



**Participatory Workshop- An Activity for CrITERIA Project:
Quality and Protection of Water Resources in the Zarqa River Basin
“7th of May, 2018”**

Abstract Zarqa River Basin in Jordan was selected for CrITERIA project to represent a semi-arid case study of Mediterranean region. Several Mediterranean countries are involved in this project, namely; Greece, Italy, Cyprus, Turkey, Jordan, and Oman. The critical status of the Zarqa Basin has resulted in water resources shortages and degradation. This workshop was held at The University of Jordan on the 7th of May, 2018. A total of 30 of stakeholders participating in the workshop representing; academic institutions, government agencies, industries, local agriculture farmers and civil societies, namely, the Royal Scientific Society, the Higher Council for Science and Technology, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, Zarqa Environmental Directorate, Greater Zarqa Municipality, Zarqa Chamber of Industry, Water, Energy and Environment Center, Scientific Research Support Fund, The University of Jordan, Al-Balqa' Applied University, and Hashemite University. The aim of this workshop was to present and identify major water issues, problems, and actions. In addition, input from the stakeholder was anticipated regarding the Cr(VI) sources, contamination, and suggested alternatives. Issues related to prioritization of water supply-demand were identified, and the opinions of stakeholder were ranked according to their role in securing water supply and quality. The participants clarified that the Zarqa water does not has any hazardous level of Cr(VI) due to several reasons such as regulations for industries and on site treatment for industrial wastewater effluents. Decision makers agreed that water management issues was the major issue representing 86% of the opinions, water supply of 82%, water demand of 77% and water quality of 68%.

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