

Water-related Monitoring in the Voluntary National Review for Palestine

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VNR Committee Members

1. Chair: Palestinian Water Authority
2. Environmental Quality Authority
3. Ministry of Agriculture
4. Palestinian Energy And Natural Resources Authority
5. Ministry of Local Government
6. Representatives of NGOs and main stakeholders

National Water Priorities

PWA top priority is to improve water and sanitation services

And develop additional water resources, develop the infrastructure in water and wastewater sector in Palestine.

Palestine is working hardly to more cooperation in regional projects (Dead-Red Sea project)

- The PWA is working to secure 600 Million USD to build the Gaza Central Desalination Plant, by securing fund in Brussels (Donor community) to solve water crisis in Gaza, 556 USD Million has been secured last week. In addition to solar plant of 12.5 MW.
- Increase the access to “safely managed sanitation” for thousands of Palestinian, **Offsite Wastewater Treatment Plants** are currently under design/construction (in Khan Younis, Tubas, Hebron, Misilya).
- Non-revenue water and water losses have also been addressed as operating costs and partial capital investment
- Institutional arrangements: by reallocation of responsibilities and mandates

- The Palestinian Water Authority has been under reform, This is to achieve better management in the water provision and its related infrastructure, considering cost recovery
- Developing Water Master Plan 2017-2035 for Area C, Prioritization of the interventions base on Water access/scarcity indicators
- PWA has been recently completed North Gaza WWTP connected to more than 350 thousands of people in Gaza
- Wastewater networks: more than 50 km is under construction
- PWA will develop Water Safety Plan by 2018
- Developing of non conventional water resources as desalination Plants in (Khan Younis, Rafah)
- New in initiative of PPP projects regarding wastewater reuse



Means of Implementation for achieving water targets

This Goals comes in line with national priorities

- A National Water Strategic Plan 2012-2032
- A national plan and sector strategy (2017-2022) have helped to further clarify the National vision for reaching the SDGs
- Action Plan has been developed also for national plan (2017-2022) and sector strategy
- Detailed action plan of top priorities has been also developed for 2018-2020

Main Challenges

Challenges affecting the water sector and hindering progress towards achieving a the SDG 6 and threatening Palestinian Water security:

- major political challenges in the water and sanitation sector, which limit the long-term planning. These are mainly linked to the lack of control over the water resources
- In the West Bank, the separation wall swirls over the Mountain Aquifer which constitutes the largest groundwater source for both Palestinian and Israelis
- Restrictions in Area C of the West Bank greatly hinder progress to develop water sector
- Great challenge due to permitting regime from the Israeli Authorities and the restriction for the implementation of water infrastructure
- The catastrophic water status of Gaza, its recurrent electricity shortages and energy crisis, access and preventing material entry

Regarding Sanitation

- Rural water and sanitation sub-sectors lack adequate management systems, funding and capacity to expand and/or to maintain their level of services.
- Political: Israeli obstacles that impose high standards on WWTPs effluent, High Specifications and standards of effluents and treated WW imposed by Israelis (tertiary treatment and 100% reuse).
- Financial: Availability of Fund, Affordability
- Technical: Operation & Maintenance, Capacity Building
- Aquifer pollution especially in Gaza due to sea water intrusion to water aquifer, and filtration of wastewater to water aquifers
- Climate Change and drought (desertification increases a result of losing 50% of the grazing area to Israeli settlements and military camps)

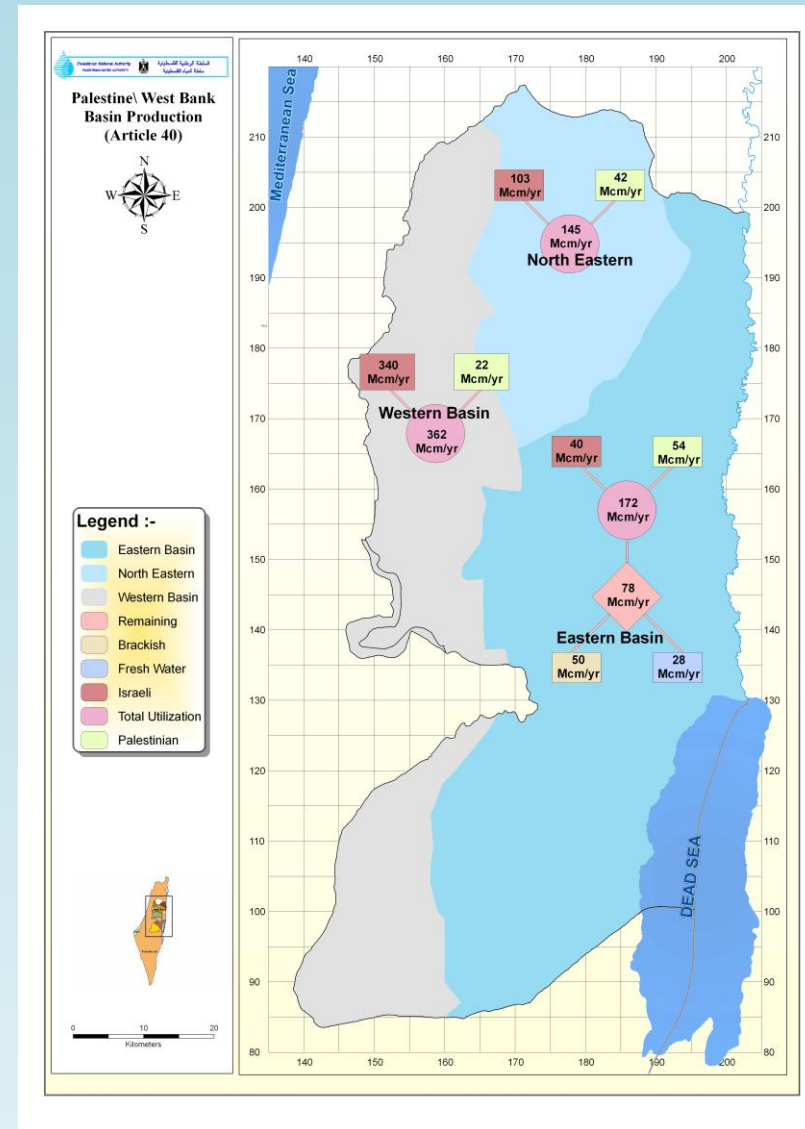
Palestinian case SDG indicator

Indicator 6.4.2

Level of water stress: fresh water withdrawal as proportion of available fresh water resources

This indicator is not applicable, because when we start calculation according to the indicator's metadata , we found that the total renewable water is 778 MCM annually, where only Palestinian used 14%, moreover we don't have reliable data on Israeli withdrall of water from all aquifers, and we can't quantify the renewable water outside WB to Israel.

So This is a direct implication of Occupation on this specific SDGs indicator



Key Messages

- Financial gaps and allocation of fund
- Access to resources (UN resolution regarding natural resources under occupation)
- Sharing Arab expertise and regional experience
- Elaboration and clarification of indicator methodologies, especially shared water resources. Reaffirm the need for more coordination on applying shared water resources arrangement
- Capacity building to enable adequate monitoring of the implementation of SDGs and benefiting from existing experience in the region
- Capacity building is highly needed in Applying of Water Accounting System

Thank You