



“A WATER MDGS MONITORING AND EVALUATION PROGRAM IN NORTH AFRICA”

CONCEPT NOTE FOR A REGIONAL M&E STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP 15 – 17 JUNE 2008, CEDARE, CAIRO, EGYPT

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Because water Sector monitoring and evaluation has been considered the weakest link in the Road Map process to the MDGs in Africa, there is dire need for monitoring and evaluation of progress towards achieving the African Water Vision for 2025, which aimed at sustainable use and management of water resources and for poverty alleviation, socio-economic development. Within its mandate AWF organized a regional consultative meeting in Tunis on 21-22 September 2006 to share experiences and build partnership to support African countries in the water sector monitoring and evaluation. The participants of a regional consultative meeting urged for the need to develop and strengthen country-owned M&E systems for WSS and IWRM that are embedded in the needs, priorities, capacities, and values of the African countries. The meeting proposed concrete action plans to transform the vision of an African-centered water sector monitoring and evaluation to reality.
- 1.2 During the 3rd session of the AWF Governing Council held in Cairo, Egypt, 25-26 June 2006, N-AMCOW through the Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), submitted a request to the AWF to support N-AMCOW in a proposal for sub regional MDGs M&E program called “A Water MDGs Monitoring and Evaluation Program in North Africa”. Countries included in the study are Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania. The overall objective of the proposed project is to assess the progress in achieving the African Vision water related targets of the MDGs and IWRM in the Northern African countries and enable a country-led M&E functions in North Africa to produce monitoring data and evaluations that are credible, valid, comparable and useable as tested by internationally recognized monitoring and evaluation standards. This request was discussed and endorsed by AMCOW TAC members of the 6 AMCOW-N countries.

- 1.3 Institutional arrangements for project implementation will include establishment of National Task Forces at the country level led by a National Coordinator from a lead water sector institution. At the regional level, CEDARE will establish a Project Management Unit and provide professional and logistical support to the Unit. CEDARE and the Project Management Unit will maintain strong linkages with other regional and international initiatives and programs such as those by GWP, AWC, EMWIS, and SSO. AMCOW_TAC will provide guidance and advice CEDARE regarding the annual work plans and comments on the progress and review reports.
- 1.4 This proposal was included in AWF pipeline and a consultant was recruited in 2007 to detail the proposal in order to follow the guidelines of the action plan proposed by the September 2006 consultative meeting and, therefore, pave the way of a replication towards the 4 remaining AMCOW sub regions in the establishment of a regional water sector Monitoring and Evaluation mechanism. The detailed project proposal was reviewed and finalized in September 2007 by the AWF TM and the CEDARE.
- 1.5 Following the Regional Consultative Meeting on Building Partnership to support African Countries in Water Sector Monitoring and Evaluation, 21-22 September 2006, Tunis, the AWF launched a pan African assessment on water sector monitoring and evaluation. This ongoing initiative has already provided the AWF with a draft template for national water sector monitoring and evaluation assessment, which will serve as a basis for AMCOW-N countries water sector M&E assessment.
- 1.6 Given the relevance, and potential effectiveness, and sustainability of the Project, as well as the credibility and capacity of the Recipients, the project will play an important role in strategic coordination and monitoring of future water related investments in the North African Sub-region and ultimately helps sustainable water resources management for poverty reduction, economic growth, and livelihood of the population in the participating countries.

2 WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The expected outcomes of this workshop are: i) a comprehensive review and feedback on the proposed project by the major AMCOW-N countries stakeholders involved into water sector Monitoring and Evaluation, ii) an update of the country activities based on the latest developments of national water sector M&E including Sector Information and Monitoring Systems, iii) a shared understanding with development partners and regional organizations involved into water sector M&E on the sub regional action plan, and iv) the preparation of collaborative actions to support M&E systems development and co financing by the development partners and countries.

3 WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS AND VENUE

- 3.1 The workshop will be held at the Intercontinental Hotel & Holiday In Citystars - Omar Ibn Khattab St, Heliopolis Bahary – and the CEDARE premises in Cairo, Egypt, on June 15-17, 2008 under the auspices of the Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) as AMCOW-N Secretariat.

- 3.2 The workshop intends to gather around 70 participants, M&E water stakeholders representatives of the 6 AMCOW North riparian countries (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia), Regional organizations, development partners, the CEDARE and ADB/AFW. Each riparian country will nominate a 6 persons delegation representing the ministries in charge of Water (planning and water resources management departments), Environment, Health, and Statistical Office. Each delegation will be led by the country AMCOW TAC member.