



## Inception Workshop of the Project

### Implementing the 2030 Agenda for water efficiency/productivity and water sustainability in NENA Countries

17-19 July, 2017

Intercontinental Semiramis Hotel, Cairo  
Teeba Room

#### Introductory Note & Agenda

**Partner Countries:** Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia

**Partners Institutions:** League of Arab States (LAS); International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA); University of Cordoba (UCO), Spain; Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI), Sweden; Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Sweden; UNESCO-IHE, Delft, The Netherlands

**Resources Partner:** Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

**Implementing Organization:** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

#### Background

The Near East and North Africa (NENA) Region has the lowest per-capita fresh water resource availability among all Regions of the world, with serious problems of unsustainable water use manifested through over-drafted aquifers, seasonally dry rivers and disappearing lakes and wetlands.

Furthermore, the NENA Region will face in the coming decades a severe intensification of water scarcity due to several drivers related to demography, food security policies, overall socio-economic development and climate change. Through the Regional Initiative on Water Scarcity, FAO is providing support and focus to efforts in confronting the fast-widening gap between availability and demand for fresh water resources.

The agricultural sector, consuming already more than 85% of available fresh water resources, will face strong competition with other water users and will be required to enhance its performance in terms of resource-use efficiency while contributing to food security and to the rural economy.

Under these challenging conditions, the recently agreed Agenda 2030 for the *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDG) requires evidently a 'transformational' change in managing strategic resources as water, land and energy. The Countries of the Region need to strategically plan their water resources management and allocation, review their water, food security and energy





policies, formulate effective investment plans, modernize governance and institutions, account for transboundary surface and ground water and adopt good practices to ensure alignment with the imperatives of **(i)** setting the sustainable limits of water consumption and **(ii)** making the best use of each single drop of water, including the use of non-conventional water sources. The adoption of an analytical-framework on the Water-Food-Energy-Climate-Ecosystem Nexus will be instrumental to such a strategic planning as agriculture, water and energy strategies and policies are still developed, to a significant extent, 'independently'.

The Project *"Implementing the 2030 Agenda for water efficiency/productivity and water sustainability in NENA Countries"* has been conceived and formulated to set the proper framework for implementing the 2030 Agenda for water efficiency/productivity and water sustainability (SDG 6, Target 6.4).

This Inception Workshop of the Project brings beneficiary countries and partners to design together the roadmap towards effective project implementation and high-impact results achievement.

### Objectives of the Inception Workshop

- Have everybody with a common understanding of the project's expected results
- Acquire common and state-of-the-art knowledge on the various subject matters to be addressed during the implementation of the project
- Discuss the project outputs and size properly the expectations
- Identify possible constraints and limitations that may raise during project implementation and discuss means of overcoming them
- Illustrate the advantages coming from synergies with concurrent projects on-going in the Region
- Design a clear roadmap for the follow-up to the Workshop

**Note:** Although the Workshop will use English as main working language, there will be **simultaneous translation** of the three languages of the Region, i.e., **Arabic, English and French**





## DRAFT AGENDA

DAY1 - Monday, July 17	Session
8:00 – 9:00	<b>Registration</b>
9:00 - 10:30	<b>Opening ceremony</b> - Addresses by: Mr Abdessalam OuldAhmed <i>FAO Regional Representative for Near East and North Africa</i> H.E. Mr. Kamal Hassan Ali <i>Assistant Secretary-General, League of Arab States (tbc)</i> H.E. Mohamed Abd-ElAty <i>Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation Egypt</i> H.E. Abdel Moneem El Banna <i>Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation – Egypt (tbc)</i> Dr. Aly Abou Sabaa <i>Director General ICARDA</i>
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
11:00 - 11:30	<b>Setting the Scene:</b> Introducing the Workshop Objectives and Expected Results – <i>Pasquale Steduto (FAO)</i>
11:30 - 13:00	<b>SESSION I - Water Accounting</b> <i>State of the art and outlook - Wim Bastiaanssen (UNESCO-IHE)</i> <i>Charles Batchelor (FAO)</i> <b>Plenary Discussion</b> <b>Start Country presentations</b> Status, gaps and demands [Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Jordan]
13:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14:00 - 15:30	<b>Country presentations continues</b> Status, gaps and demands [Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia]
15:30 - 16:00	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
16:00 - 17:30	<b>Country Working Groups</b> Designing the roadmap to implementation of Project Output 1 <b>Water Accounting</b>
17:30 - 18:00	Closing day 1





DAY2 - Tuesday, July 18	Session
9:00 - 10:30	<b>SESSION II - Water Efficiency &amp; Productivity</b> <i>State of the art and outlook - Elias Fereres (UCO)</i> <b>Plenary Discussion</b> <b>Start Country presentations</b> Status, gaps and demands [Algeria, Egypt, Iran]
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
11:00 - 13:00	<b>Country presentations continues</b> Status, gaps and demands [Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia]
13:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14:00 - 15:30	<b>Country Working Groups</b> Designing the roadmap to implementation of Project Output 2 <b>Water Efficiency &amp; Productivity</b>
15:30 - 16:00	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
16:00 - 17:30	<b>Synergies with Other Projects</b> (The Netherland Project; GEMI, The Regional and National TCP, other projects) <b>WaPOR – The FAO Water Productivity Portal – Jippe Hoogeveen (FAO)</b> <b>Q/A</b> <b>Gender dimensions of the Project – Malika Martini (FAO)</b> <b>Q/A</b>
17:30 - 18:00	Closing day 2





DAY3 - Wednesday, July 19	Session
9:00 - 10:30	<p><b>Address by the Sida Representative</b> <i>Margareta Davidsson-Abdelli</i></p> <p><b>SESSION III – Water Sustainability &amp; the Nexus Approach</b>  <i>State of the art and outlook - Annette Huber-Lee (SEI)</i>  <i>Francesco Fuso Nerini (KTH)</i></p> <p><b>Plenary Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Start Country presentations</b>  Status, gaps and demands  [Jordan]</p>
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
11:00 - 13:00	<p><b>Country presentations continues</b>  Status, gaps and demands  [Morocco]</p> <p><b>Plenary Discussion</b></p>
13:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14:00 - 15:30	<p><b>Country Working Groups</b>  Designing the roadmap to implementation of Project Output 3  <b>Water Sustainability &amp; the Nexus Approach</b></p> <p><b>SESSION IV – Communication</b>  <i>Mariam Hassanien (FAO)</i></p>
15:30 - 16:00	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
16:00 - 17:30	<p><b>Project governance</b></p> <p><b>Ensuring inter-Output and inter-Country synergies</b></p> <p><b>Follow-up actions</b></p>
17:30 - 18:00	Closing day 3

