

**11<sup>th</sup> Session of the ESCWA Committee on Water Resources**  
Amman, 26-27 March 2015

**Actions taken in the field of water resources since the  
tenth session of the Committee on Water Resources**  
**Implementation of activities under the ESCWA programme of work**

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia



UNITED NATIONS

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**ESCWA**

## Biennium Work Programmes: Expected Accomplishments

### Biennium 2012-2013

- (a) Enhanced technical, human and institutional capacities of member countries to develop and implement national, subregional and regional **policies, strategies and action plans for the sustainable management of energy and water resources** in line with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation
- (b) Enhanced capacity of Governments and other public and private stakeholders to **incorporate climate change responses into sectoral strategies and plans**, and to stimulate financial and technical support for the inclusion of climate change issues into plans and strategies
- (c) Strengthened capacity in member countries to develop and apply best practices and plans for improving sustainable agriculture and rural livelihood and increasing the productivity and competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises, in support of **achieving MDGs**

### Biennium 2014-2015

- (b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to develop and implement national, subregional and regional **policies, strategies and action plans for the sustainable management of water, energy and land**.
- (c) Enhanced **food, water and energy security** of the Arab region to sustain long-term development and preserve the achievements in poverty alleviation and human development by **promoting regional cooperation on shared water resources, energy networks and land management**
- (d) Enhanced resilience and crisis management capacity of member countries to absorb and respond to the impact of crises, including the development of subregional and regional mechanisms for a **coordinated response to climate change and natural crises**

## Biennium Work Programmes: Expected Accomplishments

- **Climate change**
- **Shared water resources management**
- **MDGs to SDGs**
- **Sustainable Water, Energy and Land Management /  
Water-Energy Security Nexus**

## Climate Change

### Field Projects

- **RICCAR**
- **ACCWaM - Support to RICCAR and UNDA CCA/IWRM project component**
- **UNDA: Developing the Capacities of Arab Countries for Climate Change Adaptation by Applying IWRM Tools**
- **UNDA: Strengthening National Capacities to Manage Water Scarcity and Drought in West Asia and North Africa**

### Advisory Services

- **1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Training Workshop on Capacity Development for Climate Change Negotiations for the Arab Countries (Amman, Oct 2013; Amman, May 2014; Kuwait, Nov 2014) – with LAS**

## Climate Change

### Studies and Reports

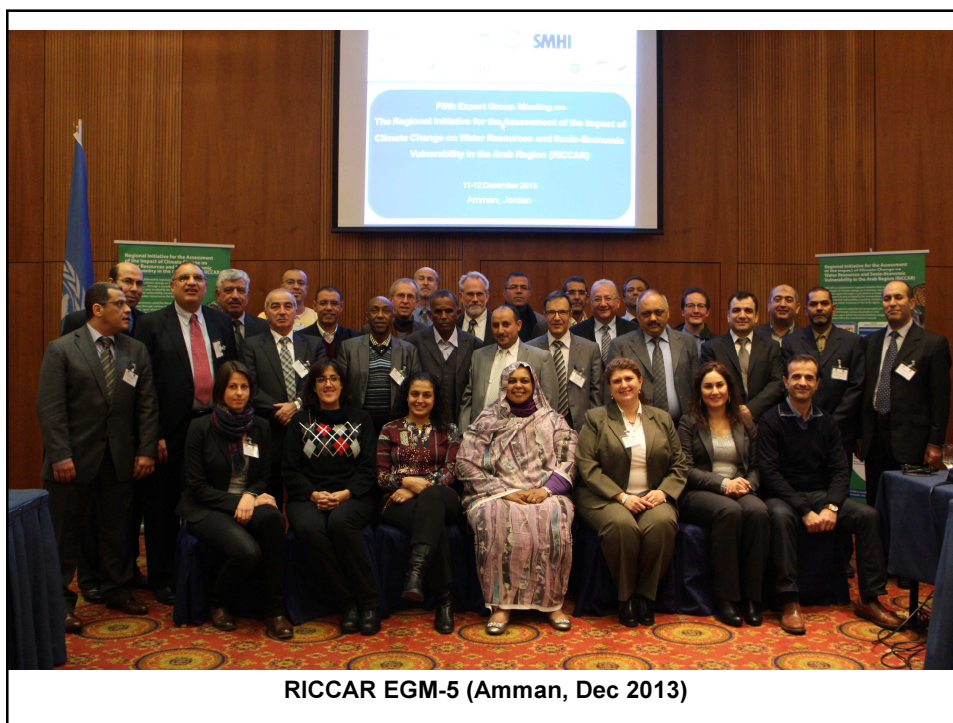
- Guide on Climate Change Negotiations for representatives and Negotiators from Arab Countries (2013)

### Technical Materials

- RICCAR Brochure (2013) – updated to reflect FAO as new partner
- RICCAR Fact Sheet (2014) – Projected Extreme Climate Indices for the Arab Region

### Meetings and Workshops

- RICCAR EGM-5 (Amman, Dec 2013)
- RICCAR EGM-6 (Cairo, Dec 2014)
- RICCAR Scoping Meeting for the Establishment of the Arab Climate Outlook Forum (Amman, Oct 2014) – with WMO and JMD
- RICCAR/ACCWaM Training Workshop on Applying the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Methodology in the Arab Region (Beirut, May 2014)
- VA Task Force on Sensitivity Indicators (Beirut, Oct 2014)
- VA Task Force on Adaptive Capacity Indicators
- ACSAD-ESCWA Regular Meetings on the VA (12 between 2013 & 2014)



RICCAR EGM-5 (Amman, Dec 2013)



**RICCAR EGM-6 (Cairo, Dec 2014)**



**RICCAR Scoping Meeting for the Establishment of an ArabCOF  
(Amman, Oct 2014)  
High-Level Panel of Directors of Arab Meteorological Services**



## Climate Change

### Meetings and Workshops

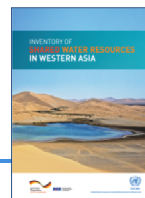
#### ➤ Substantive Support to LAS Ministerial Councils

- AMWC – Regular reporting on RICCAR progress (Cairo, June 2013; Cairo, Jan 2014; Doha, May 2014; Cairo, Jan 2015)
- Arab Permanent Committee for Meteorology (Marrakesh, March 2013; Kuwait, March 2014; Jeddah, 2015 in April)
- LAS Subcommittee on Climate and Climate Change meetings (2013, 2014, 2015)

#### ➤ Substantive input to global and regional forums

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Arab Water Forum (Cairo, Dec 2014) – ESCWA coordinated 3 sessions with partners on Climate Change (with ACSAD, GIZ, FAO); Shared Water (LAS, CEDARE, AMW); and Moving from MDGs to SDGs (CEDARE, GWP-Med)

## Shared Water Resources Management



### Field Projects

- ESCWA-BGR Cooperation - ended June 2013

### Advisory Services

- Jordan River Basin Dialogue (Amman, April 2014) – with Ministry of Water and Irrigation of Jordan
- High-Level Workshop on Euphrates River Under Stress: Towards Tripartite Cooperation for Sound River Management (London, June 2014) – with Chatham House and Prince of Wales International Sustainability Unit.
- Advancing Hydro-Diplomacy Skills for Shared Water Resources Negotiations (Cairo, Dec 2014) – with LAS, CEDARE, AWC

### Studies and Reports

- Inventory of Shared Water Resources in Western Asia (2013)

### Technical Materials

- Brochure/CD-ROM and Dedicated Website on Inventory of Shared Water Resources in Western Asia ([www.waterinventory.org](http://www.waterinventory.org))

## Shared Water Resources Management

### Meetings and Workshops

- Global and Regional Launch of Inventory of Shared Water Resources in Western Asia (Stockholm and Beirut, 2013)
- **Substantive Support to the AMWC**
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Consultative Meeting on the Draft Legal Framework for Shared Water Resources in the Arab Region (Cairo, April 2014) with LAS
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Consultative Meeting on the Draft Legal Framework for Shared Water Resources in the Arab Region planned for (Cairo, 28-29 April 2015) with LAS
- **Substantive input to global and regional forums**
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Arab Water Forum (Cairo, Dec 2014) – ESCWA coordinated session on Shared Water with LAS, CEDARE, AWC

## “Shared Water Resources Management in the Arab Region”

Tuesday 3 September, 14:00-17:30, Room K11



**WORLD  
WATER  
WEEK**  
in Stockholm  
September 1-6, 2015

  
ESCWA

**BGR** Bundesanstalt für  
Geowissenschaften  
und Rohstoffe



  
german  
cooperation  
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT



Global Launch of Inventory – World Water Week – Stockholm, September 2013



Global Launch of Inventory – World Water Week – Stockholm, September 2013





Global Launch of Inventory – World Water Week – Stockholm, September 2013



Regional Launch of Inventory – United Nations Day – Beirut, October 2013

## MDGs to SDGs

### Field Projects

- **MDG+ Initiative**
  - MDG+ Launching Workshop (Beirut, 2013)
  - MDG+ Advisory Board Meeting (Beirut, 2013)
  - MDG+ Second Regional Workshop (Dead Sea, Jordan, January 2015)
  - National workshops
    - Doha, Manama, Tunis and Dubai in 2013 ; Algiers in 2014.
  - Pilot Field Surveys completed in Mauritania, Palestine, Sudan & Yemen

### Studies and Reports

- **ESCWA Water Development Report 5: Issues n Sustainable Water Resources Management and Water Services in the Arab Region (2013)**
- **Second Arab Sustainable Development Report – water brief (Dec 2013) in forthcoming ESCWA publication**



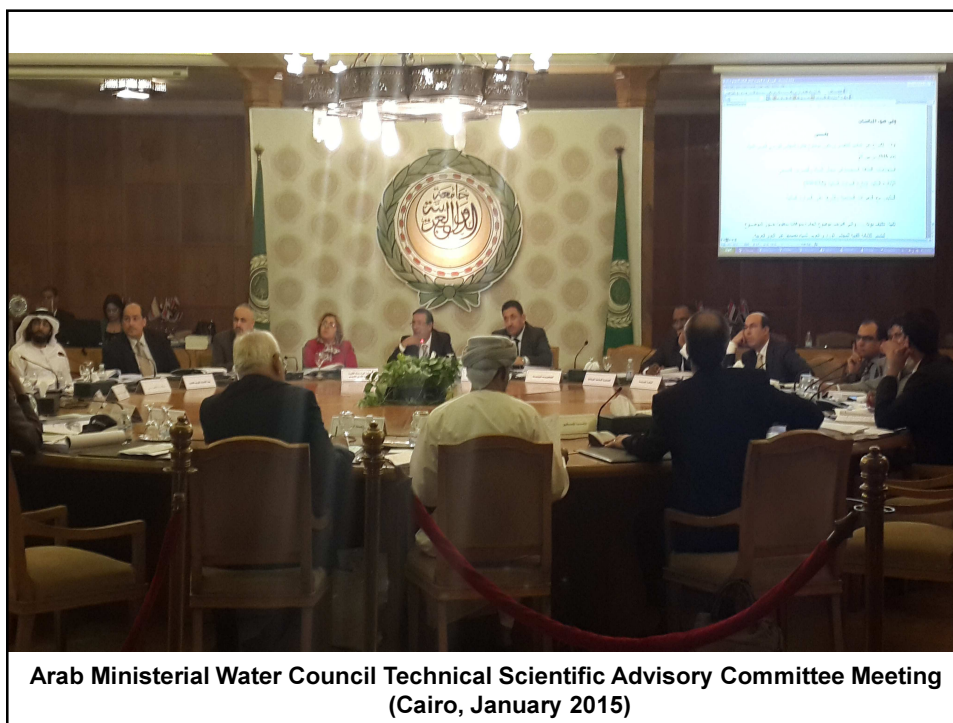
**MDG+ Initiative – National Workshops – 2014**



## MDGs to SDGs

### Meetings and Workshops

- Seminar on Water and Sanitation Services in the Arab Region: Challenges and Opportunities (Amman, March 2014)
- **Substantive Support to the AMWC**
  - Reporting to AMWC on MDG+ Initiative (Cairo, June 2013; Doha, May 2014 with ACWUA)
  - AMWC Ministerial Session presentation on the SDGs preparatory process (Doha, May 2014)
- **Substantive input to global and regional forums**
  - ACUWA 6h Best Practices Conference on Standardization and Certification in Managing Water Utilities in the Arab Region (Algiers, Dec 2013)
- **Substantive support to UN Coordination bodies on water, environment**
  - ESCWA regularly contributing and commenting on SDG preparations through UN-Water, UN-DESA Coordination mechanism, SG Reporting



Arab Ministerial Water Council Technical Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting  
(Cairo, January 2015)

## Sustainable management of water, energy & land and the water-energy security nexus

### Field Projects

- Arab Integrated Water Resources Management Network (AWARENET)
  - Cap-Net Network Managers meetings (2013, 2014)
  - Water Integrity Working Group support to water integrity project

### Studies and Reports

- ESCWA Water Development Report 6: Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus in the Arab Region (Forthcoming in 2015)

### Technical Materials

- Guide on the use of the unified template for indicators and criteria for the implementation of the MDG+ Initiative related to water and sanitation (2014), including e-tool for data input and management
- Brochure: Water and Energy in Arab Region for Sustainable Development (2014)

## Sustainable management of water, energy & land and the water-energy security nexus

### Advisory Services

Country	Services provided
Kuwait	Presentation entitled "Managed Aquifer Recharge and Aquifer Storage Recovery - Examples from the Region" during a workshop on Aquifer Storage and Recovery (Kuwait, 2-4 April 2013)
Oman	Training workshop on Mathematical Methods in ArcGIS Applications for Analysis and Display of Hydrological Data and Information (Muscat, 22-24 September 2013)
	Presentation entitled "Regional Experiences in Managed Aquifer Recharge and Aquifer Storage and Recovery: Opportunity also for Oman?" during the Third Oman Power and Water Summit (Muscat, 6 May 2013)
	Presentation entitled "Water and Sustainable Development in the Tourism Industry: Examples from Nizwa" and opening speech in the seminar on Water and Sustainable Tourism (Nizwa, 24-25 September 2013)
Qatar	Paper and presentation entitled "Food Security, Water Security, Improved Food Value Chains for a more Sustainable Socioeconomic Development" in the <i>Sharaka</i> conference on European Union-Gulf Cooperation Council Regional Security Cooperation: Lessons Learned and Future Challenges (Doha, 28-31 October 2013)
	Assistance in selecting potential candidates for a three-months consultancy on the draft executive by-law for national water (November 2013)
United Arab Emirates	Mission to Dubai (27-28 May 2013) and a concept note for a joint study on water for socioeconomic development in the United Arab Emirates: policy options and scenarios

## Sustainable management of water, energy & land and the water-energy security nexus

### Advisory Services (cont)

Country	Services
Iraq	Presentation on "Water Resource Challenges in the Middle East" in a national workshop on governance in Iraq organized by the Carnegie Middle East Center (Beirut, 9 April 2014)
Jordan	Presentation on "Water and Intergenerational Justice in the Arab Region" in the conference on Social Water Studies in the MENA Region: State of the Art and Perspectives, held at the German Jordanian University (Madaba, 28-29 September 2014)
Lebanon	Presentation on "Food Security, Water Security, Improved Food Value Chains for Sustainable Socioeconomic Development" in the seminar on The Nexus Approach: The Road to Water, Energy and Food Security in the Arab World (Beirut, 22 January 2014) Participation in the 37th meeting of the Water Sector Coordination Group and presentation on "Coping with Water Scarcity in Lebanon?" (Beirut, 20 March 2014)
Morocco	Participation in the 41st Congress of the International Association of Hydrogeologists on Groundwater: Challenges and Strategies and partial sponsoring of the participation of four ESCWA member States representatives; two presentations on Managed Aquifer Recharge and the <i>Inventory of Shared Water Resources in Western Asia</i> (Marrakesh, 15-19 September 2014)
Oman	Paper and presentation on "Treated Wastewater as an Unconventional Water Resource: Examples from the MENA Region" in the International Seminar on Use of Unconventional Water in Urban Water Management (Muscat, 24-26 February 2014)
Syrian Arab Republic	Substantive support to the Water Working Group of the National Agenda of the Future of Syria, which is an ESCWA project (Amman, 18-19 January 2014)

## Sustainable management of water, energy & land and the water-energy security nexus

### Meetings and Workshops

- World Water Day 2014: Water-Energy Nexus: Issues and Challenges (Beirut, March 2014) with UNIDO, ALI, AFIAL at Order of the Press
- World Water Day 2015: Water and Sustainable Development with Lebanese Prime Ministry and AFIAL focusing on women and water (Beirut, March 2015)
- World Water Day 2015 (Oman): Regional Advisor in Ministry Event
  - Substantive Support to the AMWC
    - Hosted 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Meetings of the Arab Water Security Strategy Action Plan Working Group (Beirut, June 213; Sept 2013)
    - Reporting to AMWC TC meetings (Cairo, Jan 2014; Doha, May 2014; Cairo, Jan 2015)
  - Substantive input to global and regional forums
    - ACWUA Board of Directors Meeting (Algiers, 2014; Dead Sea, 2015) – ESCWA serves as member of ACWUA Board of Directors
    - 9<sup>th</sup> Advisory Board Meeting of the IWRM German-Arab Masters of Science Program (Amman, Jan 2014) – ESCWA serves as Deputy Chair of Program
    - FAO Near East and North Africa Land and Water Days – Seminar on Transboundary Water Resources with UNESCO (Amman, Dec 2013)
    - Inception Meeting of GEF Transboundary Waters Assessment Program (TWAP) on Aquifers (Italy, May 2013)



**World Water Day 2014 – Water and Energy Nexus Event – Beirut, March 2014**



**World Water Day 2015 – Water and Sustainable Development: Women & Water Serail – Beirut, March 2015**



## Sustainable management of water, energy & land and the water-energy security nexus

### Meetings and Workshops

- **Substantive input to global and regional forums (continued)**
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Water Resource Horizon Conference on Water Scarcity (Berlin, 2013)
  - First Arab States Regional South-South Development EXPO (Doha, Feb 2014) – where LAS Nexus initiative launched & ESCWA Session held on SDGs and MDG+ Initiative
  - Regional Advisor attended various meetings on groundwater and shared aquifers in the MENA region (Germany, May 2014; Beirut, June 2014) on to disseminate Inventory
  - Stockholm World Water Week 2014 Sessions on the Nexus (2 seminars)
  - Regional Network Meeting on water Data and Knowledge sharing (Amman, November 2014) – to discuss cooperation with AGEDI
- **Substantive support to UN Coordination bodies on water, environment**
  - UN-Water SPM Meetings (Stockholm 2013, 2014)
  - UN-Water Regional-Level Coordination Task Force (2013, 2014)
  - Commission on Sustainable Development – 12<sup>th</sup> Session (NY, Sept 2013)



World Water Week 2015 – MENA Nexus Seminar - Stockholm





**Expert Group Meeting on the Water, Energy, Food Security Nexus in the Arab Region (Amman, March 2015)**

**THANK YOU**

**شكراً**

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia



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**40**  
YEARS