

# UN-Water Annual Report 2010

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## Foreword by the Chair

This UN-Water Annual Report portrays 2010 as a year of significant consolidation and ongoing evolution for UN-Water, as well as a period highlighted by some considerable achievements. These activities were matched by the growing prominence of water as a major global issue, one for which there is a clear demand for a coordinated dialogue and response.

Such prominence was perhaps most evident with UN Resolution 64/292 on 28 July 2010, when the United Nations General Assembly explicitly recognized the human right to water and sanitation, acknowledging that clean drinking water and improved sanitation are essential to the realization of all human rights. Although not a UN-Water initiative, the Resolution has profound implications for our work by calling upon states and international organizations to provide the necessary financial resources and help to build the capacity for countries to provide everyone with safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation. It also serves as a timely reminder to the international community and governments to do more.

UN-Water facilitated the organization of a remarkable meeting in Dushanbe, Tajikistan during June 2010, in which the government welcomed representatives from 75 countries to take stock of the International Decade for Action "Water of Life" 2005-2015. The gathering marked the first time UN-Water had provided support for an initiative at the country-level and worked closely with the UN Country Team in Tajikistan to deliver a consolidated and cohesive response to a UN General Assembly resolution.

I was in New York again in September to meet with my counterparts, the chairs of UN-Energy and UN-Oceans. It was the first step toward enhancing the substantial connections between the three themes of our respective organizations. We agreed to begin this process by maintaining regular communication and taking part in each other's meetings. We also agreed to join hands in formulating and disseminating consolidated messages for the Rio+20 Summit.

Later in the year two significant studies were initiated. One was a survey of UN-Water Partners, undertaken to ensure that we are best serving their needs and that they can contribute optimally to our affairs. The other study assessed the leveraging by UN-Water members of external

resources. In both cases the results should provide information that will be vital to the future of UN-Water's service to all constituencies.

UN-Water's reach also grew during 2010: we were pleased to welcome no fewer than nine new Members and Partners, each of which will contribute greatly to international developments in water policy and management. At the same time UN-Water was pleased to officially welcome Nicoletta Forlano as our new Communications Manager. She arrived at this post after several years of helping UN-Water raise its profile by revamping the UN-Water website, re-designing publications, undertaking an innovative World Water Day campaign, and mounting a pavilion at the World Water Forum. Her presence in this capacity, coupled with the lead of UNW-DPAC on development of a formal Communications Strategy for UN-Water, will strengthen our interface with media and the "outside world", as well as improving communication linkages among members and partners.

On the governance front in 2010, we made significant gains toward streamlining our activities, through the establishment of a UN-Water Inter-Agency Trust Fund and that of a Joint Steering Group that includes my predecessor, Pasquale Steduto of FAO. We are grateful to him for setting us on a course that contributed directly to the accomplishments outlined in this report. We are also grateful to Johan Kuylenstierna, who had been UN-Water's Chief Technical Advisor since 2007 and who played a critical role in helping establish UN-Water. In September 2010 he departed from UN-Water to join the Stockholm Environment Institute, where we wish him well.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of the Members and Partners and our Donors, as well as my colleagues on the Joint Steering Group and the core team of UN-Water. Their critical support and efforts have truly shaped the character of this year.

**Zafar Adeel**

Chair, UN-Water

# 2010 at a glance

## MAJOR PUBLICATIONS IN 2010

### Climate Change Adaptation: The Pivotal Role of Water)

[http://www.unwater.org/downloads/unw\\_ccpol\\_web.pdf](http://www.unwater.org/downloads/unw_ccpol_web.pdf)

This Policy Brief was finalized and printed in May 2010, then distributed on numerous occasions throughout the rest of the year. Much of this distribution took place during June 2010, at the Deutsche Welle Media Forum in Bonn, Germany, where UN-Water mounted a booth in the exhibition area. The document deals with the close links between adaptation to climate change, and the contribution that adaptation can make to sustainable development. While many would prefer that such adaptation were not necessary, the recognition of this reality can actually offer many promising development opportunities. Various adaptation measures build on existing land and water management practices that could enhance water security and thus directly contribute to development.

### GLAAS 2010: UN-Water Global Annual Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water

[http://www.unwater.org/downloads/UN-Water\\_GLAAS\\_2010\\_Report.pdf](http://www.unwater.org/downloads/UN-Water_GLAAS_2010_Report.pdf)

This report concludes that increased access to sanitation and safe drinking water brings significant benefits to the development of countries, both in economic and social terms. Despite demonstrable advantages such as huge savings in health-care costs and gains in productivity, many countries seem to allocate insufficient resources to meet the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target for sanitation and drinking-water. When compared with major sectors like education and health, sanitation and drinking-water continue to be assigned a relatively low priority for both official development assistance and domestic allocations.

### The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP)

[http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241563956\\_eng\\_full\\_text.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241563956_eng_full_text.pdf)

The JMP report, "Progress on Sanitation and Drinking-Water", was released in March 2010. Its observations link basic sanitation and progress towards greater access to safe

drinking-water, offering a clear picture of the current use of improved sanitation facilities and clean drinking-water throughout the world. These findings are aimed at policy-makers, donors, governmental and non-governmental agencies that are in a position to decide what needs to be done and where to focus their efforts.

### The United Nations and Water

[http://www.ciccp.es/revista/1/portada/img\\_portada/issue\\_563/pdf/IT91%20Total.pdf](http://www.ciccp.es/revista/1/portada/img_portada/issue_563/pdf/IT91%20Total.pdf)

This special issue of the journal *Ingeniería y Territorio*, a review of the Latin American engineering association, was published in September 2010. The content, much of it authored by UN Programme Members, dealt with all aspects of the title theme. For example, UN-Water Chair Zafar Adeel wrote an introduction to UN-Water. Members of the Thematic Priority Area on Water and Climate also prepared an article describing its background, work, achievements, and the way forward. The article was translated into Spanish for the journal, which was distributed to more than 2,500 people in Spanish-speaking countries. The full Spanish text of the journal can be found on-line and an English version is also available through UN-Water.

## TASK FORCES AND THEMATIC PRIORITY AREAS (TPAS)

### Management of Water Resources

Established in September 2010, this Task Force is to oversee the development of material supporting UN-Water's contribution to the Rio+20 Conference, which will take place in June 2012.

### Transboundary waters

This TPA conducted a mapping exercise to reveal more about the activities and planned activities of UN-Water Members and Partners, in order to identify overlaps or gaps.

### Wastewater Management

This Task Force has been developed to respond to the challenges posed by the publication "Sick Water?", which graphically outlined the threats that wastewater can pose

to human and ecological health, as well as the opportunities offered by dealing with this matter in an effective way.

### **Water & Climate Change**

This TPA took part in the June 2010 Deutsche Welle Media Forum in Bonn, as well as preparing an article describing its work for a special September 2010 issue of *Ingenieria y Territorio*, a Latin American engineers' association journal.

### **Water Quality**

This TPA was formally proposed during World Water Day in March 2010, and subsequently approved by UN-Water at World Water Week in September 2010.

### **Water Supply and Basic Sanitation**

As the Task Force on Sanitation concluded its work in 2010, its mandate was taken up by this Thematic Priority Area, which aims to improve coordination within the UN system with respect to water supply and basic sanitation, so as to raise the profile and funding prospects of this sector.

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## **PROGRAMMES**

### **UN-Water Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC)**

This Programme hosted meetings of the Transboundary Waters and Country-Level Coordination Task Forces in February 2010, and a meeting of the Climate Change Task Force in May 2010. UNW-DPC also took part in the 15th African Water Association Congress Kampala, Uganda, and World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden. UNW-DPC also co-organized and supported the International Conference on the Mid-term review of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" 2005-2015 in Dushanbe, and maintained a week-long presence at IFAT trade fair. The UN-Water Activity Information System (UNW-AIS) was launched at the Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management Conference (ISARM2010) in December 2010.

### **The UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC)**

UNW-DPAC took a leading role in a number of activities throughout the year. In March 2010 the Programme collaborated with UNEP, UN-Habitat, and FAO on a three-day water quality workshop for international journalists in Nairobi, Kenya as part of World Water Day. Another journalist training event on climate change was mounted in June

2010 at the Deutsche Welle Media Forum convention in Bonn, along with a discussion panel on the same theme. During the September 2010 World Water Week in Stockholm, the Programme office organized and coordinated a dialogue session on capacity development with UNW-DPC, which was made available in video format on-line. In December 2010 UNW-DPAC organized the Conference on Sustainable Water Management in Cities in Zaragoza, Spain, working closely UN-HABITAT, Zaragoza Municipality, SWITCH consortium and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE).

### **World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)**

This Programme contributed to a series of events at the 16th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP16) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which was held in Cancun, Mexico from 29 November-10 December 2010. The resulting "Dialogs for Water and Climate Change" were aimed at enhancing the appreciation of the effects of climate change on water and adaptation strategies. WWAP also co-convened with UN-Water/Africa a side event on water monitoring and assessment during Africa Water Week, which took place from 22 to 26 November 2010 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Other activities have been aimed at ensuring the messages of the United Nations World Water Development Report 3, *Water in a Changing World*, reach those stakeholders whose actions most influence the use and management of our planet's freshwater resources. The Programme has also been actively consulting with water management leaders and the general public on the content of World Water Development Report 4, due to be published in 2012.

### **WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation**

The WHO/UNICEF JMP is affiliated to UN-Water, though not formally a UN-Water Programme. In 2010 the JMP published its update on "Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water". It also convened two task forces; one met in July 2010 to discuss technical aspects of monitoring sanitation, and the other met in November 2010 to discuss technical aspects of drinking-water quality monitoring at the global level.

## MAJOR EVENTS

UN-Water Members, Partners, and Programmes were involved in many important events throughout 2010. Listed below are the major international events to which UN-Water, as a whole, made significant contributions:

- World Water Day, Nairobi, 22 March 2010
- First High Level Meeting of Sanitation and Water for All, Washington D.C., 23 April 2010
- UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) 18, New York, 3-14 May 2010
- Water for Life conference, Dushanbe, 8-10 June 2010
- Deutsche Welle Media Forum, Bonn, 21-23 June 2010
- World Water Week, Stockholm, 5-10 September 2010
- IFAT ENTSORGA, Munich, 13-17 September 2010
- IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition, Montreal, 19-24 September 2010
- MDG Summit, New York, 20-22 September 2010
- Africa Water Week, Addis Ababa, 22-26 November 2010
- COP-16 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Cancun, 29 November-10 December 2010
- Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management (ISARM) conference, Paris, 6-8 December 2010
- Sustainable Water Management in Cities, Zaragoza, 13-17 December 2010

# UN-Water activities in 2010

## OUTREACH, COMMUNICATION & HIGHLIGHTS FROM MAJOR EVENTS

### Policy Brief on Water and Climate Change

[http://www.unwater.org/downloads/unw\\_ccpol\\_web.pdf](http://www.unwater.org/downloads/unw_ccpol_web.pdf)

The Policy Brief on Water and Climate Change was finalized and printed in May 2010, then distributed on numerous occasions throughout the year. This document emphasizes the fact that water is the primary medium through which a changing climate will affect ecosystems and societies. More specifically, changes in precipitation patterns and groundwater supplies are already demonstrating a fundamental impact in some regions, although the effects will undoubtedly vary widely around the world. Leaders are therefore urged to take careful stock of their water resources and how those resources are managed, with an eye toward ensuring that supplies will be resilient to an environment in flux.

### Launch of database

A 2009-2010 mapping exercise sought to improve coordination and planning of transboundary water management by providing a better overview of what different UN-Water Members and Partners are doing in this field. Conducted by the TPA on Transboundary Waters, under the leadership of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and implemented by UNW-DPC, the results form the UN-Water Activity Information System (UNW-AIS), an online database that was launched in December 2010 in Paris. The content, available on the UN-Water website at <http://www.ais.unwater.org/ais>, includes more than 200 entries. This online tool is intended to help in the management, analysis and dissemination of information about water-related activities carried out by UN-Water Members, Partners and associated Programmes. The UNW-AIS also provides a common point of entry to UN agencies' activities on transboundary waters for countries, donors, academia and any other interested member of the public. It is expected that activities in other fields related to water will be added at a later stage as a result of mapping exercises carried out by other UN-Water Task Forces and Thematic Priority Areas.

### First High Level Meeting

The findings from the UN-Water GLAAS report were presented at the first High-Level Meeting of Sanitation and

Water for All, convened and hosted by UNICEF and the World Bank on 23 April 2010 in Washington, DC. Finance and water/sanitation sector ministers representing 17 countries met with representatives of 13 donors, as well as seven UN agencies and several civil society organizations. This dialogue had two aims: generating new commitments to address key sector bottlenecks, at both the global and national levels; and influencing progress on the sector through the development and implementation of those commitments. The High Level Meeting participants subsequently called for more synergies and commitment, continued dialogue, better use of resources, capacity building, human resource development, increased water and sanitation sector planning, public-private partnerships, development of integrated approaches, and evidence-based decision-making. Participants also each tabled a formal statement detailing specific commitments.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM MAJOR EVENTS

### World Water Day

#### Nairobi, Kenya 22 March 2010

At World Water Day, which was led by UNEP, UN-Water Members and Partners together raised awareness about the urgent need to address increasing water quality challenges, with governments, organizations, communities, and individuals around the world being encouraged to act immediately. UN-Water launched a statement on water quality, with recommendations on how to improve water quality globally ([http://www.unwater.org/downloads/unw\\_wwd\\_statement1.pdf](http://www.unwater.org/downloads/unw_wwd_statement1.pdf)). Key areas of intervention were highlighted: improved understanding of water quality; expanded communication and education; better financial and economic approaches, enhanced use of effective technologies; greater application of appropriate legal, institutional, and regulatory tools.

During an informal World Water Day meeting between some UN-Water Members and Partners, UN-Water was advised to build on achievements in the area of water quality and establish a TPA to pursue this work. This recommendation suggested that a larger impact could follow a broader approach to water quality, with UN-Water providing a home for the outputs of this Task Force and the necessary linkages to broader issues of water management.

## Deutsche Welle Media Forum

**Bonn, Germany - 19-22 June 2010,**

Under the topic "The Heat is on Climate Change and the Media", UNW-DPAC organized a journalist training workshop on water and climate change, aimed at providing participants with basic knowledge of the relation between water and adaptation to climate change. The Forum program also included a discussion panel, "Water for Life – Where is the Water in the Climate Change Debate?", which presented key messages gathered on a one-page UN-Water document on climate change adaptation (available at [http://www.unwater.org/downloads/UNWclimate-change\\_EN.pdf](http://www.unwater.org/downloads/UNWclimate-change_EN.pdf)). The panelists included representatives of the UN-Water Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Stakeholder Forum, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and an experienced journalist (the Friday Times, Pakistan). A UN stand at the Forum was arranged with the support of World Meteorological Organization on behalf of UN-Water TPA on Water and Climate Change. The stand operated as meeting point and information supplier for attendees to the Forum.

## World Water Week

**Stockholm, Sweden - 6-9 September 2010**

As part of this event, UNW-DPAC organized and coordinated a dialogue session, "Sick water is threatening the MDGs: A stakeholder dialogue to address capacity development and communication needs". Organized jointly with UNW-DPC and WWAP, the discussion's theme, concept, and format were developed by UNW-DPAC. The event can be viewed on-line, along with speaker interviews, at <http://www.unmultimedia.org/tv/webcast/2010/09/world-water-week-stockholm-sweden.html>

UN-Water also mounted "World Water Day 2011 - Urban Water Management: Key Issues and Priorities for Action", a seminar highlighting key urban water management issues and priorities. Drawing on the diverse experience of UN-Water members and other stakeholders, participants offered recommendations to guide the planning, organization, and development of key messages for World Water Day 2011, to be coordinated by UN-HABITAT under the theme "Water and Urbanization."

With the next year's proceedings in mind, UN-HABITAT brought its partners together for "Urbanization and Water Management: Turning Adversity into Opportunity", a discussion of critical issues and key strategies for water use in urban settings. This seminar focused on urban trends and their implications for urban water policy and practice, laying out a number of key messages for the World Water Day 2011.

## IFAT ENTSORGA

**Munich, Germany - 13-17 September 2010**

<http://www.ifat.de/en/2010>

UN-Water's presence this year was organized and coordinated by UNW-DPC. A dozen UN-Water Members and Partners were represented at the UN-Water stand, which saw more than 5,000 visitors and 12 governmental delegations. This allowed for discussions on collaborative initiatives with decision makers from developing countries, industrial organizations and the private sector.

UN-Water also conducted a seminar, "Institutional Capacity Development on Water Management, Water Supply and Sanitation". This was attended by about 200 people, exceeding the hall's capacity. The proceedings featured presentations from a panel of seven speakers from seven different UN-Water Members, followed by a press conference. The IFAT General Manager and officials from DWA (German Association for Water, Waste Water and Waste) subsequently indicated that UN-Water would also be welcome at the next IFAT, which could be viewed as an opportunity to expand the UN-Water presence and serve as an interface with a broad set of stakeholders.

## IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition

**Montreal, Canada- 19-24 September 2010**

Nearly 4,000 water professionals attended this event, where representatives from 28 countries showcased their water and sanitation products, services, systems and technologies. UNW-DPAC, together with the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA) and UN-Habitat, organized a UN-water stand in the Congress, as well as a dialogue session on the practices of water operators.

## Africa Water Week

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia - 22-26 November 2010**

As part of this event, UNW-WWAP co-convened a side event on water monitoring and assessment, which included a presentation on the first draft of the Programme's regional report on Africa. This report will become part of the 4th edition of the United Nations World Water Development Report, themed "managing water under conditions of risk and uncertainty", which will be launched in 2012. Participants at Africa Water Week were therefore invited to share their comments on the draft regional report and provide input.

On behalf of the African Minister's Council on Water (AMCOW), UN HABITAT coordinated a session on the theme "water and urbanization" to prepare the input from Africa to the World Water Day 2011. Participants' discus-

sions focused on four key areas: delivering sustainable services to the urban poor; ensuring synergy between the artificial and natural environment; monitoring the water and sanitation Millennium Development Goals Target in urban areas; and financing urban water and sanitation.

### **COP-16 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change**

**Cancun, Mexico -**

**29 November-10 December 2010**

[http://www.unwater.org/activities\\_Climate\\_Water.html](http://www.unwater.org/activities_Climate_Water.html)

This major event included UN-Water Day on December 1st 2010, which was attended by 350 senior delegates from all sectors. The proceedings included four panels, with participation of 10 UN-Water Member entities, five UN-Water Partners, and eight key UN-Water stakeholders. UN-Water hosted a series of panels as part of the Dialogs for Water and Climate Change, led by the Mexican National Water Commission, CONAGUA. These discussions were intended to shed a new light on the importance of water management for climate change adaptation. The resulting panels dealt with themes such as droughts, water, food and energy, and adaptation to climate change.

### **Sustainable Water Management in Cities**

**Zaragoza, Spain - 13-17 December 2010**

[http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/](http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/swm_cities_zaragoza_2010)

[swm\\_cities\\_zaragoza\\_2010](http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/swm_cities_zaragoza_2010)

The meeting brought together more than 200 experts, local government officials, media specialists, key water operators and political representatives of cities and stakeholder groups. Discussions covered a wide range of issues and yielded practical proposals to meet the challenges of achieving water and sanitation for all, of disseminating results to a wider audience, and considering different development contexts and regional characteristics. The meeting also provided a preparatory step toward World Water Day 2011, which focused on urban water management. UNW-DPAC produced media briefs and sets of facts and figures for the Zaragoza event. The briefs addressed the topics of water and cities, water quality and sanitation, water and urbanization, and the urban-rural interface. During the meeting, UN HABITAT organized a planning session of UN-Water Members and Partners to discuss next steps to World Water Day 2011.

## **FLAGSHIP REPORTS**

Background Information on these reports and other documents can be found on-line at <http://www.unwater.org/documents.html>

### **World Water Development Report (WWDR)**

With the previous year's launch of the Third Edition of the UN World Water Development Report (WWDR), much of the WWAP's activity was dedicated to preparing the next iteration of this series, due to be published in 2012. In the meantime, by way of ensuring that the report's messages reach the policy- and decision-makers whose actions most influence the use and management of our planet's freshwater resources, the Programme commissioned a review of on-going political processes and events of global or regional significance with a particular focus on their impacts on and interactions with water.

In June 2010, WWAP and UN-HABITAT jointly published a briefing note, "Water for Sustainable Urban Human Settlements". This document outlines the critical water-related challenges of the world's unprecedented urban expansion, which range from providing access to basic services to ensuring environmental and human security. Available at [http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/pdf/WWAP\\_Urban\\_Settlements\\_Web\\_version.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/pdf/WWAP_Urban_Settlements_Web_version.pdf), this publication was produced as a contribution to both the World Cities Summit (Liveable and Sustainable Cities for the Future) and the annual Water Leaders Summit.

A review published in August 2010, "Outside the Water Box", builds on some of the major processes related to climate change, agriculture, trade, and energy, explaining why it is important to bring water into these accounts. Moreover it provides suggestions for WWAP, UN-Water or the UN system in general to influence these processes.

### **UN-Water Global Annual Assessment on Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS)**

The first GLAAS report was launched in 2010. It concludes that increased access to sanitation and safe drinking water brings significant benefits to the development of countries, both in economic and social terms. Despite demonstrable advantages such as huge savings in health-care costs and gains in productivity, many countries seem to allocate insufficient resources to meet the MDG target for sanitation and drinking-water. When compared with major sectors like education and health, sanitation and drinking-water continue to be assigned a relatively low priority for both official development assistance and domestic allocations.

Launched as a pilot in September 2008, GLAAS is now a key part of the monitoring framework for sanitation and drinking-water. The GLAAS team has worked closely with the WHO/UNICEF JMP and with the World Bank's Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) team working on the Country Status Overviews (CSO) for Africa. Similarly the GLAAS questionnaires were used by UNESCAP for their study that contributed to the Asian Water Development Outlook Report 2010. The GLAAS is also influenced by other sectors, such as education.

The 2010 GLAAS filled key knowledge gaps with data from countries and donor organizations, a process that took place during late 2009 and early 2010. This information included global data on sanitation and drinking-water coverage, donor aid flows, economic and development indicators, health indicator data, and data from regional sector and multi-sector assessments.

### **The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP)**

The JMP report, "Progress on Sanitation and Drinking-Water", was released in March 2010. Although not formally a UN-Water report, JMP is closely affiliated with UN-Water. The report's observations link basic sanitation and progress towards greater access to safe drinking-water, offering a clear picture of the current use of improved sanitation facilities and improved sources of drinking-water throughout the world. These findings are aimed at policy-makers, donors, governmental, and non-governmental agencies that are in a position to decide what needs to be done and where to focus their efforts. They also reflect JMP's role as the official monitoring mechanisms for MDG Target 7.C.

While confirming advances that continue to be made towards greater access to safe drinking-water, the report also indicates 2.6 billion people do not use improved sanitation and 884 million do not use improved sources of drinking-water. These figures represent progress that is insufficient to achieve the sanitation component of the MDG target of halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking-water and basic sanitation by 2015. Despite the world's population being almost equally divided between urban and rural dwellers, the report found that rural residents make up the vast majority of people who lack access to water and sanitation. A similar disparity is defined by poverty, so that in sub-Saharan Africa the richest are more than twice as likely to use an improved drinking-water source and almost five times more likely to use improved sanitation facilities. Although there is insufficient data at present, available country data confirms similar disparities elsewhere.

## **PROGRAMMES**

### **UN-Water Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC)**

UNW-DPC organized a Seminar on "Institutional Capacity Development on Water Management, Water Supply and Sanitation" on 16 September 2010, as part of UN-Water's presence at IFAT ENSORGA 2010 in Munich, Germany. The Programme also co-organized and supported the International Conference on the Mid-term review of the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005-2015 in Dushanbe, in June 2010.

As the Capacity Development Information System (CDIS) was renamed to the UN-Water Activity Information System (UNW-AIS) in September 2010, UNW-DPC took on this mapping and analysis activity of the Transboundary Waters and Climate Change TPA. Meetings of the Transboundary Waters and Country-Level Coordination TPAs were hosted in February 2010, and a meeting for the Climate Change Task Force in May 2010.

UNW-DPC also struck a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) in April 2010. Building on an earlier framework agreement that included FAO, this collaboration deals with Capacity Development for Water in Agriculture, which spawned a workshop on that theme at Yogyakarta, Indonesia in October 2010. There experts from ICID membership network countries were shown case studies outlining the use of FAO's "AquaCrop" agricultural software, which models the response of various plants to water.

### **The UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC)**

UNW-DPAC organized a three-day workshop for international journalists on Water Quality from 20-22 March 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya, in collaboration with UNEP, UN-Habitat, and FAO. At the same time, the Water Smart Communication Campaign was launched as a joint effort of the Programme and GWOPA on the occasion of World Water Day 2010. The Water Smart Campaign invites water operators to spread the word on the water and sanitation situation around the world and to share their own experiences and lessons learned with other water operators.

The Programme also set up a journalist training workshop at the Deutsche Welle Media Forum in Bonn, in June 2010. This event also featured a discussion panel, "Water for Life – Where is the Water in the Climate Change

Debate?”, which incorporated the key messages of the UN-Water one-page document on adaptation to climate change.

At the September 2010 IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition in Montreal, Canada, where the UNW-DPAC joined with GWOPA and UN-Habitat to mount a session on “Sharing Social Tools: building a water operators’ community of practice”. This presentation showcased champions of the Water Smart campaign from different regions of the world, who shared their experiences, practices, and lessons learned. This discussion centred on three water operators, from Cambodia, Colombia, and South Africa.

### World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

In the same way that this Programme consulted various communities to produce the third edition of the WWDR-3, a March 2010 meeting at WWAP headquarters in Perugia, Italy yielded similar initiatives that were carried out with respect to the fourth edition. An innovative online tool called CommentPress allowed interested members of the public to submit their comments from 30 November-30 December 2010 at <http://www.unesco-wwap.org/wwdr4blog>. By the end of that period, 18 participants had offered 92 comments. In a similar fashion, an on-line survey solicited the opinions of key figures in the field of water management. By the end of the year, a list of more than 1,100 recipients had been compiled for the survey, which was conducted in English, French, and Spanish; this effort yielded an impressive return of more than 20 per cent.

Each of these undertakings was meant to take the Programme outside of its “water box”, ensuring that the resulting WWDR series is user-friendly, practical, and above all relevant to people around the globe who have a hand in water management.

The brochure *Water for the Millennium Development Goals* (available at [http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/publications/WWAP\\_Water\\_and\\_MDGs.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/publications/WWAP_Water_and_MDGs.pdf)) was launched during the September 2010 Summit on the Millennium Development Goals in New York. The brochure underlines water as a cross-cutting issue for the achievement of the MDGs. The eight MDGs that emerged from the UN Millennium Declaration in 2000 galvanized an unprecedented coordination of efforts of the world’s nations to improve the situation of the world’s poorest people by 2015.

At COP16 in December 2010, CONAGUA organized “Dialogs for Water and Climate Change”. This series of events and activities was intended to raise awareness of the effects of climate change on water and adaptation strate-

gies. CONAGUA invited WWAP to organize a four-hour session that brought together members of the scientific community and other stakeholders to discuss the interconnections between climate change, water resources, and other forces such as demographics or economics. In addition to highlighting different types of policies, responses, and actions, the three winning entries in the “Water, Climate and... Action!” short films contest were also screened during this session.

### WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation

JMP hosted a Technical Task Force on Sanitation Methods on 27 and 28 July 2010 in New York City. There 11 international technical experts joined two external observers, along with JMP team members from UNICEF and WHO, to discuss a number of technical issues that relate to monitoring sanitation and to methods for estimating progress towards the MDG target for drinking-water and sanitation. Their exchanges covered a variety of objectives, including the reliability of data on the use of shared sanitation facilities and the current method for assessing progress towards the MDG targets for drinking-water and sanitation.

Following the JMP Task Force meeting, on 29 July 2010, members of the JMP/GLAAS Strategic Advisory Group met in New York to discuss the road ahead towards 2015.

Another JMP Task Force, on Drinking-water Quality Monitoring, met from 16-18 November 2010 at Château de Pizay, Villié-Morgon, France. There 15 international technical experts, four resource persons and two members of the JMP/GLAAS Strategic Advisory Group joined the JMP team members from UNICEF and the WHO to discuss the monitoring of drinking-water quality towards 2015 and beyond.

## TASK FORCES AND THEMATIC PRIORITY AREAS

2010 saw the launch of two Task Forces, Management of Water Resources and Wastewater Management, as well as a new TPA dealing with Water Quality. The following is a brief update on the activities of all the Task Forces and TPAs.

### Management of Water Resources

In preparation for the June 2012 Rio+20 Conference, this initiative will establish a regular framework for monitoring and reporting on the management of water resources. As part

of a broader effort to improve water security, the resulting report is intended to influence policies, actions and financing for water resources development and management.

### Sanitation

This TPA's activities were highlighted by the Sustainable Sanitation 5 Year Drive to 2015, which was officially adopted by Resolution A/RES/65/153 of the UN General Assembly on 20 December 2010. This initiative has become the focal point for countries and other stakeholders with an interest in access to sanitation. An initial preparatory meeting on this matter was held in March 2010 at Geneva, which brought together external partners to agree upon key points. This meeting, which was hosted by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), included United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB) and this TPA as participants, along with more than 20 external partners

This initiative incorporates five key messages, which describe sanitation as a right that is vital to health, dignity, equality, and safety, as well as a good economic investment in a clean environment. The TPA has produced fact sheets for each message, and a Web site, <http://www.sanitation-drive2015.org/>, provides more specific links to MDGs.

### Transboundary waters

The major result of the TPA's mapping exercise was the collection of detailed information about UN-Water Member and Partner activities with respect to transboundary waters. A first result was presented and discussed at a workshop held in Bonn, in February 2010, where participants were invited to double-check the findings and comment on them. The same meeting introduced the CDIS (which later became UN Water-AIS), a rich source of information and a useful tool for UN-Water Members and Partners to learn about each other's activities and to coordinate their work. Developed by the UNW-DPC, UN Water-AIS is built on organizing bodies, target groups, geographical scale, thematic foci, types of activities, and project planning processes, which serve as valuable lenses through which to view the work of UN-Water Members and Partners on transboundary waters.

### Wastewater Management

This Task Force builds on the themes put forward in "Sick Water?", a report launched in March 2010 and available on-line at [http://www.unep.org/pdf/SickWater\\_screen.pdf](http://www.unep.org/pdf/SickWater_screen.pdf). The document was produced by UNEP, UN-Habitat, and UNSGAB, in partnership with the Members of UN-Water.

### Water & Climate Change

This TPA prepared "Climate Change Adaptation: The Pivotal Role of Water", a policy brief that was finalized and printed in May 2010, then subsequently distributed during the rest of the year. Members also participated in the Deutsche Welle Media Forum in Bonn, where the content of this brief became the theme of a media workshop on water and climate change, as well as a panel discussion moderated by a Task Force representative.

The event, which adopted the theme "The Heat is on Climate Change", drew upward of 1,200 journalists from around the world. Members delivered a media workshop entitled "water and climate change", intended to help journalists from developing countries to confront this complex subject. At the same event, a TPA member moderated a four-member panel session entitled "Water for life: Where is Water in the Climate Change Debate?"

The TPA also prepared an article describing its background, achievements, and future directions that was published in September 2010 in a special issue of *Ingenieria y Territorio*, a Latin American engineers' association review.

### Water Quality

The scope of this TPA's activities includes highlighting good practices for water use and re-use, enhancing the monitoring of water quality in ecosystems, and promoting regulatory initiatives. These undertakings are to be linked closely with those of the Task Force on Wastewater, so that they can be continued by this TPA after the Task Force has concluded.

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## OTHER ACTIVITIES

### Water Country Briefs

A December 2010 workshop in Geneva initiated a project to visualize the critical importance of "investments" in water for human and economic development. The work plan includes a series of briefs describing such investments a number of countries, using a common template to assess the implications of various water-related policies and interventions. The goal is to enhance the political momentum of water initiatives, ultimately to increase the financial and institutional support for those initiatives.

### **Partners Survey**

A consultation with Partners was initiated in 2010 regarding their engagement in UN-Water and related activities. Several questions were included related to the satisfaction of the partner relationship and the most valuable aspects of their engagement with UN-Water. Information was also sought on how the partner relationship could be further improved for their own organization specifically and for partners generally, as well as views on what should be the primary focus of the annual UN-Water Members and Partners meeting.

# Governance and financial issues

## Documents

The main document guiding UN-Water's action in 2010 is the UN-Water Work Programme 2010-2011, which outlines the organization's reported results and concrete deliverables. It was also in 2010 that UN-Water prepared its third Annual Report, covering activities carried out in 2009. All of these documents can be accessed at <http://www.unwater.org/documents.html>

## Annual meetings

UN-Water chairmanship passed from Mr. Pasquale Steduto of FAO to Mr. Zafar Adeel of United Nations University (UNU) at the 12th UN-Water Senior Programme Managers' meeting, which was hosted by the UNU Institute for Water, Environment & Health in Hamilton, Canada in February 2010.

This meeting also saw the International Labour Organization become a UN-Water Member, while the International Hydropower Association (IHA), the Gender and Water Alliance (GWA), the Women for Water Partnership (WfWP), and the Stakeholder Forum were granted the status of UN-Water Partners.

The 13th UN-Water Senior Programme Managers' meeting was held in Stockholm, during World Water Week in September 2010. This gathering noted the impending departure of Chief Technical Adviser Mr. Johan Kuylenstierna, bringing together several agencies to recruit his replacement.

The participants also granted the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) the status of UN-Water Partner with Special Status, while two other organizations — the International Association for Water Law (AIDA), and the International Water Resources Association (IWRA) — were admitted as UN-Water Partners and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) became a UN-Water Member.

## Creation of Joint Steering Group

The UN-Water Joint Steering Group (JSG) was established to enable UN-Water to become more responsive to its Members' tasks and more flexible in dealing with emerging issues. Created at the 12th UN-Water Senior Programme Managers meeting in February 2010, the JSG serves as a forum for steering the operational management of UN-Water. This role encompasses all operational aspects of

UN-Water, including work and budget planning, decision-making related to the implementation of activities, the UN-Water Technical Secretariat, and preparations for the UN-Water Senior Programme Managers (SPM) meetings. The JSG consists of a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and four rotating UN-Water Members, which in 2010 were the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UNESCO, United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UN CBD) and United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN ISDR).

## The UN-Water Inter Agency Trust Fund

In 2010 the permanent UN-Water Inter-Agency Trust Fund (IATF) was set up in the Switzerland Operations Centre of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). In 2010, the IATF Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), FAO, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UNESCO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations University (UNU). Other UN-Water Members were also in the process of signing the Memorandum of Understanding.

The UN-Water Multi Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) hosted by FAO continued to provide support to UN-Water activities to ensure a smooth transition to the IATF. The MDTF will continue operations till February 2012.

Notwithstanding the fact that the IATF operations have just started and are still being optimized, both the IATF and the MDTF have shown remarkable value as transparent, cost-effective, streamlined means to support the work of UN-Water at all levels, including the Task Forces, Thematic Priority Areas and communications activities.

In addition to the human and financial resources contributed directly by the UN-Water Members and Partners, the donors contributing in 2010 to the UN-Water trust funds were Germany, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Germany, Italy and Spain also provided direct support to the UN-Water Programmes based in their own countries. In order to share information and to receive feedback, UN-Water met with its donor Partners in London in June 2010 during the first UN-Water Donor Dialogue. One outcome of that meeting was the launch of an assessment of the leveraging by UN-Water members of external resources.

During 2010 a total of US\$ 3,109,433 were received in the UN-Water trust funds:

Multi Donor Trust Fund (FAO):

- Sweden US\$ 369,630
- United Kingdom US\$ 406,771

Inter-Agency Trust Fund (UNOPS):

- Germany US\$ 211,200
- Norway US\$ 842,856
- United Kingdom US\$ 1,278,976

# Annex 1. UN-Water members (as of 31 December 2010)

## UN Secretariat

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)  
United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)

## Programmes and funds

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)  
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)  
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)

## Regional commissions

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)  
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)  
United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC)  
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)  
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

## Specialized agencies

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)  
International Labour Organization (ILO)\*  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)  
The World Bank Group (WB)  
World Health Organization (WHO)  
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

## Research and training institutes

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)\*

## Other entities

United Nations University (UNU)

## United Nations related organizations

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

## Conventions

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)  
Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)  
Secretariat of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

\* Joined during 2010

## Annex 2. UN-Water partners (as of 31 December 2010)

AquaFed

Gender and Water Alliance (GWA)\*

Global Water Partnership (GWP)

International Association for Water Law (AIDA)\*

International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH)

International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS)

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)

International Hydropower Association (IHA)\*

International Water Association (IWA)

International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

International Water Resources Association (IWRA)\*

Public Services International (PSI)

Ramsar – Convention on Wetlands

Stakeholder Forum\*

Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)

The World Conservation Union (IUCN)

United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) (special status)\*

United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB)

WaterAid

Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)

Women for Water Partnership (WfWP)\*

World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

World Water Council (WWC)

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

\* Joined during 2010

## Annex 3. Personnel

### Members of the UN-Water Joint Steering Group (JSG)

Zafar Adeel (UNU), Chair UN-Water  
Nikhil Chandavarkar (UN DESA), Secretary UN-Water  
Tim Kasten (UNEP), Vice-Chair UN-Water  
Pasquale Steduto (FAO) (Past Chair UN-Water)  
David Coates (UN CBD)  
Alberto Tejada-Guibert (UNESCO)  
Andrew Maskrey (UN ISDR)

### UN-Water Programme Leads

Reza Ardakanian – Director, UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC)  
Josefina Maetsu – Coordinator/Director, UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC)  
Olcay Ünver – Coordinator, United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

### UN-Water Technical Secretariat

Alex Bielak – Senior Advisor to the Chair (from Sept. 2010)  
Nicoletta Forlano – Communications Manager (from Sept. 2010)  
Irene Gaerdes – Office Associate  
Johan Kuylenstierna - Chief Technical Advisor (to Sept. 2010)  
Frederik Pischke - Advisor

## Annex 4. Acronyms

AIDA	International Association for Water Law
AMCOW	African Minister's Council on Water
CA	The Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture
CDIS	Capacity Development Information System
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSD	Commission on Sustainable Development
CSO	Country Status Overview
DESD	Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
EASAN2	2nd East Asia Ministerial Conference for Sanitation and Hygiene
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GEO4	Fourth Global Environment Outlook
GLAAS	Global Annual Assessment on Sanitation and Drinking-Water
GPPN	Global Public Policy Network
GWA	Gender and Water Alliance
GWOPA	Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance
GWP	Global Water Partnership
HDR	The Human Development Report
HLCPC	High Level Committee on Programmes
IAASTD	The International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge Science and Technology for Development
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAH	International Association of Hydrogeologists
IAHS	International Association of Hydrological Sciences
IATF	Inter-Agency Trust Fund
ICID	International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IHA	International Hydropower Association
ISARM	Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
IWA	International Water Association
IWM	International Water Management Institute
IWRA	International Water Resources Association
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
IYS	International Year of Sanitation
JMP	WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme on Water Supply and Sanitation
JSG	Joint Steering Group
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MDTF	Multi-donor Trust Fund
ODA	Overseas Development Assistance
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OECD-DAC	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development -Development Assistance Committee
PSI	Public Services International
SIWI	Stockholm International Water Institute
SWA	Sanitation and Water for All – A Global Framework for Action
TPA	Thematic Priority Area
UN	United Nations

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UNCBD	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCO-IHE	Institute for Water Education
UNESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNHABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNOOSA	United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
UNOPS	United Nations Office of Project Services
UNSGAB	United Nations Secretary-General’s Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation
UNU	United Nations University
UNW-AIS	UN-Water Activity Information System
UNW-DPAC	UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication
UNW-DPC	UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development
UNWTO	World Tourism Organization
WB	The World Bank Group
WBCSD	World Business Council on Sustainable Development
WfWP	Women for Water Partnership
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WSP-Africa	World Bank’s Water and Sanitation Program-Africa
WSS	Water Supply and Sanitation
WSSCC	Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WWAP	World Water Assessment Programme
WWC	World Water Council
WWDR	World Water Development Report
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature