

# UNESCO and the Water Convention

Alice Aureli

UNESCO-IHP

Chief Groundwater Systems and Settlements



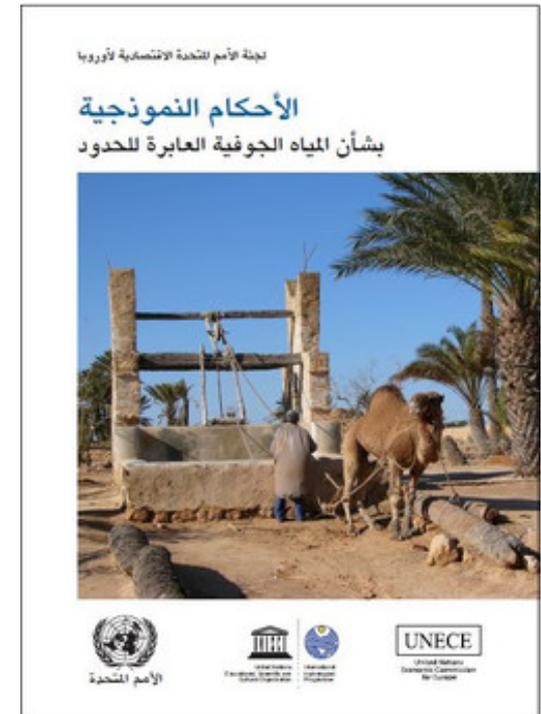
7th session of the Water Convention Meeting of the Parties  
Budapest, 17-19 November 2015



# Main achievements 2013–2015

## Following Decision MOP VI/5

- ▶ UNESCO together with UNECE organized the International Year of Water Cooperation (2013).
- ▶ Good Practices in transboundary water cooperation shared and disseminated( UN–Water TB Waters Thematic Priority Area)
- ▶ Equitable and sustainable use of transboundary groundwater promoted.
- ▶ Cooperation between Water Convention and UNESCO reinforced:
  - the Convention and the Model Provisions on TB Groundwaters promoted inside and outside the ECE Region mainly through communication, outreach and training.
  - Global opening of the Convention supported (Arabic version of the Model Provisions on TB Groundwater; international Water Law Seminars, etc).



# How was it achieved? Major milestones since 2013

- ▶ 15 Workshops and Seminars (including conferences) + 1 High level meeting
- ▶ 7 Project Meetings and Trainings (e.g. Regional Consultation "Groundwater Governance", TWAP, GGRETA...)
- ▶ Online database on water cooperation



**Legal training during the FORTH  
REGIONAL TECHNICAL WORKSHOP  
- Stampriet Aquifer  
Gaborone (Botswana), May 2015**



# Suggested future work

## Emerging topics:

- Groundwater – Surface Water conjunctive use
  - The Convention and the Model Provisions as instruments to support transboundary groundwater cooperation
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# Suggested future work

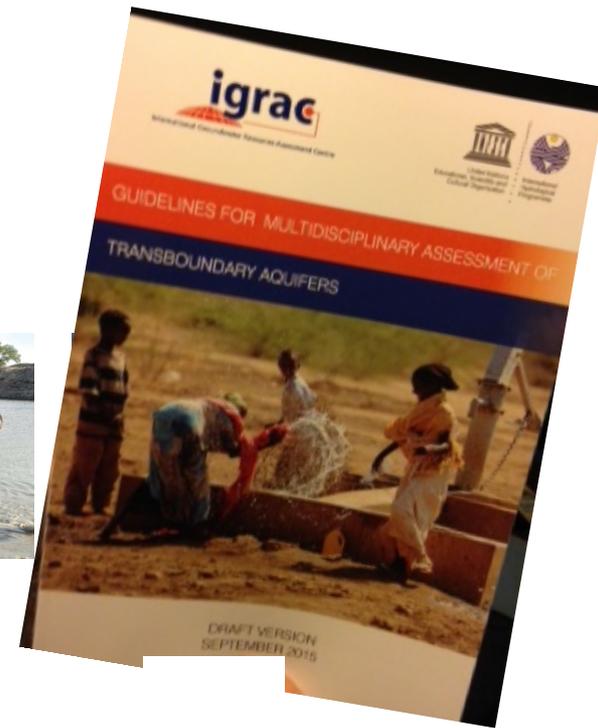
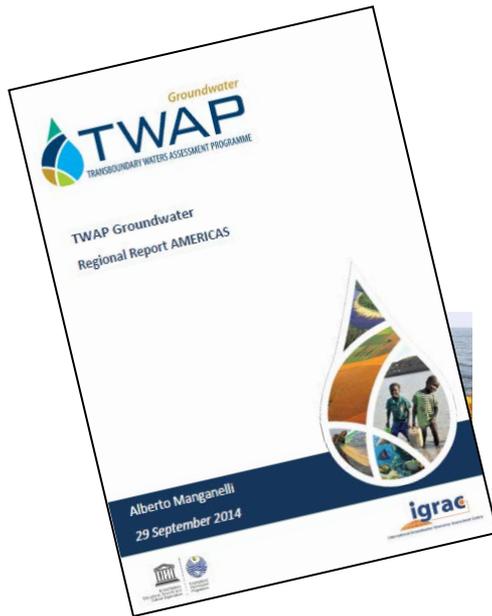
- **3rd UNECE Assessment:**

collaboration based on the data compiled by UNESCO in the Transboundary Aquifers Assessment component of the *TWAP project*.





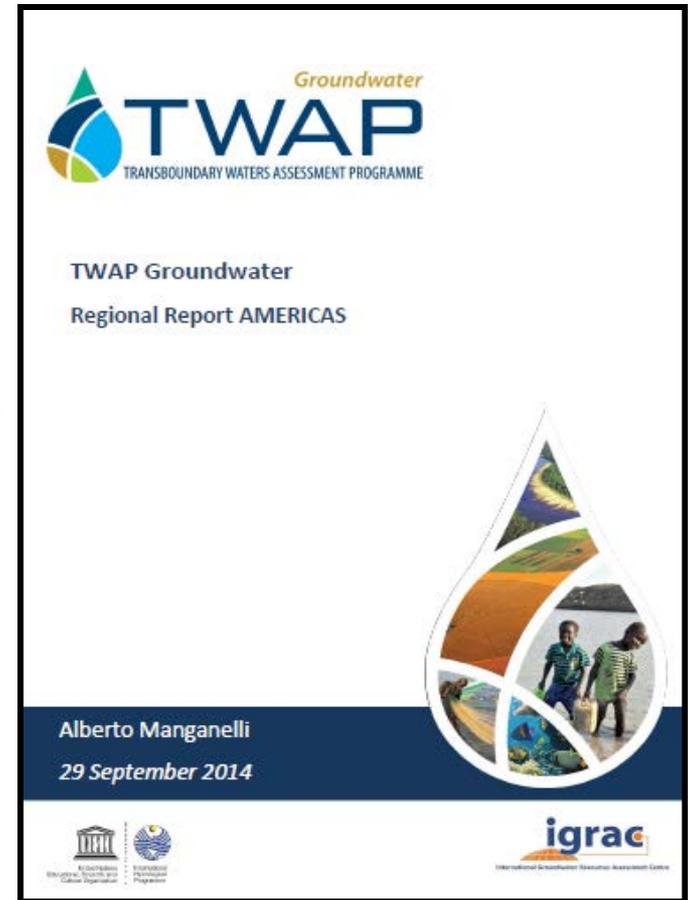
# Multidisciplinary Assessment of TBAs



# TBA Assessment



- ✓ 166 aquifers
- ✓ Ten core indicators, encompassing the hydrogeological, environmental, socio-economic and governance dimensions of the systems
- ✓ indicators ... **projections** developed to **2030** and **2050** - emerging issues can be assessed.





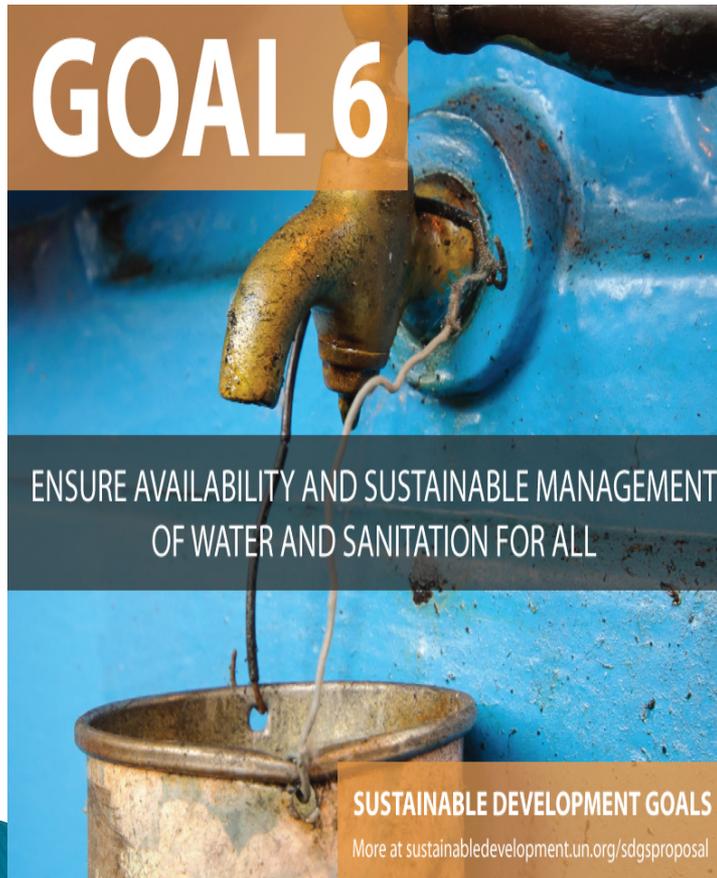
# Suggested future work

- Further collaboration in line with Decision VI/5: consider and promote the Convention in UNESCO activities worldwide – exchange of experiences and joint activities.
- Participation to Water Convention activities and Trainings/ Technical/Scientific expertise in particular for the consideration of Groundwater
- Within UNESCO IHP/ ISARM -UNESCO Center IGRAC



# Suggested future work

## Looking at the future



- By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water and sanitation
- By 2030, improve water quality
- By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals
- By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, **including transboundary cooperation** as appropriate
- By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, **aquifers** and lakes

Thank you

