Regional Preparatory Meeting on Water Issues for the 2018 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development and High Level Political Forum
Beirut, Lebanon, 28-29 March 2018

2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development: Setting the stage

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ESCWA
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development clearly states that the SDGs are **universal, indivisible, integrated and people-centered**

(in preamble & paras. 5, 18, 55, 71)

The 2030 Agenda affirms the **Human Right** to Water & Sanitation by aspiring for all:

“A world where we reaffirm our commitments regarding the **human right to safe drinking water and sanitation** and where there is improved hygiene; and where **food is sufficient, safe, affordable and nutritious**. A world where **human habitats** are safe, resilient and sustainable and where there is **universal access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy**.”
17 SDGs
169 Targets
232 Indicators (9 repeated)
All 17 SDGs are Water-related

Dedicated
6. Clean Water and Sanitation

Explicitly
1. No Poverty
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Quality Education
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
14. Life below Water
15. Life on Land

Implicitly
2. Zero Hunger
5. Gender Equality
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
10. Reduced Inequalities
13. Climate Action
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals
## SDG 6: Goal & Targets

**Ensure availability & sustainable management of water & sanitation for all**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>by 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>by 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations</td>
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<td>6.3</td>
<td>by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater, and increasing recycling and safe reuse by x% globally</td>
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<td>6.4</td>
<td>by 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity, and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity</td>
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<td>6.5</td>
<td>by 2030 implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate</td>
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<td>6.6</td>
<td>by 2020 protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes</td>
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<td>6.7</td>
<td>by 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water and sanitation related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>support and strengthen the participation of local communities for improving water and sanitation management</td>
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High Level Political Forum: The global mechanism for tracking the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

HLPF established in 2012 from RIO+20 process & then supported 2030 Agenda monitoring and reporting
High-Level Political Forum 2018: Theme

The 2018 HLPF on Sustainable Development will be convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council from 9-18 July 2018. The three-day ministerial meeting will be from 16-18 July 2018.

Theme: "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies".

The set of goals to be reviewed in depth will be the following:

**Goal 6.** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

**Goal 7.** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

**Goal 11.** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

**Goal 12.** Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

**Goal 15.** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss

**Goal 17:** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development (Goal 17 is reviewed each year)
Arab Forum for Sustainable Development (AFSD)
Regional Preparations for High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

Arab High Level Forum on Sustainable Development
Amman, 2-4 April 2014

Second Session of the Arab High-Level Forum on Sustainable Development
Manama, 5-7 May 2015
* Included Side Event on Water for Sustainable Development

Adoption of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
New York, September 2015

2016 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development
Amman, 29-30 May 2016

2017 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development
Morocco, 3-5 May 2017

2018 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development
Beirut, 24-26 April 2018
* Includes special session on water and the SDGs

AFSD 2018 Theme: Natural Resources, Future Generations and the Common Good
National Reviews:
✓ Egypt and Morocco are the two Arab countries who participated in the 2016 reviews
✓ Qatar and Jordan participated in the 2017 reviews
✓ 8 Arab States participating in 2018 reviews: Bahrain, Egypt, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, State of Palestine, Sudan, United Arab Emirates

Countries will benefit from in-depth technical examination of specific concerns especially as implementation challenges, technology gaps, level of development, cultural issues and thematic networks are often common across countries within a region

Opportunity to review progress against specific regional priorities such as water – although generally covers all SDGs, not only those in thematic focus for that HLPF session, thus provides opportunity for highlighting integration across SDGs at country-level

FUR and support for VNRs being provided by ESCWA for Arab States, and includes consultations on mainstreaming water issues highlighted in 2030 Agenda in VNRs and national development strategies and plans.
Regional Preparatory Meeting on Water Issues for the 2018 AFSD and HLPF

Revised Outcome Statement for Consultation & Submission to AFSD and HLPF

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Regional Priorities</th>
<th>Means of Implementation</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Water security &amp; IWRM under water scarcity &amp; stress</td>
<td>1. Regional cooperation</td>
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<td>2. Enhancing cooperation on shared water resources management</td>
<td>2. National coherence and coordination across sectors, including through IWRM tools</td>
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<td>3. Adapting to climate change and reducing risk of exposure to natural disasters</td>
<td>3. Technology transfer and investment</td>
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<td>4. Improving water related infrastructure and services for all</td>
<td>4. Financing</td>
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<td>5. Capacity building</td>
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Plus other
Arab
Ministerial
Water
Council
HLPF
Working
Group
members
2030 Agenda
Selected Milestones for 2018

Jan
- AMWC-TC & Executive Bureau Sessions: HLPF Resolutions
- Regional Preparatory Meeting on Water 28-29 March

Feb

Mar
- Launch of Water Action Decade
- AFSD 5th session 24-26 April

Apr
- Regional Preparatory Meeting on Water 28-29 March
- AMWC Session

May
- SDG report on SDGs to UN General Assembly

Jun
- Voluntary National Reviews (including Lebanon)

July
- HLPF 6th Session
- Launch of UN-Water SDG6 Synthesis report

Aug

Sept

Oct
- Drafting of 2nd Arab Sustainable Development Report

Global Milestone
Regional & State Milestones
UNGA Resolution 71/222 proclaims the period 2018 to 2028 the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development” to further improve cooperation, partnership and capacity development in response to the ambitious 2030 Agenda.

Objectives of the Decade are to:

- **Advance sustainable development & IWRM** for achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives;
- **Energize implementation** and promotion of programmes and projects; and
- **Mobilize action**, cooperation and partnerships at all levels to achieve internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**UN-Water** Task Force prepared UN Secretary-General **Action Plan for Water Action Decade**.

- ESCWA serves as a member of the Task Force and will be collaborating with national, regional and global partners to advance the objectives of the Water Action Decade.
Thank you!

Resources:

https://www.unescwa.org/events/arab-preparatory-meeting-water-issues-2018
https://www.unescwa.org/events/arab-forum-sustainable-development-2018
www.wateractiondecade.org
www.escwa.un.org

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