

MENA NWC

Middle East and North Africa Network of Water Centers of Excellence

MENA NWC is working to resolve longstanding water challenges in the Middle East and North Africa through cutting-edge collaborative research, capacity building, and knowledge sharing.

Countries across the Middle East and North Africa face growing challenges related to water resource management and distribution. The Middle East and North Africa Network of Water Centers of Excellence (MENA NWC) is an association of research and educational institutions that are working collaboratively with governments, businesses and civil society organizations across the region to solve longstanding water issues. The Network identifies relevant policy interventions, new management practices and technologies, and innovative public-private partnerships that will improve water and food security in the region. The Network is incorporated as a non-profit corporation in Washington, D.C., USA.

Membership and Organization. The Network reflects U.S. President Obama's vision of supporting scientific research and technological development in the Middle East. It began in 2011 with regional meetings in Qatar and Oman, where participating Centers agreed on the Network's governance structure and launched the technical program. MENA NWC includes national, regional, and international research entities. |

Technical Program. MENA NWC's technical programing focuses on five areas: water efficiency and productivity, groundwater, non-conventional water, the water/energy/food nexus; and water and sanitation.



The Network manages an integrated set of programs:

- ➔ **A collaborative research program** that forges meaningful partnerships, develops and disseminates policy tools, and conducts technical and management interventions
- ➔ **A regional capacity building program** that strengthens technical, financial, managerial, and leadership skills
- ➔ **A knowledge sharing program** that encourages long-distance collaboration and exchanges regional know-how to improve water resources planning and management

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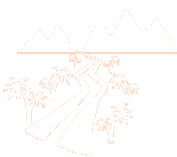


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Research Priorities

MENA NWC's Technical Communities and illustrative research topics include:

WATER EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY



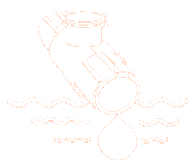
- On-farm water-use efficiency and productivity
- Crop improvement and management
- System-wide water use management

GROUNDWATER



- Artificial and natural groundwater recharge/discharge
- Exploration and monitoring technologies
- Groundwater degradation
- Socioeconomics, including governance, economics and policy

NON-CONVENTIONAL WATER



- Desalination
- Wastewater reuse and reclamation
- Environmental and health impacts on non-conventional water resources

WATER/ENERGY/FOOD NEXUS



- Optimization of the reuse of treated wastewater for peri-urban agriculture in dry areas
- Modeling water futures or modeling the water/energy/food nexus
- Renewable energy for water treatment

WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION



- Water quality standards, management and enforcement
- Rural water and sanitation challenges
- Improved service delivery
- Climate change

MENA NWC MEMBERS

- Ain Shams University (ASU)
- An Najah University (ANU), Water and Environmental Studies Institute
- Arab Countries Water Utilities Association (ACWUA)
- Arabian Gulf University (AGU)
- Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU)
- Cadi Ayyad University (UCA)
- Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Science Hassan II (IAV)
- International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA)
- International Center for Biosaline Research (ICBA)
- International Institute for Water and Sanitation, National Office of Electricity and Potable Water (ONEE-IEA)
- International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
- Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST)
- Middle East Desalination Research Center (MEDRC)
- National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension (NCARE)
- National Research Institute for Rural Engineering, Water, and Forestry (INRGRAF)
- Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Sciences (PAUWES)
- Qatar Foundation Research & Development (QF R&D)
- Royal Scientific Society (RSS)
- Sana'a University, Water and Environment Center (WEC)
- Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), Water Research Center
- Technion Israel Institute of Technology (GWRI), Grand Water Research Institute
- University of Basrah (UOB), Marine Science Center
- University of Jordan (UJ), Water, Energy and Environment Center