

Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Ministry of Water and Irrigation

Integrated monitoring of water and sanitation related SDG targets - GEMI

Proceedings of the Inception Workshop

Venue: Le Royal Hotel, Amman, Jordan 22-23 May 2016

Organised by UNESCO-IHP & UNHABITAT

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Table of Contents

A. Summary	Conclusions of the Consultation	3
B. Detailed F	Proceedings of Sessions	4
C. Annexes .		17
Annex I	Aide memoire for the workshop & programme	
Annex II	List of Participants	

A. Summary Conclusions of the Inception Workshop

During 22-23 May 2016, The Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MOWI), Government of Jordan convened an inception workshop to launch the GEMI proof-of-concept (POC) in Jordan. The meeting was attended by over 45 participants (see Annex 1) from relevant Ministries, authorities, agencies and partner organisations. The aide memoire for the workshop is given in Annex 2.

After opening statements, MOWI gave an overview of the current situation in Jordan. The participants were presented with the GEMI concept and working groups were established for the different parts of SDG 6 to decide on the indicator development and to put in place an implementation plan for the POC.

There were many discussions about the comprehension of the indicators and it was agreed that more information needs to be presented to the Government focal points for further analysis. There were reservations concerning the monitoring burden and how this could be lessened by ensuring that existing data and methodologies are used where possible. Then it can be decided what type of capacity building is needed to fill the gaps.

One very successful initiative MDG+ was presented and discussed. The initiative combined the political support of governments from the region with the availability of utility data. The initiative was endorsed as a good starting point however there would be a need to harmonize some of the definitions used and MDG+ alone cannot fulfil all the requirements for SDG reporting.

Some concern was expressed on the timeframe for expected outputs, however partners agreed to work rapidly. It was proposed that academia could play a key role in the technical work associated with the indicator development and data collection methods.

In terms of harmonization with national SDG reporting processes, The National Statistical Office explained that an institutional structure was already agreed.

The working groups concluded that with some support, all the proposed indicators could be measured but some may require local adaptation or adjustment. Timeplans were proposed by each group.

In conclusion, The Government agreed put in place the relevant working groups and identify focal points, to work closely with the GEMI task teams in development of the GEMI proof of concept. They also acknowledged that GEMI would be a useful tool for Government of Jordan to present monitoring results in the currently SDG process.

B. Detailed Proceedings of Sessions

Opening Session

The opening session of the workshop commenced with the Jordanian National Anthem followed by the welcoming address of Mr Omar Salameh, as master of ceremonies. He highlighted the honour to host the workshop by the Jordanian Government and mentioned that despite Jordan being in a region where civil strife and the associated refugee crisis dominates, were doing their best to support neighbouring countries.

Dr Graham Alabaster, Representative of UNHABITAT, then continued with his opening comments, highlighting the important of this inter-agency initiative to UNHabitat and the opportunity to work with the Jordanian Government to support the measurement of the SDG water goal. UNhabitat is also responsible for Goal 11 on cities. For us the SDGs are about equity and GEMI provides a great opportunity to engage with a range of stakeholders. The initiative is a great example of the Un family coming together to support member states to come together in a common framework. Jordan as a proof of concept country not only is significant as a regional voice, but has extensive technical capacity in water resources management and reuse to work with GEMI partners. UNhabitat is pleased to co-lead activities in proof of concept phase in Jordan with UNESCO and WHO under the UN water banner.

Ms Costanza Farina, Representative of UNESCO in Jordan followed with her opening remarks. She thanked the Secretary General MOWI and colleagues for hosting the workshop organised by UNHabitat and UNESCO, highlighting how water scarcity has driven Jordan to manage resources efficiently and to be recognized as a leader on the world stage. She also thanked the Government of Switzerland and Germany for their support at a critical time when member states need to focus on the SDGs. Ms Farina highlighted how Jordan has been at the forefront of SDGs and is now in the limelight to develop the methodologies and to promote GEMI as a novel way to establish a global baseline for all parts of the water goal. UNESCO took the opportunity to commend UN colleagues for working "as one" to strengthen national efforts. She also highlights how GEMI fits very well into the roadmap of mainstreaming the SDGs into national planning by MOPIC which was recently discussed at a national meeting where the critical need to strengthen monitoring was identified. Ms. Farina stated how the goal of water security at all levels guides UNESCOs work to support policy research and strengthen the science-policy interface. UNESCOs network of offices supports raising the profile of water and the IHP strengthens cooperation and promotes bottom-up processes involving local and regional actors. GEMI promotes this inclusive approach and is consistent with the inclusive approach adopted by member states in development of the SDGs

Mr. Nasredin Hag Elamin, Representative of FAO, Jordan followed with his opening remarks. After thanking The Government of Jordan for hosting the workshop and UNHabitat and UNESCO for organising, he underscored the importance of water management and how with good management scarce resources can be shared equitably. If this is not addressed water quality and food security are affected. This data is also important and can contribute to other development areas, guiding investments and informing decision making. FAO joins the consortia with a common commitment to work togheter to reach these goals and through a improved water information system promote sustaianable developemnt. FAO is committed to work with the GEMI TEAM in Jordan to enhance water use efficiency and make available its longterm expertise in in data collection, including the aquastat database.

Dr. A. Basel Al-Yousfi, Regional Director, WHO/CEHA, Jordan then delivered his opening comments and welcomed the workshop as a first step to facilitate the dialogue to test methodologies for sdg 6.

He mentioned that WHO are please to participate together with UNHabitat and UNESCO, with support of The Governments of Switzerland and Germany. Dr Al-Yousfi underscored the importance of water and sanitation to public health in combating diseases and malnutrition. He mentioned that although the MDG for water had been reached globally we had failed to cover the most needy and in the spirit of the SGDs of "leaving no one behind" we can address the inequalities. Both water security issues and public health are complicated and issues such as pollution, ecosystems and competition between actors are to be considered. In the region although sanitation has increased from 46 % to 79 %, many people are still lacking and open defacation still practised. This situation has been further exacerbated by conflict. The data gap has to some extend been filled by JMP and GLAAS but needs to be extended. Data is lifeblood of decision-making and the SDGs present a good opportunity to include for example, wastewater use and water scarcity, for which Jordan can be a champion. We must ensure that WASH is kept up to date. WHO looks forward to work with Jordan and to contribute to the new challenges, in coop with agencies, under the unwater programme

Mr Patrice Moix, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) followed with his opening address. He highlighted that there are many regions in the world who live under water stress and by 2050, this will be 80% of the world population. There is clearly a need for focussed attention to water monitoring which can assist in reducing the stress through better management, less waste and pollution, higher productivity etc. Mr Moix mentioned that the MDG initiative had the impact of activating politically, to get things done and supported timely appropriate decision making. He pointed out that investments in the water sector represent between 15-18% of global investments, whereas its monitoring only receives a fraction of a %. SDCs contributions to GEMI mean that Switzerland invests 4% to water monitoring. It is essential that water sector monitoring is expanded and GEMI provides the missing part of the global architecture. Switzerland supports the idea of the inter-governmental panel on water to ensure systems wide coordination and coherence. It has also invested significantly in WASH with approx. 100 million CHF last year. In closing he reminded the meeting that the SDGs present a great opportunity to support the development of water strategies. He thanked The Government of Jordan for their hosting and for the efforts of all agencies.

The final address of the opening session was given by H.E. Eng. Tawfiq Habashneh, Acting Secretary General, Ministry of Water and Irrigation. He started by welcoming the participants, on behalf of minister of water and irrigation. He mentioned that Jordan is experiencing a severe water shortage, with fresh water resources of 72 m3 per capita per year. This has been an on-going crisis and exacerbated by regional instability and demographics. Additionally, as the region is developing, Industrial water demand expected to increase 300 % the next 10 yrs. Increased domestic water supply is directly linked to national water security. In this respect the SDG 6 for water is critical and The Jordanian Government fully endorses the efforts of UN agencies for GEMI. We very much welcome global environmental management framework and for monitoring SDG 6. Key issues to be addressed is sustained access to resources although increase scarcity, need to address and identify challenges. Jordan has demonstrated success despite challenges. This is why we participated in the first GEMI meeting in Geneva 2015 and were one of the first countries to indicate our interest to be a proof of concept country are happy to be one of the first to participate in GEMI proof of concept. H.E proposed that the proposed this meeting will set the foundation to collect data for GEMI and other purposes and is important to develop a common approach and better understanding of the targets and indicators, focussing on data needs and methodologies required. This will require us to designate particular focal points within government. He also underscored the importance of a progressive monitoring approach, that Jordan can start with a reasonable set of indicators, which are improved over time. In closing he highlighted the role that Jordan wants to play In the region both in n supporting neighbouring countries, building on their stability. He acknowledged the support from United Nations, our donors and from all our friends and wished all participants a pleasant stay in Jordan.

Plenary Session I: National Institutions and processes and GEMI alignment

This presentation was delivered by Eng Ali Subah, MOWI. He stated that Jordan was one of the three most water scarce countries In the world and is downstream in terms of both surface and groundwater flow. Underground sources are not easy to capture. Current demand is 1400 mcm demand however only 832 mcm available (rainfall, but most evaporate). The annual per capita availability is less than 90 m3 (which used to be 140 before the Syrian crisis and influx of refugees). The Government still however manages to provide people with the minimum needed. The Government are now preparing a new water new national strategy, which will encompass new water policies and a capital investment plan 2016-2025. Many of the elements of the previous water strategy (2008-2022) had still not been finalised. He called for the fact that an IWRM approach is very necessary and previously, every ministry prepared their own strategy without looking at others. The capital investment plan is new and will be critical to achieve the SDGs. Additional water services projects are planned including the Red Sea - Dead Sea conveyance project. Our country is one of the most efficient in using every drop. There are plans for increasing the number of dams our current capacity is around 355 MCM. We are also striving to increase efficiency. We were on schedule to recover 100% of our O & M costs, however the refugee crisis meant we achieved 70%. Desalination although Rather distant (300 km away) may be our only solution for the long term. The current situation In Jordan will not be sustainable. In terms of indicators Jordan have a special interest in reuse and wastewater will play a key role In our water budget up to 2015 the amount recycled will be increased to a significantly. We have made provision to try and monitor this with our indicator for water substitution. In addition to capital projects, the presented highlighted the need to also address the reduction nod unaccounted for water. Currently levels of groundwater abstraction need to be reduced in Jordan. We also need to give attention to improving energy efficiency through optimization of pumping and increasing the use of renewable energy. In terms of wastewater collection, we plan to increase sewer connections. This will also be affected by climate change. Overall projects to increase per capita availability to 105 I/p/d will cost 540 million JOD per year – today we invest 400 million per year

Presentation on GEMI (UNHABITAT and UNESCO) and discussion

Graham Alabaster and Alexander Mariagakis then gave a standard presentation on GEMI and the proposed objectives of the proof of concept phase.

<u>Presentation on (MDG+) The Regional Initiative for Establishing an Improved Monitoring and Reporting on Access to Water Supply and Sanitation Services in the Arab Region – Lessons Learned</u>

Dr Carol Chefane UNESCWA and Dr Jarrah AlZubi gave a presentation on the MGD+ Initiative. This was developed as a result of a ministerial mandate and the desire to develop a monitoring framework that addresses not only wastewater and water scarcity but also quality, quantity and costs. The indicators focus on water supply and sanitation. The methodologies were developed but just as important is the supporting institutional structure. ACWUA have been instrumental in developing and have ensured sustainability. In addition to the institutional support from ACWUA, political endorsement from The Arab Water Council, through the adoption of a formal resolution. The initiative has a series of national focal points, board members and included the statistical offices. The national focal point in each country supports data collection and send to the secretariat in an official report. A range of stakeholders are involved including private sector and utilities. Most of the data is from utilities. The first report was published in 2015. The second is available online. One

important aspect of the data is that it is not contested, the ministries have aready approved the data. The initiative is collecting data for the SDG baseline during 2017-2019 and is already underway. Some 13 Arab states are involved including 189 utilities. The data already shows there is significant diversity in the region, on water use, levels of chlorination, tariffs etc.

Responses from Government of Jordan and technical experts Key issues for consideration

The following session provided an opportunity for the Government and technical experts to give feedback on the presentations. The first question asked was if the timing for GEMI was realistic. The response was that the timing is aspirational but there is a need to ensure that all countries are broadly following the same timeline.

It was pointed out that the efforts from ESCWA will be very useful in establishing the baseline for the SDG but there will need to be some harmonization and In particular the comparisons with JMP data.

A comment was made that the inclusion of academia from Jordan is important as they can contribute to some of the technical components of the indicators. The question was also raised about the indicators and on what basis they were chosen, and could they be customised for Jordan?

The response given was that the broad indicators are defined by the statisticians and have been agreed at political level, however countries are at liberty to develop and measure more indicators for their specific purposes, driven by local needs. It was also pointed out that there are specific deadlines to be met on MDG reporting and overly complex indicators sets would make the approach too complicated and unsustainable.

In response a further participant mentioned that although comparability is important between countries, it is also important to be able to track progress In a country over time and have an institutional robustness to do this. The harmonization is mainly about global compatibility. Although the timeplan is ambitious, this is modifiable but currently focuses on methodology testing and setting the correct institutional environment.

One participant congratulated the MDG+ initiative on their results, however there was a need to address the differences I national/regional/global methodologies. There was a need to look at alignment now rather than In the future. It was hoped that there would be an opportunity to discuss these issues In the working groups. The question was also raised about the inequities (ensuring no one is left behind) and water quality testing. ACWUA responded that the water quality and raw water was very important and should be considered. The MDG+ initiative was proud of its acheivements.

The MOWI asked for more information about the targets and indicators. It was pointed out that the goals and targets have been set and agreed by governments. There is some flexibility on the indicators but not very much. It was also mentioned that if countries are generally unhappy with the process there would be a need for further negotiation. It was pointed out by GEMI that we did more detailed indicators but it was considered unrealistic due to the demands of overall SDG monitoring.

One participant mentioned that the statistical offices are still discussing the tiering of the indicators and their technical feasibility. One critical element will be the capacity-building needs. There was a general comment that although universality of indicators is important it was recognized that countries and regional will have differing priorities and needs. For example the League of Arab States will need regional indicators which take account of the migrants etc. Some indicators will not be very

relevant for some countries. There is also the problem that for some countries in civil strife, information will not be available.

The meeting widely appreciated that different countries will be at different levels and part of the purpose of the POC, was to see where countries are on the monitoring "ladder". It was mentioned that everything to do with national monitoring had to be anchored In national strategies. National target-setting was part of the strategy and should not be confused with indicators. The purpose of the "monitoring ladder" or progressive monitoring is to learn what is most required and most useful from countries, without being too cumbersome. It is up to countries to decide how far they go.

One possible challenge that was presented was the integration of relevant line ministries, who owns the data and how the institutional process at national level can be designed. This will vary from country to country. Benchmarking initiatives are already available. The important of field surveys was also discussed. The inclusions of communities and their needs and is most important. Data from these sources and administrative records must be ratified by the national statistical offices.

The Representative of the Government of Jordan statistical office highlighted the point that in Jordan each ministry appoints a focal person to work in an inter-ministry team. This allows for good cross-fertilization. These teams have an inter-sectoral team leader. The modification of surveys by NSO are done with the support of technical experts

Day 2 Plenary Session II: Presentation of SDG targets and Indicators and proposed methodologies

The session started with a short summary of the previous days proceedings. It was considered that there should be more discussion on the indicators and how they are further developed at local level. It was considered that the timeline is ambitious and will be different for the different indicators. Finding a compromise is important. Good examples of using utility data were presented in the region. The importance of both the data quality and the institutional mechanisms to collect the data were noted.

After the overview, each of the individual indicators and suggested methodologies were presented as follows:

Target 6.1 & Target 6.2 WHO
Target 6.3 UNHABITAT, WHO, UNEP
Target 6.4 FAO
Target 6.5 UNESCO, UNECE, UNEP
Target 6.6 UNEP

Following the presentations there was a general discussion on the outcomes. There was a general comment that the level of detail was perhaps a little too much at this stage and participants did not have a chance to read.

The monitoring issue is very important in Jordan. It is the foundation for longer-term sustainability of the water sector and linked to appropriate strategies and investment. Sufficient training and capacity building must be there. Many actors agreed that although the targets and goals have been set, there is a need to be clear on definitions and on standards. For example "secondary treatment"

needs to be formally defined. In Jordan, a national team must be established with focal points for all the targets.

There was a question on the support to be provided by the GEMI initiative. The response indicated that once national focal points have been established, backstopping could be provided, however national consultants would also be suggested to support Government implementation. The critical issue is the institutional pegging.

In terms of prioritization, it was deemed important that firstly the country decides on its priority indicators before assessing the capacity needs. The indicators need to be understood first then countries can set the target values for the indicators as part of their national planning.

Group Session III: Development of national implementation plans

In this session working groups were established as follows: Group I Target team 6.3; Group 2 Target 6.4; Group 3 Target team 6.5; and Group 4 Target Team 6.6. Each team was asked to discuss the following issues and prepare key messages to feed back to the plenary.

- Measurability issues
- Identification of focal points
- Engagement of National Statistical offices
- Institutional coordination
- Opportunities for earth OBS and big data
- Synergy with existing national efforts and workplan

In the final stages of the group work, each group was asked to prepare a roadmap to report on each indicator by end of 2016

Plenary Session V: Feedback of working groups and scale up

The concluding session kicked off with a panel discussion on challenges and opportunities for regional scale-up. This was moderated by Graham Alabaster and comprised:

- Representative of the Regional Office of UNEP Dr Diane Klaimi
- Representative of ACWUA, Eng. Khaldon Khashman, SG ACWUA
- Representative of Regional Office WHO, Dr Basel Al Yousfi.

Each panellist was asked to give a short introductory statement. From UNEPs side there are many opportunities that they wish to see in regional scale-up. They note that Ministries of Environment should also be key players especially in the areas of ecosystem protection. The representative from UNEP outlined a number of initiatives in their ongoing programme of work which were relevant to GEMI. She made a specific reference to the work on ECOSystems. The representative welcomed the collaboration between Ministry of Water and Ministry of Environment and reminded participants that many officers were currently in Nairobi at UNEPs Environmental Assembly. UNEP has also been providing technical advice on capacity building and the use of non-conventional water indicators on desalination

The second opening statement was from Dr Al Yousfi who reported that WHO were pleased to be co-leading the work on GEMI with other colleagues. He cited the prevalence of cholera and other water-related diseases and how the expertise of WHO is really needed and offered to the project. His organization has a variety of projects on the safe use of wastewater, and have been leading a consortia with UNDP, UNESCO and FAO on water scarcity. He underscored the importance of not "reinventing the wheel" at national level and building on what has been achieved before. An essential component of the SDGs is to leave no one behind. Some countries in the region have seen serious declines in access to water and sanitation services. It was important, he said to realise that this effort could not be done by one Ministry and needed a multi-sectoral approach. The National Statistical offices were In effect the gate keepers. In conclusion, he offered that WHO can assist in harmonizing the fragmented monitoring frameworks and bring together JMP, GEMI and GLAAS.

The third opening statement was from H.E. Eng. Khaldon Khashman He mentioned that there were many similarities In the region and that there was already duplication of effort. He recounted a recent assignment on capacity building which was duplicated across many countries and effectively yielded the same results and needs across the region. He further explained the institutional process by which national teams (including NSO) collected the data. A common system was used to collect the data with the same tablet. In addition to the data collection, the process involved members of different utilities across the region sitting together and exchanging ideas. The reduce the amount of mistakes. The resulting programme has now more than 16 publications produced but also guidelines. The transfer of this knowledge is very important. In conclusion, her called for increased regional cooperation and requested that the national teams will need support, both politically and technically/administratively.

The Moderator then asked the Panel: What were the main challenges in moving to the next level of implementation, should we look more closely at indicator complexity and should regional workshops be a priority?

The panel member for UNEP indicated that there was still a need to brief member states on more detail on GEMI. There is also a requirement to assess the needed capacity to deliver. It is highly likely that as the knowledge grows many will be interested to gain more information and possibly support. The capacity of universities and other stakeholders should also be recognised in this respect.

The WHO panel member felt it important to seek further guidance from member states on their interpretation of the indicators bearing in mind that harmonization globally is important for comparative purposes. There is also the issue of addressing relevant parts of the health SDG 3. The member states will suffer a huge burden, considering the large number of indicators overall.

The representative from ACWUA indicated that all countries should have their own plans and strategies; indicators should be developed at the national levels, and the work allocate to responsible focal points who work together. Guidance from either UN or partners will be required and possibly some form of "helpdesk" needed.

There are advantages to be had in focussing on political level actors who are well disposed to water and its monitoring. In many countries they report using more water that they produce, this is not possible, and shows that the monitoring systems are flawed. Workshop are needed to design the process, and agree on workplan but the actual work in small teams. In our MDG+ initiative, some countries needed help and relied on support from neighbouring countries. Another important issue that we must be sensitive to is the level of resources available in some countries. It is highly likely that after a slow initial start, they will reach a point where they have reliable data.

Eng Ali Suba contributed to the discussions, highlighting the need for political will. As a first step a position paper contributes to this cause, encouraging discussion on the indicators. It is important that we first look at what we have and to see if the way we collect this data can (or needs) to be modified. It obviously must address national standards. For some of the indicators there is no data, for others we need to discuss the usefulness and use this to guide our proposed programme of collection of data. Conccerning water and the SDGs in general. Although an umbrella approach is good, it is clearly the responsibility of the ministry of water (MOW) to take the lead. Obviously each UN agency has its priority and although respected, for some of the indicators (like ecosystems in Jordan), they are not top priority. For each of the countries we should be clear what our focus is. We need to map what exists and then decide on the needed support to collect the remainder.

The discussion continued with an agreement to the previous point. The UN has certain expertise but in the end it is up to the countries. There are no "godfathers" There was a difference between countries in the MDG process in that some were successful in managing and collecting their data and some were not. We should not punish any countries. Although the MOW are not so concerned with ecosystems, MOE can chip in MoW is in charge of water, MoE of environment. Better communication and integration is obviously needed.

UNEP commented that the SDGs is a country–led process, and other ministries should be involved. SDGs is about introducing change to the policies, monitoring and improving ecosystems to be improved improves water. Your ministry of environment is at UNEA now to put forward these proposals.

The point was made by WHO that the UN agencies do not claim ownership of the work, but are there to support. On the issue, it was proposed that the current initiative provides the opportunity to combining three fragmented monitoring frameworks instead of working on new approaches.

The point was made from the floor that there is still confusion on the indicators between different countries. As of today we don't have a joint understanding of the jmp indicators. Are the indicators enough to capture what happens on the ground? A lot of lessons from MDGs can be incorporated in the new monitoring arena.

The point was made that generally MDG indicators are well known. The MDG+ initiative added additional indicators as mandated by the League of Arab States. In some countries it is difficult to match up the additional indicators, and in these situations they can be modified. This is eminently achievable if the design of the monitoring framework is correct.

It was mentioned that there are a much larger number of indicators and that national agendas will need a step-by-step approach to reflect the SDGs and then it will be easier with monitoring. The knowledge is available but needs to be formalized. Additionally, all indicators and targets are interconnected and we need to consider maybe a nexus approach.

The final comment related to the fact that Jordan as a pilot is in a special situation with scarcity and refugees and little money, and discussions on regional issues maybe a little premature.

Plenary Session VI: Concluding session

Each working group selected a representative to present the results of the group discussions based around the following issues:

- Measurability issues;
- Identification of focal points;
- Engagement of National Statistical offices;
- Institutional coordination;
- Opportunities for earth OBS and big data; and
- Synergy with existing national efforts and workplan

6.3 Wastewater and water quality

6.3.1 household wastewater and sanitation

Identification of focal points and Institutional coordination

Legally MoH lead but must work with national team including MoE, WAJ (main data holders), NSO

Measurability issues

WWTP – good effluent and performance data for all plants. Leakage data not available On-site – Number and quantity of septic tank emptying trucks possible from municipal data. Spot check of septic tanks to understand safe treatment onsite?

New question in household surveys needed

Synergy with existing national efforts and work plans

In line with existing regulations but need to harmonize global and MDG+ methods considering especially "no one left behind" and "safe"

Engagement of National Statistical offices

Yes – some differences in methods need to be resolved.

Workplans to test methods and External support needs

Definitions of "safe" needs further discussion, draft tools are possible, national consultant for all indicators with international technical backstopping

6.3.1 industrial wastewater

Identification of focal points and Institutional coordination

Discharges to Sewer WAJ

Discharges to environment - MoE

Measurability issues

Existing geo-referenced inventory of industries discharging to sewer is available Inventory needed for industries discharging to environment

Synergy with existing national efforts and work plans

Nothing to report

Engagement of National Statistical offices

No issues for compliance

Workplans to test methods and External support needs

Tools and national consultant for all indicators with international technical backstopping

6.3.2 Ambient Water Quality

Identification of focal points and Institutional coordination Ministry of Environment

Measurability issues

All basic parameters can be measured; Nitrate is preferred over total nitrogen. Three additional parameters considered: TOC, Algae, Halomethanes

Identification of focal points and Institutional coordination

Done; good institutional cooperation suggestion to establish a national water quality team

Synergy with existing national efforts and work plans

Basically anchored in the Water Strategy and efforts of the MDG+

Engagement of National Statistical offices Fully engaged

Workplans to test methods

Being finalized, needs internal coordination October 2016 seems feasible

External support needs
Yes, to a limited extent

6.4 Water use Efficiency (6.4.1 & 6.4.2)

Identification of focal points and Institutional coordination Ministry of Water and irrigation

Measurability issues

For this indicator there were some consistancies that need checking including:

- Identify irrigated vs rainfed agricultural output
- · Checking ISIC definitions for the service sectort
- Check the ISIC definitions vs national definition

Synergy with existing national efforts and work plans

Engagement of National Statistical offices

Workplans to test methods and External support needs

by end of Ramadan, prepare the draft supply indicator and discuss with FAO. Technical focal point to be confirmed

6.4.2 Indicator as it is not directly relevant to Jordan and the region. A new national supplementary indicator based on water supply to be identified and described

6.5 Integrated water resources management

A group of 8 experts set to a round table and discussed the two indicators. The purpose was to validate the indicators themselves, and to comment on the proposed methodologies to measure the two indicators. The two indicators are validated, and all agreed on the importance of including them. However, the two indicators are to be measured in two different methodologies. Survey for 6.5.1 and simplified binary approach for 6.5.2

Indicator 6.5.1. Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (as a score 0–100). This indicator is to be measured by a survey composed of a set of questions. The questions are ranked from low (20%) to very high (100) at an increment of 20 points. The questions cover four major categories: Enabling environment; Institutions; Management instruments; and Financing. For 6.5.1, some of the questions need to be modified and possibly added, additional inputs from the group on why they think different steps mean and the weighting of the questions. There is also a need to select and prepare stakeholders that have competence and time to go through survey instruments. In terms of how to implement the choice is bi-lateral meetings with stakeholders of a combined workshop. There are also issues on how to interpret the outcome.

Indicator 6.5.2. Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation This indicator is measured using a binary approach based on the area of basins in each country. This includes surface water and groundwater basins. However, the group wants the methodology to be examined based on volumetric rather than area basis. Also, to possibly consider renewable and non-renewable water resources.

6.5.2 is not a survey, but rather a binary response (yes/no) to a set of questions; MOWI have already did a great job on delineating the basins . Some of our colleagues discussed the interest in measuring aquifers by extent, but possibly also on volumetric basis. Also, if it was measure upstream/downstream – also including water quality, or is that too complicated?

There was an agreement on having the area as the measure, but still in Jordan where we have so good information we might set an example for others and include more information. It was suggested that as this is a relatively simple indicator to measure, Jordan could also try to look at volume basis and evaluate the results.

The timeline to deliver is dependent on the MOWI. It was proposed to establish the membership of the stakeholder group by 1 June. It is planned to develop a ToR for consultant to do this, either ministry or an agency. The consultant would be on board by 1 July and due to submit a report by 1 September 2016

6.6.1 change in the extent of water related ecosystems over time

Identification of focal points and Institutional coordination MOWI/Ministry of Environment

Measurability issues

Sub indicators for this indicator include the spatial extent and quantity of water contained within the ecosystems. The health of ecosystems is difficult to measure in shared rivers with neighboring

countries. In jordan: the main water related ecosystems are river (jordan river and Yarmouk), wetlands, wadis and streams, ponds, dams

The measurability issues concern % of change using sampling of rivers, depth of water table (ground water), surface runoff, quality of water)

MOWI is using new methodology in data collection using telemetry, where the data loggers are connected to servers. Mapping and assessing and valuations the ecosystem services using different process based models. - identification of focal points,

Identification of focal points and Institutional coordination

Mrs. SUNA from DOS Lubna from IUCN ROWA will be responsible to coordinate with different national agencies to get the data needed about the ecosystem services and coming up with work plan engagement of national statistical offices

Synergy with existing national efforts and work plans

All the CONVENTIONS: the CBD UNCCD AND UNFCC were drawn and aligned with the SDG, the 5th report of national biodiversity strategies draws the work plan to be implemented and achieve the CBD set goals by 2020. There is also the CBD national committee that combines all the stakeholders working in biodiversity conservation.

Engagement of National Statistical offices

DOS is working with all issues related to SDGs Gand intends to establish a national committee combining all the stakeholders , in order to fill in the gaps in data missing , and avoid any duplication of work . There is a big opportunity to work closely with RGC to obtain time series satellite images and remote sensing data that would help in measuring and assessing the water related ecosystems

Workplans to test methods

To be discussed further however a workplan until end October will be developed

Questions and comments arising from the presentations

A discussion point arose on the relevance of water scarcity and indicator 6.4.1. It was pointed out that it is not realistic to reduce water consumption significantly, but opinion was divided as some participants felt scarcity should be accounted for.

The point was raised that the target team concept was well endorsed. It was suggested that they could benefit from participation of CSOs. The target teams could also look at the regional training component.

It was stressed that the point concerning use of volumes or area is valid. Especially in this region where the part of the groundwater used is non-renewable. In this case volumetric approaches to indicator calculation could prove difficult.

The point was raise that large amounts or water are held within ecosystems and this why they need to be protected. Ministry of Environment have already championed a large amount of work In this area which is supplemented by NGOs.

Closing comments

On behalf of the GEMI partners Graham Alabaster gave some closing remarks. It was generally agreed that the results of the workshop were encouraging. It was stressed that the indicators need close scrutiny to take account of the local situation in Jordan and the region. The workshop heard about other initiatives especially the MDG + regional work and how it effectively answers the political request of the Arab ministerial Council and the Arab Water Utilities. This model could be applied In other regions. The GEMI partners welcome the establishment of the national teams and look forward to working with them. In conclusion, thanks were given to the Government of Jordan for hosting the workshop and the time they have, given despite work commitments. It was stressed that UN partners look forward to a long and fruitful collaboration.

On behalf of the Government of Jordan and the Minister of Water, Eng Ali Suba thanked all the UN agencies present, ACWUA, and other partners. In addition, his staff and those from other ministries and agencies. The financial support of Switzerland and Germany was acknowledged. He indicated that the Minister personally appreciated this initiative and the role it could play in helping Jordan to monitor its water effectively. He indicated that as a first priority, it was necessary for the Government to organise their reviews and assessments and to identify needed support. He also stated that they are prepared to take leadership In the region. He reiterated that, as a water scarce country, they knew the issues well and their costs, especially for O & M are high as they have chosen effective and efficient technologies. Finally, he requested as much information on the outcomes of this workshop as possible as it will contribute greatly to their role as part of the SDG working groups in New York.



Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Ministry of Water and Irrigation

Integrated monitoring of water and sanitation related SDG targets - GEMI

AIDE MEMOIRE

Inception Workshop

Venue: Le Royal Hotel, Amman, Jordan 22-23 May 2016

Organised by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural & United Nations Human Settlements programme

With support from

The Governments of Switzerland and Germany















I. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Sustainable Development Goals

The sustainable development goals (SDGs) are a new, universal set of goals, targets and indicators that UN member states will be expected to use to frame their agendas and political policies over the next 15 years. The SDGs follow and expand on the millennium development goals (MDGs), which were agreed by governments in 2001 which expired at the end of 2015.

There is broad agreement that, while the MDGs provided a focal point for governments – a framework around which they could develop policies and overseas aid programmes designed to end poverty and improve the lives of poor people – as well as a rallying point for NGOs to hold them to account, they were too narrow. In addition, the MDGs were not globally applicable. They were aimed more at developing region or "poorer" countries. Attaining the MDGs was also skewed. Many countries invested in "low hanging fruit" to enable targets to be met, leaving the poorest and most disadvantaged forgotten.

The eight MDGs – reduce poverty and hunger; achieve universal education; promote gender equality; reduce child and maternal deaths; combat HIV, malaria and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; develop global partnerships – failed to consider the root causes of poverty and overlooked gender inequality as well as the holistic nature of development. The goals made no mention of human rights and did not specifically address economic development. While the MDGs, in theory, applied to all countries, in reality they were considered targets for poor countries to achieve, with finance from wealthy states. Conversely, every country will be expected to work towards achieving the SDGs.

Unlike the MDGs, which were developed in a "top down" way at the UN, the SDGs were developed with member states. The UN conducted the largest consultation programme in its history to gauge opinion on what the SDGs should include. Establishing post-2015 goals was an outcome of the Rio + 20 Summit in 2012, which mandated the creation of an open working group to come up with a draft agenda. The open working group, with representatives from 70 countries, had its first meeting in March 2013 and published its final draft, with its 17 suggestions, in July 2014. The draft was presented to the UN general assembly in September last year. Member state negotiations followed, and the final wording of the goals and targets, and the preamble and declaration that comes with them, were agreed in August 2015. Alongside the open working group discussions, the UN conducted a series of "global conversations". These included 11 thematic and 83 national consultations, and door-to-door surveys. The UN also launched an online survey asking people to prioritise the areas they'd like to see addressed in the goals. The results of the consultations were fed into the working group's discussions.

Why is there a need to monitor the SDG for Water?

Clean, accessible water for all is an essential part of the world we want to live in. There is sufficient fresh water on the planet to achieve this, but due to bad economics or poor infrastructure, every year millions of people, most of them children, die from diseases associated with inadequate water supply, sanitation and hygiene. Water scarcity, poor water quality and inadequate sanitation negatively impact food security, livelihood choices and educational opportunities for poor families across the world. Drought afflicts some of the world's poorest countries, worsening hunger and malnutrition. By 2050, at least one in four people is likely to live in a country affected by chronic or recurring shortages of fresh water.

What are the benefits of improved water monitoring?

The water goal is somewhat complex and has many components. Existing instruments have made a commendable effort to track progress towards the MDGs, but it is evident that several components of the water sector have been neglected, such as wastewater, water quality and water resources management. This has resulted in a lack of information for national governments to make investment decisions. By monitoring the goal in its entirety, national level decision makers are thus empowered to guide investment where it is most needed to improve health and protect the environment.

Credible water sector data will underpin advocacy, stimulate political commitment and public and private investments, inform decision making on all levels and trigger well-placed investment towards optimum health, environment and economic gains. Data thus provides numerous social, economic, and environmental benefits in both public and private sectors. For example, monitoring water availability, withdrawals and consumption enables the use of mechanisms to promote improved allocation between users and uses, as well as to stimulate water savings and use efficiency. Similarly, information about drinking water quality and the sanitation situation, including wastewater discharge, supports public health intervention and the protection of water bodies. Over time, monitoring can also help inform about best practices and support productive integration across sectors and targets within the SDG framework. Lastly, monitoring costs are often marginal compared to the large investments that are typical for the water sector and informed investment decisions allow for efficient use of financial, human and natural resources.

Within National Governments, the responsibility for water and sanitation is fragmented. Decisions on investments for say, a new dam or a sewage treatment facility are decided by different departments. In most countries, the institutional responsibility is divided between Ministries of Water Resources, Ministries of Health, and Ministries of Environment. Many decisions are decided by local authorities, who report to a different ministry such as Local Government of Urban Development. It is important that a unified monitoring approach be developed to assist these decision making processes. A harmonized approach to water sector monitoring will contribute to reducing institutional fragmentation.

Integrated monitoring of water and sanitation related SDG targets – GEMI

The GEMI initiative is a framework that was developed by a group of UN agencies with support from some member states, who have expressed an interest in developing a unified approach to monitoring the SDG for Water. In approaching the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with a dedicated goal on water and sanitation, it was recognized that the sector at large would require a coherent monitoring framework, with improved data collection and analysis. The UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) and The The UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) are already tracking progress in regard to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (SDG targets 6.1 and 6.2, and 6.a and 6.b), but other initiatives that monitored different aspects of the management of water, wastewater and ecosystem resources lacked a coherent global mechanism.

The Integrated Monitoring initiative GEMI was established in 2014 as an inter-agency initiative composed of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and

Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), operating under the UN-Water umbrella and complementing JMP and GLAAS.

The initiative's focus is to integrate and expand existing monitoring efforts on: wastewater treatment and water quality; water use and use-efficiency; integrated water resources management; and water-related ecosystems (SDG targets 6.3 to 6.6, and 6.a and 6.b). The long term goal is to (i) establish and manage, by 2030, a coherent monitoring framework for water and sanitation to inform the post-2015 period, and (ii) contribute to country progress through well-informed decision-making on water, based on harmonized, comprehensive, timely and accurate information. The specific objectives are to:

- Integrate and expand existing monitoring efforts, to ensure harmonised monitoring of the entire water cycle
- Provide Member States with a suggested methodologies to monitor SDG targets 6.3-6.6
- Engage with Member States and enhance their capacity in water sector monitoring
- Report on global progress towards of SDG 6 targets 6.3-6.6

The GEMI framework supports Member States to develop flexible approaches to national monitoring, and address national and regional issues, in a way that is compatible with a global monitoring instrument.

What is new about GEMI?

Country-led development and implementation

Far from being prescriptive, GEMI is a framework to provide member states with a platform to work together in developing improved, inclusive and sustainable monitoring approaches, driven by need for national planning rather than fulfilling the requirement for enforced reporting. The GEMI process will be guided by member states needs, and not those of the UN system or of others with vested interest in monitoring. The adoption of national methods and technical approaches will therefore be paramount. Many developed regions already provide substantial technical capacity to those in less developed regions. GEMI will support these initiatives to the extend possible.

improved national monitoring will open up new opportunities for regional reporting, especially with regard to some complex transboundary issues. Regional and global monitoring can build on, and reinforce, national monitoring. To allow for comparison of data between countries and over time and to track progress at the regional and global levels, it is necessary to promote harmonised monitoring approaches and the use of similar standards and definitions across countries. Much of the data to undertake effective monitoring is already available at national level. This may be from adminstrative sources and from utilities for example. GEMI will help countries to use this data and assist in national statistical offices endorsement of such approaches. Detailed monitoring of all the water sector may not be of interest to some countries, or may be dictated by available resources. Water scare countries will face different priorities as compared to say some regions where ambient water quality is deemed more important.

Progressive engagement in Monitoring

Member States adopting the SDGs have varying levels of resources. Their efforts will to some extend be defined in line with their national capacity and available resources. Monitoring approaches need to be flexible, with methodologies allowing for both simple and more complex parameters to be measured. A "ladder approach" where, countries can start with more simple methodologies, such as using alternative data sources or monitoring a limited number of parameters at a limited number of sites in the first instance. As their capacity and resources increase, countries can "climb the ladder" to progressively adopt more advanced and better disaggregated methodologies.

Use of new data sources

To track progress towards these Goals and Targets, the global indicator framework will also need to capture the multifaceted and ambitious aspirations for the continued development of nations and societies. Effective reporting of progress toward these indicators will require the use of multiple types of data, both what we have in hand -traditional national accounts, household surveys and routine administrative data — and new sources of data outside the national statistical system, namely Earth observation and geospatial information, and Big Data, in general. Integrating all of these data will, indeed, produce a quantum leap in how we monitor and track development and advance the well-being of our societies.

Since Earth observation and geospatial information are often continuous in their spatial and temporal resolutions, their use in SDG monitoring will also prove essential in capturing the sustainability of developments underpinning the SDG framework. Earth observation and geospatial information, which include satellite, airborne, land- and marine-based data, as well as model outputs, will expand monitoring capabilities at local, national, regional and global levels, and across sectors. Simultaneously, exploiting various data sources, including Earth observation and geospatial information, will significantly reduce the costs of monitoring the aspirations reflected in the goals and targets, and make SDG monitoring and reporting manageable and sustainable within the limited resources available to national governments. In addition, use of Earth observation and geospatial information to measure and monitor progress toward achieving the SDGs will provide developing countries and regions with increased capacity to acquire, analyze and utilize these data for other policy-making purposes.

Fortunately, there are significant opportunities for combining various methods and data sources, including direct measurements, surveys, remote sensing, estimates and literature reviews. In the short term, some estimates and modelling will likely be needed to fill-in existing data gaps. In the longer term, as the monitoring capacity and resources improve, national monitoring will feed directly into global monitoring.

How is the GEMI initiative to be implemented?

GEMI is an integral part of SDG 6 monitoring, and its implementation will be harmonized with that of JMP, GLAAS and other monitoring initiatives, as part of the above-mentioned strategy for SDG 6 monitoring. However, where JMP and GLAAS already have many years of experience, GEMI is a newly developed framework that will require additional support in its initial stages.

The first phase of GEMI implementation (2015-2018) will focus on the development of monitoring methodologies, to be used by countries, to establish a global baseline. Before the methodologies are

rolled-out globally, they will be pilot tested in a small number of countries and revised as necessary based on lessons learned and country preferences. At present there are 6 proof-of-concept countries. These countries are: Bangladesh, Jordan, The Netherlands, Peru, Senegal and Uganda. These countries have expressed an interest to be part of GEMI and to develop the approach. In 2017, once the methodologies have been tested and refined, they will be up-scaled globally, leading to the establishment of a global baseline in 2018. To realise both the pilot testing and global implementation, the first step is to sensitize countries and highten national interest for water sector monitoring. To prepare for global implementation, a number of regional workshops will be organised in late 2016 to bring together Member States and international monitoring partners, with the aim of facilitating cooperation and sharing knowledge and experience.

The Proof-of-Concept phase

During the SDG preparatory phase, the GEMI agencies and key stakeholders have worked together, in the framework of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group (IAEG-SDG), to define the metadata on which the preparation of the relevant indicators will be based. Those metadata are now part of the body of the documentation approved by the UN Statistical Commission in March 2016. Although the approved metadata are the result of an intensive consultation and shared experience, it has been considered necessary to test them in a number of countries, before releasing them for wider use. The testing will be done during the Proof-of-Concept (POC) phase of the GEMI project. The main objectives of the POC phase are:

- To discuss the details of the proposed methodologies with relevant experts in the POC countries, taking account of national systems already in place, including new innovative approaches;
- To develop the required institutional arrangements to support the monitoring;
- To apply the methodologies in those countries, producing the indicators and verifying their accuracy and reliability;
- To revise and finalize the methodologies and the relevant metadata according to the experience acquired; and
- To assess capacity needed for data collection and reporting

II EXPECTED ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE WORKSHOP

While each agency will support the Government as required, through provision of technical assistance on each indicator individually, the inception workshop will help to develop a common framework will be established in order to streamline the processes of data collection and processing, and to start a collaborative mechanism among the different national institutions that will be involved in the water-related SDG.

The inception workshop is the initial step of this streamlining process. Its main objectives are:

- To introduce the SDG-water work at high policy level, and collect the relevant political support to its activity;
- To establish the national teams that will work on the preparation of each indicator, and discuss with them the relevant steps to be taken;
- To define a common framework at national level for the harmonized and synergic achievement of all the water-related indicators;
- To review available options and identify capacity gaps;

- To continue the discussion on regional approaches; and
- Agreement on a work plan for the proof-of-concept phase

III APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

The inception workshop should be organized over 1.5 days, starting on 22nd afternoon ending at the end of the day on 23rd. Following the scheme of its objectives, the workshop will have three main sessions:

- 1. Political opening including reference to existing policies and programs, all target teams involved, aiming for a country work plan/timeline
- Bilateral discussions between ministries, technical institutions and target teams, aiming for a detailed work plan and preliminary technical discussions on each of the sub-indicators for Goal 6
- 3. Political endorsement of the initiative and an agreed implementation plan

Who should participate?

- Senior level representatives of Government of Jordan;
- National technical experts involved in water sector monitoring;
- Senior level representatives of participating UN organizations;
- Representatives of the Regional development organization; and
- Senior representatives of donor agencies

IV. PPROGRAMME OF THE MEETING

A provision Agenda for the meeting is given in Annex I

V. LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

The meeting will be convened by Ministry of Water and Irrigation at Le Royal Hotel, Amman Jordan. Participants are expected to cover costs associated with their participation.



Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Ministry of Water and Irrigation

Integrated Monitoring of Water and related SDG 6 Targets (GEMI) Inception Meeting

Final Programme GEMI Inception Workshop

Le Royal Hotel

Amman, Jordan, 22-23 May 2016

Organised by Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

In association with
United Nations Human Settlements Programme & United Nations Scientific and Cultural
Organization

With support from

Government of Switzerland and Germany















AGENDA

DAY 1: 22 May 2016

14.00 - 15.00 Opening Session

14.00 – 14.45 Welcome speeches and opening statements (Master of Ceremonies Mr Omar Salameh, MOWI)

- Mr Graham Alabaster, Representative of UNHABITAT, Geneva office
- Mr. Nasredin Hag Elamin, Representative of FAO, Jordan
- Ms Costanza Farina, Representative of UNESCO, Jordan
- Dr. A. Basel Al-Yousfi, Regional Director, WHO/CEHA, Jordan
- Mr Patrice Moix, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- H.E. Eng. Tawfiq Habashneh, Acting Secretary General, Ministry of Water and Irrigation
- 14.45 15.00 Self-introduction of Participants
- 15.00 15.30 Tea break

15.30 - 18.00 Plenary Session I: National Institutions and processes and GEMI alignment

- 15.30 16.30 Presentations and discussion on the alignment of the SDGs in the National Water Strategy of Jordan and the Water Policies (Eng. Ali Subah, MOWI)
- 16.30 17.00 Presentation on GEMI (UNHABITAT and UNESCO) and discussion
- 17.00 17.30 Presentation of aims and objective of the workshop and agreement on the plan of work (UNHABITAT and UNESCO)
- 17.30 17.40 (MDG+) The Regional Initiative for Establishing an Improved Monitoring and Reporting on Access to Water Supply and Sanitation Services in the Arab Region Lessons Learned
- 17.40 18.10 Responses from Government of Jordan and technical experts Key issues for consideration
- 18.10 Close of days proceedings
- 19.00 Evening Reception

DAY 2 23 May 2016

09.00 – 10.30 Plenary Session II: Presentation of SDG targets and Indicators and proposed methodologies

- 9.00 9.15 Summary of the previous days outcomes and review of the work of the day work
- 09.15 10-15 Introductions to individual indicators and suggested methodologies (10 mins each) Target 6.1 & Target 6.2 WHO; Target 6.3 UNHABITAT, WHO,UNEP; Target 6.4 FAO; Target 6.5 UNESCO, UNECE, UNEP; Target 6.6 UNEP
- 10.15 10.30 Discussion on challenges and opportunities

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30 Group Session III: Development of national implementation plans

11.00 – 12.30 Working Group Sessions

Group I Target team 6.3

Group 2 Target 6.4

Group 3 Target team 6.5

Group 4 Target Team 6.6

- Measurability issues
- Identification of focal points
- Engagement of National Statistical offices
- Institutional coordination
- Opportunities for earth OBS and big data
- Synergy with existing national efforts and workplan

12.30 - 13.30 Lunch Break

13.30 - 14.30 Group Session IV: Roadmap towards GEMI baseline

13.30 – 14.30 Group work continues

Roadmap to report on each indicator by end 2016

14.30 - 16.00 Plenary Session V: Feedback of working groups and scale up

14.30 – 15.45 Panel discussion on challenges and opportunities for regional scale-up

- Secretary General MOWI
- Representative of UNESCWA
- Representative of Regional Office WHO
- Representative of Development Partners

15.45 – 16.00 Coffee Break

16.00 - 18.00 Plenary Session VI: Concluding session

16.00 – 16.40	Working group feedback (10 mins each)
16.40 – 17.00	Discussion on collaborative approaches needed
17.00 -17.30	Summary conclusions and the way forward
17.30 – 18.00	Presentation of Government Commitment
18.00	Close of Workshop

Annex II List of Participants

Intergrated Monitoring Of water and Sanitation related 22-23/may/2016 Amman SDG targets – GEMI ANNEX II

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