



WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE NETWORK?

LEWAP AS A DEPUTY COORDINATOR FOR THE EU-MADAD 3 PROJECT

The national level three-year EU-MADAD funded program and consortium will be implemented by multiple contractual partners ACTED (lead agency), ACF, WW-GVC, Solidarites International, LebRelief, with the support and technical expertise from additional stakeholders (NDU, CNRS, LEWAP, LCPS, Nahnoo), and in coordination and close work with government stakeholders (Ministries, four Regional Water Establishments) to improve water service delivery and governance in Lebanon.

The main objective of this action is 'Host and refugee communities in Lebanon have improved access to sustainable WASH services.'

This Action will directly target a total of 147,805 individuals across Lebanon, namely South, Bekaa, North and Beirut and Mount Lebanon through three specific outcomes:

- Water Establishments' capacity to provide water and wastewater services is strengthened
- Participation of civil society and local authorities in sector governance is increased
- Refugee protection space is improved

LEWAP will provide technical support to the Consortium, acting as a subgrantee under this programme. Through this action, LEWAP will be able to capitalise on its existing linkages with local WASH actors, reinforcing multi-stakeholder cooperation, and building its own capacity as a WASH Communication and Advocacy platform.

Moreover, this Action will support the expansion of LEWAP to establish it as a Lebanese NGO hosting an active network of stakeholders that contribute to advocacy, accountability, transparency and improvements in WASH service delivery and resource management.

The latest updates in regards to this project will be shared in this Newsletter for the upcoming three years ahead, stay tuned.

MARDI LEWAP: HYDROLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OF MEDITERRANEAN WATERSHEDS AND LEGAL DISCUSSION OF THE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT IN LEBANON - 15 DECEMBER 2020

On December 15th, 2020 LEWAP conducted a virtual Mardi LEWAP on 'Hydrogeology and management of Mediterranean watersheds and legal discussion of the watershed management in Lebanon'


The session brought in two experts in the field:

- Dr. Antoine Allam: water resources expert, Montpellier SupAgro, ESIB USJ
- Georges Gharios: Agricultural engineer, PhD candidate in Water Law at the University of Dundee in Scotland, Expert on the topics of water rights and usages in Lebanon and in the Levant.

Dr. Antoine Allam's presentation focused on the hydrology and management of Mediterranean watersheds. An overview of the hydrological functioning of watersheds in the Mediterranean and Lebanon was followed by a description of the water resources distribution and availability, watersheds spatial and temporal evolution, and perspectives on Mediterranean watersheds management.

Mr. Georges Gharios focused on the legal aspect around watershed management in Lebanon. A historical overview was followed by an analysis of the texts relating to the subject within the new Water Code with key points to retain on the current and future perspectives of watershed management in Lebanon.

To know more about this webinar, check the [conference report](#)



On November 12th 2020, UPLoAD and APIEU have conducted a decision support workshop under their “securing drinking water supply in Zahlé” to promote agroecology to secure Zahlé’s drinking water supply. This workshop was conducted with the support of the Bekaa Water Establishments.

The main aim of this project is to contribute to the improvement and sustainability of water management in Zahlé and in the Bekaa. This will be done by:

- Helping in decision-making for the development of drinking water supply in accordance with hydrogeological possibilities and social realities.
- Formulating, on the basis of this pilot experience in Zahlé, methodological and institutional organization recommendations for water resources management in Lebanon.

The latest achievements to the project are:

- [Diagnosis of the groundwater on which the Zahlé drinking water supply depends and which of their knowledge,](#)
- [Study of soils and their permeability, risks and potentials for water protection through agricultural and urban development of Zahlé](#)
- [Study of the vulnerability of groundwater in the municipal territory of Zahlé.](#)
- [Bringing together the key water stakeholders within a platform to be developed and structured,](#)
- [Creation of a database centered on Zahlé and its «dependency territory» in terms of drinking water supply, between the watershed and the groundwater supply basin.](#)

The workshop grouped local water actors and mainly those intervening in the Bekaa region with focus on Zahlé area. The first part of the workshop covered the cultural practices in the supply basin of the Qaa Er Rim source, feedback on ecological agriculture initiatives in Lebanon: practices and challenges and discussions with participants on actions to promote and support ecological agriculture possible in the altitudes of Zahlé. The second part was about «Low cost» sensor networks for agriculture and environmental monitoring, a long-term solution for long-term observation and the development of a project database: towards accessibility and co-construction extended to the entire platform of stakeholders in the watershed / supply basin Qaa Er Rim.

To know more about this workshop, check the link for the [workshop report](#)

For further details, do not hesitate to contact UPLoAD: Dr. Leon Televizian on leon.televizian@hotmail.com or Dr. Jihad Farah on jihadfarah@gmail.com



BTVL TECHNICAL AND TRAINING WORKSHOP «TOWARDS INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT BY WATERSHED» - 8-9 DECEMBER 2020

The Delegation for External Action of Territorial Communities of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (DAECT / MEAE), the Embassy of France in Lebanon, the Committee of Lebanese Mayors and United Cities Lebanon / Technical Office of Lebanese Cities (BTVL), in partnership with the Programme Solidarité Eau (pS-Eau) and its platform in Lebanon LEWAP, the Rhône Méditerranée Corse Water Agency (RMC) and with the support of the Lebanese Ministry of Energy and Water, conducted the technical and training workshop «Towards integrated management by watershed» over the course of two days December 8 and December 9 2020.

The aim of this workshop is to strengthen the capacities of local communities in terms of water and sanitation for integrated management of watersheds.

This workshop took place over two mornings as follows:

- Interventions devoted to
 - Technical training in watershed management,
 - The capacities to be developed at the local level in order to qualify for this scale,
 - The value of developing such capacities and
 - The steps that watershed development projects should follow ideally ;
- Case studies of success stories or failures that may have occurred, in France and Lebanon, on certain specific aspects of the assembly and on the implementation of watershed management projects and practical exercise for a community.

To know more about the interventions in this two day workshop, check the conference report in [French](#) and in [Arabic](#)

CEWAS SSWM TRAINING WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON FAECAL SLUDGE MANAGEMENT - 23-28 NOVEMBER 2020 + TWO CASE STUDIES IN 2021

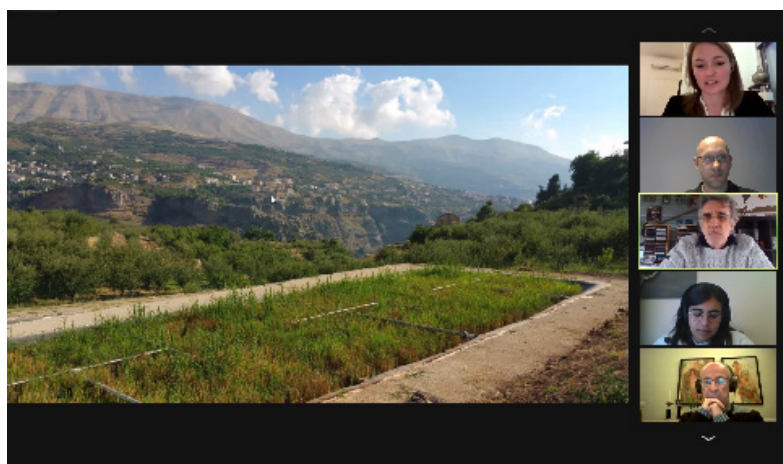
cewas Middle East a Swiss based organization promoting sustainable practices in water and sanitation in the region, in collaboration with LEWAP conducted a six day online evening training course from 23 till 28 November 2020 on Sustainable Sanitation and Water Management (SSWM) with special focus on Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) solutions for practical implementation.

The training targeted stakeholders from different organizations such as technical staff from municipalities, water establishments, WASH actors from international and local organizations, students from universities and others. The goal of this training is to activate change in the planning, implementation and maintenance of faecal sludge management systems at local level, through a holistic and participatory approach.

During the six evening sessions, participants developed projects in groups in which they implemented all the knowledge and skill acquired from this training; the group work focused on optimizing a FSM system in Sanitown case study (a created case study based on the Lebanese context). At the end of the training, the participants presented their action plan for the implementation of a balanced combination of hardware, software and participatory tools in their localities.

In response to the interest of participants and other actors in FSM, cewas and LEWAP launched a web-series of case studies that can provide ideas and solutions for a better management of faecal sludge in Lebanon.

The first case study took place online on January 25th, 2021, on Reed Bed Filter Treatment Plant in Harim, Bcharre: experiences from design and operation - Mr. Alain Tidière, Director of Corail Developpement explained the Reed Bed Filter that they implemented in Bsharee and Mme. Nathalie Kayrouz, Project Manager, Union of Municipalities of Bcharre talked about the sustainability of the system and how the Reed Beds are being monitored and handled.



To watch this 1st case study, check the [YouTube link](#)

The second case study took place online on March 15th, 2021, on Solar powered and modular grey- and blackwater treatment for irrigation in Lebanon - Mr. Haytham Dbouk, Founder and CEO, Innovating Green Technology (IGT) presented their different innovative technologies that combines renewable energy with wastewater treatment.

Solar powered and modular grey- and blackwater treatment for irrigation in Lebanon

Virtual, Lebanon
15 March 2021

SSWM - Sustainable Sanitation and Water Management
with focus on faecal sludge

Case Study Series

Implemented by:
cewas
LEWAP

Supported by:
Ministry of Environment, Planning and Economic Development
United Nations Development Programme

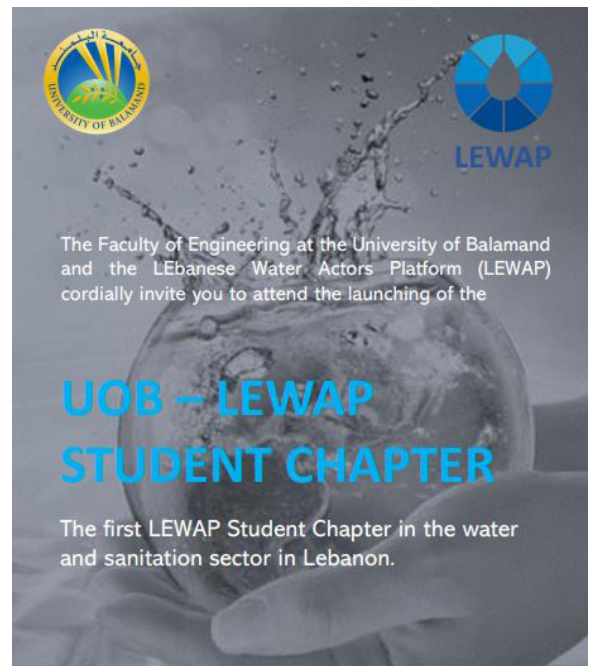
To watch this 2nd case study, check the [YouTube link](#)

The third case study will take place on May 31 on BiomWeb nature-based sanitation infrastructure with Mruna, stay tuned for more details.

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LAUNCHING OF UOB-LEWAP STUDENT CHAPTER - 6 APRIL 2021

On April 6, 2021, the The Faculty of Engineering at the University of Balamand in collaboration with LEWAP launched the first student chapter for water and sanitation issues in Lebanon. The UOB- LEWAP student chapter is a technical and educational group that enables interested UOB students to interact with youth, academics, experts, and community members working hard to solve and address the problems and topics of all matters related to water resources along with the development of innovative solutions. It is also concerned with the development of research activities in collaborations with local authorities, municipalities, and local and international NGO's.



The student chapter will achieve its overall objective by conducting the following activities:

- Inform students of the latest news, challenges, and needs of the WASH sector in Lebanon and complement that with field visits when needed,
- Involve students from interested universities in research activities to complement the topics addressed in the WASH sector,
- Involve students from interested universities in conferences and workshops related to the WASH sector in Lebanon,
- Involve students from interested universities in policy reform drafting that can contribute to improvements in the WASH sector in Lebanon.

each university reserves the right to change or substitute the mission, vision, benefits, specific objective, activities, and products or services included with membership.

The event started by an opening word from Dr. Rami Abboud, Vice President for Internationalization & Engagement, Dean of Faculty of Engineering followed by Dr. Walid Moubayed, Head of OSA and Vincent Dussaux, deputy director at pS-Eau, LEWAP program manager. Dr. Yasmine Jabaly from UoB and Jasmine El Kareh from LEWAP presented the student chapter in detail and explained the membership benefits that every student can benefit from.

• To know more about the event, check the [recording](#)

INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

3RD LEBANON WATER FORUM - 23-25 FEBRUARY 2021

The Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs (IFI) at the American University of Beirut (AUB) and OXFAM conducted the third «Lebanon Water Forum (LWF21)» a three-day web conference on Wednesday, from February 23rd till February 25th 2021.



The LWF21 was organized in partnership with the Ministry of Energy and Water and as part of the H2ALL, a WaSH consortium that consists of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Oxfam, World Vision International (WVI), and Gruppo di Volontario Civile (GVC) implementing a project funded by the EU Madad Trust Fund.

The Lebanon Water Forum 2021 addressed policy advancements and their implications as well as changes in the investment landscape that impacts integrated planning in light of the arising national challenges.

During the first day on November 23rd 2021, after the welcoming note, an interactive session with DGs of water establishment was conducted on the challenges facing the Regional Water Establishments and LRA; what’s been done and what still needs to be done. The second session covered policy changes and implications on water management and water service provision. To watch these sessions, check the [link for day 1](#)

During the second day on November 24th 2021, the session revolved around strategic alignment and integrated planning between interlinked sectors; IFI presented the study findings of the energy efficiency in the water/wastewater service provision, followed by Berytech project on the CleanTech and role of SMEs in integrating water, energy, food production, solid wastemanagement and other sectors, and concluded by the National Agriculture Strategy and its alignment with the National Water Sector Strategy (NWSS). To watch these sessions, check the [link for day 2](#)

During the third and last day on November 25th 2021, the advances in investment planning were tackled; the day covered the investment plans in the water management structure of a post-war country: the case of Lebanon, the benefits of investment in water services emergency planning: how countries with emergency planning faired in the COVID-19 pandemic and finally the restructuring water-wastewater tariffs/introduction of consumption based water-wastewater tariffs. To watch these sessions, check the [link for day 3](#)




LAUNCH OF THE STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES (AGRICULTURAL AND TOURISTIC) AT THE NAHR ABOU ALI WATERSHED SCALE - 30 MARCH 2021

The City of Chambéry and the Union of Bsharee Municipalities have been working together since 2019 in a decentralized cooperation which aims at contributing to the tourism strategy of the Caza de Bcharré, a lever for economic, social and environmental development.

As part of this cooperation, the two territories with the technical and financial support of the Agency of Water Rhône Mediterranean and Corsica will be carrying out a study on the impact of the changes climate, particularly in the agricultural and tourism sectors.

This study will be carried out at the scale of a watershed. The Abu Ali River takes its source in the Caza of Bcharré then crosses the Caza of Zgharta Erden before reaching its outlet in Tripoli.

For this reason, the two partners will be associating with many Lebanese and French partners working in the area to present them with the objectives and the timetable for the study as well as the method of political and technical steering imagined including both the Lebanese state, the other Cazas and the various French communities and partners



LATEST PUBLICATIONS

LCRP UPDATE 2017-2021

The Lebanon Crisis Response Plan brings together more than 112 partner organizations to assist more than 2.8 million crisis-affected people living in Lebanon.

It aims to provide protection and immediate relief assistance to 1.9 million Syrian refugees, vulnerable Lebanese and Palestine refugees; deliver basic services to 2.5 million people; and seek to mitigate the impacts of the Syria crisis on Lebanon’s infrastructure, economy and public institutions.

The latest assessments showed that 3.2 million people are in need; 1.5 million vulnerable Lebanese, 1.5 million displaced Syrians and around 200000 Palestinian.

Moreover, the latest situation analysis conducted showed an increase in social tensions due to increase of tensions over jobs, the COVID-19 situation, the political and sectarian conflicts, the crimes, violence and community insecurity. Also, access to services has decreased due to the current financial situation in the country, leading to increased socio-economic vulnerabilities and minimal protection.



To read to full report, check the [link](#)

THE POTENTIAL FOR DOMESTIC RAINWATER HARVESTING IN LEBANON - ACTED - MARCH 2021

In the framework of the project WAAD “Providing Lebanese and Jordanian communities hosting Syrian refugees with improved WASH infrastructure and facilities at community, institution, and household level”, funded by the EU MADAD Trust Fund and Region Sud in France, ACTED has conducted a study to assess the potential for domestic rainwater harvesting in Lebanon- based on results from a pilot project funded by the EU MADAD Trust Fund and Region Sud (Provence Alpes Cote D’Azur) in Berqayel, Akkar.

This study serves to capitalize on the experiences gathered throughout the project implementation and to share best practices with actors implementing similar projects.

The purpose of the 2018-2020 pilot was to replace the costly reliance of residents on the water trucking service over the winter season, and reintroduce the idea of rainwater harvesting to the village. The results show that the systems were the primary source of water supply for the beneficiaries during the winter months, reduced household expenditure and debt, and that rainwater harvesting has the potential to meet part of, or all, household demand during winter. ACTED is currently promoting increasing domestic rainwater harvesting in Lebanon through awareness campaigns, technical training and further installations of systems.

To know more about the study, check [the publication](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS IN LEBANON

Tuesday LEWAP on water quality and participatory approach (May 2021)

cewas - LEWAP third case study on BiomWeb Nature-Based Sanitation Infrastructure with Mruna (31 May 2021)



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Contribute to LEWAP!

This newsletter has been published in order to keep you informed about the updates in the water sector. The newsletter can be enriched by your contributions... Do not hesitate to communicate to us any information which are likely to be interest to other members in the network!

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