



UNECE activities in support of SDG 6 monitoring

Reporting under the Water Convention and on SDG indicator 6.5.2
and the Protocol on Water and health

Webinar 4 “Freshwater Management Indicators and Policies”
21 April 2021

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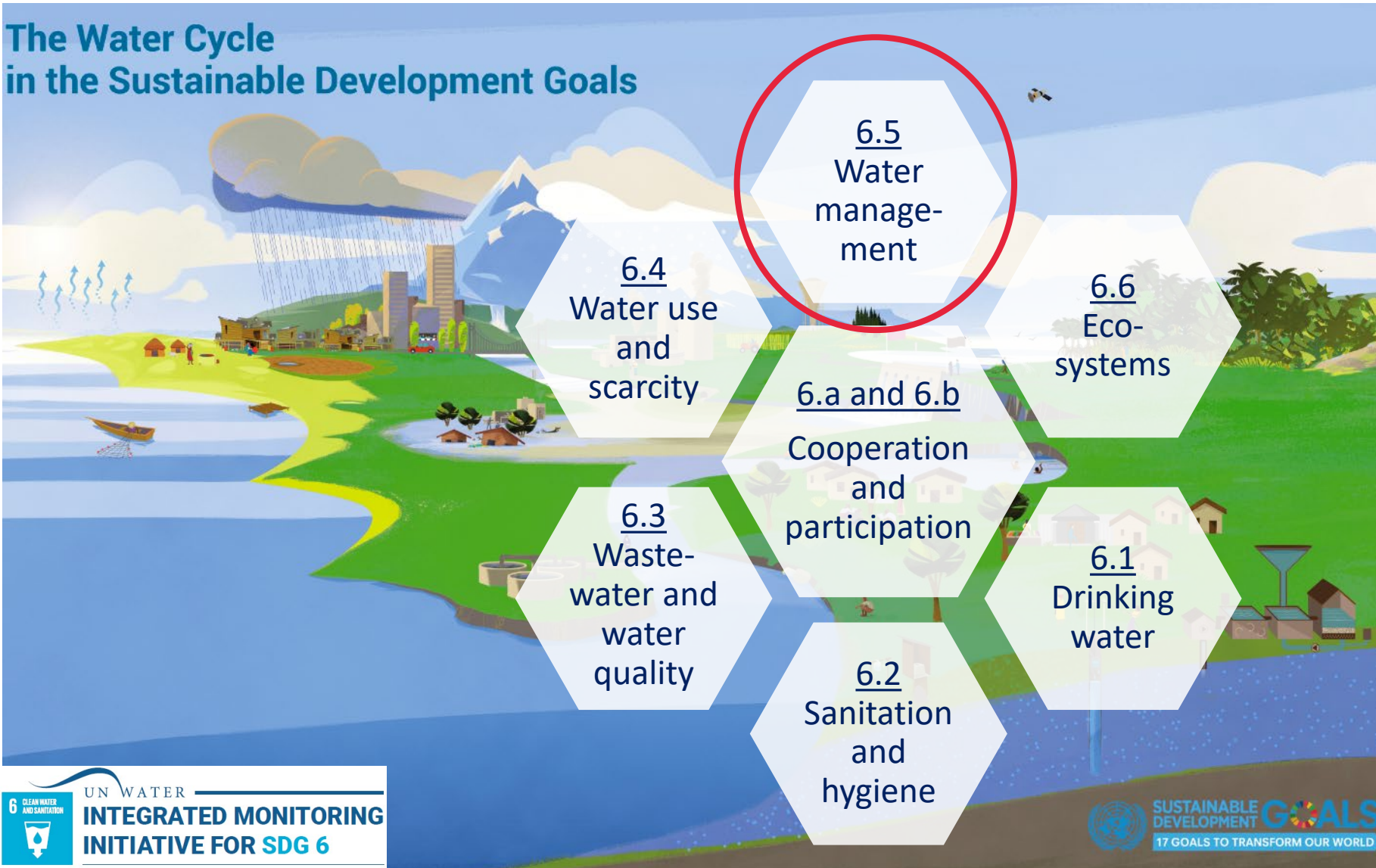


Overview

- Integrated monitoring of SDG 6
- Background on SDG 6.5.2 and the Water Convention
- Status of the 2020 reporting exercise
- Value of reporting on transboundary water cooperation
- Protocol on Water and health in support of SDG6 monitoring

SDG6 Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

The Water Cycle in the Sustainable Development Goals



6.1.1	Safely managed drinking water services (WHO, UNICEF)
6.2.1	Safely managed sanitation services and hygiene (WHO, UNICEF)
6.3.1	Wastewater safely treated (WHO, UN-Habitat, UNSD)
6.3.2	Good ambient water quality (UNEP)
6.4.1	Water use efficiency (FAO)
6.4.2	Level of water stress (FAO)
6.5.1	Integrated water resources management (UNEP)
6.5.2	Transboundary basin area with water cooperation (UNECE, UNESCO)
6.6.1	Water-related ecosystems (UNEP, Ramsar)
6.a.1	Water- and sanitation-related official development assistance (WHO, OECD)
6.b.1	Participation of local communities in water and sanitation management (WHO, OECD)



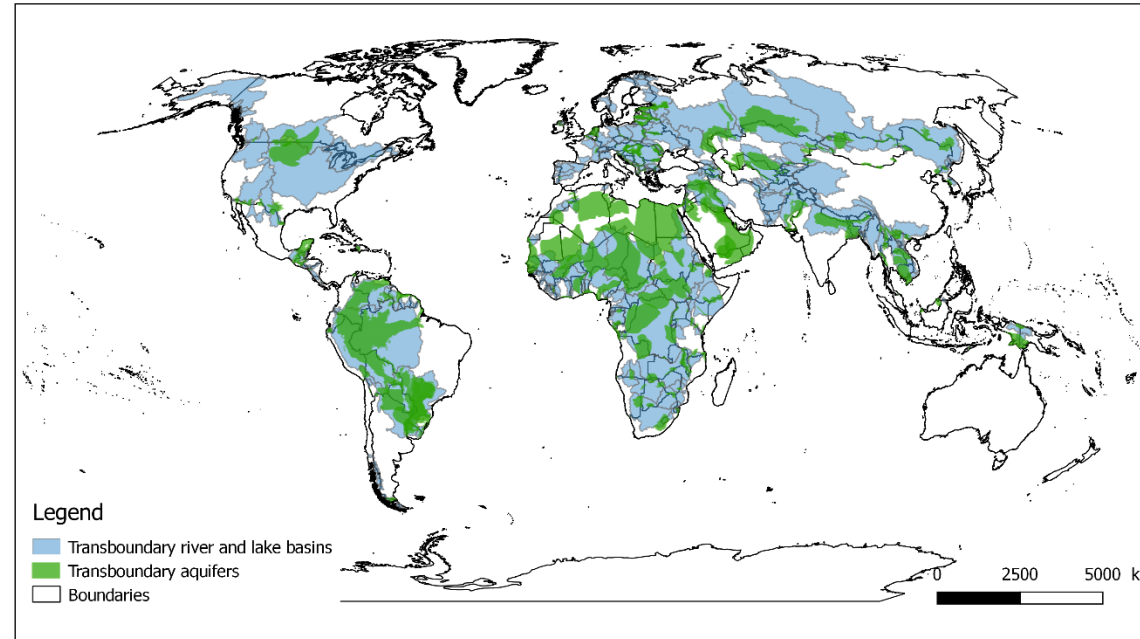
SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.



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



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



Background on reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.2 and under the Water Convention



- Decision to introduce reporting mechanism under the Water Convention taken in 2015
- Coincided with SDGs and SDG indicator 6.5.2 on transboundary water cooperation
 - => One template for the two exercises, avoiding duplication of efforts (only Parties report under the Convention)
- **Indicator 6.5.2:** Proportion of *transboundary basin area* with an *operational arrangement* for water cooperation
- SDG indicator framework adopted by the General Assembly in 2017
- Co-custodian agencies for SDG 6.5.2: UNECE and UNESCO
- 2017: 1st reporting exercise – 2020 2nd reporting exercise
- **What is an ‘operational’ arrangement?**
 - Treaty, convention, agreement or other formal arrangement
 - Joint body for transboundary water cooperation
 - Annual meetings
 - Annual exchange of data and information
 - Adoption of joint/coordinated water management plan, or joint objectives



Initial results of the 2nd reporting in 2020 on SDG 6.5.2

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

High levels of engagement

- ⇒ In 2020: **129** out of 153 countries submitted reports (all Parties to Water Convention responded)
- ⇒ Only **24 countries** report **all** transboundary surface waters and groundwaters covered by **operational arrangements**
- ⇒ Only additional **22 countries** with more than **70%** of their waters covered by operational arrangement

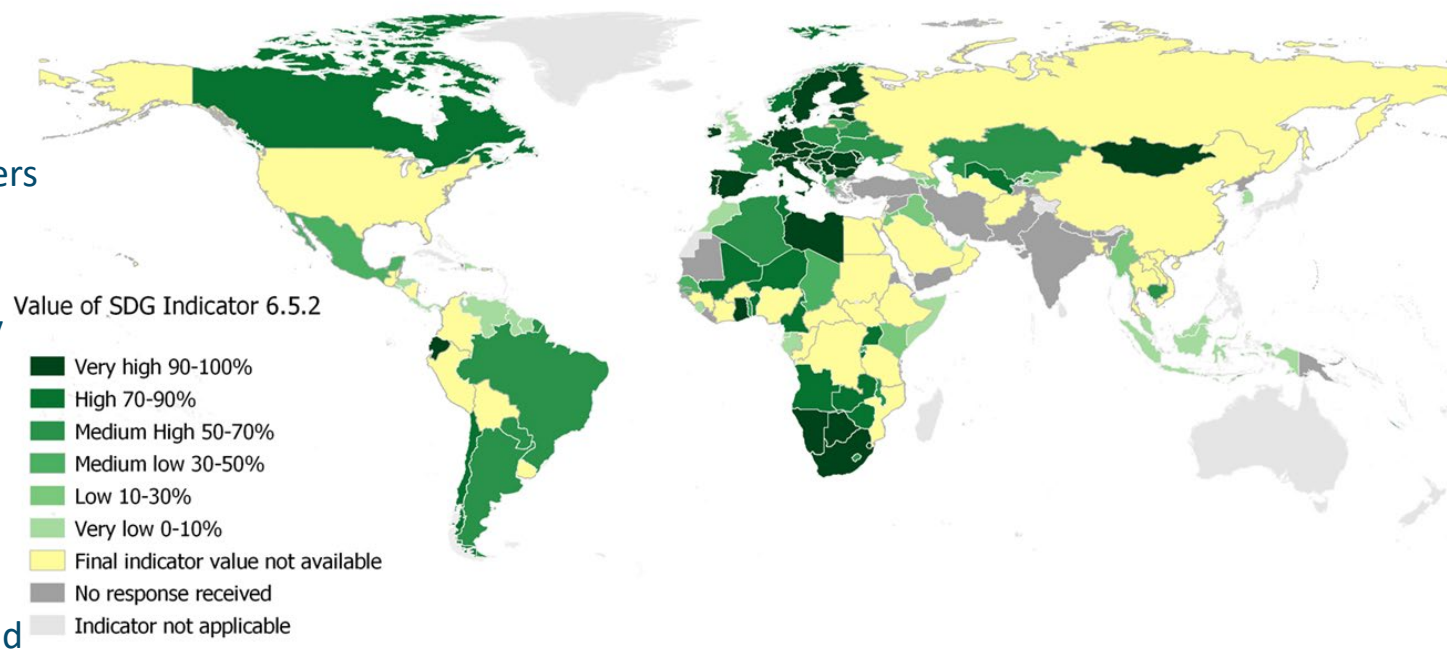
Not on track

- ⇒ Progress must be **accelerated** to ensure that all transboundary basins are covered by operational arrangements by 2030
- ⇒ Insufficient knowledge on **groundwater** systems

Acceleration

- ⇒ Reporting triggered **follow-up actions** in countries to **improve cooperation**
- ⇒ Capacity development, financing, data and information etc. and decisive political action needed to achieve the target

SDG Indicator 6.5.2 values and responses received as of 1 April 2021



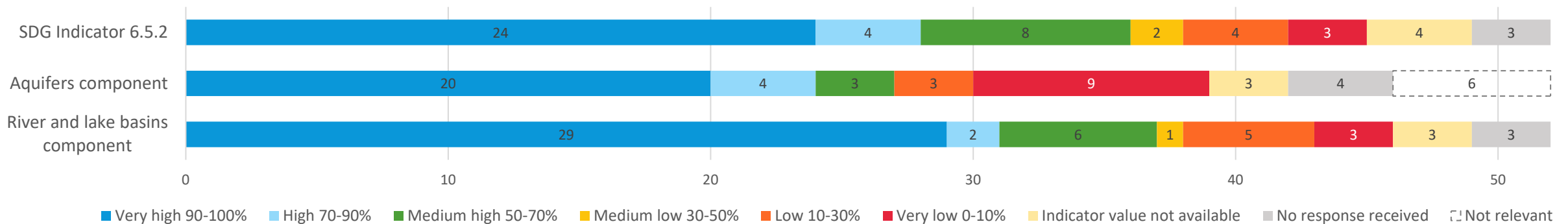
Initial results of the 2nd reporting in 2020 on SDG6.5.2

UNECE region – 1



- **49 out of 52** countries sharing water resources responded
 - Region with the **highest responses rates** in 2017 and 2020
 - 4 additional countries, that did not respond in 2017, responded in 2020
- Only **20 countries** with **all** transboundary waters covered by operational arrangements, vs 14 countries in 2017
 - Increased responses rate & Increased quality of the responses – more information provided on aquifers
 - Some countries improved their cooperation
- 24 countries (out of 52 countries) with overall SDG Indicator above 90%, vs 19 countries in 2017

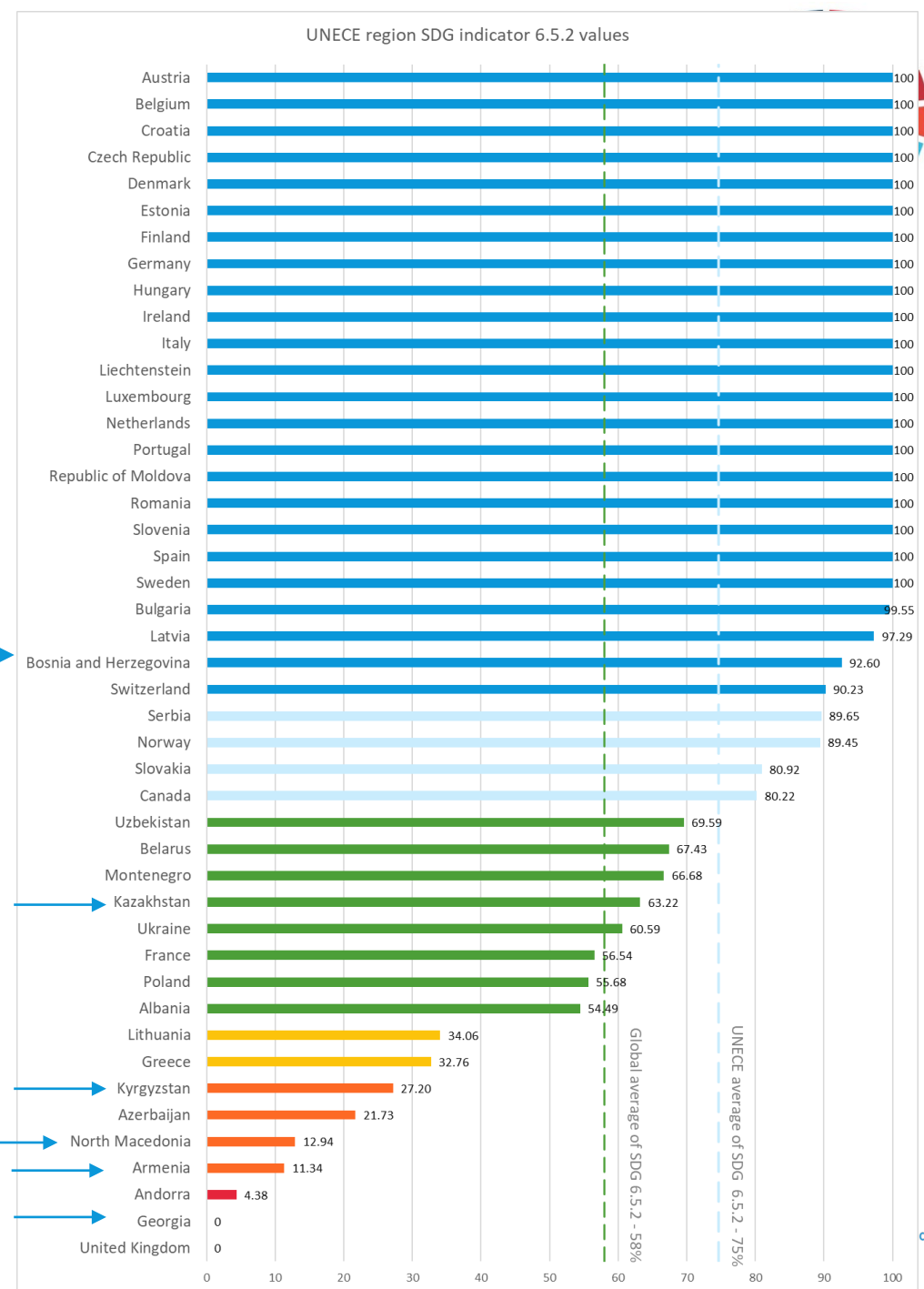
Breakdown of the 52 UNECE countries sharing waters SDG indicator 6.5.2 values



Initial results of the 2nd reporting in 2020 on SDG 6.5.2

UNECE region – 2

- 1st reporting – 2017 – Indicator 6.5.2 value available for **29 countries** of the region (transboundary river & lake basins and aquifers),
 - **39 countries** provided accurate data for transboundary river & lake basins, and
 - **29 countries** for transboundary aquifers
- 2nd reporting – 2020 – Indicator 6.5.2 value available for **45 countries** of the region (transboundary river & lake basins and aquifers),
 - **46 countries** provided accurate data for transboundary river & lake basins, and
 - **45 countries** for transboundary aquifers
- Reporting enhanced in 2020 through
 - Stronger interaction with custodian agencies (advice, questions, draft reports)
 - High quality of reports
 - Coordination with riparians
 - Inclusion of aquifers: challenging but promising
- Enhance future reporting through
 - Improve **coordination and compatibility of national reports** among countries sharing transboundary aquifers, rivers and lakes
 - **Encourage the setting of national and basin targets** as a way to monitor progress on 6.5.2



Value and uptake of reporting on transboundary water cooperation



National level

- Preparing the report with a consultative approach (nationally and with riparians) helps **raising attention and support** on the topic and incentive for countries to improve cooperation
- Interactions between co-custodians and countries, help identify data (gaps), improve knowledge and support cooperation

Transboundary level

- Consultation on relations with riparians helps developing a **common understanding of challenges and opportunities** that can become a basis for discussion for next steps with riparians or basin organisations

Regional and global levels

- 2nd Progress report on SDG 6.5.2
- 2nd Progress report on the implementation of the Water Convention
- SDGs Reports feed into political dialogue at regional and global level (i.e. HLPF, UN Statistical Division)

Broad impetus

Targets 6.1 & 6.2 on drinking-water and sanitation

UNIVERSAL

- All settings: households, schools, health care and workplaces

EQUITABLE

- Progressive reduction of inequalities between population subgroups

ADEQUATE AND SAFE

- *Drinking-water* free from pathogens and elevated levels of toxic chemicals
- *Sanitation* ensuring hygienic separation of excreta from human contact
- *Human waste* safely reused, treated in situ or transported and treated off-site

FOR ALL

- Suitable for use by men/women, girls/boys, people living with disabilities and vulnerable groups

NEEDS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

- Enable women and girls to manage sanitation and hygiene needs with dignity

Target 6.3 on freshwater quality

REDUCE POLLUTION

- Effective protection of water resources used for drinking and bathing

ELIMINATE DUMPING

- Remediation of contaminated sites that adversely affect water quality

REDUCE UNTREATED WASTEWATER

- Reduction of discharges and improve quality of discharge from wastewater treatment

SAFE REUSE AND RECYCLING

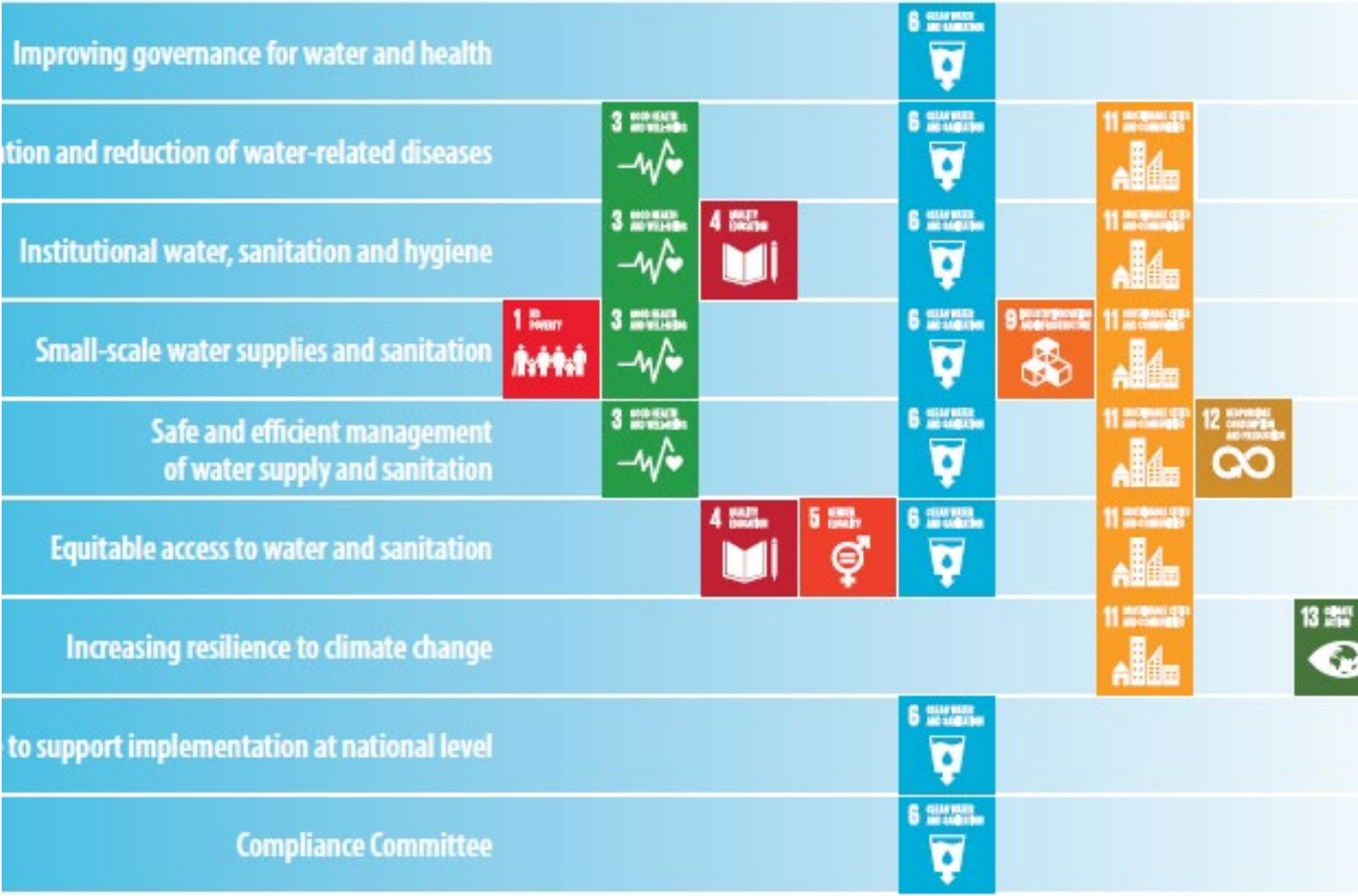
- Use of sewage sludge and wastewater in agriculture and irrigation



SDG 6 and the Protocol on Water and Health: coherence of approaches

Both Protocol and SDG 6:

- ✓ Address the whole water and sanitation cycle
- ✓ Focus on intersectorality
- ✓ Focus on inequalities
- ✓ Define ultimate objectives and require countries to set their own targets
- ✓ Support implementation (through Protocol work programme)
- ✓ Follow-up and review of progress (through Protocol mandatory reporting framework – soon electronic)



Protocol targets as a means to achieve the SDGs, while integrating COVID-19 perspective

In practice countries can:

- ✓ Set coherent targets under the two frameworks
- ✓ Use the same national platform for the Protocol and to implement SDG 6 and other WASH targets
- ✓ Exchange good practices and lessons learned on the process and specific thematic issues

Concrete targets for **COVID-19 prevention, recovery and future preparedness** can be set on:

- ✓ Equitable access to water and sanitation
- ✓ WASH in schools and health-care facilities
- ✓ Environmental surveillance in wastewater
- ✓ Any other WASH aspect covered by Protocol target areas





Thanks for listening!

6.5.2 Help Desk

transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting@un.org
transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting@unesco.org

Further information

UNECE: www.unece.org/water/transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting.html
UNESCO: <https://en.unesco.org/themes/water-security/hydrology>

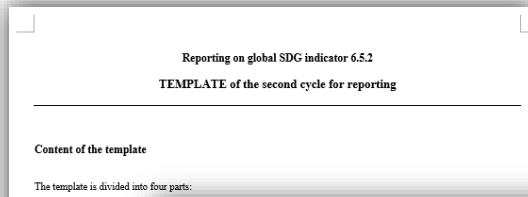
UN-WATER SDG6 monitoring: www.sdg6monitoring.org/indicator-652

UN-WATER SDG6 data portal: www.sdg6data.org/indicator/6.5.2

Protocol on Water and Health

protocol.water_health@un.org

<https://unece.org/environment-policy/water/protocol-on-water-and-health/about-the-protocol/introduction>



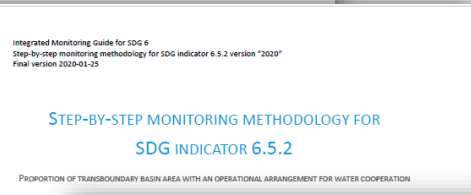
Reporting on global SDG indicator 6.5.2
TEMPLATE of the second cycle for reporting

Content of the template

The template is divided into four parts:

- Section I - C
- Section II - E
- Section III - C
- Section IV - F

Country name: [fill in]



STEP-BY-STEP MONITORING METHODOLOGY FOR SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2

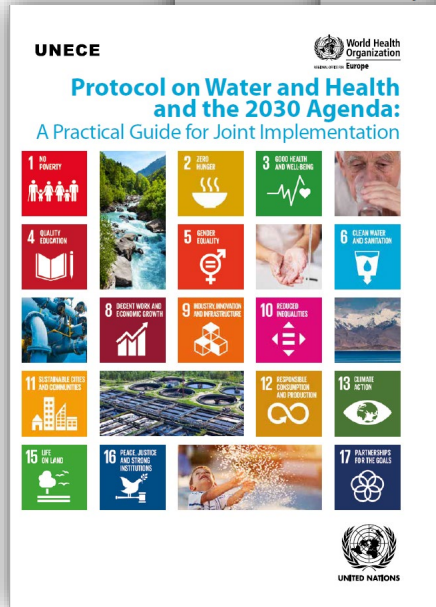
PROPORTION OF TRANSBOUNDARY BASIN AREA WITH AN OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENT FOR WATER COOPERATION

CONTENT

1. Presentation
 - 1.1. Trans
 - 1.2. Moni
 - 1.3. Spec
2. The Report
 - 2.1. The watercourses
 - 2.2. SDG
3. Progress at



Guide to reporting under the Water Convention and as a contribution to SDG indicator 6.5.2



Protocol on Water and Health and the 2030 Agenda:

A Practical Guide for Joint Implementation



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Progress on Transboundary
Water Cooperation

Global baseline for SDG indicator 6.5.2

2018

UN WATER



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



World Health Organization



UNECE



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UN WATER

INTEGRATED MONITORING
INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6