

# GIWEH 2017

Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health Biannual Magazine

GIWEH  
Partnership



GIWEH Project  
& Activities



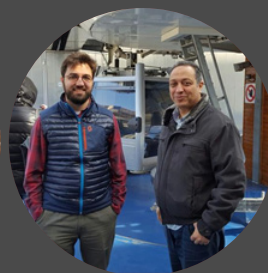
International  
Representation



Capacity  
Building



Issue 8, August 2017



# GIWEH- Partnership

## Special consultative status to the UN ECOSOC

GIWEH has been granted special consultative status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC) during the Coordination and Management meeting at the UN office in New York, on 19th April 2017. The ECOSOC adopted the recommendation of the Committee on NGOs to grant GIWEH the special consultative status.



This special consultative status enables GIWEH to actively engage with ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies, as well as with the UN Secretariat, programmes, funds and agencies in a number of ways. GIWEH is now looking forward to building partnerships also with other UN agencies.

## Cooperation agreement - Fayoum University



GIWEH and Fayoum University signed a cooperation agreement on 16th February 2017. The signing ceremony took place during GIWEH's visit to Fayoum University, in the presence of Professor Khaled Hamza, President of Fayoum University. Dr. Adly Sedawy, Dean of the Institute for Research and Strategic Studies of Nile Basin Countries, and Dr. Nidal Salim, Director General of GIWEH signed the agreement.

GIWEH's delegates, Dr. Nidal Salim and Mrs. Dooa Adel, visited different department of the University with Dr. Mahmoud Abdel Fatah, including the scientific research laboratory and discussed potential cooperation with the European Union framework and partnership.

## Collaboration-Boston University

On 28th March 2017, GIWEH and Boston University officially started a new collaboration. As part of Boston University exchange program in Geneva, GIWEH is happy to welcome a new intern in its office for the spring semester.





# GIWEH Project and Activities

## Regulatory Impact Assessment

Dr. Nidal Salim was invited by the ISET Policy Institute on 28th February to 6th March 2017 at Tbilisi, Georgia as an International Expert to contribute to the development of the Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) for water resources management in Georgia and funded by USAid. During this workshop, Dr. Nidal Salim contributed to the model preparation of the RIA for water resources and acted as a consultant to support the structure, implementation plan, objectives' definition, tools and cost/benefit analysis.



To carry this project, International School of Economics at TSU has put together a team of local experts to work in collaboration with other international experts.

## 4th Istanbul Water Forum

On 11th May 2017, GIWEH & Afif Charity held the side event 'Water for the Refugees' at the 4th Istanbul International Water Forum as part of the preparation of the 8th World Water Forum. 'Water for the Refugees' is one of several side events organized by GIWEH and partners in preparation for the civil society forum of the 8th World Water Forum in Brazil in March 2018. For this event, the focus is on providing a voice to the vulnerable and marginalized populations who have been displaced from their homes and require secure access to water and sanitation.



The main goal is to highlight the position of refugees and in fact all vulnerable and displaced peoples.

## Stakeholders consultation meeting - 8th World Water Forum

GIWEH attended 2nd Stakeholders consultation meeting and the Citizen Process meeting for the 8th World Water Forum on 26th to 27th April 2017. During the consultation meeting, GIWEH was involved in the thematic process consultation of the different themes, yet dedicating a greater focus on "Climate, Development, and Ecosystem". It emphasized the importance of strengthening the capacity within governance. GIWEH has its focus especially on climate and is therefore also involved in the 'Topic D' of the WWF8 (Climate science and water management, communication between science and decision/policy-making).



As a member of the International Citizen Committee, GIWEH is also part of the Citizen Process. The Citizen Process incorporates NGOs and CSOs, which are representing the viewpoints of the most vulnerable people worldwide. GIWEH is encouraging civil society empowerment and their involvement in water management at the watershed level. GIWEH restlessly stresses the need to guarantee access to water in conflict areas and to move from relief work to sustainable development.

# International Representation

## UNRISD Seminar

GIWEH participated at the seminar “Innovation and Sustainable Development” organized by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) at the Palais des Nations, Geneva Switzerland on 12th January 2017. Panelists at the seminar discussed key policy, institutional and technological innovations that can be harnessed to realize the 2030 Agenda. Guest speakers from CASS shared their first-hand expertise and insights on innovation and sustainable development with regard to the SDGs in China.



## OECD Water Governance Initiative

GIWEH participated as a member at the 8th Meeting of the OECD Water Governance Initiative (WGI) held at Rabat, Morocco on 12th to 13th January 2017. Since 2013, GIWEH became part of two of the WGI's Working Groups, called "Best Practices" and "Indicators", which contribute to the initiative activities while facilitating the implementation of WGI's principles.

The 8th meeting of WGI was called for its objectives to update and consult WGI's members on internal changes as well as on the progress of the indicators and best practices working groups and to discuss WGI's contribution to the Global Agenda, especially Habitat III, COP 22 & World Water Forum.



## Roundtable at the Graduate Institute



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INSTITUT DE HAUTES  
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES  
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT  
GRADUATE INSTITUTE  
OF INTERNATIONAL AND  
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Dr. Nidal Salim, Director General of GIWEH was invited on 20th January 2017 to participate to a roundtable on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the Graduate Institute of Geneva. The roundtable was organized within the framework of the Executive Master in Development Policies and Practices (DPP) of the Graduate Institute. Dr. Salim was invited to take part in the roundtable as an expert to talk about Development Policies and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The roundtable gathered a panel of experts including Ms. Cécile Molinier, former high commissioner of the United Nation and Claudio Tognola, director of the community department of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. The discussion evolved around the SDGs, public policies and their interaction with food security and water management.

## Monitoring SDG 6

Tobias Schmitz and Adrien Oleszkiewicz from GIWEH attended the Swiss Water Partnership's event on monitoring SDG 6 hosted by Helvetas on 27th February 2017 at Geneva Switzerland. The intention was to evaluate progress so far, eighteen months after the adoption of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, as well as to increase the mutual engagement amongst members of the Swiss Water Partnership on the issue of monitoring and implementing the global water targets.



## JSC Nenskra Hydro Project

During his stay in Georgia, Dr. Nidal Salim, Director General of GIWEH and Board member of Asia Water Council (AWC) visited K-Water's JSC Nenskra Hydro Project on behalf of Asia Water Council. The hydro project aims to provide sufficient energy supply in the country during the winter season and to export extra capacity during the summer season. The project is expected to contribute to the economic growth and social development of Georgia.

## World Water Day and Youth Water Heroes

On 21st to 22nd March 2017, as part of World Water Day's celebrations on the theme "Wastewater", GIWEH participated in the workshop "Youth Innovating with Wastewater for a Sustainable Mediterranean" in Marseille, France.

The event, organized by the Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI) in collaboration with the World Bank Group and Switch-Med, aimed to stimulate inter-generational and regional knowledge exchange on wastewater with a clear focus on youth.



The event brought together 60 youth participants and water experts from over 17 Mediterranean countries with the aim to create a water community of engaged youth. During these two days, our water heroes were pitching their projects using wastewater to combat water scarcity.

Moreover, participants were introduced to the Irstea Ecofilae Wat-A-Game, a game that aims to visualise, simulate and represent real-life river management situations involving all water stakeholders from upstream and downstream. Switch-Med led a session on "Wastewater and the Circular Economy" and how some green entrepreneurs are considering ways to incorporate this resource – and other underutilized water resources – into their business plans. The outcome of this interactive event will be the creation of a strong youth network for water in Mediterranean. GIWEH is looking forward to play an active role in this process.

## Exhibition AQUA - ART for the World

In celebration of World Water Day on March 22, 2017 GIWEH went to check out the exhibit called AQUA presented by ART for the World and focusing on water conservation. Through different contemporary mediums, such as paintings, videos, installations, and sculptures, artists conveyed our relationship with water and its many uses entwined in our lives. AQUA presents work from over 30 participating artists to raise public awareness on future challenges regarding the maintenance and conservation of water.



## Evian Group - Round Table Meeting

As active member of the Evian Group, on 22nd June 2017, GIWEH participated and presented the water in SDGs and its relationship with energy and food at the round table: “Globalization must be Inclusive, Equitable, Sustainable and Dynamic” in Geneva, Switzerland at the ITC. Two decades of multi-lateral and global trade regime have ended in tensions, confrontations, confusion and drift. The round table meeting concluded that a new “collective system leadership” that enhances inclusiveness and has human dignity at its core is needed.



Evian Group Round-Table Meeting  
22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017

**“Globalisation Must Be Inclusive,  
Equitable, Sustainable & Dynamic”**

Geneva, Switzerland

## Capacity Building

### Graduate Institute



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INSTITUT DE HAUTES  
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES  
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT  
GRADUATE INSTITUTE  
OF INTERNATIONAL AND  
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

On February 2017, GIWEH conducted two modules at the Graduate Institute, Geneva Switzerland as part of the Executive Certificate on Environmental Governance. Dr. Nidal Salim, Director General of GIWEH, delivered two lectures on “Water Resources: Setting the Context” and “Water Governance: Stakeholders and Policy Frameworks”. Among participants to this module were senior professionals from various International Organizations.



### Contact us

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