

# **PADUCO: Palestinian-Dutch Academic Cooperation Program on Water**

## **Second Conference, 28 October 2015, The Hague, The Netherlands**

### **Second Announcement**

After a successful first conference in February 2015 in Palestine, the Palestinian-Dutch Academic Cooperation Program on Water (PADUCO) is organizing its second conference in the Netherlands. The conference will involve contributions on the following themes that address empirical or policy issues and have a geographical focus on Palestine.

#### **1. Water Management, Governance and Economics**

- Governance of water under scarcity and climate change
- Public-private partnerships in water management
- Willingness-to-pay and tariff systems

#### **2. Non-conventional Water Resources**

- Innovations in wastewater treatment and reuse
- Desalination of sea water and brackish water
- Artificial groundwater recharge

#### **3. Water Quality, Sanitation and Public Health**

- Innovative technologies for water quality monitoring
- Mapping groundwater contamination
- Public health risks related to water pollution and treatment

#### **4. Agricultural Production under Increased Water Stress**

- Innovative technologies to increase crop yield and production in agriculture
- Agricultural best management practices
- Impact of water scarcity and climate change on agricultural production

#### **5. Cross-cutting theme: Capacity Improvement in the Water Sector**

- Research, training and education needs of the water sector
- Gender mainstreaming in the water sector
- Role of donors, governments, private sector and civil society

Abstracts submissions and evaluations have been completed and the authors of the accepted abstracts were invited to submit full papers. Limited funding will be available to cover the travel and accommodation costs of the presenters of full papers. A selection of papers will be included in a special issue that is planned to be published in an international journal.

The conference will precede the Second Dutch-Palestinian Bilateral Forum that is planned to be held in the Hague on 29-30 October 2015. A PADUCO session is also planned to be held as part of the water programme of the Forum.

#### **Important dates**

Full paper submission deadline	15 September 2015
Notification of paper acceptance	23 September 2015
Registrations open	23 September 2015
Registrations close	15 October 2015
Conference date	28 October 2015

## **Tentative Conference Programme**

- 08:30-09:30 Registration  
09:30-10:00 Welcome Speeches  
10:00-10:45 Keynote Speeches  
10:45-11:00 Coffee Break  
11:00-12:00 Panel Session: PADUCO's Achievements and Prospects for the Future  
12:00-13:00 Lunch  
13:00-14:30 Parallel Session 1: Water Management, Governance and Economics  
13:00-14:30 Parallel Session 2: Non-conventional Water Resources  
14:30-15:00 Coffee Break and Networking  
15:00-16:30 Parallel Session 3: Agricultural Production under Increased Water Stress  
15:00-16:30 Parallel Session 4: Water Quality, Sanitation and Public Health  
16:30-17:00 Closing Remarks - End of Conference  
17:00-18:30 PADUCO Partners Meeting (Invitation only)  
19:00-21:00 Conference Dinner (Invitation only)

## **Tentative Water Sessions at the Second Dutch-Palestinian Bilateral Forum**

### **29 October 2015, Thursday**

- 11.00-12.30 PADUCO: Results and Reflections from the First Phase (2013-2015)  
13.30-15.00 Furthering the Cooperation between Palestinian and Dutch Water Sectors

### **30 October 2015, Friday**

- 10:00-16:00 Excursion to a water board and to a wastewater treatment plant

## **Conference and Forum Venue**

Worldhotel Bel Air The Hague  
Johan de Wittlaan 30  
2517 JR, The Hague, The Netherlands  
<http://www.worldhotelbelair.com/location>

## **Registration**

Conference attendance is free, however is upon registration before the deadline. A registration link will be announced before the registrations open.

## Program background

PADUCO builds on the collaborative efforts of various Dutch and Palestinian stakeholders over the past years. In March 2012, the General Delegation of Palestine (H.E. Dr. Nabil Abuznaid) organized a higher education mission to the universities in Palestine. Following that mission, several universities from the two countries decided to establish a consortium and cooperate under an academic program. The focal theme was identified as “water”, given its crucial role for Palestine. Currently, ten Palestinian and Dutch universities participate in the consortium:

### West Bank, Palestine

- Birzeit University
- An-Najah National University
- Al-Quds University
- Palestine Polytechnic University
- Palestine Technical University Kadoorie

### The Netherlands

- Maastricht School of Management
- University of Twente
- Technical University of Delft
- UNESCO-IHE
- Wageningen University

The first phase of PADUCO, covering the period of December 2013 - December 2015, is funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. PADUCO also receives the generous support of Palestinian Water Authority, Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, Palestinian Environmental Quality Authority, Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education, Netherlands Representative Office in Ramallah, Netherlands Water Partnership and Netherlands Enterprise Agency.

Through implementing the PADUCO, we aim to strengthen the Palestinian water and education sectors through collaborative activities in three clusters: research, education and training.

### Research

- Research projects, workshops, conferences
- Visiting fellowships
- Knowledge dissemination and awareness raising

### Education

- Curriculum development
- Student and staff exchange
- Internships for students

### Training

- Improvement of the training programs for policy-makers, practitioners, farmers and researchers

This conference will provide a platform for PADUCO researchers to present their results in these clusters. More importantly, it will bring together the stakeholders of the Dutch and Palestinian water and higher education sectors as well as other interested participants.

## For more information about PADUCO

Please contact Gül Özerol, Program Coordinator / The Netherlands (email; [g.ozerol@utwente.nl](mailto:g.ozerol@utwente.nl), phone: 0031534894171), or go to our website: [www.msm.nl/paduco](http://www.msm.nl/paduco).