

Implementation of the Work Programme and Technical Cooperation

Economic And Social Commission For Western Asia



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ESCWA

Committee on Water Resources
Thirteen Session
Beirut, 27-28 June 2019

Biennium 2016-2017

EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENT (A)

Member States mainstream appropriate goals related to **sustainable development into national multisectoral strategies and action plans** for the integrated management of natural resources, including tools for measuring, monitoring and reporting.

EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENT (B)

Member States adopt platforms and resolutions on **regional cooperation** on shared water resources, energy networks and environmental sustainability to improve food, water and energy security.

EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENT (C)

Member States develop coordinated policies, strategies and frameworks for **climate change mitigation and adaptation and for disaster risk reduction** to enhance resilience and respond to the impact of natural and human-induced disasters.

Biennium 2018-2019

EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENT (A)

Increased alignment of member States' national plans with the Sustainable Development Goals by through drawing upon the **water-energy-food nexus**

EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENT (B)

Increased engagement by member States in regional and subregional processes in **support of agreements, strategies and standards related to water, energy, food and the environment.**

EXPECTED ACCOMPLISHMENT (C)

Strengthened resilience of member States and of vulnerable communities to **climate change and natural disasters.**

Water Resources Section

Shared/ Tranboundary Water Resources

Regional Guidelines &
Global Water
Conventions

Water Security:
Arab Ministerial
Water Council
(AMWC)

Water Diplomacy:
Regional & Basin-level
Dialogues

Climate Change Assessment & Adaptation

RICCAR
Climate Modeling,
Hydrological Modeling &
Vulnerability Assessment

Adaptation:
Training & Technical
Cooperation

RICCAR Regional
Knowledge Hub on
Water & Climate

Climate Change &
Disaster Risk Reduction

Water-related SDGs

Water targets &
indicators

SDG 6 follow-up to
MDG+ Initiative

Human Rights to
Water and Sanitation

UN-Water
Water Action Decade
(2018-2028)

IWRM & Nexus

Water-Energy-Food
Security Nexus

IWRM Tools for
Assessment &
Adaptation
(Advisory Services &
Capacity Building)

AWARENET
Arab Integrated Water
Resources Management
Network Secretariat

Programme mandated through the **ESCWA Committee on Water Resources**
Support provided to the **Arab Ministerial Water Council & APCM**

Implementation of the programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 & 2017-2019 in the field of water resources



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Shared/Transboundary Water Resources Management

Expert group meeting on pursuing improved shared water resources management within the framework of global and regional agreements

(Cairo, 29-30 November 2017)

- LAS meeting on the guidelines on shared water cooperation between Arab States (included)

Expert group meeting on improving shared water resources cooperation within the framework of global and regional agreements

(Beirut, 6-7 December 2018)

- LAS meeting on the guidelines on shared water cooperation between Arab States (included)



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Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction



Reports

RICCAR Arab Climate Change Assessment Report & Publication series (2017-2018)

1. ESCWA and others, *Arab Climate Assessment Report: Main Report*
2. ESCWA and others, *Arab Climate Assessment Report: Technical Annex*
3. ESCWA and others, *Arab Climate Assessment Report: Executive Summary*
4. SMHI, *Regional Climate Modelling & Regional Hydrological Modelling Applications in the Arab Region*
5. ACSAD, GIZ and ESCWA, *Training Manual on the Integrated Vulnerability Assessment Methodology*
6. UNU-INWEH, *Climate Change Impacts on Health in the Arab Region: a Case Study on Neglected Tropical Diseases*
7. FAO, GIZ and ACSAD, *Climate Change and Adaptation Solutions for the Green Sectors in the Arab Region*
8. UNDRR, *Disaster Loss Data & Linkage to Climate Change Impacts for Arab Region*
9. ACSAD and ESCWA, *Impact of Climate Change on Extreme Events in Selected Basins in the Arab Region*
10. ESCWA and others, *Arab Climate Change Assessment Report: Snapshot of Key Findings* (Beirut, 2017).

Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction

ESCWA Water Development Report 7: Climate Change and DRR (2017)

Meetings:

- 19th meeting of the Arab Negotiations Group on Climate Change (Cairo, February 2018) – organized by LAS
- Expert group meeting on coordinating responses to climate change and disaster risk reduction in the Arab region (Beirut, December 2017) – ESCWA, DRR
- International Conference (& Workshop) on Adaptation Metrics and Techniques for Water, Agriculture and Resilient Cities (Benguerir, Morocco, October 2018) – numerous partners, including IPCC, UM6P, C4Centre
- 30th ESCWA session – side event on climate change & regional knowledge hub (Beirut, June 2018)
- ❖ ESCWA Ministerial Session Resolution 329 (XXX) established the Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies

Water-related SDGs



Reports:

- *Moving Towards Achieving Water Security in the Arab Region*
- *Working paper on the implementation of integrated water resources management in the Arab region: a regional report of SDG indicator 6.5.1 on IWRM implementation*
- *Overview of shared water resources management in the Arab region for informing progress on SDG 6.5.2 (2019)*
- *Progress on shared water resources management in the Arab region: regional baseline for SDG indicator 6.5.2 (2018)*
- ESCWA Water Development Report 8: Water-related SDGs (*forthcoming*)
- Wastewater: An Arab Perspective (booklet)
- World Water Day 2019: Leave no one behind (flyer)



Water-related SDGs: Meetings

Expert group meeting on methodologies for meeting the water-related Sustainable Development Goals at the global, regional and national levels
(Amman, 22-23 March 2017)

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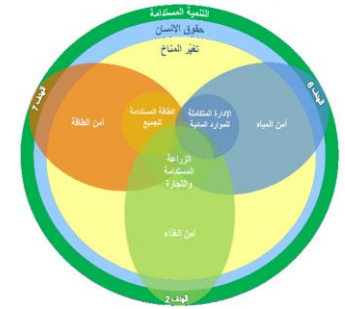
Regional preparatory meeting on water issues for the 2018 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development and High-level Political Forum
+ *other regional preparatory meetings in environment, energy*

2018 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development (Beirut, April 2018)

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Regional consultation on climate change for the 2019 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development and High-Level Political Forum

2019 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development (Beirut, April 2019)



ESWA, 2015

IWRM & Nexus



AWARENET: Arab Integrated Water Resources Network

- Working group on IWRM – reviewed regional SDG 6.5.1 report
- Training opportunities
- Website – online registration available at: www.awarenet.info

Symposium on Women and Water Security for Peacebuilding in the Arab Region (Beirut, 9-10 May 2018) – UNDESA, ESCWA, Simon Fraizer University (Canada)

- World Water Day 2017 (Wastewater) & WWDR contribution
- World Water Day 2018 (Nature-based solutions) & WWDR
- World Water Day 2019 (Leave No One Behind) & WWDR

UNDA field project on Water-Energy Nexus

Sida-funded field project on Food and Water Security

Support to Intergovernmental Processes

Regional:

- [Arab Ministerial Water Council](#) & its Technical, Scientific & Advisory Committee
Cairo, July 2017; Kuwait, May 2018; Cairo, June 2019
- [Council of Arab Ministers for Meteorology and Climate Affairs](#) (Cairo, April 2018)
- [Arab Permanent Committee for Meteorology](#) (Cairo, April 2017)
 - Subcommittee on Weather and Climate Risk Information (Cairo, February 2018)
- [Arab Climate Outlook Forum](#): ArabCOF-1 (Sept 2017); ArabCOF-2 (February 2018 with Dust Storm Training); ArabCOF-3 (November 2018 with other RCOFs)
- [Arab Negotiations Group on Climate Change](#) (Cairo, 5-7 February 2019)

Global:

- Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-23) - Bonn, Germany, November 2017





Support to water-related forums

Regional:

- [Fourth Arab Water Week](#) (Jordan, March 2017) – MDG+ session, women + water, Sida programme session
- [Beirut Water Week](#) (Beirut, March 2017) – nexus and SDGs, climate change
- [Fourth Arab Water Forum](#) (Cairo, 2017) – climate change, SDGs, nexus sessions
- [Third Arab Water Conference](#) (Kuwait, May 2018) – SDGs
- [Cairo Water Week](#) (Cairo, October 2018) – climate change, workshop
- [Fifth Arab Water Week](#) (Jordan, 2019) – climate change, water cooperation, SDGs
- [Near East and North Africa Land and Water Days 2019](#) (Cairo, 31 March – 4 April 2019) – climate change, agriculture, water-agriculture nexus

Global:

- Stockholm World Water Week: 2017, 2018

Field Projects

- Arab Integrated Water Resources Management Network (AWARENET)



- Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies



- RICCAR



- Food and Water Security in the Arab region



- MDG+ Initiative – ended December 2018



- ACCWaM – ended June 2018



- Developing the capacity of ESCWA member States to address the water-energy nexus for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals – ended December 2017



- Developing the Capacities of the Arab Countries for Climate Change Adaptation Using Integrated Water Resources Management Tools – ended



RICCAR: External Evaluation

- The project is **very well documented** and provides numerous publications, reports and **useful products of high quality** in addition to e-tools released for the first time for the Arab region.
- The project was **highly effective**, as on its completion date, it had achieved most of its expected outputs: a regional knowledge hub for climate and water resource information and modelling in the Arab region is available
- The project's objective was satisfactorily achieved since a **consultative and integrated methodological framework**
- The project is found to be likely sustainable at this stage on condition that a new phase is launched to: 1) take advantage of the **current momentum**, 2) consolidate the results already achieved (provide operational access to the regional knowledge hub and ensure its regular updating, and empower the Arab Climate Outlook Forum, and 3) conduct additional studies
- **The project played a significant role in producing knowledge and information about climate change impacts on water resources available in the Arab region**

Technical cooperation and advisory services



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Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus

Syria: Ministry of Water Resources - Training on climate change and shared water resources management requested; Training on GIS tools for climate change analysis provided in March 2019

Lebanon: Ministry of Agriculture, Litani River Authority – training on climate change assessment tools, AquaCROP, and GIS tools for climate change analysis for water use in agriculture

Jordan: Ministry of Agriculture – agricultural water use productivity, technical support to National Agriculture Research Centre on SDGs

Sudan, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia – requested assistance on water and food security, which is being delivered through field project on Food and Water Security in the Arab Region with training and technical support

*** RPTC Support provide with assistance of
Regional Advisor on Food Security &
Regional Advisor on GIS Tools for Climate Change Analysis*

Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction

Support to Climate Change Negotiators

- Regional training workshops on capacity development for climate change negotiations for the Arab countries were organized by the League of Arab States, with UNEP and UNESCO (Beirut, 10-13 April 2017); (Cairo, 9-12 October 2017); (Kuwait, 3-5 April 2018); (Cairo, 13-15 November 2018) and (Beirut, 7-8 April 2019).

Support to Arab Meteorological Services

- Regional training workshop on sand and dust storms (Feb 2018)

Country-level support

- Kuwait: Environment Public Authority – seminar (April 2018)
- Iraq: Ministry of Health and Environment – Green Climate Fund preparedness seminar (June 2018)

Arab Center for Climate Change Policies - since June 2018

- Oman: Higher Planning Council & Oman Water Society
- Lebanon: Ministry of Agriculture
- Iraq: National Workshop on Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk reduction
- Egypt: ^{Page 20} Cairo Water Week training for young water professionals in ICID

Thank You

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