



# Launch of the second Progress Report on Transboundary Water Cooperation

## Global status of SDG indicator 6.5.2 and acceleration needs

Webinar  
14:00-15:30 CEST, 14 September 2021

### Concept & Agenda

#### 1. Background and context

Over 80% of countries sharing transboundary waters engaged in the 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring of SDG indicator 6.5.2. (2020-2021). Reporting on transboundary water cooperation has helped to highlight the importance of cooperation and started to address data gaps previously identified. However, despite the potential of transboundary water cooperation to support both “Water for All” (SDG6), and several other SDGs related to poverty, food, health, land and marine ecosystem, climate action, and peace and security, SDG indicator 6.5.2 data suggests that only 24 out of 153 countries have all their waters covered by operational arrangements. A major effort is therefore needed to accelerate progress.

Where arrangements for transboundary water cooperation are lacking what can countries do to address any bottlenecks they face, and accelerate progress towards making those arrangements operational? What concrete action can third parties, such as UN agencies, non-governmental organisations, academia, scientific and civil society groups, take to support countries in their efforts? Where arrangements are not operational, are there certain factors of operability, such as the holding of regular meetings or exchanging data, that can result in ‘quick wins’ that accelerate achievement of the SDG 6.5 target, i.e. implementing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at all levels by 2030?

In finding answers to the questions above, the webinar will launch the 2<sup>nd</sup> Progress report on the indicator prepared in 2021 and discuss how concrete actions can be taken to accelerate progress on transboundary water cooperation in support of the SDG 6.5 target. Co-organised by the co-custodian agencies of SDG indicator 6.5.2, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the webinar forms part of the series of webinars to launch SDG6 indicators reports in 2021 under the umbrella of UN-Water Integrated Monitoring Initiative for SDG 6 (IMI-SDG6).



## 2. Objectives of the webinar

This webinar aims to:

- **Introduce the key outcomes, findings and recommendations of the 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring in 2020/2021 on SDG indicator 6.5.2**, thus explaining the status transboundary water cooperation worldwide;
- **Show good practices in accelerating progress on transboundary water cooperation** towards achieving SDG target 6.5 and identify key factors that can trigger concrete actions to reduce data gaps and to advance the adoption of operational arrangements;
- **Showcase initiatives and frameworks that support the acceleration of progress** on transboundary water cooperation, for example through the lenses of the 5 accelerators of SDG6 Global Acceleration Framework (<https://www.unwater.org/publications/the-sdg-6-global-acceleration-framework/>).

## 3. Provisional agenda

- Introduction and housekeeping by moderator
- Opening
- Results and Key messages from the 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring of SDG indicator 6.5.2 by UNECE & UNESCO
- Perspectives from countries and partners on how the monitoring on SDG indicator 6.5.2 can be used to focus efforts towards advancing transboundary water cooperation and the achievement of Target 6.5
  - o What are the key barriers in advancing transboundary water cooperation and ensuring that transboundary basins are covered by operational arrangements?
  - o What key factors helped to accelerate progress on transboundary water cooperation and ensure that arrangements are in place? What advice can be shared for countries looking to trigger cooperation?
  - o How to support countries to accelerate progress on transboundary water cooperation, and ensure that operational arrangements are in place?
  - o How to make the most of the SDG 6.5.2 monitoring process to advance transboundary water cooperation by 2030?
- Discussion with the audience on how to make the most of the SDG 6.5.2 monitoring process to advance transboundary water cooperation by 2030?
- Closing remarks by UNECE & UNESCO

## 4. Target audience

The webinar is targeted to:

- Ministries responsible for water management;
- Ministries of foreign affairs and permanent missions;
- National statistical offices;
- International organizations working on transboundary water management;
- Other experts working on transboundary water cooperation.

## 5. Additional information

The webinar will be held 14:00 – 15:30 CET on 14 September 2021 via the Zoom platform.

Participants are kindly requested to **register** through the following link: [https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_oclsWlqTO2vZjo0c6W3sA](https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oclsWlqTO2vZjo0c6W3sA)

There will be simultaneous interpretation into French, Russian and Spanish.

### Webpage of the webinar and additional information on SDG indicator 6.5.2

Further information and relevant material on the meeting will be made available on the following website in due course: <https://unece.org/environmental-policy/events/launch-second-progress-report-transboundary-water-cooperation-global>

Additional materials related to SDG indicator 6.5.2 are available at the following webpages:

- [www.sdg6monitoring.org/indicator-652](http://www.sdg6monitoring.org/indicator-652)
- <https://sdg6data.org/indicator/6.5.2>
- [www.unece.org/water/transboundary\\_water\\_cooperation\\_reporting.html](http://www.unece.org/water/transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting.html)
- [https://en.unesco.org/themes/water-security/transboundary\\_water\\_cooperation\\_reporting](https://en.unesco.org/themes/water-security/transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting)

For any question on the webinar, please do not hesitate to contact UNECE and UNESCO respectively at [transboundary\\_water\\_cooperation\\_reporting@un.org](mailto:transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting@un.org) and [transboundary\\_water\\_cooperation\\_reporting@unesco.org](mailto:transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting@unesco.org).



## SDG 6.5.2 TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION

Transboundary waters  
account for

60%

of the world's  
**freshwater flows**

**Cooperation** over these  
waters is essential for **peace,**  
**sustainable development, and regional**  
**stability**

