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## High-Level Conference on Water Finance and Investment

### *Strengthening Water Finance and Investment Policies to Address the Climate Emergency in the Mediterranean Region – A Pre-COP 27 Event*

Jointly organised by UfM and EU  
in partnership with the Egyptian Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation,  
Sida, INWRDAM, GWP-Med/AIP WACDEP-G and AWEN  
in the framework of Cairo Water Week

Alf Lila We Lila A Ballroom, Hotel Ritz-Carlton, Cairo (Egypt)  
17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> October 2022

### AGENDA

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	
8:00-8:45	<b>Registration</b>
8:45-9:30	<b>Session 1. Setting the stage</b>  <b>Master of Ceremony:</b> Ayman AYAD, Water and Utilities Sector Manager, EU Delegation in Egypt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>H.E. Ambassador Christian BERGER, Head of EU Delegation in Egypt</li> <li>H.E. Dr Jihad MAHAMID, Secretary General, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Jordan (<b>online</b>)</li> <li>H.E. Almotaz ABADI, Deputy Secretary General for Water, Environment and Blue Economy, UfM</li> <li>H.E. Walid FAYAD, Minister of Water and Energy, Lebanon</li> <li>H.E. Mazen GHUNAIM, Minister of Water, Palestine, and Head of Arab Water Experts Network</li> <li>H.E. Dr Hani SEWILAM, Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt</li> </ul>

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9:30-11:00	<p><b>Session 2. Climate, Water and Finance: Implications for the Financial Sustainability of the Mediterranean Water Sector</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Tahani SILEET, Head of Central Department for External Cooperation, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Arab Republic of Egypt</p> <p><b>Presentations (60 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A perspective from Malta</i>, Manuel SAPIANO, CEO, Energy and Water Agency, Malta)</li> <li>• <i>A perspective from Egypt</i>, Eman SAYED, Head of Planning Sector, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt</li> <li>• <i>A perspective from water resource managers</i>, Jean Marc FAURES, Regional Programme Leader, FAO-RNE</li> <li>• <i>A perspective from water service providers</i>, Oliver LOEBEL, Secretary General, EurEau, (online)</li> <li>• <i>A perspective from policy analysts</i>, Marwan ALRAGGAD, Executive Director, INWRDAM</li> <li>• <i>A perspective from international financial institutions</i>, Mohamed ASHMAWY, Projects Officer, Water, Sanitation &amp; Rural Development, AFD</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion (20 minutes)</b></p> <p><b>Questions to be addressed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is climate change affecting the costs of ensuring water security?</li> <li>• How are those additional climate-driven costs being paid for?</li> <li>• What are three key actions that national governments should take to ensure the financial sustainability of the water sector in the face of climate change?</li> <li>• What are three key actions that other actors should take?</li> </ul>
11:00-11:30	Break

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11:30-13:00	<p><b>Session 3. Attracting Climate Finance for Water</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Tahani SILEET, Head of Central Department for External Cooperation, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Arab Republic of Egypt</p> <p><b>Presentations (60 min)</b></p> <p>Possible presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The sustainable finance context</i>, Erik ELDHAGEN, Senior Economic and Commercial Advisor at the Embassy of Sweden in Cairo, former Director of Banking, Ministry of Finance, Sweden.</li> <li>• <i>A landscape analysis of climate finance for water</i>, Kathryn PHARR, Senior Policy Adviser for International Climate Action, WaterAid, <b>(online)</b></li> <li>• <i>Water sector finance framework and climate finance in Tunisia</i>, Abderrahman OUASLI, Director of Management of the Hydraulic Sector, Office of Planning and Hydraulic Balances, Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia</li> <li>• <i>Climate finance: examples from MDB practice – focus on the Saiss water project in Morocco</i> – David Allan, Associate Director, Sustainable Infrastructure Group, EBRD</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion (20 minutes)</b></p> <p><b>Questions to be addressed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What should be role of climate finance in the water sector?</li> <li>• What are the lessons learned regarding climate finance for water?</li> <li>• What are three key actions that national governments should take to attract climate finance for the water sector?</li> <li>• What are three key actions that other actors should take?</li> </ul>
13:00-14:00	Lunch break

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14:00-15:45	<p><b>Session 4. UfM Regional Dialogue on Water and Finance: Engaging public and private financiers</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Mohammed AL-DWAIRI, Assistant Secretary General for Planning, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Jordan</p> <p><b>Presentations (70 minutes):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The enabling conditions for water-related finance</i>, Xavier LEFLAIVE, Water Team Leader, OECD Environment Directorate (<a href="#">online</a>)</li> <li>• <i>Using public funds to engage public and private financiers: the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus</i>, Cyril DEWALEYNE, Program Manager for Energy, Blending and Guarantees - DG NEAR, EU Commission (<a href="#">online</a>)</li> <li>• <i>Engaging domestic commercial banks</i>, Ali AWDEH, Head of Economic Research Department, Union of Arab Banks (<a href="#">online</a>)</li> <li>• <i>Engaging public development banks: the Water Finance Coalition</i>, Alice COLSON, AFD (<a href="#">online</a>)</li> <li>• <i>Attracting finance for private-led water investments: lessons learned from the Smart Desert Project</i>, Basim EL-SALEH, CEO, Greentech</li> <li>• <i>Bringing funders and financiers together under a “one stop shop” approach</i>, Naoll MARY, Global Upstream Lead Municipal Infrastructure and Natural Resources, IFC</li> <li>• <i>Are water authorities ready to engage with public and private financiers?</i> Charafat AFAILAL, Expert on Water Resources, former Minister in charge of Water in the Moroccan Government</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion (20 minutes)</b></p> <p><b>Questions for discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What could be realistic goals of public water authorities regarding the participation or public and private financiers in financing the water sector?</li> <li>• What are the constraints faced by public and private financiers that prevent them from deeper engagement in financing the water sector?</li> <li>• What are three key actions that national governments should take to further engage public and private financiers in the water sector?</li> <li>• What are three key actions that other actors should take?</li> </ul>
15:45-16:15	Break

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16:15-17:45	<p><b>Session 5. Supporting policy reforms for financial sustainability of the water sector: EU Team Europe Initiatives on Water</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Frederic FOURTUNE, Environment, Water &amp; Biodiversity Programme Manager, DG-NEAR, European Commission</p> <p><b>Presentations (50 minutes):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Team Europe concept</i>, Frederic FOURTUNE, Environment, Water &amp; Biodiversity Programme Manager, DG-NEAR, European Commission</li> <li>• <i>The Team Europe Initiative on Water in Egypt</i>, Ayman AYAD, Water and Utilities Sector Manager, EU Delegation in Egypt</li> <li>• <i>The Team Europe Initiative on Water in Jordan</i>, Omar ABU-EID; Energy, Environment &amp; Climate Change Programme Manager, EU Delegation in Jordan (<a href="#">online</a>)</li> <li>• <i>The Team Europe Initiative on Water in Lebanon</i>, Michele PIERPAOLI; Water and Wastewater Programme Manager, EU Delegation in Lebanon</li> <li>• <i>The Team Europe Initiative on Water in Tunisia</i>, Denis REISS, EU Delegation in Tunisia (<a href="#">online</a>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion (30 minutes)</b></p> <p><b>Questions to be addressed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the Team Europe Initiative and what are its potential benefits?</li> <li>• What have been the challenges, successes and lessons learned in launching Team Europe Initiatives on Water across the Mediterranean region?</li> <li>• How can Team Europe Initiatives support policy reforms to enhance the financial sustainability of the water sector?</li> <li>• What are three key actions that national governments should take to ensure maximum impact and value from TEI-Water initiatives?</li> <li>• What are three key actions that other actors should take to ensure maximum impact and value from TEI-Water initiatives?</li> </ul>
20:00-22:00	<p><b>Speakers Dinner</b> hosted by UfM.</p> <p>Vivo Restaurant (at Nile Ritz Carlton).</p> <p>By invitation only.</p>

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	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
8:45-10:30	<p><b>Session 6. Improving Water Investment Policies under Climate Change</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Haitham THAANI, Head of Desalination and Water Quality, National Carrier Unit, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Jordan</p> <p><b>Presentations (70 minutes):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Improving Water Investment Policies: Recommendations from the 2021 EU-UfM Water Investment Policy Forum</i>, Roberto MARTIN HURTADO, Senior Water Economics Advisor, UfM</li> <li>• <i>Investing in water governance to improve the quality of water investment policies and de-risk water investment projects</i>, Jose GESTI, Climate Advisor, SIWI</li> <li>• <i>Promoting gender-transformative planning, decision-making and institutional development for climate resilient water investments in North Africa</i>, Vangelis CONSTANTIANOS, Executive Director, GWP-Med</li> <li>• <i>How water investment policies and plans are evolving to respond to climate change in Albania</i>, Arduen KARAGJOZI, Director of Strategic Management, Water Resources Management Agency, Albania</li> <li>• <i>How water investment policies and plans are evolving to respond to climate change in Lebanon</i>, Wassim DAHER, Director of South Lebanon Water Establishment</li> <li>• <i>How water investment policies and plans are evolving to respond to climate change in Türkiye</i>, Huriye INCECIK CEYLAN, Water Policy Section Manager, General Directorate of Water Management, Türkiye</li> <li>• <i>How water investment policies and plans are evolving to respond to climate change in Spain</i>, Manuel MENENDEZ, Senior Advisor, Cabinet of the Secretary of State for the Ecological Transition, Spain</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion (20 minutes)</b></p> <p><b>Questions for discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent is climate change asking for different types of water investment policies, plans and projects?</li> <li>• To what extent are national water investment policies and plans have been modified to respond to climate change?</li> <li>• What are three key actions that national governments should take to increase the quality of water investment policies?</li> <li>• What are three key actions that other actors should take to increase the quality of water investments?</li> </ul>

10:30-12:00	<p><b>Session 7. Investing in Water to Adapt to Climate Change: Focus on Water Reuse</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Ayman AYAD, Water and Utilities Sector Manager, EU Delegation in Egypt</p> <p><b>Presentations (60 minutes):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The role of water reuse in adapting to climate change in the Mediterranean region</i>, Mohammed Elghali KHIYATI, IME</li> <li>• <i>The economics of water reuse projects in Jordan</i>, Dina SHATNAWI, Head of Watershed Protection, Directorate for Climate Change, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Jordan</li> <li>• <i>Investing in water reuse – challenges and lessons learned in Palestine</i>, Marwan BARDAWIL, Head of Gaza Program Coordination Unit, Palestinian Water Authority</li> <li>• <i>Investing in water reuse – challenges and lessons learned in Algeria</i>, Nassima TAHRI, Director of Sanitation, Ministry of Public Works, Water and Basic Infrastructure, Algeria</li> <li>• <i>How to finance investments in water reuse</i>, Walid SALIM, Environmental Expert, EIB</li> <li>• <i>Unlocking private investments in wastewater treatment and reuse</i>, Naoll MARY, Global Upstream Lead Municipal Infrastructure and Natural Resources, IFC</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion (20 minutes)</b></p> <p><b>Questions to be addressed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What can be the role of water reuse in adapting to climate change and achieving water security in the Mediterranean region?</li> <li>• What methodologies are being used for prioritising and evaluating investments in water reuse?</li> <li>• To what extent are investments in water reuse integrated in overall water investment planning?</li> <li>• What are the main challenges in developing and implementing investments in water reuse?</li> <li>• What are the key three actions that national governments should take to ensure that investments in water reuse are effective and efficient?</li> <li>• What are the key three actions that other actors should take to ensure that investments in water reuse are effective and efficient?</li> </ul>
12:00-12:30	Break



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12:30-14:30

## Session 8. Ministerial Level Segment – Conference Recommendations for COP-27

**Chair:** Andrea TINAGLI, Senior Advisor, EIB Representative to the UfM

### Presentation (15 minutes)

- Towards a High-Level Action Agenda: Draft Conference Recommendations for COP-27, Roberto MARTIN HURTADO, Senior Advisor on Water Economics, UfM

### Panel interventions (90 min)

- H.E. Hani SEWILAM, Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt
- H.E. Mazen GHUNAIM, Minister of Water, Palestine, and Head of Arab Water Experts Network
- H.E. Bojan DEJAK, Director General, Water and Investments Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenia
- H.E. Teodoro ESTRELA, General Director for Water, Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, Spain
- H.E. Afire SEVER, General Director, General Directorate for Water Management, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Türkiye
- H.E. Abdul Hakim ELWAER, Assistant Director- General and Regional Representative for the Near East and North Africa, FAO
- H.E. Henk OVINK, Special Envoy for International Water Affairs,, Netherlands
- H.E. Almotaz ABADI, Deputy-Secretary General for Water, Environment and Blue Economy, UfM
- H.E. Ambassador Christian BERGER, Head of EU Delegation in Egypt

### Questions to be addressed:

- What are the priorities of UM member states regarding water policies and related water investments and finance under the climate emergency?
- What are some of the key governance and policy reforms that are required to successfully address those priorities?
- How could regional cooperation help UfM member states to implement those reforms?

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14:30-14:45	<b>Session 9. Closing remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>H.E. Almotaz ABADI, Deputy Secretary General for Water, Environment and Blue Economy, UfM</li> <li>Ayman AYAD, Water and Utilities Sector Manager, EU Delegation in Egypt</li> <li>Tahani SILEET, Head of Central Department for External Cooperation, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Arab Republic of Egypt</li> </ul>
14:45-15:30	<b>Lunch</b>
19:30-21:30	<b>Gala Dinner</b> hosted by the EU Delegation in Cairo Abu El-Sid Restaurant. Shuttles will depart from the Nile Ritz Carlton at 18:45. By invitation only.

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