

ASEAN IWRM Country Strategy Guidelines

- IWRM Monitoring Status Guidelines for ASEAN Countries

1. Background

The ASEAN Working Group on Water Resources Management (AWGWRM) has developed an ASEAN Strategic Plan of Action on Water Resources Management with the support from the Australian Government in 2005. To support the implementation of the Plan, ten project concept proposals were formulated and included in the Appendix of the Strategic Plan Report. One of the ten project concepts: Project Concept 2 is on the development of an “ASEAN IWRM Country Strategy Guidelines”. DID Malaysia was requested by the AWGWRM to organize and conduct a workshop to develop the details of the “ASEAN IWRM Country Strategy Guidelines”.

The workshop participants agreed that the generic ASEAN/IWRM framework will be structured on the following 6 major water management issues in ASEAN:

- Water Supply
- Irrigation
- Stormwater Management
- Floods Management
- Water Pollution Management
- Sanitation Management

Arising from the workshop the following outputs have been prepared for use by ASEAN countries to assist them in preparing and reporting on their respective countries' IWRM action plans and strategies to address the above 6 thematic issues.

- (a) A set of specific IWRM goals for the above 6 key water-related issues in the region.
- (b) For each set of thematic goals a set of IWRM objectives to achieve the goals have also been identified, categorized under the 3 categories of GWP IWRM tools, i.e. Enabling environment, Institutional environment and Management tools.
- (c) Also indicators for measuring the progress in achieving the objectives associated with each of the thematic goals have been developed. They can be used for measuring regional performance and progress towards meeting the IWRM goals for the 6 key water related issues in the region.

2. The ASEAN IWRM Monitoring Status Guidelines

The Workshop participants in Malaysia have agreed to develop monitoring guidelines for six key water management issues that are considered important in ASEAN countries. They are as follows:

- (a) Water Supply Management
- (b) Irrigation Management
- (c) Stormwater Management
- (d) Flood Management
- (e) Water Pollution Management
- (f) Sanitation Management

The following are the monitoring guidelines for the above 6 key water management issues.

IWRM Issue 5 – Water Pollution Management (18 indicators)			
Indicator Types	Indicators	Progress	Description
Outcome Indicators	1. Percentage of monitored water bodies' ambient water quality meeting designated uses (agriculture, water supply, fisheries, industries, etc.)	100%	
	2. Percentage of industrial/ domestic effluent discharge complying with the country's effluent discharge standard	%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The rate of industrial parks and export processing zones with centralized wastewater treatment systems that meet environmental technical standards regularly exceeds the Government's requirements and by April 2025 will reach 94.9%. - The rate of treated domestic wastewater reaches: 18%.
EE Indicators	1. Any "Policy" on water pollution control	8	- There are regulations on water environment protection from Article 7 to Article 10 of the Law on Environmental Protection and regulations in sub-law documents (Decrees, circulars).
	2. Any "Legislation/Regulations" for water pollution control (i.e. for the management of water quality and wastewater quality)	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are regulations on water environment protection from Article 7 to Article 10 of the Law on Environmental Protection and regulations in sub-law documents (Decrees, circulars). - Regulations on wastewater quality through the QCVN system on wastewater, regulations on environmental protection in production, business,

			service activities, in environmental protection of craft villages, rural areas, environmental protection of urban areas, residential areas, etc.
	3. Any “Financial framework and Financial plans” for water pollution control	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is no specific financial framework and financial plan for pollution control. - Expenditure items for environmental protection are specified in the Circular of the Ministry of Finance regulating expenditure for environmental protection activities from the state budget.
IS Indicators	1. Any “Agency/ Department” responsible for water pollution control	8	- Department of Environment, Department of Environmental Quality Management
	2. Any “Steering Committee” on river water quality and environmental issues (e.g inter-agency committee)	5	
	3. Any “Formal institutional arrangements” among related agencies to manage water pollution	8	The Department of Water Resources Management was assigned by the Ministry's leaders to develop a project to establish river basin organization.
	4. Any “Private/ public partnership and participant” in managing water pollution	NA	
MT Indicators	1. Any river water quality master plan at national and local levels	8	- The Government issues a master plan for the river basin, which stipulates the purpose of water use of each river, river section and water quality in the 2025-2030 period and other periods.
	2. Any relocation plans for highly polluting industries in a river basin	8	- The Government has instructions on the relocation of highly polluting facilities in the inner cities of Hanoi and

			Ho Chi Minh City. Similarly, localities also have plans for specific subjects
	3. Any effluent discharge standards	8	- There are regulations on wastewater quality through the QCVN system on wastewater for each specific type.
	4. Any river water quality monitoring program	8	- The Prime Minister issued Decision 224/QD-TTg in 2024 approving the National Environmental Monitoring Master Plan for the 2021-2030 period, with a vision to 2050
	5. Any river water quality information system/ database	8	- The Ministry of Agriculture and Environment has a National Data Center
	6. Any program to disseminate to the public regulator report on river water quality status	8	Dissemination through the Ministry's magazines, newspapers, and programs of the Ministry's units.
	7. Any groundwater quality monitoring programs and systems	8	
	8. Any computer simulation models used to predict river water quality	8	The Department has some software that can predict river water quality (some specific indicators), the focal point is the Northern Environmental Monitoring Center.
	9. Any public awareness program on water pollution prevention	8	At Environment magazine, environmental newspapers have been assigned specific tasks for propaganda, awareness raising, and communication.