

Reporting to CSD-16 in 2008 on the WSSD target on IWRM and Water Efficiency Plans by 2005 Guiding Note

Background

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) adopted by Governments, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 called for countries to “develop Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Efficiency Plans by 2005”. This target was included in the JPOI in recognition of the strategic importance of improved water resources management in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) during its 13th session recognized that this target may not be met by all countries by the target date, and took a number of decisions to accelerate the implementation of this target. The purpose of this guiding note is to facilitate national reporting on this target using the questionnaire attached herewith. Provisions agreed under Article 26 of the JPOI and relevant decisions of CSD-13 are described at Annex 1 for ease of reference.

IWRM and Water Efficiency Plans

The concept of “Integrated Water Resources Management” (IWRM) was introduced in its modern interpretation at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio in 1992 (Chapter 18 of Agenda 21), and it has since that time evolved, somewhat differently in different countries, depending on their, geography, culture and stage of development.

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) has defined the IWRM as a process: “which promotes the co-ordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems”. Thus IWRM builds on three basic pillars: (1) an enabling environment of proper water resources policies and legislation; (2) an institutional framework of capable institutions at national, local and river basin levels, and (3) a set of management instruments for these institutions.

IWRM processes stress the management of water as a finite and vulnerable resource for which policy should be articulated in a cross-sectoral process which ensures that participation of representatives of sectors and stakeholder groups is provided for in the policy processes. It also emphasizes the role of the basin for planning and water allocation between competing uses. It finally stresses that IWRM addresses *both* the management of water as a resource, *and* the establishment of a proper framework for provision of water services.

The Article 26 of the JPOI also makes reference to “*water efficiency plans*”. In fact, water efficiency is referred in two ways, namely “...to introduce measures to improve the efficiency of water infrastructure to reduce losses and increase recycling of water” and “to improve the efficient use of water resources and promote their allocation among competing uses...”. These are two rather different aspects of “efficiency”: the first dealing with the “technical water efficiency” of water infrastructure works; and the second dealing with overall water use. Both forms of “efficiency” are integral parts of the “IWRM and water efficiency plans”, and could be addressed through measures ranging from policy and legislative reforms to awareness campaigns, implementation of economic incentives, technological innovations, and new financing structures etc.

Some General Considerations

In general, countries are in different stages of planning and implementing the water resources management reforms. For example, some countries have gone through multi-year IWRM planning processes resulting in new national policies, strategies and laws for the development and management of their water resources. Many others have embarked on similar processes, but without actually calling it an IWRM process or having developed a specific “IWRM plan”.

Experience has shown that there is no “one way” for planning and implementing the integration in the water sector. Specific water resources problems and conditions will determine priorities in an individual country and the final choice of management solutions will depend on local culture, tradition and capacity. Therefore, measuring progress towards integrated water resources management must seek to capture and take into

account the wide range of efforts made by the countries to improve water resources management in order to balance economic, social and environmental requirements rather than “counting plans”.

The Questionnaire

Reporting to CSD-16 in 2008 on IWRM/Water Efficiency Plan target is sought through a questionnaire. It has been developed to accommodate different interpretations and modalities for water resources management reforms by not focussing only on the “IWRM plans”, but also on other elements of the enabling environment and on actual implementation of the reform processes. It provides opportunities for narrative explanations, where necessary, and it is open ended for any additional or alternative description of what is being implemented in the country in terms of water resources management strategies and reforms.

Part 1 of the questionnaire seeks information on the enabling conditions for water resources management reforms i.e. the strategies and plans as well as policies and legislation. It is important to note that even if there is no IWRM plan that has been labelled as such, other strategic water resources management policy or planning documents which could be considered as “equivalents or proxy” should be mentioned here. Part 2 provides an indicative list of main elements of water resources management policies, strategies regardless of these being the outcomes of a “proper” IWRM plan that has been labelled as such or of other planning processes. Countries are requested to provide some indication of their status of implementation by checking in the relevant box. Information about implementation and monitoring instruments pertaining to water resources management reforms is sought in Part 3. Part 4 calls for information about the impact of water resources management instruments in addressing the problems for which these instruments were designed and implemented. Finally, suggestions are sought about key issues and their possible solutions on which the debate during CSD-16 should focus for expediting the implementation of CSD-13 decisions.

The attached questionnaire could be downloaded from the following link:

http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/natlinfo/natlinfo_guidelines.htm

Please submit the filled in questionnaire with necessary attachments by 30 June 2007 at the following addresses:

Email: morita-lou@un.org and Chaudhry@un.org

Fax: 212-963-4260

Annex 1: References to Article 26 of the JPOI and Relevant Decisions of CSD-13

The Article 26 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, September 2002

Develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries, through actions at all levels to:

- (a) Develop and implement national/regional strategies, plans and programmes with regard to integrated river basin, watershed and groundwater management, and introduce measures to improve the efficiency of water infrastructure to reduce losses and increase recycling of water;
- (b) Employ the full range of policy instruments, including regulation, monitoring, voluntary measures, market and information-based tools, land-use management and cost recovery of water services, without cost recovery objectives becoming a barrier to access to safe water by poor people, and adopt an integrated water basin approach;
- (c) Improve the efficient use of water resources and promote their allocation among competing uses in a way that gives priority to the satisfaction of basic human needs and balances requirement of preserving or restoring ecosystems and their functions, in particular in fragile environments, with human domestic, industrial and agriculture needs, including safeguarding the drinking water quality;
- (d) Develop programmes for mitigating the effects of extreme water-related events;
- (e) Support the diffusion of technology and capacity-building for non-conventional water resources and conservation technologies, to developing countries and regions facing water scarcity conditions or subject to drought and desertification, through technical and financial support and capacity-building;
- (f) Support wherever appropriate, efforts and programmes for energy-efficient, sustainable and cost-effective desalination of seawater, water recycling and water harvesting from coastal fogs in developing countries, through such measures as technological, technical and financial assistance and other modalities;
- (g) Facilitate the establishment of public-private partnerships and other forms of partnership that give priority to the needs of the poor, within stable and transparent national regulatory frameworks provided by the Governments, while respecting local conditions, involving all concerned stakeholders, and monitoring the performance and improving accountability of public institutions and private companies.

The IWRM related part of the CSD13 decision on Water, Sanitation and Human Settlement, 22 April 2005

(d) Recognizing that the 2005 target on IWRM may not be met by all countries, accelerate the provision of technical and financial assistance to countries in preparing nationally-owned IWRM and water-efficiency plans tailored to country-specific needs, paying particular attention to economic development, social and environmental needs, supporting implementation through learning-by-doing, directed, *inter alia*, towards the following:

- (i) Improving water governance through strengthening of institutional and regulatory reforms, capacity development and innovation;
- (ii) Providing technical and management support to local authorities and communitybased organizations, taking into account research, traditional knowledge and best practices, to improve water resources management within national policy frameworks;
- (iii) Providing additional resources, as appropriate, for regional and sub-regional initiatives, such as the African Water Facility;
- (iv) Encouraging effective coordination among all stakeholders in water-related decisionmaking;
- (v) Enhancing the sustainability of ecosystems that provide essential resources and services for human well being and economic activity in water-related decisionmaking;
- (vi) Facilitating information exchange and knowledge sharing, including indigenous and local knowledge;
- (vii) Strengthening the prevention of pollution resulting from wastewater, solid waste, industrial and agricultural activities;
- (viii) Developing preventive and preparedness measures, as well as risk mitigation and disaster reduction, including early warning systems;

- (ix) Protecting and rehabilitating catchment areas for regulating water flows and improving water quality, taking into account the critical role of ecosystems;
 - (x) Raising awareness of the importance of water use efficiency and conservation;
 - (xi) Involving all stakeholders, including women, youth and local communities, in integrated planning and management of land and water resources;
 - (xii) Encouraging, where appropriate and within their mandates, the use of MEAs to leverage additional resources for IWRM;
 - (xiii) Promoting higher priority and greater action on water quality;
- (e) Support African initiatives in the area of water, within the framework of AMCOW, with particular reference to basin-wide initiatives in Africa;
- (f) Enhance cooperation among riparian States through relevant arrangements and/or mechanisms with the consent of the States concerned, taking into account the interests of the riparian States;
- (g) Develop and strengthen national monitoring systems on the quantity, quality and use of surface and groundwater resources at national and local levels, and for measuring progress towards internationally agreed goals and targets, as appropriate, as well as for assessing the impact of climate variability and change on water resources, through the following actions:
- (i) Establishing and managing water information systems;
 - (ii) Installing networks for monitoring water resources and quality;
 - (iii) Standardizing methodologies and developing monitoring indicators;
 - (iv) Transferring monitoring technologies adaptable to local conditions;
 - (v) Disseminating information to relevant stakeholders.
- (h) Support more effective water demand and water resource management across all sectors, especially in the agricultural sector, by:
- (i) Using efficient irrigation and rain water harvesting technologies;
 - (ii) Implementing irrigation projects with a focus on the poor, particularly in Africa;
 - (iii) Training farmers and water user associations in efficient water use and sustainable agricultural land management;
 - (iv) Promoting the use of waste-water for certain irrigation purposes, subject to health and environmental standards;
 - (v) Increasing the efficiency, and where appropriate, the use of rain-fed agriculture.

QUESTIONNAIRE

**Reporting on JPOI Target on
Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Efficiency Plans by 2005**

Part 1: Enabling conditions for water resources management (policies, legislation and plans)

1. Please indicate the stages of formulation and approval of key enabling instruments for water resources management in your country, by checking one of the five columns for each instrument.

Water Resources Management – Enabling Instruments	Not relevant	Under consideration	In place but not yet implemented	In place and partially implemented	Fully implemented
Main national instruments	1	2	3	4	5
a) Water Policy					
b) National/federal water law					
c) National/federal IWRM plan or equivalent strategic plan document					
d) National/federal Water Efficiency Plan					
Other national/federal strategies that may contribute to promoting IWRM:					
e) Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) with WRM component					
f) National Development Plan with WRM component					
g) National Sustainable Development Strategies with WRM Component					
h) National Environmental Action Plan with WRM component					
International agreements on IWRM to which your country is party::					
h) Regional/sub-regional IWRM plans/strategies or their equivalent					
i) Transboundary IWRM plans/strategies (river basins) or their equivalent					

For enabling instruments that have been checked in columns 4 and 5 please provide details on name of document, year of approval. For items e–h, please also provide information on how they contribute to IWRM, if this is the case.

Please provide text.

2. If your country has an IWRM planning process or an equivalent water resources management planning framework in place, how was it developed and who developed it (e.g. developed using a multi-stakeholder process or developed by the relevant Ministry or through some other mechanisms etc.)

Please provide text.

3. Please indicate steps/actions being undertaken to bridge the water demand/water availability gap, if such a gap exist in your country?

Please provide text.

4. If your country has developed and approved or is in the process of developing an IWRM Plan or an equivalent water resources management planning framework, please indicate how was the development of the plan/framework funded?
- entirely by national funds?
 - mainly through assistance from donors or IFIs?
 - through both national and donor funded activities?
 - others?.

Part 2 Main elements of water resources management policies, strategies, programmes and plans

5. From the following indicative list, please check those programme areas and policy measures that are included in your country's water resources strategies, programmes and plans, while at the same time giving some indication of their status of implementation.

Water Management Programs/Policies/Strategies/Measures	Not relevant	Under consideration	In place but not yet implemented	In place and partially implemented	Fully implemented
Water Resources Development					
Assessment of water resources.					
Regulatory norms and guidelines for sustainable development of water resources.					
Basin studies for long-term development and management of water resources.					
Desalination of seawater.					
Rainwater harvesting programs.					
Initiatives on water harvesting from coastal fogs.					
Supply augmentation programs to meet increasing demand of water.					
Programs and policies for recycling of water, wastewater treatment and reuse.					
Water Resources Management					
Programs and policies for watershed management.					
Program for improving efficiency of water infrastructure to curtail water losses.					
Programs and policies on protection and rehabilitation of catchment areas.					
Groundwater management program.					
Programs/policies to reverse ecosystem degradation and restore their functions.					
Programs and policies to avoid floods and to overcome flood related disasters.					
Programs and policies to combat drought and desertification.					
Policies for efficient allocation of water resources among competing uses.					
Legislative mechanisms to protect water resources from all types of pollution.					
Demand management measures to improve water use efficiency in all sectors.					
Integration of drainage facilities in irrigated agricultural development schemes.					
Mechanisms to promote conjunctive use of ground- and surface water.					
Norms and guidelines to evaluate environmental impacts of water projects.					
Cooperative programs for joint management of shared water resources.					

Water Management Programs/Policies/Strategies/Measures	Not relevant	Under consideration	In place but not yet implemented	In place and partially implemented	Fully implemented
Water Use					
Water demands survey in different water using sectors.					
Programs and policies for managing agricultural water use.					
Programs and policies for managing municipal water use.					
Programs and policies for managing industrial water use.					
Programs and policies for managing other water uses.					
Monitoring, Information Management and Dissemination					
Functional hydrological and hydro-meteorological monitoring networks.					
Standardized procedures for data compilation, processing and analysis.					
A reliable integrated water resources management information system.					
Programs for information exchange and knowledge sharing about good practices.					
Monitoring and reporting system to determine impact of IWRM reforms.					
Capacity Building and Enabling Environment					
Assessment of capacity building needs/ gaps in the water sector					
Capacity building programs on different aspects of water resources management.					
Establishment of river basin management institutions.					
Institutional reforms to enhance the effectiveness/accountability of institutions.					
Institutional co-ordination mechanisms for water resources management.					
Mechanisms to link water resources management to other economic sectors.					
Assessment of water management research needs and gaps.					
Mechanisms to enforce water legislation.					
Programs for providing advisory (extension) services on WM issues to end users.					
Programs for transferring improved and cost effective water saving technologies.					
Pro-poor policies and programs in the water sector.					
Stakeholders Participation					
Processes for stakeholders' participation in water management decisions making.					
Decentralized water resources management structures.					
Programs for gender mainstreaming in all aspects of WRM.					
Public awareness campaigns to educate people about water-health-poverty links.					
Mechanisms to discuss/resolve trans-boundary issues with the riparian countries.					
Partnerships for water resources management.					
Financing					
Water sector investment plan					
Strategy for mobilizing financial resources in the water sector.					
Norms and procedures for financial sustainability and viability of water schemes.					
Gradual cost recovery mechanisms/progressive tariff structures in all water uses.					
Subsidies/micro credit programs for promoting water conservation technologies.					
Water sector investment plan.					

Please provide additional information on elements not covered above, but form a significant part of your water sector development and management plans, especially within the context of JPOI target and decisions reached during CSD-13 (see guidance note for these references).

Part 3: Implementation, monitoring and evaluation

6. If your country is in the stage of implementation (last two columns of the preceding question), please indicate specific actions/ activities undertaken, including institutional arrangements such as e.g. national implementation body, cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms, stakeholder fora, river basin committees etc.

Please provide text.

7. Defining indicators, establishing networks and setting up mechanisms to ensure monitoring and evaluation are all key activities in any successful implementation of plans and reform processes. If your country has established monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for water resources management policies/strategies/plans, please describe how and by whom it is being done:

Please provide text.

Part 4: Outcomes of implementation of IWRM or Water Efficiency plans.

8. Countries which have made some progress in *implementing* IWRM/Water Efficiency Plans or equivalent reform frameworks may already have achieved some of their intended objectives. Sharing these experiences as well as constraints in implementing water resources management reforms may assist other countries in their implementation efforts.
- (a) At the time when your country embarked on water resources management reform and planning process, what were the priority problems which were intended to be solved? (e.g lack of water resources for development, frequent floods, deteriorating water quality, wetland degradation, low water efficiency etc)

Please list three priority problems planned to be solved through water resources management reforms:

- (b) What were the main water management measures implemented to address the problems identified under (a) above?—for example: new water policy or law, creation of new institutional structure, decentralization of water management to river basin level and water user associations, upgrading of water resources assessment and monitoring networks, application of economic instruments etc.

Please provide text.

- (c) Please provide an evaluation/assessment of the results achieved as a result of implementing the water management measures implemented under (b) above to address the problems identified under (a) above.

Please provide text.

- (d) Please list constraints or obstacles that your country has experienced in IWRM implementation.

Please provide text.

Note: Where possible, please provide either an electronic copy of your IWRM Plan, or equivalent, Water Efficiency Plan or other relevant planning documents - or a Web link to these.

Name and Address of the Person Filling the Questionnaire:

Name: _____

Designation/Position: _____

Ministry/Institution/Organization: _____

Tel/Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

THANK YOU