CURRENT WATER USE
REGION A

CURRENT WATER USE
REGION B

CURRENT WATER USE
REGION C

WATER NOT
ALLOCATED

REGION A (up)

REGION B (mid)

REGION C (down)

TRANSBOUNDARY
WETLAND

MEDIUM
HYDRO POWER
DAM

LARGE SCALE
MULTIPURPOSE
DAM

SMALL/MEDIUM
SCALE DAMS

DELTA

INFO-SHEET – Brief characterisation of the Jazireh River (also called Island River)

Brief Characterisation	Region A *(upstream)*	Region B *(midstream)*	Region C *(downstream)*	Additional comments
Population (in million)	**100**	**80**	**30**	All three regions experiencing population growth (in particular A and C)
Geography & Hydrology	Mountainous region, source of the major rivers in the island. However, uneven rainfall patterns – both intra- & inter-annual	Region with 2 very different sides: a sub-tropical area in the northern shore, and desert land in the southern shore with almost nil rainfall	Very flat region, with good (but uneven) levels of rainfall in the delta but not elsewhere	The island is a patchwork of different environmental and climate characteristics, and has a constant record of droughts and floods with severe costs for people and economy
Political Economy	Fast growing economy, increasingly attractive for national and foreign investors in many fields. But still major infrastructure challenges	Stable & diversified economy, more connected to the global system, exhibiting the best socio-economic indicators of the 3 regions	Smaller and poorer economy than other 2 regions, but with high potential for development (tourism & commercial farming)	All experiencing a rapid economic growth (although to different extents), with burgeoning populations increasing demanding for better standards of life. Increasing foreign investment comes with extra demands
Domestic use (in units)	**5,5** (around 50% of population)	**10** (around 95% of population)	**2** (around 80% of population)	All 3regions have other sources of water (other rivers, groundwater and desalinated) but all would like to use a bit more from this river for this key sector for societies
Industrial use (in units)	**4** (current) + **1** (under development)	**8**	**2** (current) + **1** (under development)	All 3 regions are (or aim at) increasing their industrial and tourism development – this will require stable sources of energy, and other infrastructure development
Tourism (in units)	**Nil**	**8**	**1** (associated with delta)	All 3 regions have an enormous potential for tourism development –that could attract millions every year
Deltas / Fisheries (in units)	**10** (shared delta)		**2** (delta)	Both deltas are still very under-studied, in particular the one between Regions A and B, but they both have great economic value (tourism, fisheries and related industry)
Agriculture (in millions of hectares of land)	**1** (mostly rainfed, very little irrigation)	**2** (exclusively irrigation)	**1,4** (mostly irrigation but some rainfed)	In the 3 regions, agriculture is major sector: in economic, social, employment, and water consumption terms
Agriculture production/trade	Mostly food crops for national consumption, but plans to increase exported-oriented production (mainly rainfed, but not excluding some small/medium-size irrigation schemes)	Mostly food crops (lot of cereals) & some high-value cash-crops for exports. No more capacity to expand land under irrigation. It imports a lot of food from outside the island (mostly cereals)	Very diversified/mixed agricultural production (food & cash-crops) – both for national consumption & export. Big potential to double irrigation & exports, but limited by storage capacity	Agriculture production, consumption and trade patterns are changing rapidly in all three regions – however all continue to experience some degree of food insecurity, which the regional governments are already trying to address jointly (by producing and/or importing from elsewhere in the island or overseas)
Energy needs/production	Energy needs still partially uncovered. But with a large hydropower potential & ambitious plan to become a regional and international energy hub	Energy needs are almost 100% covered. Hydropower is not a major energy source	Still lots of energy needs, with impacts in key economic sectors. Limited hydropower potential	All regions have other energy sources (geothermal, wind, solar, etc.). Region A and B have exportation potential (A is at the very initial level, and B already developed). Region C mainly aims to buy energy at cheap prices
Major existing hydraulic infrastructure	Medium-scale hydropower dam (no irrigation) inaugurated recently, still limited energy production	One major large dam (mainly for storage/ agriculture); Hydropower only a by-product	Two small dams with both uses (mainly irrigation and little hydropower); Very limited capacity to expand infrastructure in country	All the 3 regions have regional plans to increase infrastructure (hydropower, storage capacity, irrigation canals, etc.) and are at the initial stages of designing a regional-wide plan to maximise production a& trade
Current Water utilisation (in bcm)	5	60	20	Total annual flow: 100bcm [*understand this is average*]. There are around 15bcm still unallocated (and somehow unaccounted – e.g. losses due to evapotranspiration)