

Using SDG 6 Policy Support System (SDG-PSS) in Malaysia

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Overall status of SDG 6 at the national level

- Overall status of SDG 6 achievement (Achievements, key water- and sanitation-related challenges). Potential impact (how many people may benefit) if SDG 6 targets and indicators are achieved in your country by 2030?
 - In 2023, 97.1% of the population in Malaysia has access to safe drinking water and 85.4% of the population particularly in main cities receives centralised sewerage services.
 - SDG 6 Achievement in Malaysia:
https://tableau.dosm.gov.my/t/SDG/views/Goal6_15832031095200/Goal6?%3Aembed=y&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y
 - Challenge(s):
 - Missing data, for example:
 - Indicator 6.4.1 and 6.6.1 – did not know what to report.
 - Different interpretations, for example:
 - Indicator 6.4.2 is being reported as ‘Domestic Water Consumption’ and ‘Non-Revenue Water’.
 - Indicator 6.a.1 and 6.b.1 - whether should be reported or not.
 - Potential Impact: 33.4 million people.

National agencies involved in SDG 6 achievement

- Names of the ministries, national institutions, any other relevant entity

6.1.1 – National Water Services Commission (P), Department of Statistics (E)

6.2.1 – Department of Statistics (E)

6.3.1 – Department of Environment (N), Indah Water Konsortium (P)

6.3.2 – Department of Environment (N)

6.4.1 –

6.4.2 – National Water Services Commission (P)

6.5.1 – Department of Irrigation and Drainage (P)

6.5.2 – Department of Irrigation and Drainage (P)

6.6.1 –

Note:

P - Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation

E – Ministry of Economy

N – Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability

SDG 6 target(s) and indicator(s)

- Most important target(s) and indicator(s)

Indicator 6.5.1

- Can be considered the basis in achieving other SDG 6 Targets
- As part of implementing IWRM, Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) has been adopted as a method to manage the water resources in Malaysia with the aim to:
 - i. Ensure adequate water (element of Indicator 6.4.1 and 6.4.2);
 - ii. Ensure clean water (element of Indicator 6.1.1, 6.2.1, 6.3.1, and 6.3.2) ;
 - iii. Reduce the risk of flooding (element of disaster risk reduction; and
 - iv. Improve environmental conservation (element of Indicator 6.6.1).

SDG 6 target(s) and indicator(s)

- Least important target(s) and indicator(s)

Indicator 6.5.2

- This indicator may not always receive the same level of attention as other indicators, it is by no means the least important.
 - Out of 189 major river basins in Malaysia, 4 river basins are shared with other countries. Malaysia will continue to push for transboundary cooperation including for protecting ecosystems and biodiversity in shared river basins.
 - Meanwhile, there are 17 river basins that are shared between states in Malaysia. Malaysia has established National Water Council as a platform for the Federal and State Governments to coordinate the policy, direction and approach of national water management which includes water resources management, water supply services and sewerage.
- Other relevant contexts
 -

Reflections on SDG-PSS and its online course

- Contribution of SDG-PSS online course in using SDG-PSS and navigating its main features? Was the course helpful in using SDG-PSS or not? What is needed to improve the course further?
 - The online course was helpful especially the reading material part.
 - Some instances of broken links to fix:
 - Capacity Assessment Methodology User's Guide (UNDP, 2008): <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/aplaws/publication/en/publications/capacity-development/undp-capacity-assessment-methodology/UNDP%20Capacity%20Assessment%20Users%20Guide.pdf>
 - Toolkit for Capacity Development (European Commission, 2010): https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/guidelines-toolkit-capacity-development-2010_en.pdf
 - Sex-disaggregated indicators for water assessment, monitoring and reporting (Seager, 2015): http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/Sex_disaggregated_indicatorsfor_water_assessment_monito.pdf
 - Gender in Water and Sanitation (WSP, 2010): <https://www.wsp.org/sites/wsp.org/files/publications/WSP-gender-water-sanitation.pdf>

Relevance of SDG-PSS Components

- Most relevant components of SDG-PSS in the national context and why?
 - Policy and Institutional
 - Policy and Institutional is important in creating an enabling environment to achieve other components. This is achieved by setting up priorities and goals, establishing regulatory framework, and facilitate coordination and collaboration.
 - In 2012, Malaysia has developed National Water Resources Policy to outline strategies and formulate comprehensive action plans in facing various issues and challenges related to water resource management in the country. The main principles of the policy covering the guarantee of water resources, sustainability of water resources and integrated collaborative governance. The policy is currently being reviewed to not only cover water resources but also water supply and sewerage services.

Relevance of SDG-PSS Components

- Least relevant components of SDG-PSS in the national context and why?
 - Gender Mainstreaming
 - Gender mainstreaming is essential for achieving SDG 6 and promoting sustainable and equitable water and sanitation management. Furthermore, gender mainstreaming also related to other SDG such as SDG 5.
 - It is seen as least relevant probably caused by misconceptions about gender issues such as there may be a perception that water issues are viewed as technical or engineering issues and do not require consideration of gender dynamics.
 - With policy and institutional support, this situation could be improved.

Summary Page of SDG-PSS

- SDG-PSS could potentially act as one-stop centre in standardizing SDG 6 reporting by:
 - Consistency – reduce difference in interpretations.
 - Efficiency – streamline various reports thus reduce the time, resources, and effort to prepare, review, and disseminate reports.
 - Comparability – facilitates monitoring and evaluation, supporting better decision-making and resource allocation.

Summary Page of SDG-PSS

- Knowledge Sharing
 - Existing users to share tips, best practices, and troubleshooting solutions for example in dealing with missing data.
- Collaborative workshops
 - Bring together both new and existing users to share their perspectives, ideas, and feedback on how to fully utilize the system.
- User Forums
 - Such as the one in the SDG-PSS online course to actively engage with user feedback and encourage both new and existing users to share their thoughts and helping each other.

Summary Page of SDG-PSS

- SDG-PSS and other reportings, for example for Indicator 6.5.1 (reporting to UNEP) and Indicator 6.5.2 (reporting to UNECE and UNESCO):
 - The frequency of reporting – every three years vs. annually.
 - The ‘Status’ component is similar. However, other 6 components are quite different.
 - Indicator 6.5.1 reporting is at <https://iwrmdataportal.unepdhi.org/country-reports>
 - Indicator 6.5.2 reporting is at <https://unece.org/national-country-reports-sdg-indicator-652>