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**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

Building Capacity for Accessing Disruptive Technologies for Improved Water Resources Management under Climate Change  
Beirut, 14-15 January 2020

**AGENDA**

*Tuesday, 14 January 2020*

8:30 – 9:00      **Registration**  
*The meeting will be held at United Nations House in the MZ conference room. Sponsored participants are kindly asked to bring their passport and airline ticket stub to the meeting.*

**Opening Session and Introduction**

Moderator:      Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Chief, Water Resources Section, Sustainable Development Policies Division, ESCWA

9:00 – 9:15      **Opening Statements**

- Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Sustainable Development Policies Division (SDPD), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- Ms. Amal Talbi, Lead Water Resources Management, Middle East and North Africa (MNA) Unit, Water Global Practice, The World Bank

9:15 – 9:45      Tour de Table

9:45 – 10:00      Review of Workshop Objectives and Agenda

- *Ms. Amal Talbi, The World Bank*

10:00 – 10:15      Discussion

**Session I      Framing the Regional Context**

Moderator:      Ms. Roula Majdalani, ESCWA

10:15 – 10:35      Overview of Shared Surface Water Resources in Western Asia

- *Ms. Joelle Comair, Programme Associate, Water Resources Section, SDPD, ESCWA*

10:35 – 10:55	Overview of Shared Groundwater Resources in Western Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mr. Ziad Khayat, First Economic Affairs Officer, Water Resources Section, SDPD, ESCWA</i></li> </ul>
10:55 – 11:15	Discussion
11:15 – 11:35	Coffee Break
11:35 – 12:00	Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region (RICCAR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ms. Carol Chouchani Churfane, Chief, Water Resources Section, SDPD, ESCWA</i></li> </ul>
12:00 – 12:15	Discussion
12:15 – 12:35	Engagements in the Mashreq Region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ms. Amal Talbi, The World Bank</i></li> </ul>
12:35 – 13:00	Discussion
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch at United Nations House Cafeteria (Ground Floor)

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## **Session II      Disruptive Technologies: Uses and Potential**

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Moderator:	Ms. Amal Talbi, The World Bank
14:00 – 14:30	A New World of Disruptive Technologies for Water Resources Planning and Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mr. Nagaraja Rao Harshadeep, Global Lead, Disruptive Technology, The World Bank</i></li> </ul>
14:30 – 14:45	Discussion
14:45 – 15:00	Open Data and Analytics at your Fingertips: An Introduction to Spatial Agent App and the World Bank HydroInformatics Platform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mr. Nagaraja Rao Harshadeep, The World Bank</i></li> </ul>
15:00 – 15:30	Facilitated discussion on current use and barriers to accessing and benefiting from these technologies
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 16:30	Case Studies <p>Remote Sensing for Crop Mapping and Assessment for Groundwater Abstraction in Jordan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ms. Alaa Atieh, Geologist, Department of Water Resources Studies, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Jordan</i></li> </ul> <p>A GIS-based Assessment of Selected Nexus Interactions in the North Western Sahara Aquifer System (NWSAS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ms. Annukka Lipponen, Environmental Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)</i></li> </ul>
16:30 – 17:00	Discussion
17:00	End of Day 1

*Wednesday, 15 January 2020*

**Session III      Interactive Session: Accessing Data through Open Data Platforms**

Moderator:	Mr. Ziad Khayat, ESCWA
9:00 – 9:15	Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) and the Generation of Scientific Knowledge: Regional overview and trends <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Mr. Fouad Mrad, Senior Programme Manager, Technology for Development Division, ESCWA</i></li></ul>
9:15 – 9:30	Discussion
9:30 – 10:00	Water Data Platforms: Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Mr. Nagaraja Rao Harshadeep, The World Bank</i></li></ul>
10:00 – 10:30	Interactive exercise and discussion
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 11:30	RICCAR Regional Knowledge Hub and Data Portal: Accessing global and regional datasets, analysis and training tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Ms. Marlene Tomaszewicz, Regional Advisor for Geographic Information Systems for Climate Change Analysis, ESCWA</i></li></ul>
11:30 – 12:00	Interactive exercise and discussion

**Session IV      Drawing upon Data and Technology for Decision-making**

Moderator:	Mr. Nagaraja Rao Harshadeep, The World Bank
12:00 – 12:15	Setting the Stage for Group Discussions
12:15 – 13:00	Group Discussion I: Opportunities for using disruptive technologies for informing decision-making
13:00 – 13:15	Reporting back by the Working Groups
13:15 – 14:15	Lunch
14:15 – 15:00	Group Discussion II: Capacities development for different stakeholder groups based on identified opportunities
15:00 – 15:15	Reporting back by the Working Groups
15:15 – 15:30	Discussion
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break

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<b>Session V</b>	<b>Closing Reflections and Next Steps</b>
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Moderator: Ms. Roula Majdalani, ESCWA

15:45 – 16:00 Summary of Findings and Conclusions  
- *Facilitated by Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, ESCWA*

16:00 – 16:15 Discussion

16:15 – 16:45 Formulating a roadmap for follow-up activities and knowledge generation through common data platforms  
- *Facilitated by Ms. Amal Talbi, The World Bank*

16:45 – 17:00 **Closing Remarks**

- Ms. Amal Talbi, The World Bank
- Ms. Roula Majdalani, ESCWA