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Innovations in Water Education Programs: Enhancing Water Security and Socio-economic Development in the Eastern Mediterranean under Climate Change

598480-EPP-1-2018-1-PS-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

## PRESS RELEASE

The "Innovations in Water Education Programs: Enhancing Water Security and Socio-economic Development in the Eastern Mediterranean under Climate Change (WaSec)" (598480-EPP-1-2018-1-PS-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP) project will bring together and strengthen the cooperation between companies and universities through the development of new courses in Water Resources Management, while taking into consideration potential climate change impacts, with adaptive learning and teaching methods for the Eastern Mediterranean region. Its specific objectives are:

- develop a Water Network among institutions involved in water management to promote universities and enterprise collaboration;
- develop new or updated courses on water management with the true integration of enterprises in English and Arabic;
- provide graduates specialized knowledge in water resource management for the Eastern Mediterranean region that understand climate change implications;
- implement courses with clear learning outcomes and materials, accredited in all partner countries, jointly taught and delivered and tailored to utilize new technologies;
- develop a virtual learning platform with learning materials in digital format to facilitate learning and assessment;
- run and assess the pilot courses in the partner countries;
- disseminate the results in order to be adopted by universities from other countries of the region;
- exploit the results by organizing knowledge transfer to other practitioners.

This project that is co-funded by the ERASMUS + Programme of the European Union should lead to a new culture of working relationships among universities and enterprises that will allow universities their better integration within the larger society (please see <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/eplus-project-details/#project/598480-EPP-1-2018-1-PS-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP">https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/eplus-project-details/#project/598480-EPP-1-2018-1-PS-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP</a>). In addition, true collaborative efforts with enterprises will provide students support from practical placement, entrepreneurship and employability that will allow graduates to develop capacities that guaranty greater success when joining the labor market. Finally, new and innovative learning and pedagogical approaches will be implemented to offer high quality education and graduates with a cultural, environmental and social identity that utilize water resources sustainability assuring its future while also incorporating climate change impacts.

The project started in November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and will be completed by November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The Kick-Off meeting was held in the Dead Sea, Jordan, February, 2019, the 1<sup>st</sup> Management Meeting in Kavala, Greece, September 2019 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> in Madrid, Spain, December, 2019 with all 13 partners participating (see photos below).







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Overall, the consortium comprises of nine universities and two companies, on research institute and one public authority located in six countries throughout the European region. Palestine Technical University - Kadoorie is the coordinator and International Hellenic University (IHU) is one of the partner Universities. The UNESCO Chair Con-E-Ect is also actively participating in this project. For more information on the WaSec project please follows us through the following social media:

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