

An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of  
Education and Research

**GRoW**

WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE



# Introduction to the funding measure **GRoW – Water as a global resource**

Berlin, 20-21 October 2020

**Prof. Dr. Stefan Uhlenbrook, IWMI, Chair of the GRoW-Steering Committee**

Dr. Leif Wolf, Project Management Agency Karlsruhe on behalf of BMBF

Annika Kramer, adelphi, GRoWnet

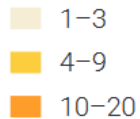
# Challenge ONE: Climate change is impacting water availability

An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of  
Education and Research

**GRoW**  
WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE

## Spatial distribution of droughts, 2001-2018

### Number of droughts

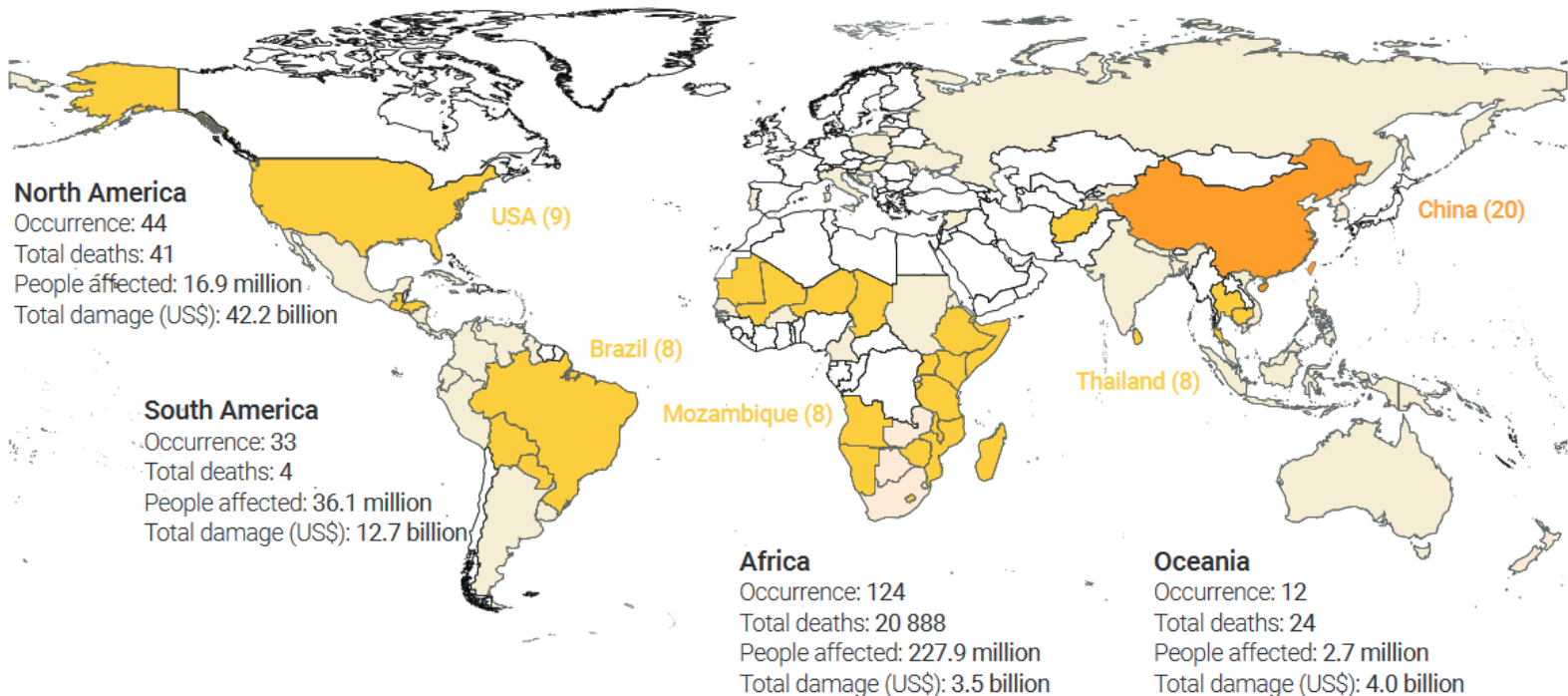


### Europe

Occurrence: 16  
Total deaths: 0  
People affected: 1.3 million  
Total damage (US\$): 10.3 billion

### Asia

Occurrence: 64  
Total deaths: 145  
People affected: 1.0 billion  
Total damage (US\$): 34.5 billion



Source: UNESCO WWAP, 2020

GEFÖRDERT VOM

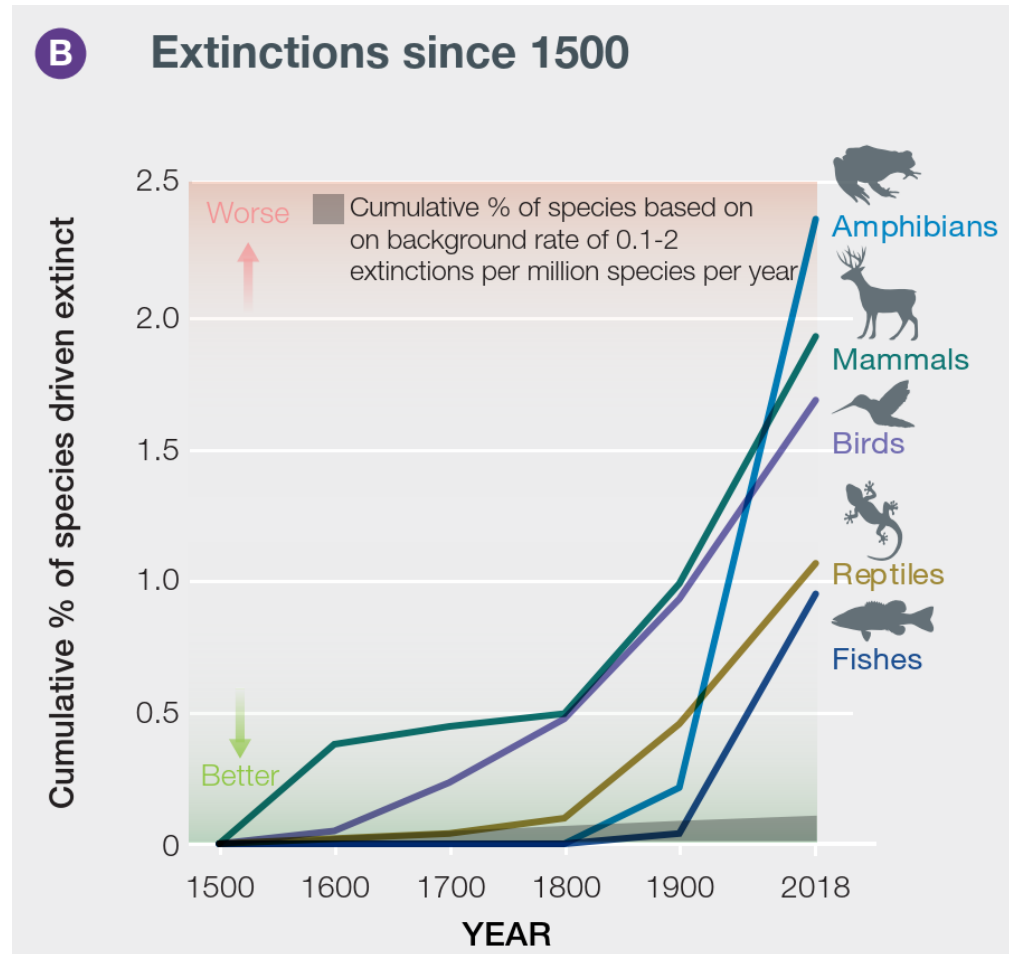
# Challenge TWO: Biodiversity is declining with unprecedented speed

An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research

**GRoW**  
WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE

...and with them ecosystem functions that are critical for water systems (and *vice versa*!)

- More species are threatened with extinction now than at any other time in human history
- **Freshwater populations globally declined by 84% on average.**
- **1 in 3 freshwater species are threatened with extinction**



Source: IPBES, 2019

# Challenge **THREE**: We are not on track with the SDG targets related to WASH

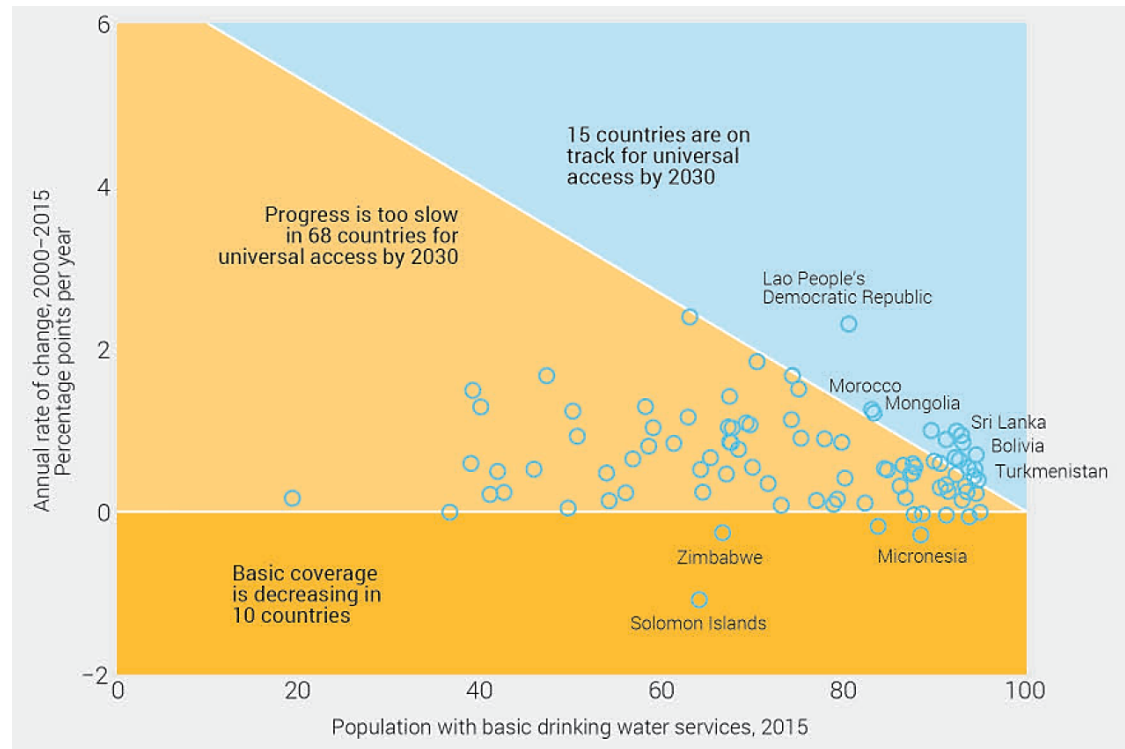
An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of  
Education and Research

**GRoW**  
WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE

Global population using at least a basic drinking water service increased from 81% to 89%, between 2000-2015

But...

**only 1 in 5 countries** with less than 95% coverage of basic service is **on track** to achieve universal basic water services by 2030.



**Progress towards universal basic drinking water services (2000–2015) among countries where at least 5 per cent of the population did not have basic services in 2015**

Source: UN SDG 6 Synthesis Report (2018)

GEFÖRDERT VOM

# Funding Measure GRoW

## „Water as a Global Resource“

An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of  
Education and Research

**GRoW**  
WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE

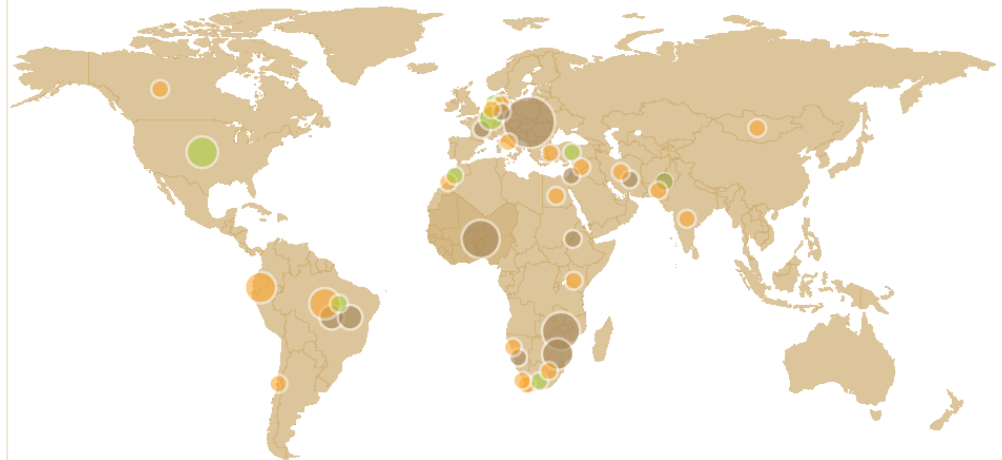
### Goals

- ✓ Providing **tools to support implementing SDG 6**
- ✓ Combining **global perspectives with local solutions**
- ✓ Ensuring **transferability** of results and concepts

### Topics

- ❖ Water governance
- ❖ Global water resources
- ❖ Global water demand

**12** cooperation projects; 29 Mio €;  
**90** German partner institutions  
**88** associated international partners  
**40** case studies



GEFÖRDEBT VOM



# Combining global perspectives with local solutions

An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of  
Education and Research

# GRoW

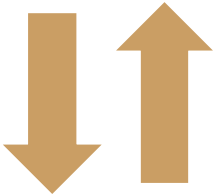
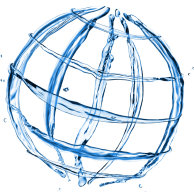
WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE

## Methods

## Applications

## Actors

### GLOBAL



### LOCAL

Climate models  
Hydrological Models  
Remote Sensing  
Water Trade Analysis

SDG-Progress  
monitoring  
Dissemination of  
best practices

United Nations  
International Organisations  
National governments  
Global players

# GRoW

Quality and quantity  
monitoring  
Water technology  
Impact assessment  
and water footprint

Reservoir operation  
Precision irrigation  
Improved production  
Water Stewardship  
Regulations

Water utilities  
Municipalities  
Enterprises / Farms  
Customers

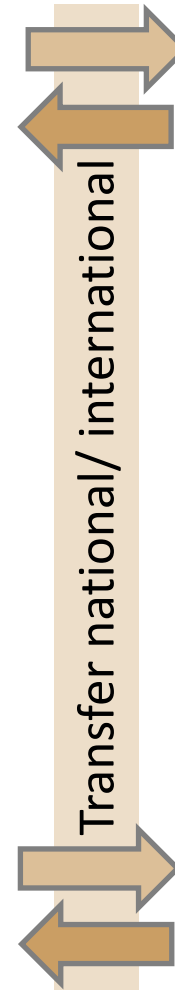
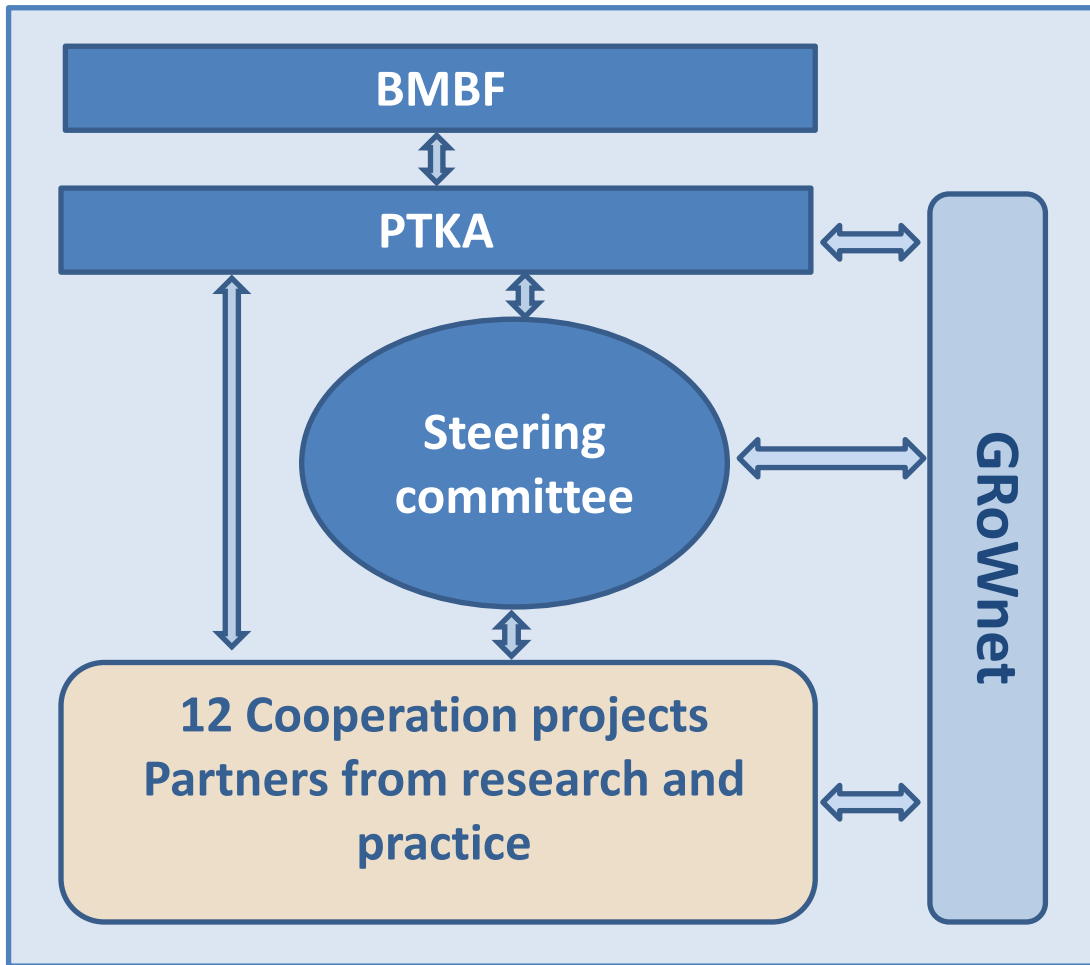
GEFÖRDERT VOM

# GRow designed to bridge the science-policy-practice gap

An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of  
Education and Research

# GRow

WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE



**Practice**

**Policy**

**Science &  
Education**

**Public**

GEFÖRDERT VOM

# GRownet – Facilitating synthesis of overarching insights and recommendations

An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research

# GRow

WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE

Ein Initiative des Bundesministeriums  
für Bildung und Forschung  
**GRow**  
GLOBAL RESOURCE WATER



Fördermaßnahme Globale Ressource Wasser:  
**Highlights, Erkenntnisse und Empfehlungen aus  
den 12 GRow-Verbundprojekten**

ocument –

urce

HLPF

National  
ministries

Develop-  
ment  
cooperation

SDG6  
indicator  
custodians

12 Projects,  
a critical  
mass of  
more than  
300 experts  
from  
research and  
practice

## Seven Sins against Local Water Management

- I. Poor Incentives for Water Service Performance
- II. Insufficient Cost Transparency
- III. Neglected Demand Management
- IV. Consultants Instead of Water Service Providers
- V. Weak Local Water Business Development
- VI. No Impact of Investment Finance on O&M
- VII. Political Influence on Executive Operations

GLOBAL RESOURCE  
arding water  
es in a globalized  
world. A science-based call  
for action

Initiated by the research programme "GRow – Water  
as a Global Resource", funded by the German Ministry  
for Education and Research (BMBF)

cal importance to mankind and  
em is in crisis with increasing  
mand for more food and energy

**GRow**  
WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE

**New approaches towards assessing  
trade-offs and synergies between  
SDG 6 and other SDGs**

Working Group within GRow cross-cutting topic „UN-Sustainable Development Goals“



# Stay tuned!

An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of  
Education and Research

# GROW

WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE

[www.bmbf-grow.de/en](http://www.bmbf-grow.de/en)

Project  
presentations

Publications

Policy briefs and  
recommendations

Project news and  
results

Synthesis reports

The screenshot shows the GROW website homepage. At the top, it features the GROW logo and a banner image of a person working in a terraced rice field. Below the banner, there's a navigation bar with social media icons. The main content area is titled 'The BMBF funding measure GROW' and is divided into several sections: 'Global water resources', 'Global water demand', and 'Good governance in the water sector'. Each section contains icons and links to related topics. For example, 'Global water resources' includes 'Digital solutions', 'Remote sensing', and 'Global models'. 'Global water demand' includes 'Groundwater', 'Agriculture and climate', and 'Reservoir management'. 'Good governance in the water sector' includes 'Water footprint' and 'Water quality'. On the right side, there's a 'News' section with a list of recent updates, including 'NEW! Join the GROW Virtual Marketplace on 15 - 23 October 2020' and 'Teaser for MedWater'. At the bottom, there's a 'Registration' button.

Home

News

GRoW news

GRoW in the media

Other water news

About GRoW

GRoW cross-cutting topics

GRoWNet

Joint research projects

Events

GRoW final conference

GRoW events

Research projects' events

External events

Recommendations

Publications

GRoW internal

The BMBF funding measure GRoW

Global water resources

Global water demand

Good governance in the water sector

Digital solutions

Remote sensing

Global models

Governance

Groundwater

Agriculture and climate

Reservoir management

Water footprint

Water quality

Population growth, climate change and drinking water shortages make sustainable use of water resources worldwide one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century. As a contribution to solving the emerging conflicts surrounding the "blue gold", the BMBF has launched the funding measure "Global Resource Water (GRoW)" on the basis of the Agenda 2030.

News

09/08/2020 | NEW! Join the GRoW Virtual Marketplace on 15 - 23 October 2020 and the GRoW Final Conference on 20 & 21 October 2020

05/10/2020 | Teaser for MedWater

15/09/2020 | Accelerating progress towards achieving SDG 6: UN-Water Vice-Chair Dr Olcay Ünver reflects on pressing challenges and opportunities in water management

MEHR →

Registration

An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of  
Education and Research

# GRoW

WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE



# Thank you and enjoy the conference!

GEFÖRDERT VOM



Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung