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Under the high patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco
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SUSTAINING INTERNATIONAL WATERS COOPERATION

UNESCO WWAP Workshop at IWC 9 “Toward a Gender Guideline for the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA-SAP)”

Participants: 35 people (63% women and 37% men)

The TDA/SAP process is a GEF well recognized methodology applied in all IW projects since the nineties. Recently the GEF Secretariat has published the latest Policy on Gender Equality, together with its implementation strategy and guidance, which entered into force in July 2018. The workshop objective was to discuss how to combine these two elements, and create specific Guidelines (or a working protocol) to mainstream gender into the TDA/SAP in order to complement the current methodology.

UNESCO WWAP shared with the participants a preliminary structure of the guidelines revolving around a few key strategic entry points identified for the TDA (e.g. gender analysis/collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated water data; determination of the impact of transboundary problems on men and women; and production of gender-sensitive thematic reports,...), and for the SAP (in the strategic thinking and in the strategic planning). Moreover, other entry points such gender-sensitive knowledge management and communications, staff capacity, and gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation as well as budgeting were also highlighted.

A panel discussion followed the methodological part, and presented challenges and opportunities of engendering the TDA/SAP process in three IW projects:

- “UNDP GEF Kura II Project: Advancing Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) across the Kura river basin through implementation of the transboundary agreed actions and national plans” (UNDP);
- “Regional SAP for the rational and equitable management of the Nubian Sandstone Aquifer System (NSAS)”, (UNESCO IHP);
- “Strategic Action Programme: Regional Strategy for Integrated Water Resources Management in the Amazon Basin”, (UN Environment, OTCA).

Finally, a group exercise enabled the participants to think through how gender considerations can be mainstreamed into the activities identified for the three strategic action lines (IWRM, Climate Change and Knowledge Management) defined in the Amazon SAP. Participants were engaged “to engender” the activities of the Amazon SAP with the help of a “cards game”. Each card reported one gender-responsive indicator selected from the set of key indicators published in the UNESCO WWAP Water and Gender Toolkit.

Participants actively engaged throughout the workshop and shared the following inputs and recommendations:

- The TDA/SAP process recommended by the GEF as the most appropriate methodology for initiating remedial actions in a transboundary water body represents an ideal framework for gender mainstreaming.
- There is a need to link the TDA/SAP Handbook with the latest GEF Policy on Gender Equality, by creating a guideline on how to mainstream gender into the TDA/SAP process with concrete tools and tips.
- The UNESCO WWAP Toolkit on Water and Gender provides a useful methodology, 108 gender-responsive indicators and relevant questionnaires for gender analysis and the collection of sex-disaggregated water data that are aligned with the priorities outlined in the

latest GEF Policy on Gender Equality (women's improved access, use, and control of resources; access to socio-economic benefits and services; participation and role in natural resources decision-making processes). They fit well within the TDA/SAP and could support the whole process, as well as they could be useful for the design phase and the monitoring and evaluation of the IW projects.