

*The Netherlands Institute for Academic Studies in Damascus (NIASD)
has the pleasure to invite you for the lecture:*

Traditional Water Management in Syria

- Lecture by Joshka Wessels -



Dr. Joshka Wessels is a social geographer and camera journalist with over 12 years of experience in international development, research and project management and media production. Her training is in broadcast TV, cultural anthropology, social geography with a specialisation in traditional water resources management in irrigation, water supply and sanitation sectors. In 2008, Joshka gained a PhD in Development Studies with her research on collective action and traditional water resources in Syria. With her own media company, she makes professional eco-documentaries for worldwide broadcast television such as BBC World.

Sunday 21st December 2008, 19:00h at the NIASD

This lecture will focus on Joshka's PhD research in Syria which finished with the publication of her book "To Cooperate or not to cooperate...? Collective Action for rehabilitation of traditional water tunnel systems (qanats) in Syria". In her lecture Joshka will elaborate on collective action, the social and geographical aspects of rural communities working together to maintain their common water resources. Using Qanats is a truly sustainable technique of using groundwater for irrigation. In several sites in Syria, communities still use this technique. But the systems are rapidly being abandoned. Joshka sheds light on the causes and effects. She places the issues in the wider context of the overall water demand management challenge in Syria. She will also show some sequences of her documentary films on qanats in Syria.



Language: English – with Arabic translation
Location: NIASD, Farabi Sreet 85, East Mezzeh (near the Greek Embassy)
Time: 19:00h
Information: Telephone: 6117622, Email: assistant@niasd.org