

## ANNOUNCEMENT - 36<sup>TH</sup> AGUASAN WORKSHOP (2022)

# Water Management in Times of Climate Change

Finding actionable solutions for fragile contexts In the Middle East

JORDAN, 5 – 9 JUNE 2022

### Background

In international cooperation the generation, organisation, sharing and application of knowledge is crucial to be effective in fostering relevant development results. Implementing development interventions involves many complex factors; hence, learning from experience is a key means for progress. To foster joint learning in the water and sanitation sector, the Swiss water and development community nurtures the **AGUASAN<sup>1</sup> Community of Practice (CoP)**. Since 1984, AGUASAN provides a functioning multi-stakeholder platform and think-tank serving the sector and constitutes an essential link in the innovation and knowledge management strategy of the **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)**. As one of its major activities, the CoP convenes annual international workshops where water specialists and wider development practitioners from all over the world gather to collectively reflect on trending sector topics, and elaborate strategies and tools of practical use in their work.

This year, for the first time, the **AGUASAN Workshop** will take place outside of Switzerland with the aim to foster actionable solutions of practitioners directly in a highly topical as well as relevant socio-economic context. This may include cultural sensitivities, language usages and themes that are relevant to the region and the audience attending. Holding the workshop in the regional context of the Middle East will allow participants to gain first-hand insight into real-life conditions and the effects of climate change on regional and local water resources management. It will lay the foundations for connecting local challenges to issues practitioners are confronted within their respective working environments. The present **announcement** is directed towards applicants who are interested in participating in the weeklong workshop and the wider thematic “learning journey” the latter is embedded into.<sup>2</sup>

### Workshop features

**Geographic focus:** Due to its relevant socio-political and environmentally unique position in the Middle East, **Jordan** has been selected as the host country for the face-to-face event. Case studies, field trips, networking events and open space sessions will provide ample opportunities for participants to familiarise themselves with the regional/local context and connect with other water and sanitation practitioners from civil society, private sector, public authorities, academia, SDC and partners from the region. Jordan as a country facing various development and humanitarian challenges as well as extreme water scarcity caused by socio-economic and climate/geographical conditions represents an illustrative example of regional water-climate and geo-political issues in the **Middle East**. With its significant advances to address these challenges in the region, the country and its capital Amman have become

<sup>1</sup> For more information on AGUASAN, please visit <https://hazu.swiss/deza/GdvvqJleGfLROGnUjoyfD> (website under development)

<sup>2</sup> See page 3 below for further details on the thematic learning journey the AGUASAN Workshop 2022 is part of.

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