

**Regional Seminar on Integrated Approaches for SDG Planning:
The Case of SDG 6 on Water and Sanitation
28-29 November 2016**

Meeting Room H, United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok, Thailand

Background and Rationale

Implementation of the holistic 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will require action that embraces interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral approaches to development, an integrated analysis and effective implementation strategies. All of the 17 SDGs are interconnected, and achieving many proposed targets will rely on access to water resources. To address this need, ESCAP developed a tool for analysis of the interdependencies and interlinkages between the 17 SDGs, which are viewed as one indivisible system.

Success in achieving targets under SDG 6 on Water and Sanitation will depend on the understanding of interdependencies of SDG 6 with the other SDGs. Understanding the complementary linkages between targets will assist countries to prioritise SDGs implementation, identify leverage points for high impact action, and attract investments and mobilize resources for implementation.

Water is an essential resource for human life and wellbeing, a key element of all economic activities, and a cornerstone for achieving sustainable development. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development emphasizes the important role of water in sustainable development: Sustainable Development Goal 6 and its 8 targets focus on ensuring “availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.”

The analytical framework developed by ESCAP with SDG6 as the core and applying a systems thinking approach and framework, identified a proposed set of high impact leverage points for strategic action to support the water-related SDGs targets and to achieve integrated sustainable development.

Given the macro-level perspective of the assessment conducted, ESCAP also initiated implementation of pilot applications of the systems thinking framework for SDG 6 in selected Asia-Pacific countries, namely Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Fiji. These are currently in different stages of implementation.

Scope

With a focus on *SDG 6 on Clean Water and Sanitation*, this regional seminar will present several frameworks for integration of the SDG targets using systems thinking, various modelling frameworks focused on the global SDG indicators with other relevant indicators, as well as examples of national pilot applications. The seminar will provide a platform for discussion on the interrelated nature of the SDGs and for sharing approaches, experiences, and key lessons learned. The approaches discussed will provide a basis for strengthening national institutional frameworks for SDG implementation.

The seminar will:

- Enhance awareness and understanding of the SDGs as one integral and indivisible holistic system and the importance of mapping interlinkages of water and sanitation related SDG targets;
- Provide a platform for sharing of experiences and lessons learned from various countries in the region by mapping out interlinkages and developing integration models, strategies, and plans;
- Discuss various elements of tools and support available, including those from ESCAP, for further application of analytical frameworks for integrated implementation of the SDGs;
- Identify other possible approaches, gaps and opportunities for strengthening support, including through partnerships.

Target groups

- National teams involved in the pilot application of the analytical framework
- Government-nominated focal points coordinating implementation of the 2030 Agenda
- Regional and national water experts and partner organizations
- Civil society representatives, representatives of other stakeholders, including academia and think tanks

For more information contact:

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Tentative Programme

Monday, 28 November 2016

8:30 – 9:00 **Registration**

9:00-10:30 **Official Opening Session of the ESCAP's SDGs Week and a High-Level Panel**

10:30-11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00 -12:15 **Session 1: Why addressing SDGs as an integral indivisible holistic system would assist national planning and implementation?**

This session will lay out the background for the understanding of the indivisible nature of the 17 SDGs and the 169 targets, and how integrated approaches would support member states in holistic and effective implementation to the SDGs. An opportunity to discuss various global and regional initiatives examining the interlinkages between the SDGs and their targets, including SDG6 will be provided.

Moderator: *Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, Deputy Executive Secretary on Sustainable Development, ESCAP*

ESCAP presentation on the SDGs as an indivisible and integral system - *Mr Stefanos Fotiou, Director, Environment and Development Division*

Panel Discussion on Integrated approaches to implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Panellists:

Mr. Maria Scade, Programme Officer, UN-Water

Dr. Kalanithy Vairavamoorthy, Deputy Director General, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

Dr. Simon Olsen, Senior Governance and Policy Researcher, Institute of Global Environment Strategies (IGES)

Dr. Nina Hall, Program Manager, Sustainable Water, Global Change Institute, The University of Queensland, Australia

Q&A

12:15-13:30 **Lunch Break**

13:30-14:15 **Session 2: ESCAP analytical framework for integration of water and sanitation related SDGs and targets**

Moderator: *Mr. Abdullah Keizrul Bin, Chairperson, Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO)*

ESCAP presentation of the analytical methodology for integration of SDG 6 with the SDGs using systems thinking approach, tools and modelling

Ms. Aneta Nikolova, Environment and Development Policy Section, EDD, ESCAP

Mr. Robert Steele, ESCAP consultant on systems thinking and CEO of Systainability Asia/Attkison Group

Ms. Nina Schneider, Environment and Development Policy Section, EDD, ESCAP

Q&A

14:15-15:15 Session3: Pilot applications of the analytical framework in selected countries: Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Fiji

Panel Discussion on experiences gained, main outcomes, lessons learned and the way forward from the pilot applications in Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, and Fiji

Moderator: *Ms Katinka Weinberger, Chief, Environment and Development Policy Section, Environment and Development Division, ESCAP*

Panel Members:

Mr. Uchita de Zoysa, Sustainable Development Advisor, Sustainable Development Division, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Wildlife, Sri Lanka

Ms. Malika Babadzhanova, Head, Interstate Commission on Water Cooperation, Tajikistan

Mr. Kamal Krishnan Gounder, Principle Economist – Infrastructure Sector, Ministry of Economy, Fiji

Discussants:

Mr. Djalil Buzrukov, Head, Scientific Information Centre of the Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD)

Ms. Yumiko Asayama, Japan Water Forum and Secretariat, Asia-Pacific Water Forum

Ms. Gayathri Jagannathan, Director, International Relations & Cooperation, Centre for Green Economy, Peking University HSBC Business School

Q&A

15:15-15:45 Coffee Break

15:45-17:00 Session 4: Small working groups – hands on session

During this session participants will engage in facilitated group work in small working groups to develop interlinkages, causal relationship loops, mapping and modelling using systems thinking tools and the Integrated Monitoring Guide for SDG 6 Targets and global indicators for specific case studies

17:00-17:30 Plenary session

In this session each small working group will report on the outcomes of their group work on the specific case studies

17:30-17:45 Wrap up session

Tuesday, 29 November 2016

9:00 – 10:00 **Session 5: Integrating and localizing SDG 6 for inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities**

This session will explore the urban context of the analytical systems thinking framework and will discuss inter-linkages and interdependencies between the SDG 6, SDG11 and other SDGs. The session will discuss the planning needs for sustainable cities, with particular focus on resilience of water and sanitation infrastructure, and how local actors can be supported through integrated implementation of SDG 6 with other SDGs.

Moderator: *Mr. Lorenzo Santucci, Chief a. i. , Sustainable Urban Development Section, Environment and Development Division, ESCAP*

ESCAP Presentation on Integrated strategic approaches and enabling policy tools to facilitate a shift towards water-hazard resilient infrastructure and sustainable cities

Ms. Aida Karazhanova, Sustainable Urban Development Section, EDD, ESCAP

Panelists:

Ms. Suthimol Kessomboon, Deputy Director General, Department of Drainage and Sewage, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (integrated implementation of SDG 6.3, SDG 11.5 and SDG 13.1 : wastewater treatment systems and resilience to disaster- the case of Bangkok)

Ms. Yumiko Asayama, Japan Water Forum (integrated implementation of SDG 6.5, SDG 11.3 and SDG 11.5: the case of Nagoya)

Mr. Jack Sim, Founder, World Toilet Organization (integrated implementation of SDG 6.3, SDG 6.b and SDG 11.b through innovative urban water governance: the case of Singapore)

Mr. Yongdeok Cho, Executive Director, Asian Water Council Asia Water Council, Republic of Korea (integrated implementation of SDG 6.4, SDG 9.a, SDG 8.2 and SDG 11.3: water-efficient infrastructure and water-smart cities - the case of Daego and Seoul)

Discussants:

Dr. Kalanithy Vairavamoorthy, Deputy Director General, International Water Management Institute

AIT Urban Lab (tbd)

Q&A

10:00-10:15 **Coffee Break**

10:15 -12:15 **Session 6: Drawing the causal diagram for integration and localizing SDG 6 with other SDGs in cities for sustainable urban development**

During this session participants will be engaged in facilitated group work in small working groups to develop interlinkages and causal relationship, to define high-leverage points /strategic actions, institutional mapping and modelling using systems thinking and the Integrated Monitoring Guide for SDG 6 Targets and global indicators for specific case studies.

12:15-14:00 **Lunch Break**

14:00-14:45 **Plenary session**

Reporting from the small working groups

14:45-15:15 Session 7: Building regional partnerships for knowledge sharing and monitoring of integrated approaches to implementation of the SDGs – the way forward

This will be a moderated discussion on developing regional partnership for knowledge sharing and monitoring of integrated approaches to implementation of the SDGs and conclusions will be drawn.

Moderator: *Mr. Stefanos Fotiou, Director, Environment and Development Division, ESCAP*
Interventions from all participants will be invited

15:15-15:30 Coffee Break

15:30-16:15 Plenary session

Recap of the major outcomes and recommendations of the regional seminar

Discussions on the way forward and main recommendations

16:15-16:30 Closing session