

SUPPORTING ARAB STATES IN REGIONAL REPORTING FOR SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2 ON TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION

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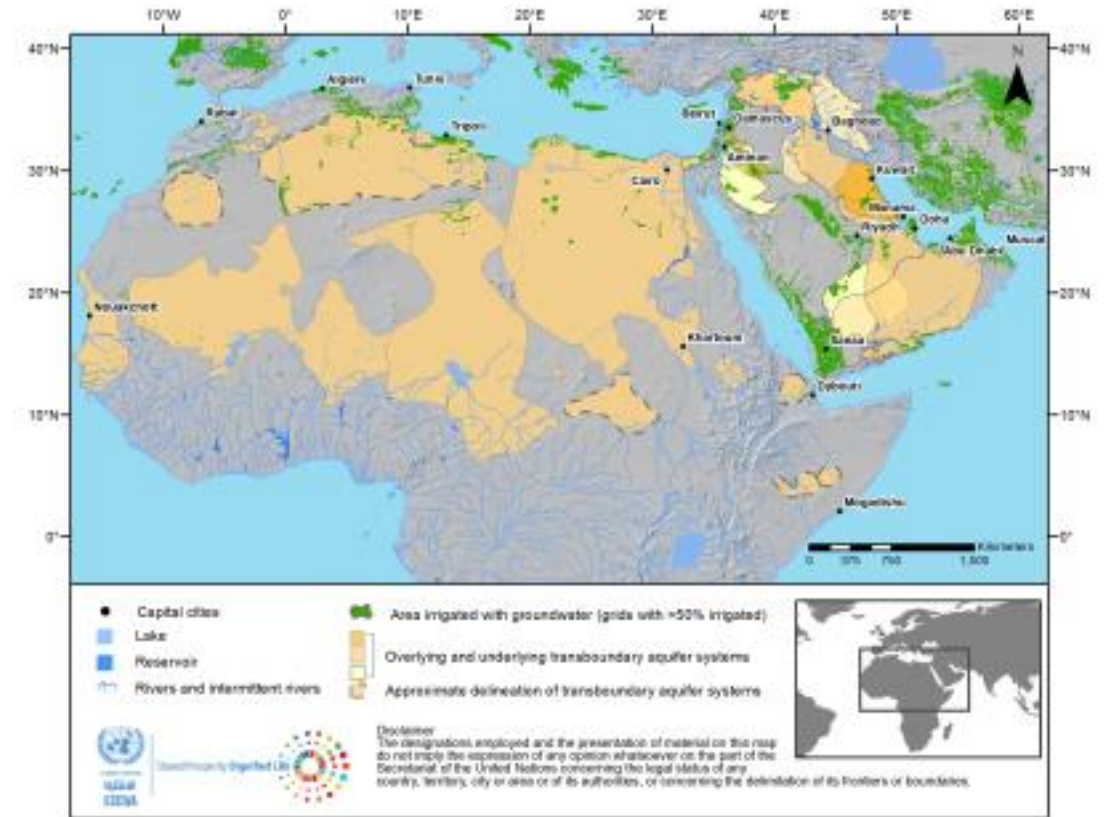
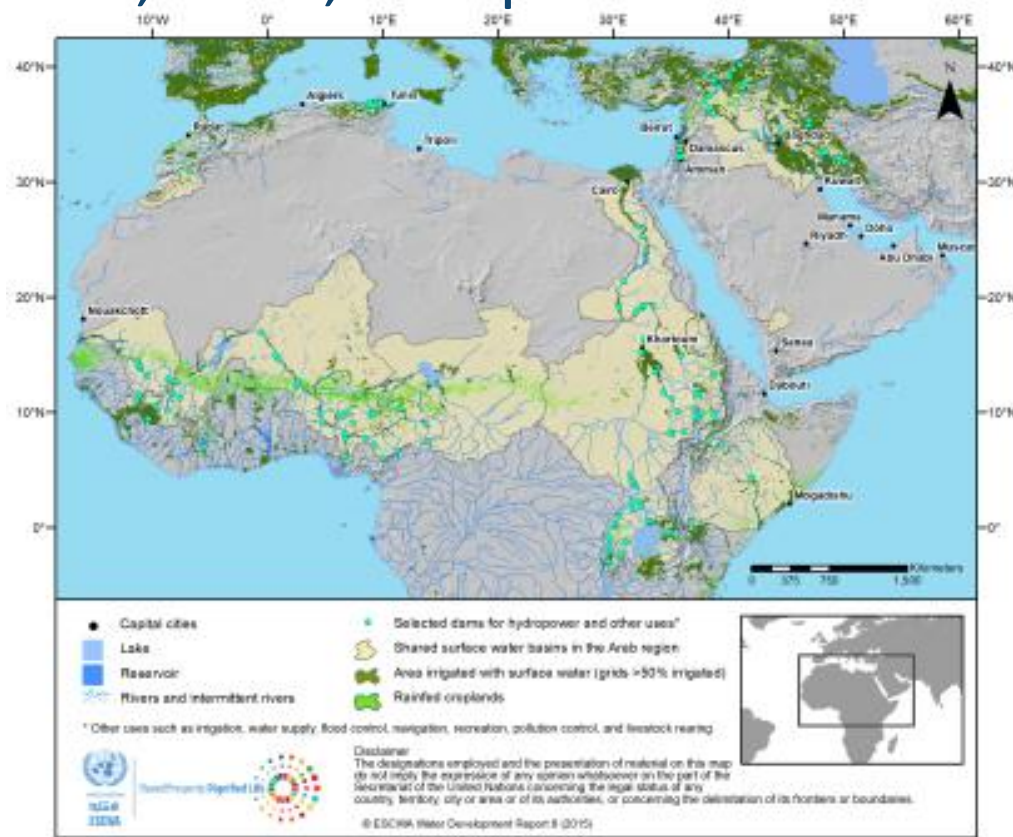
Global Webinars on SDG indicator 6.5.2
Transboundary Water Cooperation

Supporting countries in preparing national reports for the
3rd reporting exercise - With a focus on Coordination



Transboundary water resources in the Arab region

- In the Arab region, 21 countries, out of 22, share either transboundary river, lakes, or aquifers



Cooperation on Reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.2

- Expert Group Meeting on Improving Shared Water Resources Cooperation within the Framework of Global and Regional Agreements. **Beirut, 6-7 December 2018**
- Workshop on Supporting the monitoring and implementation of the SDGs in the Arab region: Transboundary water cooperation SDG Indicator 6.5.2. **Beirut, 5 March 2020**



Two Regional reports for SDG indicator 6.5.2 on Transboundary Cooperation in Arab States

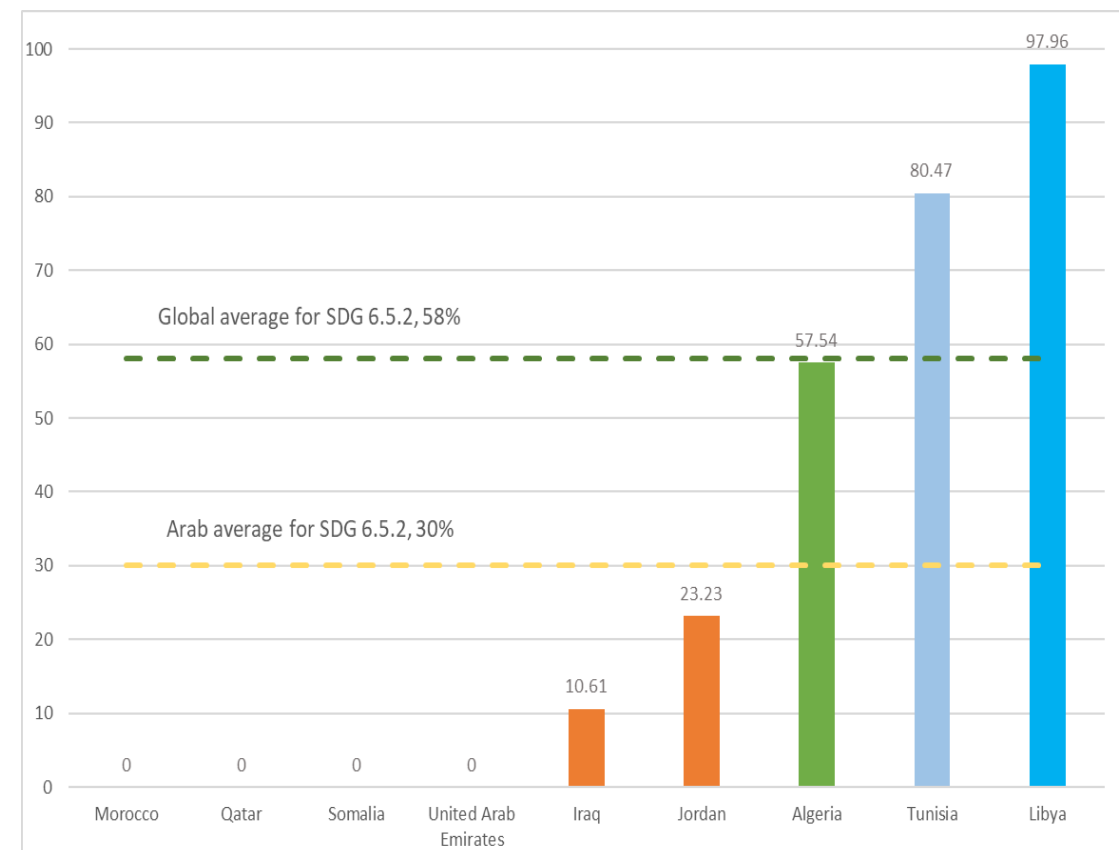
In 2nd report:

- Completed in Cooperation with UNECE and UNESCO
- Focuses on the need to accelerate progress for improving transboundary water cooperation in the Arab region.
- Helps to highlight the importance of cooperation and to address some of the data gaps previously identified
- More Arab countries sharing transboundary basins submitted responses compared to 2017.
- On a positive note, not only the number of reporting countries has increased, but also the reporting quality has enhanced.

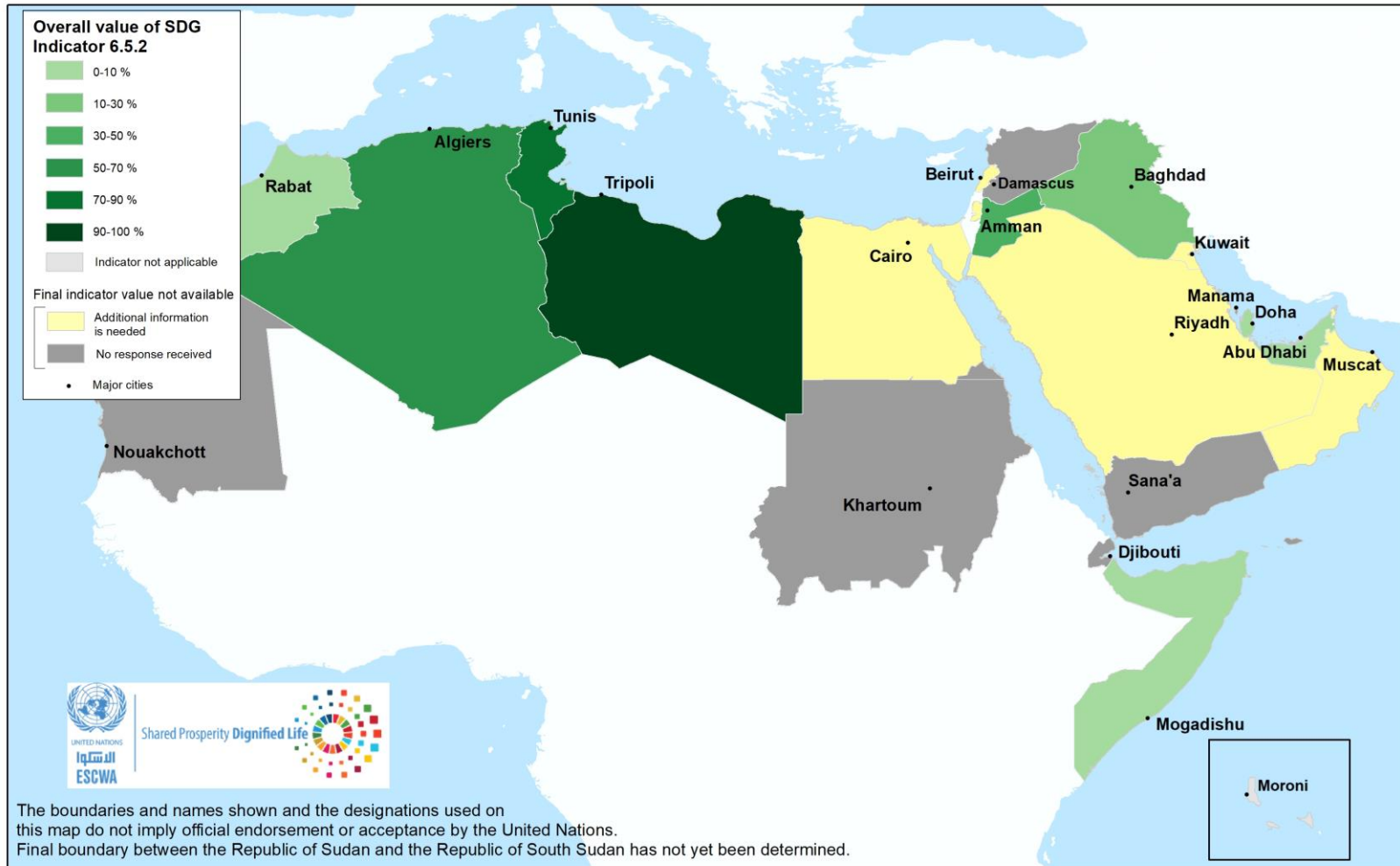


Progress between 2017 and 2020

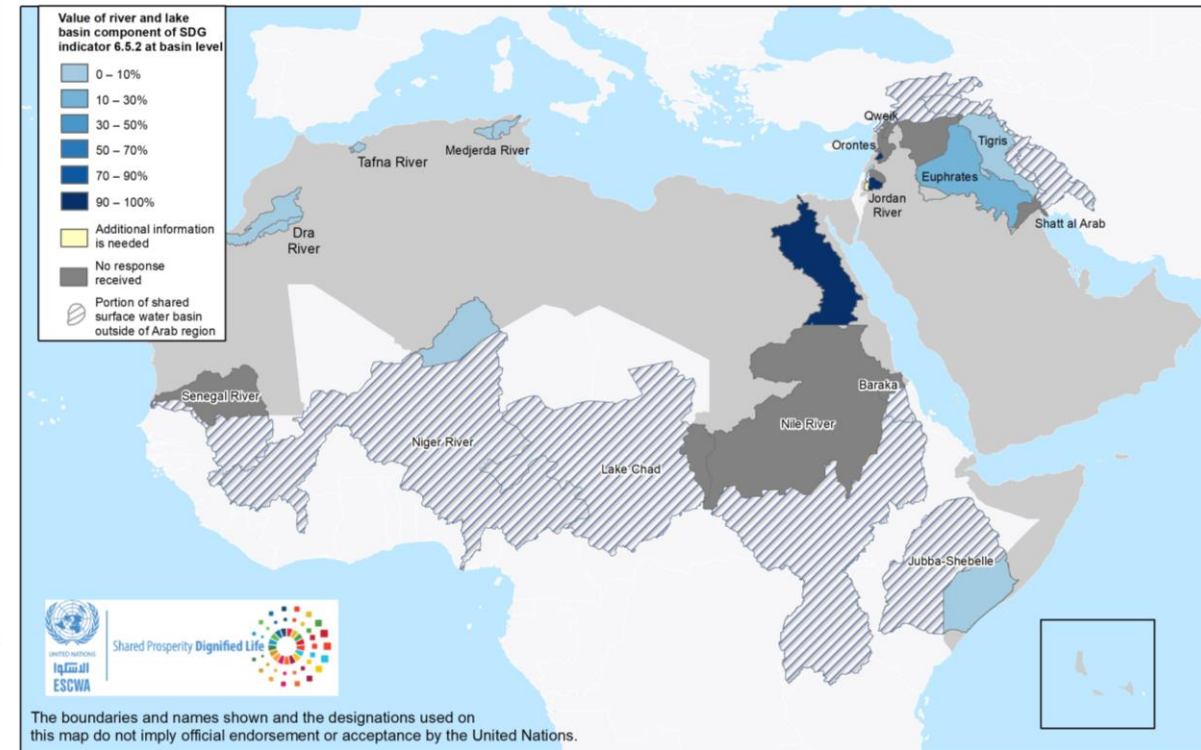
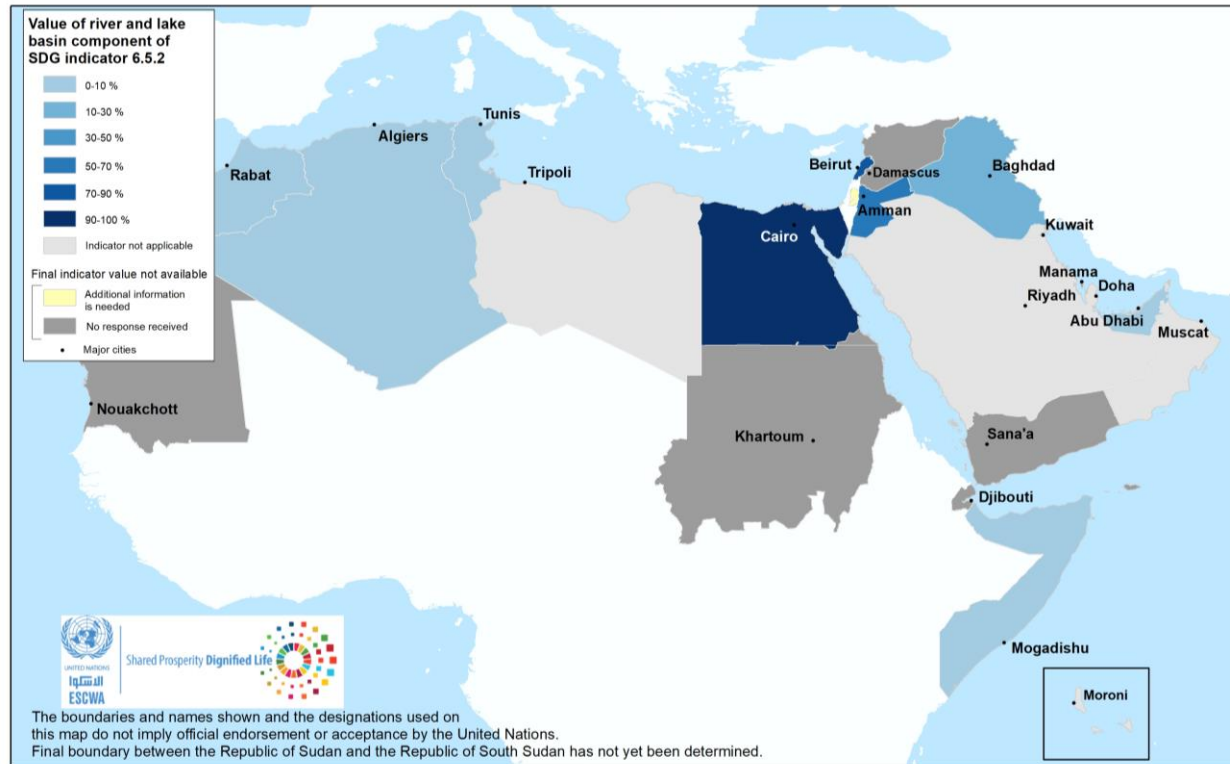
	2017- baseline	2020- 2 nd report
Number of countries that reported responses (out of 21 Arab countries that share rivers and aquifers)	10	15
Average score for the aquifer component	19%	30%
Average score for the river and lake basin component	13%	29%
Average score for SDG indicator 6.5.2	19%	30%



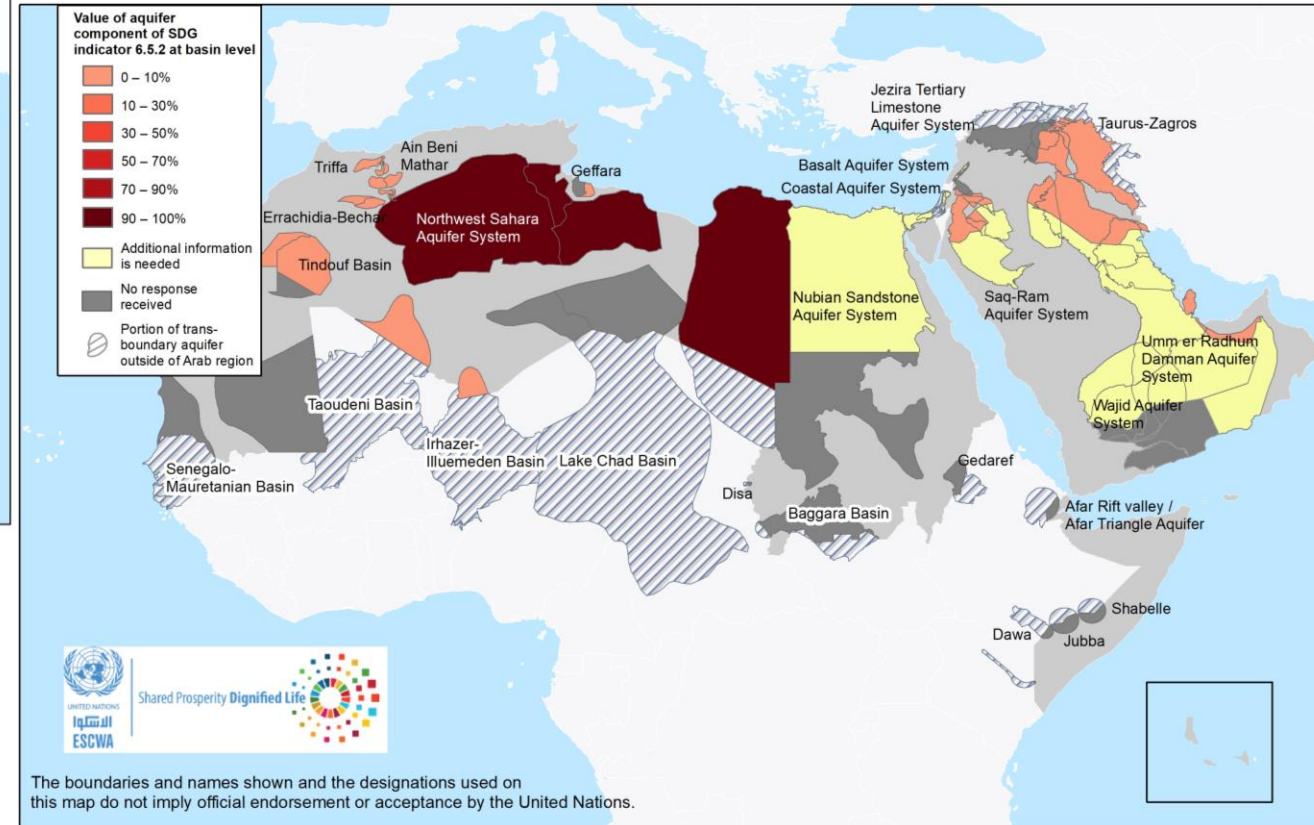
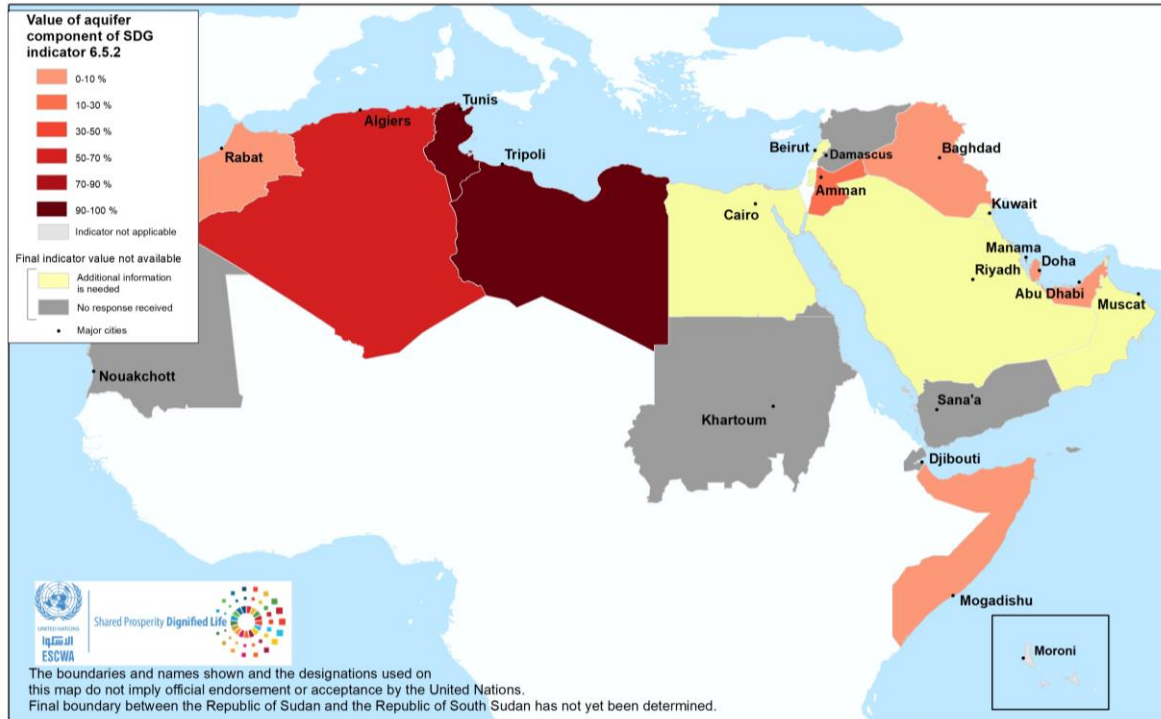
National level of cooperation on transboundary water



Transboundary river and lake basin level cooperation in the Arab region

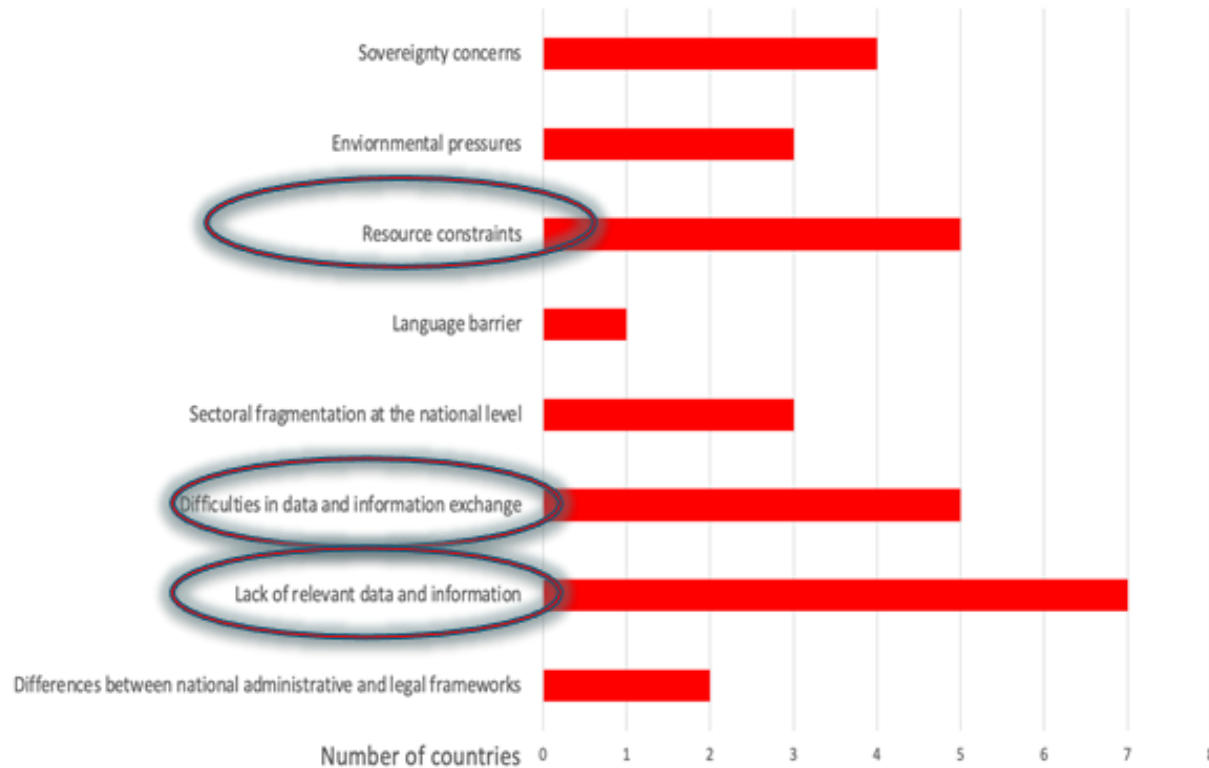


Transboundary aquifer level cooperation in the Arab region

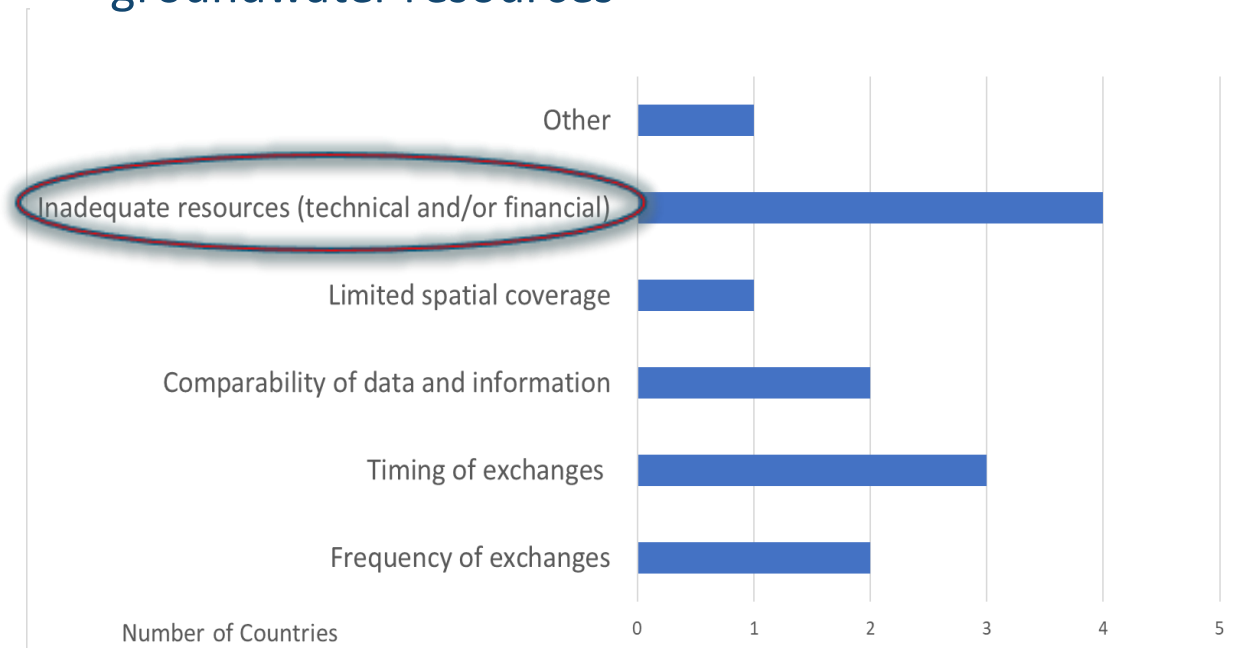


Main challenges reported by Arab countries in cooperating on transboundary waters

- Information on transboundary waters, which is needed to enhance cooperation, is either not sufficiently available or available but not easily accessible.
- This is especially seen for transboundary groundwater resources



Main challenges to data exchange

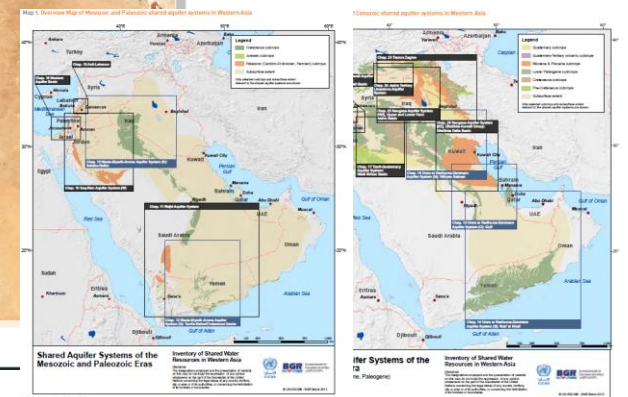
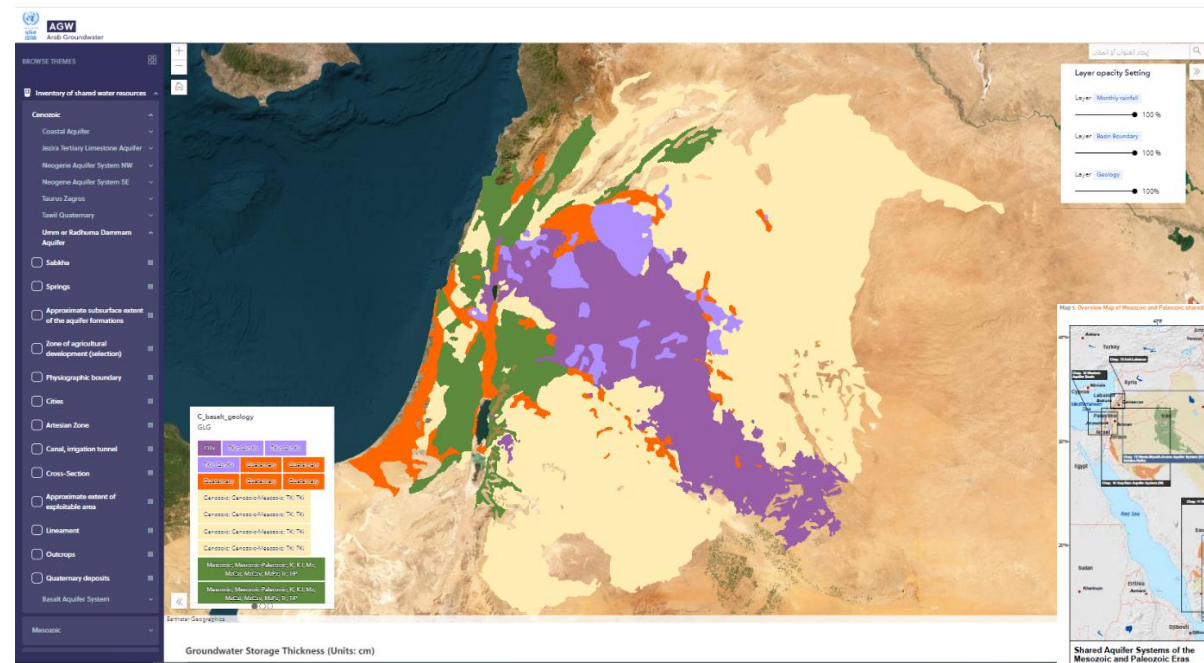
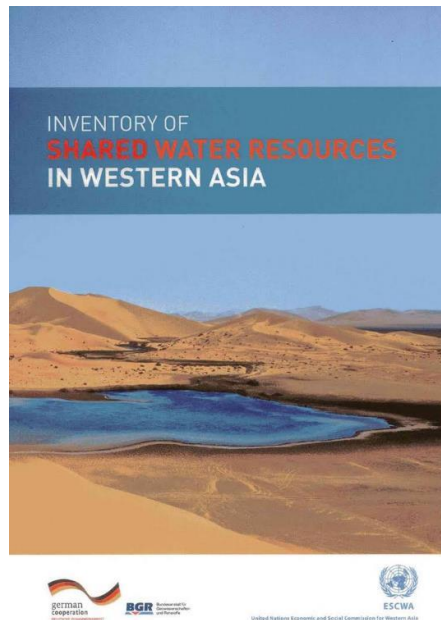


Key messages

- Accelerating cooperation on transboundary waters is a long process that requires understanding and communication between stakeholders.
- Any progress in transboundary water cooperation requires:
 - Improving understanding of transboundary water resources, especially groundwater resources,
 - Allocating the necessary funding,
 - Improving access to information,
 - Improving monitoring while making use of innovative technologies,
 - Mainstreaming cooperation at the institutional level, through the authorities responsible for cooperation and management of shared water resources
- Continuous efforts in joint projects implementation for the conservation and monitoring of water resources will facilitate the establishment of transboundary cooperation bodies.
- Benefiting from global frameworks or regional processes as guidelines for cooperation.
- Using unconventional finance such as climate adaptation funds for transboundary settings

Ongoing and future work

- The **Arab Groundwater Knowledge Platform** that centralizes groundwater related data including the [Inventory of Shared Water Resources in Western Asia](#)
- [Workshop on Strengthening Legal and Institutional Arrangements for Transboundary Water Cooperation and Data and Information Exchange](#). **Beirut, 30-31 May 2023**





Shared Prosperity **Dignified Life**



THANK YOU

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