Inter-Parliamentary Union
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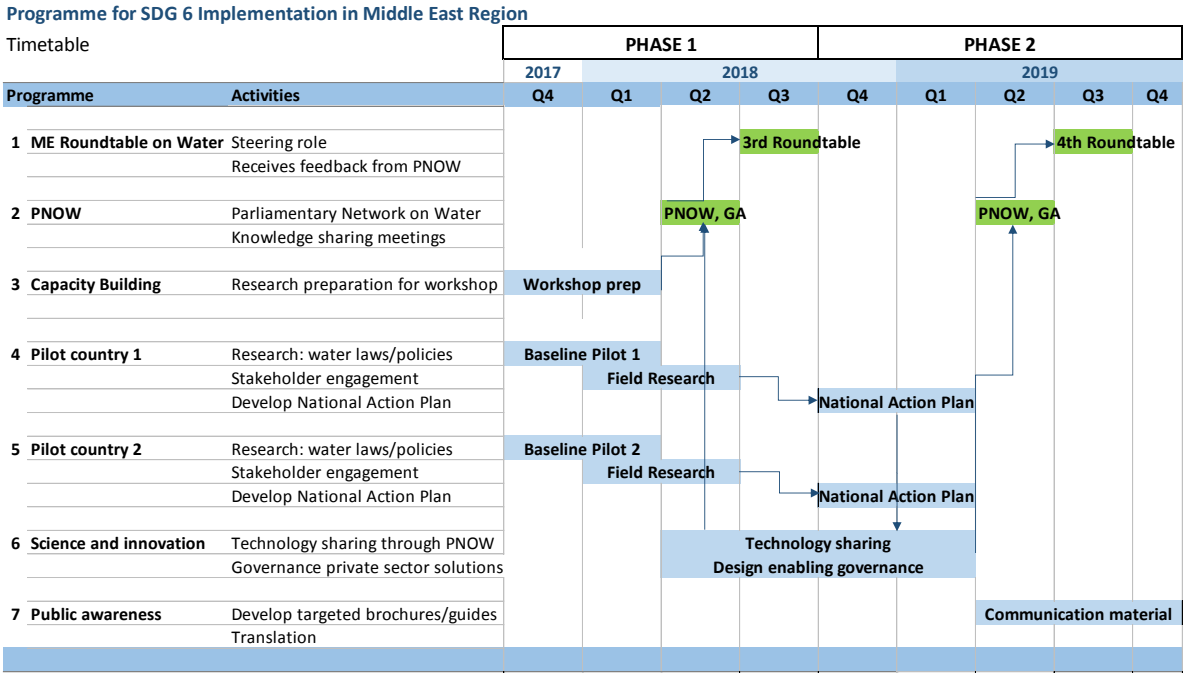
Committee on Middle East Questions

Second Roundtable on Water:
From words to actions

6 - 7 July 2017
IPU Headquarters
Geneva, Switzerland

Working Paper III - Programme of Action

The following programme outlines the agenda that was agreed by the IPU Middle East Committee in more detail, showing the timetable and the work foreseen to enable implementation of SDG6 through this programme. It focuses on the role that parliamentarians have to play in the region, featuring how a parliamentary network on water (PNOW) could work together, speed up the process through a system of shared knowledge and ideas, and trigger action. The role of the parliamentarians therefore becomes more pivotal in the SDG6 Agenda, and their leadership serves as an example for other countries and regions that could adopt the same approach.

1. Middle East Roundtable on Water - Create an atmosphere conductive to peaceful solutions by establishing projects of peace to transform elements of conflict, such as water, food, and power, into factors of co-existence.
2. PNOW - Establish a community of practice among parliamentarians on water governance; exchange of experiences and good practices among parliamentarians on water governance.
3. Capacity Building - Enhance the capacity of parliamentarians of the Middle East to empower them to shape national legal frameworks and to take a key role in ensuring available and sustainable management of water for all.
4. Pilot Country Mapping - Establish baseline research on water governance legislation in two pilot countries, plus field engagement with governments, NGOs and civil society in order to understand compliance; develop recommendations to share with the national parliamentarians from those pilot countries, and shape into National Action Plans in phase 2.
5. Science and Innovation - Identify gaps in accessing water of the right price, quantity and quality to different areas or groups of people and establish the appropriate technology providers to present to PNOW meetings; provide support through resources for capacity-building programmes with science for peace schools.
6. Communication Products - Provide parliamentarians with knowledge materials to play a key role in enacting legislation and adopting budgets to facilitate the steps necessary to undertake sustainable water governance; and enhance public awareness of sustainable water management practices.

Programme for SDG 6 Implementation in Middle East Region