MEASURING DATA ON TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION: UPDATE ON SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2 REPORTING IN ASIA

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ESCAP AND ITS WORK ON WATER

- **Promotes regional collaboration** on various issues including the environment throughout Asia and the Pacific.

- **Facilitates the UN-Water regional coordination group** on SDG 6 and contributes to global processes: global reports informing policy, monitoring and follow-up, inspiring action (World Water Day, Decade on Water for SDGs), etc.

- **Leads regional follow-up and review** of all SDGs including SDG 6.

- **Provides support for stakeholder engagement** on water issues (Bangladesh industrial water pollution).

- **Promotes integrated environmental approaches** (nexus) including water.
The achievement of some SDGs depends highly on the achievement of the others.

Water, climate/disaster risk resilience, poverty, agriculture/food security, ocean/fisheries, and energy are highly intertwined; as well as gender, finance, and integrated policy issues.

Need to arbitrate the synergies and trade-offs of this nexus in addition to transboundary approaches when making decisions on water, especially in shared river and aquifer basins.

Integrated SDG 6 planning and implementation is essential, at the local, national and transboundary levels and to address upstream and downstream dynamics.

SDG Reports feed political dialogue: tracks progress and supports achievement towards Target 6.5 which emphasizes the importance of transboundary cooperation.
PROGRESS ON SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2

Indicator 6.5.2 tracks the percentage of transboundary basin area within a country that has an operational arrangement for water cooperation.

Initial results of 2\textsuperscript{nd} reporting cycle in 2020:

- To date, 128 country responses on indicator 6.5.2 (out of 153 sharing transboundary waters). Increase of 19\% from 1\textsuperscript{st} cycle.
- In Asia, 17 out of 26 countries sharing water resources responded. However, only 7 countries were counted in indicator 6.5.2 (lack of data/clarifications required).
NEXT STEPS FOR STATES IN ASIA ON WATER & SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2

- Review and validate SDG Indicator 6.5.2 national country reports.
- **Feb. 2021** Data to be submitted to UN Statistical Division by the co-custodians for the Global SDG Indicators Database.
- **Feb. 2021** Brief on SDG 6 Indicators and update UN-Water SDG 6 Data Portal.
- **2021** Elaboration of the 2nd Progress Report on SDG 6.5.2 on transboundary water cooperation - Accelerating progress on transboundary water cooperation to achieve Target 6.5.
- **2021** Inputs to High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) and UN Secretary General Report on the SDGs.
UNESCAP & UNOPS MOU WITH MEKONG RIVER COMMISSION

• To promote the Asia-Pacific Disaster Resilience Network.
• Mobilize the expertise and resources of existing networks and partnerships and deploy them towards developing practical resilience solutions across the region.
• Moving forward, ESCAP will seek to continue encouraging member states and partners to support the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Disaster Resilience Network, in addition to encouraging the engagement and participation of other stakeholders such as academia, private sector, and think tanks.

ESCAP resources to consult

• Join the UN-Water Expert Group on Regional Level Coordination.
• Join water-related regional lesson and best practices sharing platforms/workshops.
• Online learning through SDG HelpDesk: http://sdghelpdesk.unescap.org/
• Ask for specific capacity building support.
THANK YOU