

Reporting on the global SDG indicator 6.5.2

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. Background

In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 6 to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

To review progress towards the SDGs, United Nations Member States, through the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), developed in late 2015 and early 2016, a global indicator framework, which was subsequently adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission in March 2016.

Target 6.5 calls for countries to implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation, as appropriate. To measure progress on transboundary cooperation in accordance to target 6.5, indicator 6.5.2 was adopted. The indicator is defined as the “*percentage of transboundary basin¹ area with an operational arrangement for transboundary cooperation*”.

For SDG 6, UN-Water has been coordinating the technical input to the IAEG-SDGs on the relevant indicators and the methodologies for their measurement. UNECE and UNESCO have led the development of the step-by-step methodology to calculate indicator 6.5.2. For each indicator, the IAEG-SDGs has proposed custodian agencies at the global level. Given their mandate on transboundary water issues, UNECE and UNESCO have been proposed as custodian agencies for indicator 6.5.2. Recognizing the importance of integration across SDG 6, the relevant custodian agencies for this goal are collaborating under the Integrated Monitoring of Water and Sanitation Related SDG Targets (GEMI), operating under the UN-Water umbrella.²

Reporting through the present template will help to gather information on the progress on transboundary cooperation under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, target 6.5 in accordance with global indicator 6.5.2. It will also contribute to the UN-Water SDG 6 Integrated Monitoring initiative GEMI.

B. Content of the template

In order to collect complete information, simplify the task of reporting and streamline the compilation of information received by countries, the template is shaped as a questionnaire to be filled out.

The template is divided into four parts:

- Section I - Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2
- Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins
- Section III - General information on transboundary water management at the national level
- Section IV - Final questions

While Section I of the template has been prepared by UNECE and UNESCO in the framework of the UN-Water’s indicators development activities in support of the Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDGs (IAEG-SDGs), Sections II to IV are based on a questionnaire developed by Member States in the framework of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water

¹ **Transboundary basins** are basins of transboundary waters, that is, of any surface waters (notably rivers, lakes) or groundwater/aquifers which mark, cross or are located on boundaries between by two or more States.

² For more information, see <http://www.unwater.org/gemi/en/>.

Convention), serviced by UNECE, to monitor progress on transboundary cooperation and implementation of the Convention.³

Questions can be either “closed”, Yes /No, with appropriate boxes to tick; “open”, requiring further information to be supplied, indicated by the words in square brackets [fill in]; or a combination of both.

Depending on the country situation, it will not always be necessary to fill in extra information where space is provided for this. Please answer open questions very briefly, and in less than 200 words, using bullet points as appropriate. The reporting country can make reference to the reporting under other multilateral environmental agreements to which the country is a Party.

C. Who should report and how?

All countries having transboundary basins in their territory are invited to report.

All reporting countries are kindly invited, when possible, to fill all sections of the template, as they allow outlining a complete picture of the situation concerning transboundary water cooperation. The overall template can be useful to track progress more closely beyond the indicator value and better describe the current baseline. This is valuable also because inevitably the indicator is based on a number of criteria defining minimum thresholds and the information in Sections II to IV can allow tracking progress towards the different criteria.

Section II will need to be completed for each transboundary basin, (i.e. basin of rivers and lakes or aquifers which mark, cross or are located on boundaries between by two or more States) (please just copy the template for these questions and fill out again for each additional transboundary basin). Countries may coordinate responses with other States with which they share transboundary basins or even prepare a joint report for shared basins.

D. Use of the reported information

Reporting has primarily a national importance and usefulness to inform decision-making at the national and transboundary level.

At the global level, data collected through this reporting will be elaborated to define the global baseline for the status of transboundary cooperation in accordance to indicator 6.5.2. Results, including synthesis reports, will be submitted to the High Level Political Forum in July 2018 which will focus, among others, on the in depth review of SDG 6.

A discussion on the advancement of transboundary cooperation worldwide considering the results of the reporting exercise will also take place in the framework of the eight session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention, to be held at the end of 2018.

E. Deadline for reporting

Countries are invited to submit their filled in template by **15 June 2017** to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

³ The Water Convention aims to protect and ensure the quantity, quality and sustainable use of transboundary water resources by facilitating cooperation. Originally negotiated as a regional instrument for the UNECE region, the Convention turned into a universally available legal framework for transboundary water cooperation, following an amendment procedure. As of 1st March 2016, all United Nations Member States can accede to the Convention (for more information, see <http://www.unece.org/env/water/>).

Countries are invited to submit, to the two addresses below, an original signed copy by post and an electronic copy by e-mail. Electronic copies should be made available in both pdf format (for the signed copy) and word-processing software. Any graphic elements should be provided in separate files.

Addresses

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Palais des Nations 1211 Geneva 10 Switzerland	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) 7 Place de Fontenoy 75015 Paris France
E-mail : transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting@unece.org	E-mail : transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting@unesco.org

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TEMPLATE

Country name: [ANGOLA]

Section I. Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2

a. Methodology

This section allows for the calculation of the Sustainable Development Goal global indicator 6.5.2, which is defined as *the proportion of transboundary basins' area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation*. The information gathered in Section II, will help in completing this section. The Step-by-step monitoring methodology for SDG indicator 6.5.2⁴, developed by UNECE and UNESCO in the framework of UN Water, can be referred to for details on the necessary data, the definitions and the calculation.

The value of the indicator at the national level is derived by **adding up the surface area in a country of those transboundary surface water catchments and transboundary aquifers (i.e. 'transboundary' basins) that are covered by an operational arrangement and dividing the obtained area by the aggregate total area in a country of all transboundary basins (both catchments and aquifers)**.

Transboundary basins are basins of transboundary waters, that is, of any surface waters (notably rivers, lakes) or groundwaters which mark, cross or are located on boundaries between by two or more States. For the purpose of the calculation of this indicator, for a transboundary river or lake, the basin area is determined by the extent of its catchment. For groundwater, the area to be considered is the extent of the aquifer.

An **"arrangement for water cooperation"** is a bilateral or multilateral treaty, convention, agreement or other formal arrangement among riparian countries that provides a framework for cooperation on transboundary water management.

For an arrangement to be considered **"operational"** all the following criteria needs to be fulfilled:

- There is a joint body, joint mechanism or commission (e.g. a river basin organization) for transboundary cooperation,
- There are regular (at least once per year) formal communications between riparian countries in form of meetings (either at the political or technical level);
- There is a joint or coordinated water management plan(s), or joint objectives have been set, and
- There is a regular (at least once per year) exchange of data and information.

b. Calculation of indicator 6.5.2

Please list in the tables below the transboundary basins (rivers and lakes and aquifers) in your country's territory and provide the following information for each of them:

- the country/ies with which the basin is shared;
- the surface area of these basins (the catchment of rivers or lakes and the aquifer in the case of groundwater) within the territory of your country (in km²);
- the surface area of these basins within the territory of your country which is covered by a cooperation arrangement that is operational according to the above criteria (please consider the replies to the questions in Section II, in particular questions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6).

⁴ Available at <http://www.unwater.org/publications/publications-detail/en/c/428764/>.

In case an operational arrangement is in place only for a sub-basin or portion of a basin, please list this sub-basin just after the transboundary basin it is part of. In case there is an operational arrangement for the whole basin, do not list sub-basins in the table below.

Transboundary basin (river or lake) [please add rows as needed]

Name of the transboundary basin / sub-basin	Countries shared with	Surface area of the basin / sub-basin (in km ²) within the territory of the country	Surface area of the basin / sub-basin (in km ²) covered by an operational arrangement within the territory of the country
Congo	Democratic Republic of Congo Congo (Brazzaville) Zambia; Central African Republic Cameroon Rwanda Gabon Chad	289407	289407
Cubango/Okavango	Botswana, Namibia	150546	150546
Cunene	Namibia	94172	94172
Cuvelai/Etoya	Namibia	54193	54193
Zambezi	Zambia Zimbabwe Botswana Namibia Mozambique Malawi Tanzania	259020	259020
Total surface area of transboundary basins / sub-basins of rivers and lakes covered by operational arrangements within the territory of the country (in km²) [A] (do not double count sub-basins)			847338

Total surface area of transboundary basins of rivers and lakes within the territory of the country (in km²) [B] (do not double count sub-basins)	847338	
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Transboundary aquifers [please add rows as needed]

Name of the transboundary aquifer	Countries shared with	Surface area (in km ²) ⁵ within the territory of the country	Surface area (in km ²) covered by an operational arrangement within the territory of the country
Congo dolomitic	Congo Brazzaville	8118	0
Congo intracratonic	DRC	216714	0
Congo Cotier	RDC, Congo Brazzaville , Gabon	13107	0
Cuvelai-Etosa	Namibia	30766	30766
Nata-Karoo	Botswana Namibia Zambia Zimbabwe	12055	12055
Bacia Costeira Sedimentar IV	Namibia	211	0
Total surface area of transboundary aquifers covered by operational arrangements within the territory of the country (in km²) [C]			42821

⁵ For a transboundary aquifer, the extent is derived from the aquifer system delineation which is commonly done relying on information of the subsurface (notably the extent of geological formations). As a general rule, the delineation of aquifer systems is based on the delineation of the extent of the hydraulically connected water-bearing geological formations. Aquifer systems are three-dimensional objects and the aquifer area taken into account is the projection on the land surface of the system. Ideally, when different aquifer systems not hydraulically connected are vertically superposed, the different relevant projected areas are to be considered separately, unless the different aquifer systems are managed conjunctively.

Total surface area of transboundary aquifers within the territory of the country (in km²) [D]	280971	
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Indicator value for the country

$((A + C) / (B + D)) \times 100\% = 78.9 \%$

Additional information

If the respondent has comments that clarify assumptions or interpretations made for the calculation, or the level of certainty of the spatial information, please write them here:

Spatial information

If a map (or maps) of the transboundary surface water catchments and transboundary aquifers (i.e. ‘transboundary basins’) is available, please attach them. Ideally, shapefiles of the basin and aquifer delineations that can be viewed in Geographical Information Systems should be sent.

Section IV. Final questions

1. What are the main challenges your country faces in cooperating on transboundary waters? (*Please describe*): [**lack of human and financial resources and lack of effective institutions at river basin level**]
2. What have been the main achievements in cooperating on transboundary waters? What were the keys to achieving that success? (*Please describe concrete examples*): [**main achievements**: establishment of Joint River Basin Commission; establishment of Permanent Secretariats for river basin commissions; design of basin-wide Strategic Plans; **keys to achieving successes**: political will; relations of good neighborhoodness; common vision among riparian countries]
3. Please include any additional information on the process of preparing the report (e.g., whether there was an exchange or consultation within the joint body or with riparian countries), in particular which institutions have been consulted (*please describe*): [fill in]
4. If you have any other comments please add them here (*insert comments*): [fill in]
5. Name and contact details of the person(s) who filled out the questionnaire (*please insert*): [**Manuel QUINTINO**]

Date: [19th June 2017]

Signature: [



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Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this report.