

International Conference organised by the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

In cooperation with the University of Thessaly

Supported by the European Water Resources Association (EWRA)

1st EWaS-MED International Conference:

**Improving Efficiency of Water Systems
in a changing natural and financial environment**

Thessaloniki, Greece, 11 – 13 April 2013

First Announcement and Call for papers

INTRODUCTION

Water scarcity and climate change are the main causes of water related problems worldwide. Nevertheless, Mediterranean countries are facing strong water shortage problems and long periods of droughts. The EU Water Framework Directive WFD-2000/60/EC sets the background for the development of an integrated and sustainable water management policy. Water utilities must implement appropriate measures ensuring the conservation of water resources of sufficient quality and quantity. Towards this target, development of methodologies for reducing Non Revenue Water and Water Losses are more than necessary, in urban water distribution networks. However, allocation of appropriate funds for the implementation of such measures is becoming limited, under financial crisis conditions. Water pricing policies, are foreseen by WFD to fully recover water related services costs.

In this context, the 1st EWaS-MED International Conference is on Improving Efficiency of Water Systems in a changing natural and financial environment, especially across the Mediterranean Basin facing severe environmental threats due to the Climate Change and economic crisis conditions. The Conference's topics deal with the management of the entire water supply chain, starting from the water abstraction at the water resources, up to the customers' tap and the effluent from a wastewater treatment plant, especially focusing on the water losses occurring throughout the entire process. Thus, particular emphasis will be given to the latest developments, strategies, techniques and applications of international best practices in water loss assessment, management, leakage reduction and control, improvement of customer metering, AMR, telemetry and telecontrol applications. As such, the conference is the first Mediterranean regional event aiming at further raising awareness in the field of improved efficiency of water systems given the fast changing climatic and financial conditions in the Mediterranean Basin.

Authors are invited to present papers dealing with related topics shown below. The aim is to provide a comprehensive programme of the highest quality, reflecting a wide range of international experiences.

THEMES AND TOPICS

| Theme A: "Water Resources Management" | Theme B: "Urban Water Systems Management" | Theme C: "Water losses topics" |
|---|---|---|
| 1.1. Simulation, optimization and management 1.2. Implementing the WFD - evaluation & progress 1.3. Climate change and its impacts 1.4. Desalination 1.5. Funding opportunities 1.6. Case studies and lessons learnt | 2.1. Simulation and optimization techniques of water pipe networks 2.2. Raw and waste water treatment plants 2.3. Demand prediction and management 2.4. Water pricing 2.5. Performance optimisation 2.6. Repair or replace 2.7. Water and Energy 2.8. Case Studies | 3.1. Water loss management 3.2. Apparent Losses Management 3.3. NRW reduction techniques 3.4. Water metering 3.5. Process Benchmarking 3.6. Decision Support Systems 3.7. Technical vs financial aspects 3.8. Case Studies |

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

- Prof. Anastasios Zouboulis (Conference Chairman)
- Prof. George Tsakiris (President of EWRA)
- Associate Prof. Petros Samaras (Conference Vice Chairman)
- Assistant Prof. Vasilis Kanakoudis (Conference Vice Chairman)
- Bambos Charalambous (Secretary General of EWRA)
- Dr. Stavroula Tsitsifli (Conference Secretary)

IMPORTANT DATES

- Deadline for submission of abstracts: **Monday, October 1st, 2012**
- Notification of acceptance: Friday, November 30th, 2012
- Deadline for submission of full papers: **Monday, January 14th, 2013**
- Deadline for comments sent to authors: Friday, February 22nd, 2013
- Deadline for submission of final version: Monday, March 4th, 2013
- Acceptance of full papers: **Friday, March 15th, 2013**

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

- Abstracts could be submitted to the Conference Secretary, Mrs Stavroula Tsitsifli, tsitsif@otenet.gr
- The abstracts should include the title of the paper, the names and full affiliation(s) of the author(s), the respective keywords (max. 5) and the Conference's specific theme and topic the paper fits in. The length of the text should not exceed 300 words.

FURTHER DETAILS - CONTACTS

- Assistant Professor Vasilis Kanakoudis, Conference Vice Chairman, bkanakoud@civ.uth.gr
- Associate Professor Petros Samaras, Conference Vice Chairman, samaras@food.teithe.gr
- Conference Secretary, Mrs Stavroula Tsitsifli, tsitsif@otenet.gr

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

- Mrs. Despoina Zioga, despoina.zioga@gmail.com
- Mrs. Anastasia Papadopoulou, papadopoulouana@yahoo.gr

USEFUL INFORMATION

Language: The Official language of the Conference is English

Venue: Thessaloniki, Greece (Aristotle university of Thessaloniki Campus)

Dates: 11-13 April 2013

Types of presentations: Oral presentations will be accepted

Conference Web site: under construction

Further information: Information about the Conference (e.g. accommodation, specific sessions, guidelines for writing the papers, social program, excursions etc.) will be announced by August 2012.