

# Resources and key messages on SDG 6 for Asia-Pacific Water Summit

23-24 April 2022

# Explore the data (regional snapshots)

- Central and Southern Asia
- Eastern and South-Eastern Asia
- Northern Africa and Western Asia
- Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand)
- Australia and New Zealand



# Download the SDG 6 progress reports

- [Summary Progress Update 2021 \(SDG 6\)](#)
- [2021 Progress on Household Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene \(SDG 6.1.1 and 6.2.1\)](#)
- [2021 Progress on Wastewater Treatment \(SDG 6.3.1\)](#)
- [2021 Progress on Ambient Water Quality \(SDG 6.3.2\)](#)
- [2021 Progress on Water-Use Efficiency \(SDG 6.4.1\)](#)
- [2021 Progress on Level of Water Stress \(SDG 6.4.2\)](#)
- [2021 Progress on Integrated Water Resources Management \(SDG 6.5.1\)](#)
- [2021 Progress on Transboundary Water Cooperation \(SDG 6.5.2\)](#)
- [2021 Progress on Water-related Ecosystems \(SDG 6.6.1\)](#)
- [2019 National systems to support drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene \(SDG 6.a.1-6.b.1\)](#)  
(new report to be launched in December 2022)





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## INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

# SDG 6.1 DRINKING WATER

World Health Organization (WHO)

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)



## 6.1.1 Drinking water

**Acceleration needs to achieve universal access to safely managed drinking water by 2030:**

- In **Central and Southern Asia**, efforts must increase **five-fold** (current rate of progress x5)
- In **Eastern and South-Eastern Asia** and in **Oceania**, not enough data are available to assess the acceleration needed
- In **Western Asia and Northern Africa**, efforts must increase **four-fold** (current rate of progress x4)





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## INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

# SDG 6.2 SANITATION AND HYGIENE

World Health Organization (WHO)  
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)







## 6.2.1 Sanitation

**Acceleration needs to achieve universal access to safely managed sanitation services by 2030:**

- In **Central and Southern Asia**, efforts must **triple** (current rate of progress x3)
- In **Eastern and South-Eastern Asia**, efforts must **double** (current rate of progress x2)
- In **Western Asia and Northern Africa**, efforts must increase **eight-fold** (current rate of progress x8)





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## INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

# SDG 6.3 WASTEWATER AND WATER QUALITY

World Health Organization (WHO)

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)



## 6.3.1 Wastewater treatment



Only  
**42**  
countries

**reported statistics** on  
wastewater generation and  
treatment in **2015**

These **limited data** suggest  
that about a **1/3**   
of total or industrial  
wastewater **received**  
**treatment** before discharge



Estimates of household wastewater  
**generation and treatment** are available for  
representing **80%**  
of the global population

  
**128**  
countries

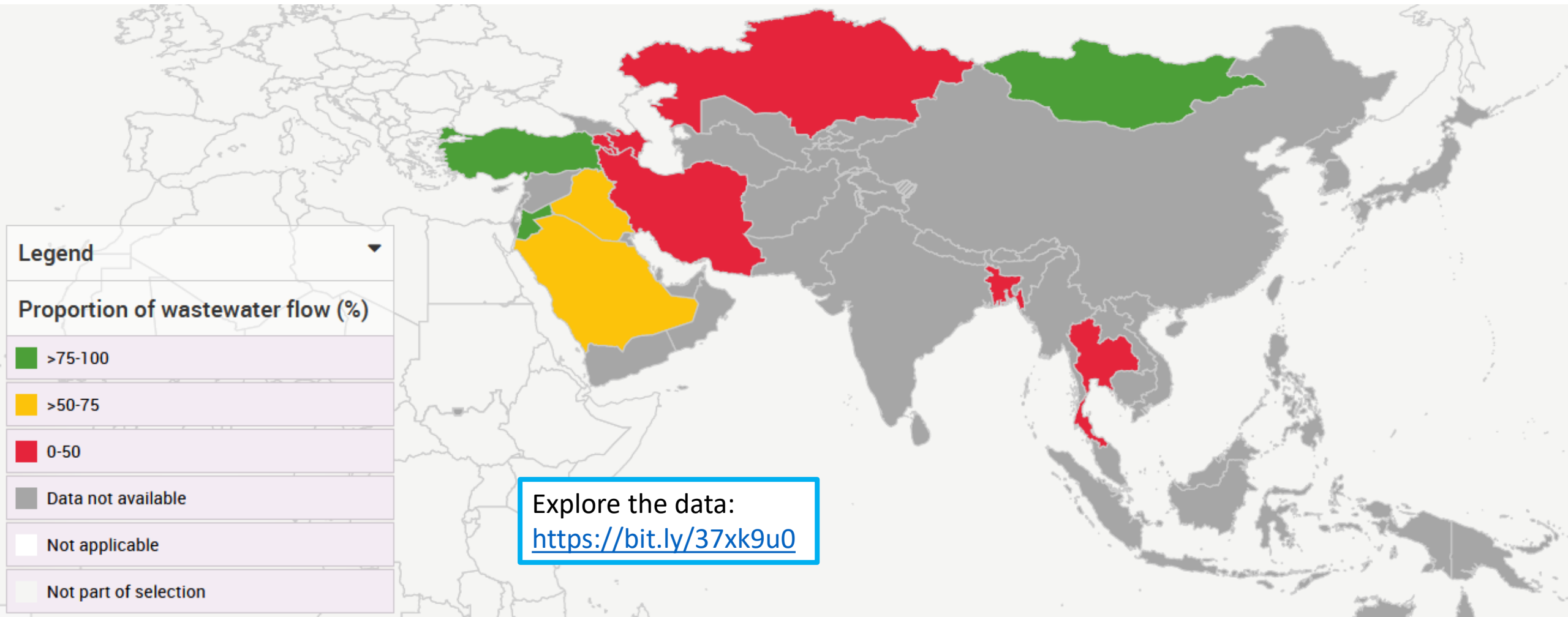
Approximately **1/2**   
of household wastewater  
was **collected and safely**  
treated in **2020**





## 6.3.1 Wastewater treatment (total)

- Data on total wastewater treatment are only available from 12 countries in Asia and Oceania

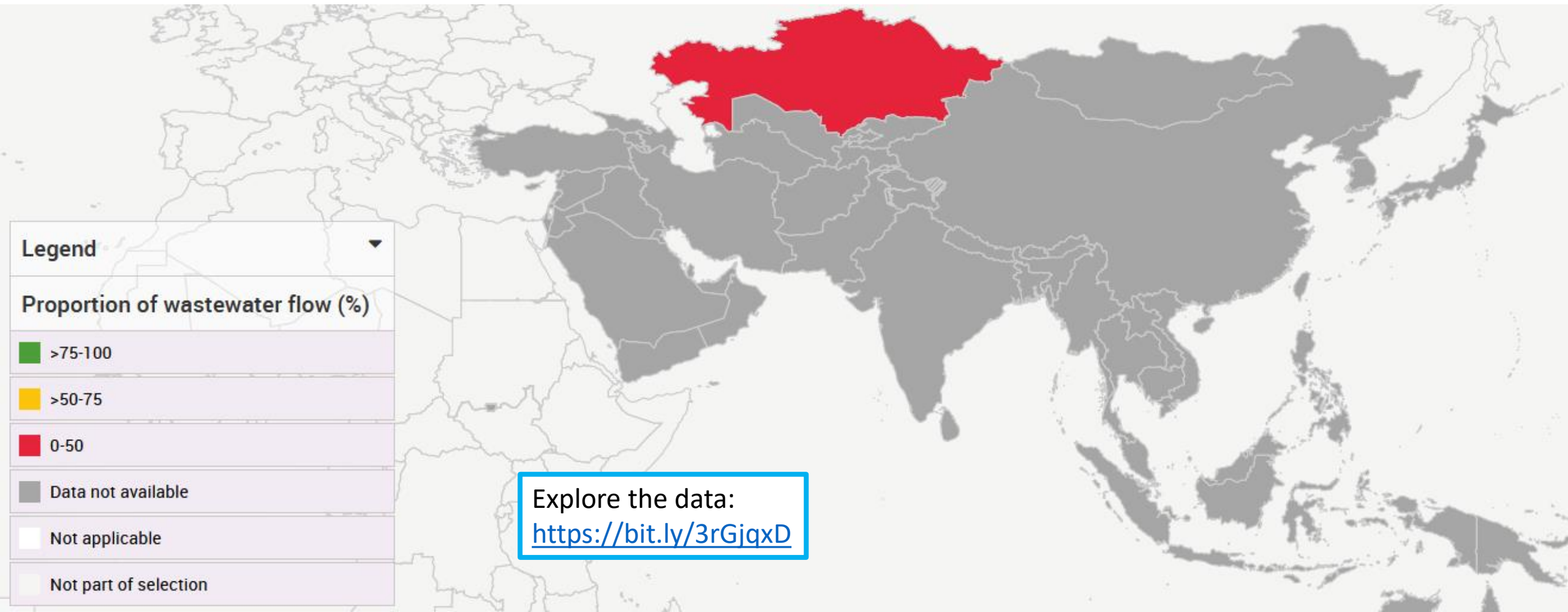




## 6.3.1 Wastewater treatment (industrial)



- Data on industrial wastewater treatment are only available from 1 country in Asia and Oceania



## 6.3.2 Ambient water quality



### Lack of data puts people at risk

- Ambient water quality data are not routinely collected in most countries.
- This means that water quality for **3 billion people** is unknown and these people could be at significant risk.
- Data on water quality from developing countries lacks detail, with the indicator calculated using relatively few measurements and without suitable environmental water quality standards.

The lack of water quality data for

over **3** billion people

means that they are at significant risk because the health of their rivers, lakes and groundwater is unknown





## 6.3.2 Ambient water quality

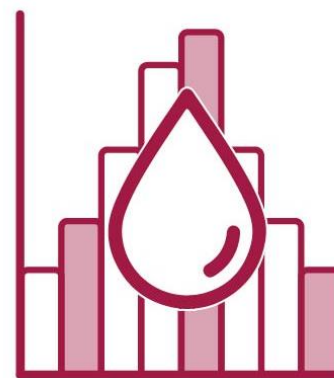


### Data gaps in low-GDP countries

- Over 75,000 water bodies were reported on in 2020, but over three-quarters of them were in 24 high-GDP countries.
- The poorest **20 countries reported on just over 1,000 water bodies.**
- More monitoring is urgently needed, especially in places where people rely on untreated water for drinking and domestic use.



where we have information are in the **20** lowest GDP countries

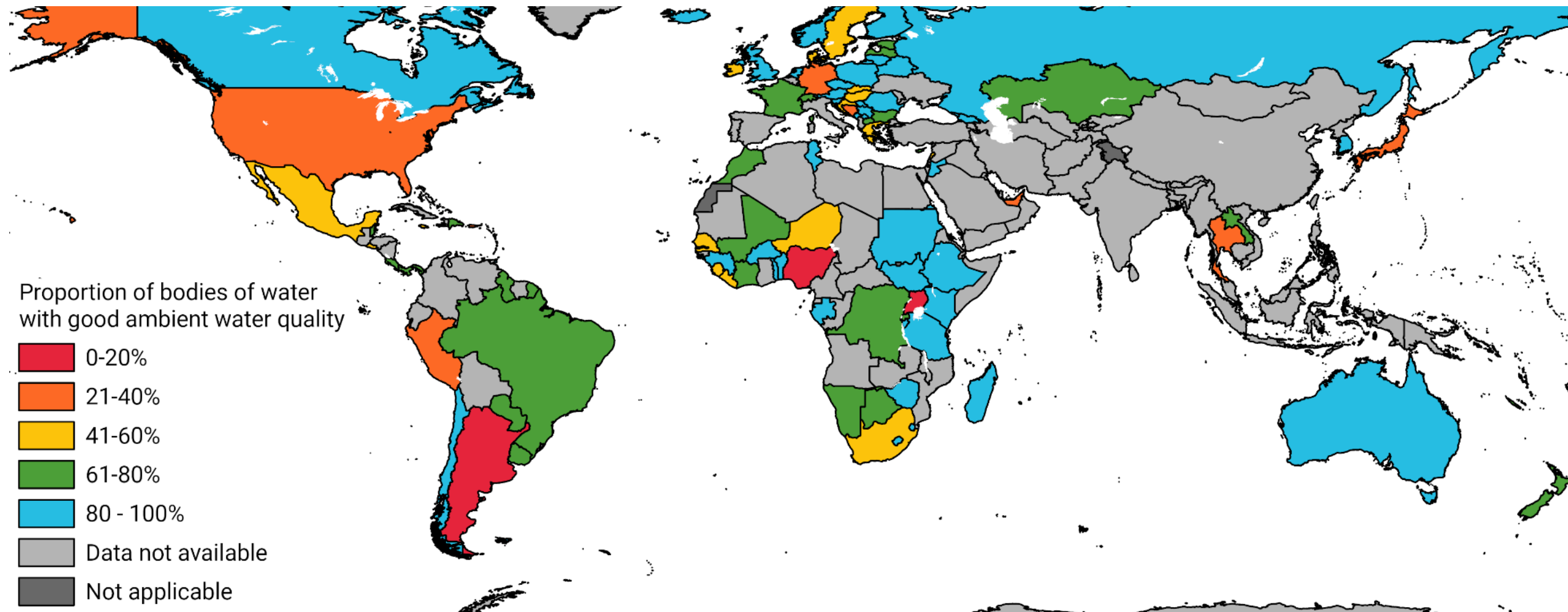


In low-GDP countries, there is an **urgent need** for **better data** on the **health** of rivers, lakes and groundwater

## 6.3.2 Ambient water quality



- Country reporting on indicator 6.3.2 was much greater in 2020 than in 2017, but there are still significant gaps. Most notable are those in Central, Southern and Western Asia.







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## INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

# SDG 6.4 WATER USE AND SCARCITY

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)







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## INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

# SDG 6.5 WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

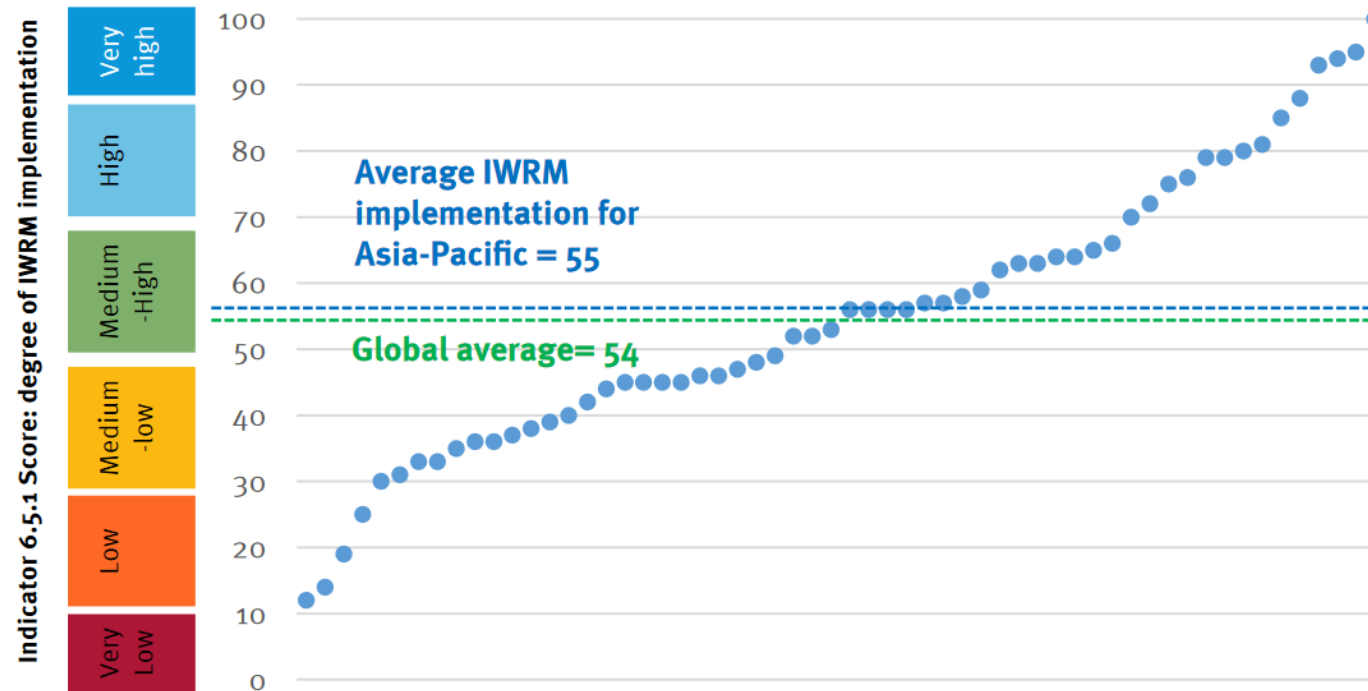
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)



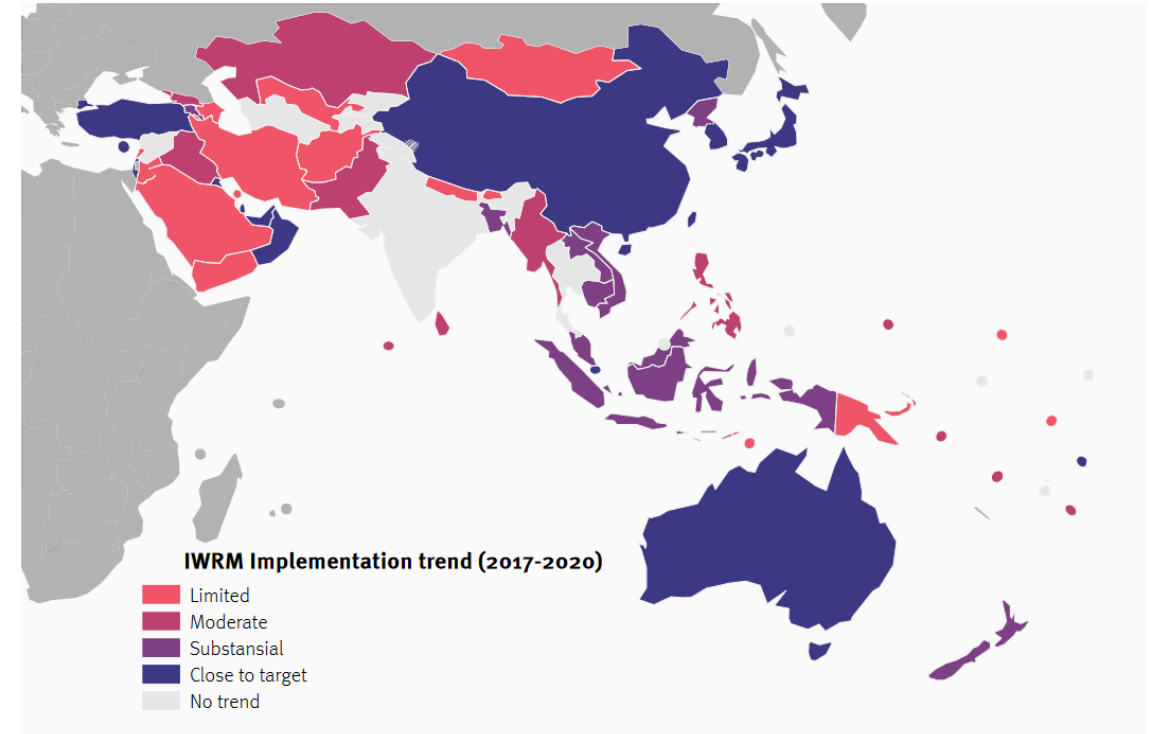
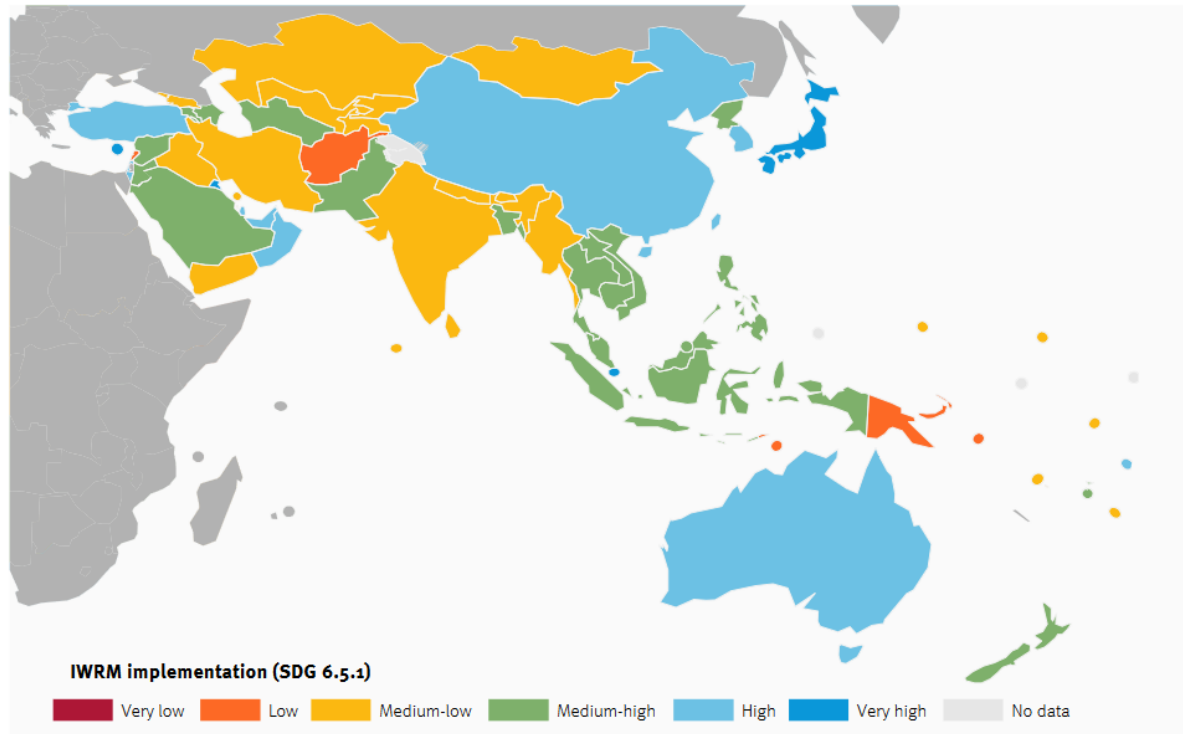
## 6.5.1 Integrated water resources management



The regional average score on the indicator is 55, just slightly above the global average. Most of the countries are in the medium-low and medium-high implementation levels.

The rate of progress on indicator 6.5.1 needs to double to achieve the target by 2030 and ensure water secure future for the region

## 6.5.1 Integrated water resources management



Behind the regional averages are significant subregional and national level differences. Many countries have shown that real and rapid progress is possible.

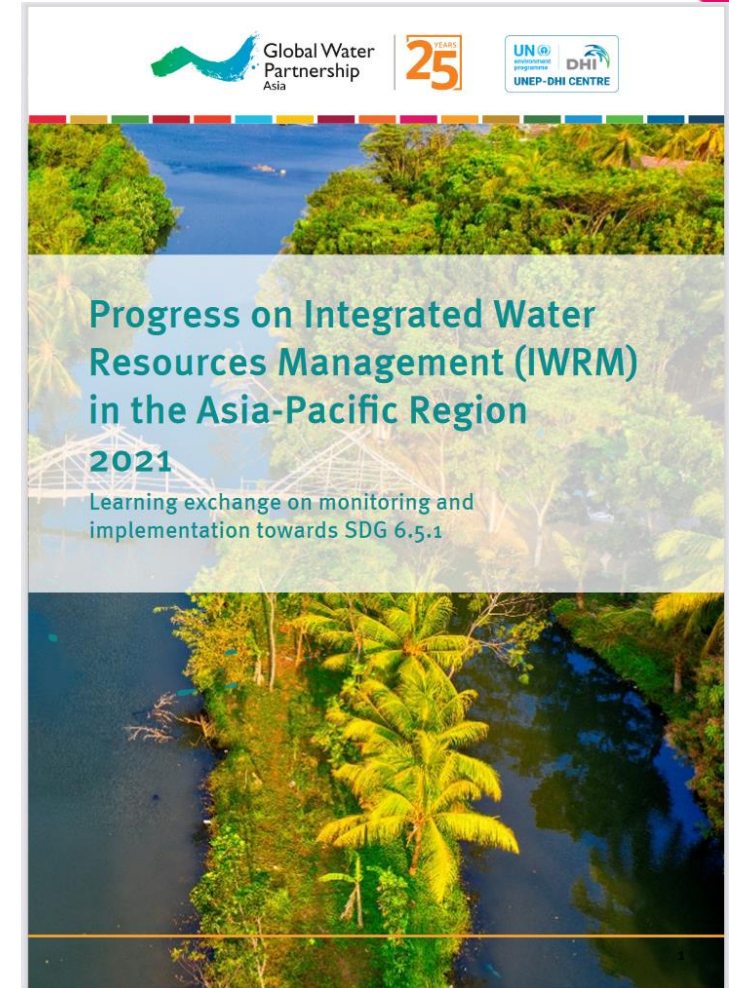
Promoting and supporting regional and subregional collaborative initiatives, and knowledge and information exchange can help accelerate IWRM implementation.

## 6.5.1 Integrated water resources management



Regional analysis report and stakeholder consultations propose concrete actions to:

1. Address the main challenges related to gaps in policy implementation and competencies
2. Reduce the sectoral and fragmented management of water resources, coordination gaps, and persisting difficulties in inclusive participation
3. Address challenges around availability, quality, and access to information for analysis, planning and decision-making
4. Increase and enhance the efficiency of financing for IWRM



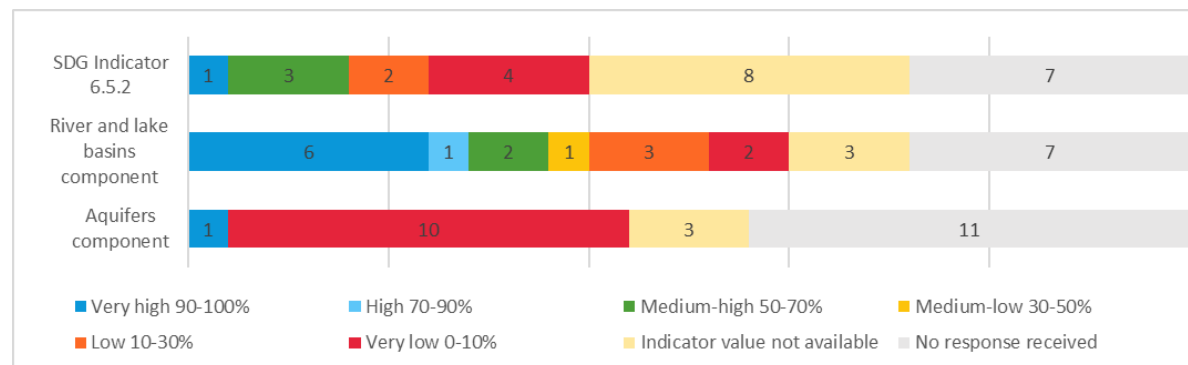
Political will and meaningful participation of stakeholders at all levels remain key for advancement nationally and regionally.





## 6.5.2 Transboundary water cooperation

- **18 out of 25** countries sharing water resources responded
  - This region experienced the **highest increase in response rate** between the 2017 and 2020 monitoring exercises (only 9 countries responded in 2017)
  - **15 countries** provided accurate data for transboundary river & lake basins and **14 countries** for transboundary aquifers; overall indicator value is available for **10 countries**
- A considerable number of **countries lack operational arrangements on water cooperation as well as basin-wide arrangements**
  - only 6 countries have  $\geq 90\%$  of their shared rivers & lakes covered by arrangements (the Mekong River Basin countries), and only one country reported arrangements that consider its shared aquifers (Mongolia)
- Reporting was enhanced through **stronger interactions with custodian agencies** (advice and workshops)
- There is a need to enhance **capacity regarding transboundary groundwater** knowledge and management



Number of countries in Central, Eastern, Southern & South-Eastern Asia sharing transboundary rivers, lakes and aquifers and breakdown of SDG 6.5.2 indicator values

An aerial photograph showing a wide, winding river with a light-colored, silty flow. The river meanders through a vast, green landscape that appears to be a wetland or floodplain. In the foreground, a dense cluster of buildings with colorful roofs (red, blue, grey) is visible, situated along the riverbank. The sky is overcast with soft, grey clouds. The overall scene depicts a natural ecosystem in proximity to human habitation.

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## INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

# SDG 6.6 FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)





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## INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

# SDG 6.A INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

World Health Organization (WHO)

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)





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**INTEGRATED MONITORING  
INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6**

# SDG 6.B LOCAL PARTICIPATION

World Health Organization (WHO)

