

# Scaling Up the Safe Use of Recycled Water in the Arab Region” **DRAFT**

**When:** 28 November 2017, 12:00-13:30

**Room set up:** round tables with capacity for 60 pax

**Covenors:** IWMI, ICARDA, FAO, Sida

**Resource persons:** Javier Mateo-Sagasta (IWMI), Theib Oweis and Atef Swelam (ICARDA), Pasquale Stedutto(FAO)

**Session summary:** This participatory session will bring together policy makers, academia and development practitioners to discuss promising solutions to upscale the safe use of recycled water in the Arab region, with a focus on reuse for agriculture and aquaculture. The recommendations from the session will aim to inform the ongoing regional efforts to reach SDG targets 6.3 on water quality and 6.4 on water scarcity and water use efficiency

## **Session description:**

Improving the treatment of wastewater and increasing the reuse of treated wastewater are key to address the water crisis in the Arab region. Nevertheless, the reuse potential is largely untapped due to different challenges, including (i) cultural barriers and distrust; (ii) institutional fragmentation; (iii) over-stringent regulatory frameworks; or (iv) the lack of appropriate economic incentives and financial models for cost recovery.

While acknowledging the challenges, this session will focus on opportunities. There are noteworthy reuse success stories in and around the region, which, if replicated and up-scaled can help mitigate water scarcity and pollution and contribute to a more resilient region. This session will start with a review of key challenges and opportunities for a safe reuse based on years of research. This review will set the scene for the audience to discuss in groups and to highlight examples of success with replication potential in the Arab region.

## **Expected outcomes:**

- Better understanding of the key challenges and opportunities to upscale the safe use of recycled water in the Arab region
- Success stories and innovative ideas to bring solutions with potential at scale

## **Draft Program**

Time	Title	Resource person
5 min	Welcome and introduction	IWMI, ICARDA, FAO
20 min	Keynote Speech: Challenges and opportunities for the safe use of recycled water	Javier Mateo-Sagasta (IWMI) (tbc)*
30 min	Audience to discuss in groups success stories and opportunities to upscale the safe use of recycled water	
20 min	Group rapporteurs to report in plenary and open discussion	
5 min	Key takeaways	
5 min	Session close up	

\* PPT with contributions from all co-conveners