“A new AWARENET Working Group on Climate Change?”

Invitation to the AWARENET Side Meeting

at the RICCAR Regional Workshop on Moving from Climate Change Impact Assessment to Socio-Economic Vulnerability Assessment in the Arab Region

Wednesday, 10 June 2015, 14h45 - 15h15

The Arab Integrated Water Resources Management Network (AWARENET) invites interested participants of the RICCAR workshop and AWARENET members to a side meeting on Wednesday, 10 June 2015, 14h45 - 15h15 to discuss the potential for a new AWARENET Working Group on Climate Change (WG CC).

Over the last years RICCAR has developed new tools and a methodology for vulnerability assessments of the impact of climate change on water resources. AWARENET would like to offer a platform to assist in moving the existing tools further “from assessment to implementation”. The side meeting is offered as an initial basis for dialogue between RICCAR participants and AWARENET members on their potential interest to make use of such a platform in the future.

Draft proposal for a WG objective

(to be discussed further at the side meeting):

"Moving from Assessment to Implementation: Applying technical tools such as those developed under RICCAR and information from the regional knowledge hub to assess adaptation actions for different climate scenarios to further develop capacity and build resilience for coping with climate change impacts at national and regional levels."

Potential activities of such a new WG CC could include, among others:

- Expanding the existing RICCAR methodology through further research,
- Training-of-Trainers for the application of RICCAR tools and methodology at the regional level,
- Supporting training courses on the application of RICCAR tools and methodology at national levels,
- “Down-scaling” of the regional assessment approach to national levels,
- Establishing connections for new twinning partnerships between experts and researchers from different countries on specific themes (e.g. health, agriculture, infrastructure, etc.),
- Developing the WG CC into a community of practice for the exchange of research and cooperation results related to the application of RICCAR tools,
- Use tools and methodology to develop policies at the local, national and regional levels,
- Use tools and methodology to develop and/or test adaptation plans at the local, national and regional levels,
- ... other / further activities, to be discussed.

Activities can be developed further through sub-WGs or other Cap-Net tools such as the Cap-Net Virtual Campus to facilitate online meetings and webinars or through suitable co-financing partners for the regional / national training activities.

AWARENET is a Cap-Net regional network for capacity development in sustainable water management, hosted by UN ESCWA. It is an independent, impartial regional network of training and research institutes, NGOs, government authorities and experts in the field of water, engaged in the development and delivery of capacity development programs and resource material on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) policies and practices for the Arab region. Further information about AWARENET: www.cap-net.org/partners/awarenet

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