

**Technical meeting on the template for reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.2
and under the Water Convention
Budapest, Hungary, 16-17 January 2018
Information document 1**

DRAFT REVISED TEMPLATE FOR REPORTING UNDER SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2

Prepared by UNECE and UNESCO

Background

In the course of 2017, the first reporting exercise on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) took place. The two reporting processes were carried out together in order to avoid duplication of requests and provide a more complete picture of cooperation. A reporting template was sent to all countries, both Parties and non-Parties to the Water Convention, and included a section on the calculation of indicator and sections based on the reporting under the Water Convention. Completing the full template allowed countries to substantiate the indicator calculation and provide a more complete picture of cooperation.

In July 2017, and subsequently in October 2017, countries that had submitted a national report on SDG indicator 6.5.2 and on the implementation of the Water Convention were invited to provide comments on the process of reporting and the reporting template.

Comments on the template were received both by Parties to the Convention and by non-Parties, in writing and during discussions at the 12th meeting of the Convention's Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (Geneva, 5-6 July 2017). All comments received in the process and some explanations of the corresponding proposed changes are found in the document entitled "Overview of comments received on the template for reporting under SDG indicator 6.5.2 and the Water Convention and how such comments have been reflected in the revised template" (Information document 4).

Considering the comments received and the experience with the validation of the reports submitted, the custodian agencies for indicator 6.5.2 UNECE and UNESCO are proposing revisions to the template. This document presents, in track changes, proposed modifications to Section I on the calculation of the SDG indicator 6.5.2. This document should be read together with the document entitled "Draft Revised Template for Reporting under the Water Convention" (Information document 3) which contains the proposed modifications to the template for reporting under the Water Convention reporting serving as a basis to the Sections II to IV of the full template.

The reports submitted, the comments received and the report validation process demonstrated the need for further clarification and illustration of the "Step-by-Step monitoring methodology for SDG indicator 6.5.2" which would facilitate the completion of Section I by countries. How to improve the clarity and usefulness of the step-by-step methodology will also be discussed during the technical meeting (Information document 2).

The technical meeting is invited to discuss the draft revised template and provide guidance to the custodian agencies UNECE and UNESCO.

On the basis of the comments received at the technical meeting and the revised version of the template for reporting under the Water Convention to be adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its eight session in October 2018, UNESCO and UNECE will prepare a joint revised template for the next reporting cycle. It is considered that the new version of the template will highlight the items that countries will have to consider for the calculation of the SDG 6.5.2. value, in order to identify better the elements supporting the calculation and the gathering of associated information. All questions are useful to depict an accurate picture of the situation beyond the simple indicator value.

REPORTING ON SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2

Section I. Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2

Methodology

Using the information gathered in section II, the information gathered in this section allows for the calculation of the Sustainable Development Goal global indicator 6.5.2, which is defined as *the proportion of transboundary basins' area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation*.

The Step-by-step monitoring methodology for SDG indicator 6.5.2^a, developed by UNECE and UNESCO in the framework of UN Water, should be referred to for details on the necessary data, the definitions and the calculation.

The value of the indicator at the national level is derived by **adding up the surface area in a country of those transboundary basins (river and lake basins, surface water catchments, basins and transboundary aquifers) (i.e. 'transboundary' basins²) that are covered by an operational arrangement and dividing the obtained area by the aggregate total area in a country of all transboundary basins (both catchments, river and lake basins, and aquifers).**

Transboundary basins are basins of transboundary waters, that is, of any surface waters (notably rivers, lakes) or groundwaters which mark, cross or are located on boundaries between by two or more States. For the purpose of the calculation of this indicator, for a transboundary river or lake, the basin area is determined by the extent of its catchment. For groundwater, the area to be considered is the extent of the aquifer.

An **“arrangement for water cooperation”** is a bilateral or multilateral treaty, convention, agreement or other formal arrangement among riparian countries that provides a framework for cooperation on transboundary water management.

For an arrangement to be considered **“operational”** all the following criteria needs to be fulfilled:

- There is a joint body, joint mechanism or commission (e.g. a river basin organization) for transboundary cooperation [Criterion 1],
- There are regular (at least once per year) formal communications between riparian countries in form of meetings (either at the political or technical level) [Criterion 2],
- Joint objectives, a common strategy, a joint or coordinated management plan, or an action plan have been agreed upon by the riparian countries. There is a joint or coordinated water management plan(s), or joint objectives have been set, and [Criterion 3],
- There is a regular (at least once per year) exchange of data and information [Criterion 4].

Calculation of indicator 6.5.2

Please list in the tables below the transboundary basins (rivers and lakes and aquifers) in your country's territory and provide the following information for each of them:

- the country/ies with which the basin is shared;
- the surface area of these basins (the catchment of rivers or lakes and the aquifer in the case of groundwater) within the territory of your country (in km²);
- whether a map and/or a Geographical Information System (GIS) shapefile of the basin has been provided;
- whether there is an arrangement in force for the considered basin;
- the verification of each of the four criteria to assess operationality; and
- the surface area of these basins within the territory of your country which is covered by a cooperation arrangement that is operational according to the above criteria (please consider the replies to the questions in section II, in particular questions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6).

^a Available at <http://www.unwater.org/publications/publications-detail/en/c/428764/>.

In case an operational arrangement is in place only for a sub-basin or portion of a basin, please list this sub-basin just after the transboundary basin it is part of. In case there is an operational arrangement for the whole basin, do not list sub-basins in the table below.

Table 1. Transboundary river or lake basin [please add rows as needed]

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

^a List sub-basins after the basin they belong to.

Table 2. Transboundary aquifers [please add rows as needed]

Name of the transboundary aquifer	Countries shared with	Surface area of the aquifer (in km ²) within the territory of the country	Map and/or GIS shapefile provided (yes/no)	Is the aquifer connected to a surface water course? Is it a confined aquifer? [Ref. to questions in Section II]	Is it fully included in a surface water basin? (yes/no; if yes, name of the surface water basin) [Ref. to questions in Section II]	Covered by an aquifer specific arrangement (entirely, partly, no) [Ref. to questions in Section II]	Covered within an arrangement not specific to the aquifer ^b (entirely, partly, no) [Ref. to questions in Section II]	Criterion 1 applied (yes/no) [Ref. to questions in Section II]	Criterion 2 applied (yes/no) [Ref. to questions in Section II]	Criterion 3 applied (yes/no) [Ref. to questions in Section II]	Criterion 4 applied (yes/no) [Ref. to questions in Section II]	Surface area of the aquifer (in km ²) covered by an operational arrangement within the territory of the country
Sub-total: surface area of transboundary aquifers covered by operational arrangements (in km²) [C]												
Total surface area of transboundary aquifers (in km²) [D]												

^b In the text of the agreement or in the practice.

Indicator value for the country

Surface waters:

Percentage of surface area of transboundary basins of rivers and lakes covered by an operational arrangement:

A/B x 100 =

Aquifers:

Percentage of surface area of transboundary aquifers covered by an operational arrangement:

C/D x 100 =

SDG indicator 6.5.2:

Percentage of surface area of transboundary basins covered by an operational arrangement:

((A + C)/(B + D)) x 100 =

Spatial information

If a map (or maps) of the transboundary surface water catchments and transboundary aquifers (i.e. 'transboundary basins') is available, please consider attaching them. Ideally, shapefiles of the basin and aquifer delineations that can be viewed in Geographical Information Systems should be sent.

Additional information

If the respondent has comments that clarify assumptions or interpretations made for the calculation, or the level of certainty of the spatial information, please write them here:

~~Spatial information~~

~~If a map (or maps) of the transboundary surface water catchments and transboundary aquifers (i.e. 'transboundary basins') is available, please consider attaching them. Ideally, shapefiles of the basin and aquifer delineations that can be viewed in Geographical Information Systems should be sent.~~