

First Announcement and Call for Papers

ACWUA's 5th Best Practices Conference
Utilities Perspective on Water Resources
Management in the Arab Region

3-5 June 2012

Muscat, Oman



Water resources in the Arab region are considered as a development issue. In this respect, Arab countries have responded to scarcity by heavily investing in water related infrastructure. Many have heavily invested in water storage infrastructure and in expanding their irrigation systems. Additionally, the Arab region leads the world in using non-traditional water resources through the use of desalinated water and reuse of treated wastewater is increasingly gaining importance in many countries of the region.

Discussion on water resources management (conventional and non-conventional) from utilities perspective is needed to tackle water scarcity problem. ACWUA will seize the opportunity through its Best Practices conferences platform and employ the topic of water resources management from utilities perspective in the 5th Best Practices Conference.

ACWUA Best Practices conference does not only provide an opportunity to enhance communication flows, synergies and the sharing of successful experiences, but as well, it will facilitate the creation of new partnerships that complement and maximize the impact of on-going work in this sector for the benefit of all countries in the region.

Why to attend ACWUA's 5th Best Practices Conference?

The conference will provide case studies and best practices in water utilities in the Arab region, also aims to share and exchange the local experiences with the international water community and summaries the lessons learned from each case study. Discussion and comments will be targeting and focusing on developing best practices and guiding principles on water resources management.

Who will attend?

ACWUA expect more than 300 participants and delegations to attend the 5th Best Practices Conference in Muscat, Oman. Many will be coming from ACWUA membership comprising of more than 200 individual members, and more than 95 water and wastewater utilities from 18 Arab Countries; Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Sudan, Libya, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

The 5th Best Practices Conference is also aimed at senior decision makers from public and private water and waste water utilities/water supply companies, water ministries & authorities, environmental agencies & ministries, municipalities, utility operators, private sector companies and consultants and educational institutions internationally and across the region.

Conference Themes and Topics

This year focus area will be **Utilities Perspective on Water Resources Management in the Arab Region**

The following is a selection of key themes which the Scientific Committee is seeking contributions; papers addressing these issues from the Arab Region and international water community are welcomed and encouraged.

1- Water Resources Management

- ✓ National water master planning
- ✓ Water allocation and water budgets
- ✓ Water information systems and hydro-informatics
- ✓ Integrated water resources management (IWRM)

2- Protection of water resources

- ✓ Water safety plans
- ✓ Watershed management and pollution prevention

- ✓ Vulnerability of water resources and ground water protection zones
- ✓ Monitoring systems and risk management

3- Non-conventional water management

- ✓ Desalination & Energy (technologies, types, renewable energy, O&M, best practices and environmental consideration)
- ✓ Wastewater treatment and reuse
- ✓ Grey water treatment and reuse
- ✓ Rainwater harvesting and flood management

4- Adaptation to climate change and global warming

- ✓ Utilities adaptations to climate change
- ✓ Impacts of climate change on water resources management
- ✓ Identifying financing for adaptation initiatives
- ✓ Hydrological modeling and decision support systems

5- Accountability and Transparency (Water Integrity)

- ✓ Transparency in water utilities management
- ✓ Anti corruption laws and instruments
- ✓ Accountability
- ✓ Stakeholder dialogue and water governance

Invitation to submit a paper

Papers are expected to make an original and substantial contribution to the conference themes and topics. Speakers who are interested in presenting a paper should send an abstract for refereeing. Paper proposals will be selected by the conference scientific committee to cover different areas, methods, approaches and positions.

Abstracts should be maximum 300 words. Each entry should incorporate the following information:

Author's(s') full name(s), Title – Position – Institution – Address for correspondence– Theme of the paper (see conference themes), indicating a first and second choice – Title of the paper – Abstract of the paper.

Abstract submission form including all specifications and guidelines can be downloaded from the ACWUA website www.acwua.org Abstracts and later paper submissions should be sent by e-mail to the following address: bpconference@acwua.org

The official language of the conference is Arabic and English (Simultaneous translation will be available). The papers will be published through ACWUA newsletters and website.

Deadlines

- **Deadline for submitting abstracts: 10 April 2012**
- **Announcement of results and selection process will start in: 30 April 2012**
- **Deadline for submitting the presentations and papers: 20 May 2012**

Enquiries

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