

International Hydrological Programme

55th Session of the IHP Bureau
(Paris, 20-22 February 2018)

IHP ACTIONS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 6 RELATING TO WATER AND SANITATION

Item 7 of the provisional agenda.

This document provides a brief account of the actions of UNESCO through IHP to support Member States' efforts related to and facilitate implementation and monitoring of Sustainable Development Goal 6 "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all" (SDG 6), in particular:

- Efforts related to implementation and monitoring of SDG indicator 6.5.2 on transboundary cooperation
- IHP Water Information Network System (IHP-WINS)
- The state of advancement of the SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018.

Actions expected from the Bureau:

The Bureau Members may wish to take note and comment on the actions of IHP to support Member States' efforts related to, and facilitate implementation and monitoring of SDG 6.

IHP actions in the implementation and monitoring of the sustainable (SDG) indicator 6.5.2 (Agenda sub-item 7.1)

1. SDG Target 6.5 calls for countries to implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation, as appropriate. To measure progress on transboundary cooperation in accordance to target 6.5, indicator 6.5.2 was adopted. The indicator is defined as the “percentage of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for transboundary cooperation”.

2. UNESCO IHP has led the development of the step-by-step methodology to calculate indicator 6.5.2. (<http://ihp-wins.unesco.org/documents/332>), together with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). During the first quarter 2017, UNESCO IHP and UNECE invited all countries having transboundary basins in their territory to track the progress on transboundary cooperation under SDG 6, target 6.5, through a dedicated template. All reporting countries were invited to report on their national value of SDG 6.5.2 indicator and to fill sections of the template (<http://ihp-wins.unesco.org/documents/326>) providing additional information on the status of their transboundary cooperation. This procedure allows outlining a complete picture of the situation concerning transboundary water cooperation and better describing the current baseline. It is envisioned that the newly established platform of IHP-WINS will be used for data collection, analysis and reporting.

3. Out of 154 countries that share transboundary water systems, 105 countries sent their national report to UNESCO and UNECE. As custodian agencies, UNESCO and UNECE are reviewing and analyzing the data contained in the national reports and are undertaking continued exchanges with Member States in order to support them in the calculation of the indicator. The results will be reflected in different products, in particular in view of the United Nations High-Level Political Forum that will be held in July 2018 and will undertake an in-depth review of the SDG 6. In this framework the UN-Water has started the preparation of a Synthesis Report on the SDG 6 main outcomes. UNESCO and UNECE have been requested by UN-Water to provide a summary of the national reports sent by Member States about the indicator 6.5.2 to be included in the Synthesis Report. The value for every indicator will be recorded in the database of the United Nations Statistics Division.

4. An overview of work-in-progress in the analysis of reports submitted by Member States together with first lessons learnt on the reporting process on SDG 6.5.2 were presented to the Member States participating to ‘The Global workshop for integrated monitoring of SDG 6 on water and sanitation’ (The Hague, 21-23 November 2017), organized in the framework of the ‘Integrated monitoring of water and sanitation related targets – GEMI¹ initiative’, under the umbrella of UN-Water.

5. UNESCO and UNECE are also preparing a global report dedicated to indicator 6.5.2, which will provide general information and trends, both on the reporting process and results. The report will reflect the challenges encountered during the first year of monitoring of the indicator and will provide recommendations for possible improvement.

6. It has to be noted that due to the lack of financial resources, it was not possible to organize the meeting with UNESCO’s Member States to discuss the methodology of the SDG 6 indicator 6.5.2 requested by the IHP Bureau at its 55th Session.

IHP-WINS (Agenda sub-item 7.2)

7. The IHP Water Information Network System (IHP-WINS; <http://ihp-wins.unesco.org>) was launched in January 2017 as a tool for the implementation and monitoring of the eighth

1 “Integrated Monitoring of Water and Sanitation Related SDG Targets”

phase of the IHP (IHP-VIII), and to address the request of the IHP's 22nd Intergovernmental Council to "provide support to Member States to build their institutional capacities, human resources and a sound basis in science capacity for the monitoring and implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) to 'ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all' targets, and those of other water related goals".

SDG6 Synthesis Report 2018 (Agenda sub-item 7.3)

8. To present the results of the monitoring of the SDG 6, as "UN-System as one", at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in July 2018 the UN-Water has requested to the UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) to coordinate the task force that is preparing the "SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018". The SDG 6 Synthesis Report 2018 (working title), which is a UN report, will provide an overview on the status of the implementation of the water goal at the global, regional and national levels. It will also include information about how SDG 6 is interlinked to other SDG targets and indicators of the Agenda 2030 and the overall sustainability challenges that countries are facing. A number of UN agencies are contributing to the Report for content development. UNESCO, in particular, is playing an important role in explaining the link to SDG 11 (IHP in collaboration with UNU-INWEH) and SDG4 (UNESCO Institute of Statistics and UNESCO GEM Report Team).

Actions expected by the Bureau:

The Bureau Members may wish to take note and comment on the actions of IHP to support Member States' efforts related to, and facilitate implementation and monitoring of SDG 6.