



Third Consultation Workshop of the Policy Dialogue in Palestine

Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector

Project labelled under the Union for the Mediterranean

16 June 2015

Movenpick Hotel, Ramallah, Palestine

The Third 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 16 June 2015.

Aim of the Workshop

The Third Workshop represents a concrete and concluding milestone of the Policy Dialogue, aiming to convene key stakeholders and pave the way for a shared understanding of a set of practical tools, which are identified in the course of the Dialogue and through the use of internationally recognised practices. These tools can help overcome the main governance-related obstacles to Private Sector Participation (PSP) in Palestine's water sector, as diagnosed in the final draft Report '*Governance in Palestine: Sector Reform to include Private Sector Participation*', tangible result of the ongoing technical work and the multi-stakeholder Policy dialogue process conducted in Palestine, and as discussed during the Second Consultation Workshop.

Methodology

The setting of the Workshop comprises a mix of interventions and open, inclusive discussions, both focusing on the key findings of the technical work as presented in the revised version of the Report. This document –to be shared with the participants prior to the meeting– further to outlining the key governance challenges to PSP in the water services, it identifies recommendations in three critical areas and shapes them in the form of an Action Plan. Discussions will help refine these recommendations and the roadmap of actions. Following the Workshop, the draft Report will be amended to incorporate the received contribution and be finalised until August.

Background

The Palestinian Policy Dialogue, was launched during the First Consultation Workshop (13 November 2014, Ramallah), with the main objective to identify and address the key governance bottlenecks in the sustainable financing of water services, including through private sector involvement. This work involves a wide range of stakeholders from public authorities, private sector, civil society and donor community, in a structured Policy Dialogue that through regular consultation workshops supports the development of analytical/technical work for informed decision-making. The Second Workshop (6 May 2015, Ramallah) convened more than 40 key stakeholders of the country's water and wastewater sector to discuss the draft National Report '*Governance in Palestine: Sector Reform to include Private Sector Participation*', outlining the key governance challenges to sustainable financing and to help build a common understanding on those challenges.



Agenda Tuesday, 16 June 2015

08:30 – 09:00	Registration & Coffee
09:00 – 09:30	<p>Opening remarks</p> <p><i>Eng. Yousef Awayes on behalf of H.E. Mazen Ghuneim, Minister/Chairman, Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)</i> <i>H.E. Gunnar Olvik, Consul, Consulate General of Sweden</i></p> <p>‘Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector’ project: Brief report on the project’s progress</p> <p><i>Mr. Ahmad Hindi, Director General for National Water Council Unit, PWA & Focal Point</i> <i>Dr. Anthi Brouma, Head, MENA Region, GWP-Med & Project Coordinator</i> <i>H.E. Koussai Quteishat, Former Secretary General at the Jordanian Ministry of Water and Irrigation & Lead expert</i></p>
09:30– 10:00	<p>Diagnostic analysis of the Palestinian water sector following contribution of key stakeholders</p> <p><i>Status of the sector: Key findings from the analysis, including socio-economic and financial aspects</i></p> <p>Interventions & Open Discussion</p>
10:00 – 10:15	Coffee break
10:15 – 12:15	<p>Ways to move forward</p> <p><i>Improving the budgetary processes</i> <i>Developing the regulatory framework</i> <i>Engaging stakeholders in the governance-financing nexus</i></p> <p>Interventions & Open Discussion</p>
12:15-14:20	A roadmap for moving forward: concrete actions based on best practices and internationally recognised tools
14:20 – 14:30	Conclusions & Next Steps
14:30 – 15:30	Lunch



About the Water Policy Dialogue

The Palestinian Policy Dialogue (2014-2015) is 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 aims 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– will be 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.