



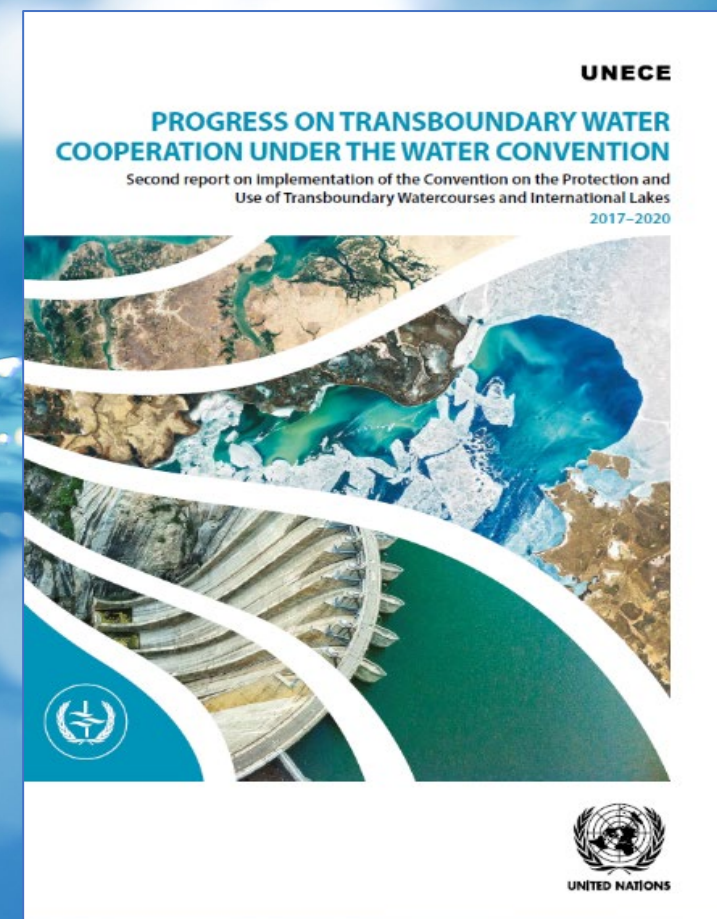
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**MEETING OF THE PARTIES  
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**  
29 September – 1 October 2021 Geneva & Hybrid



# Second report on implementation of the Water Convention

Prepared by the Secretariat

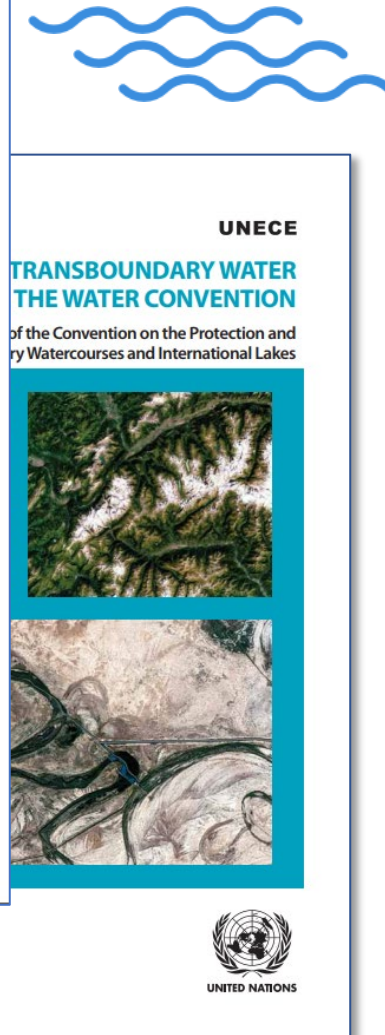
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# Background

- Reporting under the Convention introduced in 2015
  - First reporting exercise in 2017/18
  - Second reporting exercise in 2020/21
  - Secretariat requested to prepare a synthesis report based on national reports submitted
- = > Second report
- Focuses on 2017-2020
  - Covers Parties in sub-Saharan Africa



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# Overview of the 2nd reporting exercise



All Parties submitted reports

100%



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

\* <https://unece.org/enironment-policy/publications/guide-reporting-under-water-convention-and-contribution-sdg>



144 river and lake basins and 77 sub-basins explicitly reported by at least one Party



37 Parties have participated in at least one of the 5 capacity-building webinars



Improved coordination of replies

- 16 Parties have consulted other riparian countries
- 17 Parties have consulted a relevant joint body



- Women participated in the completion of 22 reports
- 12 reports (29%) signed by a female governmental representative

# Key findings: agreements and arrangements (Art. 9 (1))



186

186 transboundary water agreements reported by the Parties

10

10 new transboundary water agreements concluded in 2017-2020

4

4 transboundary water agreements entered into force in 2017-2020



144

144 river and lake basins and 77 sub-basins explicitly reported by at least one Party

16

At least 16 river and lake basins and 15 sub-basins are not covered by any agreement

80%

Average value of the SDG indicator 6.5.2 for Parties: 80% (global average: 58%)

# Key findings – agreements on groundwater (Art. 9(1))



102 out of 360 reported transboundary aquifers and groundwater bodies are not covered by agreements

Improve knowledge, develop, and operationalize cooperation on **transboundary groundwater**

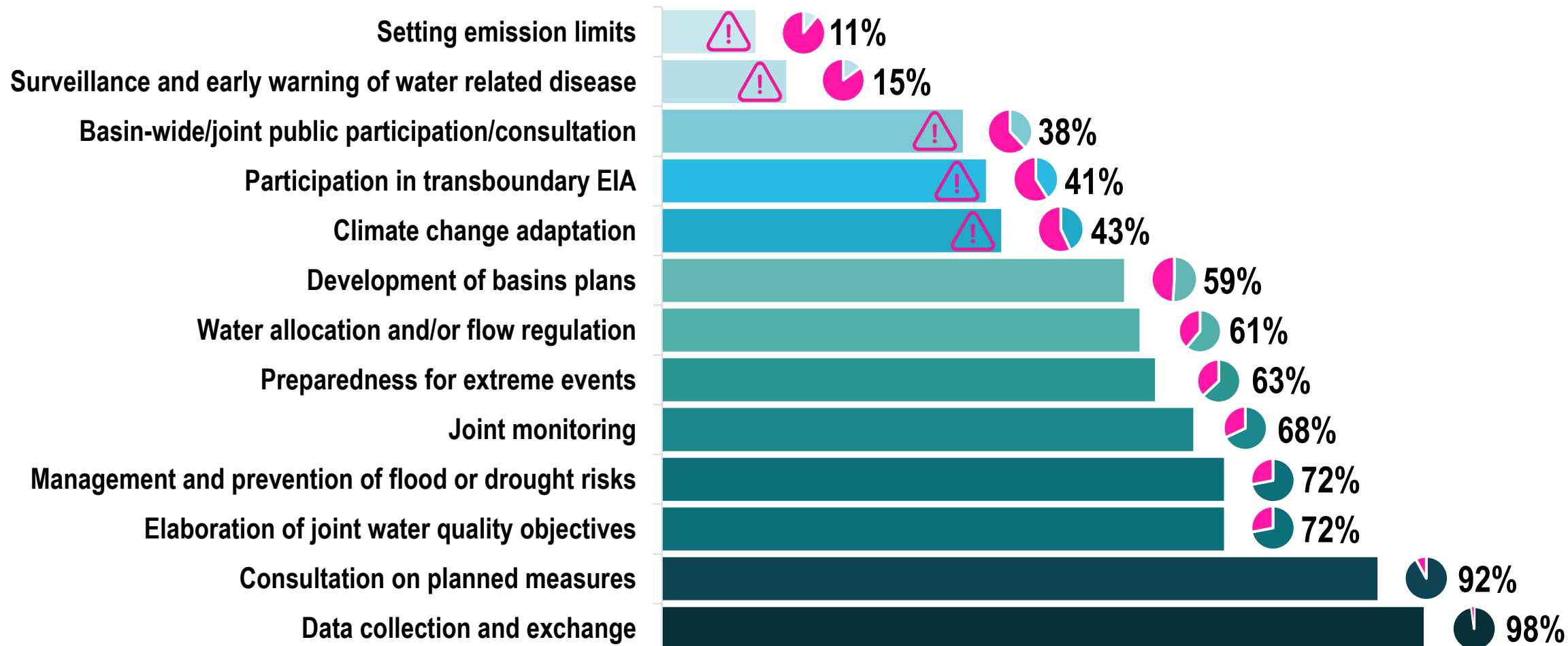


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# Key findings - tasks of joint bodies (Art. 9(2))



# Key findings – data exchange, joint monitoring (Arts. 11, 13)



In at least 24 river and lake basins, riparian countries do not exchange data and information at the basin level

Establish **exchange of data and information** where not available  
Increase regularity of exchange and compatibility of data



Joint monitoring does not take place in at least 51% of reported river and lake basins  
Joint assessment does not take place in 25% of reported river and lake basins

Establish **joint monitoring and assessment** where not available



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# Key findings – climate change adaptation



A joint climate change adaptation strategy is available only in 8% of reported river and lake basins.  
A joint disaster risk reduction strategy is available only in 5% of reported basins.

Develop cooperation on adaptation to **climate change** in transboundary basins and implement joint adaptation strategies



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\* Based on all responses, not consolidated by basins.



# Key findings – early warning and alarm systems (Art. 14), mutual assistance (Art.15)



Coordinated alarm systems for floods and for droughts are available in 54% (floods) and 17% (droughts) of reported river and lake basins.

Coordinated alarm system for accidental water pollution is available in 27% of reported basins.

Develop **early warning and alarm systems** where not available  
Develop procedures for **mutual assistance** in critical situations



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# Key findings – human health



Human health is among topics of cooperation only in 18% of transboundary water agreements

Establish early warning of **water related diseases** in transboundary water cooperation



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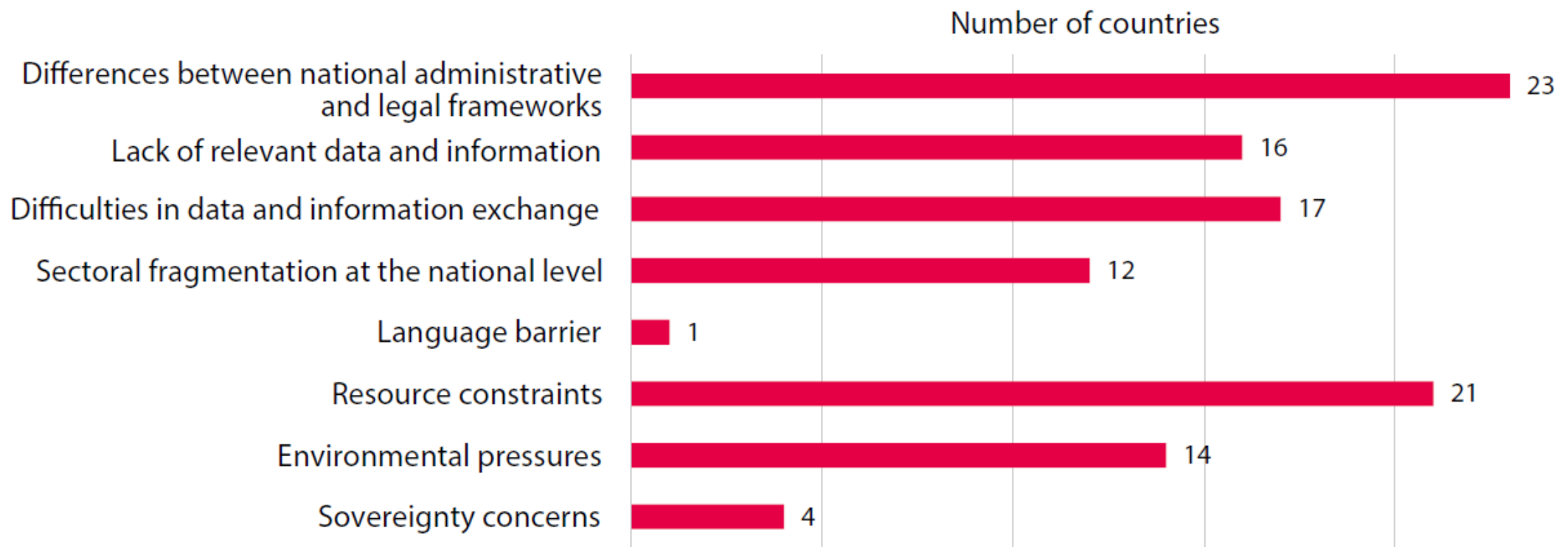
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# Key findings – main challenges



50% of the Parties report resource constraints among main challenges for cooperation on transboundary waters

Improve financing of transboundary water cooperation

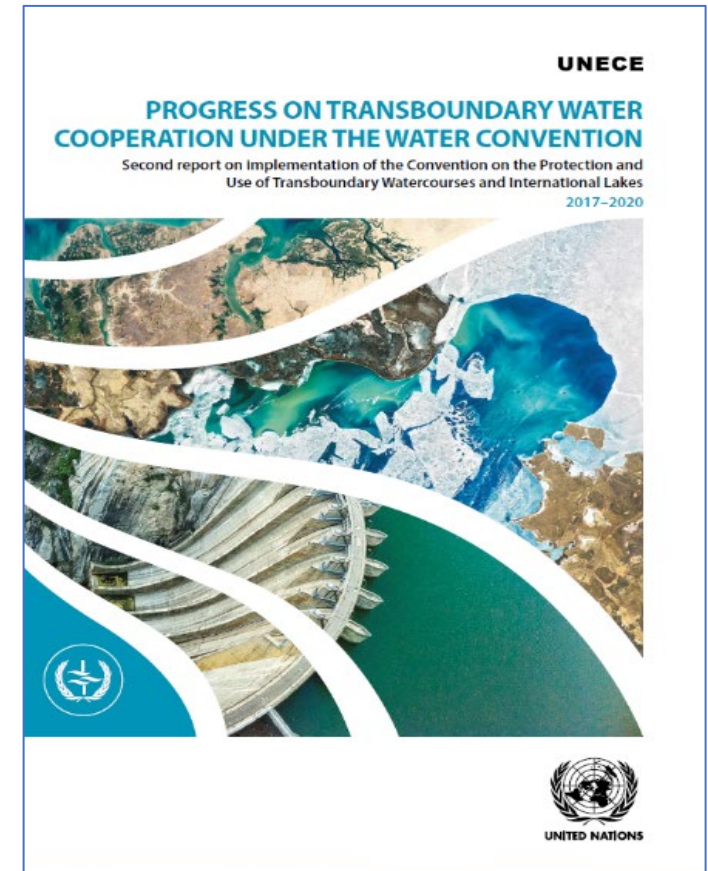




# A wealth of experience to learn from!



- 19 boxes: insights from practice
- A dedicated chapter with five basin analysis:
  - Drin
  - Bug
  - Danube
  - Ural/Zhayik
  - Latvia-Lithuania transboundary groundwater



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# Conclusions



- The report shows many positive achievements 2017-2020 and overall high level of implementation of the Convention
- Of 24 countries globally that have all basins covered by “operational arrangements”, 19 are Parties to Water Convention
- Average value of SDG indicator 6.5.2 for Parties: 80% (global average 58%)
- The Convention’s programme of work addresses many of the areas where implementation needs to be supported (monitoring, climate change, resources, agreements...)
- Report includes recommendations for Parties and for Partners



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# Further information

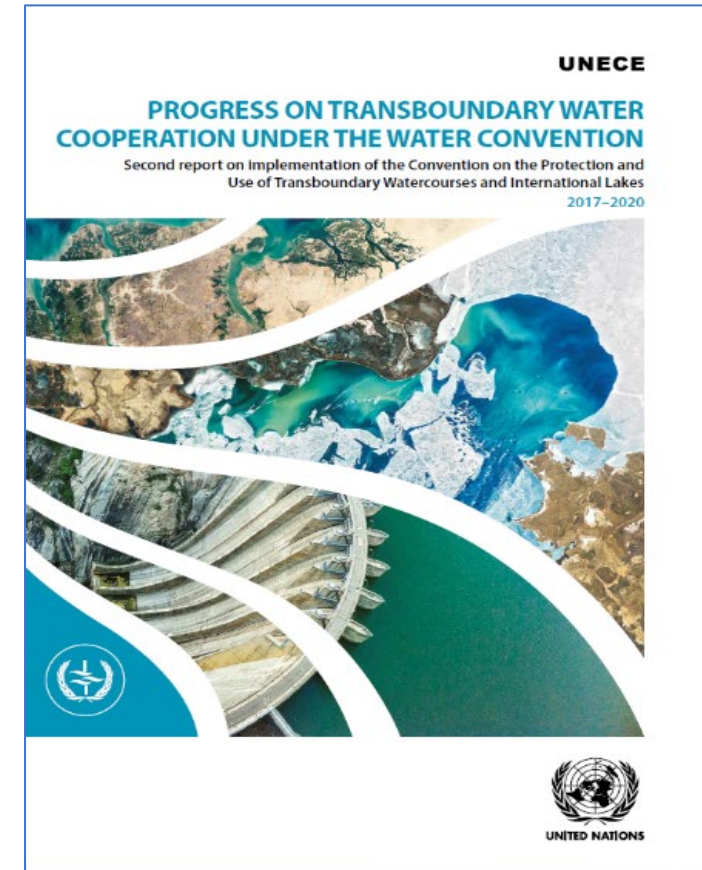


## PROGRESS ON TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION UNDER THE WATER CONVENTION

Second report on implementation of the Convention  
on the Protection and Use of Transboundary  
Watercourses and International Lakes  
2017–2020

<https://unece.org/info/publications/pub/360105>

THANK YOU!



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