
Monitoring and Evaluation in Water and its relation to the Millennium Development Goals

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Short summary

The monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the water sector have been considered the weakest link in progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Africa; as it faces several challenges on the national and regional levels. Accordingly, it is required to build and develop capacities of governments and non-government agencies in North African States to cope with the challenges of data collection, analysis, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. Hence, human resources development and institutional capacity building could become one of the major areas of investment in Africa over the following years.

The Monitoring and Evaluation of the Water Sector in North Africa (MEWINA) project has been launched in November 2011 to influence Decision Makers, Governments, Scientific Community, Development Agencies, and Public in North Africa. Its overall goal is to report regularly on the State of the Water through a set of institutional, technical, environmental, socio-economic, and governance indicators.

Key words:

Universal and equitable access to drinking water; Safe drinking water; Affordable drinking water; Reducing untreated wastewater; Increasing recycling and safe reuse; Protect, restore and sustainable use of inland freshwater related ecosystems; Reduce number of deaths and number of affected people; Reduce economic losses; Protection of the poor and vulnerable

Issues addressed:

Water resources management (water-use efficiency, integrated water resources efficiency, integrated water resources management, transboundary cooperation, sustainable extraction and supply of freshwater)

Special attention was devoted to water availability, Water use, and Governance.

Water quality (pollution, dumping of toxic materials, wastewater management, recycling, reuse, restore ecosystems and aquifers)

Surface and Groundwater Quality, as well as treated waste water quality are covered.

Risks (mortality, economic losses caused by natural and human-induced disasters)

Extreme Weather Events and their impacts are covered.

Tools for implementation:

Capacity development: Capacity Building workshops were held in all MEWINA countries to present the indicators, their definitions, assessment methodologies, and potential sources of data.

Lessons Learned:

Triggers: Recycling the same values for important water related parameters does not allow for Dynamic and well informed decisions, policies, and plans.

Drivers: Better assessment leads to better Integrated Water Resources Management.

Barriers: The financial requirements for Institutional and Technical Capacity building remains the main barrier.

What has worked well? The Standardization and Harmonization of Indicators and Preliminary data Collection. The Project was also well received by public, professionals, and Decision makers.

What can be improved? Some Indicators need advanced capacity to be precisely assessed.

The way forward: A regional Action Plan has been formulated to enhance the Institutional and Technical Capacities of the National Water Sectors to enhance the State of the Water Reporting Capabilities the whole Region as well as individual countries.

Links: www.Namcow.cedare.int/mewina