



WATER FOR LIFE
2005-2015

REPORT ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS
DURING THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION
WATER FOR LIFE
2005-2015

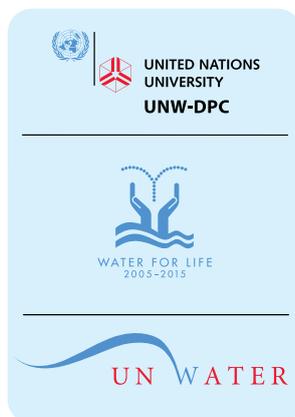
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FOREWORD

BY MICHEL JARRAUD
UN-WATER CHAIR (SINCE 2012)

In my capacity as Chair of UN-Water, it is my pleasure to present to you UN-Water's Report on the Achievements during the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015. The Decade was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 2003 with the primary goal to promote efforts to fulfil international commitments made on water and water-related issues by 2015. UN-Water, the United Nations inter-agency mechanism on all freshwater-related issues including sanitation, was tasked with coordinating activities for implementing the Decade. Prepared on the occasion of the end of the Decade, the following report provides an overview of the milestones and major activities implemented during this period, discusses remaining gaps and the need for further action.

In recognition of the great water challenges the world faces today and the urgent need to address them, the Decade was explicitly conceived to be a "Decade for Action". Looking back at the achievements made during the past ten years, I can proudly say that this has truly been the case. During the Decade, a number of significant milestones were reached. One of the most prominent was the declaration, in 2010, that the MDG target of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water had been declared met - five years ahead of schedule. This is an achievement which can give reason for optimism and pride. The sanitation sector has also made significant progress but still lags behind its target, especially in Southern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. Another major milestone of the Decade was the declaration of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation by the United Nations General

Assembly, which explicitly recognized that access to safe drinking water and sanitation is essential to the full enjoyment of life and all human rights.

As we close the Decade and celebrate its achievements, this report will demonstrate that much has already been achieved throughout the past ten years. Much still remains to be done, however, in order to secure access to safe drinking water and sanitation for all. Let us build on the accomplishments of the past decade and allow it to provide a strong basis for future action. Applying the lessons learned, we can and must use the years to come as a chance for joint action. Within our mandate, UN-Water will continue to provide a mechanism for coordination within the UN system to support Member States foster access to drinking water and sanitation for all as well as manage the whole water cycle.

At this point, I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude to the donors which funded UN-Water's two Decade Programmes, as well as their hosts: the German Government, which funded the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development in Bonn, Germany, hosted by the United Nations University; and the Spanish Government, which funded the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication in Zaragoza, Spain, hosted by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. I am also grateful to all others which made the work of UN-Water possible during the Decade and contributed to its success, including the donors that contributed to UN-Water's Inter-Agency Trust Fund and the dedicated work of UN-Water's Members and Partners, without whom the work of UN-Water would not be possible.



PREFACE

Coming to the end of an eventful International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, it is now time to look back and summarize the achievements made throughout the Decade. For this purpose, the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development was requested by UN-Water to develop this report, focusing on major unique added value initiatives carried out during the Decade by all entities of UN-Water.

It is now my pleasure to present this Decade Report, which provides the reader with some background on the "Water for Life" Decade and some information on UN-Water, the United Nations inter-agency mechanism on all freshwater-related issues, including sanitation, which was tasked with coordinating the activities of the United Nations for implementing the Decade. It also highlights the two UN-Water Decade Programmes, which were established to support UN-Water with implementing the Decade: the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC), located in Zaragoza, Spain, hosted by UNDESA and supported by the Spanish Government, and the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC), located in Bonn, Germany, hosted by the

United Nations University and supported by the German Government. The report presents the major achievements made during the "Water for Life" Decade and is structured according to the goals set out for the Decade: Achieving internationally agreed water-related goals; a greater focus on water-related issues at all levels; the implementation of water-related programmes and projects; striving to ensure the participation and involvement of women in water-related development efforts; and the furtherance of cooperation at all levels. While this report already presents a wealth of activities carried out and achievements made throughout the Decade, it is worth mentioning that UN-Water Members, Partners and Programmes engaged in many more activities - too many to mention all of them individually, but all of them contributing to making the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", a success.

I wish you an enjoyable read and would like to express my gratitude to all UN-Water Members, Partners and Programmes who contributed to this report, as well as to all donors and Member States who contributed and participated in activities throughout the Decade.

REZA ARDAKIANIAN
FOUNDING DIRECTOR/OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
UN-WATER DECADE PROGRAMME ON CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT (UNW-DPC)

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ACRONYMS

AfDB:	African Development Bank
The "Decade":	The International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015
FAO:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GLAAS:	Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water
GWOPA:	Global Water Operators' Partnership Alliance (UN-Habitat)
GWP:	Global Water Partnership
IPM:	Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development
IWRM:	Integrated Water Resources Management
JMP:	The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation
KWIP:	UN-Water Key Water Indicator Portal Project
MDGs:	Millennium Development Goals
SDGs:	Sustainable Development Goals
UNDCWS:	UN Documentation Centre on Water and Sanitation
UNDESA:	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNEP:	United Nations Environment Programme
UNICEF:	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSGAB:	UN Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation
UNU:	United Nations University
UNW-AIS:	The UN-Water Activity Information System
UNW-DPAC:	The UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication
UNW-DPC:	The UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development
WWAP:	The World Water Assessment Programme
WASH:	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO:	World Health Organization
WMO:	World Meteorological Organization
WWDR:	World Water Development Report





INTRODUCTION

Water is essential for life on this planet – it is the source and foundation of all living things. Over the past years, the international community has gradually come to acknowledge the indispensable role water and sanitation play for human health, well-being and sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger. In order to achieve internationally-agreed water-related goals such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the United Nations proclaimed the period 2005–2015 as the International Decade for Action “Water for Life”. The Decade strives to ensure a greater focus on water-related issues, the implementation of water-related programmes and projects, the participation of women in water-related development efforts and the furtherance of cooperation at all levels. UN-Water, the United Nations inter-agency mechanism for freshwater and sanitation issues, was tasked with coordinating activities for implementing the Decade.

Over the course of the Decade, great progress has been made internationally in the areas of water and sanitation: in 2010 the MDG drinking water target, to “halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation” over 1990 levels, was declared to have been met ahead of schedule; the same year the

United Nations recognized access to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right; and since 2012 water has been playing a prominent role in the Rio+20 process and discussions around the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Almost two billion people gained access to improved sources of sanitation between 1990 and 2012 (WHO/UNICEF, 2014). Two UN-Water programmes have been established specifically for the Decade to implement valuable activities and projects in the areas of fresh water and sanitation. This report documents the major unique added value initiatives carried out during the Decade by the entities of UN-Water and demonstrates that while much still remains to be done, especially in continuing to extend access to improved sanitation and access to safe drinking water, great strides have been made in the Decade as regards its goals.



BACKGROUND

GOALS OF THE DECADE FOR ACTION, "WATER FOR LIFE", 2005-2015

Reflecting the centrality of water, the United Nations General Assembly has acknowledged that "water is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and is indispensable for human health and well-being" (United Nations, 2004). Yet, many people still lack access to a safe and adequate water supply and sanitation, which greatly affects their health, life expectancy and ability to develop and reach their full potential. As populations grow and urbanize, water scarcity and poor water quality can be expected to intensify, bringing along with them increases in water demands due to changing lifestyles and eating habits, coupled with the effects of climate change.

Over the past decades, the international community has gradually come to acknowledge the extent of the water and sanitation crisis. The United Nations first declared an international decade on water-related issues from 1981-1990, the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, to garner attention and support for clean water and sanitation worldwide.

In the aftermath of the First Water Decade, as it is now known, the Millennium Declaration was adopted at the United Nations Millennium Summit in September 2000, then the largest-ever gathering of world leaders. From this Declaration, the MDGs emerged: an integrated set of time-bound targets for extending the benefits of globalization to the world's poorest citizens. Among them was target 7.C, with the aim to cut in half the proportion of people in the world without sustainable access to safe drinking water rel-

ative to 1990 levels. At the Johannesburg World Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002, this target was expanded to include access to basic sanitation. Beyond target 7.C, water as a resource was recognized as a critical factor for meeting all of the Goals.

Recognizing the magnitude of the task of achieving international goals and targets laid out for fresh water and sanitation, in December 2003 the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the period 2005-2015 to be the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life" (United Nations, 2004). The goals of the Decade were stated to include the following:

"a greater focus on the implementation of water-related programmes and projects, while striving to ensure the participation and involvement of women in water-related development efforts, and the furtherance of cooperation at all levels in order to help to achieve internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and, as appropriate, those identified during the twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development." (Ibid)

These goals are discussed in more detail in the section "Achievements of the Goals of the Decade".

GOVERNANCE AND BASIS OF THE DECADE

In April 2005, at the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting (IPM) for the 13th session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, a matrix of the Chair's IPM Summary was submitted as a suggestion to form the basis of actions for the Decade (United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, 2005a). The matrix of actions contains major cornerstones, such as improving access to safe drinking water in urban and rural areas, including shifting the emphasis from a needs-based to a rights-based approach, as well as mainstreaming water in national development strategies and enhancing water use efficiency. A number of key implementation actors were noted in the matrix: governments, the United Nations System, donors and local authorities, among others.

In July 2005, the report of the United Nations Secretary-General on Actions taken in organizing the activities of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, declared that "UN-Water is coordinating activities of the United Nations for implementing the Decade, including with non-United Nations Partners. At the national level, it is expected that each country will take its own approach to organizing activities around the "Water for Life" Decade [...]" (United Nations, 2005).

UN-Water: an inter-agency coordination mechanism

UN-Water is the United Nations inter-agency mechanism for all fresh-water and sanitation-related matters. Building on a long history of coordination in the United Nations System, UN-Water was formalized in 2003 by the United Nations High-Level Committee on Programmes. It provides the platform to address the cross-cutting nature of water and maximize system-wide coordinated action and coherence. It has steadily built up membership and recognition since its foundation and as of 2014 includes 31 Members from within the United Nations and 37 Partners, including representatives from civil society and non-governmental organizations. A full list of UN-Water's Member and Partner organizations is provided on page 46. The chairmanship of UN-Water rotates among one of its more than thirty United Nations agency Members - past Chairs have been the World Health Organization (WHO) from 2005-2007, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) from 2007-2009, the United Nations University (UNU) from 2009-2011, and currently the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), since 2012. UN-Water's Secretariat is hosted by the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) in New York, and UN-Water is further supported by a Technical Advisory Unit to provide administrative, technical and logistic support. Senior Programme Managers, representing each of the United Nations Member organizations, meet twice a year to set strategic directions for UN-Water.

ABOUT THE COORDINATOR OF THE DECADE: UN-WATER

Tasked with coordinating activities of the Decade, UN-Water is not an implementing body, but rather a coordination mechanism – its specific activities and programmes are conducted and hosted by the United Nations entities that form UN-Water (UN-Water, 2014a; 2014b).

In a report presented to the United Nations General Assembly on 25 July 2005, UN-Water defined a number of thematic initiatives for its work over the Decade:

- Water scarcity and pollution
- Sanitation, safe drinking water and health
- Gender mainstreaming in water and sanitation
- Integrated water resources management
- Transboundary water issues
- Disaster risk reduction
- Africa was selected as a geographical focus due to its exceptional needs in water and sanitation (United Nations, 2005).

In addition to the considerable in-kind support from its Members and Partners, UN-Water activities and operations are currently funded through a multi-donor trust fund while the UN-Water Decade Programmes are primarily funded by the countries hosting them. The work of UN-Water is organized around Thematic Priority Areas and Task Forces. Each one is coordinated by one or more Members and engages Members, Partners and Programmes (UN-Water, 2014a). Their activities throughout the Decade are listed in the next section, “UN-Water Thematic Priority Areas and Task Forces”.

UN-WATER THEMATIC PRIORITY AREAS AND TASK FORCES

Thematic Priority Areas and time-bound Task Forces form a core part of UN-Water’s efforts to increase cooperation and coherence within the United Nations system and are intended to “guide activities of UN-Water in order to draw on the varied expertise of the United Nations system and of UN-Water Partners” (UN-Water, 2014b). Thematic Priority Areas are established by the UN-Water Senior Programme Managers to offer “a structured mechanism to address more long-term strategic water-related challenges where there is a high degree of inter-agency activities and/or where increased co-ordination is desirable” (Ibid). As such, Thematic Priority Areas and Task Forces serve an essential role in bringing together UN-Water Members and Partners for timely, collaborative action. Each Thematic Priority Area is coordinated by one or more UN-Water Member(s), and other UN-Water Members or Partners may join as Thematic Priority Area members.

In addition to working through Thematic Priority Areas, UN-Water also carries out its work through activities of its Task Forces, which draw on the expertise of the United Nations system and of UN-Water Partners. Task Forces are likewise established by the UN-Water Senior Programme Managers but are time-bound to focus on a specific area of interest or an emerging issue. Like Thematic Priority Areas, Task Forces are formed by Members and Partners of UN-Water but may also invite other stakeholders or individuals if deemed useful.

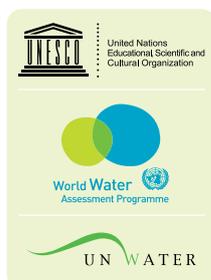
A list of current Thematic Priority Areas and Task Forces of UN-Water is available at UN-Water’s website (www.unwater.org/activities).

UN-WATER PROGRAMMES

In addition to its Thematic Priority Areas and Task Forces, UN-Water also operates through three UN-Water Programmes and one WHO/UNICEF programme associated with UN-Water. The following UN-Water Programmes have been operational throughout the Decade:

- The World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) in Perugia, Italy, established in 2000 and hosted by the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- The UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) in Bonn, Germany, established in 2007 and hosted by UNU.
- The UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC) in Zaragoza, Spain, established in 2008 and hosted by UNDESA.

The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) has been operational since 1990 and is led by the two agencies in Geneva and New York. It is a WHO/UNICEF programme associated with UN-Water with an independent governance structure (UN-Water, 2014b).



The World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

The World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) monitors the world's freshwater resources. WWAP provides recommendations, develops case studies, enhances assessment capacity at a national level and informs the decision-making process. WWAP produces the World Water Development Report (WWDR), which moved to an annual publication starting in 2014. The topics of the World Water Development Reports are listed under "Achievements of the Goals of the Decade: UN-Water information materials and publications".



The UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC)

The UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) was created to support the Decade and works to strengthen the coherence and effectiveness of the capacity development activities of UN-Water Members and Partners, and support them in their efforts to help Member States achieve the MDGs and other international water-related goals and targets. UNW-DPC actively collaborates with UN-Water Members and Partners on individual, institutional and organizational capacity development within the themes UN-Water prioritized for the Decade. It further works to support UN-Water in collecting, collating and evaluating existing knowledge through assessments, mappings and analyses, as well as in producing, disseminating and managing new knowledge through training events, workshops and publications.

More about this Decade Programme is contained in the section on "Achievements of the Goals of the Decade: the implementation of water-related programmes and projects".



The UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC)

The UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC) aims at sustaining the global attention and political momentum in favour of the water and sanitation agenda at all levels during the Decade. To that end, its activities complement and add value to existing programmes and projects of UN-Water organizations. The office promotes the visibility of UN-Water actions at all levels and makes it easier for Member States and a diverse set of audiences to acquire information about the activities of UN-Water Members and Partners.

UNW-DPAC brings together UN-Water Members and reaches out to Partners and practitioners for the implementation of joint activities in the framework of UN-Water's annually selected priority themes for World Water Day. This includes activities such as knowledge management as a single entry point and repository of publications of all the UN-Water Members and on substantive information on the decade themes and international processes, as well as on United Nations System news and events. It further includes a Best Practice Programme including the UN-Water Best Practices Award and a Best Practice Platform, and activities on awareness raising, media and communications in coordination with other

campaigns and in support of World Water Day, including media training, workshops and supporting media networks in Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa. It creates information and communication products for dissemination of existing knowledge of all UN-Water Members on a theme and creates spaces for dialogue in support of priority themes and strategic processes such as Rio+20 and the Post-2015 processes, at major events and through the organization of the annual UN-Water Zaragoza Conference.

More about this Decade Programme is contained in the section on "Achievements of the Goals of the Decade: the implementation of water-related programmes and projects".



The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP)

The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) is the official mechanism of the UN system mandated to monitor global progress towards MDG target 7.C to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

This programme, established in 1990, builds on earlier monitoring activities carried out by WHO since the 1960s. Its objectives are to provide regular global reports on drinking water and sanitation coverage to facilitate sector planning and management, to support countries in their efforts to

improve their monitoring systems, and to provide information for advocacy.

The JMP reports annually on progress against the MDG indicators on drinking water and sanitation: "The proportion of the population using an improved drinking water source" and "the proportion of the population using an improved sanitation facility", separately for rural and urban areas. JMP is the only drinking water and sanitation monitoring mechanism that provides information allowing comparison between countries and over time (UN-Water, 2013).

The 2006 JMP report was used as a baseline for the "Water for Life" Decade, with updated coverage estimates to 2004 (United Nations, 2005). A full list of the outcomes of the JMP reports throughout the Decade is contained in the section "Achievements of the Goals of the Decade: UN-Water information materials and publications".



ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GOALS OF THE DECADE

The ultimate goal of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”, 2005-2015, is to “help achieve internationally agreed water-related goals”

Contained in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and, as appropriate, those identified during the 12th and 13th sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development. In order to achieve these goals, the United Nations General Assembly noted the following goals for the Water Decade, coordinated by UN-Water (United Nations, 2004):

1. A greater focus on water-related issues at all levels
2. [A greater focus on the] implementation of water-related programmes and projects
3. Striving to ensure the participation and involvement of women in water-related development efforts
4. The furtherance of cooperation at all levels

The United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/58/217 (United Nations, 2004) establishing the goals of the Decade reaffirmed its determination to achieve the goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, “to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to afford safe drinking water, and a similar goal set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation” (Ibid). The Resolution indicated as a further goal those that are identified during the 12th and 13th sessions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development. The 13th session included another goal for the Decade: developing Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Efficiency Plans.

OVERALL DECADE GOAL: ACHIEVING INTERNATIONALLY AGREED WATER-RELATED GOALS

Major internationally agreed water-related goals achieved are listed in the sections below, with the following subsections dedicated to the goals of the Decade set up in order to achieve these internationally agreed goals.

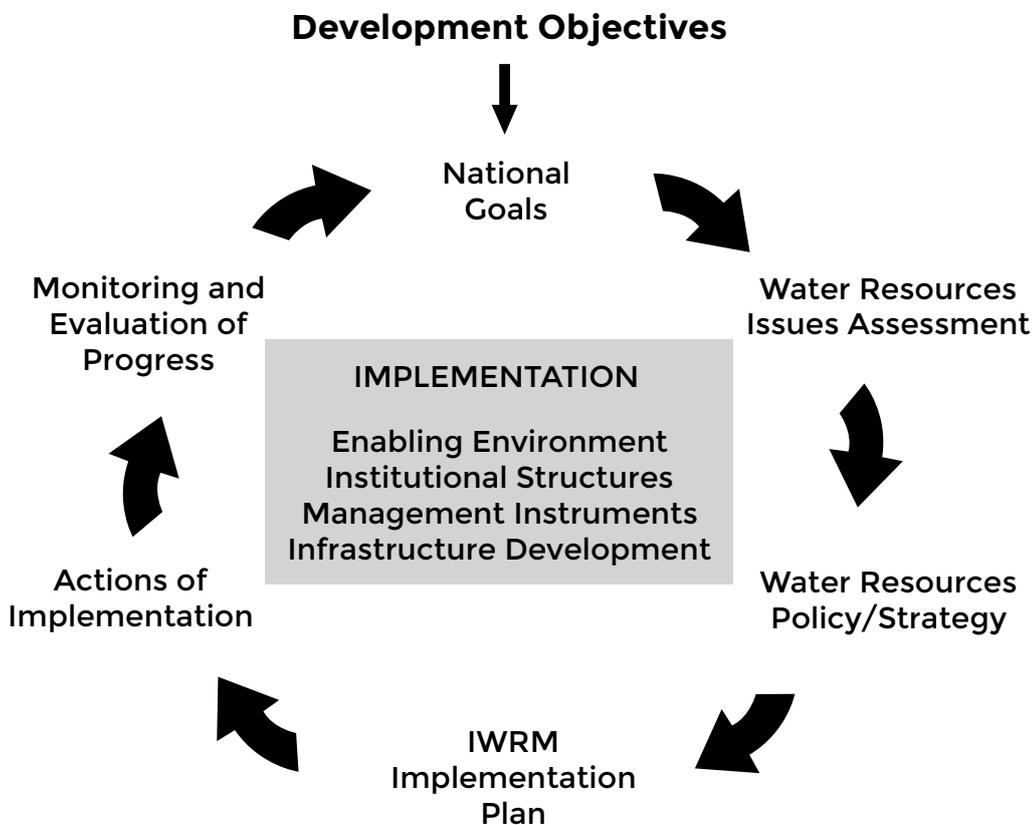
Drinking Water and Sanitation Target in the Millennium Development Goals

MDG target 7. C called on countries to “halve, by 2015, the proportion of people

without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation”. As regards the drinking water target laid out in the MDGs, a major milestone was clearly reached during the Decade when the United Nations Secretary-General declared the MDG drinking water target to have been met in 2010, five years ahead of schedule (WHO/UNICEF, 2012). Between 1990 and 2012, 2.3 billion people gained access to an improved drinking water source, raising global coverage to 89 per cent in 2012 (WHO/UNICEF, 2014). Yet, significant obstacles remain to realize the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation. Today, 800 million people are without access to an improved water source and many more remain without a safe and sustainable water supply. In addition, disparities continue to exist between and within countries (Technical Support Team, 2013).

The MDG sanitation target is today the most lagging of the MDGs. 2.5 billion people live without improved sanitation. 1.1 billion people still practise open defecation. Still, much has been achieved considering that almost 1.8 billion people gained access to improved sanitation facilities since 1990. Some countries that started from a low baseline and are facing rapid population growth have made substantial progress in absolute terms, but have to work much harder to halve the proportion of the population without access to improved sanitation (Technical Support Team, 2013).

STAGES IN IWRM
 PLANNING AND
 IMPLEMENTATION
 Source: UN-Water



Shifting Emphasis to a Rights-Based Approach

One of the other sets of goals referred to in the United Nations General Assembly resolution which established the Decade was to be further elaborated upon at the 12th and 13th sessions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development. The Matrix of the Chair’s IPM Summary for the Decade submitted to the 13th session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development in 2005 (United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, 2005a) called, among other things, to “shift emphasis from a needs-based to a rights-based approach” when it comes to improving access to safe drinking water in urban and rural areas. Under a rights-based approach, it is clear that the water and sanitation targets contained in the MDGs did not go far enough because the human right to water and sanitation requires universal access to water and

sanitation for all persons. The Declaration by the United Nations of the human right to drinking water and sanitation in 2010 was clearly a major milestone in the pursuit and acknowledgement of this goal (United Nations, 2010a). Shortly after passage of this Declaration, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights joined as a Member of UN-Water and the Mandate of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation became a Partner with special status, embedding both strong advocates for a rights-based approach to water and sanitation firmly within the UN-Water mechanism.

Developing Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Efficiency Plans

The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development 13th session’s matrix also called for “preparing integrat-

ed water resource management plans and creating an institutional and policy framework” including the use of gender-disaggregated data as appropriate (United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, 2005a). This goal built upon the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, set out at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002, which declared a target in order to “develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries, through actions at all levels”. UN-Water made extensive efforts to illustrate progress towards the target, as witnessed in the work of its Task Force on Water Resources Management, which produced and presented a 2008 “Status Report on Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Efficiency Plans” for the 16th session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UN-Water, 2008).

INTEGRATED
APPROACHES TO
THE DEVELOPMENT,
MANAGEMENT AND USE
OF WATER CONTRIBUTE
TO THE SUSTAINABLE
USE OF FRESHWATER
RESOURCES.



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The 2008 UN-Water report drew primarily on a survey covering 104 countries and used information gathered by the Global Water Partnership (GWP) and the African Development Bank (AfDB). It standardized the different terminology from each country and aimed to provide the most objective and comprehensive overview of the current status of Water Resources Management (WRM). It also provided a few brief case studies and concluded with key lessons learned and recommendations for future action.

An updated Status Report on "The Application of Integrated Approaches to the Development, Management and Use of Water Resources" was produced for Rio+20 in June 2012 (UN-Water, 2012).

This report disseminated information and promoted the findings of the report in various meetings and conferences. Prepared by the United Nations Environ-

ment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and GWP for UN-Water, it was based on a 2011 UN-Water survey sent to United Nations Member States. More than 130 countries responded to the survey and this data was complemented by interviews in 30 representative countries. The report provided the basis for informed decision-making by the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development and national governments, includes lessons learned and recommendations, as well as focus areas for action. It also provides guidance for establishing a regular international monitoring and reporting framework to promote sustainable development and management of water resources (UN-Water, 2012).



GOAL 1: A GREATER FOCUS ON WATER- RELATED ISSUES

Water has clearly come into higher-level focus during the time of the Decade. Already at the halfway point of the Decade, on World Water Day (March 22nd) 2010, the 64th President of the United Nations General Assembly noted in a High-Level Interactive Dialogue on the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" the successes already undertaken in the implementation of the Decade in the area of increasing the focus on water-related issues:

“Appreciable efforts have been undertaken over the years leading to increased awareness and recognition of the crucial importance of sustainable use and efficient management of freshwater resources as well as the sanitation issues”
(United Nations, 2010b)

This attention picked up even more after the mid-term mark of the Decade, which was marked in Dushanbe, Tajikistan in June 2010 by a High-level International Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”, 2005-2015. The resulting Dushanbe Declaration on Water noted the achievements during the first five years of the Decade as regards the implementation of water-related programmes and projects, and identified a number of focal areas for the remainder of the Decade, including water resources management, sanitation and wastewater services, policies and action.

Shortly thereafter, on 28 July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly recognised the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right (United Nations, 2010a), essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights, and on 18 December 2013 the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation was adopted without a vote (United Nations, 2013a).

By the time of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (“Rio+20”) in June 2012, the United Nations Member States recognized that “water is at the core of sustainable development as it is closely linked to a number of key global challenges”

(United Nations, 2012). The Rio+20 Outcome Document highlights and reaffirms the water-related commitments made in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Millennium Declaration and the commitment to the 2005-2015 International Decade for Action, “Water for Life” (Ibid).

This greater focus on water issues throughout the Decade mirrors the achievements of UN-Water itself, particularly in its information campaigns and publications. Created near the beginning of the Decade, UN-Water has steadily grown and serves as the United Nations coordination mechanism on all freshwater and sanitation issues. It is increasingly called upon at the highest levels to lead and take part in United Nations processes and reports related to fresh water and sanitation, such as on discussions on issues surrounding water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda, where it led the Global Thematic Consultations on Water and Sanitation and provided input to the United Nations General Assembly’s Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals. Within the worldwide-led Thematic Consultation on Water and Sanitation, which solicited input from nearly half a million people globally (UNDP, 2013), water was by far the most viewed of all eleven of the topics (World We Want, 2013). In February 2014, UN-Water presented technical advice to Member States for a Post-

2015 Global Goal for Water (UN-Water, 2014c) on "Securing Sustainable Water for All", and in July 2014, the Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals proposed a stand-alone water goal in its goal 6, "Ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all", which encompassed many of the suggestions made by UN-Water (United Nations General Assembly's Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, 2014). Further information on the technical advice provided by UN-Water can be found in the section below, "UN-Water Information Materials and Publications".

This increased attention and focus on water-related issues throughout the Decade has been supported by a steadily strengthened UN-Water, which has been able to lead numerous campaigns, produce information materials, analyses and other influential publications such as policy and information briefs, which have increased awareness among decision makers and helped place a greater focus on water-related issues throughout the Decade. UN-Water's major campaigns, information materials and publications are described in more detail in the next sections.

UN-WATER CAMPAIGNS

Throughout the Decade, UN-Water has been increasingly successful at consolidating and disseminating efforts and information on various topics of relevance to the world community. Some of its major campaigns include the highly successful World Water Day and Sanitation Drive to 2015, as well as the more recently established World Toilet Day. This section provides further information on the evolution and outcomes of these campaigns.

WATER FOR LIFE
DECADE LOGO



WATER FOR LIFE
2005-2015

The International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015 Campaign

All around the world, activities and initiatives have actively built the "Water for Life" Decade campaign. The Decade campaign has taken place everywhere around the world. Throughout the Decade, UNWDPAC has promoted the Decade's logo and mandate, allowing all types of stakeholders to join the Decade's campaign and to be active at international, national and local levels. Since 2005, the logo of the Decade has been requested from a diverse range of stakeholders around the world to support different types of activities and initiatives in the spirit of the "Water for Life" Decade.

Educational activities (e.g. teaching the topic of water in schools in different forms) with a public awareness scope (art exhibitions or expos, brochures, the instalment of technical devices in rest-

rooms, etc.) have represented the core of the users of the "Water for Life" Decade logo, with civil society being the main group requesting the logo.

In addition to civil society organizations, requests have been received from academic organizations, governments, the United Nations system, religious groups and business organizations, but also from individuals. In these cases, main activities for which the logo has been requested range from conferences/meetings and exhibitions, media coverage and publications, advocacy and website use to business exercises.

For information on activities and organizations which have joined the Decade, see www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/who_has_joined_the_decade.shtml.

WORLD WATER DAY 2014
CAMPAIGN LOGO



World Water Day

World Water Day has been held annually on 22 March since 1993 as a means of focusing attention on the importance of fresh water and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. Observance has grown steadily and significantly ever since, with high participation at the national level and high interest and recognition via social media channels. Since its inception in 2003, UN-Water has been responsible for selecting the theme, messages and lead United Nations entities among its Members, for the World Water Day.

The topic of the Day exerts a broad influence on other major activities throughout the duration of the entire year, including the topics of the annual Stockholm World Water Week and other major international conferences and events both before and after the Day. On the Day itself, in addition to an official celebration of the Day, thousands of events are organized worldwide at the national or local level. UN-Water has played an increasingly active role in the visual identity and communication campaign to support the World Water Day and now produces extensive campaign materials to support outreach and information efforts. These have seen considerable uptake from volunteers worldwide, who help translate and adapt materials to their local contexts.

More information on World Water Day can be found at the UN-Water website: www.unwater.org/worldwaterday.

World Water Day themes during the

"Water for Life" Decade

- 2005 - Water for Life 2005-2015**
- 2006 - Water and Culture**
- 2007 - Coping with Water Scarcity**
- 2008 - Sanitation**
- 2009 - Shared Waters – Shared Opportunities**
- 2010 - Clean Water for a Healthy World**
- 2011 - Water for Cities:
Responding to the Urban Challenge**
- 2012 - Water and Food Security:
The World is Thirsty Because We are Hungry**
- 2013 - Water Cooperation**
- 2014 - Water and Energy**
- 2015 - Water and Sustainable Development**

THE LOGO FOR UN-
WATER'S CAMPAIGN
"THE DRIVE TO 2015:
SANITATION FOR ALL"



The Drive to 2015: Sanitation for All

The Sanitation Drive to 2015 is an advocacy campaign working to make sanitation for all a global development priority, aiming to meeting the MDG sanitation target and end open defecation. In urging changes in both behaviour and policy, the campaign supports and encourages people around the world to take action towards achieving sanitation and hygiene for all by targeting the poorest and most vulnerable people. The justification is based on the fact that actions on sanitation and hygiene are expected to generate substantial benefits, including increased economic growth and productivity, improved health, enhanced social equity and a cleaner environment.

UN-Water coordinates the Drive to 2015, which was proposed by the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB) at the Follow-up Conference on the International Year of Sanitation, held in Tokyo on 26 and 27 January 2010. The Drive to 2015 was then supported in the Dushanbe Declaration on Water, the outcome of the High-level International Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the imple-

mentation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, held in Dushanbe on 8 and 9 June 2010. The Sanitation Drive website, hosted by UNU, was launched in 2011. Co-ordinated by the UN-Water Thematic Priority Area on Drinking Water and Basic Sanitation, the Sanitation Drive provides advocacy materials including a Planners Guide, fact sheets in multiple languages and recognition of civil society successes through highlighting Sanitation Drivers on the website and through social media.

In March 2013, on the occasion of World Water Day and recognizing that greater progress on sanitation is essential for fighting poverty and for achieving all the MDGs, the United Nations Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson initiated, on behalf of the United Nations Secretary-General, a renewed effort to drive progress on sanitation and water goals towards the 2015 target date and beyond, specifically acknowledging the work of the Sanitation for All campaign. The official website of the Sanitation for All campaign is at www.sanitationdrive2015.org.

THE LOGO OF WORLD
TOILET DAY 2014

UN WATER
19 November
**WORLD
TOILET
DAY**



World Toilet Day

Although already marked by international and civil society organizations all over the world for many years, 19 November was formally declared World Toilet Day by the United Nations General Assembly in a resolution on 24 July 2013. The United Nations General Assembly requested UN-Water, in consultation with relevant entities of the United Nations system and in collaboration with governments and relevant stakeholders, to facilitate the implementation of World Toilet Day in the context of the Sanitation for All campaign.

World Toilet Day intends to raise awareness of sanitation issues – including hygiene promotion, the provision of basic sanitation services, and sewerage and wastewater treatment and reuse in the context of integrated water management – and make a case for sanitation for all.

It intends to encourage United Nations Member States and relevant stakeholders, including civil society and non-governmental organizations, to promote behavioural change and the implementation of policies in order to increase access to sanitation among the poor and end the practice of open defecation. More information can be found at www.unwater.org/worldtoiletday.

UN-WATER INFORMATION MATERIALS AND PUBLICATIONS

UN-Water's Technical Advice on a Dedicated Water Goal

UN-Water has been actively involved in the water-related discussions surrounding the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Drawing on the collective expertise of its Members from the United Nations system and its international Partners, UN-Water provided technical support to Member States as to what role water could have in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. During the 18 months of deliberation of the Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals, it coordinated the group of the "contributors on water and sanitation" within the United Nations system's inter-agency Technical Support Team. UN-Water led the preparation of the "Issues Brief on Water and Sanitation", which was presented to Member States by the UN-Water Chair and developed a "technical advice" document from the United Nations system to Member States on how a water goal could be framed. The framework suggests prioritizing water through a dedicated global goal with five measurable and interconnected targets. The proposed goal builds on and extends existing commitments such as the MDGs and the priorities agreed at Rio+20, as well as on a series of consultations with people across the world. The technical advice was presented in a side event on the occasion of the President of the General Assembly's thematic debate on "water, sanitation and sustainable energy in the Post-2015 Development Agenda". Throughout the two-day United Nations General Assembly debate, many countries underscored the need for a dedicated water goal, referring repeatedly and explicitly to the UN-Water technical advice. In his closing statement of the Thematic Debate on Water, Sanitation and Sustainable Energy, Federico de Ramos Armas, Vice Minister for the Environment of Spain, mentioned that "a dedicated goal on water, with possible targets on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene;

water resources management; reuse and treatment of wastewater and wastewater pollution and water quality was widely supported". He also noted that "water-related disasters, including floods and droughts" were frequently mentioned during the debate (United Nations, 2014). United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon confirmed the need to improve water quality and the management of water resources and wastewater, stating that "access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene must feature prominently in Post-2015 development" (2014). The United Nations General Assembly confirmed that water, sanitation and sustainable energy are at the core of sustainable development and the overarching goal of poverty eradication, and are closely linked to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs.

Many of the suggestions that were made by the United Nations system through UN-Water have been reflected in proposed goal 6 of the Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all". As the Post-2015 process continues, UN-Water stands by to support Member States' water and sanitation discussions.

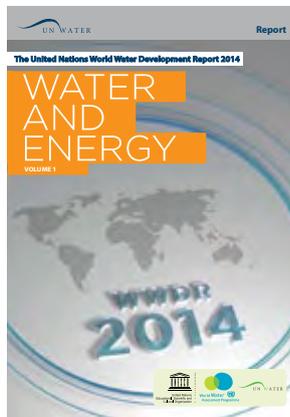
For more information on the results of the United Nations General Assembly's thematic debate on water, sanitation and sustainable energy see www.un.org/en/ga/president/68/settingthestage/1wsse.shtml. For a link to the Executive Summary and the full text of UN-Water's Technical Advice see www.unwater.org/topics/water-in-the-post-2015-development-agenda/en/.

The World Water Development Report (WWDR)

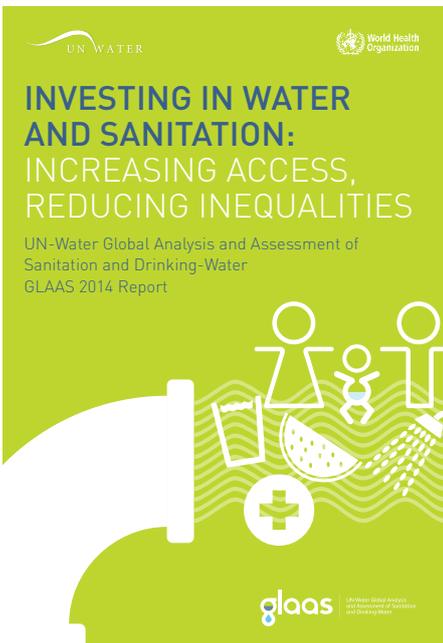
The World Water Development Report (WWDR) is an annual and thematic report that focuses on different strategic water issues each year and aims to provide decision makers with the tools to implement sustainable use of our water resources. It also includes regional aspects, hotspots, examples and stories, making the report relevant to a broad range of readers, at different levels and in different geographical areas. The development of the WWDR, coordinated by WWAP, is a joint effort of the United Nations agencies and entities which make up UN-Water, working in partnership with governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders.

From 2003 to 2012, the WWDR was a triennial report. The first four editions were launched in conjunction with the World Water Forums in 2003, 2006, 2009 and 2012. The triennial version provided an overall picture of the state, use and management of the world's freshwater resources. In 2012, the decision was taken to revise the scope of the report and improve its format in order to better meet the needs of its readers with an annual, more concise publication that is increasingly facts-based and has a more specific thematic focus.

The first editions of the annual report address the themes "Water and Energy" in 2014 (WWDR5) and "Water and Sustainable Development" in 2015 (WWDR6). The WWDR is launched on the occasion of World Water Day on 22 March, whose theme is harmonized with that of the report starting in 2014. A full list of WWDR topics during the Decade can be found in Annex 1.



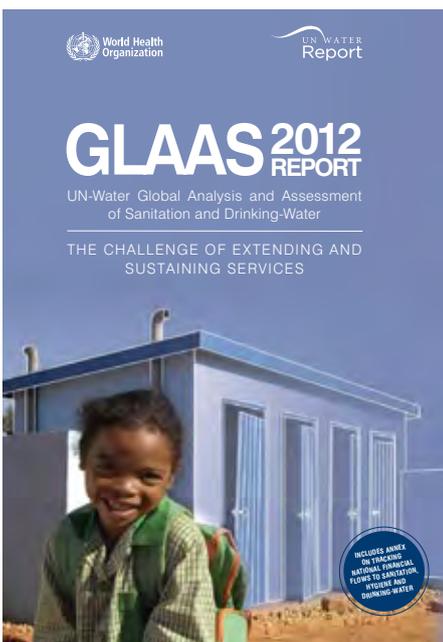
WORLD WATER DEVELOPMENT REPORTS



The UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS)

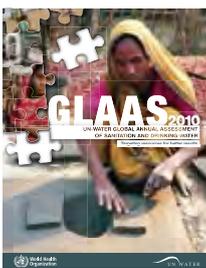
The UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) was first established in 2007 to enhance the evidence base and help identify bottlenecks to progress in water and sanitation, as well as inform actions undertaken by UN-Water Members and Partners.

The GLAAS biennial reports analyze and assess both the inputs (human resources and finance) and the enabling environment (laws, plans and policies, institutional arrangements and monitoring systems) for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and complement the WHO/UNICEF JMP reports that monitor WASH sector outcomes.



The UN-Water GLAAS 2014 Report "Investing in Water and Sanitation: Increasing Access, Reducing Inequalities" presents data from 94 countries, covering all MDG regions. It also includes data from 23 external support agencies, representing over 90 per cent of official development assistance (ODA) for sanitation and drinking water.

The UN-Water GLAAS is produced by WHO on behalf of UN-Water. A full list of the contents of the GLAAS reports can be found in Annex 2.



Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water (JMP Report)

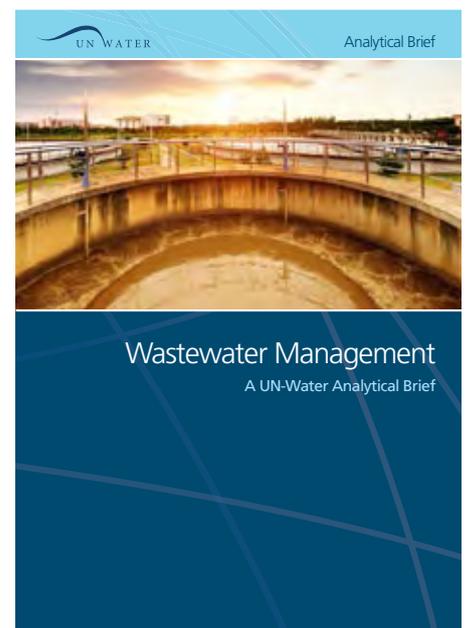
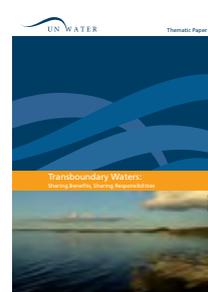
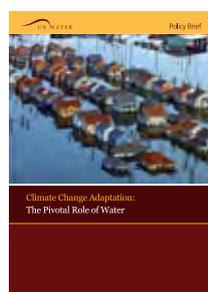
The JMP is affiliated with UN-Water and reports annually on progress against the MDG indicators on drinking water and basic sanitation: "The proportion of population using an improved drinking water source" and "The proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility", separately for rural and urban areas. JMP is the only drinking water and sanitation monitoring mechanism that provides information allowing comparison between countries and over time. Annex 3 provides an overview of major JMP reports throughout the Decade.



UN-Water Analytical and Policy Briefs

UN-Water has also been successful during the Decade at mainstreaming water into other debates such as climate change, sustainable development and green economy. This has been done primarily through the release of analytical and policy briefs timing for maximum impact at major fora such as Rio+20 and other major United Nations conferences and events. The policy and analytical briefs of UN-Water are results of its United Nations Members and outside Partners working in the context of the Thematic Priority Areas and Task Forces of UN-Water. These have included timely contributions on water issues covering the following topics:

- Gender, Water and Sanitation (2006)
- Transboundary Waters: Sharing Benefits, Sharing Responsibilities (2008)
- Climate Change Adaptation: The Pivotal Role of Water (2010)
- Water Quality (2011)
- Water Security and the Global Water Agenda (2013)
- Wastewater Management (2015)





GOAL 2:

IMPLEMENTATION

OF WATER-RELATED

PROGRAMMES AND

PROJECTS

Throughout the Decade, numerous water-related programmes and projects have been launched and implemented, most prominently the following two Decade Programmes:

UN-WATER DECADE PROGRAMMES

The UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC):

Founded in 2007, UNW-DPC has conducted more than 100 capacity development activities bringing together over 30 different UN-Water Members and Partners under the auspices of UN-Water and following the thematic initiative areas chosen by UN-Water for the Decade (United Nations, 2005). In particular, UNW-DPC coordinates long-term, multi-lateral capacity development projects for UN-Water. UNW-DPC further manages the UN-Water Activity Information System (UNW-AIS) for UN-Water. UNW-AIS

is UN-Water's online platform to present and share information on water-related projects and learning initiatives from UN-Water Members and Partners. In addition to a learning centre which houses information on a variety of materials related to the focus areas UN-Water chose for the Decade, UNW-AIS hosts the online platforms for UN-Water projects such as the "Safe Use of Wastewater in Agriculture" and "Capacity Development to Support National Drought Management Policies", described in more detail later in the next section under "UN-Water Multi-agency/Featured Projects".

A major activity throughout the Decade has been an international workshop series, coordinated by UNW-DPC and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) with its Global Water Operators' Partnership Alliance (GWOPA), on "Drinking Water Loss Reduction: Developing Capacities for Applying Solutions". Safe drinking water is a necessity for life, yet in many places around the world, up to 50 per cent of drinking water

is lost in distribution systems, particularly in ageing urban area infrastructures. In an effort to address this widespread issue, a series of activities between 2009 and 2014, including international and regional workshops throughout Latin America, South East Europe, Arab countries, Africa and Central Asia, encouraged local follow-up projects and the establishment of communication between policymakers, water operators, researchers and technical service providers. In order to help efforts to strengthen the capacities of various partners to address water loss in their own regions and countries, a wealth of information and materials on this topic is available in the UNW-AIS: www.ais.unwater.org/waterloss.

Other major activities have included the coordination of the "Safe Use of Wastewater in Agriculture" and "Capacity Development to Support National Drought Management Policies" projects for UN-Water, the coordination of UN-Water's participation in a pavilion and session at the biennial IFAT trade fair in Munich,

as well as the organization of UN-Water Stakeholder Dialogues and high-level panels upon request by UN-Water. Full information on UNW-DPC's activities can be found at www.unwater.unu.edu.

The UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC):

Founded in 2007, UNW-DPAC has been implementing the UN-Water Decade Campaign and related information and communication activities. Since 2009, one of UNW-DPAC's main activities has been the hosting and organizing of the Annual International Zaragoza Conference, a main inter-agency activity, which has served UN-Water to prepare for World Water Day and focused on a specific theme relevant for that upcoming year. The UN-Water annual Zaragoza conferences and related UN-Water Best Practices Award have served to raise the profile of UN-Water providing substantive strategic inputs to the selected themes in the year and recognising best practices.

UNW-DPAC manages the "Water for Life" Decade's website and weekly digest with the support of the United Nations Department of Public Information in New York. The Decade's website (<http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/>) has become a place to track the Decade's progress as well as a place for people to get involved and learn about what is happening around the world. The Decade's website is further a hub for water and sanitation-related information generated by United Nations agencies and programmes covering the Decade's themes. The number of unique visitors has doubled every year, reaching 600,000 in 2013.

As mentioned above, UNW-DPAC also coordinates the "Water for Life" UN-Water Best Practices Award, the only United Nations award which is connected to that year's theme for World Water Day. The award aims to promote efforts to fulfil international commitments made on water and water-related issues by 2015 through

the recognition of outstanding best practices that can ensure the long-term sustainable management of water resources and contribute to the achievement of internationally agreed goals and targets contained in the MDGs, Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. Launched in 2010 for the first time, the prize is awarded annually in two categories: "best water management practices" and "best participatory, communication, awareness-raising and education practices". The Decade will see the fifth edition of the Award in 2015 and is now well positioned at the international level, recognized as a valuable tool to identify best practices and move the water and sanitation agenda forward at the global level.

Furthermore, UNW-DPAC co-develops, with the technical support of the Municipality of Zaragoza, Spain, the UN Documentation Centre on Water and Sanitation (UNDCWS), accessible at www.unwaterlibrary.org. UNDCWS acts as a clearinghouse on water and sanitation-related information materials produced by the United Nations system. The UNDCWS facilitates search, increases dissemination and improves the visibility of United Nations information materials on water and sanitation by facilitating online and offline access to these materials. To date, more than 2,000 United Nations publications have been registered, described, indexed and catalogued, and around 900 publications are now accessible online. In November 2010 an alert service was initiated, with the publication of a Bimonthly United Nations Publications Review. Every other month, this review provides subscribers with the latest publications produced by United Nations agencies and programmes on issues related to water and sanitation. This service gives visibility to new United Nations publications and keeps subscribers regularly informed on new updates. The bimonthly review is available in English at www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/bimonthly.shtml and in Spanish at www.un.org/spanish/waterforlifedecade/bimonthly.shtml.

UN-WATER MULTI-AGENCY/ FEATURED PROJECTS

Under the auspices of UN-Water, four projects have been launched and implemented during and for the Decade:

The UN-Water Federated Water Monitoring System and Key Water Indicator Portal

The UN-Water Federated Water Monitoring System and Key Water Indicator Portal (FMWM & KWIP) Project, which is implemented by FAO, is a portal through which data can be represented in graphs, charts and tables. Selected indicators from the UN-Water Task Force on Indicators, Monitoring and Reporting are displayed, although more indicators or variables can be added in the future. The main purpose of the KWIP is to provide information in a simple format in order to maximize its widespread use.

The UN-Water Country Briefs Project

The UN-Water Country Briefs project is a series of 13 pilot country briefs launched by UN-Water in 2013 which present in a visual way the critical importance of water investments for human and economic development, with the intention to foster stronger interventions on water-related issues by policymakers dealing with peace and security, human rights, infrastructure investments, agricultural, health, education and environmental issues, as well as macro- and micro-economic perspectives. The 13 countries in the initial project are Chile, Guyana and Mexico for the Americas; the Gambia, Ghana, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia for Africa; and Bangladesh, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Oman, the Philippines and Viet Nam for Asia.

MANY FARMERS AROUND THE WORLD ARE USING WASTEWATER FOR IRRIGATION, EITHER PURPOSELY OR UNINTENTIONALLY. THE SAFE USE OF WASTEWATER IN AGRICULTURE PROJECT SUPPORTED MEMBER STATES TO APPLY GUIDELINES AND SAFE PRACTICES WHERE WASTEWATER IS USED IN AGRICULTURE.



© UNU

The Safe Use of Wastewater in Agriculture Project

The Safe Use of Wastewater in Agriculture project, launched in 2011, brings together FAO, WHO, UNEP, the UNU Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH) and UNW-DPC, in collaboration with the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI). Together, these organizations aim to develop national capacities in developing countries and countries in transition for the promotion of safe practices where wastewater is used in agriculture. The Project's online platform is accessible at www.ais.unwater.org/wastewater.

Capacity Development to Support National Drought Management Policies

Launched in 2013, the UN-Water initiative on Capacity Development to Support National Drought Management Policies brings together WMO, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), FAO, the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) and UNW-DPC with the aim to improve the abilities of relevant stakeholders to formulate and adopt national drought management policies. Its online project platform in the UNW-AIS can be accessed at www.ais.unwater.org/droughtmanagement.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR PROACTIVE AND RISK-BASED NATIONAL DROUGHT MANAGEMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICES CAN GREATLY ASSIST COUNTRIES TO BUILD SOCIETAL RESILIENCE TO DROUGHT.



© Flickr Creative Commons / CIAT / Neil Palmer

Together, these projects have reached hundreds of participants in regions around the world, and reflect the success UN-Water has had throughout the Decade in bringing together UN-Water Members and outside Partners to carry out major cross-cutting, value-adding projects under the auspices of the inter-agency mechanism.



GOAL 3: STRIVING TO ENSURE THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN WATER-RELATED DEVELOPMENT

EFFORTS

After choosing “gender mainstreaming in water and sanitation” as one of its areas to focus on during the Decade, one of UN-Water’s first activities after its creation in 2003 was the establishment of a Task Force on Gender and Water, linking gender focal points and water focal points in each agency. The UN-Water Task Force fed out of the Inter-agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, to take responsibility for the gender component of the Decade.

Led by UNDESA, from 2003 until 2009 the Task Force aimed to promote gender mainstreaming in the implementation of the international development goals related to water and sanitation and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation at the global, regional, national, local and utility levels. It also promoted coherence and coordination of activities by UN-Water Members and Partners in this area. Task Force activities reflected a long-term

strategy and ongoing process of gender mainstreaming, which informed the design and implementation of national planning documents (UN-Water website, 2013).

During its existence, the Task Force produced a policy brief as well as organized workshops, side events, trainings and high-level panels in various conferences, such as the World Water Forum in Istanbul in 2009 and an Expert Group Meeting co-led by UNW-DPC on Gender-Disaggregated Data on Water and Sanitation at the United Nations Headquarters in December 2008. The Task Force disbanded in 2010, at a time when the United Nations General Assembly created the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women). UN Women became a Member of UN-Water shortly thereafter. Further information on the UN-Water Task Force on Gender and Water can be found in the

previous section on “UN-Water Thematic Priority Areas and Task Forces”.

In addition to the activities of the UN-Water Task Force and UN Women, numerous UN-Water Members and Partners have made concerted and considerable efforts to mainstream gender in water and hygiene management, with pilot projects carried out throughout the Decade, for example, by the World Bank, UNDP, the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), UNICEF, the Gender and Water Alliance (GWA), UN-Habitat, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), FAO, UNDESA and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). An overview of these studies, outcomes and publications is available at www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/gender.shtml.



GOAL 4: THE FURTHERANCE OF WATER COOPERATION

A clear Decade highlight for both water cooperation and the focus on water issues in general was reached in 2013: in a resolution specifically recalling the "Water for Life" Decade, the United Nations declared 2013 to be the International Year of Water Cooperation in recognition of the essential role water plays in sustainable development (United Nations, 2011a). The United Nations General Assembly noted the role water plays as an instrument of peace, recognizing that "cooperation is essential in order to strike a balance between the different needs and priorities and share this precious resource equitably" (UN-Water, 2013). Water cooperation refers to the peaceful management and use of freshwater resources at local, national, regional and international levels among various players and sectors, as well as between generations. The concept of water cooperation entails working together towards a common goal, in a way that is mutually beneficial, in a spirit of solidarity. Developing water cooperation involves an interdisciplinary approach integrating cultural, educational and scientific factors and covering religious, ethical, gender, social, political, legal, institutional and economic dimensions. Water cooperation is a vehicle for building peace and a foundation for sustainable development and gender

equality. The International Year of Water Cooperation was a means of strengthening the dialogue and cooperation with key stakeholders at all levels, and it marked a watershed of successful opportunities for

"Water and sanitation are obviously central to our efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and must figure prominently in the Post-2015 Development Agenda."
United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, 2013

the recognition of the importance of water issues. Among them were milestone events of the International Year of Water Cooperation in Spain, France, the Netherlands, Tajikistan, Sweden, Kenya, Hungary and Mexico, which marked the progress

achieved. Numerous examples of water cooperation case studies and conditions can be found in the outcome documents of the International Annual UN-Water Zaragoza Conference 2012/2013, "Preparing for the 2013 International Year. Water Cooperation: Making it Happen" available from www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/water_cooperation_2013.

The International Year of Water Cooperation and World Water Day supported the creation of new water-related dynamics in the international development agenda. In particular, 2013 also became a year in which the United Nations could show cooperation among its own agencies, with numerous examples of public high-level United Nations support for water issues:

- During 2013, high-level United Nations representatives from the Deputy Secretary-General to the Secretary-General acknowledged the importance of water and sanitation in the international development agenda, including up to 2015 and beyond:

"Water and sanitation are obviously central to our efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and must figure prominently in the Post-

2015 Development Agenda. Beyond 2015, our aim is to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, and to create an equitable world of opportunity for all. Our societies cannot prosper without clean, plentiful freshwater. People cannot thrive without adequate sanitation" (United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, 2013).

- On the occasion of World Water Day 2013, United Nations Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson initiated a "Call to Action on Sanitation" on behalf of the Secretary-General: a renewed effort to drive progress on sanitation and water goals towards the 2015 target date and beyond, which explicitly made reference to the UN-Water-led Sanitation Drive to 2015. In July 2013, a subsequent United Nations General Assembly resolution designated 19 November "World Toilet Day" and requested UN-Water to facilitate its implementation in the context of the Sanitation for All campaign (United Nations, 2013b). More on the Sanitation Drive and World Toilet Day can be found below in the section on "UN-Water Campaigns and Information Materials".
- Also in 2013, both the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation and the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda suggested a dedicated water goal in the Post-2015 process. Overall, the International Year of Water Cooperation helped to forge UN-Water's consolidated technical advice which the United Nations provided to Member States to prioritize water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. A dedicated goal on water, as opposed to dispersed targets as in the MDGs, would capture the fundamental importance of water for both humans and the environment and be both a demonstration and a driver of the essential

role water has come to play in the international development agenda throughout the Decade.

To implement the International Year of Water Cooperation 2013, UN-Water called on UNESCO to lead the campaign for both the International Year of Water Cooperation and the World Water Day 2013 on the same topic. Beyond the intergovernmental level, the campaign's actions and events reached several million persons around the world. More information, including the final report on the International Year of Water Cooperation, can be found at <http://www.unwater.org/>.

CONCLUSION

INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION, "WATER FOR LIFE", 2005-2015

The years 2005-2015 have truly been a "Decade for Action" on water and sanitation issues. By many accounts the Decade has been successful in meeting its goals: during this time, the drinking water-related MDG target was declared met (although challenges remain with respect to access to safe drinking water and especially with access to basic sanitation), the United Nations General Assembly declared access to water and sanitation to be a human right, an International Year in 2013 was dedicated to water cooperation, and in July 2014, the United Nations General Assembly's Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals proposed a stand-alone water goal for the Post-2015 Development Agenda "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all". The final set of Sustainable Development Goals will be decided upon at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda in September 2015. UN-Water, the coordinator of the Decade, also gained in size, strength, membership and importance during this time, with its technical advice being sought out at high levels within the United Nations system. Related to the Decade's goal to implement water-related programmes and projects, two UN-Water Decade programmes were created to support the mechanism during the Decade.

The "Water for Life" Decade comes to a close in 2015. It will be a pivotal year not only for water and sanitation issues, but

for the international development agenda as a whole: completing the MDGs and agreeing on a new set of development goals in the form of Sustainable Development Goals will be a major priority for the international community. The Decade's major milestones and value-added activities described in this report have without a doubt given impetus to this process, and the successful media campaigns, materials and publications that UN-Water has coordinated have helped achieve the greater focus that water-related issues have garnered in this time, by directly engaging thousands of individuals and calling for decision makers to take action.

Despite the progress, however, it is clear that much work remains to be done, both in the areas of water and sanitation, but also concerning the broader water agenda. The achievement of the MDG drinking water target demonstrates that setting international goals and targets can drive change. Yet, significant obstacles remain to realize the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, and the MDG sanitation target is today the most lagging of the MDGs.

In particular, the sanitation and hygiene subsector suffers from human, institutional and financial resources constraints, and discrimination and inequalities in access to WASH are pervasive. The water challenge, however, goes beyond access to WASH for all and encompasses water resources and wastewater management and issues of water quality. Managing water sustainably to meet today's needs and future demands is ever more urgent. Despite the widespread adoption of in-

tegrated approaches to water management worldwide as of yet, significant challenges remain. Improved knowledge, research, innovation and implementation towards much more productive and sustainable use of water, especially for food and energy, will be required to meet the world's future fuel and food needs. Water remains at all levels a catalyst for coordinated policy, shared management and peaceful cooperation between countries. Also, there is a pressing need to improve global freshwater quality by addressing water pollution and making better use of wastewater (Technical Support Team, 2013).

As the United Nations General Assembly gets ready to agree on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, it is hoped that the achievements made during the Water Decade will be sustained beyond its end in 2015.

RECAP: MAJOR MILESTONES WITHIN THE "WATER FOR LIFE" DECADE 2005-2015

2005

22 MARCH – START OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION, "WATER FOR LIFE", 2005-2015 (UNITED NATIONS, 2004)

11-22 APRIL – 13TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. THE REPORT ON THE 13TH SESSION AND A MATRIX OF ACTIONS FORM A BASIS FOR THE DECADE (UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, 2005A; 2005B)

11 JULY – SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR EL HAJI GUISSÉ PRESENTS THE GUIDELINES FOR THE REALIZATION OF THE RIGHT TO DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION TO THE SUB-COMMISSION ON THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, 2006)

25 JUL – REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL ON ACTIONS TAKEN IN ORGANISING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION "WATER FOR LIFE" 2005-2015 (UNITED NATIONS, 2005), PLEDGING ACTIVITIES BY THE UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES, AS WELL AS THE PROPOSED GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

2006

MARCH – 4TH WORLD WATER FORUM IN MEXICO

DECEMBER – DECLARATION OF 2008 "INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SANITATION" (UNITED NATIONS, 2007)

2007

AUGUST – FOUNDATION OF THE UN-WATER DECADE PROGRAMME ON CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT (UNW-DPC)

2008

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF WATER AND SANITATION

MARCH – THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL APPOINTS THE FIRST INDEPENDENT EXPERT ON THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS RELATED TO ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION

2009

MARCH – 5TH WORLD WATER FORUM IN ISTANBUL

2010

28 JULY – HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER AND SANITATION IS DECLARED (UNITED NATIONS, 2010A)

2011

FEBRUARY – DRIVE TO 2015: UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTS RESOLUTION “FOLLOW-UP TO THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SANITATION, 2008” (UNITED NATIONS, 2011B), INCLUDING “SUSTAINABLE SANITATION: THE FIVE-YEAR DRIVE TO 2015”

FEBRUARY – DECLARATION OF 2013 “INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF WATER COOPERATION” (UNITED NATIONS, 2011A)

MARCH – THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL MANDATE ON WATER AND SANITATION IS EXTENDED AND RENAMED TO “SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE HUMAN RIGHT TO SAFE DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION”

NOVEMBER – LAUNCHING OF THE UN-WATER ACTIVITY INFORMATION SYSTEM (UNW-AIS) ONLINE PLATFORM

2012

MARCH – 6TH WORLD WATER FORUM IN MARSEILLE

JUNE – THE RIO+20 CONFERENCE, WHOSE OUTCOME DOCUMENT HIGHLIGHTS THE COMMITMENT TO THE 2005-2015 INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION “WATER FOR LIFE”

MARCH – DRINKING WATER TARGET IS DECLARED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL TO HAVE BEEN MET, AS OF 2010

2013

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF WATER COOPERATION (UNITED NATIONS, 2011A)

MARCH – CALL TO SUPPORT THE DRIVE BY UNITED NATIONS DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL JAN ELIASSON (WORLD WATER DAY)

MAY – HIGH-LEVEL PANEL OF EMINENT PERSONS PROPOSING ONE WATER GOAL WITHIN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL FRAMEWORK BEYOND 2015: “ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION”, WITH FOUR TARGETS (UNITED NATIONS, 2013C)

JULY – WORLD TOILET DAY DECLARED AN OFFICIAL UN DAY - MANAGED BY UN-WATER/ THEMATIC PRIORITY AREA FOR WATER AND SANITATION

NOVEMBER – FIRST WORLD TOILET DAY, CAMPAIGN LED BY UN-WATER

2014

FEBRUARY – UN-WATER TECHNICAL ADVICE ON A GLOBAL WATER GOAL

JULY – UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY’S OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS PROPOSED A STAND-ALONE “WATER GOAL” AS GOAL 6

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UN-WATER MEMBERS

(FROM WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS)

CBD:	SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
FAO:	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
IAEA:	INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
IFAD:	INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
ILO:	INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION
OHCHR:	UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
UNCCD:	SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION
UNCTAD:	UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT
UNDESA:	UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
UNDP:	UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
UN ECA:	UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
UN ECE:	UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
UN ECLAC:	UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
UNEP:	UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
UN ESCAP:	UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
UNESCO:	UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
UN ESCWA:	UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA
UNFCCC:	SECRETARIAT OF UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE
UN-HABITAT:	UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME
UNHCR:	UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES
UNICEF:	UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
UNIDO:	UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
UNISDR:	UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION
UNITAR:	UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH
UNU:	UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY
WFP:	WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME
WHO:	WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
UNWTO:	WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION
WORLD BANK	
WMO:	WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION
UN WOMEN	

UN-WATER PARTNERS

WITH SPECIAL STATUS

**MANDATE OF THE UN SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE HUMAN RIGHT TO SAFE DRINKING
WATER AND SANITATION**

THE GLOBAL COMPACT

UNOOSA:	UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR OUTER SPACE AFFAIRS
UNSGAB:	UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL'S ADVISORY BOARD ON WATER & SANITATION
WSSCC:	WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION COLLABORATIVE COUNCIL

UN-WATER PARTNERS

(FROM OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED NATIONS)

AIDA:	INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR WATER LAW
AQUAFED:	THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PRIVATE WATER OPERATORS
CAWST:	CENTER FOR AFFORDABLE WATER AND SANITATION TECHNOLOGY
CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL	
GWA:	GENDER AND WATER ALLIANCE
GWP:	GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP
IAH:	INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HYDROGEOLOGISTS
IAHR:	INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR HYDRO-ENVIRONMENT ENGINEERING AND RESEARCH
IAHS:	INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HYDROLOGICAL SCIENCES
ICID:	INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION & DRAINAGE
IGRAC:	INTERNATIONAL GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ASSESSMENT CENTRE
IHA:	INTERNATIONAL HYDROPOWER ASSOCIATION
IIASA:	INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS
IRC	
IUCN:	INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE
IWA:	INTERNATIONAL WATER ASSOCIATION
IWMI:	INTERNATIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE
IWRA:	INTERNATIONAL WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION
PSI:	PUBLIC SERVICES INTERNATIONAL
RAMSAR:	CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
SIWI:	STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL WATER INSTITUTE
STAKEHOLDER FORUM	
WATERAID	
WATERLEX	
WATER.ORG	
WBCSD:	WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
WCCE:	WORLD COUNCIL OF CIVIL ENGINEERS
WORLD WATER COUNCIL	
WRI:	WATER RESOURCES INSTITUTE
WWF:	WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE
WYPW:	WORLD YOUTH PARLIAMENT FOR WATER
WFWP:	WOMEN FOR WATER PARTNERSHIP

ANNEX

Annex 1 - Overview of the topics covered in the World Water Development Report (WWDR) during the Decade, 2005-2015

YEAR	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
2003*	Water for People, Water for Life	The first WWDR provided a comprehensive review that gives an overall picture of the state of the world's freshwater resources and aimed to provide decision makers with the tools to implement sustainable use of water resources. 23 UN-Water Members contributed to the report.
2006	Water: a Shared Responsibility	This report presented a comprehensive picture of freshwater resources in all regions and most countries of the world as it tracks progress towards the water-related targets of the MDGs and examines a range of key issues including population growth and increasing urbanization, changing ecosystems, food production, health, industry and energy, as well as risk management, valuing and paying for water and increasing knowledge and capacity. 24 UN-Water Members contributed to the report.
2009	Water in a Changing World	A number of themes were addressed throughout the report, including climate change, the MDGs, groundwater, biodiversity, water and migration, water and infrastructure, biofuels, etc. 25 UN-Water Members contributed to the report.
2012	Managing Water under Uncertainty and Risk	This report aimed to encourage all stakeholders both in and out of the "water box" - water managers, leaders in government, civil society and businesses - to engage early in decision making processes to improve the quality and acceptance of decisions and the probability of successful implementation. 28 UN-Water Members contributed to the report.
2014	Water and Energy	This report, the first annual WWDR, sought to inform decision makers, stakeholders and practitioners about the interlinkages, potential synergies and trade-offs, and to highlight the need for appropriate responses and regulatory frameworks that account for both water and energy priorities. 31 UN-Water Members contributed to the report.
2015	Water and Sustainable Development	This report will be launched on World Water Day 2015.

* The first WWDR is outside the scope of the "Water for Life" Decade

Annex 2 - Overview of the focus of the Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) Report during the Decade, 2005-2015

YEAR	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
2008	GLAAS 2008 - Pilot Report	The pilot report highlighted the existence of significant knowledge gaps and the fact that the sanitation and drinking water sectors lack a global, periodic, and comprehensive sector analysis, which is able to talk to and influence high level policy makers.
2010	GLAAS 2010 - Targeting Resources for Better Results	This report highlights where efforts stagnate in achieving the MDG target 7.C. -to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. It also highlights the Post-2015 challenges that need to be addressed by the United Nations system to collectively support its Member States.
2012	GLAAS 2012 Report - The Challenge of Extending and Sustaining Services	This UN-Water GLAAS report presents data received from 74 developing countries, covering all the MDG regions, and from 24 external support agencies, representing approximately 90 per cent of official development assistance for sanitation and drinking water.
2014	GLAAS 2014 Report - Investing in Water and Sanitation: Increasing Access, Reducing Inequalities	The 2014 UN-Water GLAAS report was officially launched on World Toilet Day (November 2014) and presents data from 94 countries, covering all MDG regions. It also includes data from 23 external support agencies (ESAs), representing over 90 per cent of official development assistance (ODA) for sanitation and drinking water.

Annex 3 - Overview of major JMP reports

YEAR	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
2005	Water for Life: making it happen	This report highlighted that achieving the target of the MDGs for access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation will bring a payback worth many times the investment involved. It also argued that it will also bring health, dignity and transformed lives to many millions of the world's poorest people. The humanitarian case for action is blindingly apparent. The economic case is just as strong.
2006	MDG assessment report	The report analysed how access to drinking water and sanitation services is evolving. A special focus is given to the trends observed in urban and rural areas and how these are related to the likelihood of achieving the MDG drinking water and sanitation target.
2008	MDG assessment report	This report introduced a new way of assessing global, regional and country progress using the «ladder» concept for both sanitation and drinking water. For sanitation, trends in using improved, shared, and unimproved sanitation facilities are shown, in addition to the trend in open defecation. The drinking water ladder shows the percentage of global population using piped connections into a dwelling, plot or yard; other improved water sources; and unimproved sources.
2010, 2012, 2013, 2014	Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation (Updates)	The updates provide information on the progress towards the drinking water and sanitation target under MDG 7. According to the latest update, though progress towards the MDG target represents important gains in access for billions of people around the world, it has been uneven. Sharp geographic, sociocultural and economic inequalities in access persist and sometimes have increased.







WATER FOR LIFE
2005-2015

FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES PLEASE WRITE TO UNWATER@UN.ORG
YOU CAN ALSO INTERACT WITH UN-WATER ON
FACEBOOK: [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/UN.WATER](https://www.facebook.com/un.water)
TWITTER: [TWITTER.COM/UN_WATER](https://twitter.com/un_water)
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WITH INPUT FROM UN-WATER MEMBERS, PARTNERS AND PROGRAMMES.

