

EU-UfM Water Governance & Business Forum Second Edition

19 October 2020

On-line WebeX/Mixed Meeting



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The UfM Water Agenda & Financial Strategy: where are we & where we are going in the post-COVID 19 era?

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COVID-19 AND THE WATER SECTOR

The water sector is in the front line of the COVID-19 crisis. More than ever, water is a crucial resource to address the difficulties of this unprecedented situation.



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COVID-19 AND THE WATER SECTOR

A GLOBAL WATER CRISIS



In 2019, about 25% of the world's population was confronted with a water crisis.

180 million people

living in the Mediterranean region are considered 'water-poor'.

The sixth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG6) adopted by the United Nations in 2015, reminds us the importance of the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation.



On the day after the crisis



COVID-19 AND THE WATER SECTOR

A SUSTAINABLE RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19

Solidarity became a key factor since the beginning of the pandemic and especially during the lockdown. **Sustainability** has also been highlighted by local and international actors. A sustainable response to the COVID-19 crisis must emphasise on water and sanitation, and be **focused on the Green Economy**.

The **water-energy-food nexus** is an integral part of this model. Integrating these three components will ensure an efficient use of natural resources and limit environmental degradation.

With the technologies available today, this approach seem achievable. **Cooperation** between public and private sector is required, along with contingency funding plans and long-term investments.

A change in consumers' behaviour is also expected. The aftermath of this global crisis is already observed in our economies and the outcome of the recovery phase will depend on our ability to rebuild a **sustainable and equitable society**.



UfM Water Agenda—snapshot of the process until now

UfM Ministerial Meeting (4/17, Malta)

Mandate & guidance for the UfM Water Agenda

UfM WEG 7 Meeting (7/17 Barcelona)

Thematic contents of the UfM Water Agenda, including on Water & Sanitation

UfM SOM Meeting (12/17, Brussels)

Information provision and guidance on further steps

UfM WEG 8 Meeting (2/18, Amman)

Presentation and guidance on the draft WEM Chapter of the WASH Work Programme and the WASH Work Plan 2018-2019. Call for and establishment of the UfM WASH Task Force to further advance the documents

UfM TF meetings (5-10/18)

Advancement of the Work Programmes and Work Plans 2018-2019 for all themes (except for CCA)

UfM WEG 9 Meeting (11/18, Athens)

Follow up on decisions of WEG 8, review the progress and agree on the revised docs for all 4 themes

UfM SOM meeting (12/18)

Endorsement of Water Agenda and Financial Strategy

UfM WEG 10 meeting (6/19)

Monitor the implementation of annual Work Plan and next steps

UfM Water Agenda & Financial Strategy



<https://ufmsecretariat.org/info-center/publications/>

UfM Water Policy Framework for Actions 2030

Chapter 1 Water, Energy, Food and Ecosystems Nexus (WEFE)

Chapter 3 Water, Employment and Migration (WEM)

Chapter 2 Water Access and Sanitation (WASH)

Chapter 4 Water and Climate Change Adaptation (CAA)

Each chapter includes:

- 1. Content**
- 2. Aim & Objective**
- 3. Outputs & possible types of interventions**
- 4. Outcomes**
- 5. Partnerships**

Governance & Financing remain horizontal

UfM
Water Agenda

The
Financial
Strategy

- Executive Summary
- Chapter 1 **Introduction**
- Chapter 2 **Approaching water financing in a strategic way**
- Chapter 3 **Making the best use of existing financial resources**
- Chapter 4 **Mobilizing additional domestic and international financial resources**
- Chapter 5 **Implementation Plan**

**The 2020 Work Plan &
planned next steps in the
UfM Water Agenda**

UfM Water Agenda

What is happening in 2020

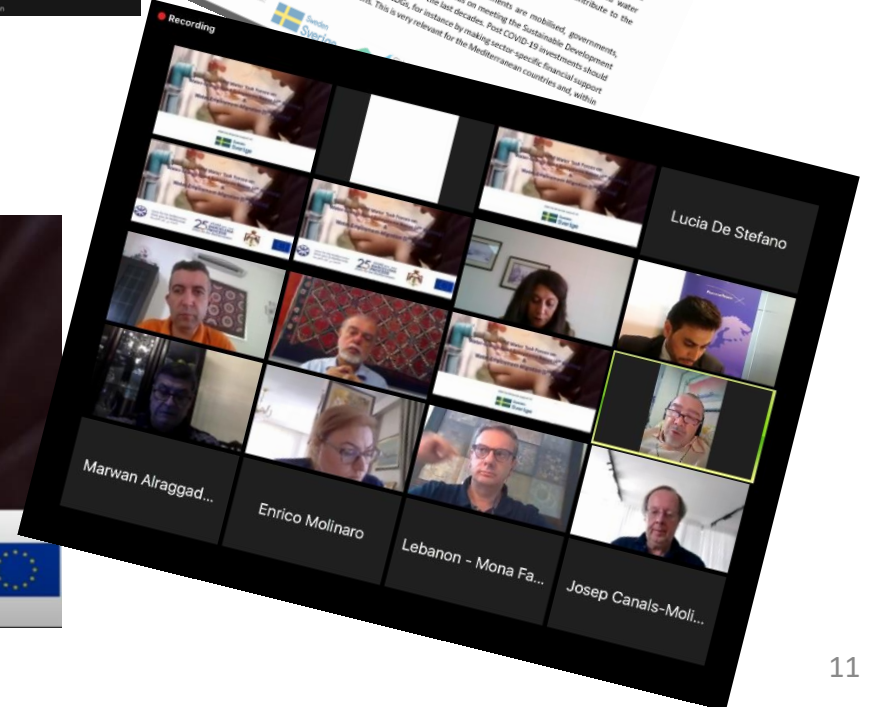
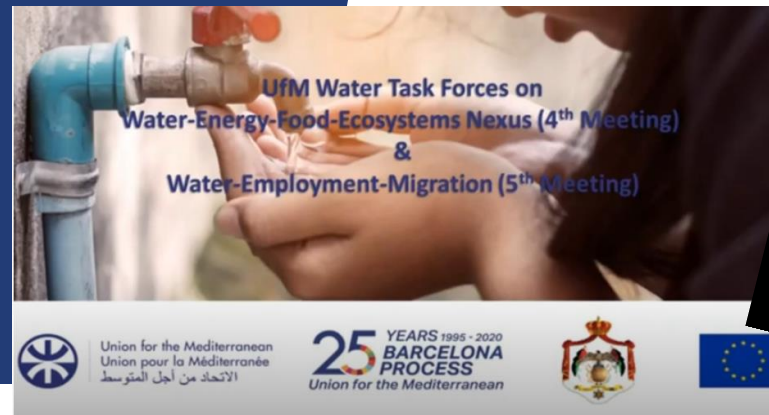
What	When	Who
Technical work on the response and recovery phase of the pandemic	March and ongoing	UFMS
Online Consultation Meeting on the UfM Water Agenda and Financial Strategy in view of SDG6 and the Green Deal: Policy Actions, Economic Responses, and Ways Forward in the post-COVID 19 context	9-10 June 2020 (online)	UfMS, UfM Member States, international institutions, regional organisations and civil society
Joint WEFE-WEM Task Forces	23 July 2020 (online)	UfMS, thematic leaders and theme's technical partner, member countries and partners
4th Mediterranean Water Forum	Postponed to early 2021, Malta	UfMS, Malta, IME, UfM member countries and partners
2 nd Annual Conference on Water Investments and Financing (ACWIF)	Q4 2020 (tbc)	UfMS and member countries, financial partners & other involved actors
WEG 11 Meeting, including potential back-to-back TF meetings or other thematic events; share updates from the Water Agenda implementation to the SOM	Q4 2020 or Q1 2021	UfMS
Progress implementation of all thematic workplans and the FS Workplan	Throughout 2020	UfMS and countries, financial partners and all involved actors

Some highlights

Informal WEG
9-10 June 2020
(online)



Joint WEFE-WEM
TF
23 July 2020
(online)



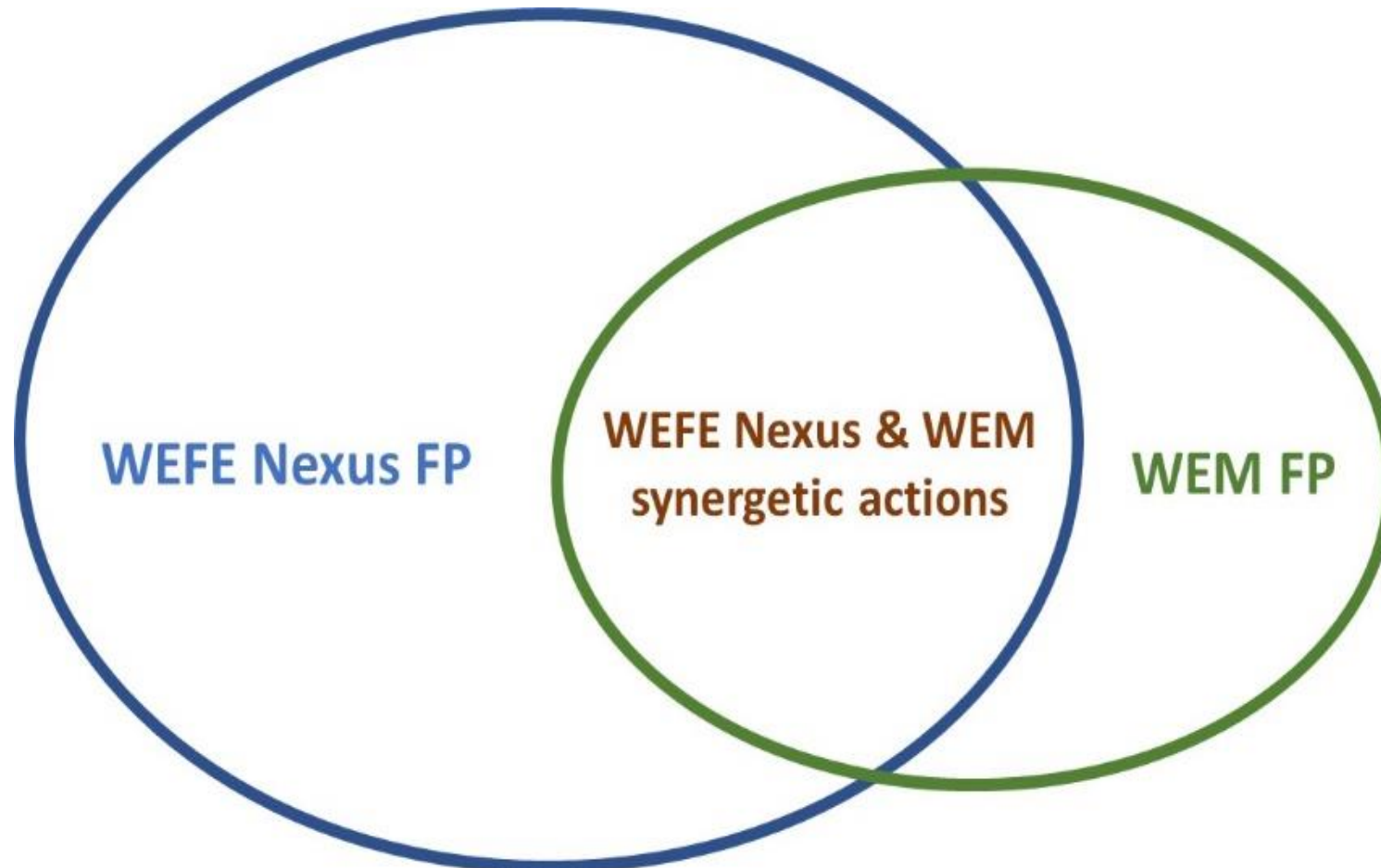
UfM WEG 10 Meeting (June 2019, Brussels) guided to

- focus on tangible outcomes**
- operationally merge the WEFE Nexus and WEM agendas within the UfM Framework Programme**



WEFE Nexus & WEM Synergetic Framework Programmes

Focusing on Tangibles & Proving the Concept



UfM WEFE Nexus & WEM: Work Plans 2020-2022

Main structure of the Work Plans

A. SET THE STAGE:

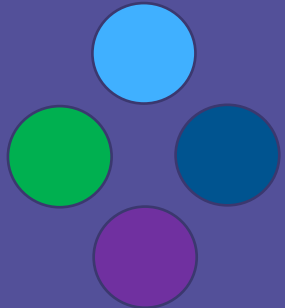
- Mapping
- General/Core assessments
- Regional/sub-regional stakeholder dialogue (formal, non-formal) for setting priorities

B. IMPLEMENT THE FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME:

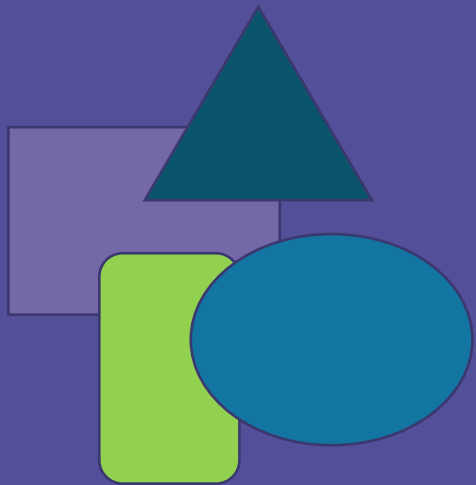
- Prioritize national & local [WEFE Nexus/WEM] **action planning** and **investment**
- Implement local (urban, rural, coastal) **pilot WEFE Nexus interventions** and **upscale them**
- Promote **employability & entrepreneurship** for **Youth** and **Women**, in WEFE Nexus-fields
- Facilitate public, donor and private **investments**
- Promote **knowledge sharing**

UfM Water Agenda: Thematic Framework Programmes approach

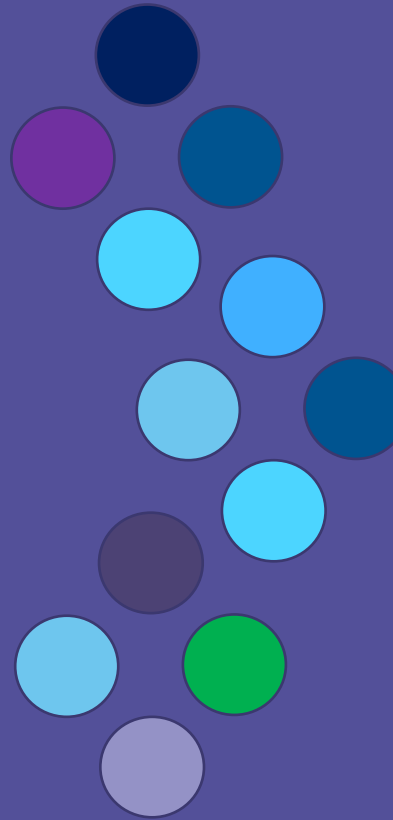
The more synergies, the most impacts – A modular approach



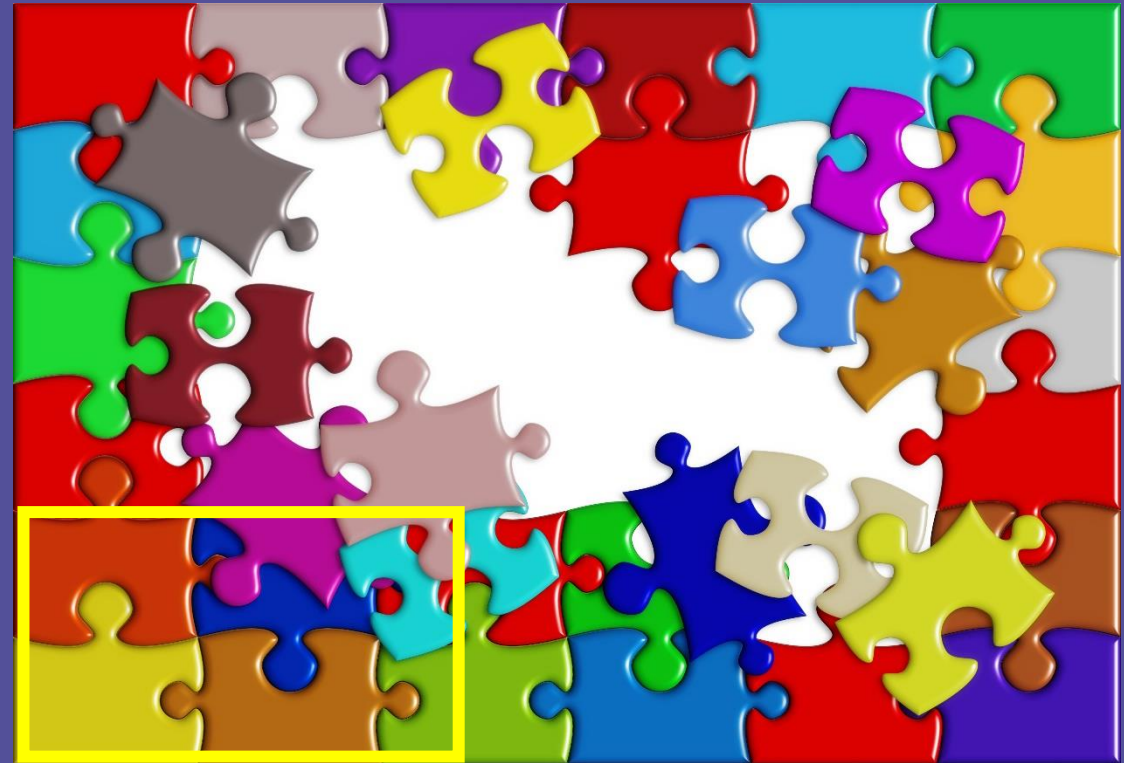
Partners
together



On-going and
new actions



More
Partners



Coordinated action of on-going and
new initiative for countries' benefits



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with a common ambition*

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UfM Nexus & WEM Synergetic Framework Programmes: 'Proving the Concept'

a. Implement WEF E Nexus pilot technical solutions, and further prioritization of such interventions

- increasing natural resources' use efficiency,
- raising crop productivity 'per drop' and 'per KWh',
- mobilising alternative sources to increase the local water budget
- promoting innovation and technology transfer, etc.

b. Assist Employment and Entrepreneurship opportunities in WEF E Nexus/NCWR fields for youth and women

- Capacity building on WEF E Nexus & Employability, linked with WEF E Nexus pilots
- Business Mentoring Courses on Entrepreneurship in WEF E Nexus fields
- Regional Experience-Sharing (among participants of the Courses and beyond)

UfM Nexus & WEM Framework Programmes: 'Proving the Concept'

c. Increase and share knowledge and promote outreach

- ToR for WEM Assessment within an Africa/Asia- Mediterranean/MENA -Europe context.
- Market Analysis assessment for WEF E Nexus applications in two MENA countries
- Knowledge material on WEF E Nexus Technical Solutions
- Knowledge material on Promoting Jobs related to WEF E Nexus
- Coordinated media engagement to increase awareness of the wider public and targeted stakeholders

Synergies, synergies, synergies...: UNESCO WWAP, WB CMI, ILO, UNIDO, CEWAS, UNEP/MAP, JRC, GIZ, MedCities, INWRDAM, etc.

Thankful to Sida for its steady enabling support

