

18th meeting of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment under the Water Convention, 17-18 October 2023

# Item 5

## Reporting on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention

Iulia Trombitcaia, Indira Urazova, Sarah Tiefenauer-Linardon, UNECE  
Tatiana Dmitrieva, Aurélien Dumont, UNESCO

# Overview

- SDG indicator 6.5.2 & results of the 2<sup>nd</sup> reporting round
- Status of the 3<sup>rd</sup> reporting exercise 2023/24 and preliminary results
- Next steps and available support



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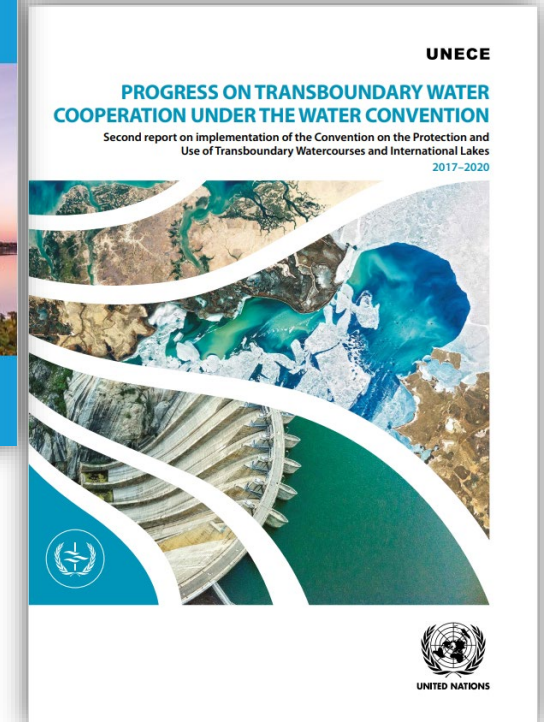
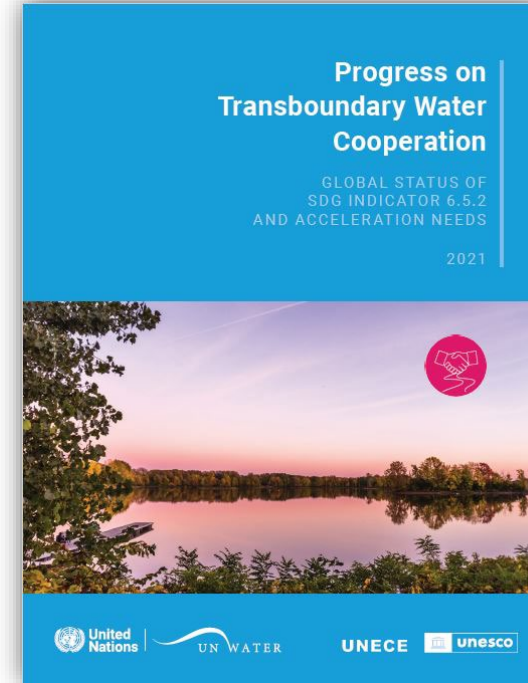


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# SDG 6.5.2 indicator monitoring process & reporting under the Convention



- Data on indicator 6.5.2 collected **every 3 years** by UNECE and UNESCO (as for other SDG6 indicators):  
*2017 => 2020 => 2023 => 2026 => 2029*
- Parties report under the Convention and on SDG indicator 6.5.2 through **one template**
- Submitted data is analyzed & fed into political dialogue at global & regional levels
  - UN Water reports on overall progress toward SDG 6
  - HLPF, UN Statistical Division, SDG databases
  - reports on *Progress on transboundary cooperation worldwide*
  - reports on *Progress on cooperation under the Water Convention*
- Reporting results also used to define the future Programme of Work under the Convention and feed into the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties



WATER  
CONVENTION



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**SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2**  
TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION

# Results of the 2nd reporting 2020/21



- **Increase in response received and high level of engagement**

129 out of 153 countries submitted reports in 2020 (108 in 2017)

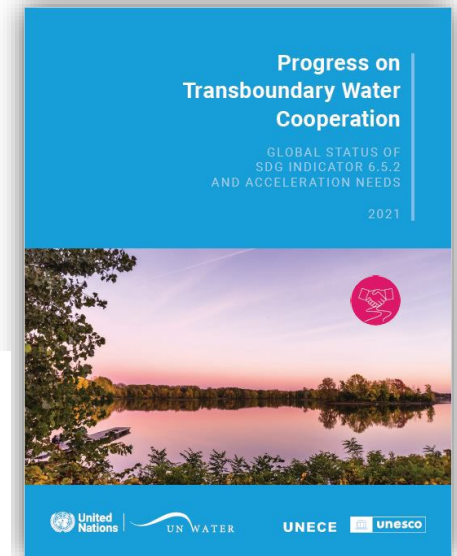
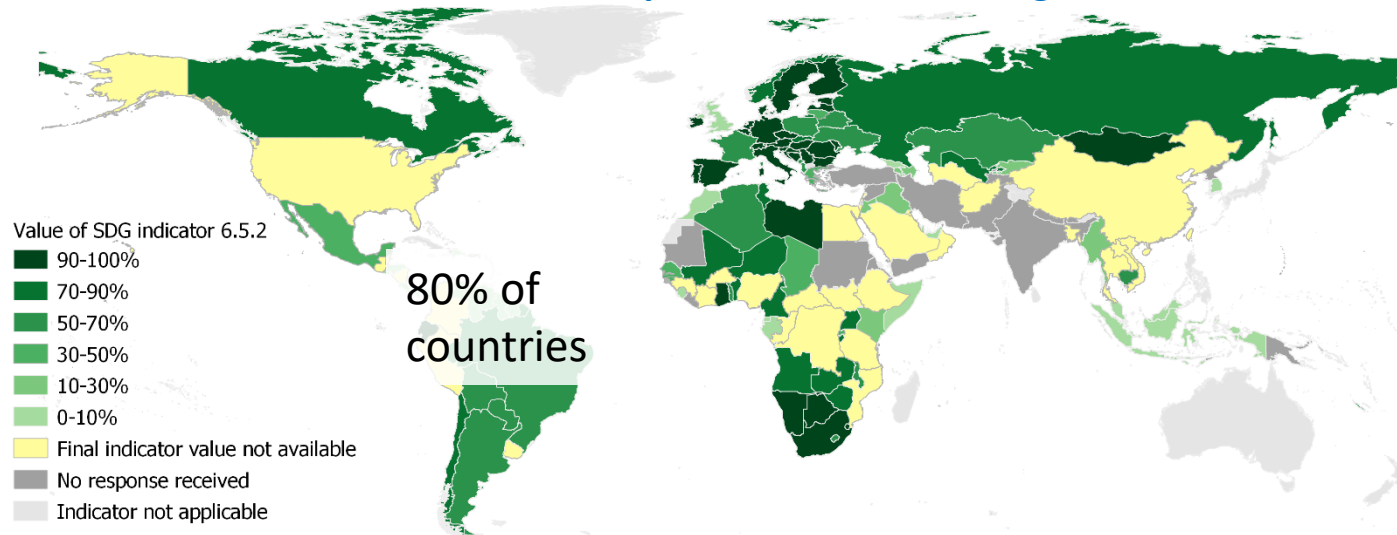
**all** Parties to the Water Convention responded

- **Not on track**

Only 24 countries report **all** transboundary surface waters and groundwaters covered by **operational arrangements**. And 32 have 90 % or more of their transboundary waters covered.

Progress must be **accelerated** to ensure that all transboundary basins are covered by operational arrangements by 2030

## SDG indicator 6.5.2 values and responses received during the 2<sup>nd</sup> exercise



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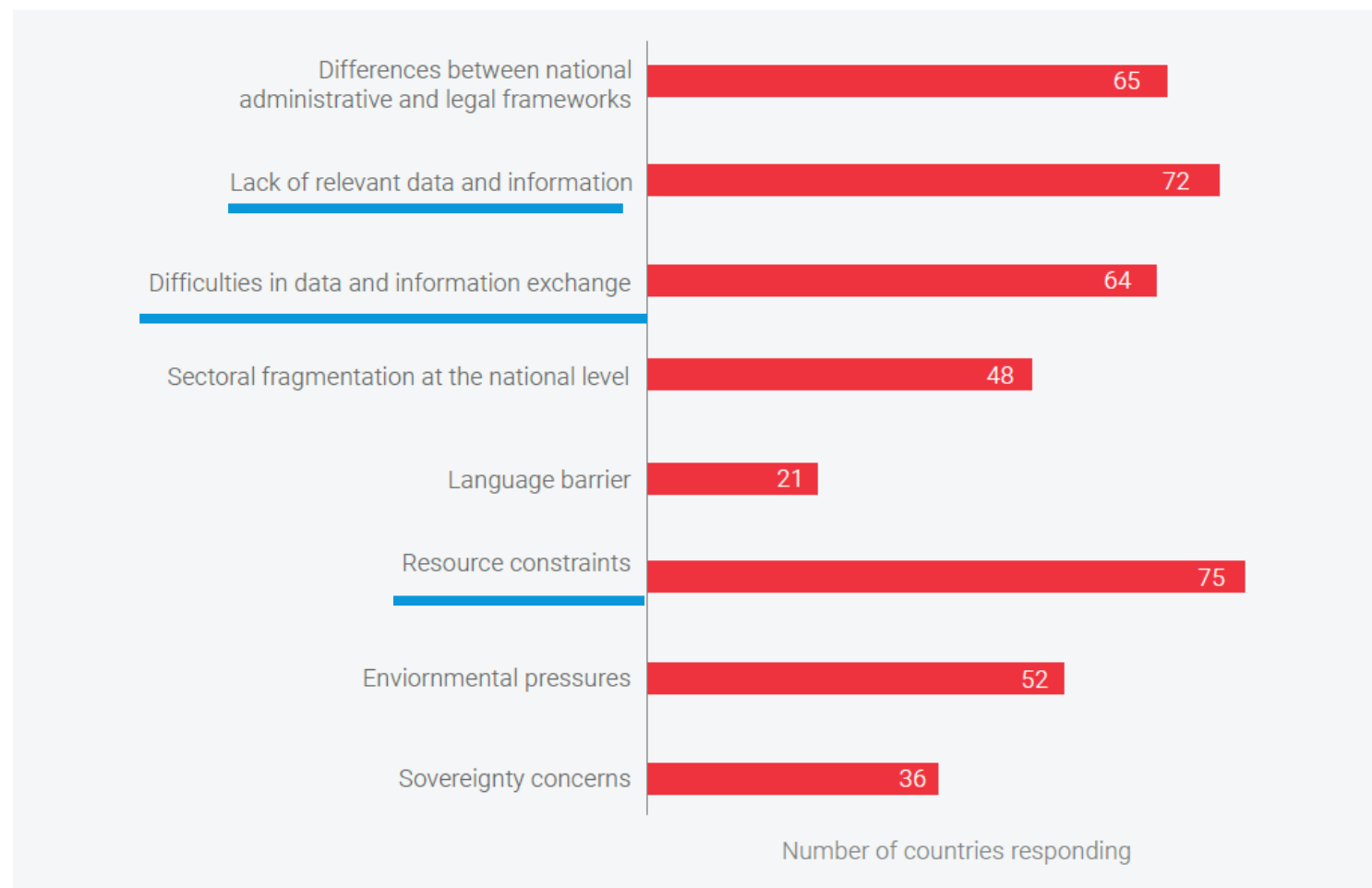


# Results of the 2nd reporting 2020/21 on data and information exchange between countries (1/4)

## Major challenges for transboundary water cooperation

- Lack of relevant data and information
- Difficulties in data and information exchange
- Resource constraints

**Figure 27. SDG indicator 6.5.2 reporting template, section IV, question 1 – What are the main challenges your country faces in cooperating on transboundary waters?**

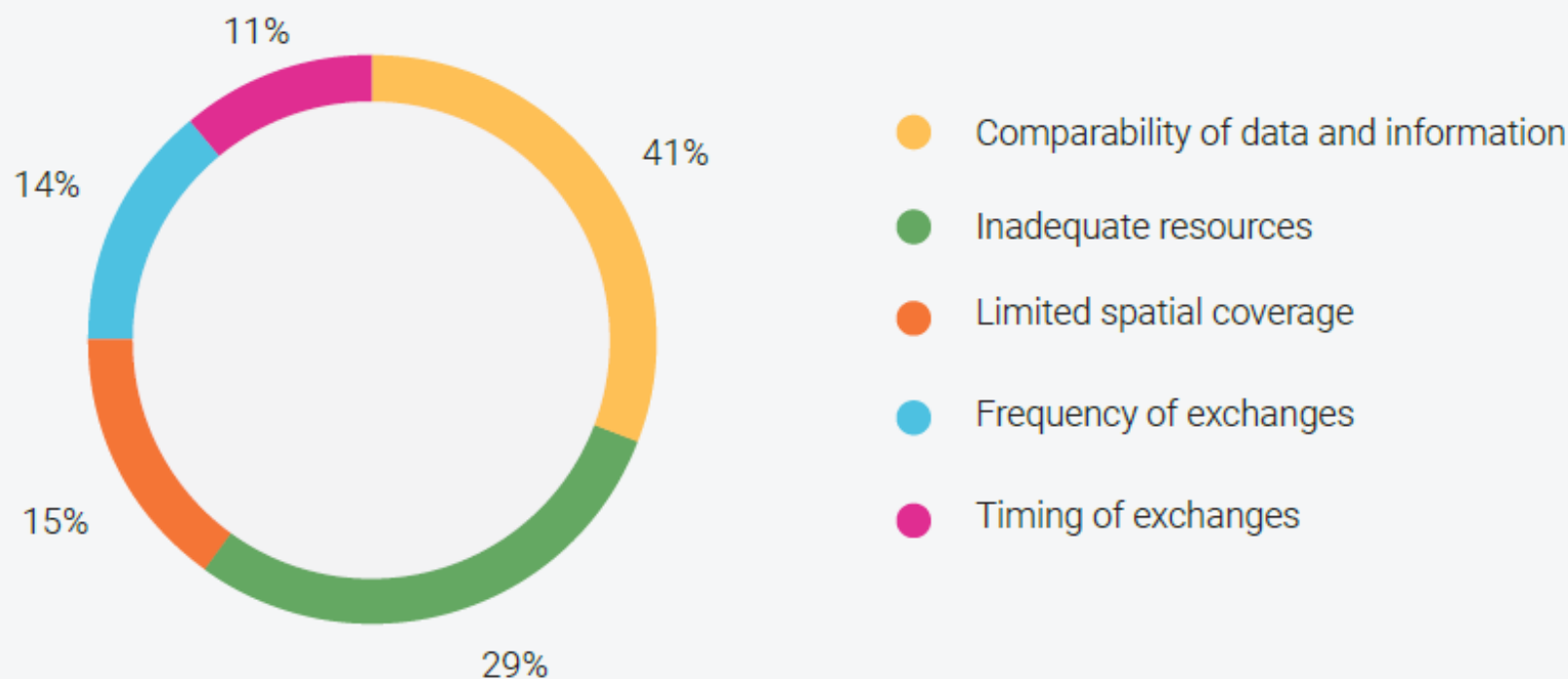




# Results of the 2nd reporting 2020/21 on data and information exchange between countries (2/4)



**Figure 24. SDG indicator 6.5.2 reporting template, section II, question 6(g) – What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange?**



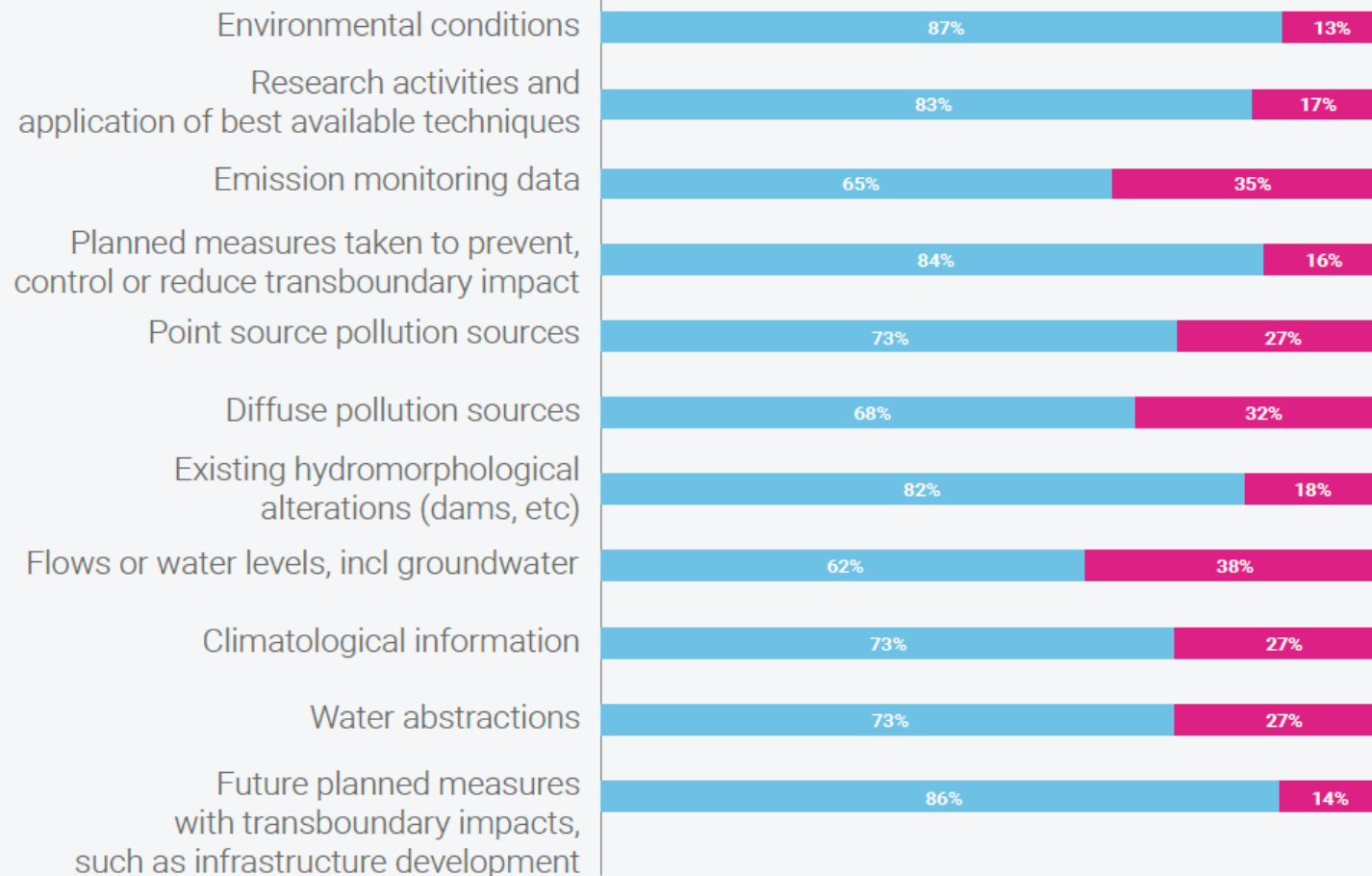
# Results of the 2nd reporting 2020/21 on data and information exchange between countries (3/4)



**Figure 23. SDG indicator 6.5.2 reporting template, section II, question 6(d) – [If countries exchange data and information,] on what subjects are information and data exchanged?**

## Less frequently covered topics:

- Pollution sources
- Emissions monitoring data
- Flows or water levels incl groundwater
- Climatological information
- Water abstractions

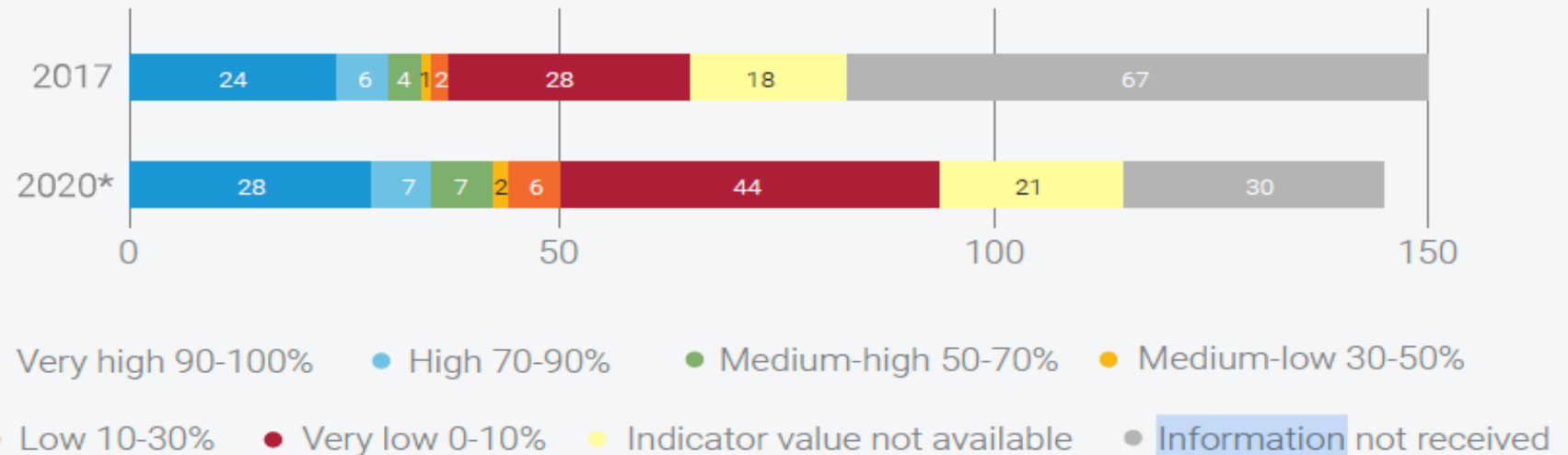


● Yes ● No

# Results of the 2nd reporting 2020/21 on data and information exchange between countries (4/4)



**Figure 10. Number of countries sharing transboundary aquifers and breakdown of SDG 6.5.2 indicator value (comparison between 2017 and 2020 data)<sup>21</sup>**



\*Includes 2017 data from 18 countries, where 2020 data are not available

Lower availability of information on transboundary aquifers

## SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework (2020)

- 5 accelerators: financing, *data and information*, capacity development, innovation and governance
- Importance of data and information exchange to build trust among decision makers



# Response rate in the third reporting round on indicator 6.5.12 (as of 17 October 2023)

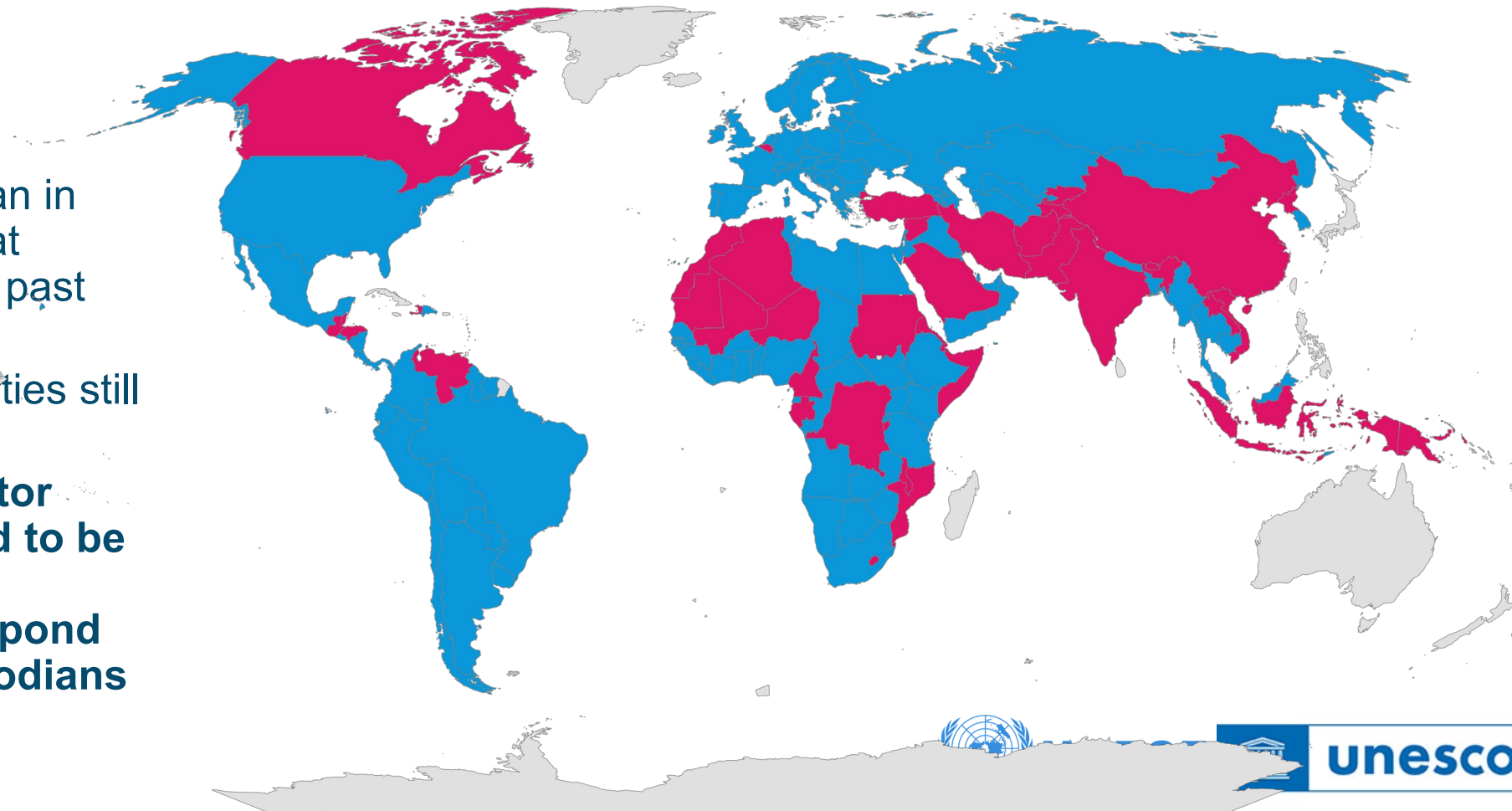


Deadline to submit national reports was **30 June 2023**, but reports still accepted until **1 November**

■ no response ■ response received

- **As of 17 October 2023:**

- ✓ **115** responses
- ✓ 5 first ever responses
- ✓ Lower response rate than in 2020) – 27 countries that submitted reports in the past did not report this time
- ✓ 2 Water Convention Parties still have not responded
- ✓ **Need to finalize indicator values => reports need to be 'validated' ASAP => countries urged to respond to feedback from custodians**



# Still waiting for submissions from the following countries:

(as of 17.10.2023)

Afghanistan (2017, 2020)

Algeria (2017, 2020)

Belgium (2017, 2020)

Belize (2020)

Bhutan

Brunei (2017, 2020)

Burundi (2017)

Cameroon (2017, 2020)

Canada (2017, 2020)

China (2020)

DPRK

DRC (2017, 2020)

Djibouti

Eritrea

Gabon (2017)

Guatemala (2020)

Haiti

Honduras (2017, 2020)

India

Indonesia (2020)

Iran

Kyrgyzstan (2020)

Lao PDR (2020)

Lesotho (2017)

Malawi (2020)

Mali (2017, 2020)

Mauritania

Morocco (2017, 2020)

Mozambique (2020)

Niger (2017, 2020)

Pakistan (2017)

Papua New Guinea

Saudi Arabia (2020)

Somalia (2017, 2020)

Sudan

Syria

Tajikistan

Türkiye

Venezuela (2017, 2020)

Vietnam (2017, 2020)



Reports still accepted until **1 November**

# 3<sup>rd</sup> round: Preliminary results (1/2)



- Process of reporting now well established in many countries
  - ✓ Less effort was required to prepare reports
- Quality of data improved
  - ✓ More precise information on surface areas
  - ✓ New information on smaller basins added
  - ✓ More information on groundwater and aquifers, better understanding of their relations with river basins
    - => small fluctuations of the indicator value - although not always due to new operational arrangements but rather improved data
- Some countries repeated previously reported information without effort to update/add new one – requests to update information
- Many countries have shared reports with neighbours but unclear whether any other coordination (dedicated meetings or joint bodies involvement) took place

# 3<sup>rd</sup> round: Preliminary results (2/2)



- New arrangements are concluded but not always immediately operational
  - Process leading to the adoption of an arrangement may take a long time - even longer than the reporting cycle
  - Criterion 1 (joint body): takes time to establish, missing in some new arrangements => impacts on operability
  - Criterion 2 (regular meetings): online meetings increasingly used
  - Criterion 3 (joint objectives): better understanding of this criterion among countries, more often requires updated information on new documents
  - Criterion 4 (regular information exchange): answers can be different among riparians sharing same basin.
- => Problems related to comparability of information, inadequate resources
- Gender: poorly reflected in transboundary cooperation

# Next steps and use of data



- Data collection and validation in 2023, and analysis in late 2023-early 2024
- February 2024 – submission to the UN Statistical Division
- Reported data to be used to prepare a new report on the *progress on transboundary cooperation worldwide* – draft to be finalized by April 2024, as well as a report on *progress among Convention parties*
- Submitted data to be eventually integrated in an online reporting system and portal
- Data to be showcased at the HLPF on Sustainable Development, UN Summit of the Future and similar high-level events.



**March 2023**

**June-December 2023**

**February 2024**

**August 2024**

Data requests sent to countries

Support to countries

Receive country data

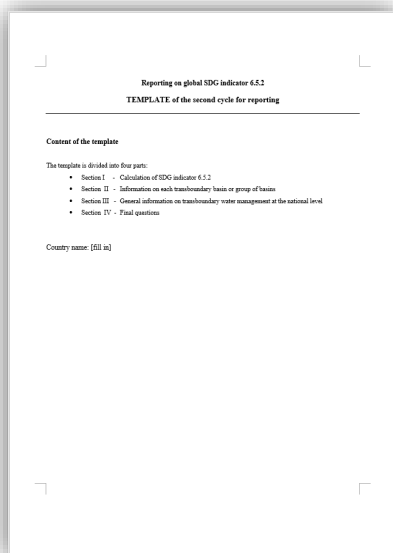
Data validation

Submission of data to the UNSD/ global reports

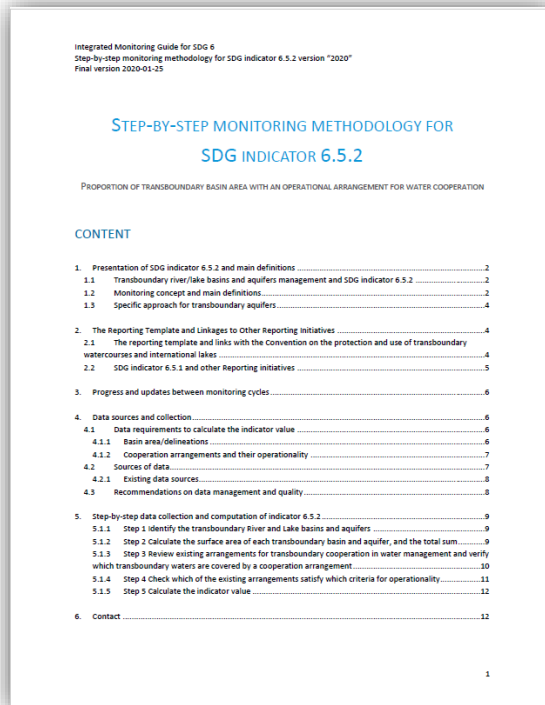
Data fed into UN SDG Summit, etc.



# Reminder: Guidance documents prepared by the co-custodians



Template for  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> reporting  
exercise



Step-by-step methodology  
for the calculation of the  
value of SDG indicator 6.5.2  
'2020 version'



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

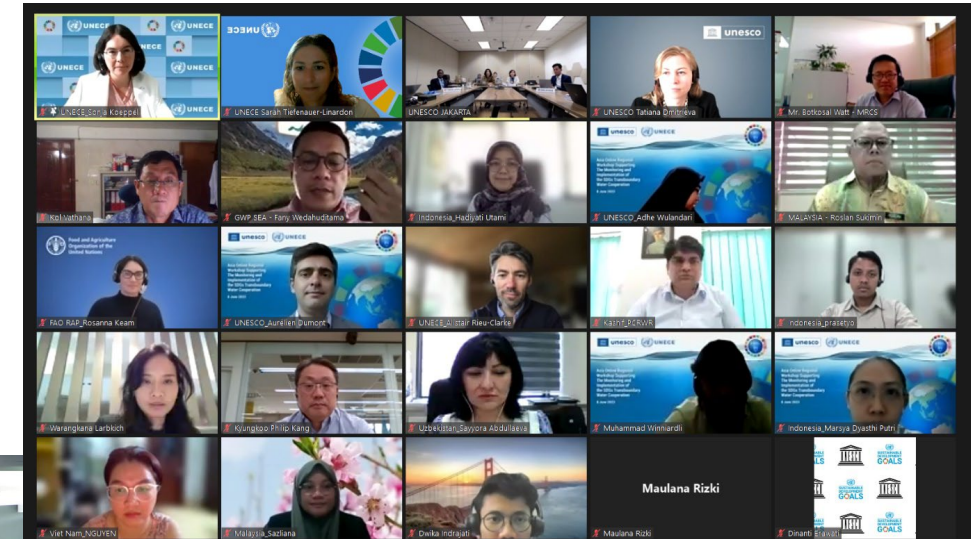


Coordination of replies  
checklist

# Reminder: Support available from co-custodians



- Provided inputs on SDG 6.5.2 to UN regional commissions in preparation for the UN 2023 Water Conference
- Participation and/or organization of **global** and **regional** events, workshops, webinars
- Support for the third data drive in 2023:
  - Overall SDG6 outreach
  - Global webinars
  - Latin American, Arab, Asia-Pacific, Southeast Asia regional webinars/ workshops, in cooperation with partners
  - Consultations with countries (over emails and calls)
  - Review of draft reports
  - Responses to countries' queries



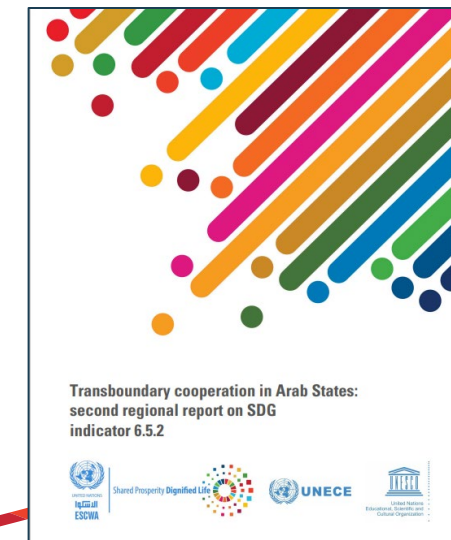
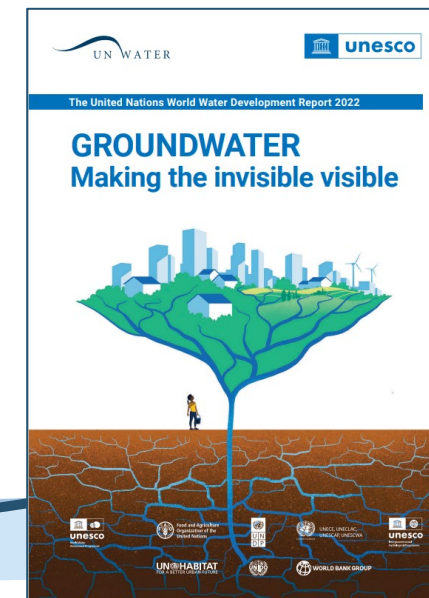
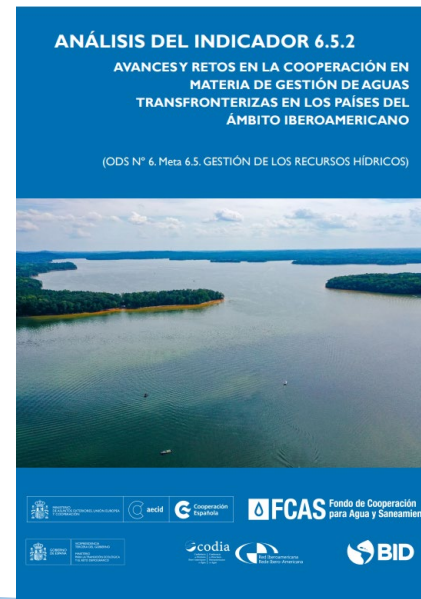


# Reminder on the importance of 6.5.2 reporting



SDG 6.5.2 data informs high-level political dialogue:

- Global reports, such as the UN SDGs Report, World Water Development Report, etc.
- UN 2023 Water Conference, HLPF on Sustainable Development, UN SDG Summit
- In regional reports, such as reports by UN ESCWA, CODIA



# Thank you!

## WEB



[https://unece.org/environmental-policy/water/transboundary\\_water\\_cooperation\\_reporting](https://unece.org/environmental-policy/water/transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting)

[https://en.unesco.org/themes/water-security/transboundary\\_water\\_cooperation\\_reporting](https://en.unesco.org/themes/water-security/transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting)



## EMAILS

[transboundary\\_water\\_cooperation\\_reporting@un.org](mailto:transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting@un.org);  
[transboundary\\_water\\_cooperation\\_reporting@unesco.org](mailto:transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting@unesco.org);



## RESOURCES

<https://unece.org/guidance-materials-and-information-countries>  
<https://sdg6data.org/en/indicator/6.5.2>

