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# Water and Environment Support

in the ENI Southern Neighbourhood region



## Concept Note

### Regional training on Water Accounting

#### Activity Number: RW-2-REG

*Concept Note*

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| V3             |   |               | Guillaume Le Gall |

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## ACRONYMS

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| CIS                 | Common Implementation Strategy for the European Water Framework Directive   |
| DPSIR               | Drivers, Pressures, State, Impact and Response                              |
| EEA                 | European Environment Agency   |
| ENI                 | European Neighbourhood Instrument   |
| GW                  | Ground Water  |
| IMS                 | Indicator Management System   |
| ISIC                | International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities |
| IWMI                | International Water Management Institute                                    |
| IWRM                | Integrated Water Resources Management                                       |
| IWRS                | International recommendation for Water Statistics                           |
| MDIAK               | Monitoring — Data — Indicators — Assessments — Knowledge                    |
| NKE                 | Non Key Expert  |
| PSUT                | Physical supply and use tables  |
| SDG                 | Sustainable Development Goals   |
| SEEA-CF             | UN System of Environmental Economic Accounting Central Framework            |
| SEEAW or SEEA-Water | System of Environmental Economic Accounting for Water                       |
| SEIS                | Shared Environmental Information System                                     |
| SW                  | Surface Water   |
| WA                  | Water Accounting  |
| WFD                 | Water Framework Directive   |
| WIS                 | Water Information System  |
| WISE                | Water Information System for Europe   |

## 1 INTRODUCTION

As part of the Water and Environment Support (WES) project workplan for the first year (2019-2020) related to the Regional Activities on the “Water Accounting”, a five-day regional training (activity No. RW-2-REG) was planned to be organized and held in Athens, Greece (June/July 2020). Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, it was decided to revisit and amend the structure and the organisation of the regional training in order to hold an online one to be carried out along different sessions **to be held twice weekly in October 2020 (See Section 8 “PROPOSED DATES”)**

## 2 OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

**The purpose** of the specific regional training on Water Accounting -(Activity No. RW-2) is to introduce water accounting as a tool to achieve integrated water governance for all users and a sustainable water balance between availability and use, and to reflect the important role of accounting in planning, in assessing water resources and uses and in providing a framework for the development of indicators that could feed into the water related SDG 6 target (Clean water and sanitation).

The activity **is in line with** the Water Financing Strategy of the UfM and is closely connected with the UfM Mediterranean Water Knowledge Platform. It will refer to International Standards – the UN System of Environmental Economic Accounting Central Framework (SEEA-CF), and the UN System of Environmental Economic Accounting for water (SEEA-water) **and will ensure complementarity with** the ENI SEIS II South Support Mechanism (Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles and practices in the ENP South region) implemented by the European Environment Agency (EEA) which aims at improving the availability and access to relevant environmental information to the benefit of effective and knowledge-based policymaking in the Neighbourhood South region. The programme of this regional training has been co-developed with the ENI SEIS II South Support Mechanism.

Training sessions will focus on the modules and topics detailed in **Table 1-3**. Throughout the training event, **participants will have the opportunity to:**

1. Get a comprehensive introduction to the overall concept of water accounts (environmental and economic components) and its different approaches (e.g. FAO, EU);
2. Learn about the benefits of water accounting and the use of water accounting outputs (e.g. assessment, planning, policy decision, UN SDG process);
3. Get familiar with the Physical Flow accounts and Physical Assets accounts, using the UN System of Environmental Economic Accounting for Water;
4. Get introduced to the economic accounts using the UN System of Environmental Economic Accounting for Water;
5. Review data needs and requirements for water accounting on the basis of UN International recommendation for Water Statistics (IWRS) and the role of the different institutions in water accounting and data collection;
6. Explore the practical use of water accounting through countries' case studies (preferably from the MENA region);
7. Implement rapid water accounting practical exercises;

8. Share experience on real situations in their own countries where water accounting can be implemented

**Other objectives** include promotion of North to South and South to South exchange and experience sharing through:

1. Presenting practical examples also from a European context, as needed;
2. Facilitating the exchange of experiences between participating practitioners.

### 3 INSTRUCTORS OF THE COURSE

The training will be implemented by LDK Consultants SA (Greece (GR)) involving Non-Key Experts (NKE) listed in table 1-1 under the supervision of the Water Key Expert (KE) of the WES project, Ms Suzan Taha.

**TABLE 3-1: NKE INVOLVED IN THE DELIVERY OF RW-2 -REG**

| Name              | Role   |
|-------------------|--|
| Eric MINO         | NKE 1 – Technical Coordinator, & Senior Expert in Water Resources Management |
| George BARIAMIS   | NKE 2 – Senior Expert in Water Accounting                                    |
| Guillaume LE GALL | NKE 3 – Senior Expert in water Economic statistics                           |

### 4 ON-LINE TRAINING PLATFORM

WES Project has selected a provider for a tailored on-line platform allowing:

- Up to 40 participants in video mode joining from different remote locations (home/office)
- 4 to 7 panellists
- Possibility to share training material during the session
- Possibility for all participants to take the floor and share their screens
- Simultaneous interpretation running in parallel within the same platform (EN- FR and FR-EN)
- Parallel breakout sessions
- Running Polls/ surveys and presentation of results live during the sessions (export of poll results as well)
- Possibility for Q&As,
- Chat privately or for the entire group
- Recording of sessions (MP4)
- Automatic export of the list of participants

The platform to be used will ensure security and confidentiality of data exchanged. A test meeting before the first session will limit the time spent to resolve any arising issues during the actual training workshop.

### 5 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- **Short sessions:** The programme has to be divided in sessions of maximum 4 hours by day, including focus group discussions and exercises

- **2 days per week**, to provide time for trainees to prepare themselves for the next sessions and read background documents
- **Overall duration can be up to 2 months**, programmes and dates will have to be defined well in advance to make sure that (most of) participants will be available for all the defined timeslots
- **Background material provided in advance**, highlighting the most important parts of the sessions to avoid spending too much time on details during the sessions
- **Strict time keeping**: to keep the training dynamic, timing will be reminded at the beginning of the session and before each sub-session. Speakers and participants will be reminded by the facilitator or timekeeper
- **Good coordination team**: for each session, the role of the team members has to be defined in advance: session facilitator, speakers, timekeeper, chat box manager, breakout sessions facilitators
- **Presentations maximum 30 mins**: making references to the background materials, focusing on the understanding of key concepts and introducing breakout sessions
- **Breakout sessions 20 to 30 mins**: organised around role games, exercises, and discussions with feedback to the plenary session when relevant or production of a document to be reviewed by NKE and commented during another session
- **Short polls after/during presentation** to keep the attention of participants and get direct feedback (using tools such as Mentimeter, Slido, etc.),
- **Quiz before all sessions**: A general “baseline” quiz for all sessions to check if concepts are understood will be performed prior the start of the training allowing to check the progress in knowledge acquisition through the educational/training interventions
- **Quiz(es) after each session**: to check the progress in knowledge acquisition (using tools such as Google or Microsoft forms), quizzes could be used during and after the training
- **Building a community**: it is important to develop relationships between participants, from the same country for future development of water accounting and from different countries to allow exchange of experiences during, between and after the sessions (e.g. with a forum on WES website)
- **Homework**: to be decided, could be for group of participants from the same country over several weeks to work on their own data
- **Peer review**: the results of exercises of one group could be peer reviewed by another group and *vice versa* allowing better exchanges between participants
- **Training duration**: about 30 hours including homework (equivalent to the original 5 days presential training), representing around 20 hours online, e.g. about 15 sessions with a duration of 1 to 1.5 hours each, than can be grouped by 2 sessions by day plus case study presentations for 4 hours max by day
- **Material provided**: for each session pdf version of slides, hands-out for breakout sessions, workbooks and background documents (organised with session numbering)

## 6 TARGET AUDIENCE

Each country is invited to nominate 10 participants out of whom 5 will be selected by the WES Team. To take full advantages of the training, the following profiles are suggested:

- Working experience (at least 5 years) on water resources management (water quantity issues) including basics on water policy analysis and indicator-based assessment,
- Representing, as much as possible, different stakeholders: ministries of water, irrigation authorities, river basins authorities, statistics offices, water authorities, water utilities, irrigation authorities
- Computer literacy (in particular MS-Excel file)
- Basic knowledge on water data/existing data sets in their country
- Familiarisation with national and local water policies
- Fluency in English or French with adequate English reading skills<sup>1</sup>

Participation of national experts with good knowledge of water accounting is encouraged, in order to strengthen the exchange of experiences with the other participants of the group and enhance capitalisation on work already developed at national level.

## 7 REQUIREMENTS FROM THE PARTICIPANTS

Participants must have the equipment and connection necessary:

- PC with good Internet connection (cable connection is preferred to wireless)
- Microphone headset

Each participant must be in a quiet environment during the training sessions.

For the 1<sup>st</sup> session, participants will be invited to connect 30 minutes before the start in order to test their connection and equipment.

## 8 PROPOSED DATES

The planned dates for each session of the on-line training are listed in table 1-2. All sessions will start at 10:00 Central European Time (CET). Participants will be required to connect at 9:45 am to test their equipment.

**TABLE 1-2 DATES OF THE SESSIONS**

| Dates                | Module title   | Session Number | Session Title                        | Time (CET)          | Presenters |
|----------------------|--|----------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Monday<br>12/10/2020 | Module 1: Introduction to Water Accounting + how to use the accounts | S1.1           | Introducing SEEA-W                   | 10:00<br>-<br>11:30 | Eric MINO  |
|                      |  | S1.2           | Use and benefits of Water Accounting | 11:45<br>-<br>12:45 |            |

<sup>1</sup> Understanding written English will be necessary as most of existing background material will be in English

|                         |  |      |  |               |  |
|-------------------------|--|------|--|---------------|--|
|                         | Module 5: Practical use of water accounting - Case studies   | S5.1 | FAO water accounting experience in MENA countries  | 13:00 - 13:45 | <b>Domitille VALLÉE (FAO)</b>                |
| Wednesday<br>14/10/2020 | Module 2: Flow and assets accounts - The UN Standard System of Environmental Economic Accounting for water (SEEA-water)        | S2.1 | Water in the Economy   | 10:00 - 11:30 | <b>George BARIAMIS</b>                       |
|                         |  | S2.2 | Main water accounting tables   | 11:45 - 13:15 |  |
|                         | Module 5: Practical use of water accounting - Case studies   | S5.2 | Spanish experience on the water balance  | 13:30 - 14:00 | <b>Conchita MARCUELLO</b>                    |
| Monday<br>19/10/2020    | Module 2: Flow and assets accounts - The UN Standard System of Environmental Economic Accounting for water (SEEA-water)        | S2.3 | Deriving indicators from physical water accounts tables  | 10:00 - 11:00 | <b>George BARIAMIS</b>                       |
|                         | Module 5: Practical use of water accounting - Case studies   | S5.3 | National physical water flows accounts (physical supply and use tables and data collection strategies)       | 11:15 - 12:00 | <b>Ekaterina POLESHCHUK (BELSTAT)</b>        |
|                         | Module 5: Practical use of water accounting - Case studies   | S5.3 | Jordan case study on SEEA-W (2012)   | 12:15 - 13:00 | <b>Ms Enas ALARABYAT</b>                     |
| Thursday<br>22/10/2020  | Module 3: Introduction to Economic Accounts  | S3.1 | Hybrid and economic accounts: hybrid supply and use table & water-related activities carried out for own use | 10:00 - 11:30 | <b>Guillaume LE GALL</b>                     |
|                         |  | S3.2 | National expenditure and financing accounts & derived indicators for policy assessment                       | 11:45 - 12:45 |  |
|                         | Module 5: Practical use of water accounting - Case studies   | S5.3 | Israeli case study on SEEA-W   | 13:00 - 13:45 | <b>Dr. Moshe YANAI &amp; Ms. Sivan ASSOR</b> |
| Monday<br>26/10/2020    | Module 5: Practical use of water accounting - Case studies   | S5.4 | Implementation of water accounts at EEA covering 39 member states  | 10:00 - 10:45 | <b>Dr. Nihat ZAL (EEA)</b>                   |
|                         | Module 4: Data needs and requirements for water accounts - Apply the International Recommendations for Water Statistics (IRWS) | S4.1 | Data needs and requirements for building water accounts  | 11:00 - 12:30 | <b>George BARIAMIS</b>                       |
|                         |  | S4.2 | Development of indicators  | 12:45 - 13:45 |  |



## 9 TRAINING PROGRAMME

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Considering the above principles, the programme has been adapted in sessions suitable for an online training delivery. Table 1-3 provides a synthetic view of the reshaped programme. The day-by-day agenda is provided to registered participants early September.

The training sessions will last between 1 hour and 1.5 hour. The 1.5 hour sessions will be organised along the following timeline:

- Presentation: 20 to 30 minutes
- Questions and Answers: 10 minutes
- Breakout sessions: 30 minutes
- Wrap-up from breakout sessions: 10 minutes
- Short quiz and conclusions: 10 minutes
- Break (if a 2nd session is planned after) 15 minutes

For the 1 hour sessions, breakouts will be replaced by group discussions for 20 minutes

Breakout sessions will be organised with 3 parallel groups (10 to 15 participants in each group) organised by language (English or French).

**A summary document with the detailed agenda, background documents and workbooks for the breakout sessions will be provided in advance for each session.**

In addition to the training sessions, case studies will be presented by external experts to illustrate the different topics.

**TABLE 1-3 PROGRAMME OVERVIEW BY MODULE**

| Module 1: Introduction to Water Accounting + how to use the accounts |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| Sessions   | Presentations   | Breakout  | Background  |
| Day 1<br>S-1.1<br>1.5 hour   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental data (data types, MDIAK information chain (Monitoring — Data — Indicators — Assessments — Knowledge))</li> <li>Key accounting concepts from SEEA-CF (assets, flows, stocks, emission accounts)</li> <li>Tools and approaches – introduction to the SEEA-Water main types of accounts (assets, emission, quality, valuation of water resources)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Game role positioning in MDIAK reporting chain</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EEA / SEIS DPSIR / MDIAK definition</li> <li>SEEAW briefing note</li> </ul>              |
| Day 1<br>S-1.2<br>1h   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Benefits of water accounting, target audience and key policy questions (standardization, transparency, indicators, integrated water resources management, pricing) – 4 quadrants policy objectives for Water Security – IWRM links with SEEAW</li> <li>Other approaches derived from SEEA-Water concepts (EU water balance, water footprint, FAO water accounting)</li> <li>Linkages between water accounting and the SDG 6</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group discussion on understanding and experience (use) from participants on the WA to prepare the following Module 2 sessions</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CIS guidance on water balance</li> <li>Water accounting+ (FAO/IWMI/IHE Delft)</li> </ul> |

**Module 2: Flow and assets accounts - The UN Standard System of Environmental Economic Accounting for water (SEEA-water)**

| Sessions                   | Presentations   | Breakout   | Background material  |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|
| Day 2<br>S-2.1<br>1.5 hour | <b>Water in the Economy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The water - economy framework under SEEA-Water</li> <li>• The ISIC Rev 4 system on economic activities classification</li> <li>• The inland water system (spatial / temporal dimensions)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise identifying major links between inland water systems and economy – UNU water exercise</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief note identifying the workflow of the UN water accounting system</li> <li>• The hydrological cycle</li> <li>• Water supply/treatment systems and the economy</li> <li>• Identification of river basins and administrative units</li> <li>• UNU-water workbook</li> </ul>   |
| Day 2<br>S-2.2<br>1.5 hour | <b>Main water accounting tables</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flows and asset accounts (standard tables) - dynamics</li> <li>• Physical supply and use tables (PSUT)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise to identify water assets and flows from environment to economy (continuation UNU Water exercise)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abstraction from SW/GW to economy</li> <li>• Seasonal /regional patterns of <b>supply</b> (rain/inflow/returns) and <b>use</b> (ETa/outflow/abstractions)</li> <li>• UNU-water workbook</li> </ul>  |
| Day 3<br>S-2.3<br>1h       | <b>Deriving indicators from physical water accounts tables</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elaboration of climate, water scarcity, efficiency and intensity indicators</li> <li>• Example from Europe on water flows: EEA European Wide Water Flow accounts, EU guidance on water balances (at catchment level and monthly basis)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise on the calculation of basic drought, scarcity and efficiency indicators</li> <li>• Group discussion on understanding and exchange experiences</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set of indicators that can be produced based on water accounts outputs and their usability</li> <li>• The importance of seasonal assessments for climate and other phenomena</li> <li>• EU CIS document on water balances and relation with accounts</li> <li>• The EEA Indicator Management System (IMS) – indicator specifications assessments</li> </ul> |

### Module 3: Introduction to Economic Accounts

| Sessions                   | Presentations  | Breakout  | Background material  |
|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| Day 4<br>S-3.1<br>1.5 hour | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hybrid and economic accounts: hybrid supply and use table &amp; water-related activities carried out for own use</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group discussion on understanding and experiences</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monetary Supply and Use Table for Water in <i>SEEA technical note on water accounting</i></li> <li>Hybrid input-output tables in <i>System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Applications and Extensions</i></li> <li>Monetary data items in <i>Guidelines for the Compilation of Water Accounts and Statistics</i></li> </ul> |
| Day 4<br>S-3.2<br>1h       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National expenditure and financing accounts &amp; derived indicators for policy assessment</li> </ul>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group discussion on understanding and experiences</li> </ul> | <p>Documents mentioned above plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicators derived from the water accounts in <i>System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water</i></li> </ul>   |

### Module 4: Data needs and requirements for water accounts - Apply the International Recommendations for Water Statistics (IRWS)

| Sessions                  | Presentations   | Breakout  | Background material  |
|---------------------------|---|---|--|
| Day5<br>S-4.1<br>1.5 hour | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Main concepts (the water environment, economy and water, society and water)</li> <li>Data sources and collection (needs, priorities, institutional agreements, overall strategy), methods for filling data gaps</li> <li>Institutional Aspects of water accounting and statistics – who is doing what/Role and responsibilities of national stakeholders, importance of data sharing agreements</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exercise with data from National Statistical Institutes, Eurostat, AQUASTAT, harmonization</li> <li>Mapping main water accounts data items with providers in each country</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IRWS document</li> <li>Examples of monitoring networks and data bases (thematic)</li> <li>Concepts of data availability and gap filling practices</li> <li>The WISE-3 water quantity dataflow</li> <li>Template for data inventory</li> </ul> |

|                      |  |   |   |
|----------------------|--|---|---|
| Day 5<br>S-4.2<br>1h | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking water accounts and statistics with water policy objectives</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• interpretations of indicators and their relevance to water policies (indicators defined in Module 2)</li> <li>• Identifications of indicators for key questions of national water policy for each participating country</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List of EU and International policies</li> <li>• The WFD and reporting cycles</li> <li>• Policy objectives and how to assess them</li> </ul> |
|----------------------|--|---|---|

#### Module 5: Practical use of water accounting - Case studies

| Sessions                            | Presentations  | Foreseen Case studies  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Spread out over the training period | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case studies from the EU and the MENA (practices in terms of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• compilation of the accounts including structuring of the information and related institutional cooperation (WIS, committees);</li> <li>• use of the accounting outcomes (e.g. production of indicators, official statistics, contribution to thematic assessment, policy development; State of water, etc.).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examples from MENA countries: Jordan and Israel</li> <li>• Nihat Zal, EEA – European Water Accounts – Module 4</li> <li>• Domitille Vallée - FAO Water accounting experience in MENA countries – Module 1</li> <li>• Ekaterina Poleshchuk, Belarus examples (ENI-East partnership) – Module 2</li> <li>• Spanish experience on water balance</li> </ul> |

## 10 COMMUNICATION & DISSEMINATION

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Dissemination of knowledge and impact of WES trainings and activities is at the core of WES communication. In our view, sharing of information to raise awareness and to exchange best practices needs to go well beyond the direct participants of our training workshops and activities.

The WES “Regional training on Water Accounting” is one of the many WES activities aimed at improving the environment in the Mediterranean. The introduction of water accounting as a tool to achieve integrated water governance for all users and a sustainable water balance as well as capturing the role of water accounting in planning and assessment of scarce water resources is pivotal to achieve the related SDG 6 target related to Clean water and sanitation. Combined with and increased awareness on the need for water accounting, this activity will help to achieve the objective of improving the use and management of scarce water resources in the region.

The communication activities for the activity will be carried out in accordance with the overall WES Communication Strategy approved by the EC and will be coordinated by the WES Communication expert. The communication actions will also take into account any particular requests raised during the training by the different partner countries.

Together with the KE Communication, the experts of this training workshop will therefore identify useful awareness raising material and collect (short) information that will be distributed via WES communication channels in order to ensure further outreach of this training. This could include useful links to short videos, pictures, articles, social media posts of other organisations etc.

### 10.1 SPECIFIC COMMUNICATION GOAL

Raising awareness on the importance of proper water accounting among the main target groups.

### 10.2 TARGET GROUPS

The intended target groups for communication activities include:

- Water Policy analysts and Water Resources managers from relevant Ministries (eg. Water, Irrigation)
- Water Utilities/Municipalities and River Basins authorities
- NGOs (with a focus on NGOs selected through the Bluegreen project and its network)
- Media

### 10.3 KEY MESSAGES AND KEY MATERIALS

Based on the outcomes of the training, the NKE's together with the KE Communication, will select a number of short messages to be distributed to the target groups. They will also identify useful communication material related to the training that can be disseminated among the participants but also to a wider audience (to be identified by the training participants together with the NKEs).

## 10.4 COMMUNICATION TOOLS

In order to raise awareness on the importance of water accounting, we will use the following communication channels:

- *A short information bulletin on project results*

This bulletin on the outcomes of the training with the main messages, will be distributed among the various stakeholders in order to raise their awareness and to facilitate their work on water accounting.

- *Social media*

Relevant messages will be posted on the WES social networking platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram). Paid ads to promote our posts to specific target groups in the region could also be used.

- *Press release*

A press releases will be developed describing the activity and its results. This press release will be distributed to all of WES media contacts in the region.