

## WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE NETWORK?

### INNOVATION IN SUSTAINABLE SANITATION AND WATER MANAGEMENT



From the 8<sup>th</sup> till the 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2018, the LEWAP platform and CEWAS Middle East organized four days of trainings on the implementation of sustainable sanitation and water management projects.

Twenty-six participants took part in the event, which was held in Qlaya and Dlafy municipalities, in the Caza of West Bekaa and Hasbaiya.

Participants were informed about the various phases of the project's implementation, which are needs assessments, institutional framework analysis, users' involvement, selection of technical solutions, economical viability and the consideration of exploitation and maintenance constraints.

This training was followed by a visit to two wastewater treatment plants of activated sludges and lagooning processes. Those visits had been set with the support of the Litani River Authority and the Bekaa Water Establishment.

#### Training tools

### WASTE WATER WORKSHOP BETWEEN FRENCH AND LEBANESE LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Three days of training with French and Lebanese local authorities were held in October 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> 2018.

The meetings were organized by Cités Unies Liban / Bureau technique des Villes Libanaises and pS-Eau with the support of the the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the French Embassy in Lebanon.



Seventy representatives of Lebanese municipalities, public institutions, international organizations, local and international NGOs, and the private sector representatives participated in a workshop on sanitation in Beirut.



During the workshop, the Ministry of Water and Energy presented its strategy for the wastewater sector and exchanged views with municipalities regarding the challenges they are facing and their intervention methods.

In parallel, technical visits had been organized in the treatment plant stations of Araya, Hamana, and Remhala municipalities.

• [Minutes of the workshop \(French\)](#)

## THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICES IN LEBANON



pS-Eau and the LEWAP platform organized a workshop on the impact of climate change on water and wastewater services in Lebanon. This workshop took place in Lyon, in partnership with the Rhone Mediterranean Corsica Water Agency.

A Lebanese delegation consisting of the General Directors of Water Establishments of each of Beirut and Mount-Lebanon, North-Lebanon and the Bekaa, a representative of the Litani River Authority, and a PhD student from Saint-Joseph University all participated in the event.

This workshop allowed participants to better understand the stakes and challenges that Lebanese stakeholders are facing to provide water and sanitation services. The French and Lebanese participants discussed the mitigation and adaptation measures that can be implemented in Lebanon.

• [Minutes of the workshop](#)

### ULTRA-SONIC ALGAE CONTROL DEVICES AND ALGAE MONITORING STATIONS IN LAKE QARAOUN



September 19<sup>th</sup> 2018, marked the official launching of the ultra-sonic algae control devices and algae monitoring stations project in Lake Qaraoun.

The project aims to improve water quality in the lake, by limiting the spread of algae thanks to eleven ultra-sounds buoys.

Funded by the Dutch government, this project is the result of a partnership between World Waternet and the Litani Rivers Authority.

[Read more](#)

### BEKAA WATER ESTABLISHMENT: PIONEER INSTITUTION FOR THE AQUARATING METHODOLOGY IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Within its project of supporting the Bekaa Water Establishment, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation assists this public institution in the realization of an Aquarating evaluation.

The evaluation is based on an integrated approach of water management, and the service performance will be evaluated in a neutral and exhaustive way. This evaluation should help to identify areas of improvement of services management, encourage innovations, enhance strategic planing and synergies between governmental institutions.

[Read more](#)

### CREATION OF THE LEBANON YOUTH PARLIAMENT FOR WATER

Following the initiative of Ibrahim Abd EL Al Foundation and the American University of Beirut, the Lebanon Youth Parliament for Water was initiated on 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2018. This Parliament was created in the presence of Ms. Lindsey Adalco-Manner, President of the World Youth Parliament for Water.

The Parliament has set the objectives to advocate for youth inclusion in the water decision making process in Lebanon, raise public awareness about the Lebanese water crisis, and apply youth-led initiatives and solutions that promote environmental sustainability and access to clean water resources.

[Read more](#)

## REWATER MENA: MORE AND SAFER WATER REUSE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the workshop to launch the REWATER MENA project was held in Egypt. This four-year project is carried by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in partnership with Lebanese, Egyptian and Jordanian research centers.

The project's objectives are to expand the reuse of treated wastewater in the Middle East and North Africa. In order to do so, the following activities will be implemented:

- Capitalization of the wastewater valorization experiences in the region;
- Creation of wastewater valorization plans for six sites in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon;
- Support the establishment of secured wastewater reuse policies, in reply to the stakeholder's requirements;
- Reinforce protagonists' capacities for the reuse of cleaned wastewater.

With the support of the French cooperative consultancy LISODE, participative processes will be implemented. These processes aim to facilitate interactions, co-create and scale validated innovations and promising solutions in wastewater management.

### • Presentation of the project

## EMPOWER PEOPLE FROM TRIPOLI TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST CRISIS

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tripoli hosted, on December, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, the ceremony to launch the project "Strengthening the recognition and the capacities of Tripolitan stakeholders to face crisis on their territory".

The three-year project aims to create a competent local expertise that is able to offer a collective, coordinated and well-suited humanitarian response in the context of the crisis in Tripoli.

This initiative, supported by the Agence Française de Développement and the Region of Auvergne Rhone Alpes, is implemented through a partnership between North LEDA, URD and Bioforce Institut. It consists of three pillars:

- Strengthening the capacities of thirty local civil society organizations;
- Supporting municipal authorities;
- Establishing a coordination mechanism to enhance symbiosis between local actors.

### • Presentation of the project (French)

Created in 2014 upon the initiative of CNRS Lebanon, CNRS France and the IRD, the Franco-Lebanese Observatory of the Environment O-Life got its mandate renewed for the 2019-2022 period.

This new International Environmental Research Consortium in Lebanon (GDRI-Sud O-Life) now includes a new participant: the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie.

Four main areas have been defined by O-Life teams:

- Biodiversity (Bio-Life)
- Water resources (Water-Life)
- Urbanization and seismic risks (Geo-Life)
- Maritime areas (Sea-Life)

The development of methods and tools to propose a better governance of the highly vulnerable socio-ecosystems in Lebanon consists of two transversal programs:

- Socio-life (interaction of humans with their environment)
- Tools-life (sharing of tools and data)

• [More information](#)

## INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

### CREATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT

Following eight months of negotiations, a new government has been formed on January 31<sup>st</sup> 2019. Governed by outgoing Prime Minister Mr. Saad Hariri, this government consists of thirty ministers, including four women.

- Minister of Energy and Water: Ms. Nada Boustani Khoury
- Minister of Environment: Mr. Fady Jreissati
- Minister of Interior and Municipalities: Ms. Raya Haffar el-Hassan
- Minister of Agriculture: Mr. Hassan Lakkis
- Minister of Industry: Mr. Waël Bou Faour

The cabinet has to enhance the institutional and economic reforms that Lebanon committed toward donors. 11.5 billion USD of loans and donations granted to Lebanon during the Cedar Conference of April 2018 will come along the implementation of these reforms.

• Find [here](#) the complete list of the new Lebanese cabinet

## LAST MEETINGS

### MEET WATER NEEDS IN THE CAZA OF HERMEL AND BAALBEK

On September 18th 2018, the Lebanese NGO LOST organized a conference on water resources in the caza of Hermel and Baalbek, in the presence of two hundred civil society and local authorities representatives.

The participants highlighted the difficult access to water, pollution issues, impact on health as well as the rising tensions between users. The Minister pointed to the necessity to coordinate local stakeholders initiatives with the ones of central and regional institutions. The participants discussed the rights and duties of users as well as awareness.

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### HYDRODIPLOMACY AND CLIMATE CHANGE FOR PEACE IN MESOPOTAMIA: CASE OF THE TIGRIS AND EUPHRATES

On December 10<sup>th</sup> 2018 in the Senate in Paris, the symposium offered an analysis of the geopolitical situation of the Tigris and Euphrates, as well as the impact of climate change on water management.

The objective is to reinforce the concepts of hydrodiplomacy, mediation and Nexus in the region.

The following themes have been reviewed during this event:

- Retrospective and learned experiences: the Orontes, the Jourdan and the Nile;
- The hydro-political stakes in Mesopotamia: Tigris and Euphrates;
- The technical-economic and environmental challenges on Tigris and Euphrates: Nexus (water, energy and alimentation) and climate impact;
- Hydrodiplomacy and Mediation on large catchment areas of the Middle East;

Minutes of the symposium

### SCREENING- DEBATE : BLUE GOLD OF LEBANON

In 2017, Processmed shot a web-documentary drawing a picture of the situation and the initiatives set up by social entrepreneurs to solve the many issues caused by the lack, the absence of water and pollution management.

A screening-debate was held on January 22nd 2019 in the Issam Fares Institute at American University of Beirut.

Watch the [documentary](#) - the [debates](#)



## WORKSHOP ON THE WASTEWATER SITUATION IN BEIRUT AND ITS SUBURBS

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, the Lebanese association Nahnoo organized a meeting on the wastewater situation in Beirut and its suburbs.

Representatives from the civil society, municipalities, Beirut and Mount-Lebanon Water Establishment, and the Council for Development and Reconstruction discussed the challenges faced and potential solutions that could be implemented.

• Videos of the workshop

## CONFERENCE ON WATER AND TOURISM

The Ibrahim Abd El Al Foundation organised a conference on water and tourism in Lebanon. The event was held on February the 21<sup>st</sup> 2019. A representative of the Minister of Tourism, scientific experts, locally elected representatives, and tourism professionals participated.

The meeting not only underlined the water quality challenges for local and touristic development, highlighted the impact of tourism on water resources, but also triggered discussions regarding sustainable tourism.

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## PROJECTS NEWS

### ON SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FOR INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS IN ARSAL

The Lebanese NGO LOST, with the support of UNICEF, set up a wastewater treatment plant on site for collective settlements in Aarsal.

This project allows the treatment, without electricity, of domestic wastewaters of eighty Syrian refugees and three Lebanese families.

Wastewaters are dispatched by gravity toward a first tank for a basic treatment. Waters are then processed in a second tank by infiltration between the various layers of the media Biorock. This medium is specifically considered to endeavor purifying local bacteria's fixation. Cleaned wastewaters are then reused to drip-water a hundred-tree orchard.



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## AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS FOR SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT IN NORTH LEBANON

As part of its activities in North Lebanon, in partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the support of the European Union, the NGO Concern Worldwide has implemented awareness campaigns for the sustainable management of water resources.



These campaigns were divided into organizing of a water festival, a puppet show and a marathon. A large number of educational materials have been specifically developed by Concern for these events, including reduced models on the water cycle, the water treatment process and games on water pollution, and the benefits of drip irrigations or the daily water consumption of a family as well.

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- [Download the awareness materials](#)

## LATEST PUBLICATIONS

### WASH SERVICES AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS AND RESPONSES

This guide aims to provide reading keys to understand the impacts of climate change on water and sanitation services. It identifies operational avenues for adaptation and mitigation of climate change services in developing countries



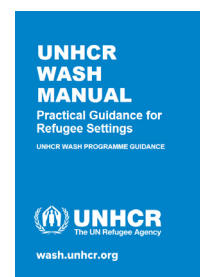
- [Download the guide](#)

### UNHCR WASH MANUAL: PRACTICAL GUIDANCE FOR REFUGEE SETTINGS

The manual outlines WASH guidelines that should be met in all refugee settings to provide an adequate level of basic WASH services for refugees.

It presents:

- A general description of overarching principles that should be considered in all refugee WASH programmes;
- A simple overview of WASH technical options that are suitable for refugee settings including a description of their advantages, disadvantages and related UNHCR policies;
- Where to find more detailed UNHCR approved technical design and operational information (e.g. from existing WASH technical documentation).

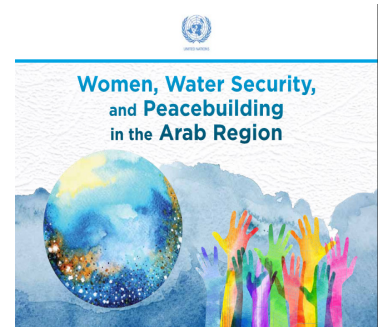


- [Download the guide](#)



## WOMEN, WATER SECURITY AND PEACEBUILDING IN THE ARAB REGION

This policy brief summarizes the discussions of the symposium on «Women, water supply security and the consolidation of the country in the Arab countries» held in Beirut in May 2018. In order to strengthen women's involvement in the water sector and take into account their specific needs, recommendations for action are formulated for the international and regional levels, national governments and communities.

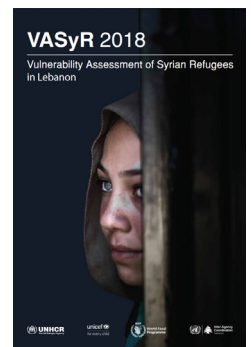


[Download the policy brief](#)

## VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT OF SYRIAN REFUGEES (VASyR-2018)

While Lebanon has the largest proportion of refugees in the world, aid to meet the needs of host and refugee populations continues to decline.

This vulnerability assessment is conducted with a significant sample of Syrian refugees. It focuses on identifying trends and changes in the living conditions of Syrian refugees in Lebanon.



[Download the assessment](#)

## WASH ASSESMENT PLATFORM: WAP

Unicef has supported humanitarian actors in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene sector for the implementation of the WAP platform.

This geographic information system is an integrated tool for prioritize needs, better target intervention areas, and optimize funds allocated in informal refugee camps. Therefore, the WAP platform relies on activity monitoring and multi-criteria field analysis. This makes it possible to not only identify the zones of vulnerability but also to know who intervenes where.

[Explore the WAP platform](#)

## UP COMING EVENTS IN LEBANON

The future of the Litani river and the surrounding villages (March 10<sup>th</sup>)

Screening-debate: We Made Every Living Thing from Water (March 12<sup>th</sup>)

«Water in Lebanon- turning current challenges to futur opportunities» Youth Conference (March 13<sup>th</sup>)

Start-up pgramm with CEWAS (application deadline March 15<sup>th</sup>)

2nd Lebanon Water Forum (March 20<sup>th</sup>)

World Water Day (March 21<sup>st</sup>)

Regional Consultation on Climate Change for the 2019 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development and High-Level Political Forum (March 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>)

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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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