



Family picture, Capacity Building workshop at Africa Center of Excellence for Water Management (ACEWM), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

FLOWERED Project Coordinator's Note

Dear reader,

We are nearing the end of the project, and we have achieved the most important milestones. During the last three months, our activities were mostly dedicated to capacity building and information of the wide public, about FLOWERED achievements. As a closing activity, the consortium was invited to participate to an experts meeting organized at FAO that will certainly provide new perspectives for the project. This newsletter gives you an overview on these last activities.

For updates, visit our website: <http://www.floweredproject.org> and follow us on Twitter @floweredproject, Facebook @FlowerEastAfrica, LinkedIn FLOWERED East Africa, and Youtube Channel FLOWERED.

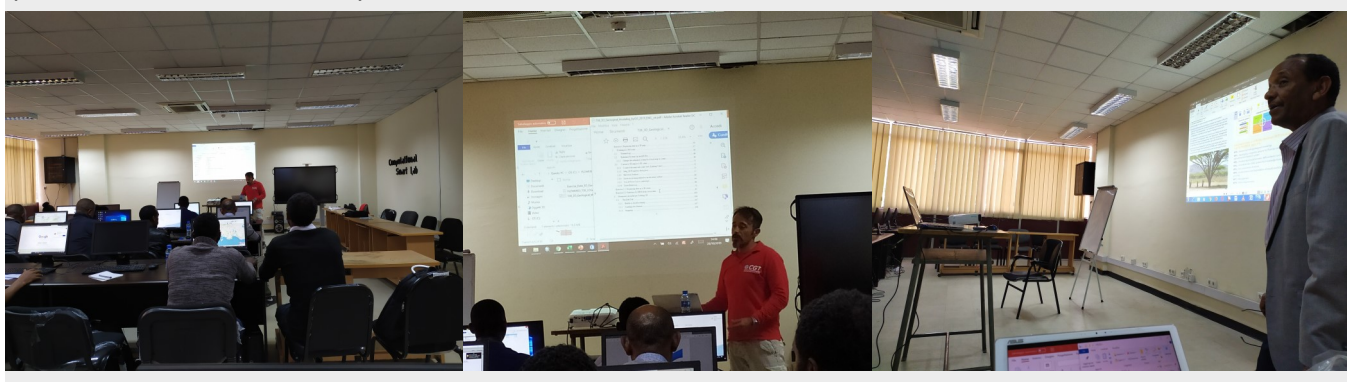
Giorgio Ghiglieri, Coordinator of FLOWERED Project

Closure of FLOWERED training activities, Addis Ababa, October 2019

The FLOWERED training activities ended in Addis Ababa with the training in 3D modeling that was provided to about twenty participants, made up of students and researchers.

Most of them were geologists, some of them PhD students, the majority was of MSc students of Addis Ababa University. The main topic of the course was the 3D Geological Modeling using a 3D GIS working environment, from the basic knowledge of Spatial Databases, Digital Cartography, Geodesy, GIS (Geographic Information System), 3D visualization, Geoprocessing and Spatial Analysis.

The training, provided by Altair PIRRO, PhD from Centre for GeoTechnologies of University of Siena was held in the Africa Center of Excellence for Water Management (ACEWM), inside the Natural and Computational Science Campus of Addis Ababa University from 28 to 31st October 2019.



View of the last Capacity Building workshop at Africa Center of Excellence for Water Management (ACEWM), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Round up on FLOWERED Training activities

In order to increase the awareness of the fluoride contamination phenomenon in the East African Rift Valley and to strengthen technical and scientific skills in the field of water management, several free training courses were organized by the project, from June 2018 to October 2019, for project partners and local stakeholders (high level students from universities and research institutes, young scientists, members of the water and agriculture implementing bodies and professionals of the sector from local companies) in the three countries of East African Rift Valley involved in the project: Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania.

These activities consist of interdisciplinary theoretical and practical courses and aim to provide tools for monitoring, processing and interpreting the fluoride contamination phenomenon and for enhancing the participants' capacity to develop mitigation and adaptation strategies.

High-qualified researchers from CGT-UNISI (University of Siena) under the coordination of the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) and University of Cagliari (UNICA), planned training and capacity building activities together with the local partners of the FLOWERED project. The technicians belonging to the "GeoExplorer Impresa Sociale Srl", an Italian innovative start-up company that supported CGT-UNISI according to the amendment required, have contributed to part of the training and capacity building activities.

- ♦ **June 2018** : T01 – Resistivity methods applied to hydrogeology: theory and data processing (Nakuru, Kenya).
- ♦ **June 2018** : T02 – Analysis of environmental data through geostatistical methods (Nakuru, Kenya).
- ♦ **October to November 2018**: T03 – Resistivity methods for groundwater resources exploration: data acquisition and processing (Fieldwork survey - Nakuru, Kenya).
- ♦ **February 2019**: T04 – Resistivity methods applied to hydrogeology: theory and data processing (Arusha, Tanzania).
- ♦ **February 2019**: T05 – Analysis of environmental data through geostatistical methods (Arusha, Tanzania).
- ♦ **February 2019**: T06 – Groundwater numerical modeling (Lessons held in Arusha, Tanzania, during February 2019).
- ♦ **April 2019**: T07 – 3D geological modeling (Arusha, Tanzania)
- ♦ **November 2019**: T08 – 3D geological modeling (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia).

A total of 146 people, including 34 women (25% of the total participants) benefited from these training sessions. Participants in these sessions come from different countries, including the 3 countries concerned by the project (Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania), but also some people from Italy, Malawi and Rwanda.

What's the best way to communicate science engaging with society?

During the European research & Innovation days "Science is Wonderful!" that have taken place on 25-26 September 2019 in Brussels, FLOWERED organized an exhibition booth to expand on its research projects through participatory and informative activities.

During the exhibition, the Flowered researchers team composed of Alfredo Idini, Dr. Franco Frau and the Coordinator of the project Prof Giorgio Ghiglieri, had face-to-face chats, mainly schoolchildren who were able to learn from the defluoridation prototype how the Innovative Method for Water defluoridation may impact daily lives in the fluoride contaminated areas of East Africa.



FLOWERED Information Booth at "Science is Wonderful!" exhibition, 25-26 September 2019, Brussels

The FLOWERED project will participate to a Technical experts meeting at the FAO headquarters in Rome, 10th December 2019

The FAO Organization gives the opportunity to FLOWERED Consortium to present FLOWERED achievements and challenges during a technical meeting which will take place in Rome, at the end of the project.

The draft Agenda - for the FLOWERED side - consists in four technical speeches AS FOLLOWS:

1. Advancing hydrogeological knowledge
2. Developing mitigation options for fluoride contamination in agriculture and livestock systems
3. Developing innovative water defluoridation technologies
4. Socio-Economic Analysis.

In this regard, a round table on the following subjects, will be organized to discuss about:

- Exchange of experiences, knowledge and good practices;
- New and joint paths to explore on defluoridation technologies for improving quality of water and agro-animal products;
- Potential funds for implementation of new activities.

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Contact :

ghiglieri@unica.it - lilia.benzid@oss.org.tn