Summary and Follow up Actions
Good Water Neighbors / Pro-Aquifer Conference, Nov. 25-26, 2008:

Day 1 – Good Water Neighbors:

- Mayor's Panel on water crises - highlighted different efforts underway; from replacing lawns with synthetic material to reuse of treated wastewater.
- Jordanian Municipalities need to be empowered - all water and environment issues centralized with Jordan Valley Authority, Ministry of Environment or Ministry of Water and Irrigation.
- All municipalities supported public action and involvement as a means to strengthen their own positions to be able to do more.
- FoEME committed to supporting public action through new EU supported “Community GIS” project.
- Participating Mountain Aquifer mayors (together with 5 residents from each community) committed to meet with Israeli Knesset and Palestinian PLC members, Israeli and Palestinian heads of Water Authorities and relevant donor states to lobby together for cross border sewage solutions.
- From Dead Sea communities - interested in more information on alternative livelihoods based on rural tourism and less water intensive agriculture for the region.
- From Jordan River communities - commitment to launch regional petition involving Israeli, Palestinian and Jordanian school kids on the need to prevent untreated sewage from flowing into the lower Jordan River and then presenting petition to respective authorities in each country.

Day 2 - Pro-Aquifer:

- Tulkarem and Umm el Fahem Municipalities committed to follow up on guidelines
- FoEME committed to do so through their involvement in Good Water Neighbors project (Tulkarem already participates and Umm el Fahem recommended to).
- Jericho, Baka Sharkia and Faisel - Palestinian municipalities requested meeting to discuss implementation of pro-aquifer guidelines.
- Jordan Valley Authority representative interested in following up with a meeting together with Ministry of Environment or Ministry of Water and Irrigation in Jordan.
- Tulkarem requested FoEME involvement in follow up meeting with Tulkarem / Emek Hefer and KfW.

*NGO in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations*