



## MISSION REPORT

<b>OUTLINE (TITLE)</b>	<b>Inception Mission</b>
<b>Mission Purpose (Project Activity #)</b>	<b>EFH-PS-2&amp;3</b> Provide technical assistance for addressing industrial pollution and supporting environmental inspection and inventory for the Olive Oil and the Tanning industries of Palestine.
<b>Number of days worked:</b>	0,5 travel to Ramallah 1 day meeting 1 day travel to Athens (via overnight stay in Tel Aviv)
<b>Period: From:</b> <b>To:</b>	25/11/2018 (arrival day) 28/11/2018 (very early departure)
<b>Organisations visited:</b>	Environment Quality Authority. They had invited other ministries at their premises.

Meetings/Activities	Date	Participants (name), (title), (institution)
<b>1 meeting took place with all the stakeholders and a wrap-up session with the H2020 Focal Point immediately afterwards.</b>	27 Nov 2018	Amer El Hamouz (SWIM-H2020 SM NKE) Anastasia Roniotes (SWIM-H2020 SM NKE) Stavros Vlachos (SWIM-H2020 SM NKE) Ahmed Abu Thaher, H2020 Focal Point, EQA Jamal Salah and Sami Salah, Olive Mill owners, email: none Nabil Attal, ZYTONA Olive Mill (owner), email: eng_attal1964@yahoo.com Yaser Abu Shanab, EQA, yaser_shanab@hotmail.com Abed Al Qader Kharraz, Ministry of Agriculture, abed_kharraz@yahoo.com Saber al-amleh, Ministry of National Economy, sabera@met.gov.ps Apologies: representatives of the tanning industry
<b>Key Issues Discussed</b>		<p>Introductory statements were made both by the H2020 Focal Point (Mr. Abu Thaher) and by the SWIM-H2020 SM experts. Discussions then flowed rather freely between the two sectors. It should be noted that the occasion of this inception meeting allowed for a useful interaction of the people in the room: the stakeholders were able to identify information gaps, challenges, targeted needs, etc.</p> <p>Below is an effort to differentiate between the Tanneries and the Olive Mills sectors. Some common aspects are also noted:</p> <p><b>Tanneries</b> (Amer has additional information): Owners of tanneries can only get the required chrome if they send their hazardous waste to Israel for treatment. So chrome is regulated. There is no inspection plan. The EQA recently visited all tanneries in West Bank (some sort of basic survey has been completed). Units are inspected and warned. They mostly work with 'conditions' in place.</p> <p><b>Olive Mills:</b> before (not during) the milling season, inspection visits are made and 'warnings' are given (no enforcement is practiced). Inspections are made by Min of</p>



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		<p>Agriculture (once) and separately by the Ministry of Civil Defence, Ministry of Health and the Labor Ministry. The permitting is granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and the EQA has no authority over it.</p> <p>Inspectors warn and advise but do not have the authority to enforce inspection and fines. Furthermore, they do not want to close down small family businesses.</p> <p>Solid waste (cake) is given back to the customer. Wastewater is collected and transported in septic tanks. The cake is not further used in Palestine!!!! We need to suggest incentives for its further use (also through regulation).</p> <p>The Regulation for Olive Mills has two levels of application. The first level, inside the press which is regulated by the Palestine Standard Regulation, and after the press where the Authority needs assistance with the provisions regarding handling, storage and treatment of waste.</p> <p>Regulations for managing olive mills exist (<i>but for function within the unit – not environmental</i>). They rely on the EQA to provide them the manuals (our outputs).</p> <p>Mr. Salah (Olive Mill owner): his mill is a showcase: he recently invested in new technology and is now water free. He was driven by: a need to upgrade, have better quality oil, use less water in a water scarce area, less energy consumption. The company (Pieralisi) is supporting him technically and financially.</p> <p><b>Common:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The Cabinet endorsed a HZW bylaw three months ago. Olive mills and tanneries should follow these bylaws. In the Oslo agreement and according to article 12, HZW should be sent to Israel. But this is costly to the owners. They make a contract with an Israeli company and are obliged to pay.</li><li>- Not all installations have environmental permits (in fact very few do).</li><li>- There are limit values on liquid, solid wastes that need to be notified.</li><li>- Sampling is paid by the company on behalf of the EQA. Samples are sent to the University for further analysis. We should be notified on the sampling and analysis standards followed by the University and the EQA.</li><li>- <b>In our guidebooks/inspection manuals, we should specify the needed human and other resources needed for proper monitoring. At the moment, there is not enough budget for better monitoring and inspection work to be done.</b></li><li>- As for inspection, there needs to be a generic form for each activity (checklist). There should also be provisions on recommendation after inspection.</li></ul> <p><b>Reality check:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Enforcement is difficult in Palestine for a number of cultural and legal reasons. Therefore, our approach should be to work on the basis of incentives. Less waste is what we aim for with this activity implemented under SWIM-H2020 SM.</li><li>- The companies providing the technologies in the region play a key role in sensitizing the olive mill owners. They should be involved in the training.</li><li>- We need to see what technology is available and realistic in the region. Can't be too</li></ul>



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		<p>cutting edge due to cultural reasons (e.g. mobile units for olive processing would not be well accepted as it interferes with the festive and traditional practice of olive harvesting).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Case studies with simple calculation mass balance, to depict energy and water consumption efficiency. Waste minimization at production level is critical, since as mentioned above, waste management in the case of Palestine costs.</li> <li>- Proposal of a pilot project for treatment with the minimum waste or option for conversion of waste to useful products.</li> <li>- H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>: it is forbidden to import. Are there other options? (they hope we can provide alternatives).</li> </ul>
<b>Outputs</b>		<p>Date of back-to-back trainings (4 days: 2+2 days): last week of January 2019: <b>28-31 January 2019</b></p> <p>The <b>Management Manuals</b> should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Focused on environmental management guidelines <b>outside</b> the unit (how to handle the waste from there on: storage, transport, etc.)</li> <li>- like <b>Guidebooks</b> with comparative examples and options that portray very clearly why proper environmental management provides benefits to the owner (financial gain, resource efficiency, etc.) and the environment. With simple words and graphics/tables. Easy to understand messages. The EQA would like the Guidebooks to be convincing enough to instill a change in the current practices (since enforcement will never work). E.g. if owners invest in technology that produces zero wastewater then they do not have to pay the high cost of sending it for treatment.</li> <li>- Specific to the two sectors, but if possible, with sections that could be general enough and applicable for other sectors.</li> </ul> <p>The <b>Technical Inspection Manuals</b> should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- in line with the Management Manuals</li> <li>- short and to the point</li> </ul> <p><b>It was agreed that the draft versions should be ready by the experts by the 10<sup>th</sup> of January</b> in order to be 'checked' by the EQA and translated into Arabic in time for the training (last week of January). At the training, they would be presented as drafts, to be finalised immediately afterwards (early February) taking into consideration the inputs of the trainees during the trainings.</p>
<b>Difficulties Encountered or Other Comments</b>		N/A

Name	Date	Signature
Stavros Vlachos	5 Dec 2018	Stavros Vlachos