

The regional project Sustainable Use of Transboundary Water Resources and Water Security Management (WATER SUM) addresses water-related challenges and promotes regional cooperation in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) through two project components: Water Resources Management Good Practices and Knowledge Transfer (WATER PORT); and Water Security in Local Communities (WaSe).

This conference marks the end of the second year of implementation of the WATER SUM project and is organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary as a milestone event towards the 2016 Budapest Water Summit. The conference will bring together stakeholders from the MENA region and other countries to:

- support the MENA region and its water stakeholders in advancing water management at national and local level, while also shoring up regional cooperation and engagement as well as contributing to the identification of viable tools and solutions;
- stimulate the more sustainable use of water resources, stronger cooperation between pivotal actors, and a strategic approach to climate change adaptation;
- coordinate efforts among MENA countries and other regions to facilitate the mutual transfer of knowledge and good practices;
- take stock of the WATER SUM project and strengthen synergies with other programmes and efforts;
- promote a comprehensive and integrated approach to water security and ecosystem services and expound on the increasingly interrelated nature of our global resources systems and the impact on water sustainability; and
- lay the groundwork for assisting regional and global efforts in the water sector, including the 2016 Budapest Water Summit and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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The REC is an international organisation with a mission to assist in addressing environmental issues. The REC fulfils this mission by promoting cooperation among governments, non-governmental organisations, businesses and other environmental stakeholders, and by supporting the free exchange of information and public participation in environmental decision making.

The WATER SUM project is financed by the Government of Sweden and implemented by the Regional Environmental Center (REC).

1 Theme
2 Side events
3 Days
9 Sessions
140 Participants

Water, Growth and Stability

Transboundary Water Cooperation for Sustainable Growth and Stability in MENA

April 26-28, 2016

Regional Environmental Center (REC) Conference Center

Ady Endre ut 9-11 ● 2000 Szentendre ● Hungary



watersum.rec.org



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER



DAY 1 April 26, 2016 (Tuesday)

09:00 – 09:30 Welcome; badge pick-up; networking

09:30 – 11:00 **Session 1: High-Level Segment**
Chair: **Mr. Jari Vilen (EU Ambassador to the Council of Europe and Chair of the REC Board of Directors)**

Statements by high-level representatives:

Mr. Istvan Joo (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary) ●
Mr. Peter Kovacs (Ministry of the Interior, Hungary; Chair of UNECE Water Convention) ● H.E. Mr. Niclas Trouve (Embassy of Sweden in Hungary) ●
H.E. Mr. Gajus Scheltema (Embassy of the Netherlands in Hungary; Presidency of the Council of the EU) ● H.E. Abdelkader Dehendi (Embassy of Algeria in Hungary) ●
Dr. Mamdouh A. Antar (Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt) ●
Mr. Ali Subah (Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Jordan) ● H.E. Prof. Dr. Ezzi Hebat Allah Ali (Ministry of Water and Environment, Yemen) ● Dr. Fadi Comair (Ministry of Energy and Water, Lebanon) ● Mr. Abdelhamid Benabdelfadel (Ministry Delegate in Charge of Water, Morocco) ● Mr. Abderrazak Souissi (Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia) ● Mr. Fadi Shraideh (IUCN, Regional Office for West Asia) ● Ms. Marta Szigeti Bonifert (Executive Director of the REC)

11:00 – 11:30 **BREAK and family photo**

11:30 – 13:00 **Session 2: Panel Discussion: Cooperation and Regional Approach in Water Management in the MENA Region**
Facilitator: **Dr. Anders Jagerskog (Sida)**

Panellists: Mr. Peter Kovacs ● Dr. Radoje Lausevic ● Mr. Ali Subah ●
Ms. Tahani Moustafa Sileet ● Mr. Safouane Mouelhi ● Dr. Fadi Comair

13:00 – 14:00 **LUNCH**

14:00 – 15:30 **Session 3: Panel Discussion: Transboundary Water Cooperation – European Experience**
Facilitator: **Mr. Peter Kovacs (Ministry of the Interior, Hungary; Chair of UNECE Water Convention)**

Panellists: Ms. Chantal Demilecamps ● Mr. Istvan Joo ● Mr. Dejan Komatina ●
Mr. Laszlo Perger ● Mr. Peter Bakonyi ● Ms. Gordana Kozuharova

15:30 – 16:00 **BREAK**

16:00 – 17:00 **Session 4: Panel Discussion: Importance of Transboundary Water Cooperation for Development, Peace and Stability**
Facilitator: **Dr. Radoje Lausevic (REC)**

Panellists: Ms. Jovanka Ignjatovic ● Mr. Fadi Shraideh ● Ms. Asma Cherifi

17:00 – 18:00 **Session 5: Poster Session and Exhibition: Cooperation for Water Growth and Stability – Case studies from MENA and Europe**

18:00 – 20:00 **RECEPTION**
Statement and Announcement about the Budapest Water Summit 2016 on behalf of the President of the Republic of Hungary
Delivered by: **Mr. Csaba Korosi (Director for Environmental Sustainability)**

DAY 2 April 27, 2016 (Wednesday)

09:00 – 11:00 **Session 6: Transboundary Water Cooperation in the Framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**
Chair: **Dr. Janos Zlinszky (REC)**

Presentations by: Mr. Moez Allaoui ● Andras Kiss ● Mr. Abderrazak Souissi ●
Mr. Mohamed Bazza

11:00 – 11:30 **BREAK**

11:30 – 13:00 **Session 7: Launching of the Manual for Local Water Security Action Planning (LWSAP)**
Chair: **Prof. Chad Staddon (UK)**

Presentations by: Dr. Radoje Lausevic ● Prof. Mark Reed ● Mr. Mufleh Al Alaween Al Abbadi ● Dr. Jacob Petersen-Perlman ● Prof. Slobodan Milutinovic ●
Mr. Andrija Bednarik ● Ms. Carmen Tariba

13:00 – 14:00 **LUNCH**

14:00 – 15:15 **Session 8: Facilitated Discussion: Main Proposals for the Way Forward**
Facilitator: **Mr. Kenty Richardson (REC)**

Panellists: Dr. Anders Jagerskog ● Mr. Peter Kovacs ● Dr. Radoje Lausevic ●
Dr. Janos Zlinszky ● Prof. Chad Staddon

15:15 – 15:30 **Session 9: Closing**
Ms. Marta Szigeti Bonifert (Executive Director of the REC)

15:30 – 16:00 **BREAK**

16:00 – 18:00 **Side Event 1: Coalition for Water, Growth and Stability in MENA**

16:00 – 18:00 **Side Event 2: WATER SUM Project Steering Committee Meeting**
(by invitation only!)

DAY 3 April 28, 2016 (Thursday)

08:30 – 13:00 **Study Visit 1: Visit to Szentendre Island to observe the well system feeding the Budapest Waterworks and to gain insight into low-water management**

Study Visit 2: Visit to the new sewage treatment plant on Csepel Island

13:00 – 14:00 **LUNCH**

14:00 – 17:00 Budapest sightseeing, including a visit to the wells of the XIX century Budapest waterworks along the Danube and to the embankment at the Parliament