

# Regional Preparatory Meeting on Water Issues for the 2018 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development and High Level Political Forum

Beirut, Lebanon, 28-29 March 2018

Lesson learned from preparing the MDG+ Initiative reports, with focus on regional indicators

UN Economic And Social Commission For Western Asia



UNITED NATIONS

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ESCWA



**WATER ACTION DECADE**

2018 - 2028

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# MDG Goal 7.

## Ensure environmental sustainability

**Target 7.A: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources**

- 7.1 Proportion of land area covered by forest (indicator)
- 7.2 CO2 emission, total, per capita and per \$1 GDP (PPP)
- 7.3 Consumption of ozone-depleting substances
- 7.4 Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits
- 7.5 Proportion of total water resources used

**Target 7.B: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss**

- 7.6 Proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected
- 7.7 Proportion of species threatened with extinction

**Target 7.C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation**

- 7.8 Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source
- 7.9 Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility

**Target 7.D: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers**

- 7.10 Proportion of urban population living in slums  
Plus national reporting until 2005 on the adoption of national IWRM plans



# Arab Ministerial Water Council First Ministerial Session (Algiers, June 2009)

## *Resolution 2 – Council Decides to:*

1- Invite ESCWA to set up a mechanism for cooperation and coordination with ACWUA, CEDARE, AWC, RAED to prepare an in-depth report on progress made towards achieving MDGs on water and sanitation taking into consideration **quality of service** provided, and based on harmonized indicators and standards for evaluation and comparison, and forward this report to the Technical Committee in its coming meeting

2- Invite all Arab Countries to continue their efforts to achieve the MDGs on WSS taking into consideration the following:

- **Mainstreaming access to water supply and sanitation** into national IWRM plans
- **Prioritizing domestic drinking water** among competing uses
- **Expanding WSS infrastructure & improving wastewater treatment & reuse** in urban & rural areas
- Adopting technically feasible & financially **affordable technologies** to decrease excess in water supply.
- Strengthening national and local capacity to **protect drinking water sources and its quality**
- Enhancing **legal and institutional frameworks in the WSS sectors including monitoring systems**

*Incorporated into*

**Arab Strategy for Water Security in the Arab Region to Meet the Challenges and Future Needs for Sustainable Development 2010-2030 (approved 2011) & Action Plan**

## **MDG+ Initiative:**

**Establishing a Regional Mechanism for Improved Monitoring and Reporting on Access to Water Supply and Sanitation Services in the Arab Region**

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**Regional  
Indicators**

**Governance**  
**(Regional & National  
Institutional Frameworks)**

**Capacity Building &  
Technical Assistance**

**Data Collection,  
Reporting &  
Monitoring**

# Lesson Learned: Consider Regional Specificities

## MDG+ Indicators

### Water Supply

- Water consumption
- Continuity of supply
- Water quality
- Distance to source
- Tariff structure
- Affordability

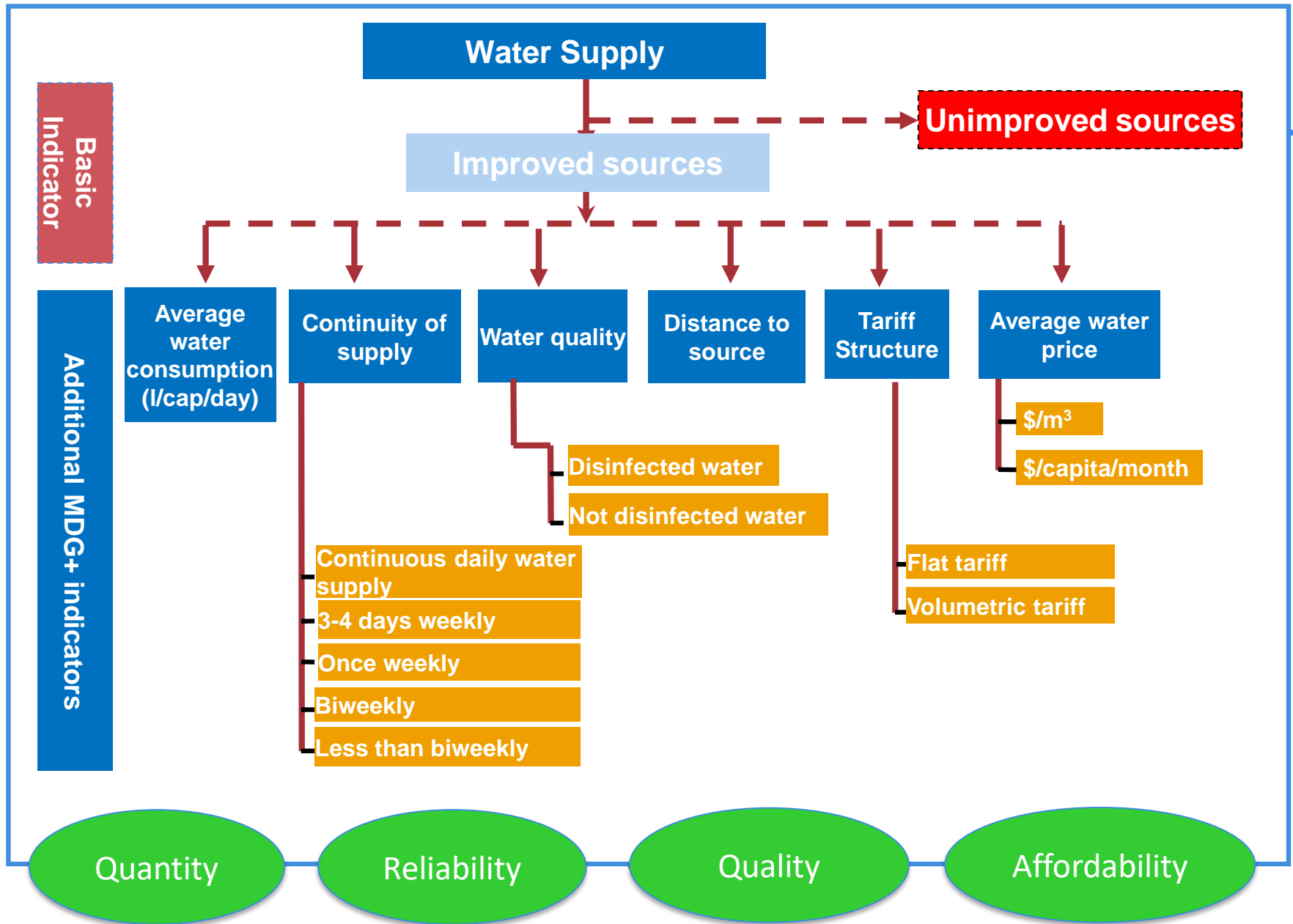
### Sanitation/Wastewater

- Treated quantity
- Treatment type
- Reuse utilization
- Reuse type
- Tariff structure
- Affordability

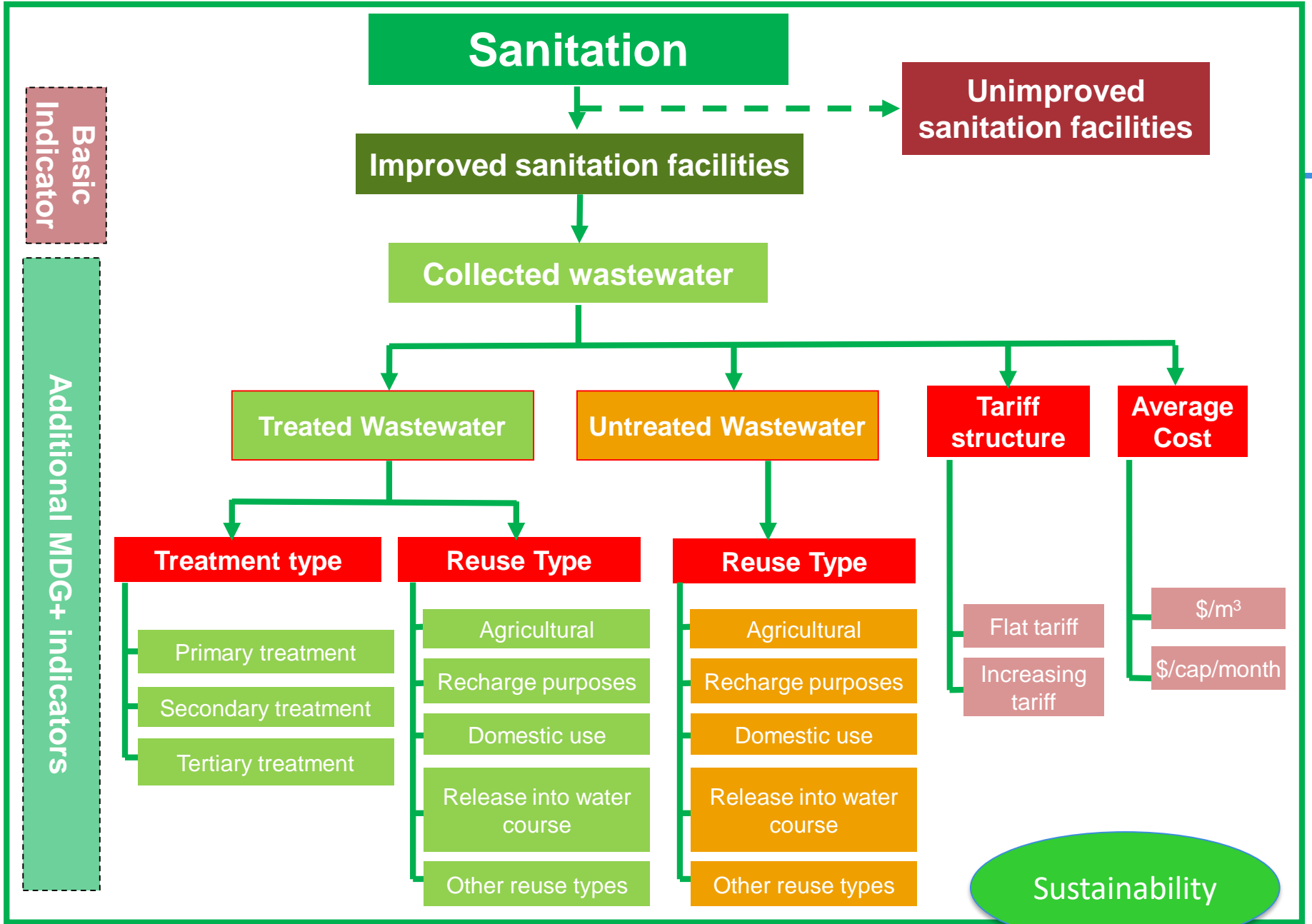
- Purpose is to consider not only accessibility to improved infrastructure, but also reliability, affordability, sustainability and quality of service provided.
- These are particularly important issues to consider in water scarce environments and developing countries.

***These concerns now mostly being considered under the more comprehensive SDG6***

# MDG+ Indicators: Water Supply

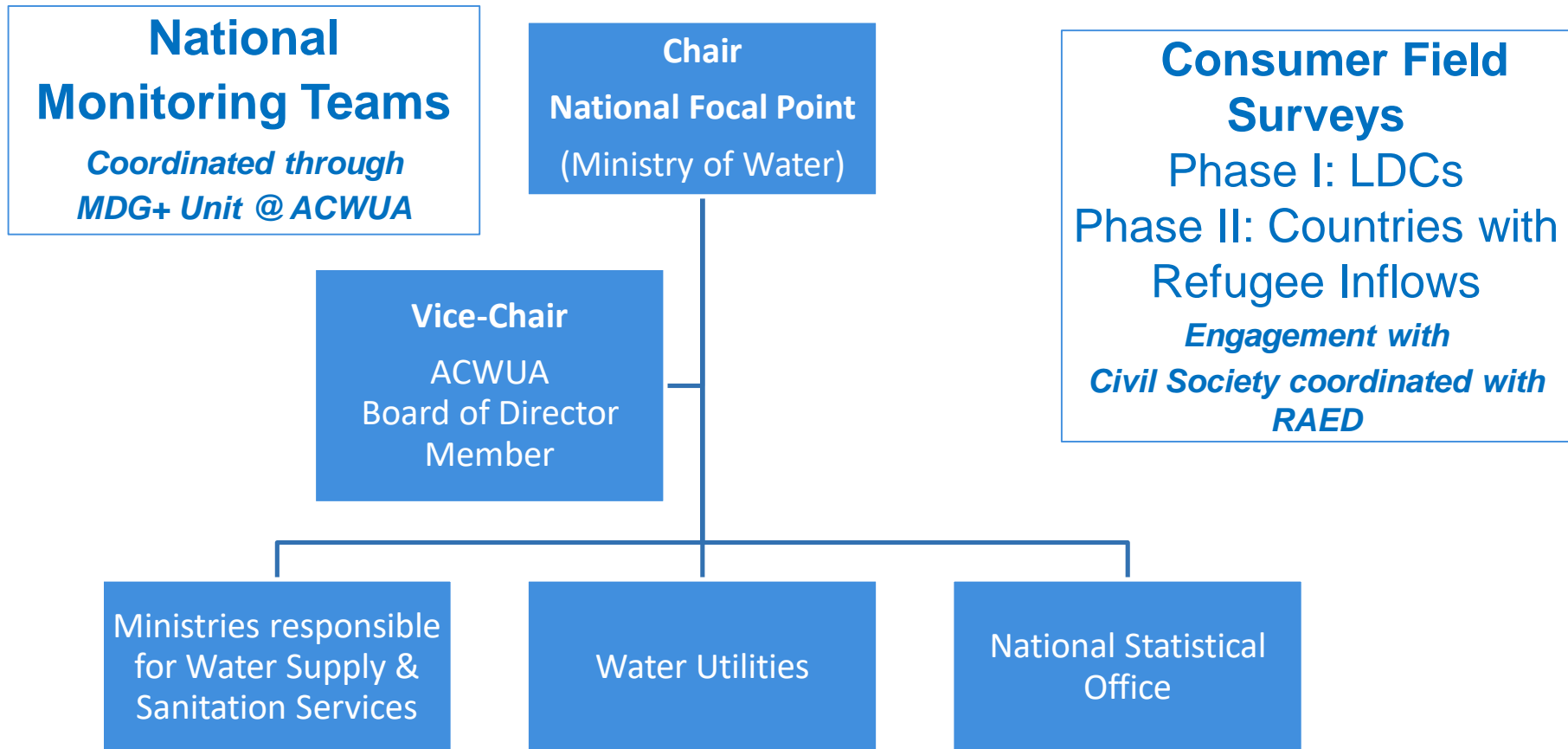


# MDG+ Indicators: Sanitation & Wastewater



# Lesson Learned: Engage Member States

## MDG+ Governance: Country Level



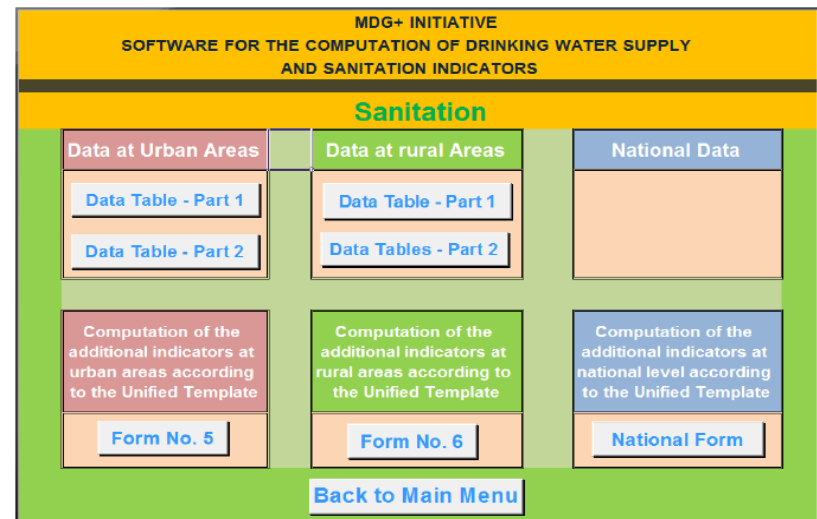
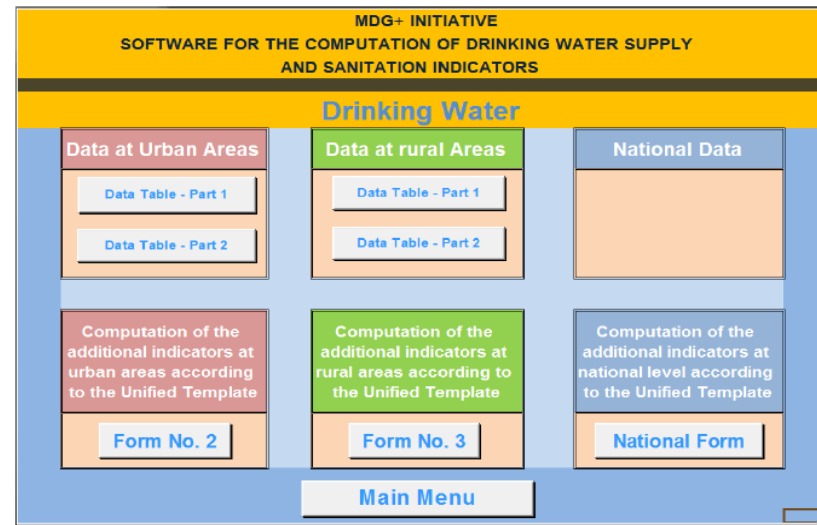
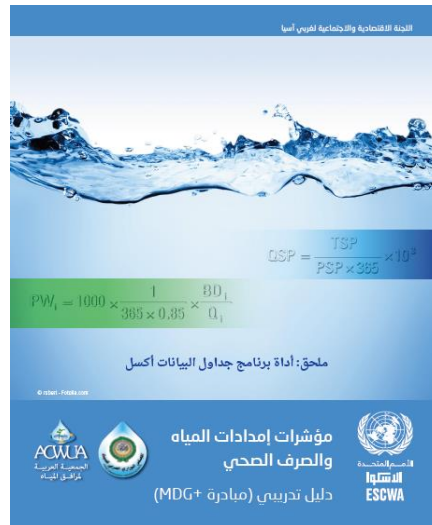
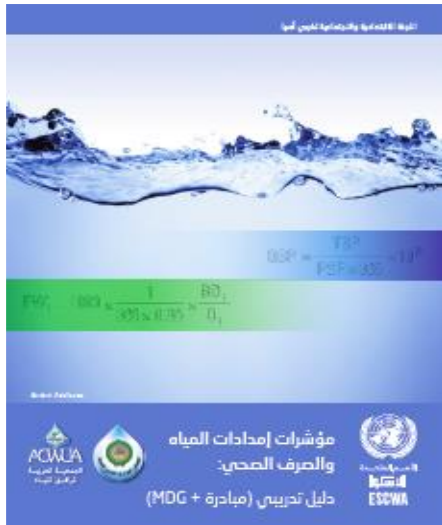
Palestine	Jordan	Iraq	Kuwait	Qatar
Bahrain	UAE	Oman	Yemen	Saudi Arabia
Egypt	Tunisia	Libya	Algeria	Morocco
Mauritania	Sudan	Lebanon		

18 Arab States



# Lesson Learned: Build National Capacity & Ownership

## MDG+ Capacity Building & Technical Assistance

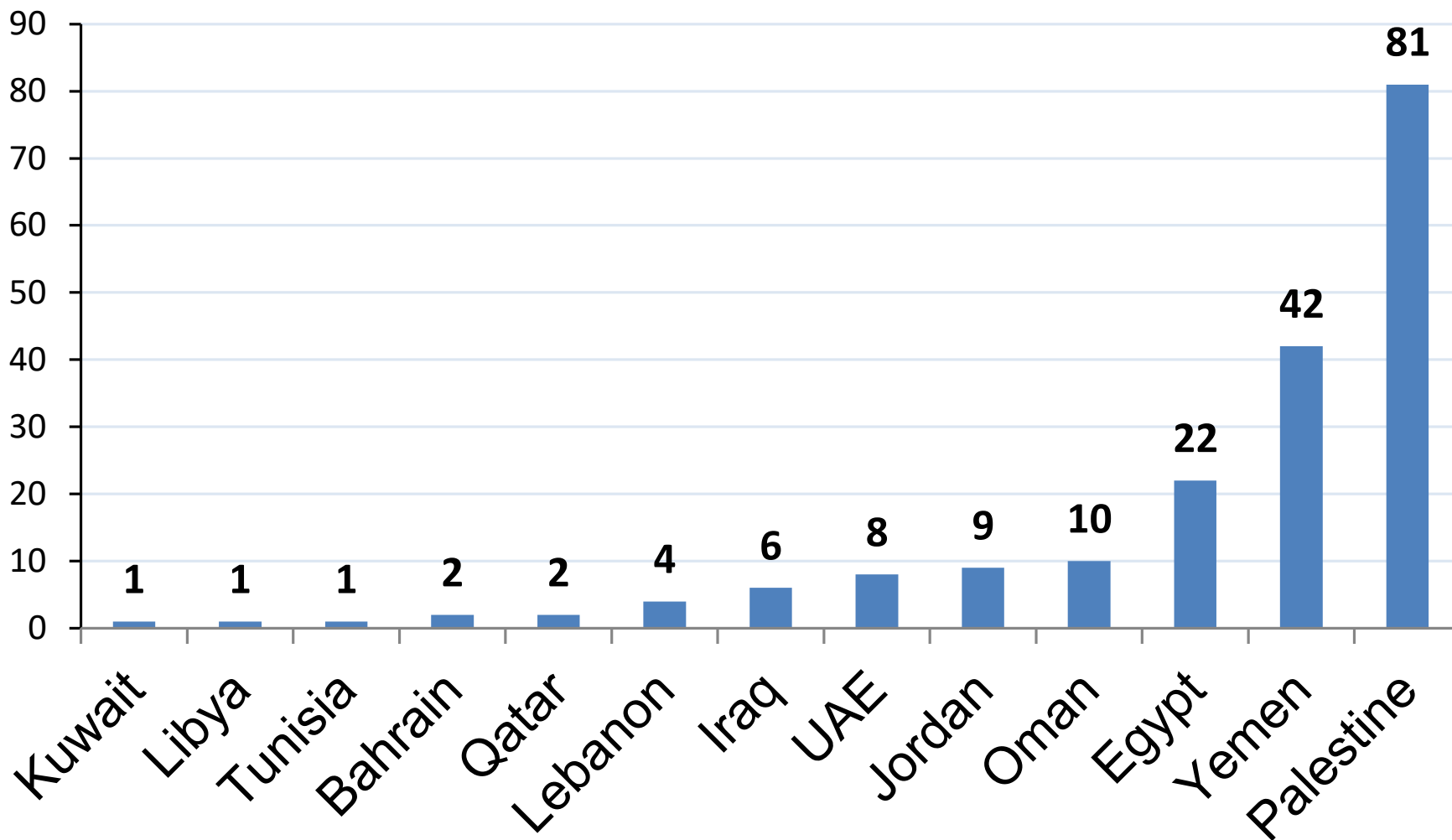


- 3 Regional Expert Meetings
- 3 Regional Workshops
- 13 National Workshops
- 3 Country-level Twinning
- Bi-Annual Reporting to Arab Inter-Governmental Committees & Councils
- Engagement in global processes & conferences

Country
Qatar
Bahrain
Tunisia
United Arab Emirates
Algeria
Oman
Kuwait
Saudi Arabia
Morocco
Lebanon
Mauritania
Sudan
Egypt

# Lesson Learned: Utility KPIs & Administrative Data can complement Statistical Datasets

Number of water and sanitation utilities contributing MDG+ data per State (2015)



# MDG+ Initiative Partners

## Implementing Partners



**MDG+ Unit  
established at  
ACWUA  
In 2012**

## Advisory Board Members and Contributors

<http://www.acwua.org/mdg+/>



**Centre for Environment  
and Development of the  
Arab Region and Europe**



**Arab Water  
Council**



**Arab Network for  
Environment and  
Development**



**World Health  
Organization**

## Donor



**Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)**



## SDG6 Targets and Indicators

6.1 Universal, equitable, safe, affordable Drinking Water for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.1.1 Population using safely managed drinking water services</li> </ul>
6.2 Adequate, equitable Sanitation & Hygiene for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.2.1 Population using safely managed sanitation services with soap &amp; water</li> </ul>
6.3 Improve water quality, wastewater treatment, recycling & safe reuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.3.1 Proportion of wastewater safely treated</li> <li>• 6.3.2 Proportion of water bodies with good ambient water quality</li> </ul>
6.4 Increase water-use efficiency; address water scarcity; reduce number of people suffering from water scarcity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.4.1 Change water-use efficiency</li> <li>• 6.4.2 Level of water stress on freshwater</li> </ul>
6.5 IWRM, including transboundary water cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.5.1 IWRM implementation level</li> <li>• 6.5.2 Portion of basin area with operational arrangement for water cooperation</li> </ul>
6.6 Protect & restore water-related ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6.6.1 change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time</li> </ul>

# Some Arab Regional Water Challenges not sufficiently reflected in SDGs – based on lessons learned

- ❑ **Regularity water supply** (service intermittency)
- ❑ **Understanding the state of water infrastructure – needs consultation with utilities** (non-revenue water losses; infrastructure damaged/destroyed by conflict; infrastructure needing upgrading)
- ❑ **Affordability of drinking water & domestic water** (bottled, piped, standpipe)
- ❑ **Who has access where, when and how** (formal/informal settlements; how to differentiate between urban/rural in Arab region)
- ❑ **Treated wastewater *by type*** (not only quantity reused)
- ❑ **Capacity to store, access and sustainably manage water** in face of water security, scarcity, disasters and shared water resource risks.
- ❑ **Calculating figures by numbers, not only percentages, when conveying information** – particularly on water accessibility, scarcity & security

# *Thank you!*

*Resources:*

<https://www.unescwa.org/events/arab-preparatory-meeting-water-issues-2018>

<http://acwua.org/mdg+/>

<https://www.unescwa.org/our-work/water>

[www.wateractiondecade.org](http://www.wateractiondecade.org)



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— 2018-2028 —

# Measuring access under MDGs was determined insufficient: Key challenges not represented

- **Arab Ministerial Water Council** recognized that access to improved drinking water & sanitation does NOT necessarily mean access to:
  - Regularity water supply** (intermittency challenge)
  - Drinking water quality**
  - Affordability of the drinking water**
  - Wastewater treatment**
  - Wastewater reuse**
  - Capacity to store, access and sustainably manage water resources** in face of water security, scarcity, disasters and shared resources.
- Led to request by the **AMWC** for a new set of indicators in 2009 & the launching by **AMWC** of the **MDG+ Initiative** in 2010.