WOMEN AND WATER SECURITY FOR PEACEBUILDING IN THE ARAB REGION

INTEGRATING ACROSS THEMES
• Develop ways in which women are recognized as agents of change
  - Strengthen capacities of national and local governments to promote integrated gender programs

• Share knowledge and learning on innovative practices in engaging and empowering women, summarized in an edited policy brief

• Foster regional/multilateral cooperation and partnerships that support gender-sensitive water security in conflict and post-conflict contexts

• Within the UN, increase inter-agency cooperation to pursue women’s empowerment and sustainable water management

Expected Outcomes of the Symposium
• **Audience:**
  • Policymakers in governments, international organizations, general public

• **Dissemination:**
  • Outreach to policymakers and media outlets in the Arab region

• **Content:**
  • Based on a synthesis of symposium’s discussions and recommendations and expert inputs
  • Led by PWRC, together with UNDESA and UNESCWA, contributions by a writing team

• **Format:**
  • Professionally edited and designed
  • Disseminated electronically
  • (Arabic version? Printed copies?)

**Symposium Output: Policy Brief**
• Enabling policies for women as agents of change
• Awareness raising at the community level
• Utilize the SDG framework
• Integration across SDGs
• What successes have been achieved within the Arab region in integrating gender and water security dimensions?

• Which approaches have been most successful in overcoming the social and cultural inertia around women’s engagement?

• What is the role for regional and external organizations in re-shaping the policy landscape?
• How are the approaches to empower women as agents of change broadly viewed in the Arab societies?

• How best can the community level awareness-raising lead to practical information for women?

• How might we scale community-based action to correlate to supportive national and regional policies?

• Which are the most influential organizations in the Arab region?
• How can we ensure that the implementation of SDG5 and SDG 6 in the Arab region will produce mutually complementary results?

• What are the most significant roadblocks?

• What are the ways in which UN Member States can be facilitated and supported in achieving greater gender equity in their water policies?

• What are some of the best ways to mobilize resources – financial and technical?
• What are the ingredients for capacity development and supportive initiatives by the international community for ensuring integrated policy formulation and comprehensive SDG implementation?

• Are there elements of gender inclusion in the SDG implementation processes that are unique to the Arab region?

• What are the most effective modalities for engagement of international and UN organizations and agencies in integrated implementation of the SDGs?