

SWIM-SM Project overview

The Support Mechanism is the Component of the overall SWIM Programme providing strategic and focused technical assistance to the Partner Countries, as well as assistance to the SWIM Demonstration Projects. A project synopsis is provided below and includes overall and specific objectives, as well as expected results.

Project Title	Sustainable Water Integrated Management – Support Mechanism (SWIM-SM)
Country	Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Libya*, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory, Syria*, Tunisia
Overall objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote actively the extensive dissemination of sustainable water management policies and practices in the context of increasing water scarcity, combined pressure on water resources from a wide range of users, and desertification processes, in connection with climate change
Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness among the decision-makers and stakeholders in the Partner Countries (PCs) on the imminent threats on water resources, the need to implement more sustainable water consumption models and the adoption of possible solutions to meet the existing and forthcoming challenges; Support PCs in designing and implementing sustainable water management policies at the national and the local levels, in liaison with existing international initiatives in the area concerned; Contribute to ensuring institutional reinforcement and the development of the necessary planning and management skills, in line with Horizon 2020 objectives, and facilitate know-how transfer.
Expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting water governance by promoting the integration of sustainable water resources management considerations into national development policies and strategies as appropriate (agriculture, industry, tourism, etc); Contributing to empowering water-related institutions and increasing stakeholders' capacities. SWIM-SM target groups include but are not limited to relevant ministries, such as agriculture, environment, industry, tourism and trade, water utilities, River Basin Organisations, municipalities, water users associations, universities, regional and national research centres; Assisting with the development and/or implementation of sustainable water management plans, based on the integrated water resources management (IWRM) concept adopted for the EU Water Framework Directive, involving inter-sector dialogue as well as collaboration between stakeholders and incorporating water saving targets, in a number of rural areas and municipalities of the PCs; Increasing awareness of decision-makers, stakeholders, and the general public of the water value and of the continuous depletion of water resources as a consequence of water wastage, climate change, water pollution, demographic pressure and

	<p>modification of lifestyles, particularly in urban areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contributing to the identification and dissemination of good practices and state-of-art technologies at national and regional levels;• Assisting the EC in ensuring effective and smooth interaction between the two SWIM programme components (SWIM-Support Mechanism and SWIM-Demonstration Projects) in order to ensure a concerted overview of activities implemented, create a forum for dialogue and discussion among all the partners involved with a view to sustaining general coherence for the programme over its duration, and finding solutions to common challenges.
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** The situation in spring 2012 is that following formal EC decision activities have been stalled in Syria while Libya has officially become a Partner Country in the SWIM Programme.*