



VOLUME 2 **METHODOLOGY** **FOR THE** **ASSESSMENT OF** **TRANSBOUNDARY** **AQUIFERS**

METHODOLOGY FOR THE
GEF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERS
ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

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PREFACE

The GEF Medium Size Project (MSP) *Development of the Methodology and Arrangements for the GEF Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme*, approved in January 2009, was envisioned as a partnership among existing programmes, which was considered to be more cost effective than the conduct of an independent data and information gathering exercise. The Project Objective was to develop the methodologies for conducting a global assessment of transboundary waters for GEF purposes and to catalyse a partnership and arrangements for conducting such a global assessment.

This Project has been implemented by UNEP as Implementing Agency, UNEP Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA) as Executing Agency, and the following lead agencies for each of the water systems: the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for transboundary aquifers including aquifers in small island developing states (SIDS); the International Lake Environment Committee (ILEC) for lake basins; UNEP-DHI Centre for Water and Environment (UNEP-DHI) for river basins; and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO for LMEs and the open ocean.

This Project resulted in developed methodologies for the following five transboundary water systems: (i) groundwater aquifers; (ii) lake/reservoir basins; (iii) river basins; (iv) large marine ecosystems; and (v) open oceans.

The results of this Project are presented in the TWAP MSP Publication, *Methodology for the GEF Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme*, which consists of the following six volumes:

- *Volume 1 – Methodology for the Assessment of Transboundary Aquifers, Lake Basins, River Basins, Large Marine Ecosystems, and the Open Ocean;*
- *Volume 2 – Methodology for the Assessment of Transboundary Aquifers;*
- *Volume 3 – Methodology for the Assessment of Transboundary Lake Basins;*
- *Volume 4 – Methodology for the Assessment of Transboundary River Basins;*
- *Volume 5 – Methodology for the Assessment of Large Marine Ecosystems; and*
- *Volume 6 – Methodology for the Assessment of the Open Ocean.*

Volume 1 is a summary of the detailed methodologies described in volumes 2 – 6. At the back cover of volume 1 is attached a DVD that contains electronic version of all six volumes.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY FOR DECISION MAKERS	1
GENERAL INTRODUCTION	5
PART 1. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK	7
1. Introduction	7
2. Terminology, Concepts, Activities and Products Relevant for TWAP/Groundwater	9
3. Conceptual Framework for TWAP's Global Assessment	16
4. Outline of a Methodology for TWAP Groundwater	22
PART 2. IDENTIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF TRANSBOUNDARY AQUIFERS	37
5. Objectives	37
6. Methodological Approaches	37
7. Emerging & Priority Issues and Hotspots	39
8. Outputs	40
PART 3. INDICATORS	43
9. Objectives	44
10. Data for the Formulation of TWAP Groundwater Indicators	44
11. Indicator Categories	44
12. Current State Indicators	45
13. Projected Groundwater Stress Indicators	68
PART 4. INTERLINKAGES WITH OTHER WATER SYSTEMS	73
14. Interlinkages Between Water Systems	73
15. Input-Output Analysis	74
16. Cross-Cutting and Common Issues	74
PART 5. DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	77
17. Background	77
18. Information Management System Components	77
19. Information Management System Steps	79
20. The Flow of Information in the Assessment	80
21. Organisational Information Management Structure	84
PART 6. TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASSESSMENT OF TRANSBOUNDARY AQUIFERS	85
22. Validation	85
23. Partnership Arrangements	85
24. Execution Arrangements	88
REFERENCES	89
ANNEX 1 TWAP UNESCO GROUNDWATER EXPERT GROUP	91
ANNEX 2 GLOSSARY OF TERMS	93
ANNEX 3 GEF RESOURCE ALLOCATION FRAMEWORK FOR GROUNDWATER	95
ANNEX 4 EXAMPLE OF ISARM QUESTIONNAIRE	97
ANNEX 5 MINUTES OF UTRECHT WORKSHOP	103
ANNEX 6 DATA AND INFORMATION SOURCES	105

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1	Diagram showing (tentatively) the prevailing relations between the DPSIR Framework, TWAP indicators in relevant professional fields and GEF's Status and Process Indicators	26
Table 2	Small Island Developing States according to UNDESA.. . . .	28
Table 3	Key aquifer properties to be defined as a general reference	30
Table 4	Time-dependent variables to be assessed for TWAP/Groundwater, in relation to DPSIR framework	32
Table 5	Selected parameters for evaluation of groundwater vulnerability and their weight in the DRASTIC index.. . . .	49
Table 6	Ranges and rating for depth to groundwater table (will be multiplied by weight 5).. . . .	49
Table 7	Characteristics of TBA value and functions index and related indicators, their classification, and sources of data.	53
Table 8	Characteristics of human and environmental dependence index and related indicators, their classifications and sources of data	55
Table 9	Characteristics of groundwater stress index and related indicators, their classifications and sources of data	56
Table 10	Classification/Scoring of socioeconomic state core indicators.	59
Table 11	Synopsis of Governance Indicators (legal/institutional systems).	64
Table 12	Classification/Scoring of economic governance, instruments and incentives.	68
Table 13	Inflows to and outflows from groundwater systems (only the five TWAP water type categories are considered)	73

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1	Overall architecture of TWAP phases (groundwater).	8
Figure 2	The DPSIR Framework of analysis.	11
Figure 3	Main conceptual framework of GEF IW:RAF/Groundwater.	15
Figure 4	Overall conceptual framework for TWAP's global assessment.	17
Figure 5	Conceptual framework of TWAP Groundwater component in the context of the overall TWAP project.	18
Figure 6	Upscaling spatially-variable data by averaging over the spatial assessment units	22
Figure 7	Information management system components.	78
Figure 8	TWAP Groundwater assessment Information flow chart.	81
Figure 9	Dummy map of a TBA with possible legends - mainly based on the WHYMAP legend	82
Figure 10	Dummv TBA Information sheet	83

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