



## **Country Stakeholders Workshop for SDG 6.5.1 in Pakistan**

**Held at**

**Office of the Chief Engineering Advisor/Chairman Federal Flood Commission  
Ministry of Water Resources  
6-Attaturk Avenue, G-5/1, Islamabad**

**20 December 2017**

**IWRM Focal Point:**

**Mr. Ahmed Kamal  
Chief Engineering Advisor / Chairman Federal Flood Commission, Ministry of  
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## 1. Executive Summary

The sustainable development goals (SDGs) are a new, universal set of goals, targets and indicators that UN member states are using to frame their agendas and political policies until 2030. There are 17 goals and 169 targets. Goal No 6 is 'Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all'. UN Environment is supporting countries in monitoring and reporting on SDG 6. The target 6.5 is 'By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate'. This target supports the equitable and efficient use of water resources, which is essential for social and economic development, as well as environmental sustainability. Indicator 6.5.1 is: Degree of integrated water resources management (IWRM) implementation. Global Water Partnership (GWP) supports countries to achieve the SDG 6.5.1 which targets on IWRM.

Pakistan Water Partnership (PWP), as a country chapter of GWP, in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Engineering Advisor (CEA) / Chairman Federal Flood Commission (CFFC), Ministry of Water Resources organized the workshop "Country Stakeholders Workshop for SDG 6.5.1" by involving key stakeholders from all over the country. More than thirty water experts and stakeholders from diverse fields related to water participated and contributed in filling the IWRM Survey Questionnaire (The list of participants is attached).

Sardar Muhammad Tariq, Chief Executive Officer, Pakistan Water Partnership (PWP) welcomed the participants and briefed them on the objective and importance of the workshop. Mr. Javed Shah, Federal Minister of Water Resources, was the Chief Guest. During his opening remarks, he reiterated the Government of Pakistan's strong commitment to SDGs and particularly to the SDG 6 that is most relevant to his ministry. He emphasized the need for IWRM. He congratulated PWP and the Office of the Chief Engineering Advisor (CEA) / Chairman Federal Flood Commission (CFFC), Ministry of Water Resources, for organizing this important workshop to establish a baseline on SDG 6.5.1: Degree of IWRM implementation in the country. He assured that the ministry will look into the findings and recommendations of the workshop and will try its best for promoting IWRM at all levels in the country.

The Facilitator presented the survey questionnaire and briefed the participants on stepwise methodology to fill it by allotting appropriate scores on a scale of 0 to 100 on the degree of IWRM implementation in the country. The participants discussed the survey questionnaire and provided comprehensive input for allotting appropriate scores jointly. The overall average score came about 50 on a scale of 0 to 100 on the degree of IWRM in the country. The stakeholders resolved that, though not in strict accordance with the definition of the IWRM, water resources are being managed and governed by various rules and laws. They agreed that there is a need to promote IWRM at all levels. They observed that the establishment of the Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) is the right step forward and recommended that the MWR should take the lead in monitoring the promotion and incorporation of IWRM at all levels.

The participants also identified key challenges faced in water resources development and management in the country and identified options and recommendations given in section 2 of the report.

Syed Mehr Ali, Joint Secretary Ministry of Water Resources, chaired the concluding session. While appreciating and supporting the IWRM survey questionnaire for establishing the baseline on IWRM implementation in the country, he felt that the Questionnaire has more focus on drinking water. He referred to the findings and recommendations given in the report of the Task Force (Mr. John Brisco) for water resources development and management in the country. He found the recommendations are practical and relevant and recommended to considering those for IWRM. He thanked the participants for their time and contribution. He appreciated the PWP and the Office of the Chief Engineering Advisor (CEA) / Chairman Federal Flood Commission (CFFC), Ministry of Water Resources, for organizing the workshop. He said that the ministry looks forward to receiving the findings and recommendations of the workshop for promoting IWRM at all levels in the country.

## **2. Conclusions from facilitated discussions**

### **2.1. Enabling Environment**

#### **a) What are the main challenges to progress in the country?**

Pakistan, one of the world's most arid countries, with an average rainfall of under 240 mm a year, is heavily dependent on an annual influx into the Indus River system. About 180 billion cubic meters of water of the system emanates from the neighboring country, and is mostly derived from snowmelt in Himalayas. Pakistan is also dependent on a single river basin i.e. Indus River. Dependence on a single river system means the country has less strength compared to that most countries enjoy by virtue of having a multiplicity of river basins and diversity of water resources. Pakistan is heading towards "water stress" country and has already reached to the limit of 1,000 cubic meters per person per year, below which serious economic and social consequences are likely.

The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) measures the pressure on national water resources by calculating water withdrawal as a percentage of total renewable water resources (TRWR). Stresses are considered high if the TRWR value is above 25 percent. Pakistan's water pressure amounts to a staggering 74 percent.

Population growth rate and urbanization are the main reasons behind the crisis. The issue has also been exacerbated by climate change, poor water management, and a lack of political will to deal with the crisis.

Water allocation and use in agriculture (more than 90%) is excessive and inefficient. Pakistan grow more than 30 crops having very low water use efficiency. Water pricing in agriculture is lowest and thereby cost recovery is very low to meet the funding requirements of the operation and maintenance of the infrastructure. Pakistan has the world's fourth highest rate of water use. Its water intensity rate - the amount of water, in cubic meters, used per unit of GDP - is the world's highest, that suggests no country's economy is more water-intensive than Pakistan's.

Water quality of groundwater is deteriorating (water from 60% tube wells is unfit) and there is lack of recharge. Drinking water quality is a serious issue in many areas of the country. Industrial effluents are also not being treated and disposed properly.

INDUS BASIN TREATY (IBT) has been implemented satisfactorily in the past but now facing difficulties as well.

#### **b) How can the main challenges be addressed?**

The participants identified the following to address the main challenges:

- There is a strong need to demonstrate the political will to deal with the crisis.
- Improving water use efficiency in agriculture by 5 percent in 10 years and reducing water allocation to agriculture accordingly to meet the future demand. May adapt high efficiency irrigation systems.
- Water storage capacity in the country need to be increased substantially and immediately.
- Water conservation need to be propagated at all levels.
- Water quality protection measures put in place both for surface and groundwater resources.

- Groundwater recharges need to be increased and abstraction of groundwater to be regulated.

**c) What are the major point's stakeholders do not agree on and why?**

- IWRM is a generic terminology.
- Monitoring of IWRM is not complicated and setting targets for achieving it by 2030 is too optimistic.

**d) Other interesting points of note from the discussion?**

The survey questionnaire is mainly focused on drinking water and sanitation.

## **2.2. Institutions and Participation**

**a) What are the main challenges to progress in the country?**

There are a number of institutions exist who work on water related issues within their respective mandates and jurisdictions. There are also a number of coordination mechanisms established at national and provincial levels. Most of these are addressing the issues partly and in isolation with little participation of key stakeholders. An integrated and well-coordinated effort is the need of the hour to address water resources management including IWRM in the country.

Participation and involvement of all stakeholders and respective institutions is essential to address water resources management.

**b) How can the main challenges addressed?**

The challenge is addressed by the Government of Pakistan in 2017 through creating an independent ministry (Ministry of Water Resources) at federal level to oversee and coordinate the water resources development and management in the country including IWRM.

**c) What are the major points stakeholders do not agree on and why?**

While appreciating the establishment of Ministry of Water Resources at federal level to oversee and coordinate the water resources development and management in the country including IWRM, some of the stakeholders anticipate difficulties in changing the mind set and existing compartmentalization.

**d) Other interesting points of note from the discussion?**

The stakeholders felt that Ministry of Water Resources will need considerable time and resources (both human and financial) to coordinate and monitor implementation of IWRM at all levels and all over Pakistan by establishing strong linkages with provinces, Northern areas and federal administrated tribal areas. Provinces would also need to create their own monitoring units. At present there is a focal setup established to work on SDGs in the planning division. Even though

the set-up is in place, it lacks facilities to monitoring the implementation status. Workshop felt that government of Pakistan has given SDGs due importance along with priority commitment and doling out large amount of money through its local elected members but seriously lacks monitoring mechanism. In case if implementation was monitored, a very encouraging picture would be emerged.

### **2.3. Management Instruments**

#### **a) What are the main challenges to progress in the country?**

Currently, most of the institutions have put adequate management instruments in place for collecting, updating and preliminary analysis of water-related data and information relevant to their operations. The information is mostly kept in-house for periodic use and references without sharing. In addition, these data is not been analyzed to be used in science and policy or the usage is limited. Overall, the data collected is not adequately analyzed, exploited, used and shared.

#### **b) How can the main challenges be addressed?**

- Substantial resources may be provided for appropriate technical capacity such as laboratories, portable devices, online water use control and data acquisition systems.
- A combination of physical data collection, remote sensing, and modelling for filling data gaps is needed.

#### **c) What are the major points stakeholders do not agree on and why?**

Some of the stakeholders expressed that provisions of appropriate incentives are required for collecting, updating and analyzing data for science and policy. Further, appreciation and acknowledgement is needed for sharing data.

#### **d) Other interesting points of note from the discussion?**

### **2.4. Financing**

#### **a) What are the main challenges to progress in the country?**

- Finance for investment and recurrent cost for the water related infrastructure in the country is coming from the government budget allocations to relevant ministries and authorities.
- These allocations are not adequate considering the conditions of old water related infrastructure in the country.
- Cost recovery through water pricing is very low and highly inadequate.
- Finance from Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) specifically for water resources are mostly for the new projects.
- Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of most of the water related infrastructure depends on the government budget allocations, that are very low compared to the requirement for an adequate O&M.
- In addition, there is a lack of transparency and accountability in the government budget allocations and subsequent disbursements on the water related infrastructure.

## **b) How can the main challenges be addressed?**

- The government budget allocations for the water related infrastructure to relevant ministries and authorities need to be increased significantly.
- There is a strong need for increasing cost recovery for O&M of water related infrastructure through applying realistic water pricing and collecting it systematically.
- Provisions of water trading at different levels will also contribute towards improving cost recovery.
- Transparency and accountability in the government budget allocations and subsequent disbursements on the water related infrastructure need to be ensured.
- Public-Private Partnership model involving the beneficiaries need to be adapted as far as feasible and possible.

## **c) What are the major points stakeholders do not agree on and why?**

Some participants were of the view that participatory model has not yielded the desired results while other felt that the model has not been practiced with appropriate preparations and for future development.

## **d) Other interesting points of note from the discussion?**

The political will is the key force to adapt to realistic water pricing that can help in adequate O&M of the water related infrastructure for a quality service delivery.

## **3. Achievements**

- Pakistan carries a long history of water resources development and centuries old water laws. The Indus Basin Water Treaty of 1960 established rights of Pakistan on the share of Indus River water. Based on share of water, Pakistan developed the Indus Basin project, which is now the largest contiguous irrigation system in the world containing over US \$ 3,000 billion of water infrastructure. The Basin provides food security to over 208 million people, earns 60% of foreign exchange earnings and provides job opportunities to some 40% of total labour force in the country.
- Within Pakistan, the inter provincial water apportionment accord of 1991 sets aside the water share of provinces
- Two strong institutions were created i.e. Indus Water commission and Indus System Rivers Authority (IRSA) responsible for management of transboundary waters and internal river waters distributions respectively.

- Provincial Irrigation and Drainage Authorities (PIDAs) were established to promote participatory irrigation and IWRM.
- The draft National Policy does recognize and give high priority to IWRM at all levels in the country particularly for the surface and groundwater resources.
- PWP since its establishment in 1999 has been involved in creating awareness and promoting IWRM in the country. A number of Area Water Partnerships (AWPs) are practicing IWRM at the grassroots level by involving stakeholders from multiple uses of water.
- PWP has been instrumental in disseminating IWRM concept and impact of climate change at all levels in Pakistan including among policy makers. As a result, IWRM and climate change is now the focus of policy initiatives pertaining to water managements in Pakistan.

#### **4. Next steps**

The draft National Policy recognizing and giving high priority to IWRM at all levels in the country particularly for the surface and groundwater resources is likely to be approved soon by the Council of Common Interests (highest government forum). This will be a major step forward to incorporate IWRM in all public and private water resources management domains.

IWRM being promoted at AWP level was discussed by a number of participants who are actively involved and multiple uses of water are being undertaken in coordination while respecting the water rights and priorities.

These need to be promoted to higher levels such as canal commands, sub-basin levels etc.

PWP in collaboration with MWR will organize stakeholders meetings to create awareness and build partnerships.

PWP will establish AWP in all the districts in collaboration with MWR and Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund to create awareness and promote IWRM at grassroots level.



## 5. APPENDICES

### Appendix 1: List of participants

Sr. #	Name	Designation	Organization	Address	Tele	Email
1	Mr. Syed Javed Ali Shah	Federal Minister	Ministry of Water Resources, GOP	Plot#6 Attaturk Avenue, G-5/1, Islamabad	051-9244623 0305-8880863	
2	Mr. Syed Mehr Ali Shah	Joint Secretary	Ministry of Water Resources, GOP	Plot#6 Attaturk Avenue, G-5/1, Islamabad	051-9244873 0333-4213404	<a href="mailto:syedmehrli@gmail.com">syedmehrli@gmail.com</a>
3	Dr. QaziTallat M. Siddiqui	Deputy Engineer Advisor c/o Chief Engineer Advisor / Chair FFC	Ministry of Water Resources, GOP	Plot#6 Attaturk Avenue, G-5/1, Islamabad	0333-5254670	<a href="mailto:gazitms@yahoo.com">gazitms@yahoo.com</a>
4	Mr. Khalid Mohtadullah	Senior Advisor, GWP/Former Member (W) WAPDA/Advisor & Director	International Water Management Institute (IWMI)	T-41, Street 10, DHA-II, Lahore	0300-8440960	<a href="mailto:gkm1960@hotmail.com">gkm1960@hotmail.com</a>
5	Mr. Mirza Hamid Hassan	EX-Federal Secretary Water & Power	Former Ministry of Water & Power	80, Street 59, I-8/3, Islamabad	0300-5001875	<a href="mailto:hamid_h@hotmail.com">hamid_h@hotmail.com</a>
6	Mr. Sardar Muhammad Tariq	Chief Executive Officer	Pakistan Water Partnership (PWP)	Village & Post Office KotNajibullah, Haripur	3028505538	<a href="mailto:smtariq@pwp.org.pk">smtariq@pwp.org.pk</a>
7	Mr. Syed Raghil Abbas Shah	Ex-Chairman	WAPDA	50- C, Block D, Unit 6, Latifabad , Hyderabad	0333-4257879	<a href="mailto:ali.abbas.shah182@gmail.com">ali.abbas.shah182@gmail.com</a>
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14	Dr. Ms. ZaighamHabib	Consultant, Hydrologist	SOPERST	House no 548, street#5 G11/1, Islamabad	0300-8884870	<a href="mailto:zaihabib@yahoo.com">zaihabib@yahoo.com</a>
15	Dr. Muhammad Akhtar Bhatti	Country Coordinator	Pakistan Water Partnership	Apartment# 116,Park Towers, F10 MarkazIslamabad	051-2100800	<a href="mailto:muhammadabhatti@hotmail.com">muhammadabhatti@hotmail.com</a>
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17	Mr. Muhammad Tariq Rafiq Bhatti	Senior Manager	Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF)	Plot 14, st#12 Mauve Area G8-1, Islamabad	051-111-000-102 (225) 0333-5270577	<a href="mailto:muhammad.tariq@ppaf.org.pk">muhammad.tariq@ppaf.org.pk</a>
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19	Dr. Pervaiz Amir	Board of Director	Pakistan Water Partnership	Apartment# 116,Park Towers, F10 MarkazIslamabad	051-2100800	<a href="mailto:muhammadabhatti@hotmail.com">muhammadabhatti@hotmail.com</a>

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21	Mr. Raqib Khan	Member, KPK	Indus River System Authority (IRSA)	Indus River System Authority Plot no. 35 Mauve area, G10/4, Islamabad	051-9108012/0334-5548984	<a href="mailto:raqibkhan123@yahoo.com">raqibkhan123@yahoo.com</a>
22	Mr. Muhammad Aslam Chaudhary	Director	Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD)	Flood Forecasting Division 46 Jail Road Lahore	042-37427227/0300-6694765	<a href="mailto:chmas64@hotmail.com">chmas64@hotmail.com</a>
23	Mrs. Hameeda Masood Shah	Chairperson	NARA CANAL AREA WATER PARTNERSHIP	House no. 856/A Block 14 Rehmat Shah Chowk Distt Sanghar	0300-271127/0303-3663636 (whatsapp)	<a href="mailto:hamidamasood@hotmail.com">hamidamasood@hotmail.com</a>
24	Mr. Abdus Salam Khan	Ex-Secretary	Irrigation and Power Department Balochistan	174-Shahbaz Town Phase I Quetta	0346-8341211	
25	Ms. Samar Minallah	Focal Person Water Programme	Lead Pakistan	Lead House, F-7 Markaz Islamabad	0344-5038880	<a href="mailto:minallah.s@gmail.com">minallah.s@gmail.com</a> / <a href="mailto:sminallah@lead.org.pk">sminallah@lead.org.pk</a>
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27	Ms. Farkhanda Aurangzeb	Director	PAKISTAN WATER PARTNERSHIP (PWP)	House # 7, Valley Road, Banni Galla, Opposite Abbasi road, Islamabad.	0321-8001170	<a href="mailto:prof.farkhanda@gmail.com">prof.farkhanda@gmail.com</a>
28	Mr. Sibite Hassan	Assistant Engineer	CEA/CFFC	Plot#6 Attaturk Avenue, G-5/1, Islamabad.	0333-7337216	<a href="mailto:enr_sibite@yahoo.com">enr_sibite@yahoo.com</a>
29	Ms. Tabassum Baloch	Sr. Manager	Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF)	Plot 17, street 12 Mouve area, G8-1 Islamabad.	3365585562	<a href="mailto:tabassum.baloch@ppaf.org.pk">tabassum.baloch@ppaf.org.pk</a>
30	Sheikh Muhammad Awais	Company Secretary	PAKISTAN WATER PARTNERSHIP (PWP)	Apartment# 116, Park Towers, F10 Markaz Islamabad.	051-2100800	<a href="mailto:awais@pwp.org.pk">awais@pwp.org.pk</a>

31	Mr. Muhammad Saleh	Assistant Chief	Ministry of PDRR, PAP SGD	P-block Pak secretariat, Islamabad.	051-9207867	salehmuza <sup>ff</sup> ar@gmail.com
32	Dr. Amir Muhammad	Ex Federal Minister Irrigation	Pakistan Agricultural Federal Council	House No. 3, St. 35, F 8/1, Islamabad.	051-2264768	
33	Mr. Aashiq Hussain	PS to Federal Minister	Ministry of Water Resources	Plot#6 Attaturk Avenue, G-5/1, Islamabad.	051-9244623	
34	Ms. Mehr un Nisa	Communication Associate	PAKISTAN WATER PARTNERSHIP (PWP)	Apartment# 116, Park Towers, F10 MarkazIslamabad.	051-2359011	<a href="mailto:mehr@pwp.org.pk">mehr@pwp.org.pk</a>

## Appendix 2: Agenda

### Country stakeholder workshop for SDG 6.5.1

Held at Office of the Chief Engineering Advisor / CFFC

Ministry of Water Resources

6-Attaturk Avenue, G-5/1, Islamabad

On Wednesday 20 December 2017

09:30-10:00 Welcome and Introduction (30min)

- Welcome and Introduction to the meeting by Sardar Muhammad Tariq, Chief Executive Officer Pakistan Water Partnership.
- Official Opening of the meeting by Mr. Syed Javed Shah Federal Minister of Ministry of Water Resources.
- Brief presentation of the stakeholders participating by Sardar Muhammad Tariq, Chief Executive Officer Pakistan Water Partnership.

10:15-10:15 SDG 6.5.1 - Background and overview (15min)

- Background to SDG 6.5.1 and the survey, and an overview of the questionnaire by Dr. M. Akhtar Bhatti, Country Coordinator.

10:00-13:00 Facilitated discussions (3h)

Section 1 and 2: 'Enabling Environment' and 'Institutions and Participation'

Q1: What is the status of policies, laws and plans to support IWRM at national & other levels?

Q2: What is the status of institutions for IWRM implementation at national and other levels?

- introduction and support to understand the sections
- roundtable discussions
- reporting back and discussion - including agreeing on scores for the questions under section 1 and 2 in the questionnaire and capture 3-5 key points from the discussion for the narrative sections to support the rationale or capture divergences

13:00-13:30 LUNCH

13:30-16:00 Facilitated discussions on Section 3 and 4: 'Management Instruments' and 'Financing'

Q3: What is the status of management instruments to support IWRM implementation at national level and other levels?

Q4: What is the status of financing for water resources development and management at national level and other levels?

- introduction and support to understand the section and the questions
- roundtable discussions
- reporting back and discussion - including agreeing on scores for the questions under section 3 and 4 in the questionnaire and capture 3-5 key points from the discussion for the narrative sections to support the rationale or capture divergences

16:00-17:00 Wrap up and Closing of the meeting

- Follow up on any loose ends from the previous discussions by Sardar Muhammad Tariq, Chief Executive Officer Pakistan Water Partnership.
- Agree on next steps for follow up and monitoring of the SDG 6.5.1 indicator by Mr. Syed Mehr Ali Shah, Joint Secretary Ministry of Water Resources.
- Wrap up and closing of the workshop by Syed Mehr Ali, Joint Secretary Ministry of Water Resources.

### **Appendix 3: Facilitator's Comments**

PWP, as a country chapter of GWP, in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Engineering Advisor (CEA) / Chairman Federal Flood Commission (CFFC), Ministry of Water Resources organized this workshop involving key stakeholders from all over the country.

The workshop was held at the premises of the Office of the Chief Engineering Advisor (CEA) / Chairman Federal Flood Commission (CFFC), Ministry of Water Resources, Islamabad

More than thirty eminent national water experts and stakeholders from diverse fields related to water participated and contributed in filling the IWRM Survey Questionnaire.

Mr. Syed Javed Shah, Federal Minister of Ministry of Water Resources, was the Chief Guest at the Opening Ceremony.

Mr. Syed Mehr Ali Shah, Joint Secretary Ministry of Water Resources, was the Chief Guest at the closing session.

There was considerable debate in interpreting and suggesting the scores for most of the questions.

However, the workshop was highly successful in discussing and allocating the scores mostly unanimously to IWRM Survey Questionnaire.

Some participants felt that the IWRM has a too general approach.

A few participants observed that it is more inclined to Drinking Water and Sanitation.

Some participants felt that the IWRM Survey Questionnaire need to be simplified.

A major difficulty was with the term IWRM that is of recent past where as its spirit has been practiced in different forms in many areas of Pakistan in laws and regulations governing the water resources management in the country.