassan</i>, Head of Technical Regulation, Water & Wastewater Regulatory Agency (EWRA), Egypt <p>Open discussion (50')</p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	<p>Session II: Cross-cutting issues and stakeholder engagement in the governance-financing nexus</p> <p>Chair: <i>Prof. Michael Scoullas</i>, Chairman, GWP-Med</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key intervention introducing the session, <i>Niclas Ihrén</i>, Founder, Director of Strategy, Demos Effect (20')

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainstreaming gender in water: the GWP Gender Strategy, Natalia Alexeeva, Senior Network Officer, Global Water Partnership (10') • Building Capacities on Water Integrity in the MENA region, Maria Jacobson, Programme Manager, Stockholm International Water Institute (10') <p>Open discussion (15')</p> <p>The voices of civil society (15') - Interventions by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Emad Adly</i>, Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED) • <i>Samar Salma</i>, Media Officer and Projector Coordinator, Friend of the Earth Middle East (FoEME) • <i>Anastasia Roniotes</i>, Head Officer, Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE) <p>Open Discussion (20')</p>
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-17:30	<p>Session III: Regional Platform for Water PSP in the Mediterranean</p> <p>Facilitators: <i>Fuad Bateh</i>, Senior Advisor, Environment & Water Division, Union for the Mediterranean & <i>Anthi Brouma</i>, Head, MENA Region, GWP-Med</p> <p>Interventions by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Katia Adamo</i>, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Cooperation, Trade, and Land Management Division, UNECE (10') • <i>Stefania Romano</i>, Director of the Italian Trust Fund, Regional Environmental Center (REC) & Chief of Operations at CEO Platform for Green Growth in MENA (10') • <i>Ivan Draganic</i>, UNDP Programme Specialist, Global Water Solidarity (10') <p>Panel reflections (30') by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Delmar Blasco</i>, Coordinator, Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet) • <i>Hachmi Kennou</i>, Executive Director at Mediterranean Water Institute (IME), Governor at the World Water Council • <i>Khaled Abu Zeid</i>, Manager, Regional Water Resources Programme, CEDARE • <i>Ramiro Fausto Martínez Costa</i>, Coordinator, Mediterranean Network of Basin Organisations (MENBO) <p>Open Discussion (30')</p>
20:00	Dinner

DAY 3 - 30 October 2014 Venue: Hotel Divani Acropolis	
09:00-10:30	<p>Session IV: In search of sustainable financing mechanisms for water services</p> <p>Part I: The work of donors and other initiatives/projects</p> <p>Chair: <i>H.E. Djan Bejko</i>, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment, Albania</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote presentation on SWIM-SM work on financing water services, <i>Charbel Rizk</i>, Environment Expert, SWIM-SM (25') • Lessons learned of operational pollution reduction projects (MeHSIP-PPIF - Validation Exercise), <i>Vassilis Nikitas</i>, Director of Operations, HCL Consultants (20') <p>Open discussion (45')</p>
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-12:30	<p>Session IV: In search of sustainable financing mechanisms for water services</p> <p>Part II: The role of banks, insurance and private companies</p> <p>Chair: <i>H.E. Mohammed Najjar</i>, Former Minister, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Jordan</p> <p>Facilitators: <i>Charbel Rizk</i>, Environment Expert, SWIM-SM & <i>Sarra Touzi</i>, Senior Programme Officer, GWP-Med</p> <p>Panel interventions from the banking sector (15')</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Adli Kandah</i>, Director General, Association of Banks in Jordan • <i>Samir Nasr</i>, Chairman and CEO, ECE Capital SAL <p>Open discussion (15')</p> <p>Panel interventions from insurance companies (15')</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Fady Chammas</i>, Chairman, DIMO Consulting Co • <i>Ayelet Yosfan-Shaul</i>, Deputy Head of the PPP Projects Division, Inbal Insurance Company Ltd <p>Open Discussion (15')</p> <p>Panel interventions by private sector companies (15')</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tarek Abu Dehays</i>, Founder & CEO, AquaTreat • <i>Dana Christina Craciunescu –Schaapman</i>, Senior Investment Expert, Infrastructure Management Associates <p>Open discussion (15')</p>
12:30-13:15	<p>Conclusions & Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of key points raised & next steps, <i>Prof. Michael Scoullas</i>, Chairman, GWP-Med & <i>Charbel Rizk</i>, Environment Expert, SWIM-SM (20') • Closing remarks (25') <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Maria Peppas</i>, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, Greece ○ <i>H.E. Naser Tahboub</i>, Deputy Secretary General, Environment and Water Division, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) ○ <i>Stavros Damianidis</i>, Project Director, SWIM-SM ○ <i>Vangelis Constantianos</i>, Executive Secretary, GWP-Med
13:15-14:30	Lunch
End of the Conference	