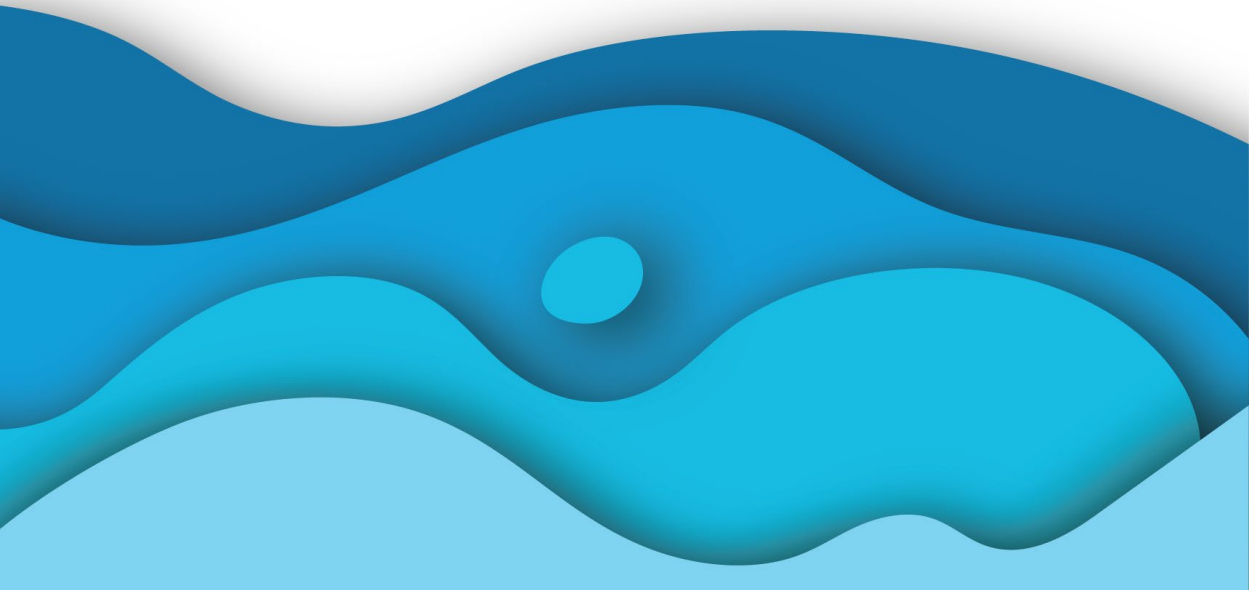




10th session
Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention
23-25 OCTOBER 2024 | LJUBLJANA | SLOVENIA



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
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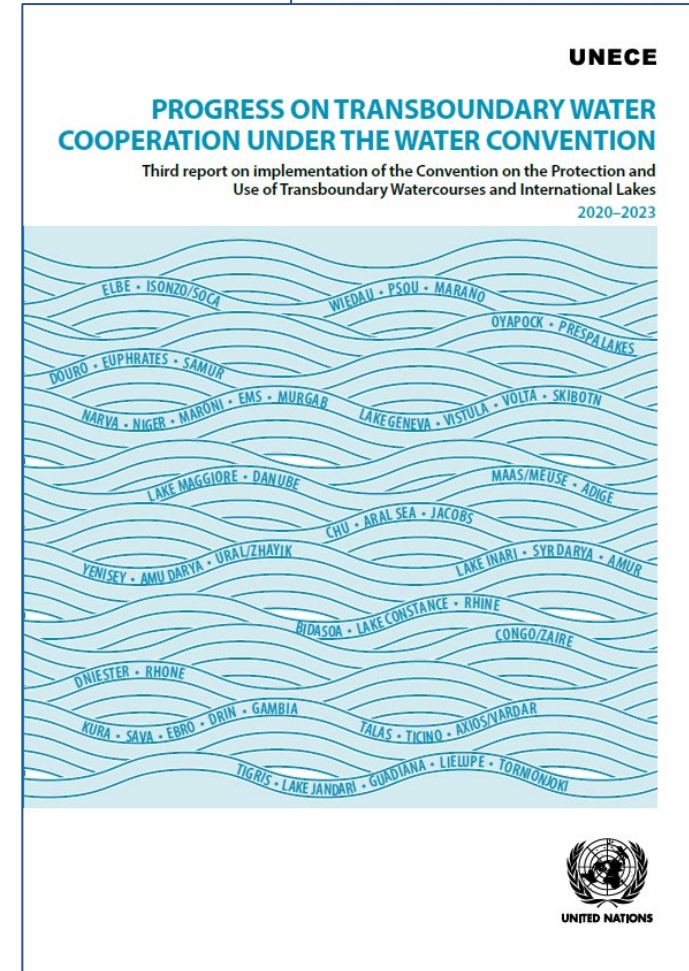
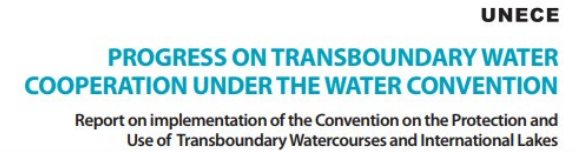
Third report on implementation of the Water Convention

Iulia Trombitcaia

Water Convention Secretariat, UNECE

Background

- Reporting under the Convention introduced in 2015
- Reporting exercises: 2017/18, 2020/21, 2023/24
- Secretariat requested to prepare a synthesis report based on national reports submitted
- Third report: focus on 2020-2023
- Covers Cameroon, Chad, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo



Third reporting exercise under the Water Convention (2023)



100%

of Parties submitted reports.

They reported on:



146
78

Basins and Sub-basins
in the UNECE region



11
7

Basins and Sub-basins
in Sub-Saharan Africa
and Western Asia



226

Transboundary
water agreements &
arrangements



101

Joint bodies for
transboundary
water cooperation

- Only 54% reports submitted on time
- Improved coordination through joint bodies
- Very poor involvement of non-state actors in reporting

Key findings: agreements & arrangements (Art.9(1))



Transboundary water agreements under the Water Convention (2023)

140

Transboundary water agreements / arrangements inspired by the Convention since 1992.

1992

2023



13
4

New arrangements concluded in 2020-2023.

Arrangements entered into force in 2020-2023.



12
17

River and lake basins and **river and lake sub-basins** are not covered by any agreement in 2023.

Note: Agreements / arrangements refer to those where at least one participating country is a Party to the Water Convention.

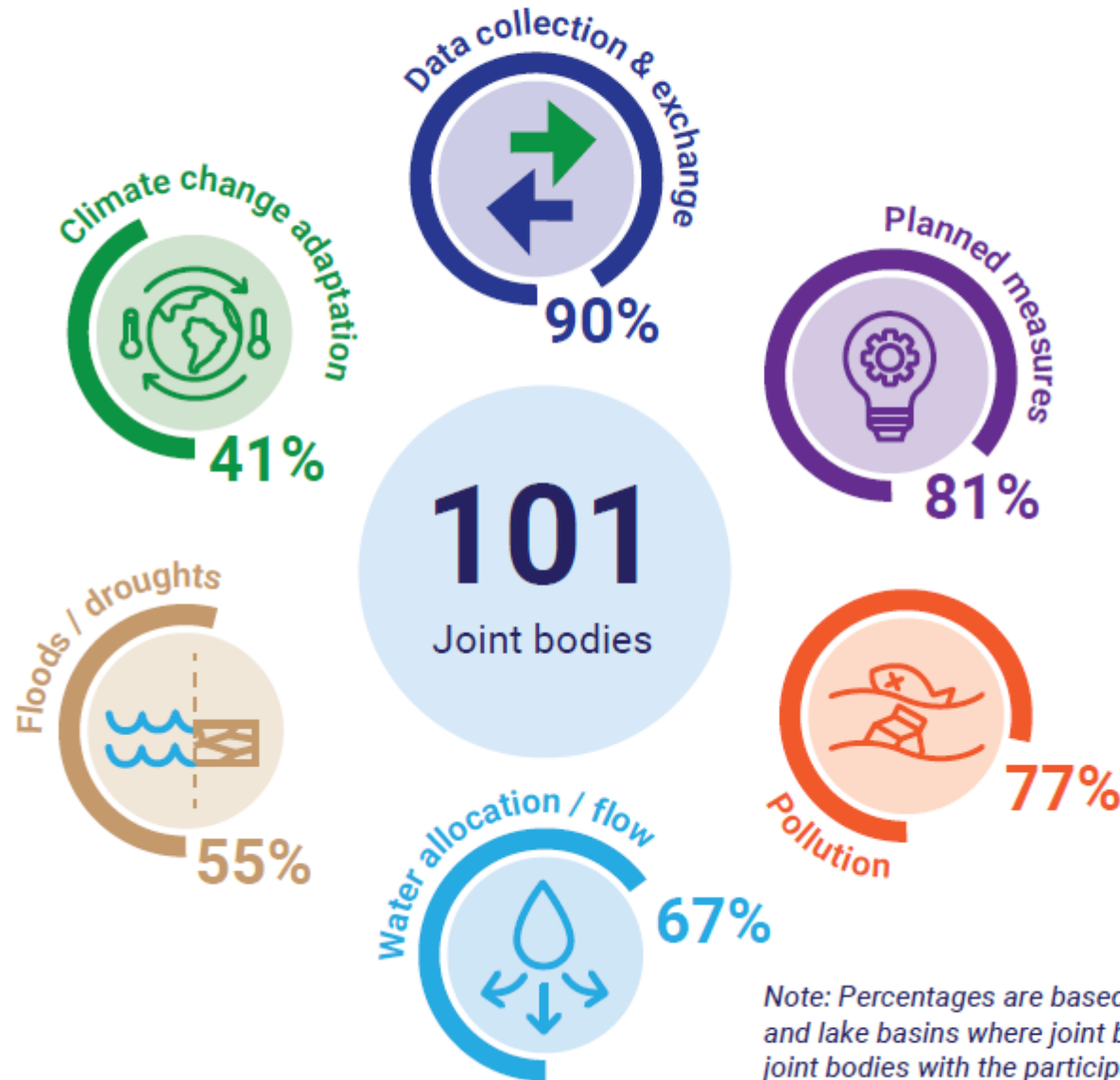


Key findings: transboundary groundwater (Art.1(1),3(1))

- Little coordination of replies on aquifers
- Low involvement of national geological surveys in preparation of reports
- Out of 406 transboundary aquifers and groundwater bodies reported by the Parties, 85 are not covered by any agreement or arrangement, either wholly or in part.
- Transboundary aquifers covered mostly by arrangements related to both surface waters and groundwaters
- Six aquifer- or groundwater-specific agreements reported by the Parties

Tasks and activities of joint bodies for transboundary water cooperation under the Water Convention (2023)

Key findings: joint bodies (Art.9(2))



Note: Percentages are based on consolidated basin-level responses and indicate the share of river and lake basins where joint bodies are vested with certain tasks/activities. Number 101 includes joint bodies with the participation of at least one Party.





Key findings: procedural obligations (Arts. 11,13,15)

- Joint strategies and plans widely adopted
- Since 2020, joint monitoring established in basins shared with non-Parties: Chu, Talas, Gambia, Maroni, Oiapoque and a group of Turkmenistan-Iran river basins
- 68 (or 45%) river and lake basins still lack joint monitoring
- There are at least 34 river and lake basins where riparian countries appear not to exchange data and information at the basin level
- Procedures for mutual assistance in critical situations are not in place in at least 103 (or 67%) river and lake basins



Gender in transboundary cooperation of Parties to the Water Convention (2023)



Only:



14%

of responses confirm the exchange of sex-disaggregated data.



11%

of river and lake basins include gender-related aspects of water management in the tasks & activities of joint bodies.



40%

of national reports were signed by women in 2023



Good practice examples:

Volta Water Charter requires gender-balanced representation in joint bodies.

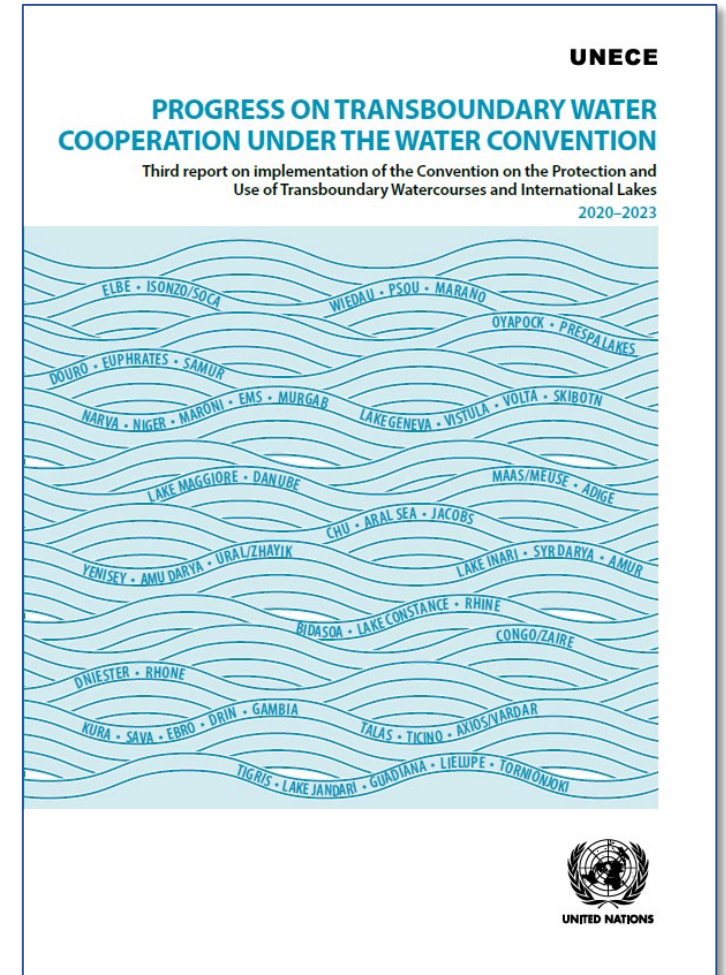


Lake Chad Water Charter has a special focus on the needs of women and youth.

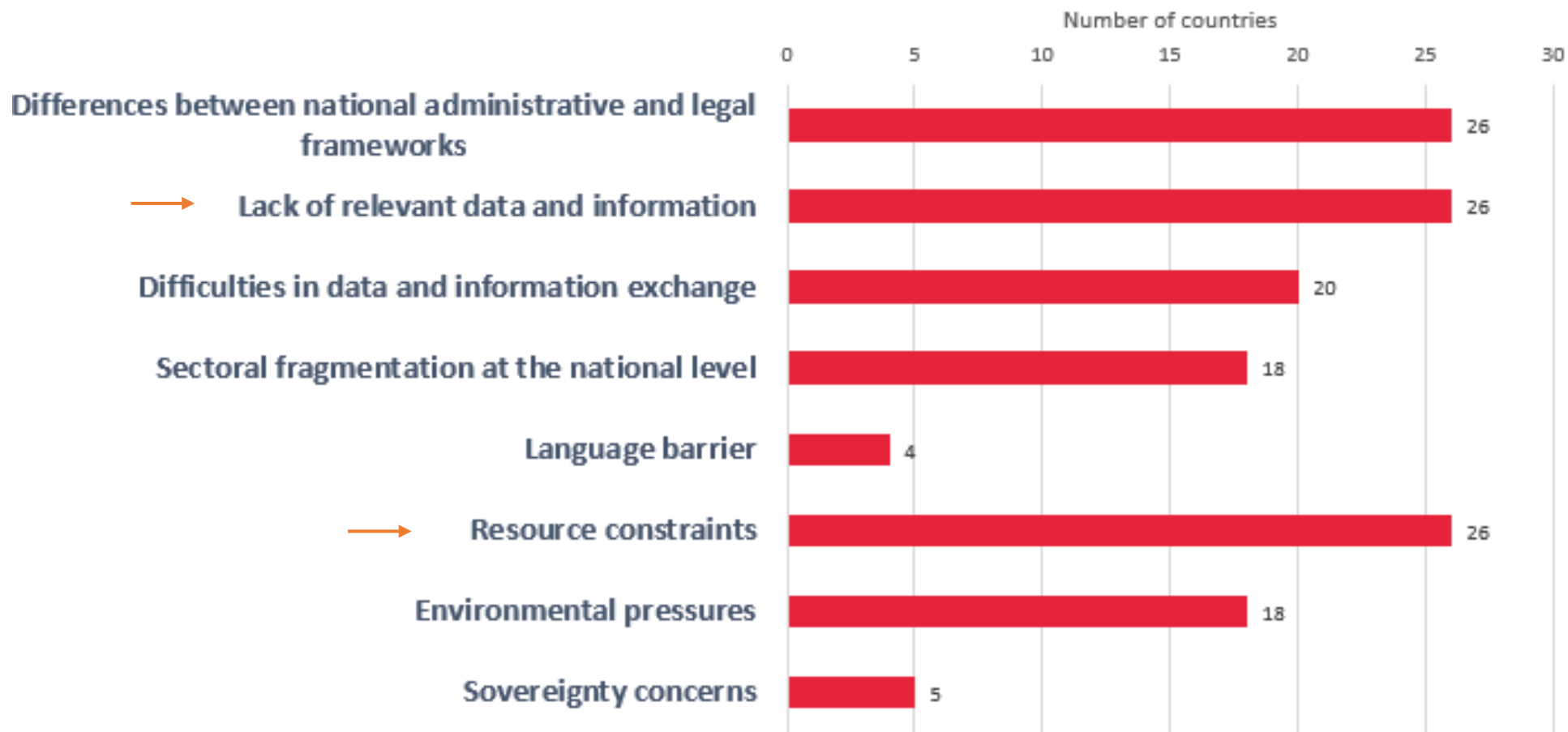


A wealth of experience to learn from!

- ✓ Examples: *How does the Water Convention support achievement of the SDGs? (table 5)*
- ✓ 28 boxes: insights from practice
- ✓ A dedicated chapter with four basin analysis:
 - Rhine
 - Dniester
 - Syr Darya
 - Senegal-Mauritanian Aquifer Basin



Key findings – main challenges



- Some recent Parties face specific challenges in adopting national systems for the licensing, control and monitoring of point and diffuse pollution



Conclusions

- The report shows many positive achievements 2020-2023 and overall high level of implementation of the Convention
- Of 26 countries globally that have all basins covered by “operational arrangements”, 22 are Parties to the Water Convention
- Average value of SDG indicator 6.5.2 for Parties: 81% (global average 59%)
- 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

Thank you!



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Third report on implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, 2020–2023

<https://unece.org/environment/documents/2024/09/third-report-implementation-convention-protection-and-use>



WATER
CONVENTION

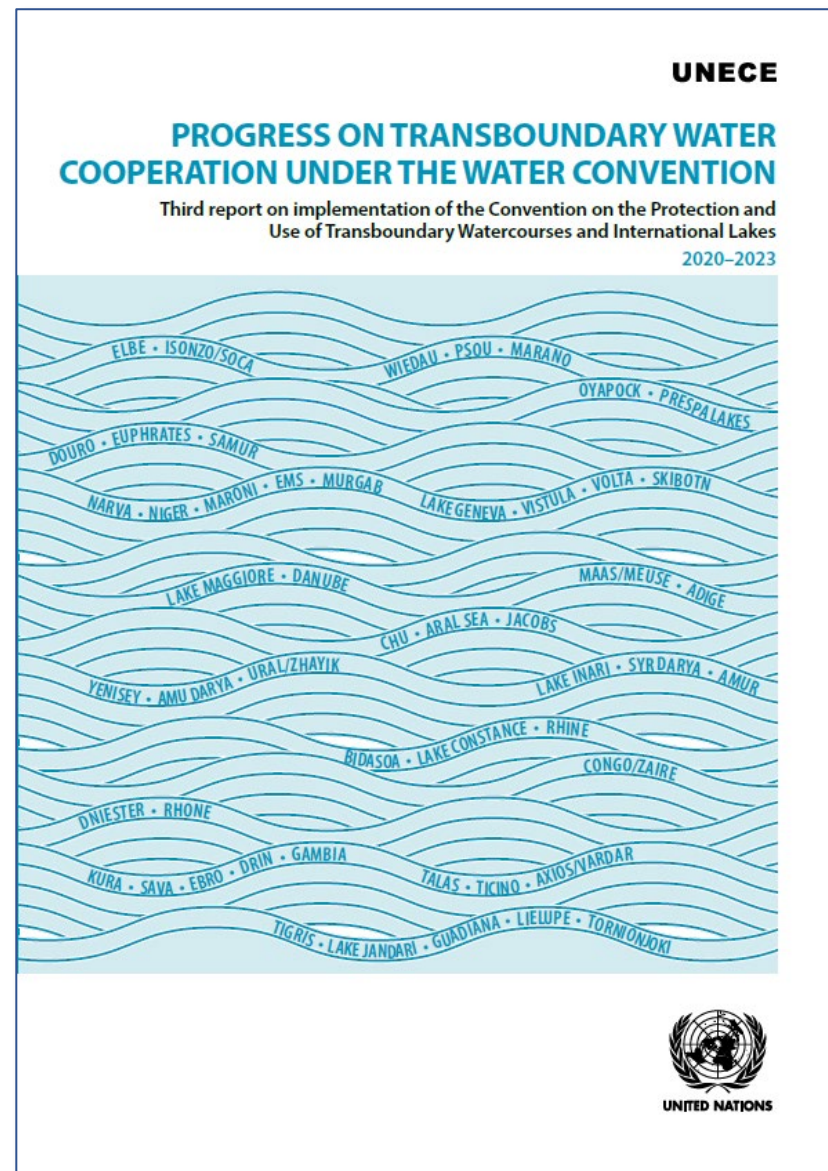


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