Meeting of the International Water Association Specialist Group on Statistics and Economics, Bucharest

On May 16, 2016, in Bucharest, was held the meeting of the International Association of Water Specialist Group on Statistics and Economics. This is a rare thing for two meetings of a specialized group to take place in the same country within such a short time, the previous one being organized in Brasov in September 2013. This happened due to the Romanian Water Association (ARA) invitation to organize an event during Expo Apa 2016, the Romanian annual Conferences and Exhibition.

On the Group meeting the Workshop details regarding "Tariffs for water services and affordability" were finalized to be delivered the next day and enjoying a great interest among specialists in the water sector in Romania who participated in large numbers.
Another topic discussed by the group was the following global statistics taking into consideration key statistical data on prices and tariffs for water and sanitation services, specific consumption, structure of water resources etc. Romania participated to the previous statistics on 2014 with data from almost 20 companies. Statistics will be officially made public in October during World Water Congress, only in electronic format (infographic). This statistic allows comparing data specific to Romania with other countries around the globe, providing a holistic picture on the pricing of services.

Another activity carried out by the IWA Group is related to the organization of conferences, the next one being planned for 2017 and carried out in collaboration with the specialized Asset Management Group, the two groups already having a tradition in organizing conferences together. By this they try to borrow knowledge from the two specializations, economic and engineering, able to determine a better understanding of how infrastructure optimization and financing of its achievement and maintenance in terms of economic efficiency.
Obviously, they were also approached a series of issues related to the internal organization of the group activities, of which the most important is the launching of a new website of IWA, as well as the communication platform IWA Connect which will have a section for non-members that will have access to some information related to the IWA activity.