



SDG Indicator 6.5.2

Information on the Next Steps
Material Available to Support Reporting in 2020

**Workshop on Supporting the monitoring and implementation
of the SDGs in the Arab region:
Transboundary water cooperation SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.2**

Beirut, Lebanon, 5 March 2020

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Structure of the presentation

- Feedback process and overview of the supporting material
- Reporting template
- Step by step methodology to calculate the value of SDG 6.5.2
- Guide to reporting under the Water Convention and indicator 6.5.2
- Tips and advices

Feedback process to build on the lessons from the 1st exercise



- Invitation to countries that have submitted a national report to provide written comments in 2017
- Feedback from the Implementation Committee of the Water Convention
- Experience and lessons learned from the validation processes by UNECE and UNESCO
- Several intergovernmental meetings
 - Discussions at IWRM Working Group meetings in 2017, 2018 and 2019
 - Global Workshop on to revise to the Reporting template (Budapest, 16-17 January 2018)
 - Subregional workshops (Central Africa 2018 & 2019; ESCWA2018; pan-European region 2019, South America 2018, Central America 2019)
 - 8th Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention (Astana, October 2018)



Based on the feedback

Revision of the supporting materials

- Revise the reporting template
- Improve the Step-by-step methodology to calculate the value of indicator 6.5.2 to complete Section I of the template.
- Develop a guide to reporting to complete sections II to IV of the template
- Additional capacity building (incl. regional workshops) and help-desk of the custodian agencies during the preparation of the reports

What countries report under SDG indicator 6.5.2?

SDG 6.5.2 calculation

Additional information to explain, substantiate and complement indicator data

Section I Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2

*Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2 value for a) **transboundary rivers and lake basins** (table 1); and b) **transboundary aquifers** (table 2).*

States can elaborate on transboundary river, lake and aquifers, and their operational arrangements, in section II

Section II Transboundary basin and aquifer arrangements

Questions to be completed for each agreement or arrangement covering a particular river or lake basin, or aquifer system, as well as sub-basins, parts of a basin or groups of basins where appropriate

Consider replies to question 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 to verify the rivers, lakes and aquifers covered by operational arrangements based on “operationality criteria” in SDG indicator 6.5.2 methodology

Section III National Water Management

Questions relate to governance arrangements in place at the national level that concern transboundary waters

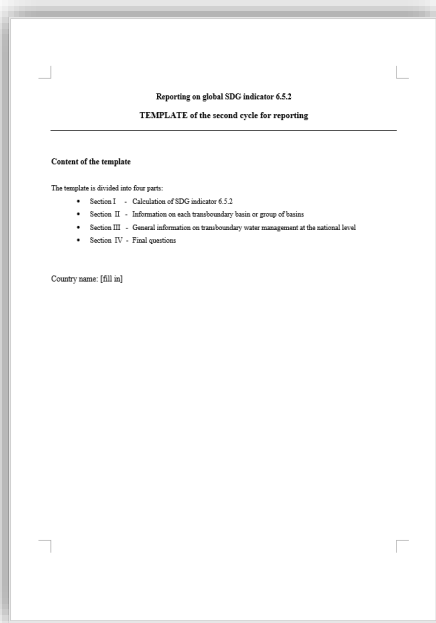
Section IV Final Questions

Policy-focused summary and questions on how template was completed

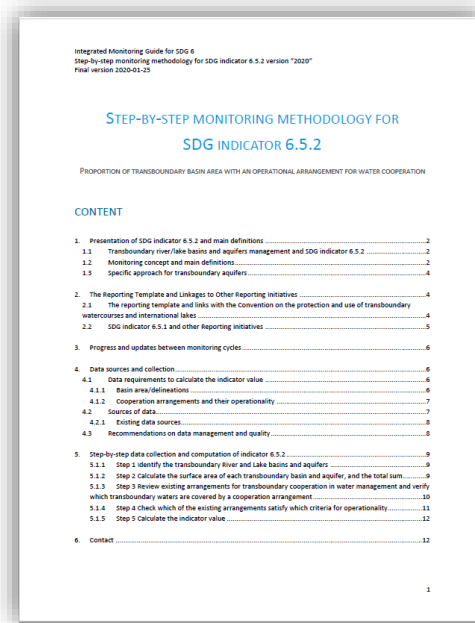
Step-by-Step methodology contains guidance to completing this section

Guide to reporting contains guidance to completing these sections

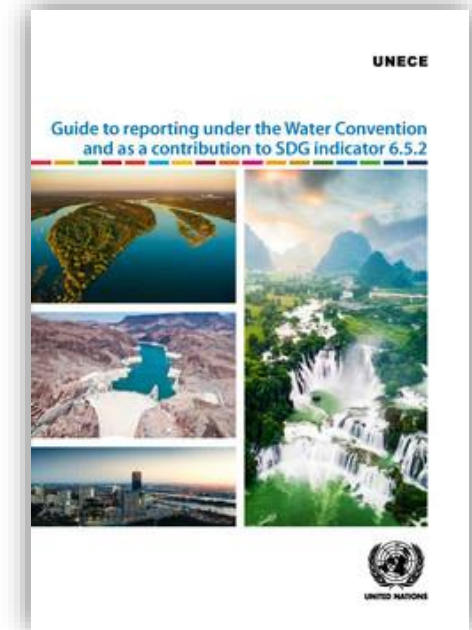
Guidance documents for national reports on SDG indicator 6.5.2



**Template for the
2nd reporting exercise**



**Step-by-step methodology
for the calculation of the
value of SDG indicator
6.5.2 '2020 version'**



**Guide to reporting under
the Water Convention
and as contribution to
SDG indicator 6.5.2**



Main revisions

Reporting template: Section I

- For calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2
 - Introduce limited additional columns in the tables compiling the information necessary for SDG 6.5.2 calculation not to create any confusion
 - On operationality criteria
 - For river or lake basins: basin/sub-basin
 - For aquifers: availability of GIS shapefile
- In addition to the full SDG indicator 6.5.2 calculation
 - calculation for river and lake basins
 - calculation for aquifers

Reporting on global SDG indicator 6.5.2
TEMPLATE of the second cycle for reporting

Content of the template

The template is divided into four parts:

- Section I - Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2
- Section II - Information on each transboundary basin or group of basins
- Section III - General information on transboundary water management at the national level
- Section IV - Final questions

Country name: [fill in]

Transboundary river or lake basin (please add rows as needed)

<i>Name of transboundary river or lake basin/sub-basin</i>	<i>It is a basin or a sub-basin? ^b</i>	<i>Countries shared with</i>	<i>Surface area of the basin/sub-basin (in km²) within the territory of the country</i>	<i>Map and/or GIS shapefile provided (yes/no)</i>	<i>Covered by an arrangement (entirely, partly, no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 1 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 2 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 3 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Criterion 4 applied (yes/no) (Ref. to questions in sect. II)</i>	<i>Surface area of the basin/sub-basin (in km²) covered by an operational arrangement within the territory of the country</i>
(A) Total surface area of transboundary basins/sub-basins of rivers and lakes covered by operational arrangements within the territory of the country (in km²) (do not double count sub-basins)										
(B) Total surface area of transboundary basins of rivers and lakes within the territory of the country (in km²) (do not double count sub-basins)										



Main revisions

Reporting template: Sections II to IV

- Avoid overlap and simplify questions rather than make any substantial changes to the template
- Key changes
 - use of consistent **terminology**, e.g. ‘agreement or arrangements’ and ‘joint body or mechanism’
 - introduction of more ‘**tick box**’ answers, e.g. describing the main difficulties and challenges faced in implementing an agreement or arrangement (Sect. II, question 2(e)), and
 - Provide additional opportunities to **explain answers**, e.g. describe relevant laws and policy at the national level, rather than list them (Sect. III, question 1)



Step-by-step methodology for the calculation of the value of SDG indicator 6.5.2 “version 2020”

- Revised in light of lessons learned from the first reporting exercise
 - Main change – improve ‘user friendliness’!
- Includes definitions of key terminology (aligned to guide to reporting)
- Addresses data sources and collection
- Provides **5 key steps** for calculating SDG indicator 6.5.2 at a national level

Integrated Monitoring Guide for SDG 6
Step-by-step monitoring methodology for SDG indicator 6.5.2 version “2020”
Final version 2020-01-25

STEP-BY-STEP MONITORING METHODOLOGY FOR
SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2

PROPORTION OF TRANSBOUNDARY BASIN AREA WITH AN OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENT FOR WATER COOPERATION

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Step-by-step calculation of the value of SDG indicator 6.5.2 “version 2020”

6.5.2: Proportion of **transboundary basin area** with an **operational arrangement** for water cooperation

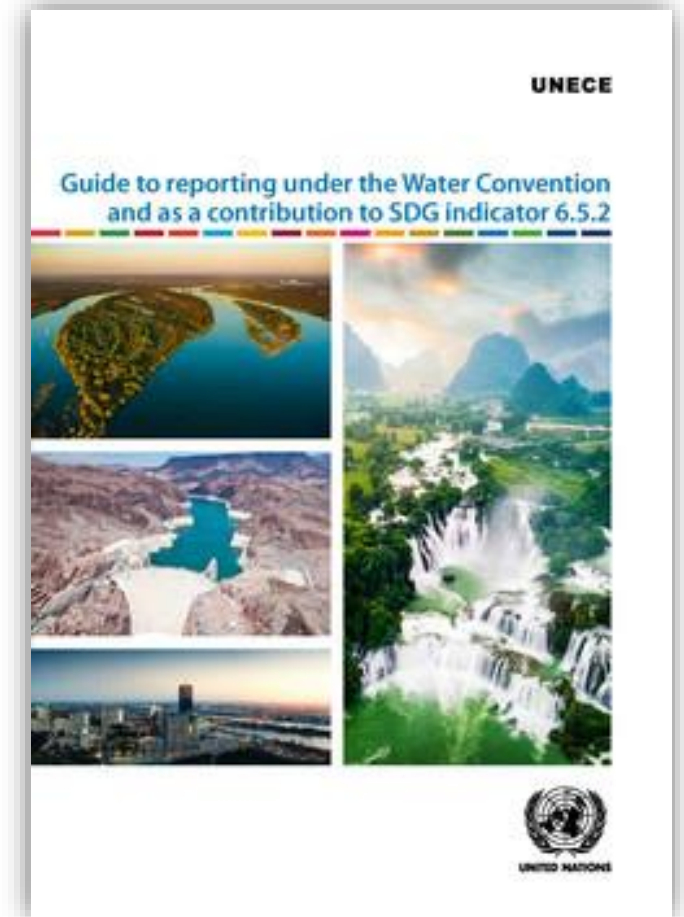
- Step 1 identify transboundary surface and groundwater
- Step 2 calculate the surface area of each transboundary basin and the total sum of areas
- Step 3 review existing agreements for transboundary water cooperation
- Step 4 check which agreements for transboundary water cooperation are operational
- Step 5 calculate the indicator value



Guide to reporting under the Water Convention and as a contribution to SDG indicator 6.5.2

Sections II to IV of the reporting template

- Developed by a drafting group comprising approx. 60 countries from different regions/ contexts
- Two Drafting meetings held in May and September 2019
- Draft Guide shared for comments with all countries sharing transboundary waters
- Why a Guide?
 - Feedback from 1st reporting exercise: need to **clarify terminology** and provide practical **examples** of how certain questions might be answered.
 - Offers advice on how to **organise the reporting process** and **maximise the beneficial impacts** of reporting.
 - **Practical document** for government experts that have the responsibility for conducting the reporting process and completing/ co-ordinating the completion of the reporting template.





Content of the Guide to reporting

• Introduction

- Why reporting on transboundary water cooperation?
- Why the need for a guide?
- Process of developing the guide
- Rationale for layout of the guide
- Linkages between Water Convention and SDG reporting
- Organisation of reporting process
- How to make the most out of the reporting process

• Questions by question guidance on template for reporting

- Sections II to IV covered
- Provides definitions of key terminology
- Illustrates how certain questions might be approached
- Offers county-/ basin-specific examples

Sample content

- Question(s) from Template
- Guidance
- Example



Template for reporting: section II, questions 7 and 8

7. Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins? [70] [71] [72]

Yes /No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

[70] For a definition of 'joint monitoring' see note [38] above. For a definition of 'joint assessment', see note [75] below.

[71] The Water Convention provides that 'Riparian Parties shall establish and implement joint programmes for monitoring the conditions of transboundary waters, including floods and ice drifts, as well as transboundary impact' (Art. 11). The *Guide to Implementing the Water Convention* identifies several basic elements of a joint monitoring programme, including: i) the objectives or needs to be achieved in terms of policy relevant information to be obtained; ii) the identification of monitoring sites; iii) the selection of determinants for surface water, groundwater, suspended solids and sediments; iv) sampling frequency; and v) sampling and analytical methods (UNECE, 2013, pp. 80–82).

[72] While other questions ask whether joint monitoring is provided for in an agreement or arrangement (section II, question 2(d)), or within the tasks and activities of a joint body or mechanism (section II, question 3(g)), this question asks whether joint monitoring *actually* takes place within the basin(s), sub-basin or part of a basin irrespective of whether or not an agreement or arrangement is in place, or a joint body or mechanism has been established.

Box 17. Monitoring of the North Western Sahara Aquifer System

The North Western Sahara Aquifer System (SASS) shared between Algeria, Tunisia and Libya is the second largest aquifer in Africa with reserves estimated at more than 50,000 billion m³. The aquifer system covers an area of over 1 million km² of which 700,000 km² is situated in Algeria (68%), 250,000 km² in Libya (24%), and 80,000 km² in Tunisia (8%).

A consultation mechanism for the sustainable exploitation of SASS was agreed upon by the three countries and has been in operation since 2007. It is funded by the three countries and temporarily housed at the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) (<http://www.oss-online.org>). The mechanism is considered an international reference for the peaceful management of transboundary waters.

At the operational level the SASS mechanism is structured around a Council of Ministers in charge of water resources, national focal points, and a coordination structure at the level of the OSS, the chairing of which rotates between the countries. Through the SASS mechanism, the three countries have been able to implement projects to build trust, exchange data and information, and deepen their collective understanding of the aquifer system. Three key components of this cooperation have been: i) a component on hydrogeology and system information; ii) a mathematical model; and iii) the consultation mechanism.



Tips and advices

Organisation of reporting on SDG6.5.2



- nomination of a **key person or organization** responsible for coordinating reporting
- identification of **stakeholders** who should be involved in reporting and potential sources of information
- definition of an indicative reporting **schedule**



- interaction with **riparian states** to exchange views or **coordinate** responses => role of **joint bodies** and regional organizations
- build on the **first report** (also neighbours and other countries)
- interact with **custodian** agencies (advice, questions, draft report)

Tips and advices

Filling the questionnaire on SDG6.5.2



- **Brief** answers but with a useful description
- If useful, indicate **links** to more general information, such as web pages of commissions, projects, etc.
- Consider submitting the first **drafts** of the report to UNECE or UNESCO for comments before formal submission
- **Plan** the process carefully and in advance
- Check that the report does not contain any **inconsistencies** (operational criteria)
- Provide information on **all rivers, lakes and aquifers** even in the absence of an agreement or other arrangement and/or a joint body
- No reward ;-)
Underestimating or overestimating progress has no advantage



Thanks for listening!

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Further information

UNECE: www.unece.org/water/transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting.html

UNESCO: <https://en.unesco.org/themes/water-security/hydrology>

UN-WATER SDG6 monitoring: www.sdg6monitoring.org/indicator-652

UN-WATER SDG6 data portal: www.sdg6data.org/indicator/6.5.2



Monitoring SDG indicator 6.5.2 : process



- Information on indicator 6.5.2 is collected every **3 years** by UNECE and UNESCO as co-custodian agencies (as other SDG6 indicators)
- Every year co-custodians submit data updates to the **United Nations Statistics Division**
- First data collection: 2017 => **Second exercise: 2020**
- **Ministers** responsible for waters officially addressed by UNECE and UNESCO
- Reports signed by competent authority
- Importance of increased engagement of national statistical offices