

Impact Report

AMWAJ

2 0 1 8



أمواج

A MEDITERRANEAN WATER AND JOURNALISM
forum for sustainable development

an initiative by

REVOLVE

In partnership with



Generalitat
de Catalunya

02	Contents
03	At A Glance
04	An Overview
05	Moments and people
06	Sharing common challenges
07	Building Bridges with Scientific Journalism
08	Making strong connections
09	Media Coverage
10	Field Visit
11	Partners
12	Join the AMWAJ journey

AT A GLANCE

Applicants

AMWAJ keeps growing its database of journalists and researchers willing to become part of our Mediterranean water and energy community. This year over 300 young professionals from media and academia submitted their interest to participate in the Forum.

+100 Participants

AMWAJ brought together young professionals, thought leaders, journalists, entrepreneurs, influencers and researchers from the UNDP, EIB, UfM, government, non-profit and corporate levels.

+50 Speakers

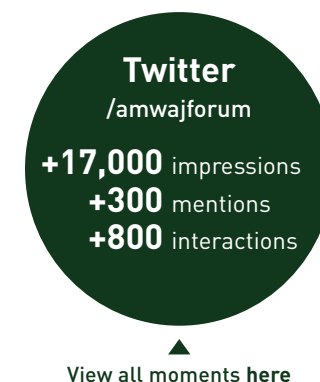


Male Female

15 Countries

Our participants were a diverse group of professionals representing 15 countries who believe in the power of partnerships to advance sustainable development in the Middle East and Mediterranean.

France
Spain
Morocco
Jordan
Greece
Palestine
Egypt
Syria
Tunisia
Turkey
Lebanon
Yemen
Germany
Belgium
UAE
Malaysia
Luxemburg



On 29-30 October 2018, AMWAJ connected young professional journalists with water professionals, policy-makers and the private sector, offering a platform to learn more about the ongoing strategies to overcome water scarcity around the Mediterranean. Participants discussed local and regional initiatives to stimulate civil society, academic and research environments, and political and socioeconomic actors in order to create a real awareness of the value of water and encourage collaboration between the administrations and the media as vital to inform citizens and promote a circular economy.

A number of common water-related challenges facing the Mediterranean region were identified and there is a need to address it in a way the ordinary people can engage better around the issue at hand. Collaboration among journalists from different countries is a key and we are glad we could have offered a space to do so at AMWAJ.

“AMWAJ intends to debate on issues related to water and energy to advance in the 2030 Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations with a clear leitmotif: there is a need to communicate about water and a need to invest in scientific communication.”

— Patricia Carbonell, AMWAJ Organizer

AMWAJ aims to raise awareness about the interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals. This year we covered themes related to the following goals.



Key topics

- Regional Cooperation: Towards a Water & Energy Community
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Connecting SDGs: Water, energy and food nexus
- Science Communication and Story-telling
- The Power of Immersive Media
- Managing Water: Wastewater and reuse
- Water, migration and youth
- Financial mechanisms: making investments happen

[View the full agenda](#)



Vangelis Konstantianos, Executive Secretary, Global Water Partnership (GWP) - Mediterranean



Panel: Social Entrepreneurship

“AMWAJ brings together three elements that are really important for the future of the Mediterranean; scientific knowledge, local knowledge and journalism. As a young person from the Mediterranean it is key to be part of AMWAJ network and also for MEDYWAT, so we can amplify the voices of youth in the region within these 3 elements: water, Mediterranean and journalism.”

— Kholoud Al Ajarma, Activist and filmmaker, Med-Y-Wat.



Kholoud Al Ajarma during Panel: Water, Youth and Migration



Gonzalo Delacámara during panel: Connecting the SDGs: water, energy, food nexus



Marc Aoun,
Co-Founder Compost
Balidi at SDG stand
during AMWAJ



“I decided to join AMWAJ as it is an opportunity to network with people in my sector from the Mediterranean region, as well as learn from others who have applied solutions to similar problems that we are facing and see opportunities for collaboration in the future.”

— **Marc Aoun, Co-Founder Compost Balidi**



Michael Karner,
Centre For
Mediterranean
Integration

“The AMWAJ Forum 2018 has been an important initiative to bring together young professional journalists, researchers, policy-makers and business leaders with the aim to advance sustainable development around the Euro-Mediterranean region. In the face of the common challenges of today, a unity of purpose and of vision is necessary.”

— **Miguel García-Herraiz, UfM Deputy Secretary General in charge of water and environment**



Miguel García-
Herraiz, UfM Deputy
Secretary General,
during AMWAJ press
conference

AMWAJ included an immersive journalism workshop with the intention of providing the group with new insights into story-telling related to climate change and creating a space where they could collectively ideate story ideas around water for 360° video stories.

Ideation Session:

Mapping 360° Video Story Ideas on Water in the Mediterranean Region
– organized by The Lookout Station

Goals:

- Help the journalists explore the power of immersive media
- Collaboratively ideate story ideas around water for 360 video stories
- Offer a place for exchange with the 360 video rockstars to give immediate feedback
- Create a space where the journalists from mediterranean region can connect

“The key is to create a network of contacts between journalists and the scientific community.”

— Christophe Bourillon, Executive Director of the World Federation of Scientific Journalists (WFSJ)

“It is essential to focus on storytelling, and rethink how science stories are presented in the media so they can reach the majority of people. To achieve this, we must invest in the training of communicators and journalists who know what they are talking about and can successfully convey to the population the advances that are being made in terms of sustainable development, so that it can create a public debate that can contribute to the influence and decision-making of political decisions.”

— Óscar Cusó, National Geographic Spain editor



Rina Tsubaki, Founder The Lookout Station, an initiative by the European Forest Institute



MAKING STRONG CONNECTIONS



Thomas van Gilst and Khaled Elnimr from the European Investment Bank conversing during AMWAJ



Journalists exchanging ideas during AMWAJ Networking lunch



Experts during panel: Science communication and storytelling

Speakers and journalists networking during AMWAJ



“We strongly believe in the role of journalists. I am very happy we had the opportunity to contribute to this 2nd edition of AMWAJ, very much looking forward to the third one and of course, committed to being a steady strategic partner to that. Thank you.”

— Anthi Brouma, Deputy Director of Global Water Partnership Mediterranean

AMWAJ keeps growing its media community!



"AMWAJ is an ambitious initiative to connect journalists who are concerned with writing about environment and science with experts who have the knowledge and are open to listening and hear what the difficulties are in covering sustainable development. It is a really interesting opportunity for us and I really hope it continues, as I will be happy to join again!"

— Nourhan Magdi, Senior Editor at Egypt Today Magazine

Algeria

SDG's Advocates
Algeria

Egypt

Egypt Today
The Egyptian Gazette
Egyptian Streets
Ahram Online
Al-Ahram Weekly
Youn7 newspaper
Elmoustkbal online
Newspaper
SciDev

Morocco

Infomediare
BTP News

Turkey

TRT World

Jordan

AFED Magazine
/ Environment
and Development
magazine.
BBC Arabia

Lebanon/London

Al Araby Al Jadeed
Online platforms (not
based anywhere)
MedGreenJournalism
Arab for Reporters
and Investigative
Journalism (ARIJ)

Syria

SIRAJ Network (syrian
investigative reporting
for accountability
journalism)

USA

IJNET

Spain

Asociació Catalana Of
Science Journalism
El Diario
El Confidencial
Publico
Eco Circular
Retema
Entorno Inteligente
Aldia.cat
El Món

EFE Verde

Noticias Cabana

Finland/Spain

The Lookout Station

France/International

World Federation Of
Science Journalists

Malasya

Bernama

Brussels

Euractiv.es

FIELD VISIT

REVOLVE in partnership with the Generalitat de Catalunya, organised a field trip to the wastewater treatment plant, Baix de Llobregat, one of the largest purification plants in Europe. Journalists learned about the industry and process and providing clean water to Barcelona as an example of positive water management.

“AMWAJ was a really unique experience and an opportunity to meet people from both sides, journalists and water professionals. It was exciting for me to meet journalists simply to share our thoughts and challenges we face, especially in this sector. So overall, it was very interesting and very informative for me.”

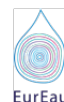
— Rand Khdair, Media advisor, Palestinian Water authority



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR 2018 PARTNERS

Strategic Partners

With the Support of



Media Partners



JOIN THE AMWAJ JOURNEY TO CONNECT THE MEDITERRANEAN



For more information about upcoming activities contact us:

Stuart Reigeluth
Founder | REVOLVE

T. +32 2 318 39 84 | M. +32 485 432 425
E. stuart@revolve.media

REVOLVE in Brussels
Renewable Energy House
Rue d'Arlon 63-67
1040 Brussels
Belgium

Patricia Carbonell
Project Manager | REVOLVE

T. +34 722 763 697
E. patricia@revolve.media

REVOLVE in Barcelona
Recinto Modernista de Sant Pau
C/ Sant Antoni Maria Claret 167
08025 Barcelona
Spain

Join the AMWAJ community:



/amwajforum



/groups/3847284



/amwajforum



Become an AMWAJ
Ambassador

www.amwajforum.com