

MENA NWC

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22 October 2014

11th Gulf Water Conference

Muscat, Oman



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MENA NWC

Middle East and North Africa Network of Water Centers of Excellence

MENA NWC Vision and Mission

VISION

- A water secure Middle East and North Africa

MISSION

- Build an alliance of governments, research and educational institutions, nongovernmental organization, and the private sector to advance:
 - Collaborative research
 - Innovation
 - Capacity building
 - Knowledge exchange



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Governance

- Founders Committee created in March 2013
- Incorporated in Washington DC in December 2013
- Founders Committee recharacterized as Interim Board of Directors in February 2014
- Bylaws prepared in March 2014
- Application for tax exempt status as not-for-profit submitted in September 2014
- Permanent Board seated in September 2014

Governance Structure

- Board of Directors
- Executive Director
- Directorate
- Assembly of Governing Members
- Scientific Advisory Council



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Board of Directors

- **Lee Addams**, Vice President for Corporate Strategies, Chief Strategy Officer, Valmont Industries, Inc., USA
- **Thameur Chaibi**, Head of Department of Rural Engineering, National Institute for Research in Rural Engineering, Water, and Forestry (INRGREF), Tunisia
- **Manar Fayyad**, Professor, Vice President, German Jordanian University, Jordan.
- **Abdel Kawi Khalifa**, Former Chairman of the Egyptian Holding Company for Water and Wastewater, Egypt
- **Ralf Klingbeil**, Regional Advisor Environment and Water, UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN ESCWA) and AWARENET Network Coordinator in Lebanon, Germany
- **Elisabeth Kvitashvili**, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for the Middle East, USAID



Board of Directors

- **Said Ouattar**, Director General, Institute for Agronomy and Veterinary Science Hassan II, Morocco
- **Harvey Perlman** (Vice Chairman), Chancellor, University of Nebraska, USA
- **Muwaffaq Saqqar** (Chairman), Water and Environment Consultant Engineer, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Kuwait
- **Jill Shaunfield Smail**, Science and Technology Advisor, Bureau of Near East Affairs, U.S. Department of State
- **John Waterbury**, Former President, American University in Beirut and currently Visiting Global Professor at New York University in Abu Dhabi, USA
- **Hanna Zaghloul**, Chief Executive Office, Kawar Energy, Jordan
- **Waleed Zubari**, Professor of Water Resources Management and Acting Director of the Water Resources Management Program, Arabian Gulf University (AGU), in Bahrain



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Strategic Direction

- Developed five-year strategic business plan
- Approved by Board of Directors
- Developing fundraising strategy and action plan



MENA NWC Members

- Water Research Centers and Educational Institutions
- Non-MENA NWC Research and Educational Institutions
- Government Institutions
- Civil Society Organizations
- Private Sector Entities



MENA NWC Programs

- ➔ A **collaborative research program** forges meaningful partnerships, develops and disseminates policy tools, and conducts technical and management interventions
- ➔ A **regional capacity building program** strengthens technical, financial, managerial, and leadership skills
- ➔ A **knowledge sharing program** encourages long-distance collaboration and exchanges regional know-how to improve water resources planning and management

Research Program

POLICY, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

- Ten projects awarded for \$3.2 million

SMALL GRANTS

- Young Water Scientists: \$250,000, \$158,000 awarded
- Water Innovative Fellowships: \$250,000, \$145,000 awarded

US-ME RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

- Three projects awarded for \$1.7 million



Technical Communities



Water Efficiency and
Productivity



Groundwater



Non-Conventional Water



Water/Energy/Food Nexus



Water Supply and Sanitation



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Water Efficiency and Productivity Research Projects

Research Project Title	MENA NWC Research Team	Value
Global Yield Gap Atlas for Middle East and North Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) Hassan II Agronomy and Veterinary Institute (IAV), Morocco National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension (NCARE), Jordan National Institute of Research for Rural Engineering, Water and Forestry (INRGRAF) 	\$450,000
Improving Water Use Efficiency in the River Basin in Jordan, Morocco, and Tunisia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Institute of Research for Rural Engineering, Water and Forestry (INRGRAF) National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension (NCARE), Jordan Hassan II Agronomy and Veterinary Institute (IAV), Morocco 	\$300,000
Drought Mitigation for MENA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension (NCARE), Jordan 	\$45,000



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Water Efficiency and Productivity Research Projects

Research Project Title	MENA NWC Research Team	Value
Mitigating Environmental Risks of Wastewater Reuse for Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), Oman • University of Jordan • National Research Institute for Rural Engineering, Water and Forestry (INRGREF) 	\$350,000
Application of Near Real-Time Monitoring Systems for Irrigated Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) • Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), Oman • National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension (NCARE), Jordan • Sana'a University, Yemen • National Research Institute for Rural Engineering, Water and Forestry (INRGREF) 	\$350,000
Upgrading Treatment Processes to Improve Effluent Quality for Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technion – Israel Institute of Technology • National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension (NCARE), Jordan • Al Quds University, West Bank 	\$550,000



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Groundwater Research Projects

Research Project Title	MENA NWC Research Team	Value
Radar Probing of Groundwater in Hyper-arid Environments: Understanding Aquifer Dynamics in High Discharge Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">California Institute of Technology, USAHassan II Agronomy and Veterinary Institute (IAV), MoroccoSultan Qaboos University (SQU), Oman	\$600,000
Understanding the Dynamics of Managed Aquifer Recharge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), OmanUniversity of JordanUniversity of Nebraska – Lincoln	\$300,000



Non-Conventional Water Research Projects

Research Project Title	MENA NWC Research Team	Value
Mitigating Red Tide Algae Blooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle East Desalination Research Center (MEDRC), Oman Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), Oman Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME), University of California Santa Cruz Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) 	\$650,000
Solar Energy for Large Scale Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Jordan An Najah National University, West Bank 	\$100,000
Use of Nanoparticles as a Biofouling Resistant Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), Jordan International Institute for Water and Sanitation, National Office for Electricity and Potable Water (ONEE-IEA), Morocco 	\$300,000



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Water/Food/Energy Nexus Research Projects

Research Project Title	MENA NWC Research Team	Value
Water-Energy-Food Nexus – In Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• University of Jordan• National Institute of Research for Rural Engineering, Water and Forestry (INRGREF)	TBD



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Water Supply and Sanitation Research Projects

Research Project Title	MENA NWC Research Team	Value
Non-Revenue Water in Middle East Water Utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arab Countries Water Utilities Association (ACWUA), Jordan• Africa Water Association (AfWA)	\$330,000
Expanding Access to Sanitation for Unsewered Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• International Institute for Water and Sanitation, National Office for Electricity and Potable Water (ONEE-IEA), Morocco• Hassan II Agronomy and Veterinary Institute (IAV), Morocco• Royal Scientific Society, Jordan• University of Jordan• University Cadi Ayyad, Morocco	\$450,000



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MENA NWC Small Grants

YOUNG WATER SCIENTISTS	WATER INNOVATION FELLOWSHIPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funded at \$250,000• Requires two scientists from two Centers• Age requirement: 21-40 years• Funding provided through two Centers to researchers• Requires technical proposal and budget• Limit is \$50,000 total• Likely range \$10,000-\$30,000• Four awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funded at \$250,000• Single individual may apply but must be ME national, living in ME, and currently employed• No age requirement• Funding provided through MENA NWC Center to grantees• Requires technical proposal and budget• Limit is \$25,000• Likely range \$5,000-\$15,000• Nine - award or provisional award



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Private Sector Engagement

- Finalized private sector mapping in Jordan
- Three businesses actively engaged with PR&D research teams: ICT International, Kawar Energy and DHI Group
- Workshop with private sector at IWA Congress in Lisbon is September 2014

Capacity Development Program



Proposal writing and
research management



Engaging the private sector in
research

Technical Topics

- Water footprint



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Knowledge Sharing Program

- MENA NWC website in December 2014
- Initiate Communities of Practice for MENA NWC research scientists through the website
- Regular MENA NWC newsletters
- Open the MENA NWC Clearinghouse
- Upcoming Events:
 - Arab Water Week in January 2015
 - MENA NWC Biennial Congress in April 2015
 - With ACWUA, strategic partner of IWA at Development Congress in October 2015



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