

CONCEPT NOTE

Key Result Area 4: Monitoring Investments and Results

Theme for APWF Summit 2007: Development of an effective monitoring tool for regional cooperation in water resources management

1. Background

As stated in the Concept Paper of APWF, the Forum aims to provide countries and organizations in the Asia-Pacific region with a common platform and voice in articulating the region's strategies and promoting its achievements in solving water problems, including meeting the necessary investment requirements. For this objective, effective monitoring is recognized as an important tool for policy formulation and decision-making.

The Concept Paper also identified three priority areas for monitoring: (i) monitoring public and private investments, (ii) monitoring reforms and trends, and (iii) monitoring MDG achievement. The Concept Paper also indicated that APWF would systematically and thoroughly improve and expand the monitoring of water sector performance and results in the region. This would include monitoring of key results with agreed indicators, such as: investments in rural, urban, and basin water projects by governments, the private sector and through ODA; sector reforms, sector outputs and impacts, including progress in achieving the MDGs; and other important water trends.

In the above context, it can be interpreted that the Concept Paper would expect that the work undertaken in Key Result Area 4 would develop over the years of cooperation to become an effective tool for policy formulation and decision-making.

2. Objectives of Key Result Area 4

Objective of activities 2006-07: To develop a programme for the establishment of an effective monitoring system for implementation in the subsequent years on the basis of the regional experiences and ongoing efforts in Asia and the Pacific.

3. Main activities of 2006-07

Three main groups of activities are expected to be implemented prior to the APWF Summit of 2007:

3.1 Review of regional experiences and ongoing efforts of monitoring in the region

Reviews will be made on experiences and ongoing efforts in the region as well as in other regions on the monitoring of water sector performance and results, with particular emphasis on the effectiveness of linking findings of the monitoring (especially indicators, if any) to policy formulation and decision-making.

Attempts will be made to expand these reviews to a possible set of agreed indicators, such as: investments in rural, urban, and basin water projects by governments, the private sector and through ODA; sector reforms, sector outputs and impacts, including progress in achieving the MDGs; and other important water trends.

Tentatively, three major categories of review activities are planned: (i) review of financing monitoring, (ii) review of monitoring on policy reform, and (iii) review of monitoring MDGs achievement.

3.2 *Regional workshop on water sector performance monitoring*

A regional workshop aiming at building consensus on monitoring mechanisms and tools among key stakeholders will be organized in May/June 2007 with the following key objectives:

- To discuss key findings of the three main reviews with a view to ascertain their validity and to improve or revise them, if necessary;
- To identify possible sets of indicators for monitoring in each subregion for selected key policy areas and prioritize them for implementation; and
- To recommend possible strategies and policies on regional cooperation in monitoring for adoption.

Depending on the complexity of the findings and subject to availability of financial resources, subregional workshops may be convened to facilitate decision making at the regional workshop.

3.3 *Preparation of policy recommendations and a regional synthesis*

The results of the reviews and the workshop will be consolidated into a regional synthesis on monitoring of water sector performance in Asia and the Pacific for dissemination. Key findings and recommendations of the synthesis will be presented in an executive summary, entitled “Water Sector Performance Monitoring in Asia and the Pacific: Policy Recommendation”, which is expected to be submitted to the Governing Council of APWF for transmission to the APWF Summit.

4. **Resources requirement**

It is planned that UNESCAP will provide professional services for the conduct of the three reviews, organization of the workshop and preparation of the policy recommendations as well as supporting staff. In addition, UNESCAP will also seek technical inputs from collaborating agencies. The total inputs (in-kind) of UNESCAP and collaborating agencies are estimated at about US\$68,000 as detailed below:

	Category of activities	Work-months	Cost (US\$)	Remarks
1.	Collection of information and experiences, including website preparation	3	22,000	Including inputs of UNESCAP experts and associated FAO and other experts
2.	Missions of UNESCAP staff for the review and consultations	1	12,000	Six person-trips
3.	Preparation and organization of the regional workshop for 30 experts	2.5	20,000	UNESCAP experts and general service staff
4.	Preparation of the synthesis, policy recommendation and printing	1.5	14,000	UNESCAP staff, excluding regional expert
	TOTAL		68,000	

External financial resources will be required for the following categories of activities:

- Travel of UNESCAP staff in connection with the reviews, preparation of the workshop and consultation on policy recommendations;
- Travel and accommodations of participants attending the regional workshop; and
- Services of a regional expert to assist UNESCAP in the preparation of the synthesis paper.

The budget for the above three categories of activities is estimated at US\$60,000 as outlined below:

	Category of activities	Cost (US\$)	Remarks
1.	Missions of UNESCAP staff for the review, preparation of the workshop and consultations	10,000	Six person-trips and miscellaneous
2.	Regional workshop for 30 experts	35,000	3-6 experts from each of the 5 subregions.
3.	Preparation of the synthesis, policy recommendation and printing	10,000	Regional expert (6,000), printing (4,000)
4.	Miscellaneous	5,000	Supporting cost for UNESCAP
	TOTAL	60,000	

5. Recommended key regional partners

Apart from ADB and UNDP, which are partners of UNESCAP in the ongoing efforts on monitoring MDGs, it is expected that UNESCAP will mobilize support of the countries and subregional focal points of APWF as well as key regional partners, such as: FAO, World Bank, IWMI, IUCN, UNICEF, WHO, UNEP, IRRI, IFPRI, UNESCO, donors.