

United Nations

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization The Importance of Assessing SDG 6 Interlinkages to Inform Policy Making

Findings and Recommendations from a Policy Analysis 2019



Atacama Desert South America

Water is key to advancing human rights, reducing poverty and inequality, and enabling peace, justice and sustainability

- 1) Three Regional Evaluations:
- Africa
- Arab states
- Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC)
- 2) Analysis of Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) 2019

Stefan Uhlenbrook, Natalia Uribe Pando and Marilu Corona

UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) Perugia, Italy



HLPF Review Cycle



2019

Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality





UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

SDG 6 Syntheis Report (UN, 2018)

HIGHLIGHTS

The Sustainable Development Goal 6 Synthesis Report 2018 on Water and Sanitation reviews the global progress made towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It builds on the latest data available for the 11 SDG 6 global indicators and will inform the High-level Political Forum for Sustainable Development during its in-depth review of SDG 6 in July 2018. The report represents a joint position from the United Nations family.

The world is not on track

• Billions of people still lack safe water, sanitation and handwashing facilities: 844 million lack basic water sercould be part of a water-saving solution: The agriculture



Spanish



port 2018 on nd Sanitation

'ER Ation

Force and

CEO Water Mandate, FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNECE, UNEP, UNESCO (WWAP, coordinator), UN-HABITAT, UNICEF, UNU, UN-Water TAU, WHO, WMO and World Bank



UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

Achieving SDG 6 is essential for progress on all

other SDGs,

and

vice versa!

Feedback:

Disaggregate!

Equitable sharing of water and the benefits it creates is a powerful tool for cooperation. Some 28% of global forest ecosystems, covering 4,800 million km², purify and supply 60-80% of the freshwater needs of more than half of the world's population, including 1.7 billion people living in a third of the world's largest cities.

Around the world, 400 so-called "dead zones" in coastal waters exist, where excess nutrients lead to areas of low to no oxygen that can kill fish and other marine life.

> About one-third of produced food is lost or wasted, commodities with a significant water footprint.

By 2030, building sustainable cities and communities will require US\$7.5 trillion investment in water infrastructure to meet existing deficiencies and cope with future demand.

> In 2015, 159 million people (mainly women and girls) still collected drinking water from distant surface water sources and 892 million people still defecate in the open, with the majority residing in rural communities.

Water is fundamental to industry, and both quality and quantity matter. In 2017, 81% of companies surveyed consider sufficient amounts of good quality freshwater to be 'important' or 'vital' for their operations.

10 REDUCED

(=

286 transboundary rivers and lakes, and 592 transboundary aquifers are shared

by 153 countries; water stress in many

17 FOR THE GOALS

88

GOALS

region is increasing.

6 PEACE JUSTICE

15 UTE ON LAND

14 LIFE BELOW

13 ACTION

12 RESPONSE CONSUMP

00

Globally, 1.4 billion livelihoods are directly water-dependent. This includes jobs in the food and beverage industry, energy as well as in the water industry. In many

844 million people still lacked even

3 GOOD HEALTH

-m/>

4 QUALITY

5 GENDER EQUALITY

Ø

6 GLEAN WATER AND SANETATION

0

basic drinking water services that

exacerbate poverty.

1 NO POVERTY

A.44.1

8 DECENT WORK

 sufficient amounts of good
 developing countries, millions of

 quality freshwater to be
 small-holder farmers rely on water

 'important' or 'vital' for
 for irrigation and livestock farming

 their operations.
 for their livelihoods.

Globally, 70% of all water withdrawals are used for agriculture; more than / 80% in Africa and Asia.

> In low- and middle-income countries, 20% of healthcare facilities lack basic sanitation and 33% lack access to safe drinking-water, as well as water and soap for handwashing.

In 2013, although 71% of the world's primary schools had adequate access to water supplies and 69% had adequate sanitation, in the 49 LDCs the figures were only 52% and 51%, respectively.

Across 61 countries, women and girls are responsible for water collection in 8 out of 10 households, preventing women and girls to engaging in other activities (e.g., attending school).

Estimates suggest that if the natural environment continues to be degraded and unsustainable pressures put on global water resources, by 2050 this will put at risk 45 per cent of the global gross domestic product (GDP), 52 per cent of the world's population and 40 per cent of global grain production.

In 2014, about 10% of all water withdrawals were used for energy generation that requires water to cool thermal power plants, grow biofuels, extract primary fossil fuels and provide hydropower.

(UN, 2018)



UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

Science's role in supporting SDGs

- Science has an **important role** to play
- Need for a strong science-policy interface to support sound reviewing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs (-> effective policies)
- Science can contribute to, for instance:
 - better understanding of interlinkages
 - understanding factors that affect coordination and cooperation across different sectors
 - assessments of data and methods for implementation and measuring progress on SDG 6
 - > perform future predictions and changes

(source: adelphi, adapted)





United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Ensuring inclusive access to education & improving educational outcomes through WASH

SDG 4 & 6

In 2016, only 69%, 66%, and 53% of the world's schools had basic drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene services, respectively.

Global coverage of safe drinking water services in schools in 2016 (Source: WHO and UNICEF, 2017)

Access to adequate WASH and Menstrual Hygiene Management infrastructure reduces absenteeism of both educators and students, reduces the transmission of diseases, and favors inclusion and dignity, improving enrollment and educational outcomes.



UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

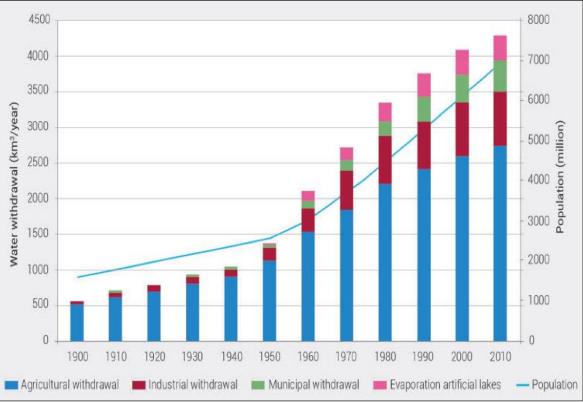


United Nations

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Sustaining inclusive and productive economic growth and employment through water

SDG 6 & 8

- 3 out of 4 jobs are water-dependent (WWDR 2016)
- Agriculture globally 30% workforce and 69% annual withdrawals
- WASH is critical for full and productive employment
- Significant GDP gains with universal access to WASH: 23% in DRC to 12 % in Madagascar.



(Source: UN-Water SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018)



UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

VNRs submitted by 47 countries at 2019 HLPF:

- 1. Highlight the potential of water for both fostering and hindering sustainable development.
- 2. Recognize the importance of water for achieving SDGs under review to diverse degrees
- 3. Dedicated attention in the VNR:
- 74% include a specific section on SDG 6
- > 40% mention water in their main messages (= one-pager)



VNRs highlight the potential of water for both fostering and hindering sustainable development.

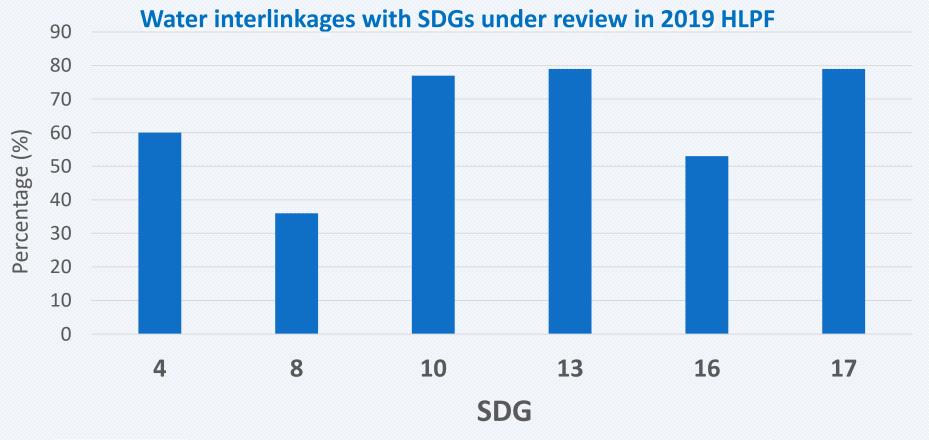


Water is referenced as a **problem for sustainable** development in <u>89%</u> of VNRs, and as a solution in <u>77%</u> of the 2019 VNRs.



UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

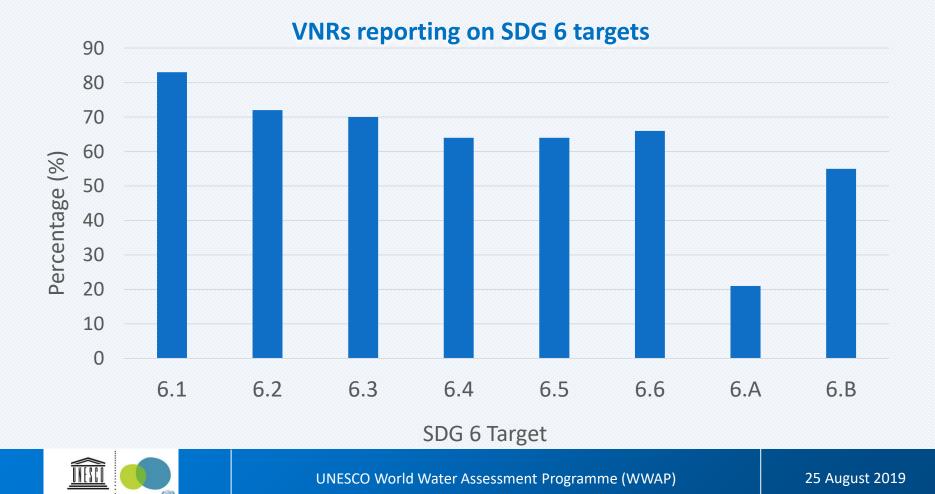
VNRs recognize the importance of water for achieving SDGs under review to diverse degrees



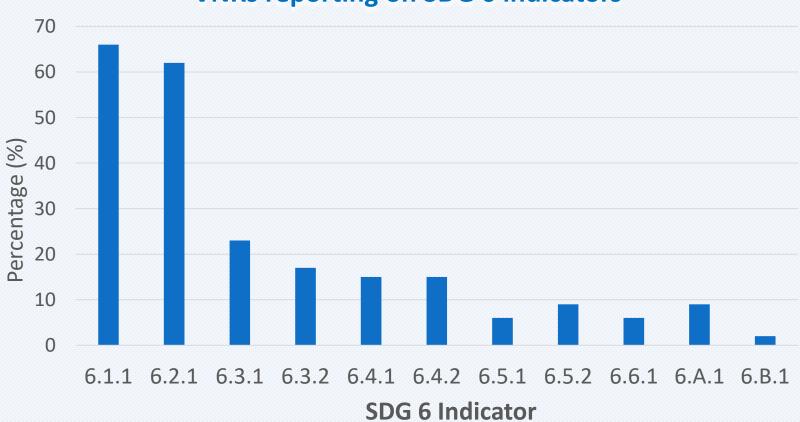


UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

74% of VNRs include a specific section on SDG 6 & significantly report on SDG <u>targets</u>



Low reporting on SDG 6 <u>indicators</u> does not match progress under global monitoring initiatives



VNRs reporting on SDG 6 indicators



UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)





UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

Science-policy transfer in GRoW GR

- Research projects jointly prepare syntheses and policy recommendations to support evidence-based decision making towards achieving multiple SDGs, e.g. on
 - Procedures to assess and address SDG interlinkages
 - Data and monitoring issues
 - Water Footprint as a tool to spport SDGs
- Targeted dissemination of position papers and policy briefs
 - To international organisations, SDG indicator custodians
 - To national ministries and development organisations
 - At the UN High-Level Political Forum on SD in New York
 - At other relevant events such as this Stockholm WWW!



An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of

WATER AS A GLOBAL RESOURCE

Education and Research

(source: adelphi)





UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)