STRATEGIC DIRECTION: **1. Ensure everyone's well-being**

PRIORITY for ACTION: **1.5. Contribute to cooperation and peace**

Target 7: *By 2018, develop mechanisms to share and monitor information at the transboundary level especially on (i) scientific and social data for information systems: contribution to an online inventory and establishment of a water observatory, and (ii) indicators and guidelines for programmes monitoring the quality of cooperation and the impact of the lack of access to water on cooperation and peace-building.*

Target Rationale

All organisations working in the water sector need to have access to pertinent and useful data and information for decision making and/or partner information, and this access is often limited.

Moreover, the water sector monitoring and assessment is often considered the weakest link in the roadmap process to the MDGs, international conventions and transnational agreements on shared resources.

The success of cooperation policies in the water sector depends on the use of efficient governance tools where transparency and confidence in access to information on the status of water resources and their use is fundamental.

The 5th World Water Forum emphasized that water data and information exchanges are the basis for cooperation between riparian countries (agencies, ministries, etc.). They allow the countries to work closer together, to develop relationships, and to improve their mutual understanding of the transboundary context.

Essential quantitative and qualitative information has to be collected, validated and shared, in particular regarding resources, resource uses, pollution pressures, related ecosystems, risk assessment, and financial challenges. This information should be used as the objective basis for dialogue, negotiation, decision-making, and evaluation of options between different groups of stakeholders within one country or between two or more countries.

Donor-financing can also benefit from this information for defining priorities, projects identification and monitoring the impact of their programmes.

In addition, the lack of access to water can create tensions between users, alter cooperation and even generate conflict. It can also jeopardize the attainment of MDGs by a country or a group of countries. Monitoring mechanisms are necessary to understand the impact of the lack of access to water on cooperative processes at various levels, whether they are directly or indirectly related to water.

Target Description

Developing sustainable mechanisms to produce information useful for decision making related to water management and/or partner information at the transboundary level requires to develop institutional agreements between the stakeholders and to build the capacity of each stakeholder to provide reliable and comparable data responding to both their internal management needs as well as the cooperation needs.

In this process, it is necessary to involve the mains organisation producing and using data, to develop information system answering to their needs in order to insure their long term participation and to produce useful outputs such as common indicators to monitor and assess the quality of cooperation over surface and groundwater resources at the technical, political and institutional level. A set of tools can facilitate this process, such as methodological and technical guidelines, good practices, tools supporting decision making, international standards, online inventory and common reference frameworks. The focus for the development of such tools and guidelines can be related to many crucial areas of interest such as risk management, flood and drought prevention, funding mechanisms, integrated information systems, planning methods, training and capacity development.

DRAFT DOCUMENT

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TARGET ACTION PLAN:

	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TARGET Expected results & Indicators of	PRACTICAL STEPS Activities to be done/	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES		KEY-REQUIREMENTS/ ASUMPTIONS	ESTIMATED BUDGET (1k€, 10k€, 100k€, 1m€, 1b€) & potential sources of
			Lead institution	Main partners		
Milestone 1: Reliable knowledge on the status of and the pressures on water resources is a prerequisite for peace and building cooperation						
October 2011	- At least 4 international initiatives recognize the importance of reliable data and information on the status of and the pressures on water resources	- Inventory of the status of ongoing political processes - Monitoring endorsement processes, including success and failure - Review the draft Target description and Action Plan	EMWIS	EMWIS member countries, UNECE, Arab Water Council, OSS, SIAGUA, EEA (SEIS), EC-IFAS, INBO, ….		

	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TARGET Expected results & Indicators of	PRACTICAL STEPS Activities to be done/	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES		KEY-REQUIREMENTS/ ASUMPTIONS	ESTIMATED BUDGET (1k€, 10k€, 100k€, 1m€, 1b€) & potential sources of
			Lead institution	Main partners		
End 2011	Inventory of solutions responding to the target At least 10 solutions are identified	Collect solutions from the TSG members Review of solutions for application in different contexts - Identify international organization and national water authorities voluntary to participate to the development of shared water information systems on transboundary water resources	EMWIS	TSG members		

	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TARGET Expected results / Indicators of	PRACTICAL STEPS Activities to be done/	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES		KEY-REQUIREMENTS/ ASUMPTIONS	ESTIMATED BUDGET (1k€, 10k€, 100k€, 1m€, 1b€) & potential sources of
			Lead institution	Main partners		
Milestone 2: By 2012, 10 (local and national) water authorities are committed in building shared water information system allowing the cooperation on transboundary water resources						
March 2012 (6th World Water Forum)	**Target** is **refined and/or endorsed** at the World Water Forum	- Present and discuss the target challenges and solutions during the break-out session - Commitment international organization and national water authorities during the forum for building to participate to the development of shared water information systems on transboundary water resources, using the solutions proposed	EMWIS	**Water resources authorities**		

Milestone 3: By 2018, Transparent indicator based information systems are adopted for shared water resources, at least 20					
2012-2015	Developing mechanisms to share and monitor information at the transboundary level	For each local / national system: 1/ Preliminary agreements for involvement of the partners 2/ Diagnostic of the situation related to data management including - The inventory of actors involved (database of actors) - Cartography of the existing data flows - Online inventory of data sources (metadata catalogues) - Analyse of the need in data and information of the various actors 3/ Data management action plan definition 4/ Implementation of the plan At transboundary level: harmonisation of indicators definitions, agreements on joint indicators, guidelines and capacity building	Water authorities International programmes, transboundary basin organisations	 Water authorities	
2016-2018	Validation of the operation of the mechanisms are in place				
TOTAL :					