United Nations

UN WATER
INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

Data resources and key messages on SDG 6 for Regional preparatory meeting UN ESCWA

18-19 May 2022

UN environment
United Nations Environment Programme

UN HABITAT

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

unicef

UNECE

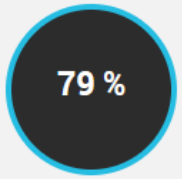
UNESCO
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

World Health Organization

WMO

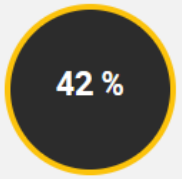
SDG 6 in Northern Africa and Western Asia

Drinking water



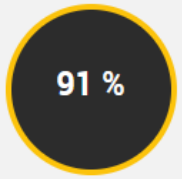
of the population in Northern Africa and Western Asia uses a safely managed drinking water service (SDG indicator 6.1.1, 2020)

Sanitation



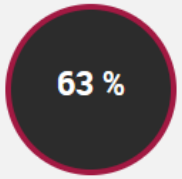
of the population in Northern Africa and Western Asia uses a safely managed sanitation service (SDG indicator 6.2.1a, 2020)

Hygiene



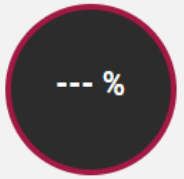
of the population in Northern Africa and Western Asia has a handwashing facility with soap and water available at home (SDG indicator 6.2.1b, 2020)

Wastewater



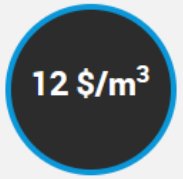
of domestic wastewater in Northern Africa and Western Asia is safely treated (SDG indicator 6.3.1, 2020)

Water quality



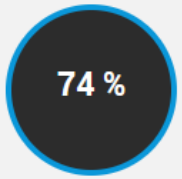
of monitored water bodies in Northern Africa and Western Asia has good ambient water quality (SDG indicator 6.3.2, 2020)

Efficiency



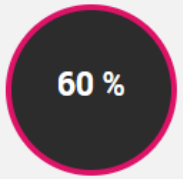
is the value added from the use of water by people and the economy in Northern Africa and Western Asia (SDG indicator 6.4.1, 2018)

Water stress



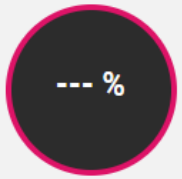
of the renewable water resources in Northern Africa and Western Asia is being withdrawn, after taking into account environmental flow requirements (SDG indicator 6.4.2, 2018)

Water management



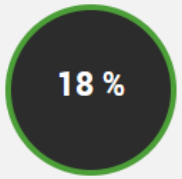
is the degree of implementation of integrated water resources management in Northern Africa and Western Asia (SDG indicator 6.5.1, 2020)

Transboundary



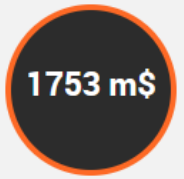
of transboundary basin area has an operational arrangement for water cooperation (SDG indicator 6.5.2, 2020)

Ecosystems



of the water basins in Northern Africa and Western Asia is experiencing rapid changes in the area covered by surface waters (SDG 6 indicator 6.6.1, 2020)

Cooperation



is the amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance received by Northern Africa and Western Asia in 2019 (SDG indicator 6.a.1)

Participation

is the average number of sub-sectors (out of 6) with a high level of participation by communities in Northern Africa and Western Asia (SDG indicator 6.b.1, 2019)

Explore the data (regional snapshots)

- Central and Southern Asia
- Eastern and South-Eastern Asia
- Europe and Northern America
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Northern Africa and Western Asia
- Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand)
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- 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)

UN WATER

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 needed to achieve universal access to safely managed drinking water services by 2030: In the **Arab countries**, efforts must increase four-fold (**current rate of progress x 4**)
- Only **10 (out of 22) countries** had national estimates available for safely managed drinking water services in 2020
- Only **1 country** with <99% safely managed drinking water services in 2020 is on track to achieve universal access by 2030
- **48 million people** in Arab countries still lacked even a basic drinking water service in 2020

UN WATER
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 needed to achieve universal access to safely managed sanitation services by 2030: In **Arab countries**, efforts must increase nine-fold (**current rate of progress x 9**)
- Only **16 (out of 22) countries** had national estimates available for safely managed sanitation services in 2020
- **Two countries** with <99% safely managed drinking sanitation services in 2020 are on track to achieve universal access by 2030
- **71 million people** in Arab countries still lacked even a basic sanitation service in 2020
- **20 million people** in Arab countries still practised open defecation in 2020, almost all lived in rural areas

6.2.1 Hygiene

- **Insufficient data** to estimate acceleration needed to achieve universal access to basic hygiene services by 2030
- Only **9 (out of 22) countries** had national estimates available for basic hygiene services in 2020
- Only **1 country** with <99% basic hygiene services in 2020 is on track to achieve universal access by 2030

UN WATER
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)

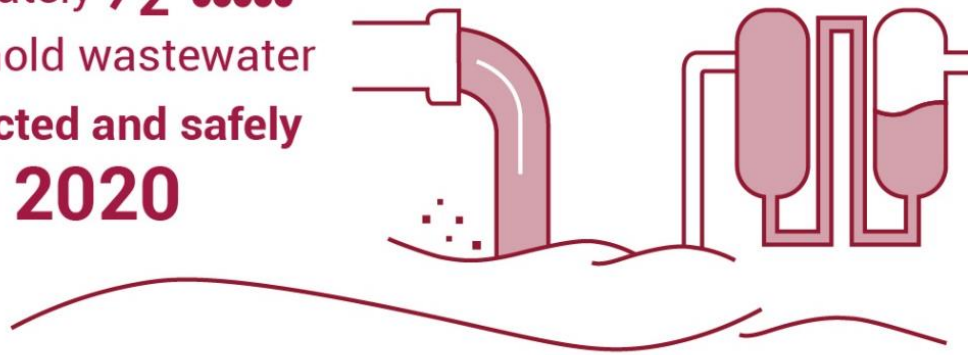
6.3.1 Wastewater treatment

Only **42** countries **reported statistics** on wastewater generation and treatment in **2015**

Estimates of household wastewater **generation and treatment** are available for **128** countries representing **80%** of the global population

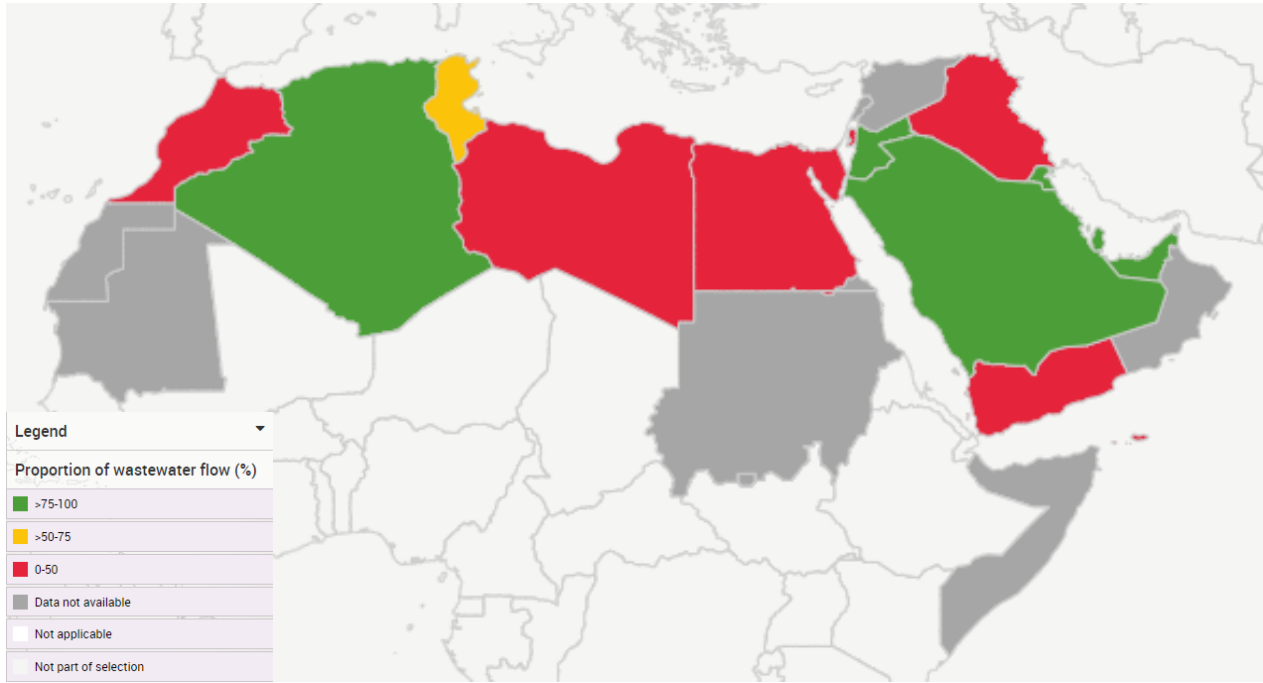
These **limited data** suggest that about a **1/3** of total or industrial wastewater **received treatment** before discharge

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



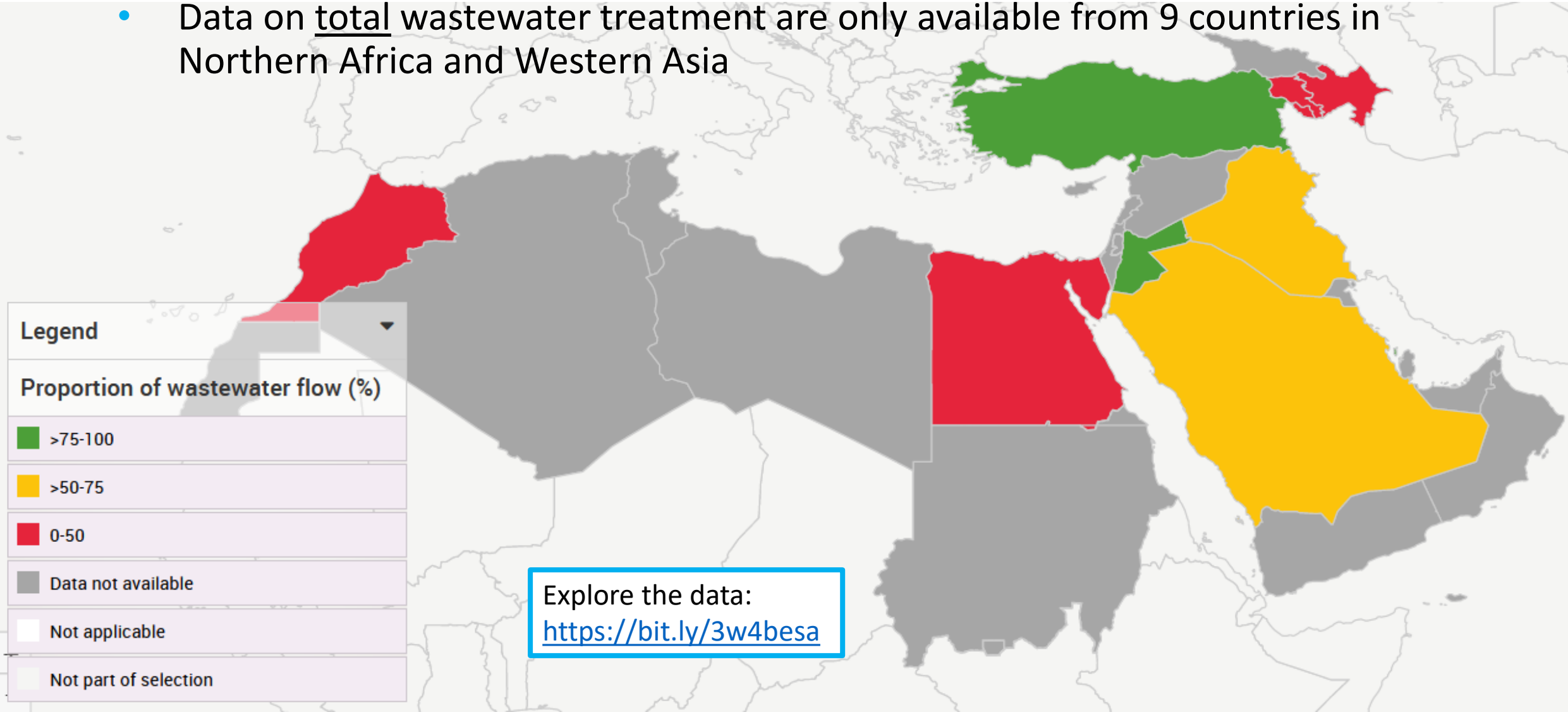
6.3.1 Wastewater treatment (domestic)

- Estimates for domestic wastewater generation and collection for 22 (out of 22) Arab countries
- Estimates for domestic wastewater treatment for 15 (out of 22) Arab countries
  - From 11% to >99%
- Regional averages:
  - 54% of all domestic wastewater safely treated
  - 65% of domestic waste discharged into sewers safely treated
  - 41% of domestic waste discharged into septic tanks/pit latrines safely treated



6.3.1 Wastewater treatment

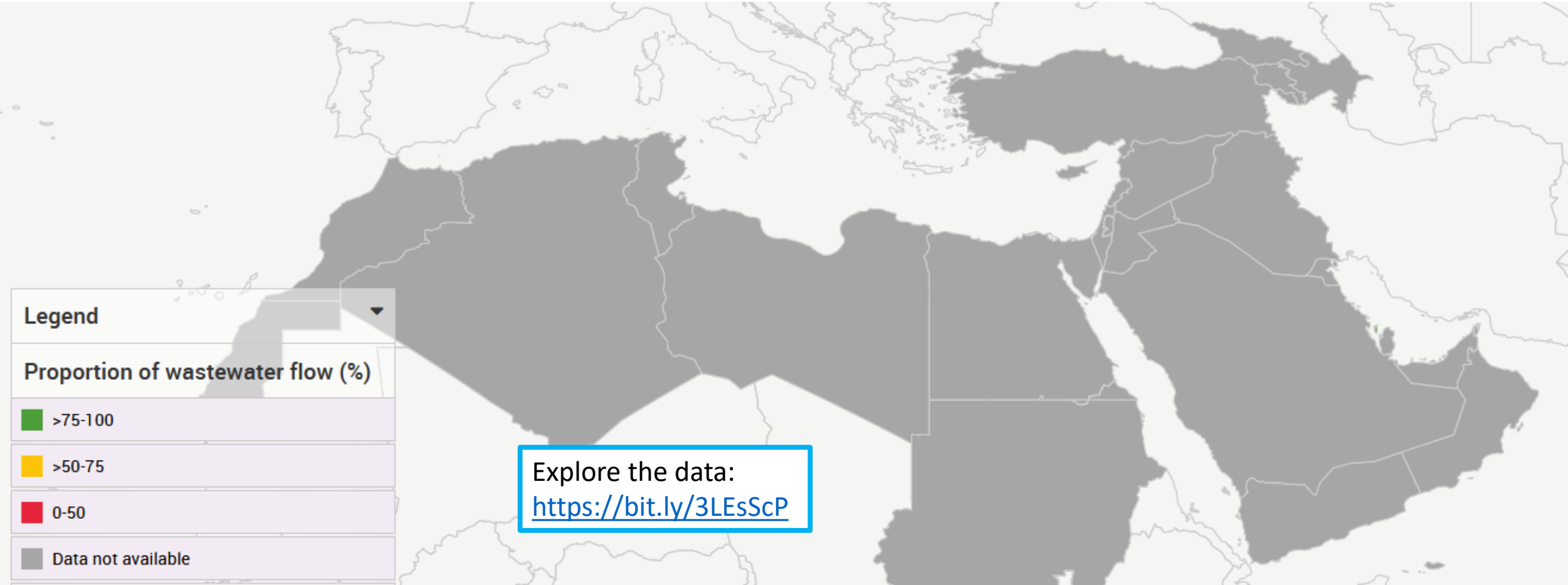
- Data on <u>total</u> wastewater treatment are only available from 9 countries in Northern Africa and Western Asia



Explore the data:
https://bit.ly/3w4besa

6.3.1 Wastewater treatment

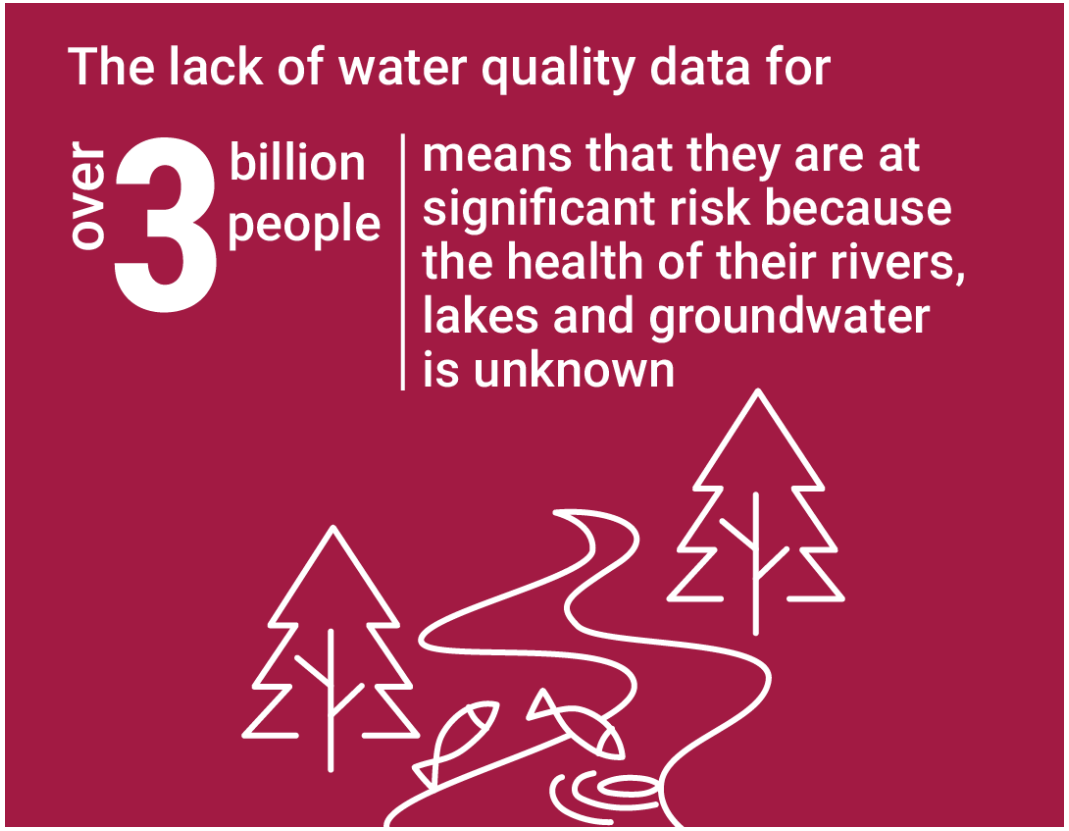
- Data on industrial wastewater treatment are only available from 1 country in Northern Africa and Western Asia (Bahrain)



6.3.2 Ambient water quality

Lack of data puts people at risk

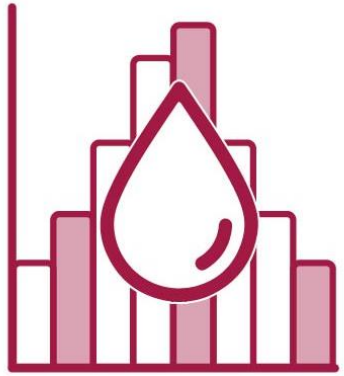
- Ambient water quality data are not routinely collected in most countries.
- This means that water quality for **3 billion people** is unknown and these people could be at significant risk.
- Data on water quality from developing countries lacks detail, with the indicator calculated using relatively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



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.

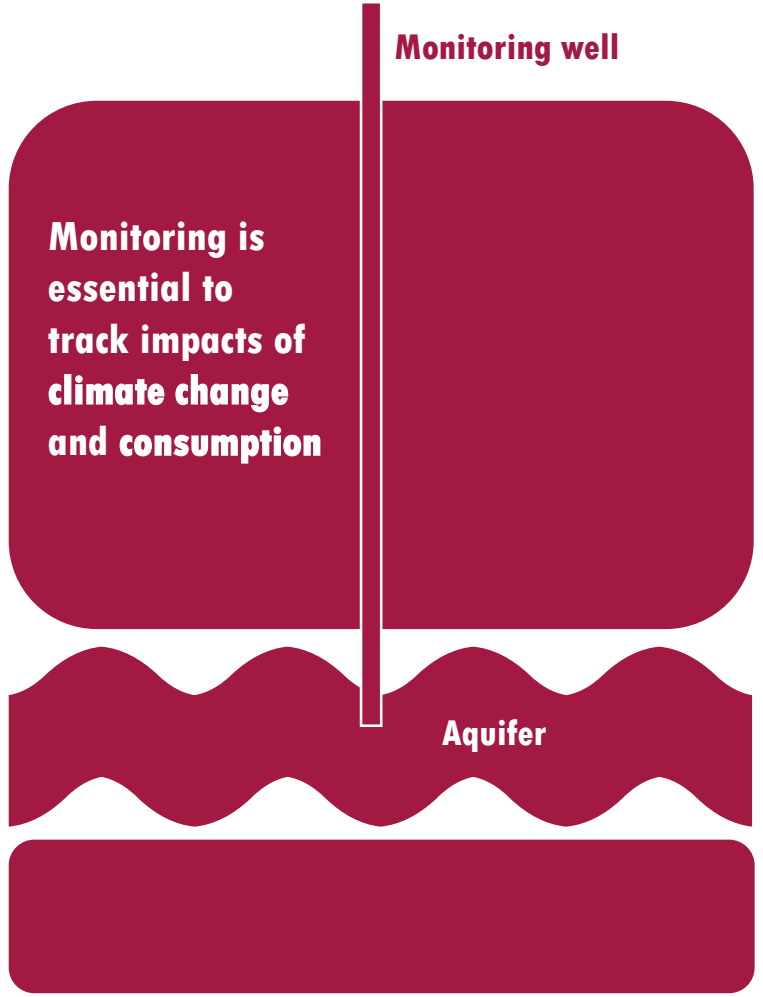


In low-GDP countries, there is an **urgent need** for **better data** on the **health** of rivers, lakes and groundwater

6.3.2 Ambient water quality

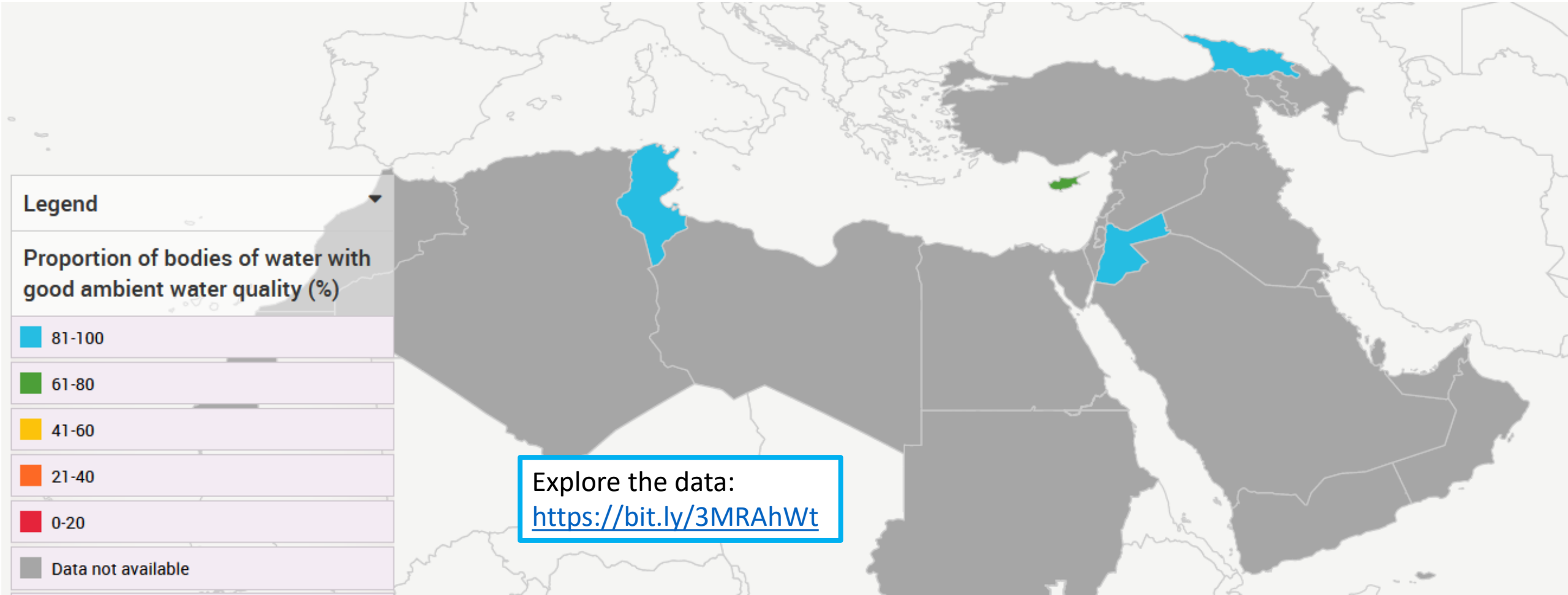
Lack of groundwater quality information

- Of the 89 countries that reported data, only 52 reported information about groundwater.
- Groundwater often represents the largest share of freshwater in a country.
- Without robust data, tracking the impacts of **climate change and consumption** on these vital resources is impossible.



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, especially in Northern Africa and Western Asia.



UN WATER
INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

SDG 6.4 WATER USE AND SCARCITY

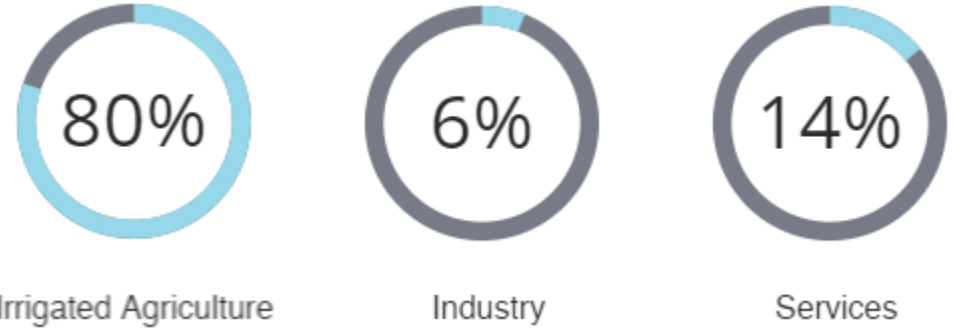
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

6.4.1 Water-use efficiency

10.1 $/m³

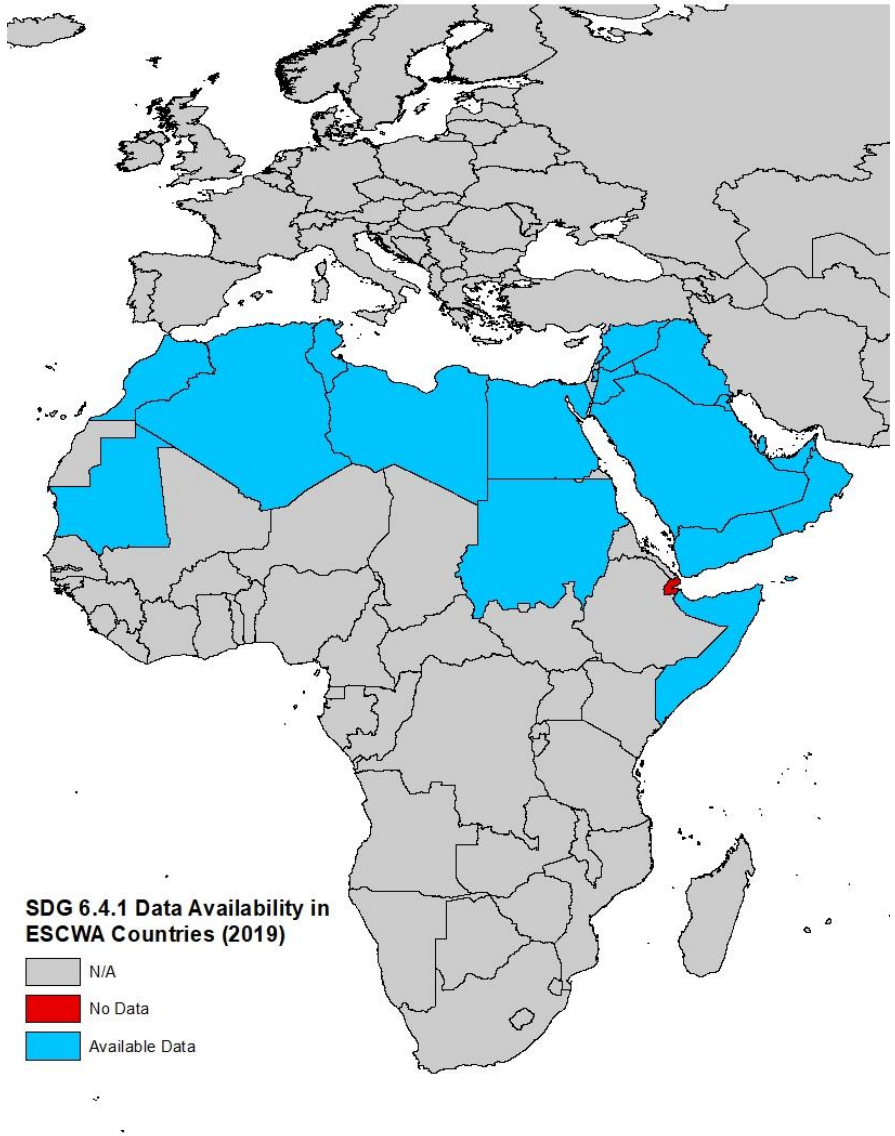
is the ratio of US Dollar value added to the volume of water withdrawals in the ESCWA region in 2019.

Water use efficiency data are available for 21 countries out of 22



Agriculture remains by far the largest user of water in ESCWA region, yet it contributes by only

3% to the regional GDP



6.4.2 Level of water stress

120.8 %

is the ratio between ESCWA freshwater withdrawals and the region total renewable freshwater resources in 2019

Water stress data are available for all ESCWA countries

84%

of the ESCWA population lives in conditions of high to critical level of water stress

59%

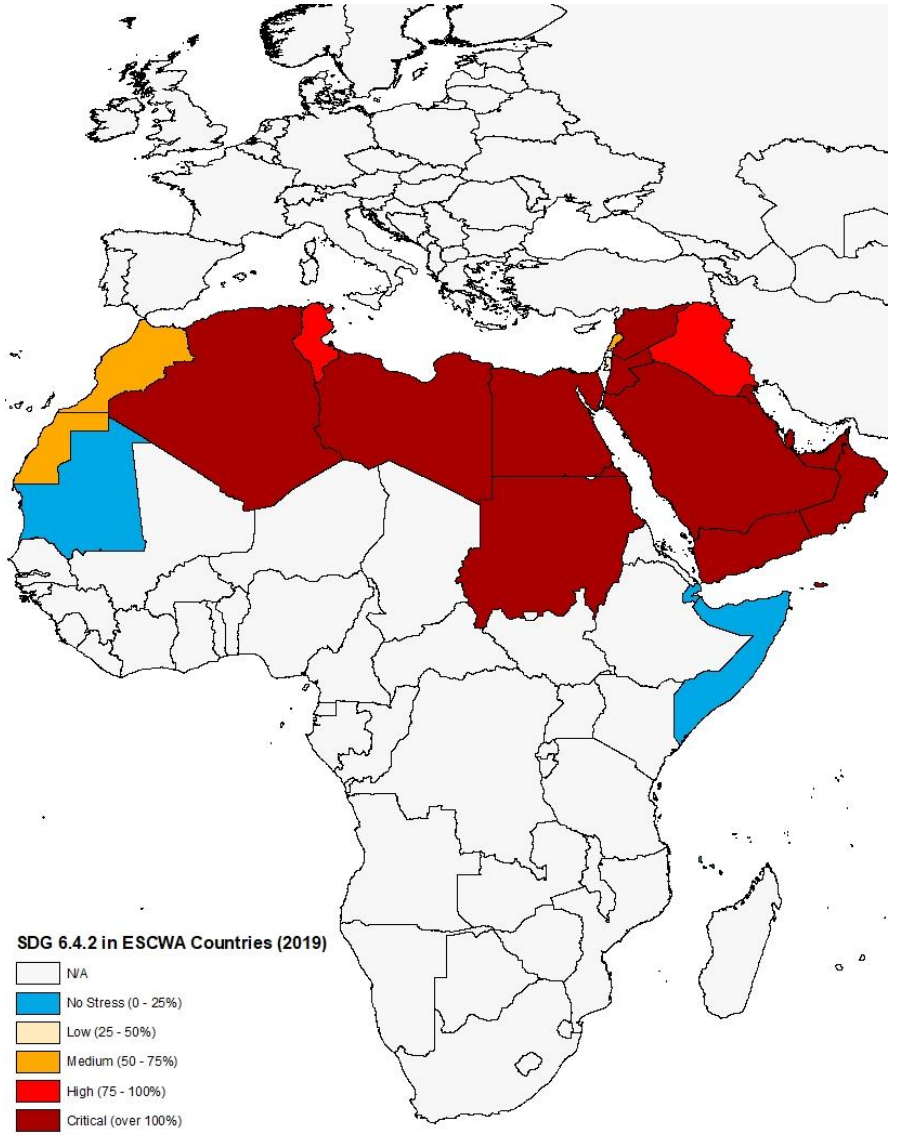
of ESCWA population lives in urban areas

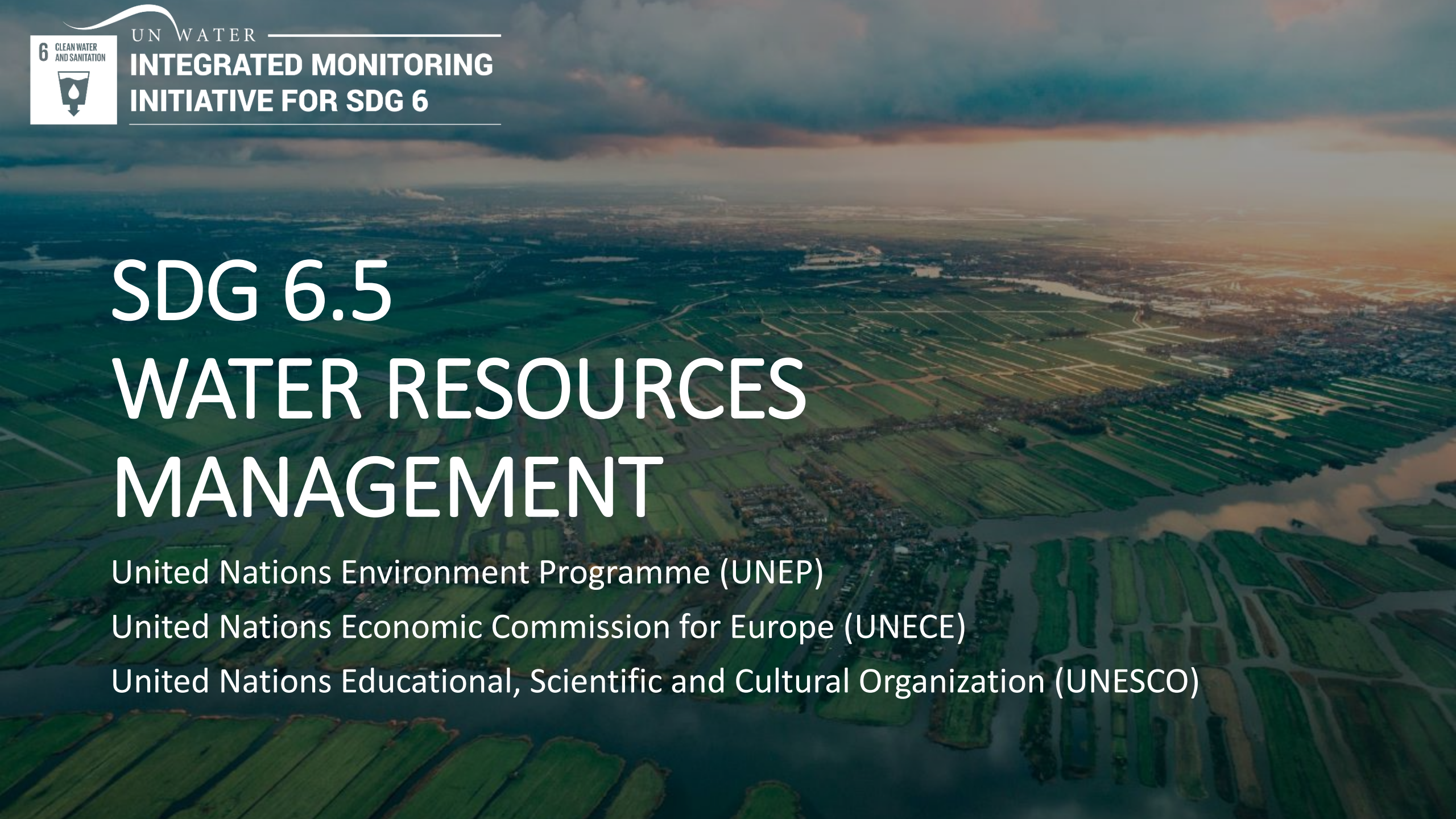
84%

of ESCWA renewable freshwater resources are used for irrigation

In 2019, 84% of ESCWA population was living in conditions of high to critical water stress, which means 358 million people had their water access and availability challenged

In 2019, although only 41% of ESCWA population lived in rural areas. 84% of its renewable freshwater resources were being used for irrigated agriculture.





UN WATER
INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

SDG 6.5 WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

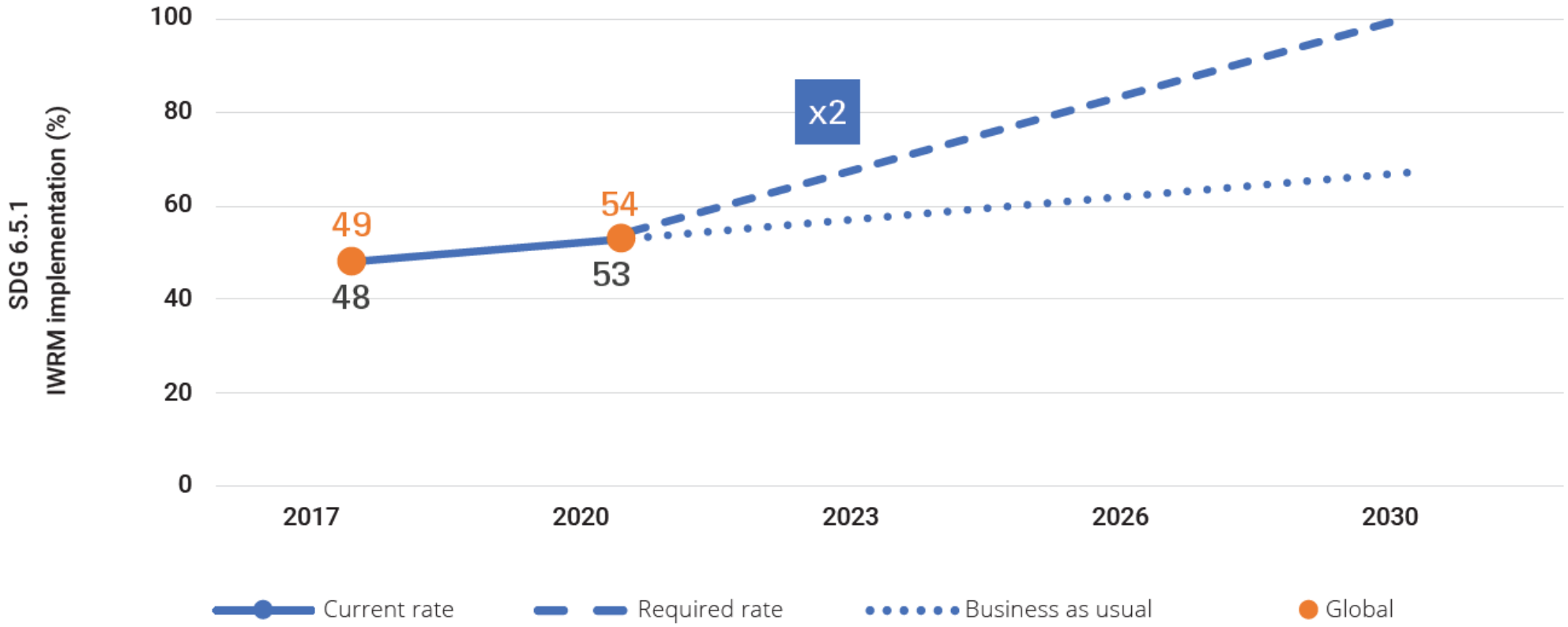
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

6.5.1 Integrated water resources management

- Rate of IWRM implementation

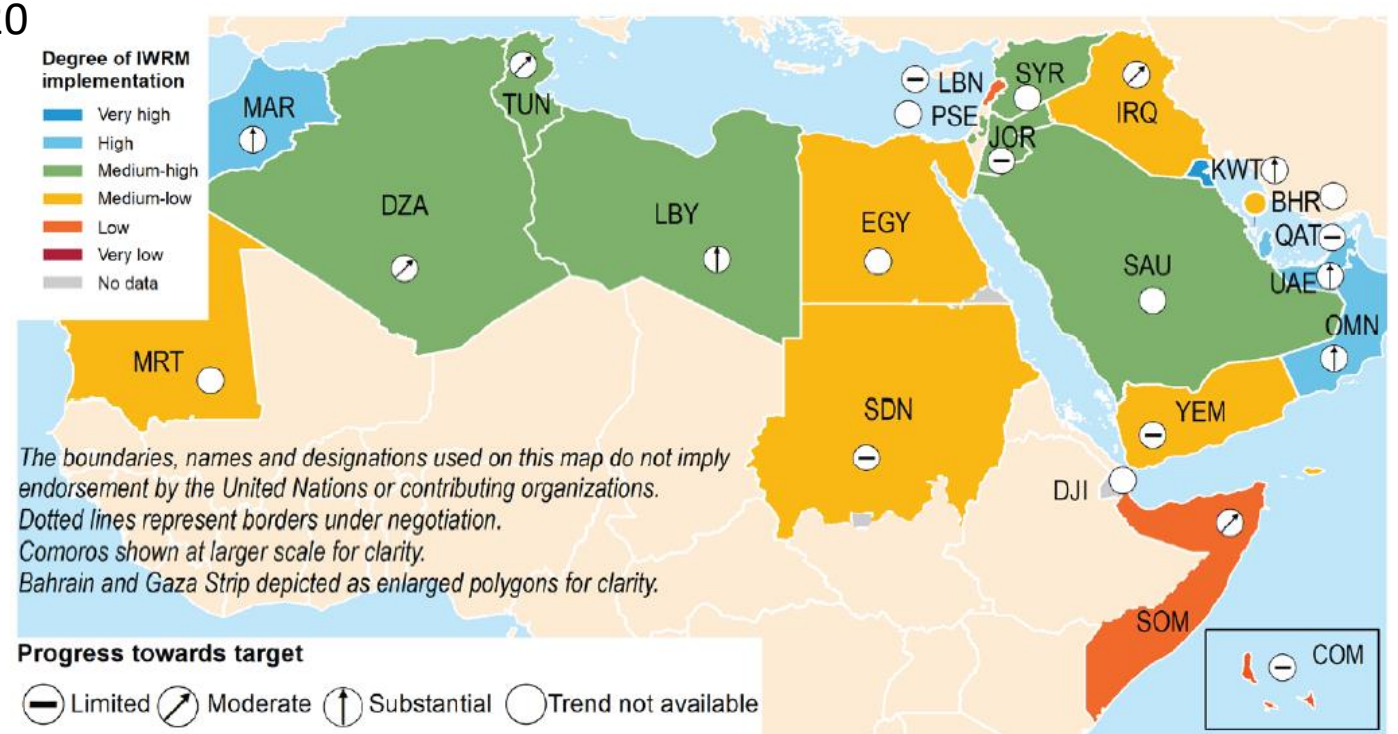


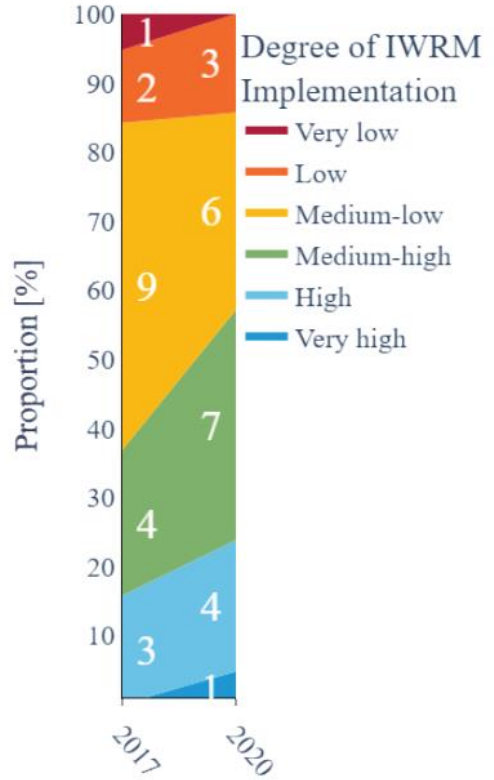
Between 2017 and 2020, the regional average increased from 48 to 53, similar to progress at the global level.

To achieve the target by 2030, the rate of progress of IWRM implementation needs to double.

6.5.1 Integrated water resources management

- Degree of IWRM implementation, 2020 and level of progress towards SDG target 6.5, 2017 and 2020





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

To accelerate progress throughout the region, success stories and good practices should be shared among countries.

6.5.1 Key priorities for advancement

1. Strengthening **political will** for IWRM implementation
2. Coordinating **financing** and leveraging climate financing
3. **Coherent governance** within and across sectors
4. Improving availability and access to **data and information**
5. Building **capacity** and engaging researchers
6. Leveraging **innovation and technologies**
7. Unleashing **female and youth potential and** reaching **gender equality**

Regional analysis reports analyse progress and regional challenges against regional priorities in more detail.

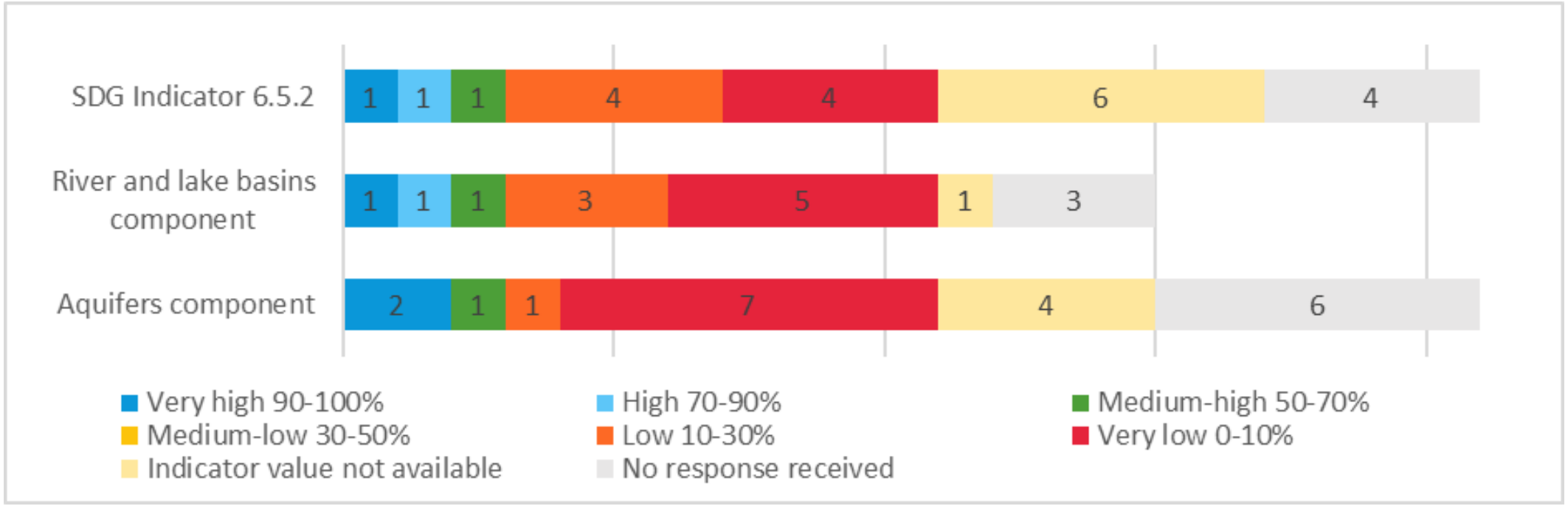
7 key priorities for advancing IWRM implementation in the region emerge

6.5.2 Transboundary water cooperation

- **17 out of 21 countries** sharing water resources responded to the exercise
  - **11 countries** provided sufficient data to calculate the SDG indicator value for transboundary rivers & lakes, and **11 countries** for transboundary aquifers; overall indicator value could be calculated for **11 countries**
- Most of the countries have **a low coverage of operational arrangements**, **significant acceleration is required** to ensure operational arrangements are in place for all transboundary waters by 2030
  - **Only one country** has ≥ 90% of their shared rivers & lakes covered by arrangements and **only 2 countries** reported high level of cooperation on its shared aquifers
- **Notable aquifer-specific cooperative arrangements exist in the region** and suggest an important basis to further develop and strengthen cooperation and reporting on transboundary waters (e.g. North-Western Sahara Aquifer System, Nubian Sandstone Aquifer System, Al-Disi/ Saq-Ram Aquifer)
- **Water cooperation and reporting benefit from regional concerted efforts** (e.g. UN ESCWA regional workshop supporting monitoring and implementation of the SDGs; 2nd Progress report on shared water resources management in the Arab Region: Regional baseline for SDG Indicator 6.5.2 (under finalization))

6.5.2 Transboundary water cooperation

- Number of countries in Northern Africa and Western Asia sharing transboundary river, lakes and aquifers and breakdown of SDG 6.5.2 indicator values



UN WATER
INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

SDG 6.6 FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

UN WATER
INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

SDG 6.A INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

World Health Organization (WHO)

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

UN WATER
INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

SDG 6.B
LOCAL PARTICIPATION

World Health Organization (WHO)