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International Leadership Institute
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Leadership for Integrated Water Resource Management in arid countries in the MENA region and beyond

December 11 – 14 2006

Amman Jordan

The MENA region is one of the most water-poor and water-stressed regions of the globe. Freshwater in the region is in dangerously short supply, inequitably distributed and deteriorating in quality. While the region is home to 5% of the people of the world, it has less than 1% of the renewable fresh water. In consequence, it has the lowest availability of freshwater water per capita in the world. This situation contributes to poverty in the region and increases the risk of conflict between different users and different countries.

The need to improve water supplies, sanitation and pollution remediation is particularly urgent in the Arab states of the region. Water management capacity varies widely, from outmoded systems, poorly managed, to modern integrated approaches and institutions. In all cases, however, future progress will depend on the emergence of innovative and effective water leadership.

This course will help to address the regional water crisis by improving the leadership for water management in the region.

The course will focus on “Integrated Water Resources Management” (IWRM), now accepted world-wide as an essential approach for effective freshwater stewardship. It is a contemporary training in IWRM in the Arab nations of the Middle East and Northern Africa and a few other selected countries, such as Central Asia, Pakistan and some arid African Countries. The course will permit the training, or re-training, of political leaders, high-level executives and future professional water leaders in governments, water agencies and civil society.

The training will address the critical elements of leadership for IWRM. This will be achieved by providing an overview of integrated water resources management tailored for drylands environments, an exploration of the governance and leadership challenges specific to water, and presentations of leadership best-practices based on personal experiences from the region. The focus will be on the need for integrated science, grassroots and community partnerships for implementation, changes in behavior, and preventive approaches. It will also address issues of trans-boundary water management and community and NGO leadership for water management and will target some soft skills, such as awareness raising, communication, information management and conflict resolution.

Target group:

- Water professionals and leaders
- Policy and Decision Makers
- Academia
- Civil Society
- Community Leaders



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Objectives:

Bring together existing and emerging leaders in water resource management to:

- Enable capacity building on technical issues of IWRM
- Enable capacity building on leadership issues and concepts related to IWRM in a developing and Arab cultural context
- Facilitate dialogue leading to peer to peer learning
- Facilitate learning from examples of good practice
- Start a gap analysis of existing practices of IWRM

Methodology:

The course is featuring a multi-tiered approach to learning based on a methodology mix. The following methods will be used:

- Lectures followed by Q&A and discussions
- Facilitated group discussions
- Working groups
- Panel discussions
- Peer to peer learning from examples of good practice

Expected Outcome:

Ideally the course will lead to a better understanding, increased awareness and increased capacity related to technical and leadership issues in IWRM in arid and semi-arid developing countries. Emerging from the interactive learning environment, it will create teaching modules on leadership for IWRM. It will test existing teaching modules on IWRM. The modules will be available online as part of a virtual course on IWRM. Therefore a major emphasis lies on documenting the course in written and in AV format.

How to register:

There is a participation fee of 400 USD, which can be waived for participants from developing countries. Please use the attached sheet to register for the conference. Please indicate if you need assistance in reserving rooms in the hotel at a special rate for workshop participants (either 40 USD or 78 USD). Please know that unless agreed otherwise, you are still responsible to cover your own cost of accommodation.

There is a certain amount of financial support available for participants from developing countries, which will be allocated on a needs and first come first serve basis. We therefore ask you to register early and state why you would be a good candidate to receive financial assistance. Please also provide us with a quote from your travel agent, if you need travel assistance. Please only start arranging for your travel after receiving our written confirmation for financial assistance. All participants are asked to bring a poster of their particular project and activity involved. The posters will be exhibited during the course.

If you need assistance in obtaining a Visa, please indicate. To apply, please send your application containing a brief statement of motivation at your earliest possible convenience and until November 15th 2006 the latest.

Please send your registration to: Kirsten Neumann (neumann@la.unu.edu) AND Saif Jarad (intern5@la.unu.edu):

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