

Measuring & Accelerating Progress on SDG 6 – Overview & Practical Actions for Countries, including on transboundary water cooperation

Remy Kinna, Water Convention Secretariat

Inter-Parliamentary Union Science for Peace School

“Dealing with water scarcity: an opportunity to rebuild peace with Science”

7 December 2022



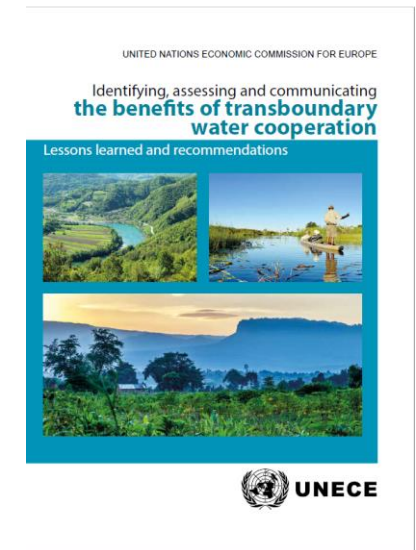
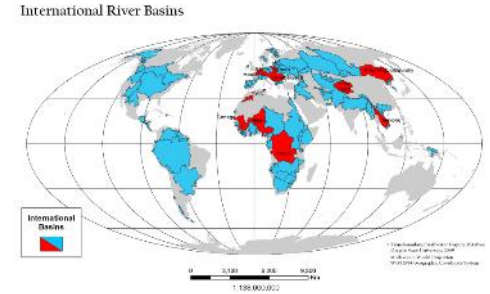
PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Measuring and accelerating progress on SDG 6, including the SDG6 Indicators

Strengthening transboundary water cooperation: role of the UN Water Convention

UN 2023 Water Conference & beyond

Questions & feedback after each segment focusing on what Parliamentarians can do



Yet, today, 40 per cent of the world's people are affected by water scarcity; 80 per cent of wastewater is discharged untreated into the environment, and more than 90 per cent of disasters are water-related.

ANTÓNIO GUTERRES, UN SECRETARY-GENERAL



BEFORE COVID-19

DESPITE PROGRESS,
BILLIONS STILL LACK
WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES



2.2 BILLION PEOPLE
LACK SAFELY MANAGED
DRINKING WATER
(2017)



4.2 BILLION PEOPLE
LACK SAFELY MANAGED
SANITATION
(2017)

COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS



3 BILLION
PEOPLE WORLDWIDE

LACK BASIC HANDWASHING
FACILITIES AT HOME



THE MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD FOR
COVID-19 PREVENTION



WATER SCARCITY
COULD DISPLACE
700 MILLION PEOPLE
BY 2030



SOME COUNTRIES EXPERIENCE
A FUNDING GAP OF 61% FOR ACHIEVING
WATER AND SANITATION TARGETS

Progress on SDG 6: need for huge acceleration!

Water is essential for all life!

Billions of people are still living without safely managed water and sanitation.

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 is to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030.

Achieving SDG 6 is integral to the success of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which aims to end extreme poverty and protect the planet.

6.1 SAFE DRINKING WATER



EVERY 15 SECONDS A CHILD DIES FROM A PREVENTABLE WATER BORNE DISEASE

200 MILLION HOURS = THE TIME WOMEN & GIRLS SPEND FETCHING WATER EVERY DAY



6.2 SANITATION AND HYGIENE



MORE THAN 1 IN 3 PEOPLE HAVE NO ACCESS TO IMPROVED SANITATION. 1 IN 7 STILL PRACTICE OPEN DEFECACTION

SOME COUNTRIES LOSE AS MUCH AS 7% OF GDP BECAUSE OF INADEQUATE SANITATION



6.3 WATER QUALITY




OVER 80% OF WASTEWATER WORLDWIDE IS DUMPED — UNTREATED — INTO WATER SUPPLIES

2 MILLION TONS = AMOUNT OF HUMAN WASTE DISPOSED IN WATER COURSES EVERY DAY




6.6 WATER-RELATED ECOSYSTEMS



GROUNDWATER PROVIDES DRINKING WATER TO AT LEAST 50% OF THE GLOBAL POPULATION

THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE & URBANIZATION WILL IMPACT THE WATER-CYCLE - INCLUDING VITAL GROUNDWATER RESERVES



6.5 INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



2/3 OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION COULD FACE WATER STRESS BY 2025

ACCESS TO WATER POSES THE BIGGEST SOCIETAL AND ECONOMIC RISK OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS



6.4 WATER EFFICIENCY



70% = AMOUNT OF TOTAL WATER CONSUMPTION USED FOR AGRICULTURE

85% = INCREASE IN WATER DEMANDS CAUSED BY RISING ENERGY PRODUCTION BY 2035

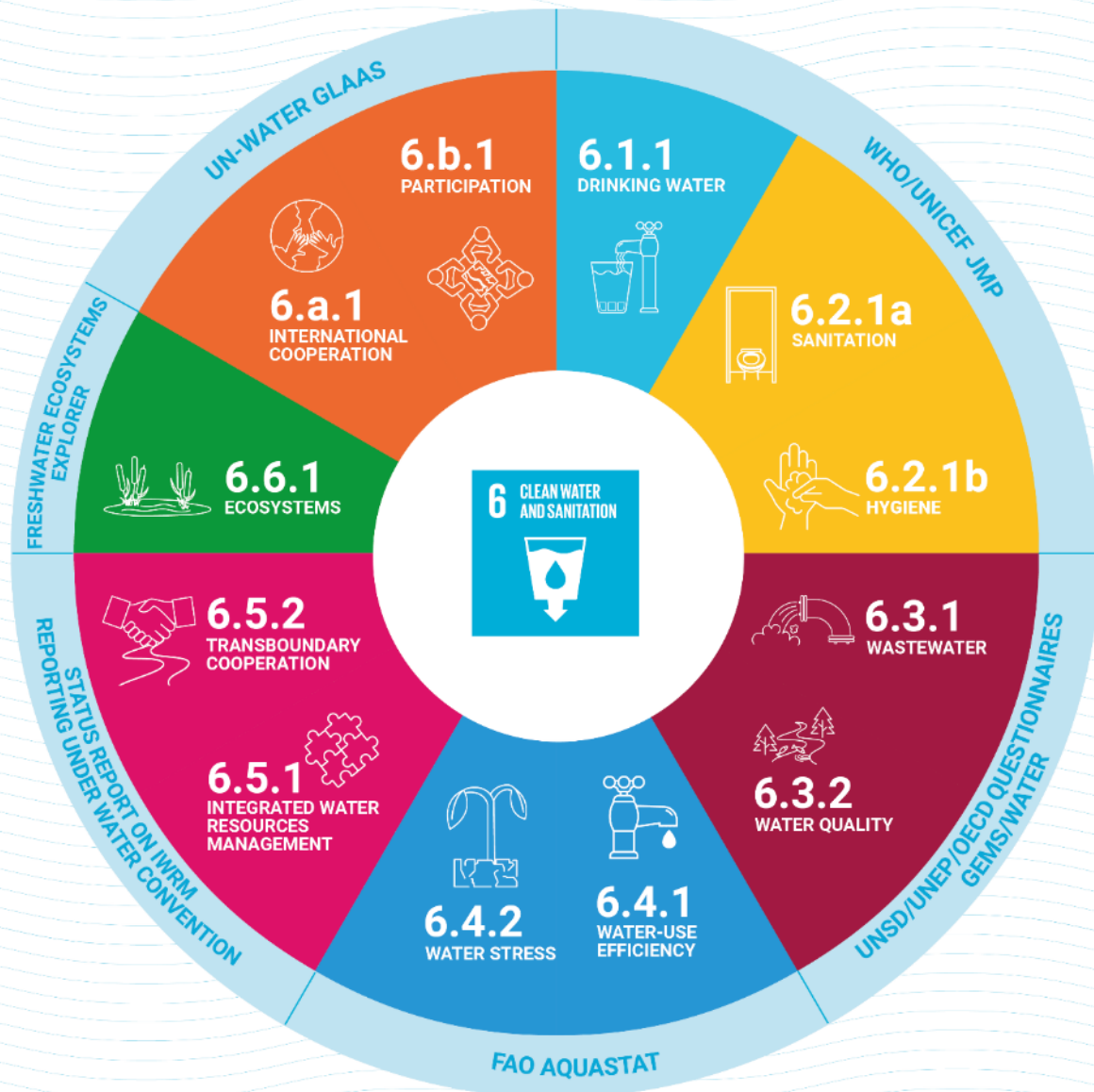


KEY: LINKED GOALS

 RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE (SDG 9)	 END POVERTY (SDG 1)	 END HUNGER (SDG 2)	 HEALTHY LIVES (SDG 3)	 QUALITY EDUCATION (SDG 4)	 GENDER EQUALITY (SDG 5)	 SUSTAINABLE WATER & SANITATION (SDG 6)	 ACCESS TO ENERGY (SDG 7)	 SUSTAINABLE GROWTH (SDG 8)
 SUSTAINABLE CITIES (SDG 11)	 REDUCE INEQUALITY (SDG 10)	 SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION (SDG 12)	 CLIMATE CHANGE (SDG 13)	 SUSTAINABLE OCEANS (SDG 14)	 SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS (SDG 15)	 INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES (SDG 16)	 GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP (SDG 17)	

www.un.org/sdgs www.unwater.org/waterforpeopleforlife



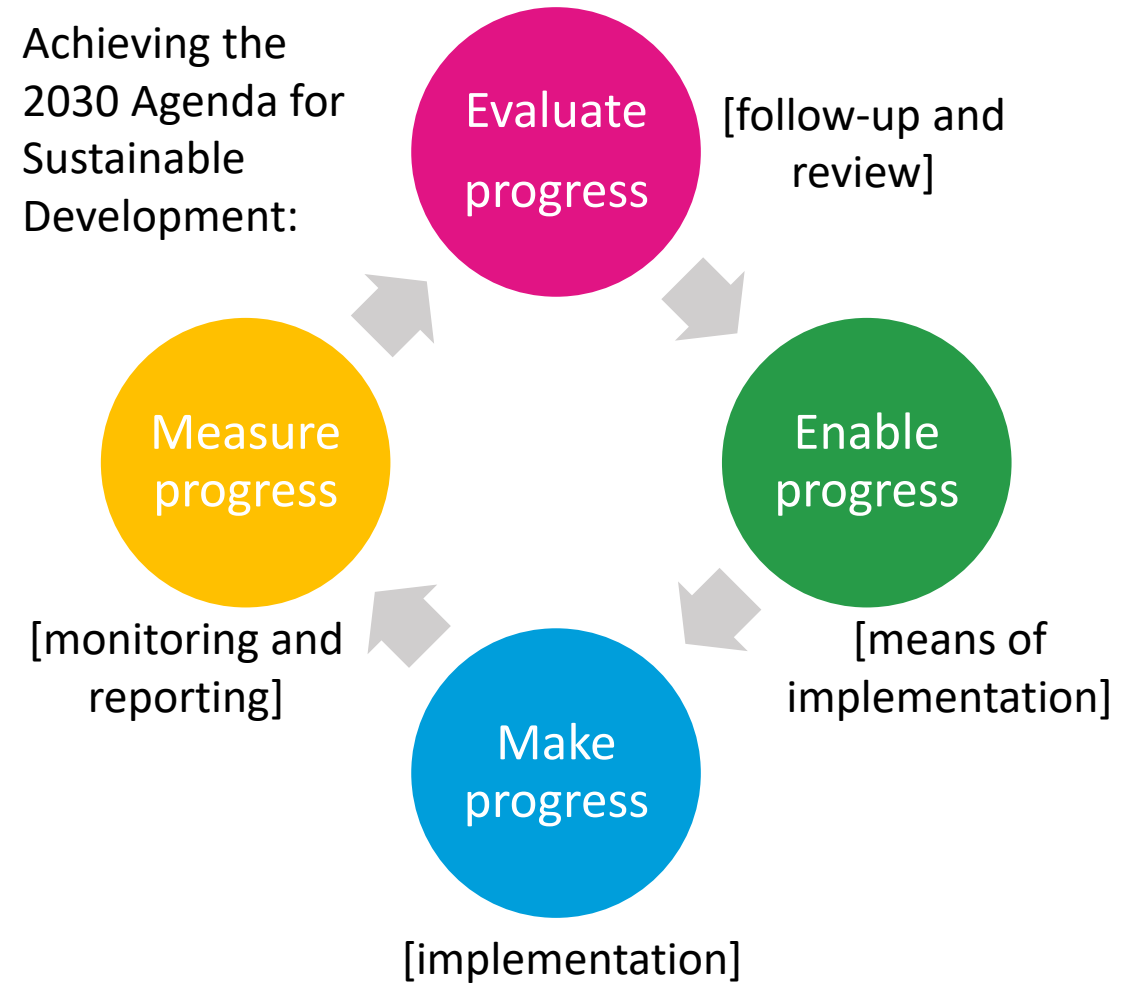


INDICATORS	CUSTODIANS
6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	WHO, UNICEF
6.2.1 Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water	WHO, UNICEF
6.3.1 Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated	WHO, UN-Habitat, UNSD
6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality	UNEP
6.4.1 Change in water-use efficiency over time	FAO
6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources	FAO
6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management	UNEP
6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation	UNECE, UNESCO
6.6.1 Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time	UNEP, Ramsar
6.a.1 Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan	WHO, OECD
6.b.1 Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management	WHO, OECD

Action 1: Help policy- and decision-makers to take informed action

Data help us...

- Make informed decisions to achieve desired results
- Learn what is working and what is not
- Leave no one behind and prioritize to make the most of existing resources
- Address problems before they get too large
- Ensure accountability
- Attract commitment and investments



Action 2: Encourage national and sub-national data collection

2020 Data Drive

UN sends data request to countries / estimates based on open data

Country compiles / validate data and submit to UN

UN validates data together with country

Country signoff and publication of data

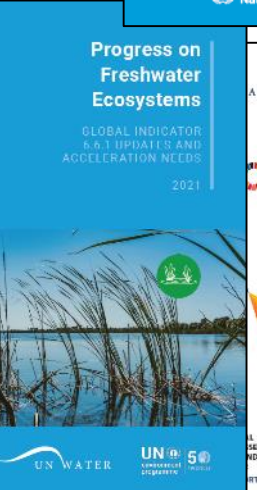
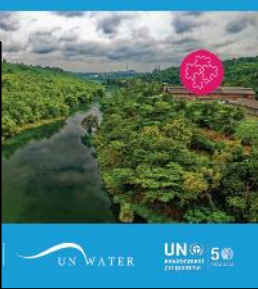
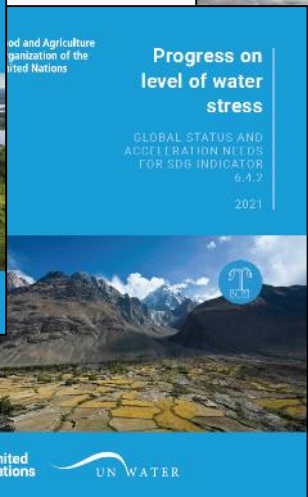
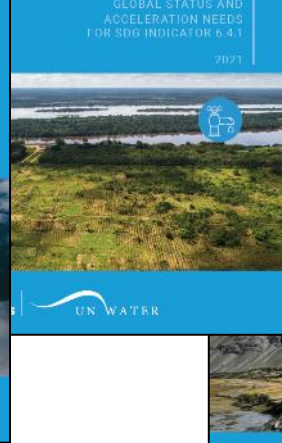
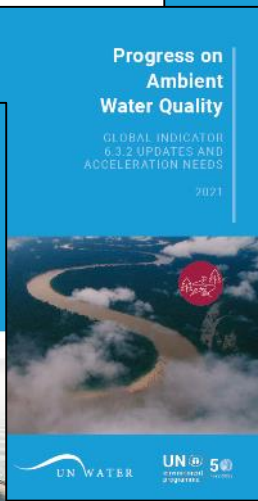
Support to countries

- Guidance on data collection and reporting (e.g. methodologies)
- Online support (e.g. helpdesk, webinars and e-learning, focal point database, collection of good practices)
- Face-to-face support (e.g. country visits, regional/global workshops)
- Data and progress reporting (e.g. SDG 6 Data Portal)

Action 3: Raise awareness about global status and need to accelerate progress

SDG 6 Summary Progress Update 2021 and Progress Reports

- The world is off-track to meet SDG 6 by 2030
- Progress need to quadruple (x4)



https://www.unwater.org/publication_categories/sdg6-progress-reports/

Read the reports:

https://www.unwater.org/publication_categories/sdg6-progress-reports/

Explore the data:

<https://sdg6data.org/>

Record your action:

<https://www.unwater.org/sdg6-action-space/>





United Nations

UN WATER

6.5.2 TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION

Only
24
countries



reported that all the rivers, lakes and aquifers that they share with their neighbours are covered by operational arrangements for cooperation

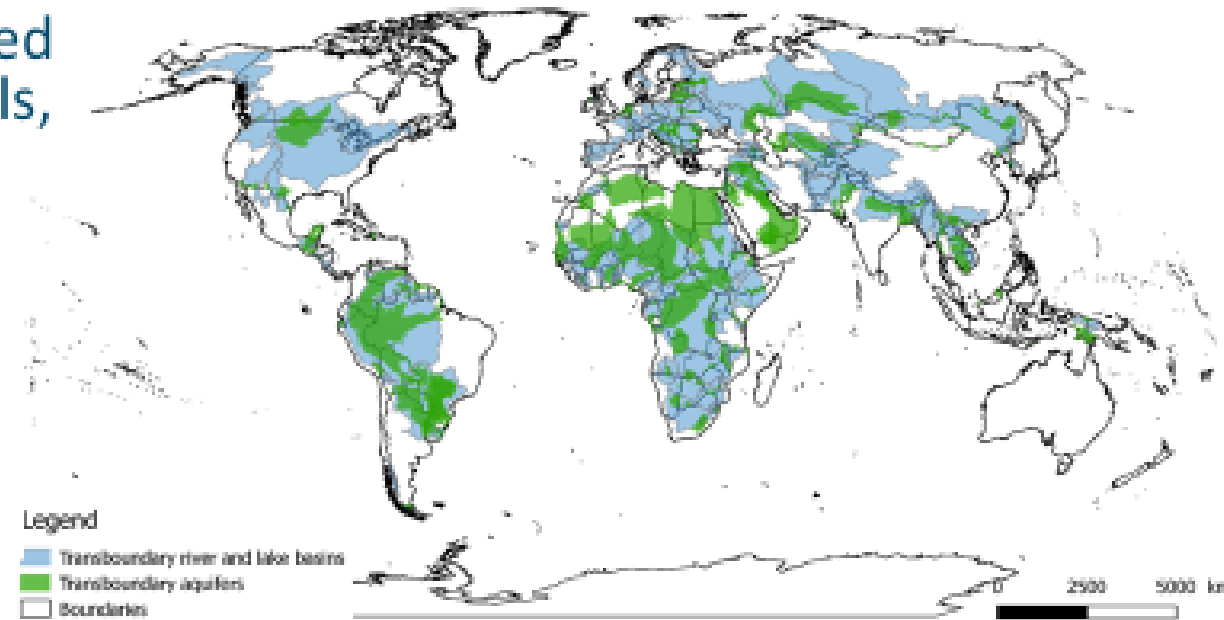




SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.



Target 6.5: By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through **transboundary cooperation** as appropriate.



Indicator 6.5.1 Degree of IWRM

Indicator 6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation



UNECE



unesco

- Most of the world's water resources are shared => cooperation required.
- The only SDG indicator on transboundary cooperation => important for other natural resources

Globally, transboundary water cooperation is lagging behind (Results of the 2nd reporting in 2020 on SDG 6.5.2)

SDG Indicator 6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation

UNESCO and UNECE custodian agencies

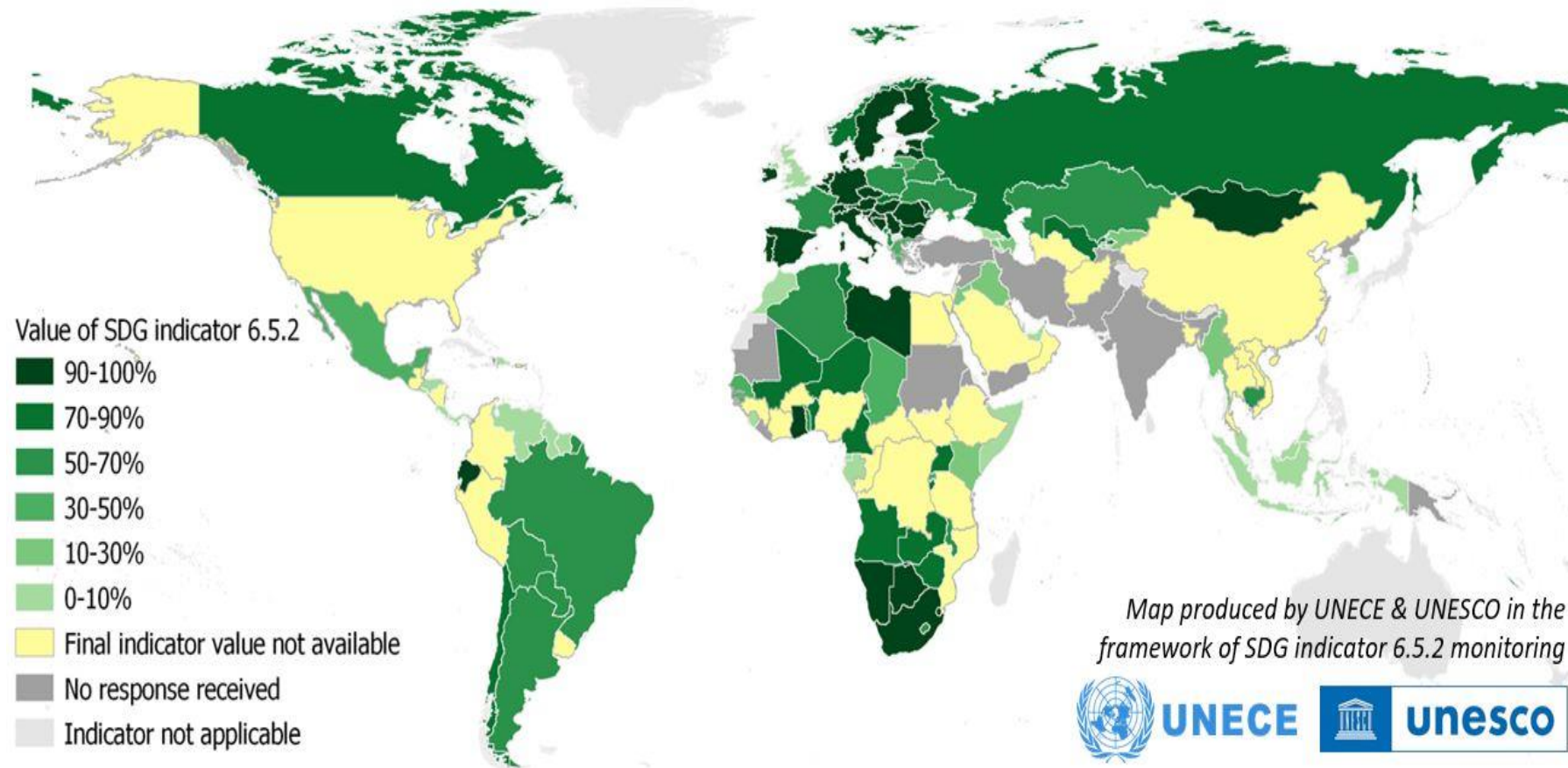
High level of engagement

- In 2020: **129** out of 153 countries sharing tb waters submitted reports

Not on track

- Only **24 countries** report **all** transboundary surface waters and groundwaters covered by **operational arrangements**
- At least **128 basins reported lack agreements**
- Insufficient knowledge on **groundwater** systems

SDG Indicator 6.5.2 values and responses received during the 2nd exercise

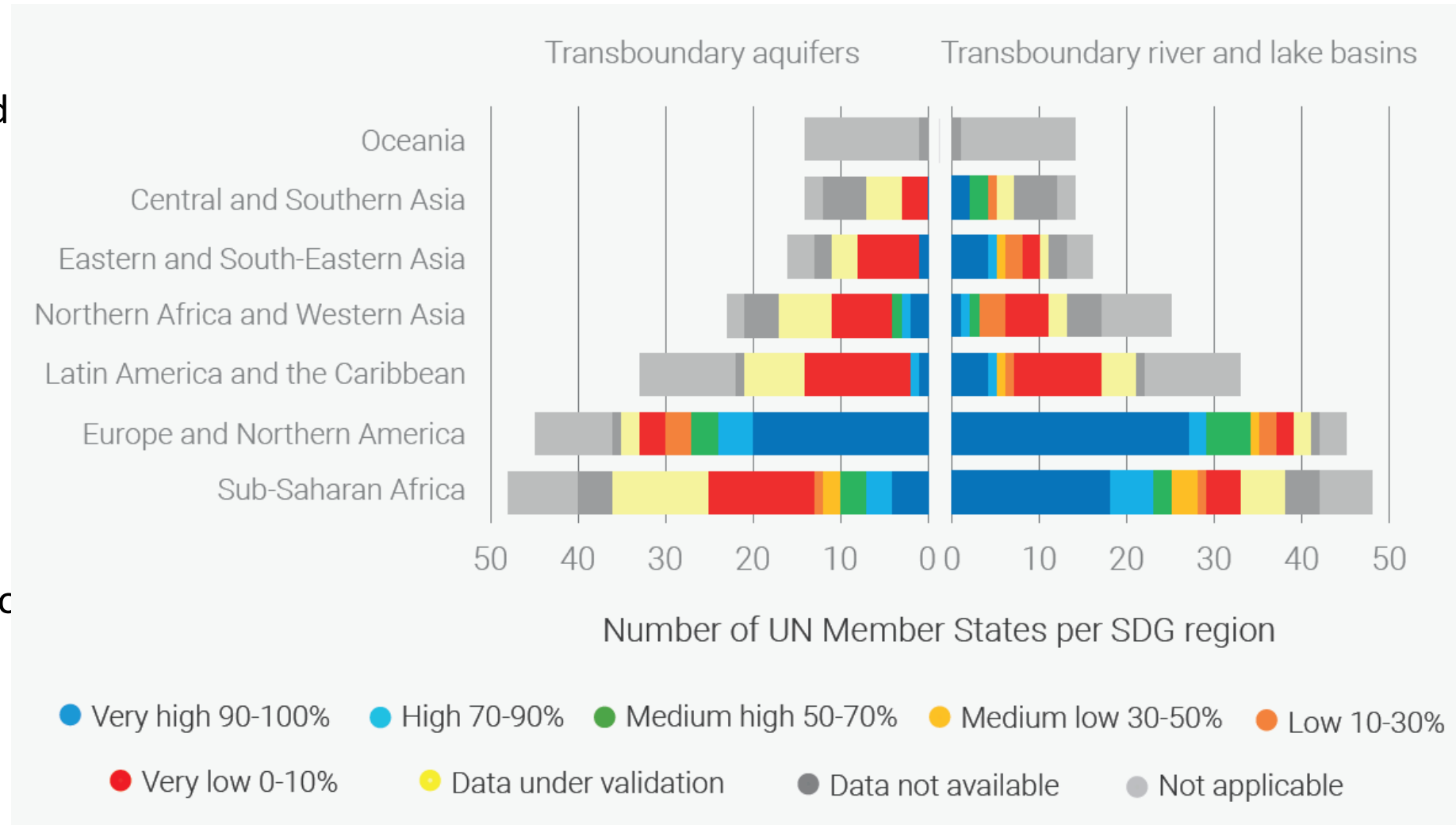


Progress must be accelerated to ensure that all transboundary basins are covered by operational arrangements by 2030

6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation (2020)



- Europe, North America and Sub-Saharan Africa show greatest levels of progress
- In Latin America and Asia, much more progress is needed for water cooperation
- At least 128 basins lack agreements
- Insufficient knowledge on groundwater systems, despite an unprecedented opportunity for countries to consider their transboundary aquifers

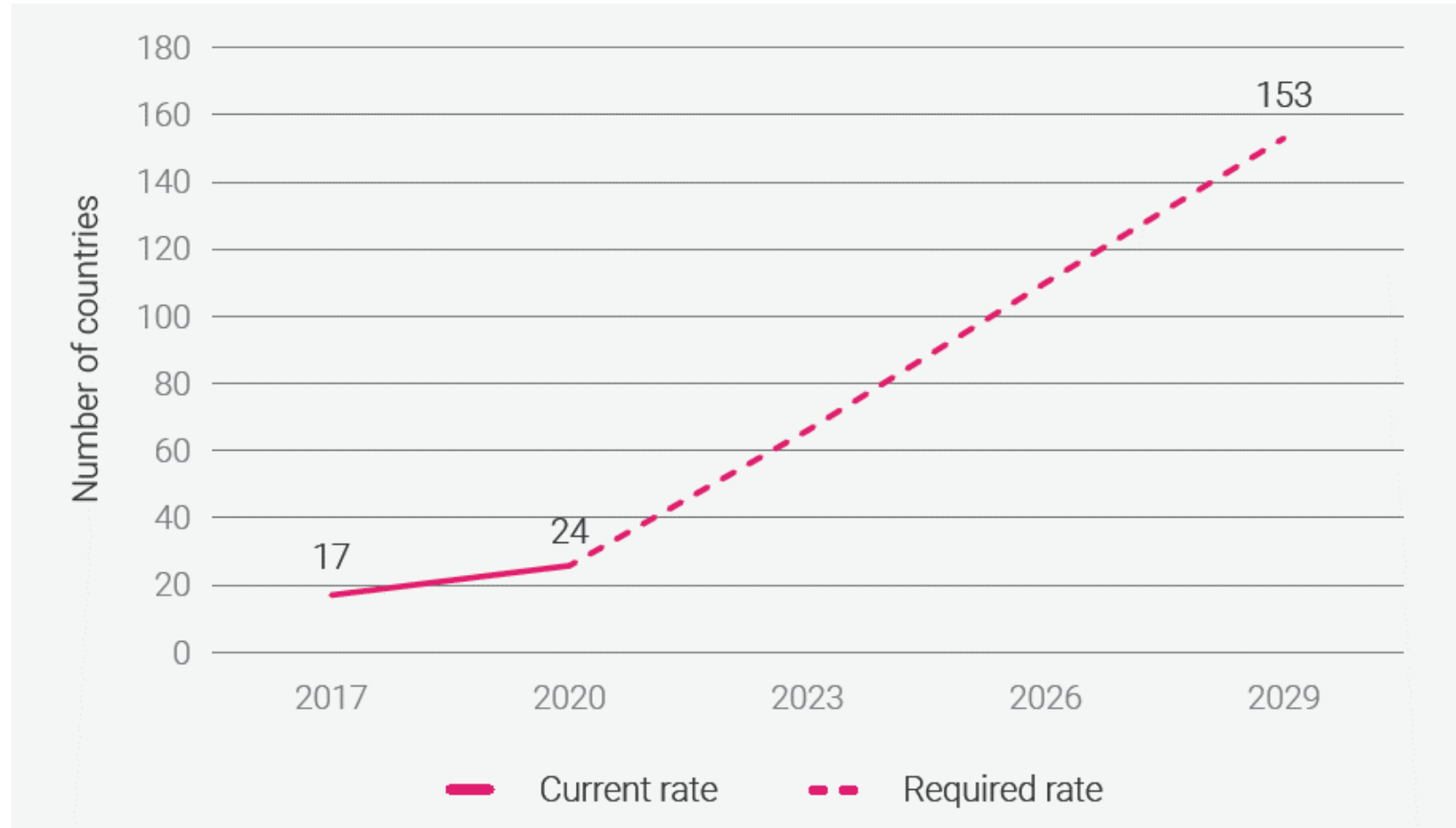


6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation (2017-2030)



Acceleration

- Building on the impetus offered by SDG 6.5.2 reporting process
- "Quick wins": regular meetings & exchanging information
- Capacity development, financing, data and information etc. and political action needed



Key areas to accelerate progress on transboundary water cooperation

Address Data Gaps



There has been **strong country engagement** in the monitoring exercise, but data remains a challenge, particularly for transboundary **aquifers** and **countries with no SDG indicator va**

Strengthen legal frameworks

The water conventions and the draft articles on transboundary aquifers **offer a solid basis** upon which to **revise** or **negotiate** new arrangements



Leveraging and mobilizing expertise

There is a need to **upscale and coordinate** the activities of international organizations to **provide targeted support** to countries



Upscale capacity development

Capacity building is important for negotiating and implementing operational arrangements

Building political will

addressing **structural barriers** and finding **innovative financing mechanisms** is needed to address current financing shortfalls



SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework



Benefits of transboundary water cooperation for the overall sustainable development agenda

Multiple benefits of cooperation

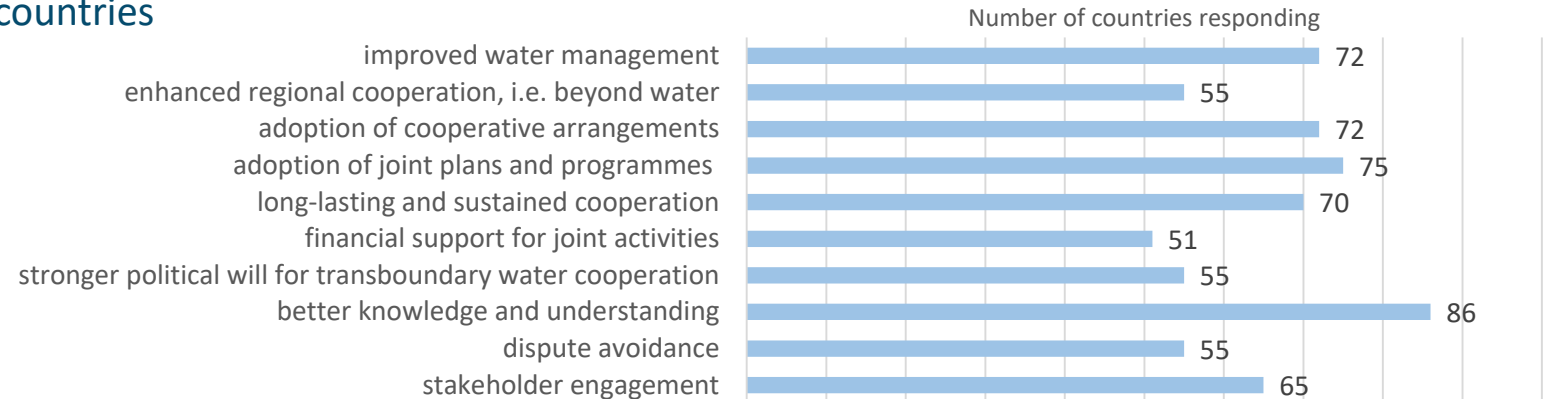
include peace, regional integration, sustainable development and environmental protection



The 6.5.2 reporting highlighted the key role of institutional arrangements for peace and conflict prevention:

- dispute and conflict prevention is a subject of cooperation in water agreements or arrangement in 74% of responses
- settling of differences and conflicts is part of the joint body tasks and activities in 58% of responses

Main achievements in cooperating on transboundary waters – Sect. IV, Q°2, all reporting countries



→ 3rd reporting round in 2023

- Use the reports to provide the basis for dialogue to strengthen cooperation.
 - Dialogue at national, basin, regional level
 - Identify joint gaps and challenges
- Strengthen coordination of reporting at basin level through basin organisation/project meetings/bilateral agreements
- Use information for future planning: e.g. elaboration of a joint basin vision, roadmaps with concrete actions

Next steps for SDG indicator 6.5.2

- **2023: 3rd reporting exercise for SDG 6.5.2**
 - Early 2023: all countries sharing transboundary waters worldwide will be invited to submit their third national reports to UNECE and UNESCO by **30 June 2023**.
- **Strengthen SDG 6.5.2 monitoring and transboundary water cooperation**
 - Further improve response rate and quality of reports received
 - Improve coordination/harmonization of the reports at river, lake or aquifer levels
 - Reduce data gaps, especially regarding aquifers
 - Share experience on how to use reporting data
 - Use the reports as a basis for dialogue to improve cooperation
 - Incentivize the use of the information for future planning.
- **During the 3rd reporting exercise**
 - SDG indicator 6.5.2 helpdesk will be maintained by UNECE and UNESCO.
 - Several webinars/workshops will be organised to support countries' reporting efforts.
 - Data collection and validation in 2023, and analysis in late 2023-early 2024



What can Parliamentarians do?

- **2023**: contribute to the 3rd reporting exercise for SDG 6.5.2 and other SDG 6 monitoring initiatives. DATA = PROGRESS!
- Motivate other parliamentarians in your country to raise awareness of the importance of submitting national data towards measuring progress and build political support for accelerating progress on SDG 6
- Meet with fellow parliamentarians on neighbouring countries to build political support for accelerating progress on SDG 6



QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

“The global opening of the Water Convention, the accession of the first countries from outside the UNECE region and the momentum in support of the Convention are promising developments. Along with the Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses, the world has the ability to strengthen the rule of law in transboundary cooperation worldwide. **I call on Member States to join both Conventions and to strive for their full implementation.**”



International water law: integrated transboundary cooperation frameworks from global conventions to basin / national contexts

Global

Regional

Basin

Sub-Basin

National

- 1997 Watercourses Convention
- **1992 Water Convention**

Main objective =

Foster cooperation over transboundary waters in order to **ensure** that they are **sustainably and equitably managed**

- SADC Revised Protocol
- EU Water Framework Directive
- ECOWAS Directive
- ECCAS Convention

- Congo Basin Agreement
- Senegal River Water Charter
- Rhine Convention
- Danube Convention
- Zambezi Watercourse Agreement

- Sava Agreement
- International Boundary Waters Treaty
- Treaty of the River Plate Basin
- Mekong River Agreement

- Human Right to Water and Sanitation



WATER
CONVENTION

Why are the UN global water conventions needed?

Instruments of preventive diplomacy and confidence-building between riparian states

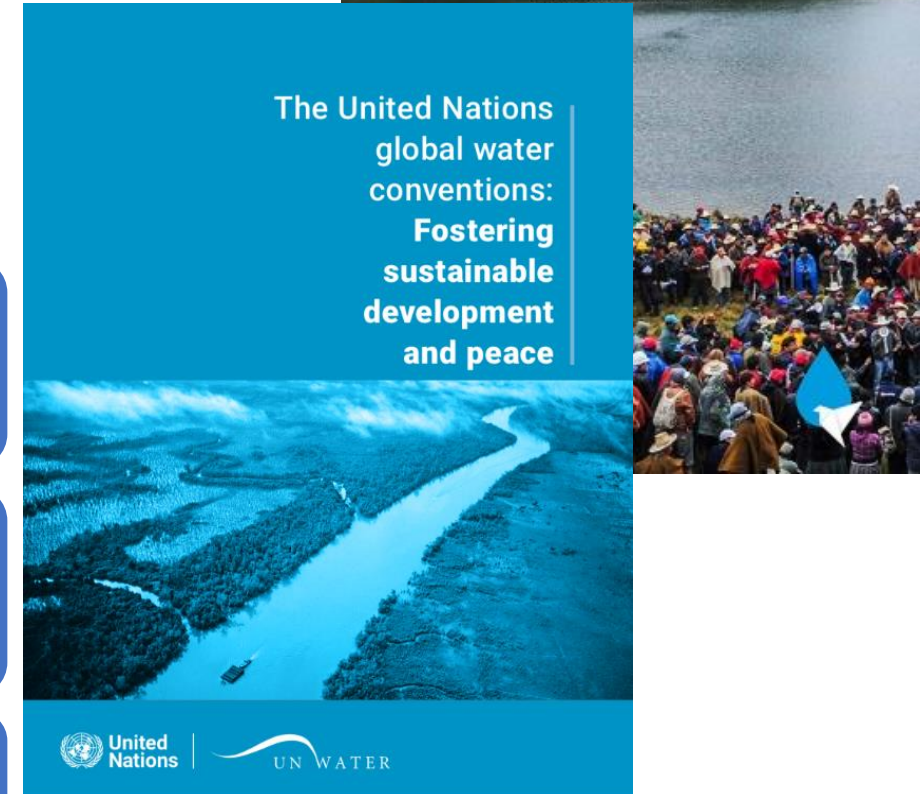
Support transboundary cooperation when it is not established:

- *No specific legal / institutional mechanism at basin level, i.e. more than 60% of basins*
- *Weak existing legal and institutional arrangements at the basin level, eg. many agreements do not provide for data sharing, provision for dispute resolution*
- *Not all basin states are party to the basin agreement, i.e. more than 80% of basins*

Promote the gradual improvement of cooperation when it is established and strengthen implementation, for example, through a platform to share experiences and good practices

Support ≠ replace existing treaties and where basin agreements are to be created the Conventions can facilitate negotiations and cooperation

Strengthen the profile of 'transboundary waters' at national and international political level, and foster synergies with other global initiatives, for example for climate change



WATER
CONVENTION

UN Water Convention



A legal and institutional framework for **transboundary water cooperation** contributing to **sustainable development**, international **peace and security**.



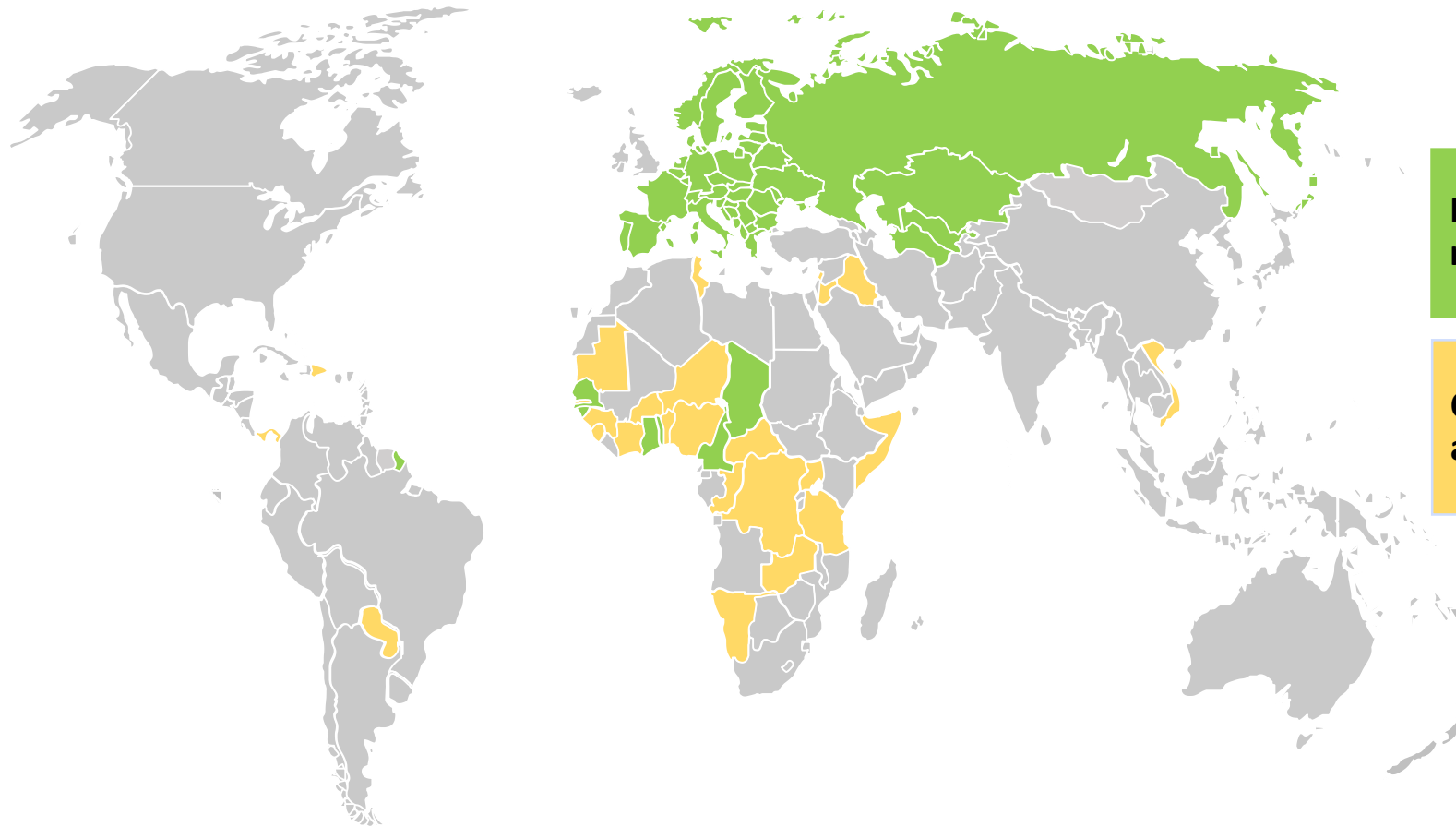
A **unique platform** to discuss progress of **transboundary water cooperation** worldwide under the umbrella of the **United Nations**



Opened to all interested countries, with **more than 130 countries** exchanging experiences and knowledge to prompt progress in cooperation



Global interest in the 1992 Water Convention



**Parties to the Convention (47):
newest Party –Cameroon (2022)**

**Countries in the process of
accession (>20)**

The Water Convention institutional mechanism



Meeting of the Parties

Implementation
Committee



Bureau

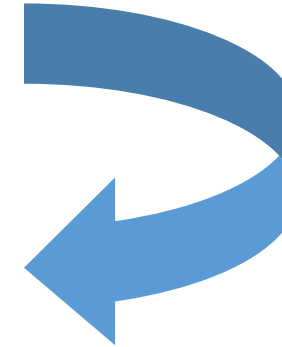


Working Group on IWRM
Working Group on M&A



Water Convention Secretariat

UNECE

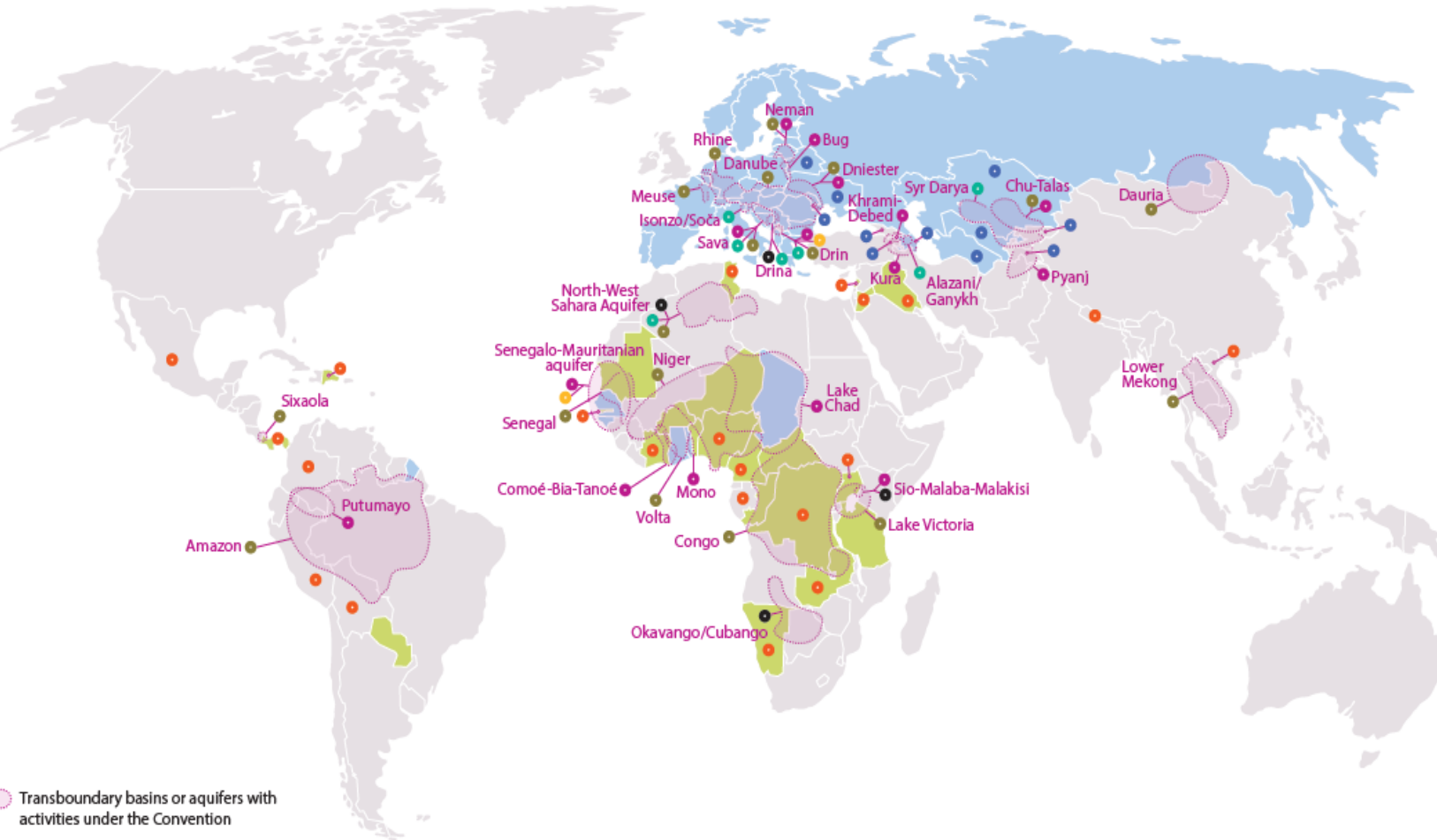



- Task Force on Water and Climate
- Task Force on Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus
- Expert Groups
- JEG on Water and Industrial Accidents





WATER
CONVENTION


Activities under the Water Convention 2015-2022 PoW activities 2022-2024





- 


1: Increasing awareness of & accession to the Convention & application of its principles drawing on cooperation
- 

2: Supporting monitoring, assessment and information sharing in transboundary basins
- 

3: Promoting an integrated and intersectoral approach to water management at all levels
- 

4: Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins
- 

5: Facilitating financing of transboundary water cooperation
- 

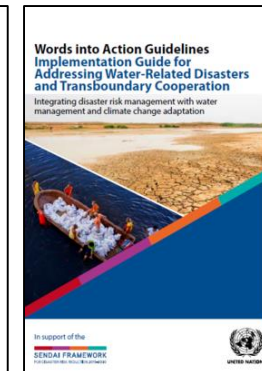
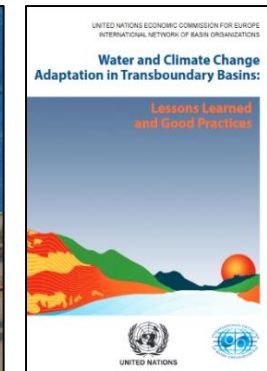
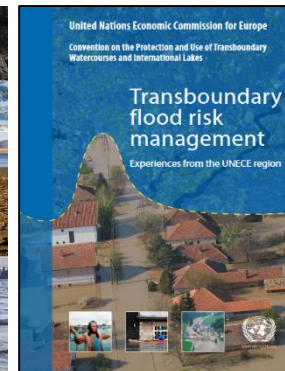
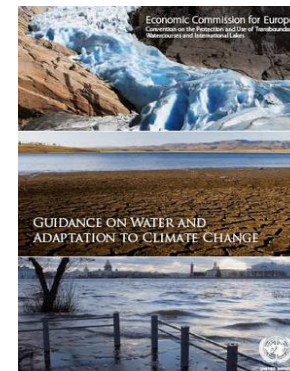
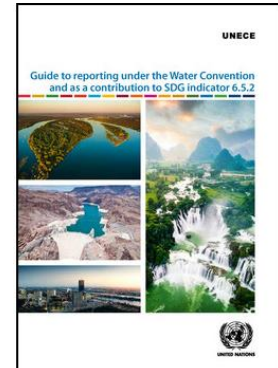
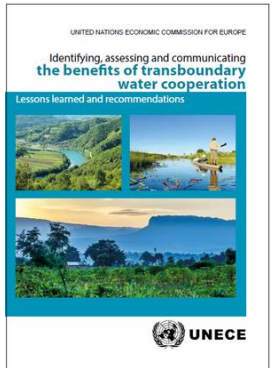
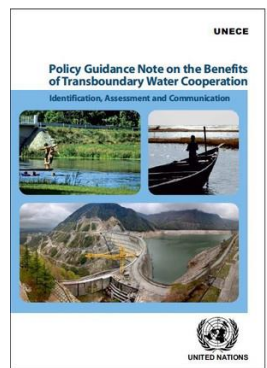
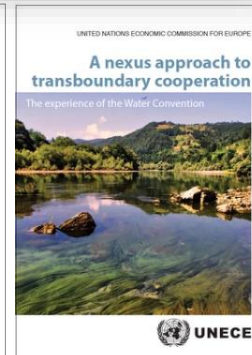
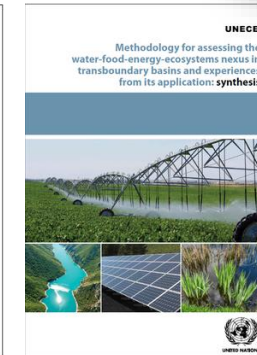
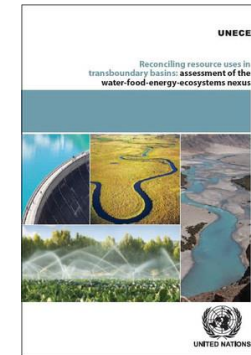
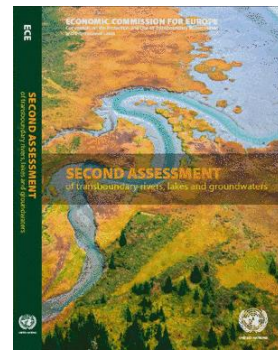
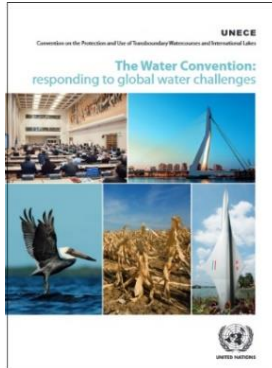
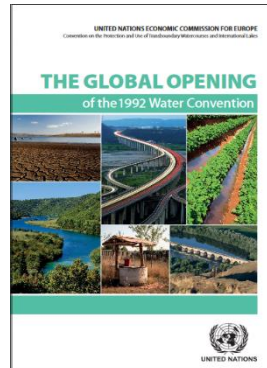
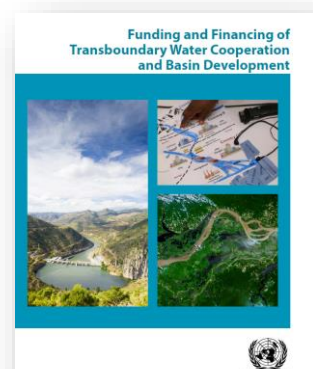
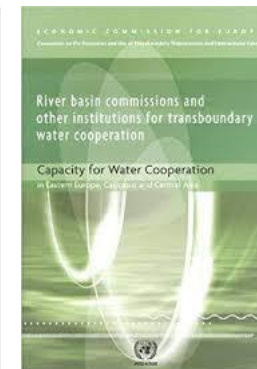
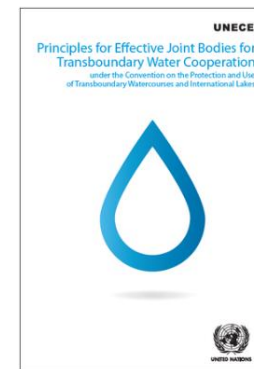
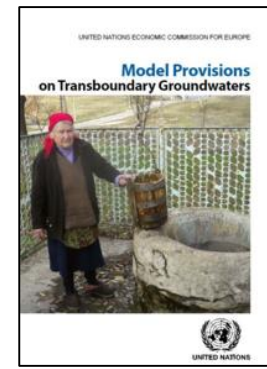
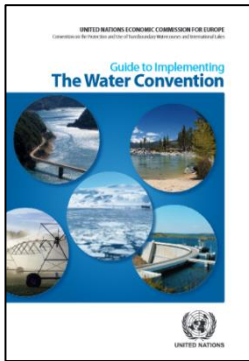
6: Reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention
- 

7: Partnerships, communication and knowledge management

Last update: July 2022

Note: The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

Numerous tools and guidance documents have been developed under the Water Convention



Many direct & indirect benefits of accession

“Joining the Water Convention has led us to strengthen the ecosystem approach to water management, pollution prevention and control, monitoring and assessment of rivers and groundwater, sustainable flood prevention and public participation.”

Serigne Mbaye Thiam, Minister for Water and Sanitation of Senegal



What can Parliamentarians do?

- Please speak to your fellow parliamentarians and national stakeholders to raise awareness about the importance of transboundary water cooperation for peace, sustainable development and regional integration.
- If your country is considering accession to the Water Convention, enquire about the status of discussions and offer to connect them with the secretariat for any support that might be needed
- Encourage representatives from your national line ministry on water to participate in the events, workshops and activities of the Water Convention



QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

The UN 2023 Water Conference: 22-24 March 2023, New York

The Netherlands and Tajikistan, as co-hosts, and UNDESA with the support of UN-Water as Secretariat of the Conference will strive to make the Conference ***a watershed moment for the world.***

Six Plenaries

Member States to announce commitments, plans, actions, and best practices

Five interactive dialogues to be held in parallel with the plenary meetings

Special Events

The co-hosts decided to strive to organize 3-5 Special Events, scope: 50-200 people

Side Events

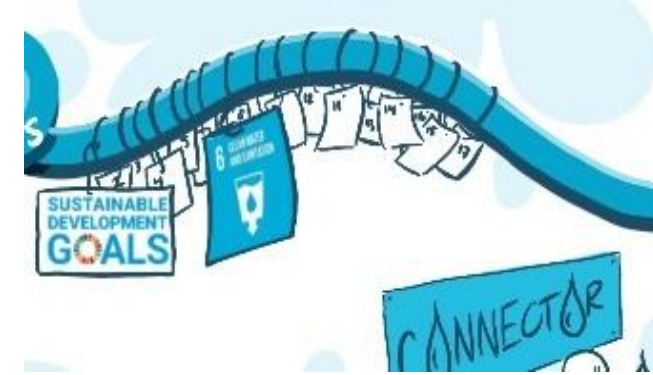
Member States and other stakeholders will organize many side events that are cross-cutting and aim for action

“Once in a generation” Water Conference: first UN Conference on Water since 1977 in Mar del Plata, Argentina



Themes for the Interactive Dialogues

- 1. Water for Health:** Access to safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation (SDG 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 and SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 17)
- 2. Water for Development:** Valuing Water, Water-Energy-Food Nexus and Sustainable Economic and Urban Development (SDG 6.3, 6.4, 6.5 and SDGs 2, 8, 9, 11, 12)
- 3. Water for Climate, Resilience and Environment:** Source to Sea, Biodiversity, Climate, Resilience and DRR (SDGs 6.5, 6.6, 7, 11.5, 13, 14, 15)
- 4. Water for Cooperation:** Transboundary and International Water Cooperation, Cross Sectoral Cooperation and Water Across the 2030 Agenda (SDG 6.5, 6.b and SDGs 16, 17)
- 5. Water Action Decade:** Accelerating the implementation of the objectives of the Decade, including through the UN Secretary-General's Action Plan.



Supported by 5 Accelerators of the **SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework:**

- Finance
- Governance
- Capacity
- Data and information
- Innovation

What will the Conference deliver?



The Conference will help set the agenda until 2030, and thereafter, in the following ways:

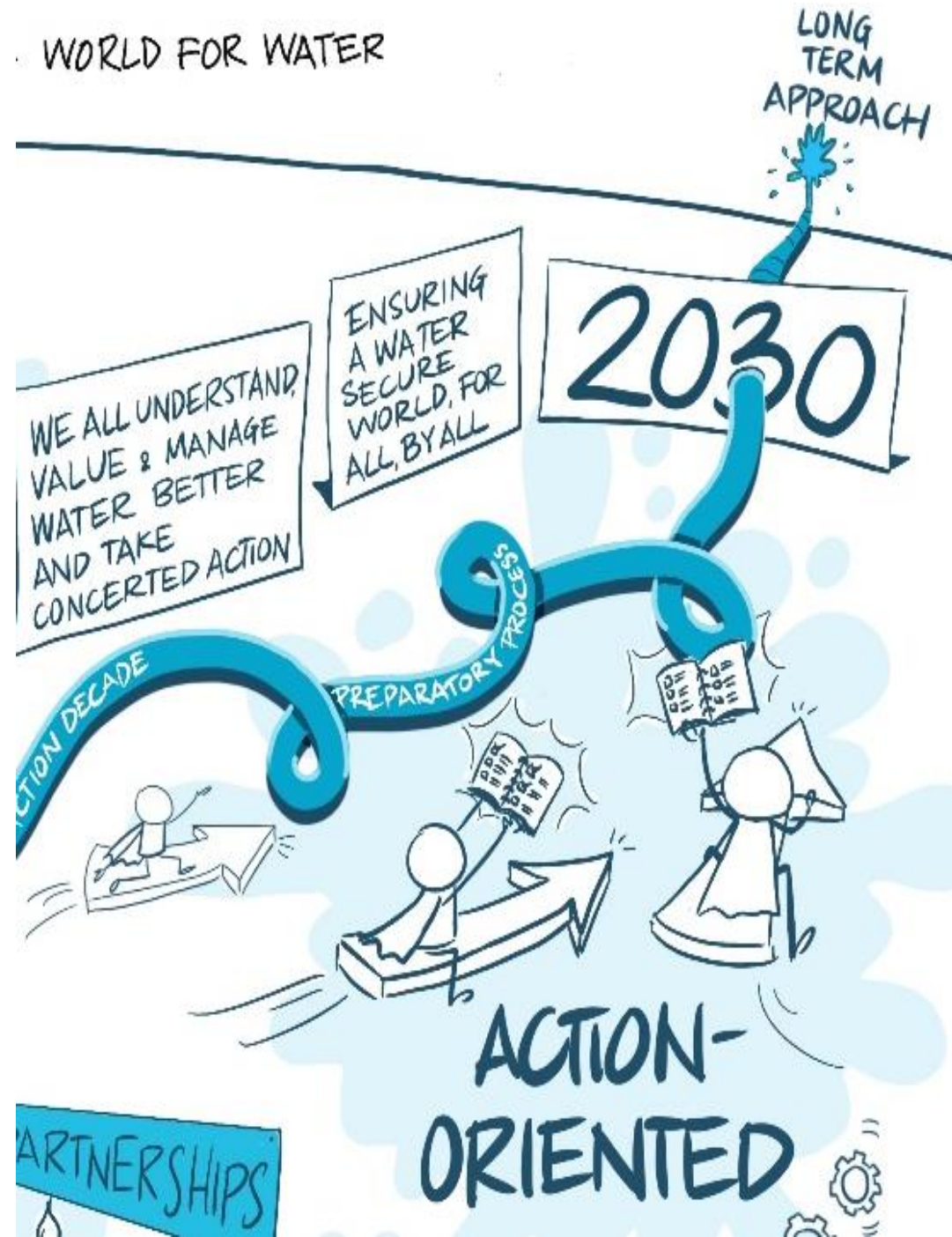
1. **Deliver a summary** of the Conference proceedings
2. **Present a set of voluntary commitments** to get the world back on track- **Water Action Agenda**
 - **Scale up and replicate** what works
 - **Discontinue or change** what does not work
 - **Innovate** what needs to be improved
 - **Fund** what merits funding
3. **Roadmap towards 2028 (Decade), 2030 (SDGs) and Agenda post 2030**

Next steps:

- 7-8 December: UN Groundwater summit, UNESCO, Paris
- 7-9 February 2023, Geneva: financing roundtable, organized by OECD and UN-Water
- 22-24 March 2023: UN Water conference
- July 2023: High-Level Political Forum in New York will review the water goal SDG6

What next? 2030 & Beyond

- Mobilise and raise awareness among responsible ministries to ensure your country participates in the next rounds of SDG Monitoring Reporting –
 - DATA = CRUCIAL FOR PROGRESS!
- Build political will for financial and capacity investment in water as an enabler for achieving SDG6 and all other SDGs
- Participate in relevant UN meetings to bring your challenges, concerns, achievements and lessons learned to exchange and share ideas, identify opportunities for synergies and coordination and commit to concrete actions



SDG6 Accelerator Framework

- **The SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework is a unifying initiative that aims to deliver fast results, at an increased scale, towards the goal of ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030.**
- **The Framework will contribute to the new Water Action Agenda, a mandated outcome of the UN 2023 Water Conference that will be held in March 2023.**

5 cross-cutting and interdependent ‘accelerators’:

1. **Financing** - Optimized financing is essential to get resources behind country plans.
2. **Data and information** - Data and information targets resources and measures progress.
3. **Capacity development** - A better-skilled workforce improves service levels and increases job creation and retention in the water sector.
4. **Innovation** - New, smart practices and technologies will improve water and sanitation resources management and service delivery.
5. **Governance** - Collaboration across boundaries and sectors will make SDG 6 everyone’s business.



SDG6 Accelerator Framework – Country Case Study

Country engagement

Country engagement is at the core of the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework in order to mobilize a coordinated response to countries and enable better engagement across all stakeholders and sectors.

SENEGAL & OMVS / OMVG

Senegal has sought to accelerate achievement of SDG6 based on criteria such as Indicator 6.5.2, using an integrated approach (Ministry, university, civil society, private sector), legal and institutional platforms, especially basin organisations OMVS and OMVG and building support at the highest political levels.

Strengthened transboundary management of the Senegalo-Mauritanian Aquifer Basin, including the Signing of a Ministerial Declaration at the Water Convention MOP9 is one key achievement on this path.



What can Parliamentarians do?

- Please encourage your national delegations and other stakeholders from your countries to contribute, highlight the importance of transboundary cooperation and consider concrete initiatives for the conference
- Commitments could include accession to the Water Convention, its implementation, and development of transboundary agreements, data exchange platforms etc.
- Discuss with Parliamentarians and stakeholders which of the SDG6 Global Accelerators would be relevant for your country context, seek to coordinate with partners to address these areas with concrete initiatives, inform UN Water



QUESTIONS & COMMENTS