MINISTRY FOR ENERGY AND HEALTH

NON CONVENTIONAL WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT:
Thematic Consultation in the framework of the National Water Management Plan for the Maltese Islands

Tuesday 6 May 2014
Mediterranean Conference Centre, Michel' Angelo Grima Hall
Valletta, Malta

Announcement

Background

Access to adequate quality water, in sufficient quantity, is fundamental for sustainable livelihoods and for economic development. The Maltese islands, with limited freshwater resources, further depleted as a result of climate change and environmental degradation, suffer from water scarcity and heavily depend on desalination to tackle their water deficit.

In this context, the mobilisation of Non Conventional Water Resources (NCWR), such as rainwater harvesting, greywater as well as treated wastewater reuse, aimed at increasing water availability in a sustainable, cost-effective way and promoting a new water culture, is crucial at both local and national level.

Utilising **non-conventional water resources** can provide adequate solutions where projected levels of water savings prove hard to achieve and can substantially assist in bridging the gap between supply and demand. However, Malta is far from reaching the potential of non-conventional water resources.

Therefore, **an integrated approach for water resources management**, based on good governance, inter-sectorial coordination, water demand management, and the sustainable use of non-conventional water resources, is absolutely vital for the country to ensure that enough water is available to Maltese citizens, economic activities and the environment.

The Ministry for Energy and Health is currently developing a National Water Management Plan, which aims to establish an integrated water management framework for the Maltese islands. In as much, this plan considers the introduction of water supply augmentation and water demand management measures to ensure that the national water demand is met whilst ensuring the necessary protection to the islands' threatened natural water resources. Invariably, the development of non-conventional water resources is therefore an important tool which can be used to further support the achievement of the wider objectives of the National Water Management Plan.

The ***National Consultation on Non Conventional Water Resources Management*** is a thematic consultation held in the framework of the development of the **National Water Management Plan for the Maltese Islands** and is organised in the framework of the *Alter Aqua* – Non Conventional Water Resources Programme in Malta.

Alter Aqua is a programme on Non Conventional Water Resources (NCWR) in Malta. It is implemented by the Global Water Partnership -Mediterranean (GWP-Med) in partnership with the Ministry for Energy and Health, the Ministry for Gozo and the Eco-Gozo project, the

Coca-Cola Foundation and General Soft Drinks Co. Ltd, and in collaboration with the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE/MEdIES), Nature Trust Malta (NTM) and the EkoSkola programme.

Alter Aqua aims to advance the utilisation of non conventional water resources, such as rainwater harvesting, storm water management, grey water and treated wastewater reuse, as a sustainable way for water availability and climate change adaptation in the water scarce communities of the Maltese Islands

Objectives of the National Consultation

The National Consultation on Non Conventional Water Resources Management, 6 May 2014, Valetta, Malta aims:

- To provide a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue on priorities and needed synergies for advancing non-conventional water resources management, in the framework of the development of the National Water Management Plan in the Maltese Islands.

- To share best practices and lessons learned from Non Conventional Water Resources Management in the Mediterranean region.

- To share best practices and lessons learned from local applications in the Maltese Islands

- To provide input on related measures that need to be taken in order to advance the use of non conventional water resources, as part of the National Water Management Plan.

- To formulate the vision for water security through the mobilisation of non conventional water resources

Organisation

The National Consultation on Non Conventional Water Resources Management (NCWRM) is organised in the framework of the Alter Aqua – Non Conventional Water Resources Programme in Malta, by the Ministry for Energy and Health, the Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean, and the Coca-Cola Foundation and General Soft Drinks Co. Ltd.

Targeted number of participants

Up to 120 targeted participants

Draft Agenda

09:00 Registrations

09:30 Welcome Address

- Ministry for Energy & Health
- Ministry for Gozo

- Global Water Partnership Mediterranean
- General Soft Drinks
- The Coca-Cola Company

10:30 *Coffee Break*

11:30 Session1: Key note presentations

- NCWRM in the Maltese islands: issues & measures, *Manuel Sapiano, MEH*
- NCWRM in Cyprus, *Stavros Kambanellas, CBA, Cyprus*
- NCWRM in Spain: the case of the Region of Murcia, *Miguel Rodenas Canada, Segura River Basin Authority*
- Alter Aqua Programme in Malta, *Konstantina Toli, GWP-Med*

13:00 *Lunch Break*

14:00 Session 2: NCWR Solutions

Chair: (To be announced)

1. Rainwater Harvesting

   - Alter Aqua, *Mariela Antonakopoulou, GWP-Med*

2. Greywater Recycling

   - Alter Aqua application at Gozo Football Stadium, *Stavros Kambanellas, Cyprobell*
   - Case study: Paradise Bay Hotel, *Stanley Zammit*

3. Black Water recycling

   - Case Study: Birgu, *Ing. Ryan Falzon, Water Services Corporation*
   - Case Study: Hilton Hotel, *Joseph Restall*

4. Process Water Recycling

   - Trelleborg, *Neville Grima* (TBC)

15:00 Session 3: Facilitated Discussion

Part A. Barriers to solutions

Chair: Manuel Sapiano, MEH
Facilitator: Prof. Michael Scoullos, GWP-Med

15:45 *Coffee Break*

16:00 Facilitated Discussion (continued)

Part B. Measures

17:00 Conclusions

Press Conference