

## **Consultation Workshop on Water Accounting and Water Resources Assessment Standards**

**Venue: Indus Hall, IWMI Lahore Office**

**Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023**

**Timings (PKT): 9:00 – 14:00**

### **Background**

Water scarcity poses a significant challenge for Pakistan with potential disastrous impacts on the economy and society as a whole. Recognizing the urgency of addressing water-related challenges, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) Pakistan is implementing the UK Aid-funded Water Resource Accountability in Pakistan (WRAP) Programme Component 1: Climate Resilient Solutions for Improving Water Governance (CRS-IWaG) with the aim of enhancing water resource management capacities at the federal, provincial, and district levels.

The long-term goal of the programme is to improve water governance through climate resilient solutions by introducing federal and provincial-level climate-smart interventions. The project aims to strengthen, empower, and catalyze national capacities for implementing climate-smart interventions through a transformational change process and by developing action-oriented interventions and recommendations that overcome technical and non-technical barriers and ensure long-term sustainability. It will also generate evidence for implementing the national and Punjab-level climate and water policies.

The WRAP Programme Component 1: CRS-IWaG has three main outcomes:

**Outcome 1:** Improving water governance in the Indus Basin to support the implementation of national policies (water and climate change).

**Outcome 2:** Better ‘use’ of water within Punjab province and how it is shared around priority ‘usage’ areas to support the implementation of Punjab Water Act.

**Outcome 3:** Dissemination of key findings through multiple forums and capacity development activities of key government institutions and the private sector to advocate for scaling up technical interventions to support diversity and inclusion through improving water governance.

### **About the workshop**

Pakistan is currently facing significant challenges in water management. There is a lack of reliable annual water accounts regarding water availability (including surface, groundwater, and rainfall) and their associated uses (such as domestic, industrial, agriculture, and environmental) within the Indus Basin. Section-22 of the National Water Policy (NWP) 2018 emphasizes the need for a robust water information system to facilitate sustainable planning and development of water resources.

Given this background, IWMI Pakistan is organizing a “Consultation Workshop on Water Accounting and Water Resources Assessment Standards” to provide support for the successful implementation of Punjab Water Act (PWA) 2019, under the UK Aid-funded WRAP Programme Component 1: CRS-IWaG. The primary objective of this workshop is to bring together key stakeholders, particularly provincial government officials, policymakers, water experts, academia, and practitioners, to engage in a comprehensive discussion on the significance of water accounting and its implications for sustainable water management in Punjab, Pakistan.

### **Objectives**

- Facilitate a platform for key stakeholders to engage in meaningful discussions on the significance of water accounting and its impact on sustainable water management in Punjab.
- Identify and analyse the major challenges and existing gaps in the current water accounting and assessment practices aimed to strengthen sustainable water management at the provincial level.
- Explore innovative approaches and best practices in water accounting to enhance accuracy, reliability, and transparency, in water resources management.
- Promote knowledge exchange and collaboration across various sectors and disciplines to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of water accounting and assessment practices.
- Raise awareness regarding the benefits of water accounting and encourage its adoption as a fundamental tool for informed decision-making and policy development in the water sector.

### **Target Audience**

Provincial government officials, policymakers, water experts, academia, and practitioners

**For more information about WRAP Programme Component 1: CRS-IWaG**

**Dr. Mohsin Hafeez**

Director

Water, Food and Ecosystems

IWMI

Email: [M.Hafeez@cgiar.org](mailto:M.Hafeez@cgiar.org)

For general queries: [iwmipk-communications@cgiar.org](mailto:iwmipk-communications@cgiar.org)