Agenda Item 3.2

Final report of the UN-Water SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018 on Water and Sanitation and the Public Dialogue

Background Brief
30th UN-Water Meeting – 31 January and 1 February 2019 – Rome, Italy

Please send this document and any annexes to leanne.burney@unwater.org
no later than 28 December 2018

Background Brief prepared by:
Task Force on the SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018 (draft by UNESCO WWAP)

Main Issues of this Agenda Item:
- Presentation of the findings of the Public Dialogue;

Introduction / Background / Rationale (less than 200 words please)**:**
In June 2018, UN-Water released the SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018 on Water and Sanitation reviewing the progress on SDG 6, the interlinkages to other SDGs and identifying the areas where it is necessary to accelerate action for the achieving SDG 6. At the 28th UN-Water meeting, it was decided that feedback on the Synthesis Report was needed in light of the comprehensive nature and importance for policy making of the first baseline report on SDG 6, and that a "Public Dialogue" was needed to further increase the transparency, credibility, accountability and, last but not least, the impact of the report.

Progress Update (less than 200 words please)**:**
The list of events, copies of the SDG 6 Synthesis Report distributed and downloaded are presented in Annex 1.

The Public Dialogue on the SDG 6 Synthesis report took place from May to September 2018 and discussed the report and its main messages, and was primarily moderated during three one-month periods in an on-line forum on the UN-Water website in addition to an online questionnaire, which targeted various stakeholder groups for feedback on the Synthesis Report. Feedback was also collected in events in which the report was presented. The results of the Public Dialogue will be taken into consideration during the next SDG 6 monitoring and reporting cycle.

On the whole, the feedback on the SDG 6 Synthesis Report on Water and Sanitation was very positive. It was "consistent", "covered all issues" and "comprehensive", a "great synthesis", and is a fantastic starting point to discuss the implementation of SDG 6. The effort to make the interlinkages with other aspects of the 2030 Agenda was appreciated, as it clearly showed the importance of water to other elements of

sustainable development, and vice versa. A critical remark was also on the importance of opening up to provide feedback earlier and in different ways. It was hoped that this would be possible in the next reporting and publishing cycle.

Some participants have also recommended to shorten the report as well as to include more national-level data and real-life examples on the efforts being made to close the gaps related various SDG 6 targets. There was a strong sense that while the data were useful, the report was lacking in guidance on how to implement SG 6 (note that this was beyond the objective of the Report). Sharing lessons learned and best practices in terms of both monitoring (data collection, reporting, etc.) and implementation of SDG 6 could significantly assist those looking to make a larger impact on the long road to 2030.

Proposed Action by UN-Water, if any (less than 100 words please)**:**
UN-Water acknowledges with appreciation the work of the Task Force on the SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018. The Report provides a very good basis for continuous improvement of the SDG 6 monitoring and reporting as well as assisting Member States in considering the important water and sanitation linkages to other SDGs in future HLPF meetings.

Proposed Draft Decision, if any (less than 100 words please)**:**

The SPM acknowledges with appreciation the report on the Public Dialogue of the SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018. Recommendations will be considered in future related activities.

Annexes (if any)**:**

- Tables with list of publication, downloads and distribution of hard copies (Table 1 and 2).
- List and figure with events realized and approximate number of participants (Table 3 and Figure1)

Table 1: List of publication and total of downloads of SDG 6 SR products (on 30th November)

Production – available online from	Language	Number of Downloads
SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018 on Water and Sanitation - 28 June, 2018	ENG	5232
Highlights – SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018 on Water and Sanitation 25 April, 2018	ENG	1263
	SPA	130
	FR	93
	RU	10
	AR	23
	CH	22
Executive Summary – SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018 on Water and Sanitation - 29 May, 2018	ENG	1419
	SPA	143
	FR	130
	RU	38
	AR	18
	CH	21
Advance briefing – SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018 on Water and Sanitation - 7 November, 2017	ENG	1291
	SPA	117
	FR	78
	RU	27
	AR	49
	CH	21

Table 2: Number of SDG 6 SR products printed and distributed in the period from November 2017 to November 2018.

Production	Language	Number of Copies (*)
SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018 on Water and Sanitation (July 2018)	ENG	3000 (100)
Executive Summary and Highlights (same number of copies printed and distributed – May 2018)	ENG	2,500 copies (400)
	SPA	1,000 copies (300)
	FR	1,000 copies (200)
	RU	600 copies (300)
	AR	450 copies (60)
	CH	300 copies (160)

Advanced Briefing (Nov 2017)	ENG	2200
	SPA	600
	FR	600
	RU	300
	AR	500
	CH	250
*The numbers between brackets are the copies not distributed.		

Figure 1: Geographical distribution of the events held to present the SDG 6 SR from November 2017 to November 2018.

Table 3: List of events and number of participants in 2018.

Dissemination of the SDG 6 SR - events	**Number of Participants**
Brazil – Brasilia - 19-23 March2018 World Water Forum 2018. Organization of a side event on Monitoring and Reporting on SDG 6, and presentation on invited side event "Water: source of life!"	120 participants
United Kingdom – London (include dates) Invited talk at the annual Gerald Lacey Lecture, a prestigious lecture in the UK, at the Commission of Engineering	120 participants; live-casted with many viewers worldwide through the ICID and other networks
Several countries Preparation meetings for the HLPF by the Regional Economic Commissions, presentations in Geneva (2 March), Beirut (27 March), Bangkok (28 March, via VC) and Geneva (3 May, by Taskforce Member)	Minimum of 30 participants in each event from several countries.
United States – New York – 2 May, 2018	100 representatives of 80

Workshop on the UN-Water SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018, co-hosted by Finland and Lebanon.	Member States
Senegal – Dakar – 2 -4 May, 2018 Presentation of the SDG 6 SR by UN environment during the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development.	30 people from several countries of sub-Saharan Africa.
France – Paris - 14 June 2018 Science-Policy Interface Conference, part of Intergovernmental Council of UNESCO IHP,	Ca. 120 participants in high-level representatives from 14 governments
Tajikistan – Dushanbe - 21 June 2018 Plenary presentation at the High-level International Conference on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development" 2018-2028,	Ca. 1200 participants from more than 70 Members States
Poland – Warsaw - 30 June 2018. Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe Summer School	46 students from 17 different European Countries (mainly from Eastern Europe)
United States – New York - 9 July 2018 SDG 6 Synthesis Report was presented during the main session of the HLPF's SDG 6 review, to be immediately followed by a dedicated side-even, thus extending the outreach of the report to all participants of the HLPF 2018.	more 250 representatives from Member States and other stakeholders; live-casted with many viewers worldwide
Sweden - Stockholm – 26-31 August 2018 World Water Week - UN-Water Stakeholder Dialogue dedicated to SDG 6 SR	80 participants
Ghana – Accra – 24-27 September Dedicated workshop organized within the "Regional Training Workshop on Effective Management of Water Quality and Emerging Pollutants in Water and Wastewater in Sub-Saharan Africa" organized by UNESCO IHP; UNESCO Multisectoral Regional Office in Abuja; UNESCO office in Accra and WWAP.	75 participants from 26 African countries participated in the workshop.
Egypt – Cairo – 9-11 October 2018 Presentation of the Report during a Workshop on WWDR 2017.	30 water professionals from Egypt
Panama – Panama City – 22-25 October 2018 Presentation of the report during the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) meeting of the National Committees and Focal Points (CONAPHIS) in Latin America and the Caribbean.	50 representatives of 37 National committees and country focal points
Ecuador – Guayaquil -28-31 October 2018 The SDG 6 SR was presented and discussed during a Sustainability Workshop organized by WWAP and IHP during the XXXVI Inter-American Congress of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering, in Guayaquil –	100 participants

Ecuador.	
Brazil – Rio de Janeiro – 26-28 November 2018 A side event was organized during the Rio Water Week for the launch of the Portuguese version of the ES and HL of the SDG 6 SR.	100 participants