

Workshop on the use of science and technology for the reinforcement of women's capacities in the integrated management of water resources and the education of the population for sustainable development
Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane Morocco, January 29-31, 2009

The UNESCO chair “Water, Women, and Decision Power” of Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane organizes in partnership with the UNESCO and the National Office for Potable Water in Morocco (ONEP), a training of trainers on the use of science and technology for the reinforcement of women's capacities in the integrated management of water resources and the education of the population for sustainable development. The training will take place in AUI from January 29th to 31st 2009, and will gather around 20 international scientific experts from Algeria, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia, Togo, as well as other countries

The main objectives of this meeting are:

- South-South cooperation and experience sharing among scientific experts on water resources management in francophone Africa.
- Training of water experts on proximity communication techniques, education, and awareness of the population, and women in particular, based on scientific vulgarization supports.

The program of the training will include workshops by professionals in water and sanitation sectors and a visit to Dayet Ifrah rural village in the Middle Atlas where a pilot project on sustainable development has been implemented by the UNESCO Chair “Water, Women and Decision Power”.

The topics that will be discussed are:

- Access to drinking water and water quality control
- Education on hygiene and its impact on health
- Rural ecological sanitation
- Water reuse
- Irrigation and economy of water

The intended outputs will include:

- To train around 20 trainers, mainly women, able to transmit to the women and the young girls of rural areas, the necessary scientific and technological knowledge to reinforce their capacities in water resources integrated management; and to improve their living conditions, to fight poverty and to protect natural resources
- To prepare a handbook of science vulgarization to raise awareness and educate the rural populations (women in particular) on the good practices for a sustainable management of water. The handbook will be used as tool to disseminate the trainers' training in other African countries.
- To sensitize girls in the rural areas to science and technology so that they continue their studies and enroll in scientific branches in order to increase the number of women in teaching, engineering and research careers.

- To create an operational regional center for the education of the population on sustainable development and for the support of projects on access to drinking water, sanitation, irrigation and water economy.
- To mobilize national actors, international organizations and public and private companies to advance more quickly and durably towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa.

For more information please contact :

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