Regional Community of Practice on Water Governance (Arab States)

Propose Action Plan (June 2005 – May 2006)

Outcome	Output	Activity	Time frame	Resources Needed
1. Increased support for access to safe water and sanitation through activities that contribute to efforts for reaching MDG7 and WSSD target of developing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) plans	1.1 Programming capacity of UNDP COs strengthened	1.1.1 Organize Water Governance sessions and initiate establishment COP at E&E Practice Workshop (Tunis)	June 05	CO Focal Points SURF-AS RBAS Cap-net Consultants
		1.1.2. Consolidate comments on COP action plan, charter, and challenges; circulate them for approval; and finalize creation of COP.	July – Aug. 05	
		1.1.3. Agree on capacity development needs (training and knowledge products)	Sept. 05	
		1.1.4. Design and publish the on-line workspace	Sept. – Oct. 05	
		1.1.5. Develop agreed knowledge products	Oct. 05 – March 06	
		1.1.6 Conduct training activities (2 events – one for Middle East & one for North Africa)	Dec. 05 & April 06	
		1.1.7 Create expert roaster on the workspace	Feb. – Apr. 06	
	1.2. Regional Water Governance Programme formulated	1.2.1. Consolidate comments from E&E Practice Workshop and submit them to programme formulation team	July – Aug. 05	CO Focal Points SURF-AS RBAS AWC Consultants
		1.2.2. Provide input towards formulation of the regional programme (substantive focus, implementation arrangements, etc.)	Sept. 05 – Feb. 06	
		1.2.3. Participate in launch of regional	March – Apr.	

		programme	06	
2. Cross practice linkages strengthened	2.1 Poverty, gender and governance issues reflected in intended products	2.1.1 Submit proposed knowledge products to members of other practices for substantive input and comments 2.1.2 Submit draft regional programme document to members of other practices for substantive input and comments	Jan. – March 06 Nov. 05 – Feb. 06	Interested members of other practices

Proposed Chart

COP Mission
The community of practice aims at facilitating information exchange and knowledge sharing among its members for the promotion of good governance of water resources in the Arab States region. It consists of a relevant, flexible and demand-driven network of people who share a common interest and come together on a voluntary basis. Note: The participants in the E&E Practice Workshop (Tunis, June 2005) agreed that the membership of the COP will be initially limited to UNDP staff and will then be expanded to include key partners in the Arab States region.

COP Objectives
• To share relevant experiences and lessons learned • To respond to queries of Country Offices • To raise competencies of COP members • To contribute to quality programming in the water sector

Rights and Responsibilities
COP members Responsibilities: • Endeavor to share information and good practices • Contribute to emerging initiatives (e-discussions, telecoms, meetings, etc. • Contribute to building the regional knowledge database on water governance Rights: • Access to quality information • Mutual support for quality programming **Facilitator (SURF-based)** Responsibilities: • Coordinate COP initiatives (e-discussions, annual meetings, development of knowledge products, etc.) • Manage workspace and information flow. • Codify and archive information received NOTE: The coordination of COP initiatives will be done initially by SURF-based staff (Environment Policy Advisor, Knowledge Management Officer, and/or E&E staff). However, it will gradually involve other members of the COP on a rotational basis - as proposed by participants in the E&E Practice Workshop.

Challenges & Remedies

Challenges	Suggested remedies	Needed resources
Active participation of COP members	Members should find professional benefits in COP activities	• Corporate recognition • Identify dedicated resources within relevant projects, programmes and/or initiatives • Career development opportunities
	Focus on specific/concrete activities	
	Design efficient and user friendly archiving system	
	Introduce clear internal recognition translating to career development	
	Include external contribution	
Language Barrier	Provide information in relevant languages in addition to the English language	Translation of executive summaries and postings
Financial Resources	Need to be practical and realistic in planning our activities	Financial should be provided by RBAS and SURF for COP activities
	The facilitation task can be rotational among the different members to avoid having a part time paid facilitator	Time invested in facilitation should be accounted for