

# Key messages on SDG 6 for Regional preparatory meeting UN ECLAC

28 April 2022

# SDG 6 in Latin America and the Caribbean

## Drinking water

75 %

of the population in Latin America and the Caribbean uses a safely managed drinking water service (SDG indicator 6.1.1, 2020)

## Sanitation

34 %

of the population in Latin America and the Caribbean uses a safely managed sanitation service (SDG indicator 6.2.1a, 2020)

## Hygiene

--- %

of the population in Latin America and the Caribbean has a handwashing facility with soap and water available at home (SDG indicator 6.2.1b, 2020)

## Wastewater

41 %

of domestic wastewater in Latin America and the Caribbean is safely treated (SDG indicator 6.3.1, 2020)

## Water quality

57 %

of monitored water bodies in Latin America and the Caribbean has good ambient water quality (SDG indicator 6.3.2, 2020)

## Efficiency

12 \$/m<sup>3</sup>

is the value added from the use of water by people and the economy in Latin America and the Caribbean (SDG indicator 6.4.1, 2018)

## Water stress

7 %

of the renewable water resources in Latin America and the Caribbean is being withdrawn, after taking into account environmental flow requirements (SDG indicator 6.4.2, 2018)

## Water management

37 %

is the degree of implementation of integrated water resources management in Latin America and the Caribbean (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

24 %

of the water basins in Latin America and the Caribbean is experiencing rapid changes in the area covered by surface waters (SDG indicator 6.6.1, 2020)

## Cooperation

612 m\$

is the amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance received by Latin America and the Caribbean in 2019 (SDG indicator 6.a.1)

## Participation

0.7

is the average number of sub-sectors (out of 6) with a high level of participation by communities in Latin America and the Caribbean (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 **Latin America and the Caribbean**, efforts must increase fourteen-fold (**current rate of progress x 14**)
- Only **18/50 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
- **17 million people** in LAC still lacked even a basic drinking water service in 2020



# 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 **Latin America and the Caribbean**, efforts must increase seven-fold (**current rate of progress x 7**)
- Only **14/50 countries** had national estimates available for safely managed sanitation services in 2020
- **No country** with <99% safely managed drinking water services in 2020 is on track to achieve universal access by 2030
- **72 million people** in LAC still lacked even a basic sanitation service in 2020
- **10 million people** in LAC 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 **10/50 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





6

CLEAN WATER  
AND SANITATION



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**

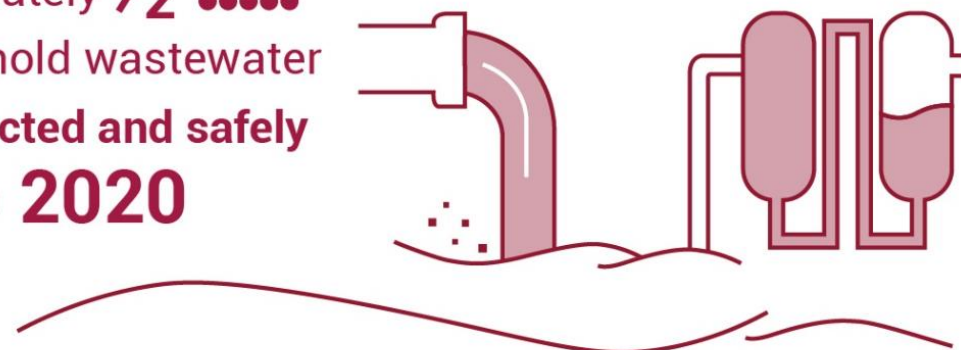
These **limited data** suggest  
that about a  $\frac{1}{3}$    
of total or industrial  
wastewater **received**  
**treatment** before discharge



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

  
**128**  
countries

Approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$    
of household wastewater  
was **collected and safely**  
treated in **2020**







## 6.3.1 Wastewater treatment

- Data on total wastewater treatment are only available from 7 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean



## 6.3.1 Wastewater treatment



- Data on industrial wastewater treatment are only available from 1 country in Latin America and the Caribbean



## 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

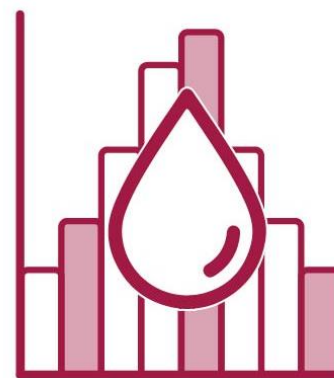


### Data gaps in low-GDP countries

- 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



### Women are often most at risk

- Millions of people around the world still lack access to improved water supply and rely on ambient water sources such as rivers, lakes and shallow borewells for their daily water needs.
- If these water sources are polluted the people engaging in these activities, in general women and children, are risking their health and well-being.

Women in low-income countries are particularly impacted by **polluted ambient water**



Often responsible for fetching water, **this limits their schooling and income**





UN WATER

## INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

# SDG 6.4 WATER USE AND SCARCITY

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)







UN WATER

## INTEGRATED MONITORING INITIATIVE FOR SDG 6

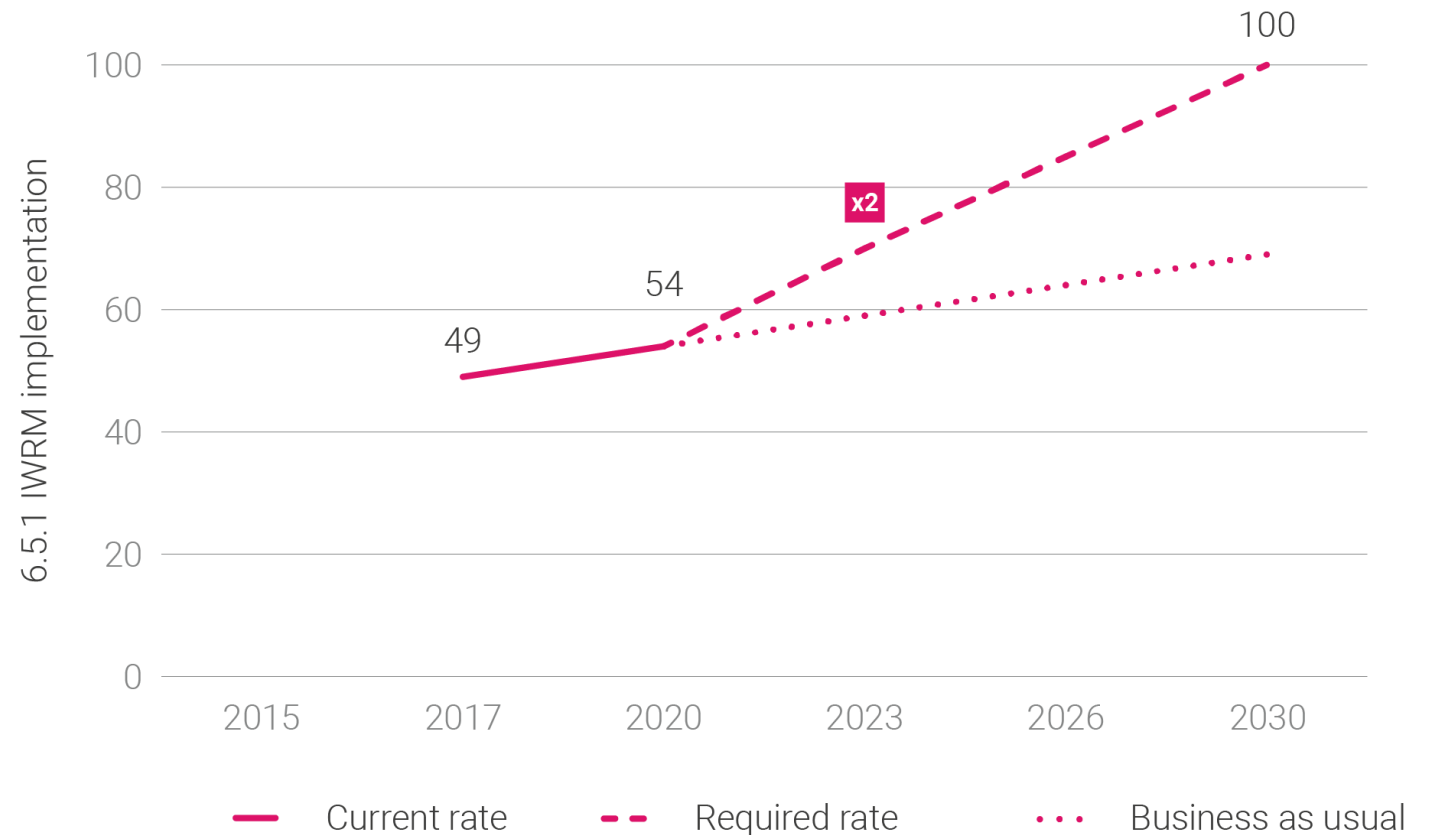
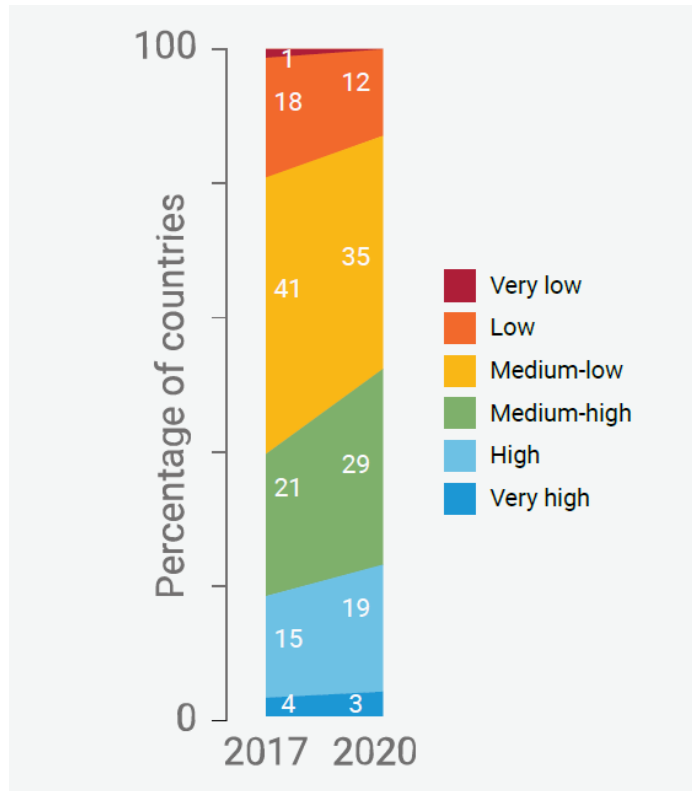
# SDG 6.5 WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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

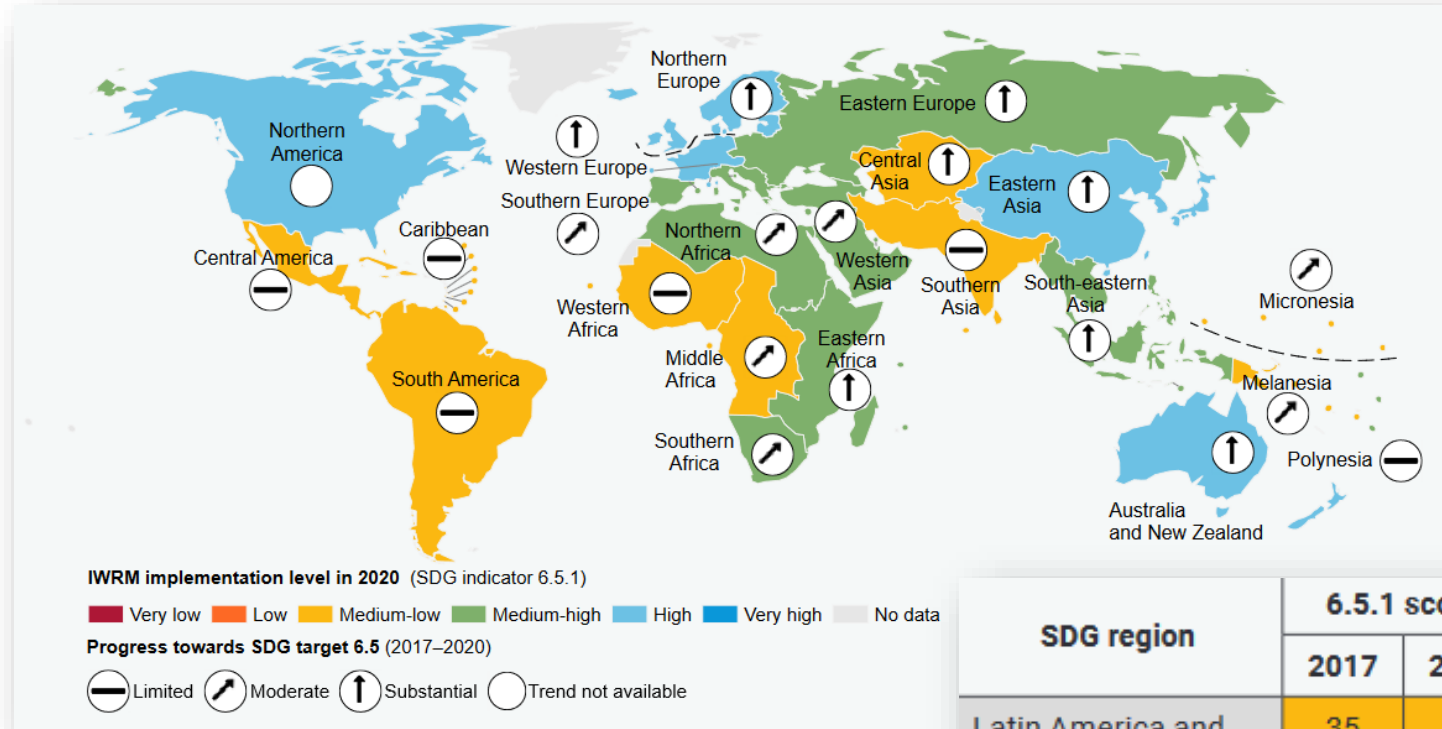


The global score on indicator has increased by 5 points since 2017, but we are moving too slow.

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



# 6.5.1 Integrated water resources management



SDG region	6.5.1 score		Progress	SDG subregion	6.5.1 score		Progress
	2017	2020			2017	2020	
Latin America and the Caribbean	35	37	Limited	Central America	31	31	Limited
				Caribbean	37	39	Limited
				South America	35	39	Limited

The global and regional average scores can mask significant differences in national scores even within sub-regions. However, at the regional level, **Latin America and the Caribbean has the lowest regional score, and significant efforts are needed to advance IWRM implementation.**



## 6.5.1 Integrated water resources management



1. Strengthening **political will** for IWRM implementation
2. **Cross-sectoral coordination** and management activities
3. Dedicated **budgeting for IWRM activities** and more efficient and coordinated use of existing resources
4. **Institutional and human capacity** need to be enhanced and retained
5. Reforms need to be underpinned by **robust legal frameworks**



**Real and rapid progress is possible**

5 key areas emerge as common priorities for advancing IWRM in many countries



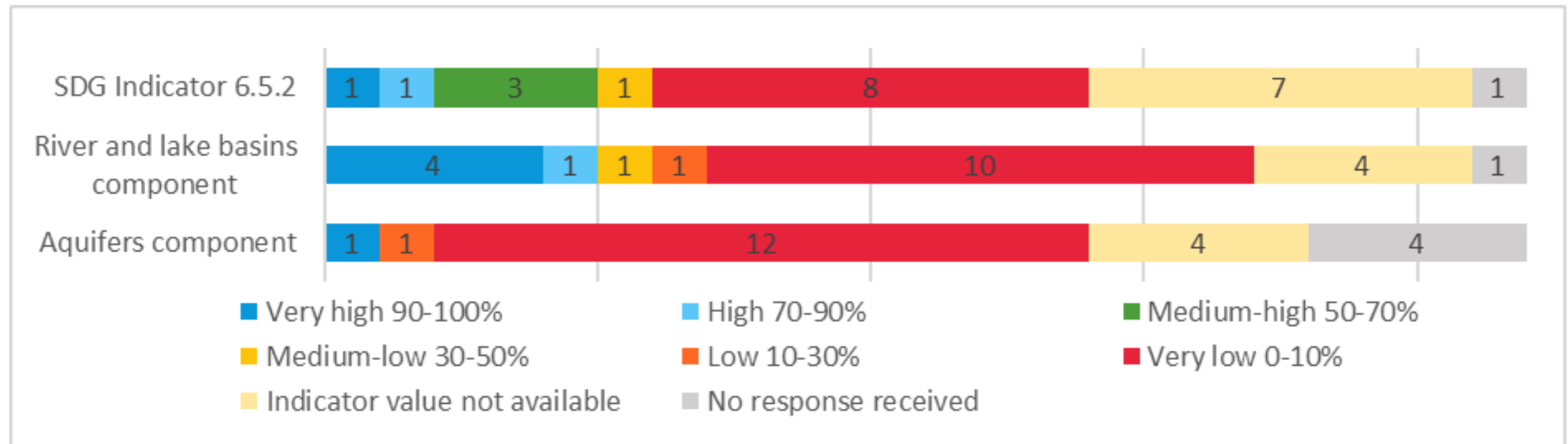
## 6.5.2 Transboundary water cooperation

- **21 out of 22** countries sharing water resources responded to the exercise  
**17 countries** provided sufficient data to calculate the SDG indicator value for transboundary rivers & lakes, and **14 countries** for transboundary aquifers; overall indicator value could be calculated for **14 countries**
- Most of the countries have **a relatively low coverage of operational arrangements (34%)**  
**Only 5 countries** have  $\geq 90\%$  of their shared rivers & lakes covered by arrangements and **only one country** reported high level of cooperation on its shared aquifers
- **Capacity development and political will are needed to progress transboundary water cooperation**, to deepen knowledge and understanding of transboundary aquifers, and strengthen governance arrangements at both national and transboundary levels
- **Significant effort is required** to ensure operational arrangements are in place for all transboundary waters across the region by 2030



## 6.5.2 Transboundary water cooperation

- Number of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean sharing transboundary river, lakes and aquifers and breakdown of SDG 6.5.2 indicator values







6

CLEAN WATER  
AND SANITATION



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)



# SDG 6.B LOCAL PARTICIPATION

World Health Organization (WHO)

