

20.12.07 at SWITCH

**Sustainable Water Management Improves  
Tomorrow's Cities' Health**



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## NEWS FROM SWITCH

Welcome to the second edition of the SWITCHED ON! Newsletter. It is hoped that this will include something for everyone who is interested in the future of urban water management, whether involved directly in the SWITCH project or not.

SWITCHED ON! aims to keep you up to date on what have been the recent highlights and achievements of the SWITCH project, the key events, and any publications and products which may be of interest.

The contact address for the newsletter is [switchnews@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:switchnews@lboro.ac.uk) if:

- you have news and information for inclusion in the next newsletter
- you do not wish to receive SWITCHED ON!

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## Contents

- 1. SWITCH Scientific Meeting**
- 2. Future SWITCH meeting proposals**
- 3. SWITCH Training Website launched on the web**
- 4. Announcing the SWITCH Photo Competition**
- 5. SWITCH training workshop on 'Learning Alliances: sharing lessons after one year'**
- 6. Recently available publications and resources**

### 1. SWITCH Scientific Meeting

A very successful second SWITCH Scientific Meeting was held in Tel Aviv from 25th to 28th November 2007. A packed programme included meetings of the Demonstration City Committee, the Dissemination and Exploitation Committee, Working Groups and the General Assembly.

The main programme benefited from two stimulating presentations by key note

speakers Mr. I. Pinkas, (Chairman of Dan Region Sewerage Union of Cities) and Professor David Butler of Exeter University. In addition, more than 30 Scientific and Integration papers and 11 posters were presented in the technical sessions. These will be available on the SWITCH website in the near future. There was also a discussion on the Learning Alliance City approach, a panel discussion with the Scientific Committee and an updating session on training and dissemination activities. Despite a full and very productive schedule, there was still time for a very enjoyable programme of social events which included a visit to the Tel-Aviv Museum of Art and a gala dinner, and site seeing tours to Old Jaffa and to Jerusalem, taking in many spectacular views and places of interest. Following the main programme, there was a day's training workshop on SAT.

The SWITCH Scientific Director, Kala Vairavamoorthy and the SWITCH Management Team and CMU would like to thank the Tel Aviv organising committee including Avner Adin, Avital Dror-Ehre and Gilad Axelrad for their hard work and effort in organising the 2nd Scientific meeting.

## 2. Future SWITCH meeting proposals

It is now time to schedule and prepare for the remaining three Scientific Meetings. This is a reminder that any partner or partners interested in hosting the SWITCH Scientific Meeting for years 2008, 09, and 10 should:

- express their intention to the Scientific Director by e-mail by **31 December 2007**
- prepare and submit a proposal to the CMU ([c.howe@unesco-ihe.org](mailto:c.howe@unesco-ihe.org)) by **15 February 2008**, covering the criteria mentioned in the document circulated by Carol Howe.

Preference will be given to cities where learning alliances and demonstrations are underway including Beijing, Accra, Alexandria, Hamburg, Lodz, Zaragoza, Belo Horizonte as well as Lima, Cali and Chongqing. We look forward to your submissions.

## 3. SWITCH Training Desk launched on the web at [www.switchtraining.eu](http://www.switchtraining.eu)

Do you have any query concerning training in SWITCH? Looking for the latest training opportunities on urban water management? Interested in materials used in past SWITCH training events? Would like to invite SWITCH experts for a workshop in your city tailored to your own local requirements?

As host to all information and documentation services in the area of SWITCH training, the newly launched SWITCH Training Desk is your one-stop shop for all these questions and more. SWITCH partners can also visit its intranet to find background information, workshop and evaluation reports, draft materials and other relevant training documents.

### *Contact:*

Barbara Anton  
International Training Centre  
ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability  
[barbara.anton@iclei.org](mailto:barbara.anton@iclei.org)

## 4. Show your creative talents! Announcing the SWITCH Photo Competition

Calling all budding photographers! If you have original photographs on any aspect of

the SWITCH cities, thematic areas, work packages, Learning Alliances and related activities, we'd like to see them! Be creative - we want images of SWITCH in action, that show what's happening around the world and really bring it alive for others. This will be the start of a SWITCH image library, a really useful resource for the web site, for publicity and future SWITCH outputs.

A maximum of five photos can be submitted by any individual amongst the SWITCH partners. Images should be submitted as high-resolution jpegs i.e. minimum resolution = 300dpi (dots per inch) for use at 13cmx18cm (5"x7") size or equivalent (1535x2125 pixels; 72dpi at 54cmx75cm). The author should hold full copyright of any images supplied and agree to allow SWITCH free use of them at its discretion. (Conditions of submission available on the submission form - see below.)

Prizes will be awarded for the three photographs judged to be the best. A selection of the entries will be featured on the SWITCH website. All images submitted will be included in the SWITCH image library. The closing date is **29 February 2008**.

Conditions of entry and application form are available at:  
<http://www.switchurbanwater.eu/page/1733> or contact [wedc-publications@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:wedc-publications@lboro.ac.uk).

#### **5. SWITCH training workshop on 'Learning Alliances: sharing lessons after one year', Accra, Ghana, 11-14 December 2007**

Members from seven SWITCH cities came together in Villa Cisneros by the River Volta in Ghana, to share lessons and experiences with the key driving mechanism of the project (Learning Alliances) and to develop plans to monitor changes linked to SWITCH in all these cities. The Ghanaian event opened its doors to two other projects that are following a Learning Alliance approach: the Tri-partite Partnership Project (TPP) in Ghana focused on urban water in small towns and the RiPPLE (Research-inspired Policy and Practice Learning in Ethiopia and the Nile Region) focusing on improving rural water and sanitation in a region with still very low levels of access to these basic services.

For further details see <http://www.switchurbanwater.eu/page/2331>.

#### **6. Recently available publications and resources**

Review of the adaptability and sensitivity of current stormwater control technologies to extreme environmental and socio-economic drivers:  
<http://www.switchurbanwater.eu/page/2338>.

Introduction to a water system in Cali: <http://www.switchurbanwater.eu/page/2337>.

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#### **SWITCH Contact Details**

The CENTRAL MANAGEMENT UNIT is UNESCO-IHE, which is responsible for the day-to-day coordination of the integrated project. The CMU is located at:  
UNESCO-IHE  
Westvest 7, 2611 AX Delft, Netherlands  
Tel. number: +31 15 2151771

The CMU consists of:

Kala Vairavamoorthy, Scientific Director, [k.vairavamoorthy@unesco-ihe.org](mailto:k.vairavamoorthy@unesco-ihe.org)

Carol Howe, Project Manager, [c.howe@unesco-ihe.org](mailto:c.howe@unesco-ihe.org)

Adje Kerkhof, Management Assistant, [a.kerkhof@unesco-ihe.org](mailto:a.kerkhof@unesco-ihe.org)

### **Visit the SWITCH Website**

<http://www.switchurbanwater.eu/>

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**For issues relating to the SWITCH newsletter, contact SWITCH -**  
[switchnews@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:switchnews@lboro.ac.uk)