

December 2022

Event in Review



Balkans Joint Conference and Exhibition – 10 Years of a Successful Cooperation!



On 8, 9, 10 November 2022, SHUKALB in partnership with SHUKOS (The Water and Wastewater Works Association Kosova) organized the 10th Balkans Joint Conference and Exhibition, titled “**Groundwater – Making the Invisible Visible**”, at Emerald Hotel, in Prishtina, Kosova. The Conference attracted over 400 water professionals representing water utilities, donor’s community, private companies, academic institutions as well as other central and local government institutions from 16 different countries.

As usual, the Balkans Joint Conference and Exhibition provided again a platform for discussion, where participants had the opportunity to share their knowledge and experience in dealing with water sector issues and creating networking

Upcoming International Conferences

[8th IWA Water Resource Recovery Modelling Seminar](#)

Stellenbosch, South Africa
18-22 January 2023

[Revision of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive Webinar](#)

Online
27 January 2023

[17th DWF Water Research Conference](#)

Bjerringbro, Denmark
8 February 2023

opportunities among professionals of the water sector in the Balkan Region.

Prior to the start of the Opening Ceremony, on 8 November, several Pre-Conference events were organized to include the **Young Water Professionals Forum** from Kosovo and Albania; the **Regional Workshop of the Benchmarking Program for the Kosova and Albania HUB**, the **Joint Meeting with Stakeholders on “Capacity Development in the Water Sector and Advocacy of the Water Associations for Creating an Enabling Environment”**, and the **Workshop of DHI Group on “Hydraulic analyses of water supply systems or digital twins supporting NRW, Energy management of water utilities”**. [read more](#)

Join Us!



Tell us what you think!



What's New at SHUKALB

SHUKALB Launches Its Brand New Websites Design!



About SHUKALB

The Water Supply and Sewerage Association of Albania (SHUKALB), which was established in 2000, is a professional, not-for-profit Association of water supply and sewerage professionals, who wish to improve the management of the Water Supply and Sewerage Sector in Albania, making it efficient, sustainable and effective in accordance with the current laws and regulations in Albania.

SHUKALB has recently upgraded its two websites [www.shukalb.al](https://shukalb.al/en/) and <https://balkansjointconference.org>, as an effort to strengthen organizational capacities and facilitate more effective customer services and relationship management. Both websites contain new features, are simple to navigate, and provide information in an easily accessible way. In addition, the new SHUKALB website has a better interfacing with SHUKALB CRM and integration with partner organization websites and social media.

We invite you now to click on the links below to visit our new websites:

<https://shukalb.al/en/>

<https://balkansjointconference.org/en/>

SHUKALB Organizes the Generic Train of Trainers on “Adult Learning and Soft Skills”



On 16th of November 2022, in Tirana, SHUKALB organized the Train of Trainers (ToT) on “Adult Learning and Soft Skills” in the framework of the Project Regional Capacity Development Network for Water and Sanitation Services (RCDN).

The ToT was attended by trainers of SHUKALB and RCDN, representing the Water Supply and Sewerage Company of Tirana, Shkoder as well as SHUKALB. The ToT was led by Arian Gjorga, Freelance Expert.

The main objective of the ToT was for participants to get theoretical and practical knowledge on how to plan, organize and deliver training. [read more](#)

News From Our Members

The Albanian Government and the French Development Agency Sign the Agreement for Financing Durres Water Supply Network



During November 2022, at the premises of Albanian Prime Minister's Office the Government of Albania and the French Development Agency (AFD) signed an agreement which will allocate funds worth 61 million euros for investments by Durres Water Supply and Sewerage Company to its water supply network. The agreement was signed by the Minister of Finance and Economy, Delina Ibrahimaj and the French Secretary of State for Europe, Laurence Bonne, in the presence of Prime Minister Edi Rama and the Ambassador of France in Tirana, Elisabeth Barsacq.

Of the total amount, 60 million euros are loans, while 1 million are grants. The investment includes 3 components: [read more](#)

Shkodra Water Supply and Sewerage Company Reacts Quickly in Response to the Flood Situation



During November, the Municipality of Shkodra faced a severe flooding situation. The high-intensity rainfall, combined with the discharges from the hydro power plants of the Drin river cascade, resulted in flooding into the territory of Shkodra city, as well as in some administrative units of Shkodra Municipality.

In response to this situation, Shkodra WSS Company in coordination with other structures of Shkodra Municipality reacted swiftly by taking the necessary measures to ensure the continuity of water supply and sewerage services.

The working groups in the field were in full readiness to ensure the circulation of citizens and vehicles, monitoring and intervening where necessary, by cleaning the storm water

channels. In some cases, the drains were blocked by tree leaves and their cleaning was necessary. [read more](#)

Other

Apply now for the D-LeaP Utility Management Training!



The D-LeaP Utility Management Training (UMT) will start early 2023 and is now open for your application.

The program was introduced in 2021 as a state-of-the-art modular two-year master class for holistic management in the water service sector, and completed on schedule in spite of all pandemic-related emergencies, UMT is a mid-career skill-booster for professionals in water utilities, and also a treasure trove of knowledge for decision-makers in industry and administrations with a stake in the sector.

In addition, the World Bank with the support of the Global Water Security and Sanitation Partnership (GWSP) Scholarships invites eligible utility staff, who intend to participate in the UMT and who are in need for financial assistance to join the program, to apply for a **co-funding scholarship** supporting participation!

The scholarship can cover up to a maximum of **70% of the participation fees**. Successful applicants receiving a scholarship will have their fees for participation in the UMT reduced by the amount allocated and will need to confirm ability to pay the balance.

For more information on the program, [application form](#), modules, participation fees and [scholarship](#), we invite you to follow the below link:

<https://www.iawd.at/eng/danube-toolbox/d-leap/programs/utility-management-training/>

Webinar on Wastewater Treatment and Nature-Based Solutions - Learning from the Experience of Central and Eastern Europe

The webinar is organized by Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe and University of Ljubljana under the auspices of the [Community of Practice on Nature-based Solutions in Water Management](#). The webinar will take place on **December 14 at 13:00 – 14:30 CET**.

The webinar is open to a global audience of practitioners, academics, decision-makers, as the topics being discussed as for relevance to many regions of the world facing similar challenges. Participants will further be invited to continue engaging and exchanging on the online space of the Community at the GWP platform.

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82179290751?pwd=V2kwOHQ3S0txOWkraEtMdVQ4YVJWdz09>

Registration: <https://forms.gle/VgFF4Kb1K6fbjS557>

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Water Supply and Sewerage Association of Albania,

Rruga "Pjeter Bogdani", 39/1, k5, 3, Njësia Bashkiake Nr. 5, Kodi Postar 1019, Tirane, Shqiperi
Tel/Fax: (+355/4) 2245 101, Mob: (+355) 69 60 12 782

E-mail: info@shukalb.al, **Web:** www.shukalb.al

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