



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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CONCEPT NOTE

Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) training Mayfield Hotel, Seoul, Republic of Korea 10–14 April 2023

1. Background

In 2021, UNOSD undertook an assessment to analyse the policy advisory requirements of Member States in preparation to expand the existing policy advisory services it offers to developing countries. This assessment was made with a view to offering needs-based, tailor-made advisory services that assist in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDGs 6, 7, 11, 12, 13 and 15.

The assessment found that there was the potential for a successful partnership between Mongolia and UNOSD, and this led to a scoping mission in August 2022. During the mission, meetings were undertaken with, among others, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) and the Tuul River Basin Authority (TRBA). Discussions continued after the mission and, subsequently, a project was developed that would encompass analysis of the current river basin management capacity and policy recommendations, along with the capacity development of river basin authority staff in the area of water management.

Since the creation of the RBAs in 2012, Mongolia's Water Law has stipulated that RBAs represent the country's key institutional system for water resources management. RBA capacity is of paramount importance if these institutions are to become the main drivers in the implementation of sustainable IWRM. The law also specifies that the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) is the main central government organization responsible for water resources management. Therefore, as part of the project, UNOSD, UNESCO's International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management (UNESCO i-WSSM), and the Korea Water Resources Corporation (K-Water) will work in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), Mongolia, and the Tuul River Basin Authority (TRBA), Mongolia, to organize a training workshop that develops the capacity of Mongolia's River Basin Authority staff in the area of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). The planned activity is in line with the development plans of Mongolia (please see [Annex 1](#)).

2. Co-organizers and partners

The United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD), UNESCO's International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management (UNESCO i-WSSM), and the Korea Water Resources Corporation (K-Water) will work in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), Mongolia, and the Tuul River Basin Authority (TRBA), Mongolia, to organize a training programme that develops the capacity of Mongolia's River Basin Authority staff in the area of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). UNRCO Mongolia has been consulted throughout the process and remains an important collaborator at the local level.

3. Objectives and target participants

The training will focus largely on administrative management in the context of IWRM and will use the Republic of Korea as an example of a successful transition to IWRM and to demonstrate the functioning of, and potential pathways to, IWRM.

The last afternoon of the training will entail a guided discussion with participants to i) explore what the RBAs need in order to become drivers of sustainable IWRM in Mongolia; and ii) how UNOSD and partners could support the transition. This will result in a report, including recommendations, to be provided to the Director-General, Water Policy and Coordination Department, MET, and to be used as the basis of future discussions with MET. This document will be key to informing, and potentially increasing political will to enable, the development of a pathway to IWRM. The target participants are the working level staff in IWRM processes, including representatives from each of the 21 RBAs, MET and the Water Agency.

4. Training structure and format

The training will be structured around the standard UNESCO i-WSSM IWRM modules, tailored to the needs and interests of the RBA staff in Mongolia according to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) and the Tuul River Basin Authority (TRBA) focal points. The format will be training room lectures and field trip demonstrations of IWRM in action. Please see [Annex 2](#) for the draft training programme.

5. Trainers

Lecturers and field demonstration trainers will be selected from a UNESCO i-WSSM approved list.

6. Schedule and venue

The IWRM training is scheduled to take place from 10–14 April at Mayfield Hotel, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

7. Language

7a. Lectures and field trip demonstrations: The training will be conducted in Korean. Simultaneous Korean–Mongolian interpretation will be provided.

7b. Training material: The training material will be provided in English and Mongolian.

9. Contact Information

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Annex 1. Activity alignment with Mongolia’s development plans

Development Plan	Brief description	UNOSD activity alignment
Vision 2050 ¹	Vision 2050 is a long-term development plan that replaced Vision 2030. It constitutes long-term goals, targets and outcomes aimed at strengthening sustainable, social, environmental and economic development in Mongolia.	<p>Goal: Six: Green Development <i>Promote an environmentally friendly green development, maintain balance of ecosystem, ensure an environmental sustainability, create conditions for present and future generations to reap its benefits, and improve the quality of human life.</i></p> <p>Area: Water as a priceless wealth</p> <p>Overall objective: 6.3. Prevent water scarcity, accumulate surface water and create conditions to fully meet needs.</p> <p>Specific objective: 6.3.6. Optimize the boundaries of Mongolia's water basins in line with the boundaries of administrative units, and strengthen the human resources of the basin administrations.</p>
Five-Year Development Guidelines for 2021–2025 ²	Mid-term planning document used to implement the long-term Vision 2050.	<p>As with Vision 2050, UNOSD potential interventions would respond to the priority area <i>Water as a priceless wealth</i> (Government of Mongolia, 2020a). Specifically:</p> <p>Objective 6.3. <i>To implement an integrated water management designed to increase water reservoirs and water supply, protect water resources from pollution and shortage and ensure its rational use.</i></p>
Integrated Water Management Plan	According to Mongolia’s Law on Water, an integrated water management plan should be developed and approved by the government (IWMP Mongolia, 2013). The national development plans outlined above provide the direction for the integrated water management plan, as this plan should directly support the creation of an enabling environment for the socio-economic and environmental strategic goals and objectives of the national development plans.	As above
United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation	Medium-term results framework to plan and implement UN development activities at country level in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.	Informed by the Theory of Change, the UN jointly with the Government and other stakeholders, identified strategic priorities. The current project would potentially be in line with:

¹ Government of Mongolia. 2020b. *Vision 2050: Action Plan for 2021–2030 of Mongolia’s Long-Term Development Policy*. Annex 2 to the State Great Hural Resolution # 52, 2020 https://cabinet.gov.mn/wp-content/uploads/Vision2050_-2021-2030_Activities_Final_OE.pdf

² Government of Mongolia. 2020. *Five Year Development Guideline of Mongolia 2021–2025*. Annex 1 to Resolution 23, 2020. https://cabinet.gov.mn/wp-content/uploads/2020_FIVE_YEAR_DEVELOPMENT_GUIDELINE_OF_MONGOLIA_2021-2025_Final_OE.pdf

<p>Framework (UNSDCF) 2023–2027, Mongolia ³</p>		<p>Strategic priority-1 Human Development and Well-being</p> <p>Outcome 1: <i>By 2027, people in urban and rural areas, especially the most vulnerable and marginalised, equally realize their full human potential and benefit from inclusive, rights-based, gender- and shock-responsive health and nutrition, education, social protection, WASH and other services</i></p> <p>Output 1.4: <i>The capacities are in place to deliver universal, affordable and quality water supply, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services that is climate-resilient and gender-responsive.</i></p> <p>Strategic priority-2 Green, Inclusive and Sustainable Growth</p> <p>Outcome 3: <i>By 2027, communities and eco-systems in Mongolia are more resilient to climate change with improved capacity for evidence-informed and gender-responsive sustainable natural resource and environmental management and disaster risk reduction.</i></p> <p>It is important to note that, the Theory of Change pathways are interlinked and reinforce each other. <u>Strengthening the capacity of institutions to deliver effectively and timely public services is viewed as critical across all solution pathways</u></p>
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³ United Nations. 2022. *United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2023–2027) Mongolia*. <https://mongolia.un.org/en/190088-united-nations-sustainable-development-cooperation-framework-2023-2027-mongolia>

Annex 2. Draft training programme



TRAINING PROGRAMME Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Training in Support of SDG 6 Achievement in Mongolia

Republic of Korea, 10–14 April 2023

Day 1: Monday, 10 April 2023

Location: Yi Yuan Hall, 1st floor, Bell Tower, Mayfield Hotel, Seoul

- **IWRM and Korean Case Study Module**

Time	Agenda
09:30–10:00	Registration & Coffee/Tea
10:00–10:15	Welcome remarks and photo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Yujeong Kim, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD - Mr. Changsam Jeong, Professor, Dept. of Smart Construction and Disaster Management, Induk University - Mr. Bong Woo Shin, Director, UNESCO i-WSSM
10:15–11:30	Introduction to IWRM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Changsam Jeong, Professor, Dept. of Smart Construction and Disaster Management, Induk University
11:30–13:00	Lunch
13:00–14:15	IWRM Principles and Water Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Seokhwan Jang, Professor, Smart Construction and Environmental Engineering, Daejin University
14:15–15:15	IWRM Case Study: Republic of Korea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Seokhwan Jang, Professor, Smart Construction and Environmental Engineering, Daejin University
15:15–15:30	Break
15:30–16:30	Integrated Flood and Drought Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Seokhwan Jang, Professor, Smart Construction and Environmental Engineering, Daejin University
16:30–17:30	Assessment of IWRM Implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Seokhwan Jang, Professor, Smart Construction and Environmental Engineering, Daejin University
17:30–17:40	Individual reflection ⁴

Day 2: Tuesday, 11 April 2023

Location: Yi Yuan Hall, 1st floor, Bell Tower, Mayfield Hotel, Seoul

⁴ Individual reflection: A short session has been included at the end of Day 1 and Day 2 to allow participants to write notes on the main messages they took from the day's training with relation to how RBAs can become the main drivers in the implementation of sustainable IWRM (Challenges, opportunities, support required from UNOSD and partners). These notes will then feed into the discussions on Day 5.

- **River Maintenance and Management Module**
- **Overview of Flood Management Plan in Response to Climate Change, and Drought Monitoring and Forecasting for Drought Preparedness and Management Modules, in preparation for Day 3 Field Trip**

Time	Agenda
09:30–10:30	Introduction to River Maintenance and Management
10:30–11:30	Concept of River Maintenance and Management
11:30–12:30	Lunch
12:30–13:30	History of Paradigm Shift in River Maintenance and Management - Mr. Seokhwan Jang, Professor, Smart Construction and Environmental Engineering, Daejin University
13:30–14:30	Prospect of River Maintenance and Management and Conclusion - Mr. Seokhwan Jang, Professor, Smart Construction and Environmental Engineering, Daejin University
14:30–14:45	Break
14:45–15:45	Overview: Flood Management Plan in Response to Climate Change
15:45–16:45	Overview: Drought Monitoring and Forecasting for Drought Preparedness and Management
16:45–17:00	Individual reflection
18:00–19:00	Welcome Dinner reception

Day 3: Wednesday, 12 April 2023

Location: Han River Basin Environmental Office, Paldang Dam, Jamsil Submerged Weir

- **Field trip**

Time	Agenda
08:00–10:00	Travel to Hanam, Gyeonggi-do
10:00–10:55	Visit to Han River Basin Environmental Office
10:55–12:45	Lunch
12:45–14:00	Ride “Ecology Learning Ferry” with guide
14:00–15:20	Visit to Paldang Dam
15:20–16:40	Visit to Jamsil Submerged Weir
16:40-	Return travel to hotel

Day 4: Thursday, 13 April 2023

Location: Daecheong Multi-purpose Dam, K-water Headquarters, IWRM Center

- **Field trip**

Time	Agenda
09:30–12:00	Travel to Daejeon
12:00–13:00	Lunch
13:00–15:00	Visit Daecheong multi-purpose dam
15:00–15:30	Travel to head office of K-water
15:30–16:00	IWRM center of K-water
16:00–18:30	Return travel to hotel

Day 5: Friday, 14 April 2023

Location: Yi Yuan Hall, 1st floor, Bell Tower, Mayfield Hotel, Seoul

- **Infrastructure Maintenance and Management Module**
- **Group discussions**

Time	
09:30–10:45	Introduction to Infrastructures Maintenance and Management
10:45–12:00	Global Situation of River Infrastructures Maintenance and Management
12:00–13:00	Lunch
13:00–14:15	History of Paradigm Shift in Infrastructures Maintenance and Management and Conclusion
14:15–14:45	Small group discussions on RBAs as main drivers in the implementation of sustainable IWRM (Challenges, opportunities, support from UNOSD and partners) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitator: Mr. Seungho Lee, Professor, International Development – Water Policy, Korea University Graduate School of International Studies
14:45–15:00	Break
15:00–15:45	Feedback and discussion on RBAs as main drivers in the implementation of sustainable IWRM (Challenges, opportunities, support from UNOSD and partners) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitator: Mr. Seungho Lee, Professor, International Development – Water Policy, Korea University Graduate School of International Studies
15:45–16:00	Final comments and closing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Chun Kyoo Park, Head of Office, UNOSD