# "Mission Water"

Non Conventional Water Resources Programme in Cyprus



The "Mission Water" Programme was initiated in 2013 by the regional organisation Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med), in partnership with Lanitis Bros and The Coca-Cola Company. The Programme's educational activities are implemented in collaboration with the Pedagogical Institute of Cyprus and the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)/MEdIES Network. The Programme is funded by The Coca-Cola Foundation.





## The background

Cyprus is one of the two most water stressed European countries, due to its limited freshwater resources, further aggravated by climate change, urbanisation and increasing water demand. The frequent water shortages exacerbate the pressure on water resources, threatening the ecosystems, communities' welfare and economic activities.

The "Mission Water" Programme promotes the leveraging of non conventional water resources for secondary uses, focusing on greywater recycling, as a simple, cost-effective and sustainable solution for increasing water availability and adapting to climate change at local level. In parallel, it aspires to cultivate a new water culture by informing and raising awareness among the local educational and technical community, as well as the wider public, towards a more responsible attitude with regards to water consumption and water saving.

# The objectives

#### The Programme has a holistic approach towards non conventional water resources management, aiming to:

1 PROMOTE the use of non conventional water resources for secondary water uses, especially greywater recycling, as well as rainwater harvesting and surface runoff collection, through modern and innovative technologies that increase local water availability and enhance climate change adaptation.

**2 CULTIVATE** a new culture with regards to sustainable water use and saving, as well as the utilisation of non conventional water resources, through education for sustainable development and awareness raising.

**3** SHARE knowledge and experiences on non conventional water resources management, and greywater recycling in specific, as a good practice with replication potential in water scarce communities beyond Cyprus.

#### The activities

#### Infrastucture works in selected public areas & buildings

for greywater recycling, as well as rainwater harvesting and surface runoff collection, and reuse for secondary uses, demonstrating conventional as well as innovative technologies which can be replicated in small and medium scale facilities.

## Awareness raising

- Awareness raising on the use of non conventional water resources at domestic and community level, sustainable water use and saving
- Presentation of the Programme in international fora, and distinction as the second best case on global level, at the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum's Water Showcase Global Final (April 2015)
- Transfer of knowledge and sharing of experiences with other water scarce regions, creating the basis for a wider non conventional water resources management paradigm

### Education and training

- Development of the educational material "Alter Aqua" ["To allo nero"] on non conventional water resources in Cyprus, as a modern, helpful tool for teachers
- Teacher training sessions for primary and secondary school educators, under the auspices of the Pedagogical Institute of Cyprus aiming to familiarise their students with non conventional water resources and raise awareness on sustainable water use

# **Capacity Building**

- Training seminars for local technicians, engineers and professionals from the construction industry, enhancing their know-how on traditional and modern non conventional water resources systems, as well as innovative water related technologies
- Technical guide on technologies for non conventional water resources management





#### **MORE INFORMATION:**

#### Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med)

- www.gwpmed.org
- **f** GWPMed
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