Press Release

Water Journalism Academy – A virtual water and sanitation learning and exposure programme for media innovators in the Middle East and North Africa

The Regional Program Energy Security and Climate Change Middle East and North Africa (KAS - REMENA) of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and cewas have joined hands to involve and work with media enthusiasts to engage in in-depth reporting on pressing water and sanitation matters across the MENA region.

The KAS – REMENA program promotes dialogue, partnership and cooperation among the countries of the MENA-Region and with the European Union concerning resources and climate issues. cewas is a Swiss non-profit association specialised in improving business practices in water and sanitation through training and awareness-raising so as to increase the sector's integrity and sustainability. The training is supported through resources by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

In the course of the joint Water Journalism Academy, outstanding environmental journalists and media professionals from the Middle East and North Africa will be selected to take part in a tailored programme with the goal of intensifying and improving the quality and scope of media coverage of acute water-related challenges in the country of implementation and region. The programme comprises a four-module weekly virtual training scheduled throughout August starting on August 10th, follow-up coaching and a regional competition on September 14th, the first Blue Peace Open Eye Award, that will award the production of innovative media pieces that make a meaningful contribution to improve water management across the region. Trainings in the framework of the Water Journalism Academy will be conducted online, in a format specifically designed to bring real-life workshop and interactive experiences into the virtual sphere.

In addition, we are proud to collaborate with REVOLVE Media for their upcoming AMWAJ conference (scheduled for October 2020) to conduct a co-creation workshop bringing together media professionals with key stakeholders of the water and environmental sectors on constructive water reporting. The official awarding of the Blue Peace Open Eye Award will also take place in the framework of AMWAJ.

For further information, do not hesitate to contact us at info.remena@kas.de.