Enabling Environment for Knowledge Sharing and Technology Transfer

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Current Situation

MENA region - most water scarce region in the world - average of 656 m^3 of renewable freshwater per capita...

- ❑ **Most water scarce region**
- ❑ **Lowest productivity of water in the world.**
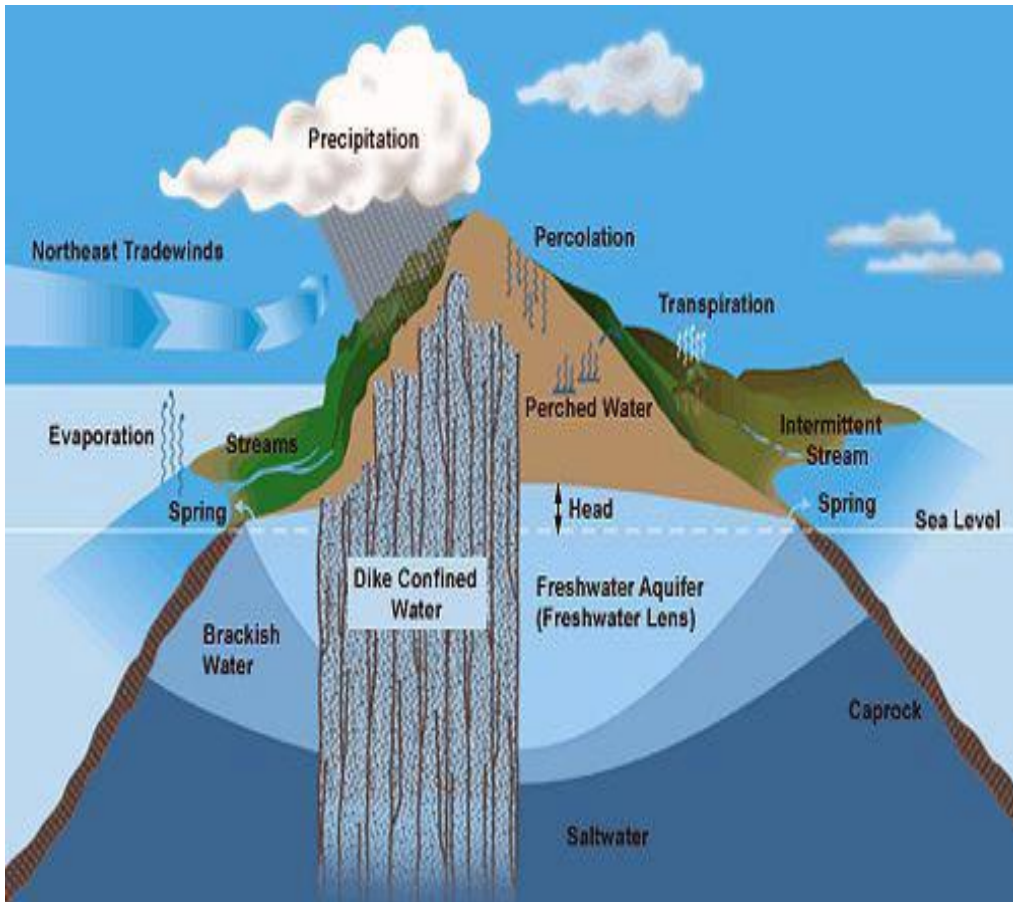- ❑ **Among the lowest water tariffs in the world.**

Governments give the highest level of subsidies globally – approaching 2 % of GDP on average BUT

Benefits are disproportionately captured by the wealthiest quintile of the population.

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Effective Management and Governance

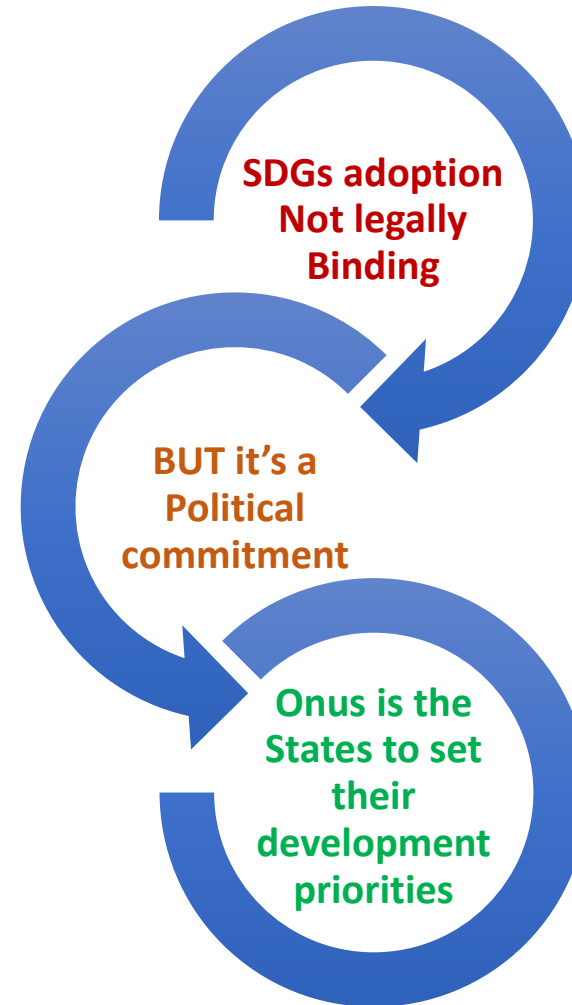## Water Quality, Availability and Sustainability

- ❑ Effective management of natural resources across the region, human and economic development

- ❑ Strengthened decision-making processes

- ❑ Effective institutions

- ❑ Alignment with key governance principles

  (participation, access to information, accountability, sustainability)

Enabling Environment for National Priorities for SDGs

❑ Laws
❑ Policies
❑ Implementation mechanisms
❑ Monitoring and Compliance

SDGs adoption Not legally Binding

BUT it's a Political commitment

Onus is the States to set their development priorities
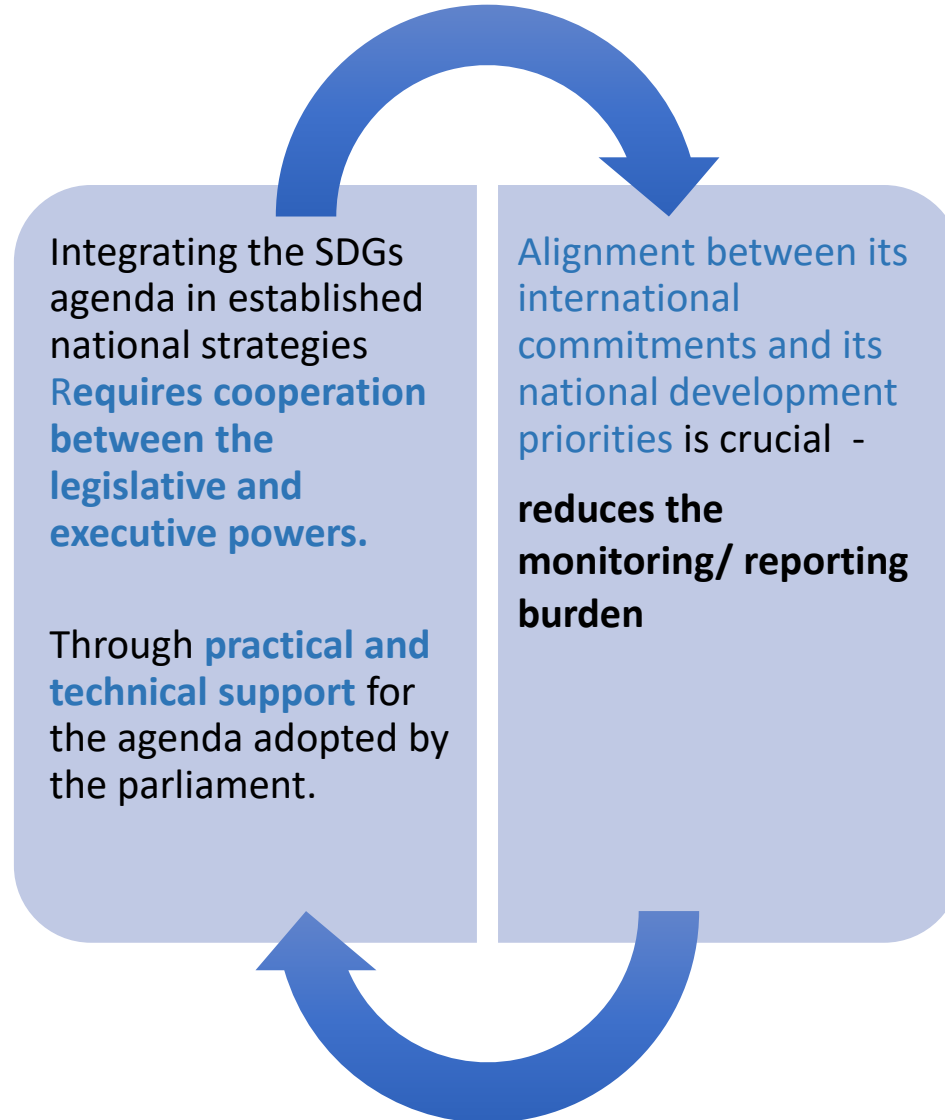
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Legal Policy Assessments

❑ The Transformative Agenda 2030 Imperative to ``*leave no one behind*``

❑ Each country needs to proceed in adopting the main principles in national legislation, or, where possible or necessary, in the constitution.

❑ For SDGs to succeed, legal implementation on the national level is required

❑ Parliamentarians need to translate SDGs into actionable, sound legislation

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International & Regional Commitments to National Priorities

Integrating the SDGs agenda in established national strategies **Requires cooperation between the legislative and executive powers.**

Through **practical and technical support** for the agenda adopted by the parliament.

Alignment between its international commitments and its national development priorities is crucial -

reduces the monitoring/ reporting burden

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Practical and Technical support

❑ Targets 6.a and 6.b, Goal 17 lay out seven building blocks
  - Mutually reinforcing and interdependent
  - Means of implementation

❑ Successes & Good Practices?

❑ Enabling environment includes:
  - Laws and policies
  - Knowledge Sharing
  - Technology Transfer &
  - Innovations

means of implementation

Finance
Trade
Technology
Capacity Institutions
Partnership
Participation
Data M&E

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Law, Policy, Regulations & Institutions

❑ Inadequately articulated laws and policies have cumulative impact:
- Distort of signals of scarcity
- Undermine incentives for innovations in water management or technology

❑ LAW-Policy Reform

- Takes time

- Establish baselines

- Identify and share good practices

- Making concrete recommendations to fill existing gaps

❑ Regional co-operation

- Build political support for reforms

- Institutional arrangements for collaboration.

Financing

❑ Water is not tradeable, but when you trade in agricultural products, you are trading water.

❑ When countries trade with and invest in each other, they need to cooperate with each other…

SDG implementation will require **forging partnerships** and collaboration between a range of actors.

Build on governments work with other stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and academia

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Financing – Private Sector Engagement

❏ United Nation sees engagement of private sector, investor, academics and institution as an important step in implementing the SDGs

❏ SDG framework offers no definitive framework for monitoring the activities of private sector - compliance and accountability

❏ Parliaments can facilitate investments and cooperation through legislation e.g. in favour of fair trade

Capacity Enhancement

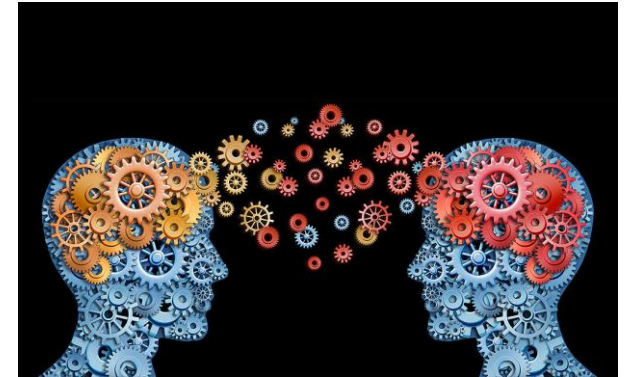| Capacity Enhancement	Local Domestic	Decision Making
Knowledge Financial Institutional	Ownership Sustainable Development	Effective Institutions Partnerships

❑ State and Non-State Actors

❑ Strengthened decision-making processes

❑ Alignment with key governance principles

- participation, access to information, accountability, sustainability

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Knowledge Sharing & Technological Innovations

❑ Where is the Knowledge?

❑ Terms for knowledge-sharing & transferability

❑ Adaptations needed

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Enabling Environment

Knowledge-Sharing, Technology Transfer, Innovation

- ❑ Cost-effective technological solutions
  - ▪ Readily available and implementable
- ❑ Challenge - sustainable solutions
  - ▪ Enabling environment
- ❑ Legal, policy and regulatory frameworks
  - ▪ Clear mechanisms & structures for operationalisation
  - ▪ National programme and project levels

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Inclusive Partnership, Innovations and Accountability

❑ How can laws, policies, procedures and instruments be adapted to create incentives for engagement and partnership?

❑ Operations and value chains of the private sector involved should comply with UN Guiding Principles for private sector engagement

❑ Inclusive partnerships
❑ Innovative modalities and partnerships for development
❑ Accountability & respect for human rights

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Incentives for Private Sector Partnership

❑ Overall there is a need to establish conditions for accelerated and inclusive growth to foster tangible wealth for ordinary people

1. **Renewing the social contract**

To generate a new development models that are built on:
- greater citizen trust
- more effective protection of the poor and vulnerable
- inclusive and accountable service delivery
- a stronger private sector that can create jobs and opportunities for MENA's youth

2. Regional cooperation

- Particularly around regional public goods and sectors such as education, water, and energy so as to foster greater trust and collaboration across Middle East countries
- Incentivise private-sector job creation and/or improve the quality of public services

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Thank you !