AWNARENET

Arab integrated Water REsources management NETwork

AWNARENET Secretariat
What is AWARENET?

- “A regional network of research and training institutes from ESCWA member countries, working on IWRM”
- AWARENET was initiated in March 2002;
- Endorsed by Committee on Water Resources (ESCWA intergovernmental body) and adopted by ministerial session (Resolution 244 (d-22) in 2003)
- AWARENET presently counts among its members over 80 leading water related institutions in 18 Arab countries.
- AWARENET is endorsed by regional organizations, such as UNESCO-Cairo, UNDP-Surf, and UNEP-ROWA, the German Development Cooperation agencies, BGR and GTZ, and global networks, like Cap-Net and Global Water Partnership (GWP).
Why AWERENET

• **Mulit-sectoral and regional coordination;**
  - facilitating and increasing communication between different water stakeholders from different sectors and countries,
  - facilitating regional projects,
  - sharing regional knowledge and experiences

• **Water governance and policy;**
  - recommending institutional reform,
  - developing policy options and position papers,
  - conducting advocacy and lobbying

• **Outreach;**
  - increasing public awareness of water issues,
  - increasing priority of water issues among Arab governments, municipalities and other key institutions,
  - high media visibility
Thematic priorities

• Climate change adaptation in the water sector

• Water resource protection from pollution

• Water efficiency (especially in the agricultural sector)

• Shared Water Resources
What are the types of memberships?

- **REGULAR MEMBERS**: Training and research institutes active in subjects related to IWRM from the Arab region.

- **SUPPORTING MEMBERS**: Institutes active in subjects related to IWRM other than training and research, e.g., Media groups, government affiliated agencies, and international organizations.

- **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**: Resource persons that contribute to the various AWARENET activities.
Main Accomplishments (2002-2009)

- Implementation of a Capacity Building Programs
- Training Needs Assessment in the region
- Network Consolidation process
- Improved network outreach
Planned Activities for 2010-2011

• **General Assembly, 2010**: to formulate a work plan and identify an objective with a time table and responsible members identified.

• **Thematic Group Outputs (1-3)**:
  - The thematic group scope should be regional and include collaborative work from multiple members.

• **Training of Trainers (2-3)**: these ToTs will be in one of the three strategic areas identified in the current three year plan – climate change, water resource protection and water use efficiency.

• **World Water Day, 22 Mar 2010 (1)**

• **Member Initiatives**: the Secretariat leaves open the possibility of funding a member driven initiative that is within one of the three strategic areas of AWARENET and has an impact on a large number of network members.
Thematic Group on Climate Change

- One of the main goals of AWARENET is to develop working groups to address the three themes identified in the 2009-2011 Network strategic plan.

- The AWARENET Working Group on Climate Change (TGCC) is the first working group to be formed. The members are all experts in climate change and its effects on water.

- TGCC was established to produce concrete outputs on linkages between climate change and integrated water resources management.
**Vulnerability Assessment**
- A review of the literature and identification of gaps on the vulnerability of water resources to climate change in the Arab region.
- The review intended to benefit water experts and the executive summary targets policy makers and the general public.

**Analysis of Copenhagen Treaty**
- An analysis of a Copenhagen treaty and its effects on water in the Arab region planned to be developed.
- The analysis consists of a policy brief aimed at experts in the field and an executive summary aimed at policy makers and the media.
- The analysis should be contingent on a treaty being agreed upon in Copenhagen.

**Roster of Experts**
- A roster of Arab experts on climate change and water resources to be developed by end of 2010.
- The roster should be a searchable index of experts that details their professional experiences and areas of expertise.
How to contact AWARENET?

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