



PROJECT:	Alter Aqua, Non Conventional Water Resources Programme, MALTA
Title:	2012 Report
Date:	31 January 2013
Reported by:	Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (GWP-Med)

The Non Conventional Water Resources (NCWR) Programme in Malta, also known as *Alter Aqua* is a multi-stakeholder programme bringing together the Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (GWP-Med), the Ministry for Gozo (MGOZ) and the Eco-Gozo Project, and the Coca-Cola System in Malta (Coca-Cola Malta and General Soft Drinks Co. Ltd). Educational activities are implemented in collaboration with national (Maltese) NGO Nature Trust Malta (NTM) and the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE). NCWR Programme is primarily funded by the Coca-Cola Foundation through a two-year grant of \$800,000 and co-funded by the Ministry for Gozo. The Programme was launched in November 2011 and activities are being implemented according to the action plan and timeline without any substantial deviation.

ACTIVITIES:

A. Memorandum of Understanding

- MOU among Programme partners, GWP-Med, Ministry for Gozo and the Coca-Cola System in Malta, negotiated, drafted and signed on February 20, 2012, following a kick-off meeting on January 19-20, 2012, in Victoria, Gozo.

B. WORKS: Installations and/or repairs of NCWR systems.

- Two international tenders were made according to EU legislation: one for the reinstatements of existing Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) systems (Tender 2/2012) and one for the Installation of new RWH systems (Tender 3/2012). The Tender process was concluded on the first week of August and contracts were signed. The contracts were won by a Maltese company.

1. Installations of 4 innovative rainwater harvesting systems in 4 public schools in the island of Gozo, as follows:

Installation Site	Type of system	Capacity	Special Features
Sannat Primary School	Innovative RWH system comprised of a modular underground tank and second class water system to reuse the collected rainwater for toilet flushing.	150,000 L	- First time application of such systems in the Maltese Islands - Modular tank is made of recycled polypropylene - Very short installation time
Gharb Primary School		100,000 L	
Kercem Primary School		150,000 L	
Zebbug Primary School		100,000 L	

All installations have been concluded. The systems are in operation.





Sannat Primary School



Gharb Primary School



Kercem Primary School



Zebbug Primary School



2. Reinstatement of 5 existing rainwater harvesting systems in 3 schools and the Experimental Farm, as follows

Reinstatement Site	Type of system	Capacity*	Special Features	Current status
Xaghra Primary School	Repair of 1 RWH tank in the school yard & installation of second class water system for toilet flushing	~ 400,000L	Water to be reused for toilet flushing	completed
Sannat Primary School	Repair of 1 RWH tank in the school yard	~ 350,000 L	Water to be reused for gardening	In progress
San Lawrenz Primary School	Repair of the RWH system, with new pumping systems and & distribution systems to the two school buildings for toilet flushing	~ 100,000 L	Water to be reused for gardening	completed
Experimental Farm	Repair of 2 open air RWH reservoirs	410,000 L	Water to be used for irrigation in the Farm.	In progress

C. Educational Programme

- Training of Trainers: the educational team of the Maltese NGO Nature Trust Malta (NTM) was trained in November 2011, in a 2-day workshop in Athens on the educational material and the educational activities (hands-on activities) to be carried out within the project.
- Educational materials: i) Development, production and printing of new educational material-poster for students, on non-conventional water resources and water saving, in two languages: English and Maltese; ii) Development, production and printing of educational material on Non Conventional Water Resources as a Teacher's Resource Pack which includes activities, methodological tips, worksheet, references etc. Material can be found online at: <http://goo.gl/b752L>.
- Educational Programme for students: activities started in May 2012, implemented by NTM in kindergartens and primary schools of Gozo. Reach-out: **589 students**.
- Educational Programme for Teachers: Teachers were trained in dedicated after-school training sessions, as well as in a 3-day teacher training workshop (July 9-11, 2012) implemented in Gozo and in an Alter Aqua seminar held in Malta (November 22, 2012). Reach-out: **203 teachers**.



Teacher Training Workshop, July 9-11, 2012, Island of Gozo

- Training Workshop for Technicians took place in Gozo on September 19, 2012 attracting 16 engineers and professionals from the construction industry from Gozo and even from Malta. Aiming to enhance local expertise, two international experts were invited to present the Rainwater Harvesting and the Grey Water Reuse Solutions, respectively. The workshop



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included a site visit to one of the installation sites where the trainees had the opportunity to witness real time installation of an innovative Rainwater Harvesting system comprising of a modular tank; the technique was applied for the first time in the Maltese Islands. The participants were enthusiastic to get acquainted with a new technology and expressed their appreciation. A large number of local technicians (~40) were trained on-the-job, as they were part of the workforce that was employed by the local contractor during installations, under the guidance of the technical expert and his team. More local technicians (8) visited the installation sites during implementation and were offered hands-on experience and training.



Site visit & on-the-job training for local technicians and professionals in the construction industry.

D. Capacity Building and Training Activities

As per Programme plan, a capacity building workshop was held in Gozo for the local authorities on September 19, 2012. Invitations were sent to a range of stakeholders to participate in this activity. In addition, MGOZ requested to extend the invitation to all local stakeholders and a public announcement was published in the local press. Furthermore, GWP-Med, as the entity organizing this workshop, invited two international experts to address the participants and make presentations during the event. The two experts were the following:

- Mr. Iacovos Iacovides, a water expert from Cyprus, who presented the Cyprus experience and shared the lessons learnt from the use of NCWR in the country .
- Ms. Madeleine Theochari, an expert in participatory processes, who discussed ways to involve the general public in processes toward sustainable water use and advancement of the usage of NCWR.

This workshop attracted 18 participants from various fields.

E. Awareness raising and dissemination

- The Programme was included as a best practice for alternative water resources in the Mediterranean and was presented by GWP-Med at the 6th World Water Forum (March 12-16, 2012, Marseille, France). Press Releases were issued in all national media: <http://goo.gl/kYd6a>
- Presentation in the Coca-Cola EUG Water Replenish Workshop in Brussels (June 6-7, 2012, Brussels)
- The Project was also referred to by GWP-Med in several occasions, including at the formal Side Event on Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean at the Rio+20 Summit (June 18-22, 2012, Rio de Janeiro)
- Presentation at the National Water Conference in Malta (June 22, 2012, Malta): <http://goo.gl/eiXzd>
- Presentation in the Annual GWP Consulting Partners Meeting, as a solution for Drought Management in the Mediterranean (August 26, 2012, Stockholm)



- Presentation at the Conference on Integrated Drought Management Programme in Central and Eastern Europe, organized by the World Meteorological Organisation and GWP (October 5-6, 2012, Bratislava)
- Presentation on the educational activities of the Project at the Horizon 2020 Capacity Building Workshop for Members of Parliaments from Mediterranean Countries (October 22-23, 2012, Athens)

ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS:

- Educational Programme for students: activities will be carried out throughout the coming scholastic year in all schools in Gozo.
- Teacher Training: additional teacher training sessions will be organized throughout the scholastic year, in coordination with the Ministry of Education and Employment and College Principals.
- Dissemination of Programme results: announcements on www.gwpmed.org, www.gwp.org & www.mio-ecsde.org websites; GWP-Med monthly bulletin; MIO-ECSDE newsletter; MEDIES bulletin; ongoing



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