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Economic Commission for Africa



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"Accelerating the inclusive and green recovery from multiple crises and the integrated and full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063"

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Progress, challenges, opportunities and priority actions to accelerate the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 6

Background Report

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I Introduction

African population: **1.2 billion** expected almost double by 2050

17.1% of the global population in 2019

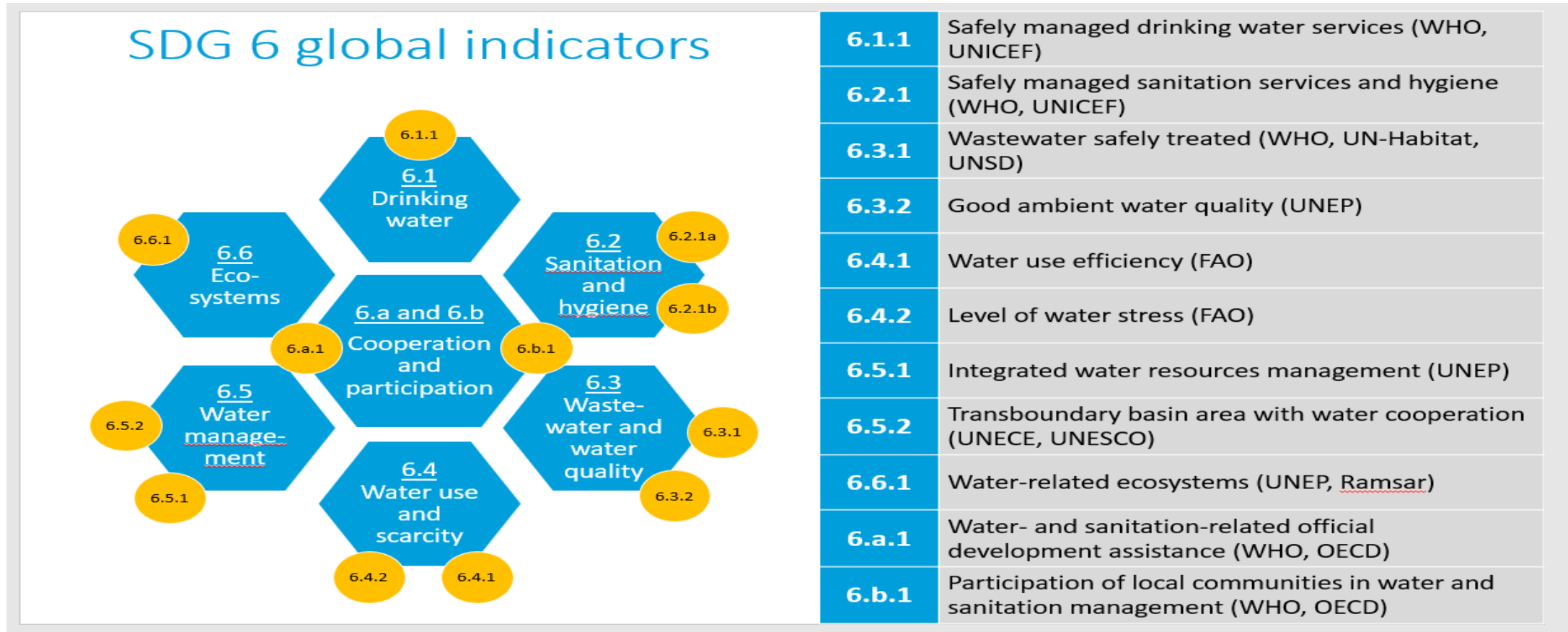
Renewable water resources for whole Africa
less than 9% of global renewable water resources

Unevenly distributed water resources
six most water-rich with **54%** of total resources
twenty-seven water-poorest countries holding only **7%**



II Progress in implementation

The SDG 6 Targets and Indicators are illustrated in the figure below and also shows the custodian agencies



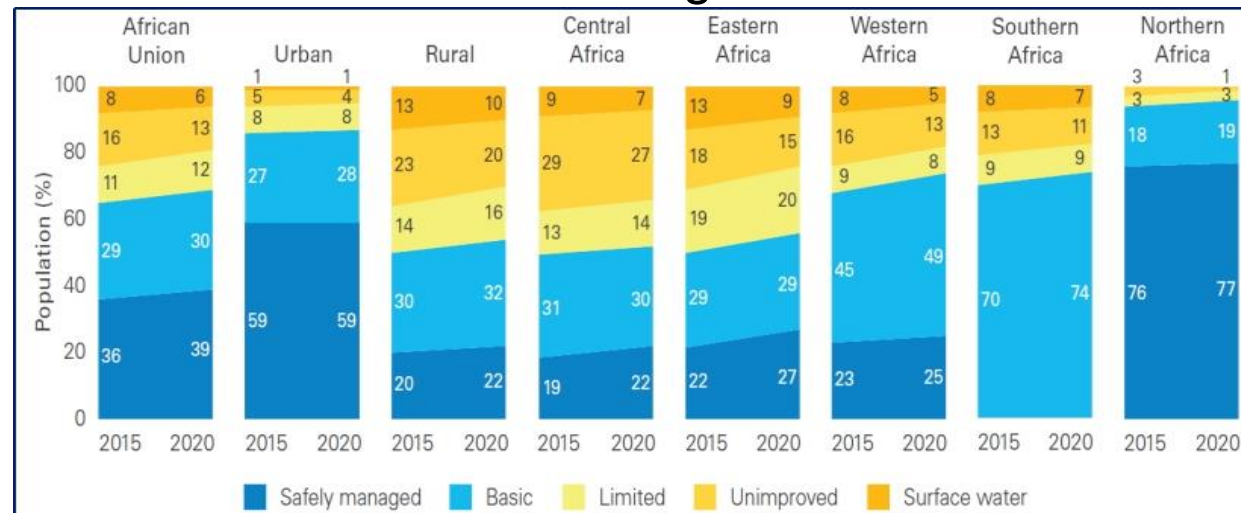
II Progress in implementation

SDG 6.1.1 Safely managed water services (WHO, UNICEF)

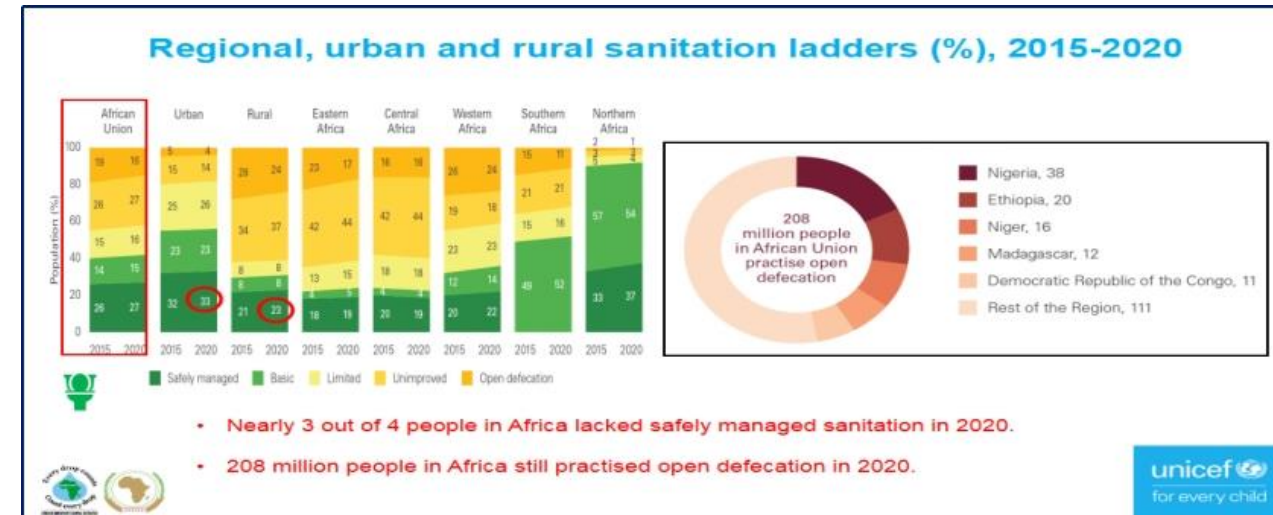
SDG 6.2.1 Safely managed sanitation services and hygiene (WHO, UNICEF) drinking

(a) Achieving universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

(b) Access to adequate and equitable sanitation



Trends in drinking water types and percentage of population access (UNICEF)



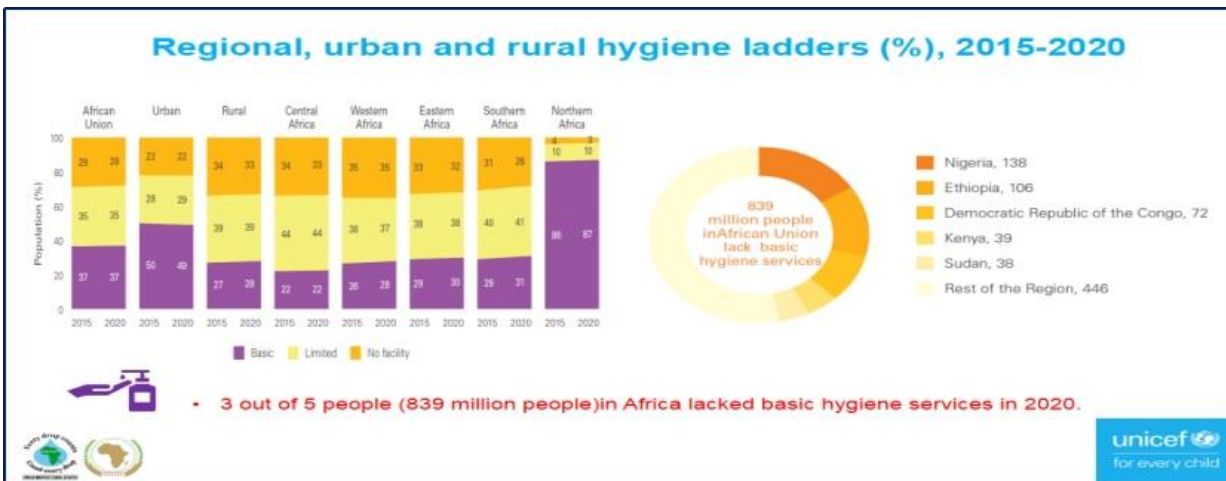
Trends in Sanitation Types and percentages of population access (UNICEF).

II Progress in implementation

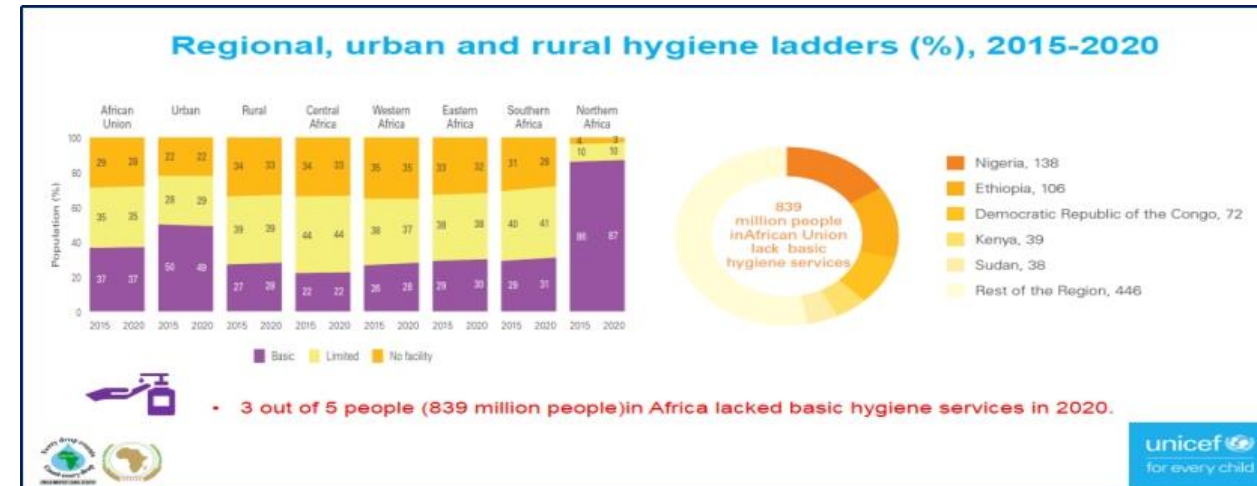
SDG 6.1.1 Safely managed sanitation services and hygiene (WHO, UNICEF)

SDG 6.2.1 Safely managed drinking water services (WHO, UNICEF)

(c) Access to adequate and equitable hygiene with special attention to the needs of girls, women and disabled.



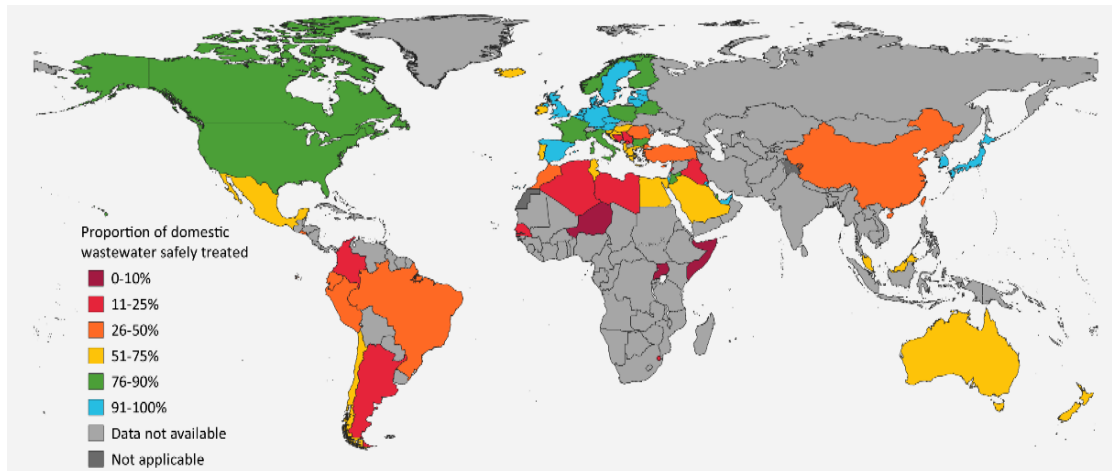
Trends in access to Hygiene Facilities and population percentages (UNICEF)



Effect of Covid on WASH (UNICEF)

II Progress in implementation

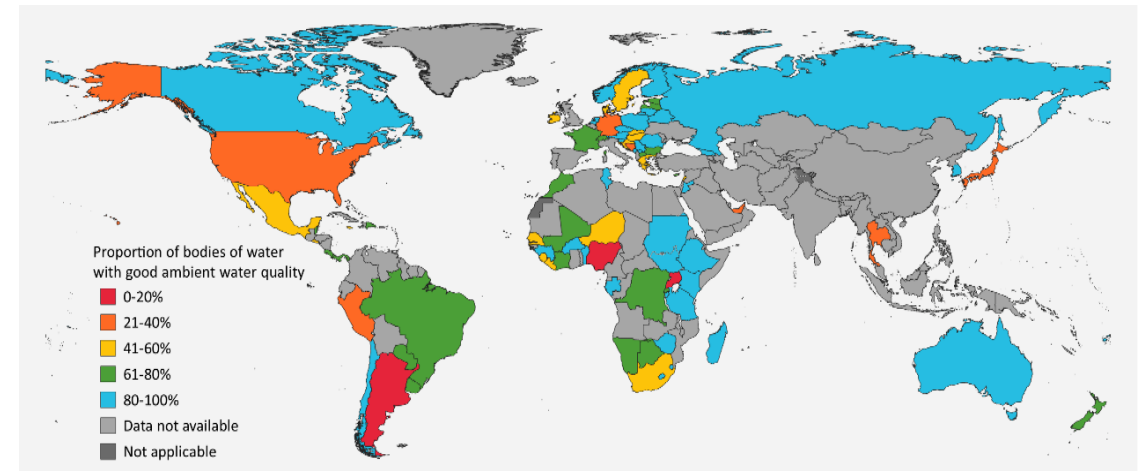
SDG 6.3.1 Wastewater safely treated (WHO, UN-HABITAT, UNSD)



Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flow safely treated (2015)

An urgent update of data specific for the Africa region is needed to be able to evaluate progress and the level of effort required to meet the 2030 target.

SDG 6.3.2 Good Ambient Water Quality (UNEP)

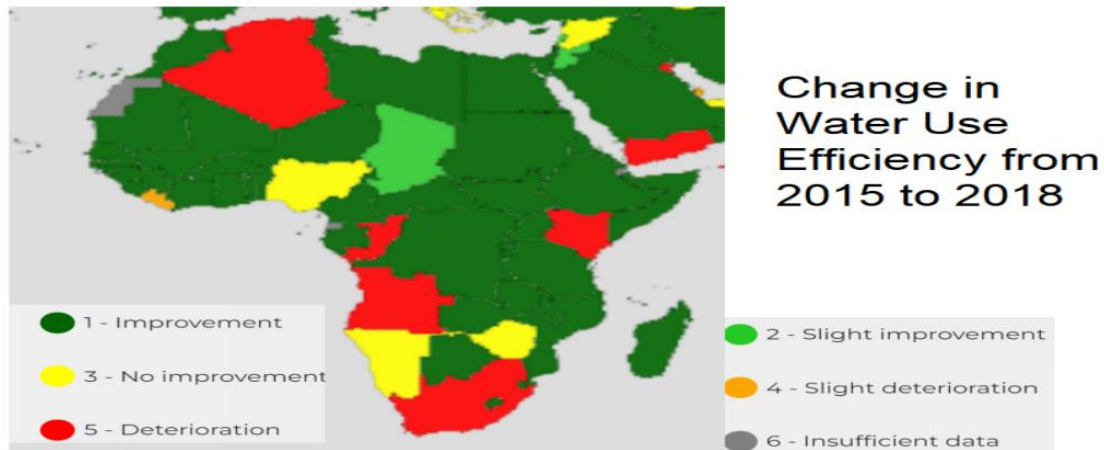


Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality (2017/2020)

There is need for Africa focused data since anecdotal evidence in countries such as Ghana indicates that the situation is getting worse from activities such as illegal mining for gold and diamonds and use of chemicals such as mercury in the process.

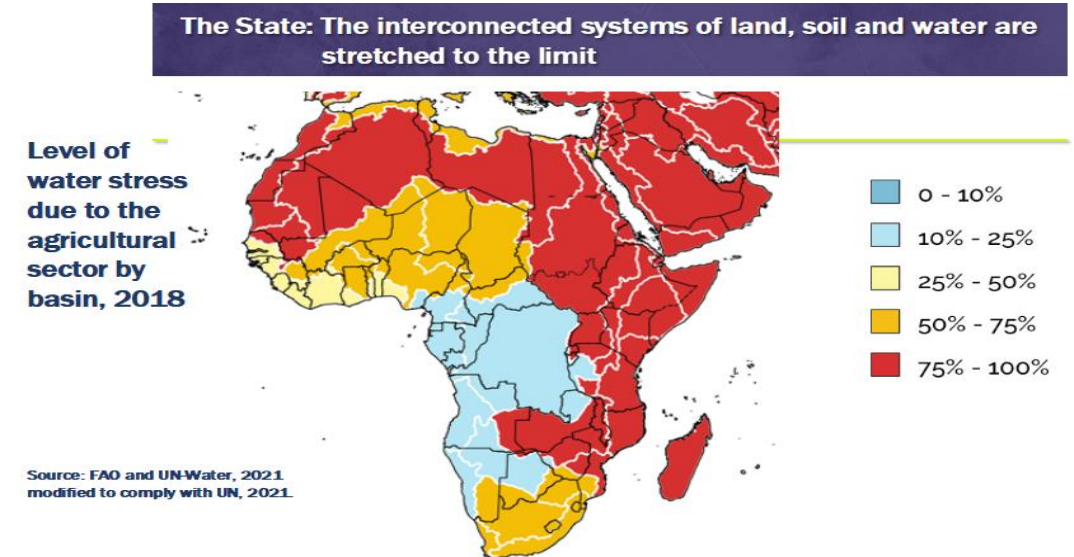
II Progress in implementation

SDG 6.4.1 Water Use Efficiency (FAO)



Change in Water Use Efficiency 2015-2018

SDG 6.4.2 Level of Water Stress (FAO)

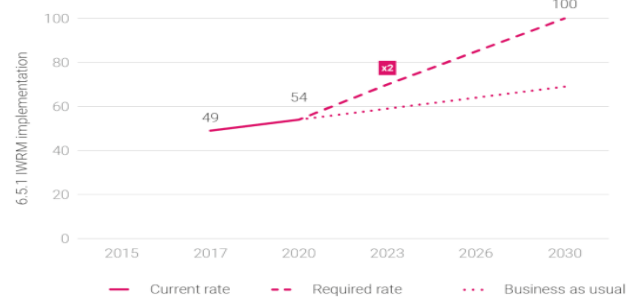
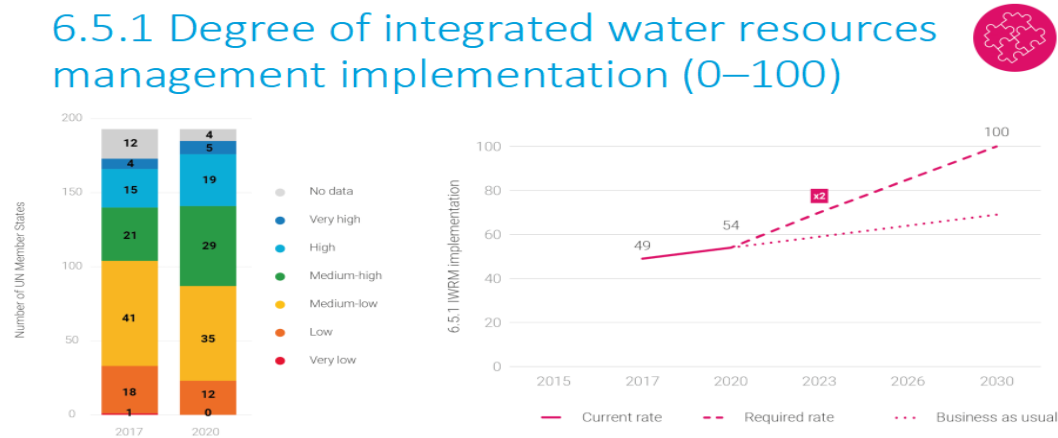


Level of Water Stress/Scarcity

II Progress in implementation

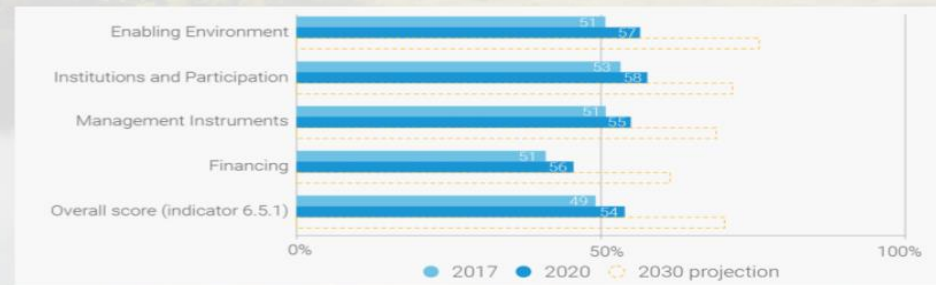
SDG 6.5.1 Integrated Water Resources Management (UNEP)

6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0–100)



Progress made in the implementation of IWRM by member states by 2020 and shows projections for the period 2020-2030 under two scenarios, business as usual and required accelerated rate to meet the 2030 Target.

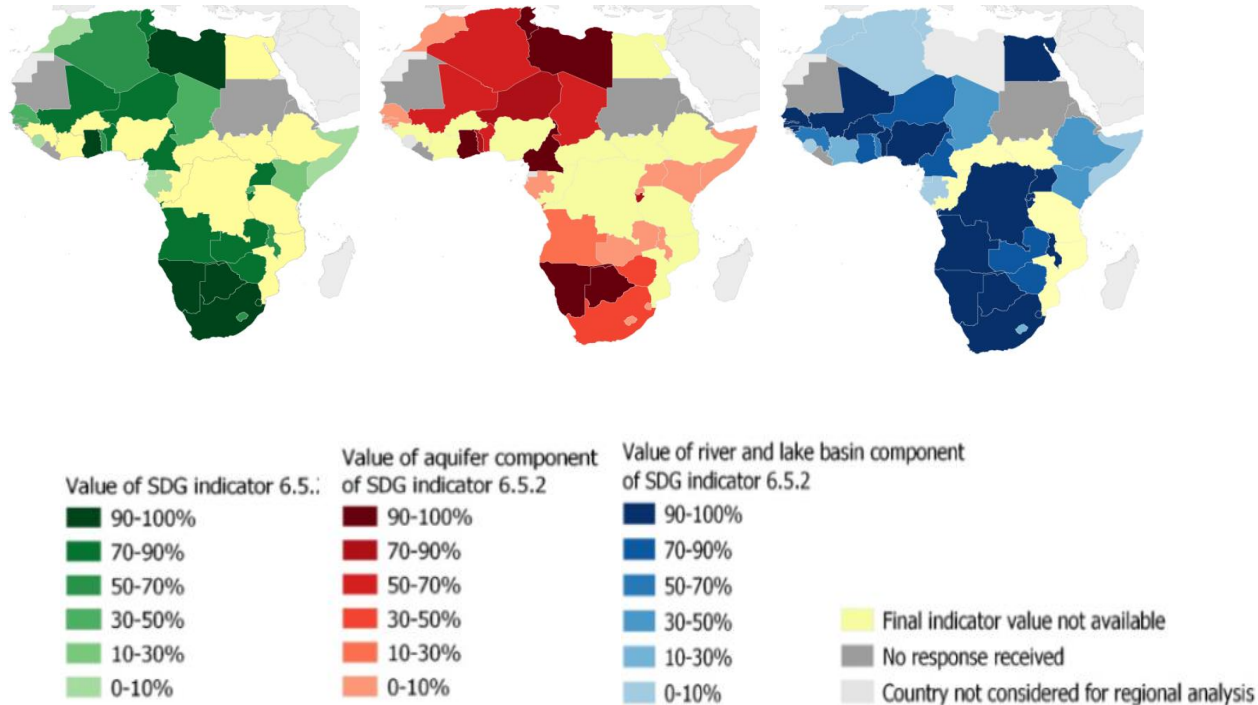
Financing lags other IWRM dimensions AND reported as a major constraint



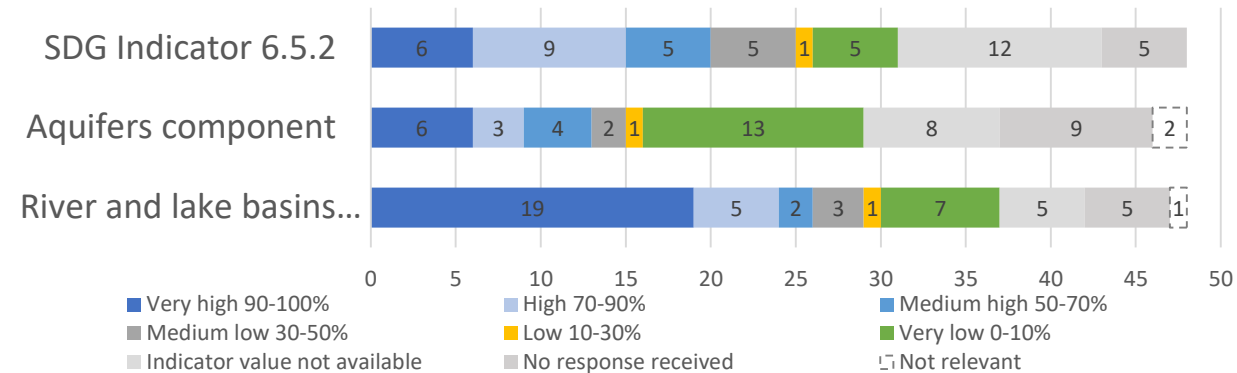
Scoring progress in the implementation of IWRM dimensions.

II Progress in implementation

SDG 6.5.2 Transboundary basin area with water cooperation (UNESCO, UNECE, UNECA)



The status of transboundary co-operation based on SDG 6.5.2 indicator

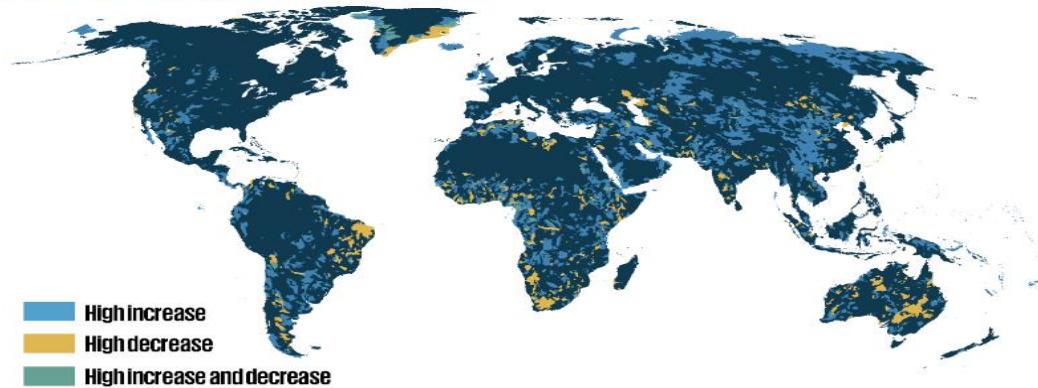


Breakdown of the 48 African countries sharing waters SDG indicator 6.5.2 values

II Progress in implementation

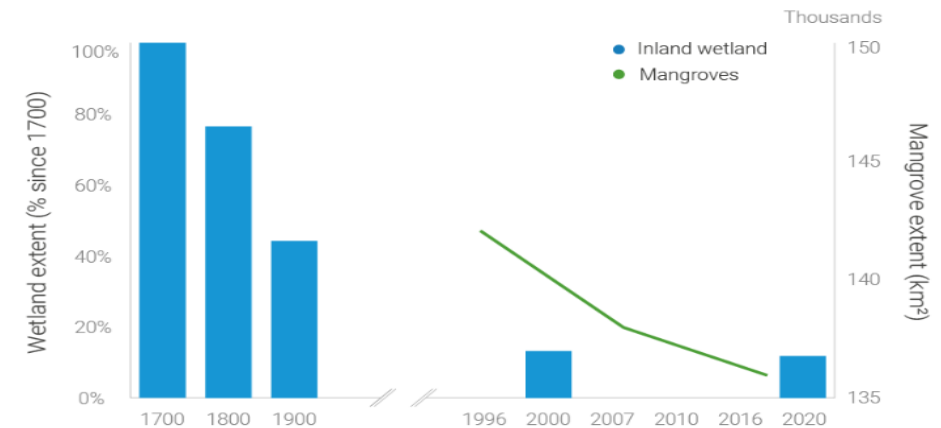
SDG 6.6.1 Water related ecosystems (UNEP, Ramsar)

6.6.1 Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time



Change in extent of Water related Ecosystems over time (Global).

6.6.1 Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time



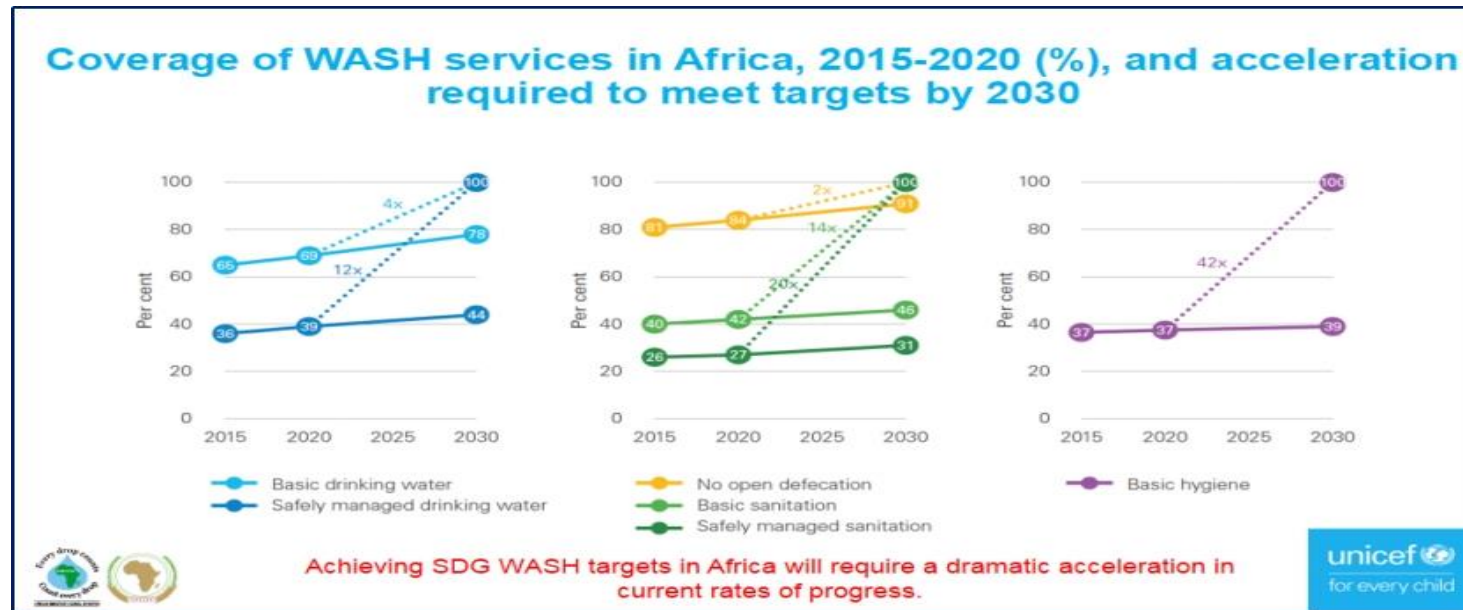
Change in extent of Wetlands and Mangroves (Global).

III. Challenges, constraints and emerging issues

key drivers for **water risks**

1. Population growth and urbanization
2. Slow economic growth - particularly in transition states exacerbated by COVID-19
3. climate variability and change increased the risk for recurrent drought

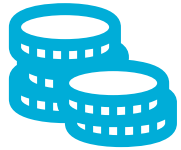
This necessitates the emerging approach of climate resilience of water systems and programs to ensure their sustainability



example of WASH, the Figure above shows the level of effort required to achieve the targets by 2030

IV. Opportunities, transformative actions, partnerships and ambition

The multilateral system and its partners will dramatically improve its support to countries for SDG 6 through swift and well-coordinated responses to country requests, coordinated action under **five accelerator themes** to unlock bottlenecks, and strengthened accountability:



Financing – Optimize financing to the sector



Data & information – Build trust through data generation and exchange for decision-making and accountability



Capacity development – Focus on the human capacity to deliver sustainable services



Innovation – Leverage innovation to accelerate SDG 6



Governance - Effective and well coordinated institutional structures and processes which enable evidence based decision-making at all levels and facilitates water as a human right.

V. Conclusions and key messages



From the two regional consultation rounds in 2022, the following are the key messages discussed and adopted by the AMCOW Executive Council:

1. Adopt the Dakar Declaration of the 9th World Water Forum, Dakar, Senegal
2. Increase domestic allocations and investment into the water and sanitation sector Africa
3. A call to action to release the full potential of the sanitation economy to benefit business and society in Africa
4. Enhance Water-related disaster risk reduction and management capabilities in Africa
5. Consolidate evidence-based and timely decision making at all levels
6. Revitalize the UN-Water Africa



THANK YOU!

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<https://www.uneca.org/eca-events/arfsd2023>

Ideas
to
Action