Water Operators’ Partnerships as means of Water Cooperation,

March 26 at 18h30

Water Cooperation is particularly important where you have a lot of stakeholders, which significantly complicates water management. UN-Habitat is leading the Global Water Operators’ Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA), which is an initiative for Water Cooperation on the global level promoting the not-for-profit Water Operators’ Partnerships (WOPs) approach. The concept is to build a platform through which public water operators can help one another address their water and sanitation challenges on a not-for-profit basis. WOPs enable operators to share knowledge and good practice, and they can be considered a form of cooperation in their own right. But these partnerships can also be a conduit for strengthening cooperation at different levels – including between different water ‘managers’, between operators and water users, and between managers and workers within a utility. WOPs can facilitate cooperation on national, regional, and global levels as well. It will be fun!

By Faraj El-Awar

Faraj El-Awar is a water expert with a long experience in water management. He worked in academia, as well as international development practice, in Lebanon, the Arab region, and sub-saharan Africa. Since May 2008, Dr. El-Awar joined UN Habitat in Nairobi, Kenya, as the Programme Manager of the Global Water Operators Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA). He is currently managing GWOPA Secretariat Office at Sant Pau Modernist Site in Barcelona.


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