

Speakers

First UfM Annual Conference on Water Investment and Financing

Public-Private Partnerships and Financial Sustainability of the Water Sector

Organised in partnership with ISPI and GWP-Med in the framework
of the Mediterranean Dialogues

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H.E. Nasser Kamel

Secretary General, UfM

Ambassador Nasser Kamel is Secretary General at the UfM Secretariat. He is a career diplomat for the Egyptian government and held the position of Ambassador of Egypt to the United Kingdom from 2014 to 2018. He was also Ambassador to France in the period 2006-2012, during which he took part in the drafting of the Joint Declaration of the 2008 Paris Summit that marked the launch of the Union for the Mediterranean.

Furthermore, between 2012 and 2014, he was Assistant Minister for Arab and Middle Eastern Affairs. From 2004 to 2006, he was the Director of Egypt's Public Information Service. Prior to this position he served in various embassies, including Washington (1984-1988), Lisbon (1990-1994), Tunis (1994-1998), Brussels (1999-2001) and Paris (2001-2004).

Mr. Kamel studied Political Science at Brussels University (1977-1979) and Cairo University's Faculty of Economics and Political Science, obtaining his bachelor's degree in 1981. He graduated from the Diplomatic Institute – Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Cairo (1981-1982) and the École Nationale d'Administration (ENA) in Paris (1982-1983). He holds the title of Grand Officier de l'Ordre National du Mérite of the Republic of France and has also received decorations from the Kingdom of Belgium and the Republic of Portugal.



Hon. Emanuela Claudia Del Re

Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy

Italian scholar, sociologist, she is an expert in Conflict Studies, Migrations, Refugee Issues, Minorities, Religious Phenomena.

She has carried out long researches on field in conflict areas and areas in transition since 1990, following the social-political-economic transformation of countries and regions such as the Balkans, the Caucasus, North Africa, the Middle East and other.

Tenured researcher, she has obtained the title of Associated Professor in Sociology by the Italian Min. of Education and Research in 2014. She has been Jean Monnet Professor and course co-coordinator on “European Culture(s), Citizenship(s) and Governance” in the Faculty of Communication Sciences of the University La Sapienza of Rome, where she has taught for many years. Lecturer in various Italian and international masters and PhD courses organized by prestigious institutions.

Elected National Coordinator of the section Sociology of Religion of the Italian Sociological Association (AIS) since 2017, she has created “Mondoreligioni-World of Religions”, an initiative promoting interreligious dialogue and citizenship awareness on religions.

Member of the secretariat of the Forum for Cities in Transition active in more than 40 cities in conflict areas. Creator of synergy networks between local institutions, governmental institutions and academic institutions in many countries and conflict areas with personal interaction with numerous communities.

Founder of EPOS Intl. Mediating and Negotiating Operational Agency, active in conflict areas with projects for the reconstruction of the civil society. Member of the scientific committee and editing board, and regular contributor of various leading scientific magazines, including “Limes, Italian Geopolitical Review”. She is the director of the Book Series “Globalitical”, ARACNE, Rome.

Panelist and speaker in many international fora. Member of numerous think tanks, institutes and organizations. Author of a vast number of scientific essays and volumes, and director of documentaries.

She has been International Electoral Observer for the UN, EU, OSCE in more than 15 missions.



H.E. Samir Taieb

Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia

Samir Taieb was appointed Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries of Tunisia in August 2016. He is a Professor in General Law and Political Science and has been teaching at the University of Law and Political Science in Tunis since 1995. After the 2011 revolution, he was elected as a member of the “National Constituent Assembly” in the elections of 23rd October 2011 and a representative of the Tunis 1 area.

He is also a member of the “Constitutional Laboratory” and a member of the research unit on “Government and Society and Culture” at the University of Law and Political Science. In July 2011, he obtained a degree of the “Fulbright Institute” of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and is also the founding member and vice-president of the “National Observatory of Democratic Transition”. He published many articles in Tunisian and foreign publications on constitutional law, political science, penal law and public finance.



H.E. Joe Mizzi

Minister for Energy and Water Management, Malta

Mr. Joe Mizzi (born on 7th of March 1952) is a Maltese politician who has been a Member of Parliament since 1987. He became Malta's Minister for Energy and Water Management in June 2017. Joe served as Minister for Transport and Infrastructure for the period March 2013 to June 2017, and from October 1996 to September 1998 served as Minister without Portfolio in the Office of the Prime Minister. He was first elected a member of the Maltese Parliament representing the Malta Labour Party for the second electoral district in May 1987 General Elections.

Joe Mizzi received his post-secondary education at the Malta Technical Institute; subsequently he followed a course in Advanced Electronics and Telecommunications.

Mr. Mizzi has been actively involved in the Malta Labour Party since 1975 when he joined as a member of the Kalkara Youth committee of the Malta Labour Party and was appointed Propaganda Secretary.

Mr Mizzi was first elected to the Maltese Parliament in May 1987 when he contested Malta's general elections for the first time and was elected a Labour Party MP.

He was re-elected a Member of Parliament in 1992, 1996, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013 and 2017 General Elections, representing the Second Electoral District.

Mizzi started his career working as a Technician/Operator in the Computer Room based on a ship dedicated to Seismic Surveys (Oil Exploration) in the Maltese territory between 1971 and 1972.

Later, he was engaged as a Radio Officer on merchant ships where he continued until 1975 when pursued his techniques in the sector of Telecommunications up to 1992, holding the post of Senior Technician with Deutsche Welle Radio.

In 1983 he was entrusted by the Labour Government in assisting the setting up and formation of RTV Ltd, where he later served for a number of years as the Technical Director, representing the government side.



Ali Subah

Secretary General

Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Jordan

Eng. Ali Subah is the Secretary General of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI). He holds a master's degree in Water Resources Management from Delft-IHE Institute in Netherlands and a Bachelor degree in Hydrogeological Engineering from Belgrade University.

Eng. Subah is a reference in Jordanian water issues, ranging from geology, hydrogeology, and water engineering, to water management and planning as well as strategy and policy design and implementation. His expertise in dealing with a wide range of international projects and interventions is very rich through his long experience in the field due to the vast level of involvement and magnitude of implemented projects. He has represented the Jordanian water sector in many important local and international events such as conferences and seminars as well as governmental negotiations.

Eng. Subah started his work in the water sector as a hydrogeological Engineer at the Water Authority of Jordan in 1995 and he became the Director of Groundwater Protection Studies Unit in 2004. In 2009 he was appointed as the National Water Master Plan Director in addition to his former position. At that time he was awarded the Employee Excellence Certificate.

In 2011 he was appointed as SGA for Technical Affairs, when he became SGA for Strategic Planning after the restructuring of the Ministry in 2014. He was been appointed the Secretary General of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation in Dec. 2017 which is the position he is currently holding.



Amb. Enrico Granara

**Coordinator of Euro-Mediterranean Multilateral Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy**

Enrico Granara was born in Asmara (Eritrea) in 1955, where he lived until the age of 18. He graduated in Political Sciences at the University of Padua in 1978. After a brief experience as export manager, he joined the Italian Foreign Service in 1983. He was assigned to Maputo in 1984, where he served as First Secretary for Development and Emergency Aid at the Italian Embassy in Mozambique.

In 1988 he was appointed to the post of Consul in Grenoble (France). In 1990 he was appointed Consul General in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia). He resumed his duties at the Foreign Ministry in 1992, where he served as Deputy Director of the Middle East and North Africa Department until 1995. He was then assigned to Mexico City as Counsellor and DHM. In 1999 he was appointed Consul General in Chicago (US Midwest).

In 2003 he resumed his duties at the Ministry as Head of the Budget Unit in the Directorate General for Development Aid, also serving as the Italian Focal Point for the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM). In 2005 he was elected Executive President of the Italian Diplomats Union. In early 2008 he was appointed Ambassador of Italy to the State of Kuwait. Upon completion of his mandate, he resumed his duties in Rome as Counsellor for International Affairs at the Centre for High Defense Studies (Ministry of Defense, 2012-2013).

In 2013, he was appointed Coordinator of the Euro-Mediterranean Multilateral Activities in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In this latter capacity he is the Italian Senior Official at the Union for the Mediterranean, Member of the Board of Governors of the Anna Lindh Foundation and of the Oversight Committee of the Center for Mediterranean Integration.



Isidro González Afonso

Deputy Secretary General for Water, Environment and Blue economy, UfM

Isidro González Afonso is Deputy Secretary General for Water, Environment and Blue Economy division at the UfM. As a Spanish career diplomat, he served the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation for the past eighteen years, holding positions as Counsellor and Senior Adviser in several Foreign Affairs Minister's Cabinets in Madrid, and, lately, as Counsellor at the Embassy of Spain in Rabat, Morocco. He has also been a member of the Spanish OSCE Chairmanship Team in 2007 at the Permanent Mission of Spain to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in Vienna; Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Spain in Nicosia; and working for the Spanish diplomatic service in the Republic of Cyprus, Jerusalem and also Mauritania.

Isidro González Afonso has a wide experience in the Mediterranean region, with a special focus on regional integration and negotiations for conflict management and resolution. He holds a degree in Political Science and Sociology from the Complutense University of Madrid and in Law from the UNED and an Executive Master on Conflict Management and Resolution with the Department of Negotiations for Conflicts of Harvard University.



Almotaz Abadi

Managing Director for Water, UfM

Mr. Almotaz Abadi is Managing Director for UFM-Water at the UfM Secretariat and senior regional Cooperation expert focusing on the international cooperation and investment, where he also served as Acting Deputy Secretary General between Sept 2015 and August 2016.

He is in charge of the regional policy dialogue and cooperation on water issues and ensures the direct link with the Resource Efficiency/SCP/Circular economy aspects as well as with the water-energy-food-ecosystems nexus. He is the Main Drive to revitalize the water political framework at the MEDITERRANEAN including the start-up of the process that had yield the Ministerial declaration on water 9n April 2017 and its associated Financial Strategy.

He worked director of the Aid Coordination and management Unit at Palestinian Gove, Policy adviser with the GIZ and the Program manager of with Italian Development Cooperation in Jerusalem.



Manuel Sapiano

**Chief Executive Officer, Energy and Water Agency,
Ministry of Energy and Water Management, Malta**

Manuel Sapiano is the Chief Executive Officer of the Energy and Water Agency (EWA) within Malta's Ministry for Energy and Water Management. In this role, he coordinates a team of experts with responsibilities for the formulation, evaluation, monitoring and implementation of national policies concerning the use of energy and water in a sustainable manner and the formulation of plans to meet National and EU energy and water resources management targets.

He also coordinates EWA's identification of and participation in research and development initiatives in the energy and water sectors, mainly focusing on issues such as the water and energy demand management and use efficiency, renewable energies, groundwater resources management and policy assessment and formulation.

Mr Sapiano is a hydrogeologist, with specific specialisation in island and coastal hydrology. He has previously led the Agency's Water Policy Unit, where in particular he had the responsibility of coordinating the implementation process of EU related water legislation in the Maltese islands. He has been involved in the implementation process of the EU Water Framework Directive since 2002, where within the Common Implementation Strategy of this Directive, he fulfils the role of Water Director for Malta.



Michael J. Scoullios,
Chairman, GWP-Med

Michael J. Scoullios, Environmental/Water Chemist (MSc, DSc, University of Athens), and Oceanographer (PhD University of Liverpool). Professor Emeritus of Environmental Chemistry at the University of Athens (UoA). Founder, and for many years, Director of the Laboratory of Environmental Chemistry.

Director of the UNESCO Chair and Network on “Management and Education for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean” (UoA). Chairman of the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE) and Coordinator of MEDIES. Chairman of the Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med). Team Leader of the large EU Programme “Water and Environment Support (WES) in the ENI South Neighborhood region” (2019-2023).

Chairman of the Greek National Commission of MAB/UNESCO. Co-Chairman of the Partner Network in Advancing ESD Policies/GAP UNESCO. Member of the management Board of the Water Museums Global Network (WAMU- NET).

Representative of the European Parliament in the Management Board and the Bureau of the European Environment Agency (EEA) (1992-2018).

Chairman of the International Panel of Experts of the World Bank for the Red Sea – Dead Sea Conveyor. Honorary Chairman of the Hellenic Society for the Environment and Culture. Past President of the European Environmental Bureau (EEB). Member of the European Academy of Sciences. Author of many books and more than 500 scientific articles. He has organised and chaired a very large number of International Conferences. Awarded the Gold Medal of the City of Paris; the Simon Bolivar medal of UNESCO; Environmental Award of the Academy of Athens; Knight of St. John; Knight of the “National Order of Cedars”/ Lebanon, Honorary Citizen of the City of Elefsis, Greece, etc.



Vangelis Constantianos

Executive Secretary, GWP-Med

Vangelis Constantianos is the Executive Secretary of the Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med), a regional multi-stakeholder platform for water security. Vangelis has chemistry background and 25 years of professional experience on environmental protection and integrated water resources management (IWRM) through strategy development, action planning and pilot application at regional, national, local/coastal and transboundary level, including on water governance, transboundary cooperation, non-conventional water resources management, climate change adaptation, water-energy-food-ecosystems nexus and water-employment-migration. Has extensive experience on stakeholders' engagement and capacity building. Has engaged in 50+ international & national projects, financed by a range of institutional, public & private donors.

Among others, he has served as the Executive Secretary of the international 'Independent Panel of Experts of the Red Sea-Dead Sea Conveyance Study Programme' (2009-2014) managed by the World Bank.



Anthi Brouma

**Deputy Regional Coordinator, Theme Leader on Water Governance,
Sustainable Financing and Diversity,
Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med)**

Anthi Brouma joined GWP-Med in 2006. She has been working on water policy, governance, financing and IWRM issues in the context of regional and national projects and regional political initiatives and processes across the Mediterranean region, with emphasis in MENA countries. Since 2011 she has been leading all activities in the MENA region and more recently she has expanded her involvement in cross-cutting issues (gender, youth, SDGs) and the climate change agenda.

Dr. Anthi Brouma is a political scientist by education, specialised through her postgraduate studies on global development issues and water policy. She completed her PhD at SOAS, University of London, on the theme of water governance and policy networks in areas under conflict. Anthi, a Greek native speaker, is fluent in English, competent in Spanish and Italian, and has basic knowledge of Turkish. Prior to moving back to her home country Greece and joining GWP-Med, Anthi worked for three years as a lecturer at SOAS, London, and two years as a freelancer water expert in Madrid, Spain.



Roberto Martin-Hurtado

Senior Advisor on Water Economics, UfM Secretariat

Mr. Roberto Martín Hurtado is an economist specialising on environmental and water policy, economics and financing. Since obtaining his M.A. in Environmental Economics from the University of East Anglia (UK) in 1999, Roberto has worked in over 25 countries across Western and Eastern Europe, North and Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, and the Americas.

From 2001 to 2004 he was a member of the Policy and Economics Team at the World Bank's Environment Department. From 2004 to 2011 he worked at the OECD Environment Directorate. Since 2011 he is an independent expert consulting for development banks (AfDB, CAF), UN agencies (UNDP, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO), intergovernmental organisations (OECD, OSCE, UfM) and international NGOs (GWP, IUCN). Since 2018 Roberto acts as part-time Senior Advisor on Water Economics for the UfM Secretariat, developing the UfM Financial Strategy for Water and supporting its implementation.



Alain Meyssonnier

President of the Mediterranean Water Institute

An ESSEC graduate (Higher Institute for Economic and Commercial Sciences) and holder of a master's degree in Econometry from the Aix-Marseille-Provence University, Alain Meyssonnier joined Marseille Water Company (SEM) as a deputy manager of the international department.

He took the lead of the international affairs department between 1989 and 2003, a period marked by the development of SEM's international activities in Latin America (creation of 3 subsidiaries: Panama, Colombia and Venezuela) in the framework of technical assistance and engineering contracts, as well as in the Mediterranean Region (creation of a subsidiary in Algeria and two branches in Morocco and in Tunisia).

In 2004, Mr. Meyssonnier was appointed Operation Manager in charge of water and sanitation public service delegation contracts signed with the communities of Marseilles Provence Metropole; he kept this position until 2014 when the community reaffirmed its confidence for a new Public Service Delegation for a period of 15 years as a result of a European tendering process.

In 2014, he was appointed Deputy General Manager in charge of development, then in 2017, his Deputy General Manager portfolio covered international affairs and partnerships. At the level of the Holding, Mr. Meyssonnier is the manager of SOMEI subsidiaries (business information systems), Eau de Marseille Environment in charge of waste management, as well as subsidiaries located overseas (Morocco and Tunisia).

In July 2019, he was elected President of the Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) by members of its Board of Directors.



Xavier Leflaive

**Team leader for Resilience-Adaptation to Climate change-water,
OECD Environment Directorate**

Xavier Leflaive works at the OECD Environment Directorate. He leads a team that works on resilience, adaptation to climate change and water.

He contributed to several OECD publications on water futures, water pricing and financing, and innovative approaches to supply water and sanitation services. He has been active in OECD countries, the Caucasus, Central Asia, or Brazil. He coordinates on-going collaboration between the OECD and the European Commission – DG ENV – on member states' financing needs and capacities to comply with the Drinking Water and the Urban WasteWater Directives. Xavier Leflaive was also active in the definition of the financing strategy for the UfM on water.

Xavier Leflaive studied business administration and social theory in France, Canada and the UK. He holds a PhD in Social and Political Sciences from the University of Cambridge, UK. Before joining the OECD, he worked as a consultant to public administrations and utilities.



Adli Kandah

General Director, Association of Banks in Jordan

Adli is the Director General of the Association of Banks in Jordan (ABJ) since July 2006. Before joining ABJ in 2006 he was the Economic Advisor for the Minister of Labor during the period 2005-2006, and the Manager of the "National Training & Employment Project". He started his career in the Research Department at the Central Bank of Jordan in June 1990. He was delegated to work as an Economic Expert at Qatar Central Bank during the period June 2001- April 2004; also he was delegated to work in the "Privatization Unit" at the Prime Ministry of Jordan from 1997 until 1998. Adli also enjoys academic experiences as he worked as part-time Professor at the following institutions: Talal Abu Ghazaleh University College for Innovation, University of Jordan, Qatar University, the Hashemite University, Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan, the Jordan Institute of Diplomacy and Mutah University. Also he enjoys memberships of several committees, and he had participated in many conferences, seminars and workshops.

Adli is a member of the Deanship Board of Graduate Studies and Scientific Research, Middle East University / Jordan. A member of the Board of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences at the Hashemite University/Jordan, A member of the Advisory Group of the Department of Finance and Banking, Philadelphia University / Jordan. He participated in a large number of local, regional and international conferences. Adli has conducted numerous studies, and published research papers in different areas in economics, trade, finance and banking. He also published several books on privatization, Banking, Financial Crises and GATS agreements. He holds a Ph.D. degree in Economics from the University of Glasgow in Scotland, UK since 1996. His thesis was on Economic Development and Privatization.

He was a member of the Jordan National Dialogue Committee in 2011. He was a member of the Economic and Social Council in Jordan during the period 2013-2017. Adli is a member of the Arab Thought Forum. He was a member of the Middle East and North Africa Advisory Group to the Board of Directors of the International IDEA Foundation in Stockholm, Sweden 2011-2012. He is a member of the Arab Association for Economic Research / Cairo, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Fund - Ministry of Energy / Jordan, 2012- 2016.



Ger Bergkamp

Manager Business Development, Climate Investor 2, Climate Fund Managers

Ger Bergkamp is the President and CEO of ARCOWA, advising on sustainable development, investments in water scarcity, resource recovery from waste water and green infrastructure for water security. He is also Manager Business Development – Climate Investor Two with Climate Fund Managers. Previously, he was Executive Director of the International Water Association, Director General of the World Water Council and Head of the Water Programme at IUCN – The International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Dr Bergkamp is a recognized leader in water and environment issues with over 30 years of experience in sustainable development focusing on solutions for world-wide water challenges. He has supported colleagues in over 40 countries as the CEO of international organisations, programme director, scientist and as a private consultant focusing on institutional change, programme and project pipeline development and reviews, and working at the science, policy, business, civil society interface.

As a manager, Dr Bergkamp has been instrumental in developing world-wide institutions and programmes on innovation in water management and building capacity to catalyse change. He is the author of several books and reports and speaks and facilitates regularly at international events focusing on transitions and innovations in the water sector and beyond. In doing so, he helps to initiate, inspire and invest in global water security.



Thomas van Gilst

Head of Water Management Division, European Investment Bank

Thomas van Gilst is Head of the Water Security and Resilience Division (previously “Water Management”) within the European Investment Bank’s Projects Directorate since 2016. The Bank finances some EUR 3 to 4 billion worth of water & wastewater as well as flood protection projects annually and follows the investments from preparation up to completion of works.

Trained as a water resources engineer at the Technical University of Delft, the Netherlands, he first worked with Royal Haskoning a Netherlands based Engineering Consulting firm as consultant in the fields of irrigation, water and wastewater and urban drainage. He later worked in business development with Enron and Thames Water, both in London. With Thames Water, he was heavily involved in setting up WSUP (Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor), a private sector-NGO-academia based partnership focusing on providing sustainable water and sanitation services in peri-urban areas in developing countries.

Since joining the EIB in 2006 he has been in charge of a broad portfolio of water sector projects financed by the Bank both inside and outside Europe through a variety of financial products. His Division’s current portfolio consists of mainly Mediterranean countries and the rest of Africa.



Oliver Loebel

Secretary General, EurEau

Oliver Loebel has been secretary general of EurEau, European federation of national associations of water services since 2016. The federation and its 32 member organisations work at all levels to protect our water resources for today and for future generations.

Prior to this, Oliver spent eight years as managing director with PU Europe. Before this, he worked as director for sector policy at the European SME association UEAPME and represented the building services industry at European level through CEETB. Between 1994 and 1997, Oliver worked with the European Commission, developing support measures for Europe's small businesses.

Oliver received his university degree in Economics at the Berlin School of Economics (Germany) and a Masters degree in International Business at École des Ponts et Chaussées (Paris, France).

He lives in Brussels (Belgium), is married and has two children.



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Fadila Hamdaoui

**Director of Planning and Economic Affairs,
Algerian Ministry of Water Resources, Algeria**

Directrice de la Planification et des Affaires Economiques au Ministère des ressources en eau.

Fadila Hamdaoui est en charge de la programmation et du financement des investissements qui ont trait à l'eau et à l'assainissement au niveau national.

Titulaire d'un mastère en droit (Algérie), d'un diplôme d'études approfondies en gestion des entreprises, IAE de Nice France et d'un mastère en gestion de projets au CERAM Sophia Antipolis Nice, France.



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Olga Slepner

**Advisor to the Director General and Head of the International Relations Unit,
The Governmental Authority for Water and Sewage (Israel)**

Olga Slepner, MA at Political Science from Tel Aviv University, serves the Government since 2000. For more than a decade she holds the responsibility of management of the Director General & activities of the Israel Water Authority as an Advisor and Head of the Bureau.

The Governmental Authority for Water and Sewage of Israel is responsible by law for the management of Israel's water resources, formulation of the water policy, regulation, planning and development of the water economy. Within this position Ms. Slepner heads the International Relations Unit and coordination of the Secretariat of the Water Authority Board, high level legislative body responsible by laws to set the policy at the water sector.



Sadi Ali

General Director of Projects Management Unit, Palestinian Water Authority, Palestine

A Palestinian national, Mr. Ali is the General Director of the unified PMU at PWA for Gaza and West Bank. Currently, Mr. Ali involved deeply in the preparation of the strategic Water Sector Program, Gaza Central Desalination Program with total cost more than USD 700 million. In 2005 he was appointed as the Director Gaza PMU at PWA, responsible for managing the biggest water and sanitation project in Palestine at that time namely North Gaza Emergency Sewage Treatment Plant (NGEST) and its associated Effluent Recovery and Reuse Scheme of a total budget exceeding US\$ 120 million where the program financed by multi international donors and the administrated by The World Bank.

Since 2015 he was intensively involved in providing technical, managerial, procurement support, inputs for Hebron Wastewater Management Project resulted in signing the currently two biggest Contracts to Design & Build, and Operate & Maintenance of Hebron WWTP with a total cost USD 40 million in early 2019.

Prior to this position, Mr. Ali was the PMU Director at PWA for Swedish financed North Gaza Storm water and Sewage Program for 7 years, covering the areas of infrastructure (Storm water, Sanitation, water supply, surface pavements and other municipal services), environment, public health, social development, disaster risk management, and urban development.

Mr. Ali has intensive experience on managing multi donor-assisted projects and high communication skills in coordination with different stakeholders and donors and has experience in procurement and contracts management, claims analysis and resolution amicably and cost estimate with a vast experience in working in unstable and high security risks conditions prevailed where very intensive coordination and dynamic changeable planning is highly required.



Andrea Guerrini

President of European Water Regulators

Andrea Guerrini is Commissioner of ARERA, the Italian Regulatory Authority for Energy, Networks and Environment (www.arera.it), President of WAREG, the Association of European Water Regulators (www.wareg.org) and ARERA delegate at NER, the OECD Network of Economic Regulators.

From 2016 until his nomination in ARERA in August 2018, he was President of ASA S.p.A. the Operator of the City of Livorno (www.asaspa.it).

Mr Guerrini is professor of Performance Management, Planning and Control in the Department of Business Economics at the University of Verona, where he has been researching and teaching water utilities and regulation. He is the author of numerous publications, including monographs and articles for international reviews. In 2014 he wrote a book on “Water management in Italy: Governance, Performance and Sustainability” and in 2018 a book on “Management of water services companies. An operational manual for management and control”.

He has been leading research projects financed by the European Union and he was one of the founders of the Water Management and Technology Research Centre.

Prof. Guerrini has been drafting the tariff methodology for drinking water services for the Autonomous Province of Bolzano.



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Frederic de Dinechin

Manager of the Centre for Mediterranean Integration, World Bank

Frederic de Dinechin joined the Center for Mediterranean Integration in April 2019 as Senior Knowledge Management Officer. He works on CMI resilience pillar: mitigation and adaptation to external stresses and shocks mainly climate change. He coordinates CMI's territorial resilience to climate change program and the regional knowledge program on water.

Prior to this assignment, Frederic worked in multilateral development banks including the World Bank and the Council of Europe Development Bank and had experiences in the private and public sectors. He graduated from the Ecole Polytechnique in France and also specialized in geographic sciences and urban planning.



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Giuseppe Provenzano

Expert at the Union for the Mediterranean

Giuseppe Provenzano is an Expert at the Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat, where he focuses on topics connected to Research and Innovation. His activities at the Secretariat have focused on regional initiatives such as PRIMA (on the agriculture-water-energy nexus in the Mediterranean), BLUEMED (Research and Innovation on Blue Economy) and research on the root causes of Migration. Additionally, he has supported the creation of synergies with the Mediterranean Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development, and on the developing the regional agenda on innovation and employability.

He has previously published on Blue Economy, the EU external policies towards Southern and Eastern Mediterranean, and on sustainability issues on the Iranian energy policies. He holds a second-level MA in International Public Affairs at LUISS School of Government and a Master in Relations and Institutions of Asia and Africa at L'Orientale University.