Rebuilding and Sustaining Municipal Services: Experiences, Approaches and Perspectives from Germany and Syria

Water Supply and Wastewater Management

Connective Cities Insight Session,

December 15, 2026, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. CET

Working languages: German and Arabic

Objectives of the event The objective of the event is joint learning through the exchange of municipal experiences from Germany and Syria, reflection on the political, institutional and financial framework conditions that have enabled the development of sustainable **water supply and wastewater management** as a **core element of local public service provision**, and discussion of how these insights can support reconstruction efforts, water resilience, and municipal capacity development in the Syrian context.

- ✓ Gain insights into the historical **development of municipal water services in Germany** as a key component of local public service provision, including factors that contributed to reliable water supply systems, effective wastewater management, and strong municipal institutions.
- ✓ Learn about the **current situation, priorities, and challenges of Syrian municipalities and water service providers**, particularly regarding water supply, wastewater management, water security, and resilience in the context of reconstruction.
- ✓ Exchange experiences on the **political, institutional, technical, and financial conditions necessary for rebuilding, operating, and maintaining sustainable water services** and ensuring reliable local public service provision in challenging environments.
- ✓ Examine the **role of peer learning, municipal partnerships, and international cooperation in strengthening local capacities**.

Please **register** here: https://skew.engagement-global.de/event-detail-en/14747--connective-cities-virtual-expert-exchange-rebuilding-sustaining-municipal-services-germany-syria.html.

Commissioned by

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Preliminary agenda

Germany	Syria	Agenda
09:45 a.m.	*11:45 a.m.*	*Room open for technic rehearsal*
10:30 a.m.	12:30 p.m.	Welcome by Connective Cities and short introduction to Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW)
10:45 a.m.	12:45 p.m.	Input 1: **Insights from the OOWV, one of Germany's largest regional water utilities**, on the historical development of water supply, wastewater management in municipal public service provision (TBC)
11:05 a.m.	13:05 p.m.	Input 2: **Municipal Water Services in Syria: Current Developments, Challenges and Perspectives for Reconstruction in Context 1** (e.g. the Damascus Region) – TBD
11:25 a.m.	13:25 p.m.	Input 3: **Municipal Water Services in Syria: Current Developments, Challenges and Perspectives for Reconstruction in Context 2: (e.g.: in the Aleppo region)** TBD
11:45 a.m.	13:45 p.m.	Q&A
12:00 p.m.	14:00 p.m.	Fishbowl discussion: • **Which political, institutional and financial conditions are essential for developing and sustaining municipal service delivery, particularly water supply and wastewater management?** • **Which lessons from Germany's historical development of municipal services may be relevant for reconstruction processes in Syria?** • **How can municipal partnerships and international knowledge exchange support Syrian municipalities in rebuilding and strengthening local service delivery?**
12:30 p.m.	*14:30 p.m.*	*End*