

# ROUND TABLE – ARID AND SEMIARID LANDS: ANCIENT KNOWLEDGE FOR EXPLOITING AND DISTRIBUTING WATER

**Plenary Session** - Auditorium Laginha Serafim

## Scope

The historical water cultures in arid and semiarid areas correspond to a frame of reference for research, developed either by geoscientists either by social scientists in recent decades, according to a new paradigma of water culture, which identifies a long-term perspective and also a new geohistorical reading.

## Chair



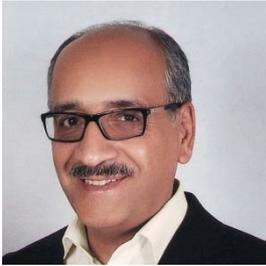
**Prof. Luís Ribeiro**  
(University of Lisbon, Portugal)

Mining Engineer and Associate Professor in IST, University of Lisbon, Portugal, where he is responsible for the disciplines of Hydrogeology and Groundwater. Coordinator of the Research Group of Hydrogeology and Geosystems in CERIS (Civil Engineering Research and Innovation for Sustainability). Coordinator in IST of the Master Program ERASMUS+ course: Groundwater and Global Change. Coordinator of more than 30 projects of national and international research. He is the author and / or co-author of more than 500 scientific publications and co-editor of the book Groundwater and Ecosystems (IAH Selected Papers series).



**Prof. Ahecine Zineddine Saouli**  
(Institute of Architecture, Algeria)

Ahecine Zineddine Saouli was born in 1960 in Ghardaia, Algeria. He obtained the diploma of “Architecte d’Etat” in the Institute of Architecture, Urbanism and Construction of Constantine (Algeria) in June 1983. He graduated in the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, University of York, United Kingdom in 1989, where he obtained a Magister (Mphil) entitled “ Revival of traditional housing: the case of Biskra”. His researches are focused on the management of architectural and urban patrimony. In 1996, he was head of the national project PNR of the ANDRU agency entitled «Pour une Strategie Approprie de la Production et de la Gestion des Etablissements Humains Dans les Zones Arides et Semi-Arides ».



**Dr. Ali Ashghar Semsar Yazdi**  
**(International Center on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures, Iran)**

Ali Ashghar Semsar Yazdi was born in 1956 in Yazd, Iran. In 1995. He graduated from the Institute for Applied Sciences of Lyon, France with PhD degree in civil engineering. After he returned to Iran, he took part in setting up several water organizations as Yazd Regional Water Authority, Yazd Water Museum, Qanat College, and International Center on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures (UNESCO-ICQHS). In 2000, He initiated and held the first International Conference on Qanat and In February 2012 he has organized the International Conference on Traditional Knowledge for water Resources Management (TKWRM2012). From 2006 to 2013 he has been the Director of the International Center on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures which is a UNESCO category II center. He is now senior advisor to this center. He has authored or co-authored tens of papers and books on water management and Qanat system. Some of these Books are as follows: Qanat from practitioners' point of view, Qanats of Bam from technical point of view, Veins of Desert, Qanat in its Cradle, Qanat of Zarch, and Qanat Knowledge, Construction and Maintenance.



**Prof. Jorge Gabriel Marcos Pino**  
**(Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral, Ecuador)**

Jorge G. Marcos, Ph.D (University of Illinois, 1978) research interest has concentrated on two major topics in American archaeology: the nature of the Ecuadorian Formative (including the origins of agriculture and ancient water management systems), and the character of Andean-Mesoamerican Pre-Columbian trade relations. Jorge G. Marcos, is also director of the graduate and undergraduate programs in Archaeology at ESPOL (Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral, Guayaquil, Ecuador).



**Prof. Mahmoud Debabeche**  
**(University of Biskra, Algeria)**

Mahmoud Debabeche is 49 years old. Full Professor in hydraulics in the University of Biskra (Algeria) since 2008. Director of the research laboratory in Civil and Hydraulic Engineering, Sustainable Development and Environment (LARGHYDE) since 2011. After he has been engineer in Hydraulics in 1992, and has obtained a Magister in Hydraulics in 1996, he graduated from the Department of Hydraulics, University of Biskra (Algeria) with a 'State Doctorate' in Hydraulics sciences in 2003. He has been the Algerian coordinator of the project "Water pollution" between the University of Biskra (Algeria) and the University of Padova (Italy). He participated, in 2011 in Ghardaia, as invited speaker in the workshop "la protection et la promotion de l'écosystème oasien de la vallée du M'zab" from the programme Euromed-Hériage. The title of the presentation is: Phytoepuration and reuse of waste water for irrigation. He organised, in 2008, an Algero – Italian workshop titled "Phytoepuration and ecological management of wastewater". Head of the team "hydraulic modeling and integrated management of water resources, in the laboratory of research LARGHYDE of the University of Biskra. His domains of research are: open channel flows and constructed wetlands (Phytoepuration). He has co-authored more fifteen papers and has supervised more than forty students (Engineer, Master, Magister and PhD).



**Prof. Miquel Salgot**  
**(University of Barcelona, Spain)**

Miquel Salgot is Associated Professor at the Soil Science Unit and Water Research Institute, University of Barcelona. He holds a Ph.D. in Pharmacy, University of Barcelona. Miquel Salgot is Member of the Royal Catalan Academy of Pharmacy. His research interests cover wastewater reclamation and reuse, non-conventional water resources, and swine manure treatment and reclamation. Miquel Salgot is author of more than 100 indexed papers and book chapters, and directed 12 Ph.D. thesis. He is member of several associations, and secretary of the IWA's Specialist Group on WWAC.