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Mediterranean Coastal Zones:
Managing the Water-Food-Energy
and Ecosystem NEXUS









2nd Multi-stakeholder Consultation on the Water-Energy Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus in Lebanon: Key findings of Phase I Nexus Assessment and the way ahead

and

coordination with efforts towards

- Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) planning and climate resilience in Lebanon
- Conjunctive Management of Surface water and Groundwater in Lebanon

27-28 February 2023
Crowne Plaza Beirut
Beirut-Lebanon

Simultaneous interpretation will be available between Arabic and English

Draft Agenda

Day 1 - 27 February 2023

08.30 – 09.00 Registration of participants

09.00 - 10.00 OPENING SESSION

Welcoming Addresses

- Ms. Olfat Hamdan, MedProgramme Management Officer, UNEP/MAP (tbc)
- Ms. Constanza Farina, Director of UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in the Arab States,
 Office in Beirut
- Ms. Željka Škaričić, Director, PAP/RAC
- Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med
- Mr. Michael Karner, Project Manager, Plan Bleu/RAC
- Ministry of Public Works and Transportation (tbc)
- Minister of Energy and Water (tbc)
- Minister of Agriculture (tbc)
- Minister of Environment (tbc)
- Prime Minister Office (PMO) (tbc)

Chair: Eng. Mona Fakih – Director of Water, Ministry of Energy and Water

I- Enhancing environmental security in Lebanon through inter-sectoral coordination and multi-stakeholder consultation

10.00 – 11.00 SESSION 1: Overview and status of MedProgramme activities in Lebanon

This session will provide an overview of MedProgramme activities in Lebanon including their implementation status and opportunities for enhanced environmental security in the country.

- Towards sustainability and resilience of the Lebanese coastal zone
 - Ms. Daria Povh, Senior Programme Officer, PAP/RAC
- Applying participatory foresight analysis to support ICZM planning in Lebanon
 - Mr. Michael Karner, Plan Bleu/RAC
- Conjunctive Management of Surface and Groundwater Resources in Lebanon
 - Mr. José Luis Martin Bordes, Consultant, UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme
- Promoting Water-Energy-Food securities while reducing risks on ecosystems: The WEFE Nexus approach in Lebanon
 - Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos, GWP-Med (moderator of the session)

Discussion

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break

II- Key findings of Phase I WEFE Nexus Assessment and synergies with ICZM Planning, climate resilience and conjunctive management of water resources

11.30 – 12.30 SESSION 2: Stakeholder analysis and assessment of the enabling conditions for effective cross sectoral integration and policy planning in Lebanon including the coastal area

This session presents the main outcomes of Stakeholder and Governance Analysis carried out for Lebanon and aims at identifying and characterizing additional actors relevant to the WEFE Nexus activities, ICZM planning and conjunctive water management.

12:30 – 16:00 SESSION 3: Prioritization and consolidation of critical WEFE Nexus solutions for integrated policymaking in Lebanon

This session introduces the methodology adopted for the preparation and prioritization of the WEFE Nexus Assessment (Phase I) in Lebanon and the lists of needed solutions that were identified through expert judgement and participatory processes. These solutions contribute to various regional, national and sub-national plans enhancing integrated natural resources management including in coastal areas. For implementation purposes, a consolidation exercise of WEFE Nexus solutions will be carried out with the participants. Potential interlinkages among Nexus solutions, ICZM planning, climate resilience and conjunctive water management efforts will be explored during the discussions.

- 12:30 13:15 Presentation of key WEFE Nexus solutions, including interlinkages with ICZM planning, climate resilience and conjunctive water management efforts
- 13:15 13:45 Discussion

13.45 – 14.45 Lunch break

- 14:45 15:00 Implementing priority WEFE Nexus solutions for Lebanon: introduction to the group sessions
- 15:00 16:30 Breakout sessions on the implementation of WEFE Nexus solutions

Coffee will be available during the last session

Day 2 - 28 February 2023

III- Implementation of priority WEFE Nexus solutions and their contribution to ICZM Planning, climate resilience and conjunctive management of water resources

09:30 – 12:30 SESSION 4: Plenary discussion reviewing priority WEFE Nexus solutions and focusing on conditions and resources needed for their implementation

This session presents the outcomes and results of the prioritization and consolidation of WEFE Nexus solutions carried out during groups exercise on Day 1. A moderated discussion with all participants will address and unpack the needs and conditions for implementing key WEFE Nexus priorities in Lebanon, including contributions from experts from International Organizations, Bilateral Agencies, Financial Partners and other knowledge brokers.

12:30 – 13:30 SESSION 5: Next steps on Nexus work in Lebanon (WEFE Nexus Assessment Phase II) and interlinkages with other MedProgramme's interventions on ICZM and conjunctive water management

Future steps of the Nexus work in Lebanon will be presented, including their contribution to ICZM planning efforts, climate resilience and conjunctive water management efforts undertaken in the framework of MedProgramme.

- 12:30 12:40 Planned WEFE Nexus activities: Nexus Assessment (Phase II) (GWP-Med)
- 12:40 12:50 Towards sustainability and resilience of the Lebanese coastal zone: future steps (PAP/RAC & Plan Bleu/RAC)
- 12:50 13:00 Conjunctive Surface-Groundwater Management in Lebanon: the way ahead (UNESCO IHP)
- 13:00 13:30 Discussion

13.30 – 14.30 Lunch break

IV - Consultation on Conjunctive Management of Surface and Groundwater

14.30 – 17.30 SESSION 6: Conjunctive Management of Surface and Groundwater in coastal aquifers in Lebanon and linkages with the WEFE Nexus and ICZM

14:30 – 14:50: Conjunctive Management of surface water and groundwater in the context of the National Water Sector Strategy and the New Water Law: objectives and priorities

Speaker: Eng. Mona Fakih – Director of Water, Ministry of Energy and Water

14:50 – 15:40: Modeling and delineation of Damour Aquifer: status and future activities

Speaker: Dr/Eng Michel Frem, UNESCO Consultant

15:40 – 16:00: Protecting vulnerable groundwater resources through cross-sectoral integration

Speaker: Prof. Nadim Farajalla – UNESCO Consultant, Director, Climate Change and Environment Program, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut

16:00 – 17:00: Break-out groups (facilitated discussions based on questions)

17:00 – 17:20: Presentation of break-out groups key outputs

17.20 – 17.30 CLOSING SESSION OF THE TWO-DAY CONSULTATION