Opportunities and Challenges for Reporting on Implementation of SDG Indicator 6.5.2 on Transboundary Water Cooperation in Afghanistan
Preparing the report on SDG Indicator 6.5.2

- We have received official letter through ministry of foreign affair so the questionaries' filled by experts in the National Water Affairs Authority (NWARA). and submitted to UNECE. The report was prepared asper data collection from various related departments. Regarding transboundary water challenges and oppourtunities.
Background

• Afghanistan is a country with high source of several important river basins in the region which is divided into five major River Basins, in which four of them are shared with neighbor countries as bellow:
  • Kabul River Basin,
  • Helmand River Basin
  • Amu River Basin
  • Hari Rud-Murghab River Basin.

• For better management of these shared RBs NWARA established Trans boundary water management commission in 2016 based on a presidential decree.
This river is govern by an international water allocation treaty (1973) with its neighbor (Iran) which is only an international water sharing treaty which Afghanistan signed.
Continues…

In Panj-Amu River Basin

- MoU between Afghanistan and Tajikistan for trans boundary data sharing on early warning system signed in 2014.
- Joint water affairs committee with Turkmenistan and 3 session already passed in 2016.
- NWARA submitted the SDGs 6.5.2 report officially through Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 14 July 2020.
Continues…

- Existing of political will in the high level of leadership
- Existence of transboundary water department in NWARA.
- Donors concerned to make capacity in this unit
- Having of 5 years strategic plan
- Having of yearly Action Plans for different sections.
- The NWARA trans boundary unit is working through four desk. Legal, Technical, Social and Conflict resolution sections.
Challenges

- The decades of insecurity and instability in Afghanistan also affected on the Trans boundary issues.
- Shortage of high capacity experts on the technical, legal, political and economical parts.
- Lack of water infrastructures especially reservoir dams
- Climate change effects
- Flood and drought
Suggestions

In technical section:

• Launching of technical negotiations for exchanging of data and information for building of trusts.
• Negotiations for the purpose of joint studies to assess the effects of climate change on TBW and to adopt joint measures.
• Starting of discussion and negotiations for making of joint projects for the reason of decreasing the negative impacts of flood and drought.
• Negotiations for joint actions for river fortifications in trans boundary rivers.
• Bringing the brilliant cooperation models mutual benefit sharing on the transboundary rivers.
In capacity building:

- Capacity building the field of effects of climate change which affect the transboundary water.
- Capacity building for modeling in how to decrease the flood and drought impacts.
- Capacity building in research section for avoiding the pollution in quality of transboundary water.
- Capacity building program about successful international models for construction of joint water projects.
- Capacity building program on how to have successful negotiations and understandings for reaching to international agreements on transboundary waters.
Thank you so much for your Attention