Monitoring the MDGs in the water and sanitation sector: strengthening coordination and consistency

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Monitoring MDGs, but how?

- Achieving the MDGs in water and sanitation is the result of complex policies, undertaken by several actors at various levels.
- Today it is still difficult to gather all the information to have a clear and comprehensive picture on how the actions implemented contribute to the final results.
- Existing monitoring systems adopt very different perspectives and methodologies, and there is a lack of coordination between them.
- Setting up a comprehensive monitoring system is extremely demanding, since it requires reliable data and agreed-upon indicators.
The EUWI Monitoring & Reporting System approach

- The EUWI has committed itself to understanding how its policy is advancing towards achieving the MDGs
- In 2004 it has established the Monitoring & Reporting Working Group, under the leadership of Italy, whose objective is to measure the specific contribution of the EUWI to MDGs in the water and sanitation sector
- The M&R WG has created a forum to share the knowledge on monitoring, and to establish a common ground for mutual understanding
Major stakeholders involved in EUWI M&R WG

- JMP
- UNDESA
- OECD
- Global Water Partnership
- European Commission
- EUWI Components
- DfID
- Japan Water Forum
- IRC
- German Development Institute
- WWF
Key features of the EUWI M&R System

- It focuses on monitoring EUWI water and sanitation policies
- It links the stated objectives and the commitments at different levels of the policy process
- It retains the overall consistency among objectives and indicators
- Indicators are defined according to the phases of the policy process, from global goals to international and national strategies, then programmes, plans and projects
The EUWI Monitoring & Reporting model

MDGs & IWRM targets

Political/strategic link

EUWI

Functional/administrative link

EUWI Components

Implementation/operational link

WSS Country Level Dialogues
National IWRM Plans
Transboundary Water Plans

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How the EUWI approach can help global monitoring

- Enhancing coordination between monitoring initiatives
- Strengthening consistency of monitoring objectives
- Harmonizing the methodologies
- Conceiving a set of agreed-upon indicators all along the policy process
- Rationalizing the information systems
- Improving the specialization of monitoring agencies
A Global Initiative to Rationalize Water Information (GIRWI)

- It is within this context that UNDESA and Italy, within the umbrella of the UN Water, have launched an initiative on rationalizing water-related information.
- The GIRWI project is the technical tool of the WAND, aiming at developing and testing a comprehensive methodology to improve and harmonize the production and dissemination of reliable information.
- The GIRWI does not aim at establishing a new global monitoring regime, but linking the various monitoring initiatives in a consistent, and coherent way.
Key questions to be addressed by the GI RWI

- How to compile, verify and evaluate existing information (and if possible fill the gaps) on the flows and volumes of water resources that could be exploited at a given date.
- How to effectively evaluate changing performances regarding access to water and sanitation for basic population needs (drinking water, food production) and for environmental needs.
- How to effectively evaluate changes of the capacity of countries and basins organizations to manage their water resources in an integrated and economical manner, while preserving aquatic ecosystems.
Thank you!

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