



## Newsletter - March 2024

### WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE NETWORK ?

#### TRAINING ON CLIMATE CHANGE - ENVIRONMENT TASK FORCE (ETF)

The Environment Task Force in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and UNDP has been organizing a series of virtual trainings on environmental management.

A training on Climate Change: Impact, Response, and Climate Proofing was held on 8 February from 9am to 12pm. The training covered the following aspects of climate change and also helped scope further support to partners on the topic :

- Basic Climate Change Science: What causes climate change? What are Lebanon's greenhouse gas emissions? What are the impacts of climate change locally and

globally?

- Responses to Climate Change: Mitigation and Adaptation Measures

- Impacts of Climate Change in Lebanon: Focus on Forestry, Natural Disasters, Food Security, Security Implications, etc. (practical and context specific examples)

- Project Climate Proofing: Make Your Project Climate Proofed (goal setting, target area and population, needs, M&E, and reporting)

- Calculate the Carbon Footprint of Your Project.

#### SEMINAR - MONITORING SNOW COVER FLUCTUATIONS AND THEIR IMPACT ON WATER RESOURCES

On February 19th, the Faculty of Humanities and CREEMO at Saint-Joseph University of Beirut organized a seminar on the topic : "Monitoring snow cover fluctuations and their impact on water resources. Application to mount Lebanon - Laban and Afqa springs in 2023". The project presented was funded by UNICEF.

The project was introduced, then the following topics were covered :

- Advanced snow monitoring activities

- Relationship between snow and flow with conclusion and perspectives.

## PROJECTS RELATED TO FRENCH-LEBANESE COOPERATION

### ANNUAL WEBINAR ON FRENCH-LEBANESE DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION

On December 19, 2023, the third annual webinar organized by pS-Eau and Lewap on French Lebanese decentralized cooperation in the water and sanitation sectors took place.

The aim of this event was :

- to share information on the water and sanitation sector in Lebanon in the context of the current crisis;
- to bring together various stakeholders in the sector and enable them to exchange ideas on possible interventions based on feedback.

An inventory was presented by two actors from the different levels of intervention in Lebanon: Suzy Hoayek from the Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW) Antoine Zoghby from the Beirut Mount Lebanon Water Establishment (BMLWE). In the second part of the session, feedback was offered by actors involved in decentralized cooperation projects: the municipality of Antoura (Lebanon), the municipality of Noisy le Roi (France), the French organization Experts Solidaires and the Lebanese organization Alissar.

You can find the report of the webinar [here](#).



### DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION PROJECT IN THE QADISHA VALLEY

In 2021, a grouping of several decentralized cooperations active in the cazas of Zgharta-Edhen and Bcharre emerged to strengthen the coherence of the various initiatives underway in the area.

This new joint multi-sectoral project, co-financed by AFD's FICOL program, involves the Auvergne Rhône Alpes region, the Aude department, the city and conurbation of Chambéry, the cazas of Zgharta-Edhen and Bcharre, and the technical partnerships of the NGO Tetraktys and the PNR (Regional Natural Parc) des Bauges. The aim of this project is to set up a shared governance

entity for the Qadisha Valley, with a view to creating the conditions for sustainable economic and social development, based on the structuring of the tourism and agricultural sectors, while preserving the valley's resources and heritage.

Regarding water-related issues, the project aims in particular to strengthen inter-cazas dialogue on the Nahr Abou Ali water resource issue, to facilitate the emergence of a resilience plan for the economic sectors, taking into account the context of climate change.

More information to come !

## NEWS FROM HAWKAMAA-EU (MADAD 3)

### PARTNERS' ACTIVITIES IN THE LAST MONTHS

The HawkaMaa-EU project continues its mission to provide Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) assistance aimed at enhancing water governance and public water and wastewater services in Lebanon, benefiting both host and refugee communities. A consortium comprising various organizations is actively involved, with ACTED, ACF, WW-GVC, LebRelief, and Solidarités International serving as implementing partners, supported by IMPACT, LCPS, Nahnoo, and LEWAP.

Within the consortium, Impact Initiatives, in partnership with ACTED, LebRelief, and WeWorld, has finalized the Stakeholder Network Analysis. This analysis delved into the roles and interactions of key stakeholders around three river basins: Al Ostuan, Al Ghadir, and Al Assi.

Simultaneously, partners have achieved notable progress in enhancing public

water services in Lebanon. Significant milestones have been reached on five major infrastructure projects, with continued technical and material support provided to water entities to ensure sustained improvements in service delivery.

Moreover, in response to the crisis and to reduce fuel dependency of Water Establishments, the Consortium has added a new activity. The Consortium partners will solarize high-priority pumping stations and water assets across the Bekaa, Beirut Mount Lebanon, and North Lebanon.

Additionally, in the upcoming period, LebRelief will launch a study on Socio-Economic Barriers to Subscription and Servicing, further bolstering water reforms and public service enhancements. The Consortium will also partner with LCPS to produce advocacy and research pieces related to water reforms in Lebanon.

### LEBANESE CIVIL SOCIETY FOR WATER (LSCW) - WORKSHOP ON THE STAKEHOLDER NETWORK ANALYSIS - 12 FEBRUARY 2024

Under the HawkaMaa-EU project, LEWAP is resuming their series of workshops with a first one on the Social Network Analysis study conducted by IMPACT Initiatives, in partnership with Acted, LebRelief and WWGVC, on three river basins in Lebanon (Al Oustouan, Al Ghadir and Al Assi). The workshop was attended by a wide variety of stakeholders ranging from representatives from different ministries to international and local organizations, civil society organizations, municipalities and academic institutions.

The workshop started off by a short



introduction of LEWAP and the HawkaMaa-EU project, this was followed by an introductory presentation from ACTED on the river basin approach under the HawkaMaa-EU project, then a presentation of the stakeholder network analysis

(SNA) by IMPACT and finally feedback on recommendations with LEWAP.

To know more about the event, check the workshop [report](#).



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## NATIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

### NEWS FROM THE MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENERGY

Since April, priority task forces created by the MoEW have been meeting in order to address the different challenges that the Water Sector in Lebanon is facing. The task forces are : Water Source Monitoring, Updating Customer Database, Collaboration with Municipalities, Solarization and Energy Management, Water Quality, Non Revenue Water, Support of WE's staffing, Wastewater, Digitalization.

The work implemented by AFD TA (Technical Assistance) on merging the National Water Sector Strategy and the Water sector

recovery plan is ongoing. It is important to note that both documents are still valid. A first batch of application decrees of Law 192 has been completed. By the end of 2024, the second batch and the revision of the by-laws/decrees will be released.

Regarding solarization, over 900 stations have already been updated with the solarization pre-feasibility data.

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## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

More publications on LEWAP and [pS-Eau database](#). To share a publication, send it via email to [contact@lewap.org](mailto:contact@lewap.org).

## LAUNCH OF THE WATER REFORM PROGRAMME WEBSITE



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# WATER REFORM IN LEBANON

Despite the restructuring efforts undertaken in 2000 by the Lebanese government and the considerable improvements made over the last 20 years, the water sector remains in need



The Technical Assistance Programme to support Reforms in the Water and Wastewater Sector in Lebanon, also called “Water Reform Programme”, started in 2020 and spans over a period of 5 years. It aims at strengthening the Lebanese stakeholders in the respective functions as service operators (The Regional Water Establishments) and tutelage (The Ministry of Energy and Water), as well as to support institutional dialogue. The programme is implemented by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and funded by the European Union (EU).

The Water Reform Programme dedicated website was launched in December 2023. It makes the findings and the progress of the reform open to the public. Visitors can check the resources section to download the reports produced within this programme.

You can visit the website [here](#).

## INSTALLATION OF RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEMS IN AKKAR: RESEARCH STUDY - WORLD VISION LEBANON



### Installation of Rainwater Harvesting Systems in Akkar: Research Study



Since 2012, World Vision Lebanon (WVL) has been providing water-trucking services for vulnerable communities in areas where there is a shortage of clean and accessible water sources. Hence, water-trucking interventions are costly, not sustainable and environmentally demanding.

In this context, and to find more sustainable, efficient, and environmentally friendly methods, WVL conducted a pilot project in ITSs for refugee communities in Akkar, where it is installing rainwater-harvesting systems in two sites. This intervention aims to increase access of vulnerable communities to water supply.

The objective of this study is to investigate innovative and expandable methods for obtaining drinking water by collecting rainwater in Informal Tented Settlements.

You can find the study [here](#).

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## SUMMARY SHEET "LIQUID SANITATION IN LEBANON" - LEWAP

Lewap recently published a summary sheet on Liquid sanitation in Lebanon. The objective of this document is to define liquid sanitation, to give updates on the sanitation situation in Lebanon and to evaluate local sanitation opportunities in the Lebanese context.

You can find the summary sheet [here](#).



### Liquid sanitation in Lebanon

#### What are we talking about?

Liquid sanitation systems handle :

- black water, corresponding to the mixing of excreta (urine and faeces) with flush water.
- grey water, resulting from cooking, dishwashing, laundry, hand washing and showers.
- in some cases, industrial wastewater or wastewater from craft activities, and rainwater.

There are three segments in the sanitation chain:

*The three segments of the sanitation chain*

	Upstream segment	Intermediary segment	Downstream segment
Collective sanitation system	Wastewater collection Toilets, hand-washing facilities, showers, sinks	Conveyance of wastewater from the neighborhood. Sewerage system	Wastewater treatment, with or without reuse Treatment system
Non-collective sanitation system	Collection of wastewater and excreta, temporary storage, in some cases, partial treatment Different types of individual installations (pits, cesspools, etc.)	Conveyance of faecal sludge (possibly pre-treated) Vacuum trucks	Discharge of faecal sludge Treatment/ Faecal sludge, with or without reuse Treatment system

Users benefit directly from segments 1 and 2, which avoid contact with pathogen-containing excreta. The benefits of the downstream link are primarily environmental. A sanitation service with three functional links enables the discharge of by-products into the environment that do not harm ecosystems or the quality of water resources. This indirectly benefits the user, in particular by protecting water resources used for human consumption from fecal pollution, which can cause water-borne diseases.

Upstream link equipment is generally privately owned by users.

A sanitation service refers to the management system put in place to ensure the continuous operation of the infrastructures that make up the intermediate and downstream links of the sanitation system. (In the case of non-collective wastewater

## SUMMARY SHEET "WASTEWATER REUSE IN LEBANON" - LEWAP

Lewap also published a summary sheet on Wastewater reuse (WWR) in Lebanon. The main objective of the publication was to define WWR and to analyze the opportunities and the obstacles to the development of WWR in Lebanon.

You can find the summary sheet [here](#).



### Wastewater reuse (WWR) in Lebanon

#### What is WWR?

Traditionally, the aim of liquid wastewater treatment is to discharge purified water with sufficiently satisfactory physico-chemical characteristics into the environment to avoid damaging it. More specifically, the aim is to preserve the quality of the watercourses, into which it is often discharged.

The reuse of treated wastewater implies a different vision of sanitation. The aim is not only to meet this environmental objective (as well as that of public health), but also to produce water of a quality that can be reused for human activities. The most frequent uses of treated waste water today are agricultural irrigation, watering green spaces, washing roads, recharging groundwater and cooling or process water in industry.

Treated wastewater is increasingly perceived as an "unconventional" water resource. This note focuses on Wastewater reuse (WWR) for agricultural use. The equipment making up an agricultural WWR system is generally as follows:

- Complementary treatment,
- Storage tanks,
- Pumping and filtration equipment,
- Irrigation network,
- Irrigation perimeter development.

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN LEBANON – DATE AND FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL

### WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - 1ST WEEK OF APRIL 2024

More information to come.

### WORKSHOP ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC BARRIERS TO SUBSCRIPTION, PAYMENT AND SERVICING IN THE WATER SECTOR POLICY RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY - MAY 2024

More information to come.

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THIS NEWSLETTER HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN ORDER TO KEEP YOU INFORMED ABOUT THE UPDATES IN THE WATER SECTOR AND 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: [CONTACT@LEWAP.ORG](mailto:CONTACT@LEWAP.ORG)