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## Brief Progress Update

(Prepared for Technical Advisory Group meeting 23 September 2020)

# Global Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme

**Project Start Date: 1 January 2019. End Date: 31 December 2023.**

*Activities to transition into Sida-UNDP Strategic Collaboration Framework on Environment and Climate Change during 2020/2021.*

### **Introduction / Project Overview**

The Global Water and Ocean Governance Programme contributes to SDG 6 on sustainable water management and sanitation, SDG 14 on conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, and to poverty reduction (e.g. targets 1.4 on equal rights to resources/services, 1.5 on reducing vulnerability, and 2.3 on increased productivity and income to small-scale food producers).

Building on UNDP's Water and Ocean Governance Programme's pursuits and theory of change, the Global Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme assists partners in formulating, prioritizing, coordinating and implementing water/ocean governance reforms by providing policy advice and technical assistance, knowledge and capacity development.

The Support Programme has four mutually supportive outputs/components:

- 1) Water/ocean governance thought leadership, thematic expertise, technical support and policy advocacy promoted and strengthened globally.
- 2) Freshwater and coastal resources management frameworks strengthened at local and national level.
- 3) Enhanced individual and institutional knowledge and capacities for sustainable water management.
- 4) Innovative and scalable solutions to ocean challenges identified and supported.

The present update captures the status and pursuits of the project by mid-2020.

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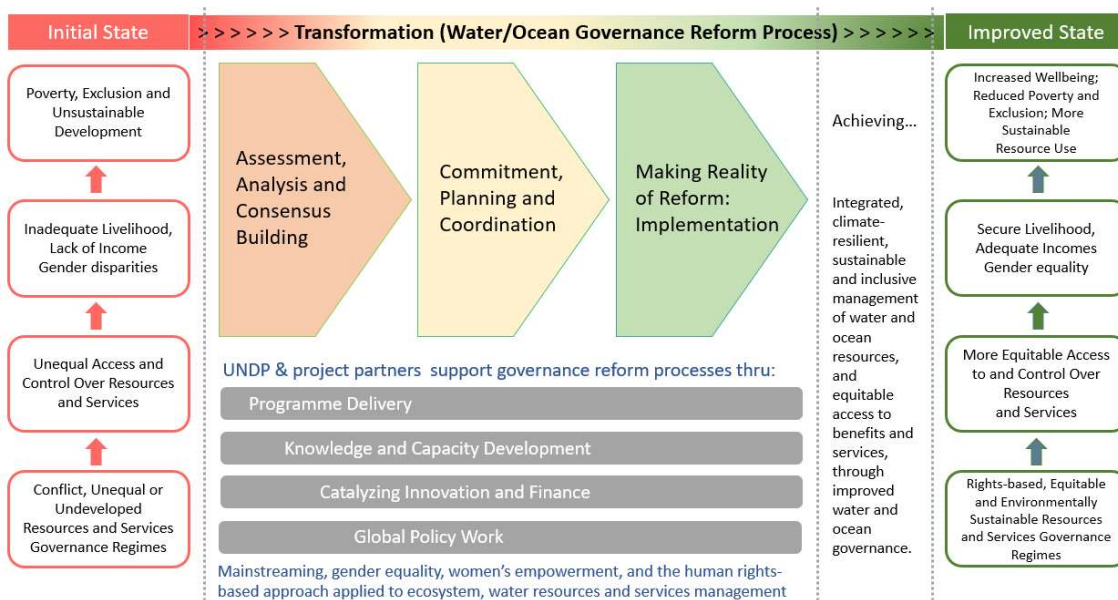
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## Background on UNDP Water & Ocean Governance

The endeavors of UNDP's Water and Ocean Governance Programme (WOGP) span the thematic areas of sustainable management of ocean resources, protection of transboundary surface and groundwaters, water resources and coastal management, and water supply and sanitation – all in the perspective of a changing climate. In addition, the Programme works with the cross-cutting issues of human rights, integrity and gender equality, in many cases with the focus on issues relating to indigenous peoples. Most WOGP projects are financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other vertical funds.

The Theory of Change (illustrated in Figure 1) captures the sequencing of actions pertaining to the GEF International Waters' Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and ensuring Strategic Action Programmes. Projects under the WOGP umbrella support countries by way of programme development and delivery; knowledge and capacity development; catalyzing innovation and financing; and global policy work towards an enabling environment.

Figure 1 - Theory of change: stages in governance progression to achieve the UNDP Water & Ocean Governance Vision



Source: Global Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme (Project Document), page 13

The Global Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme is active in most of the areas presented above, and deliberately works to enhance the cross-fertilization and learning between projects as well as UNDP offices around the world.

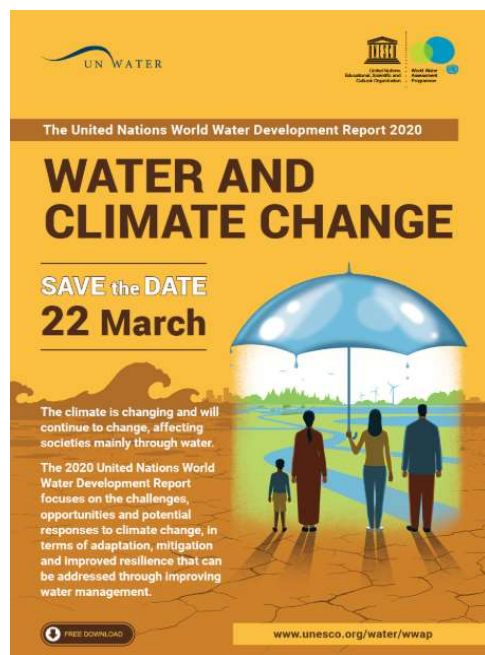
## Status of the Global Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme

Many activities of the Global Water and Ocean Governance Programme build on previous projects and pursuits which have been incorporated into this broader 'Support Programme.' Thus, as this endeavor does not start from scratch, there has been considerable progress also during the project's initial years.

### ***Component 1: Water/Ocean Governance thought leadership, thematic expertise, technical support and policy advocacy promoted and strengthened globally***

In support of the UN working together and delivering 'as one,' most knowledge management and thought leadership efforts are in relation to UN-Water endeavors.

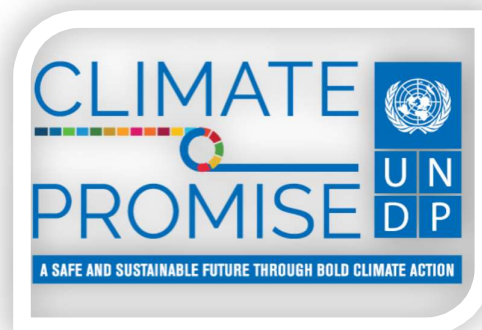
In line with UN Reform and the efforts towards 'delivering as one,' the international water policy development and thought leadership is channeled through the inter-agency mechanism of [UN-Water](#) and increasingly/potentially also with UN-Oceans. Under UN-Water, UNDP co-leads a Task Force (with UNICEF) on UN-Water Country-Level Engagement, to ensure conducive support from the UN system to UN Country Teams and Resident Coordinators also in the new context of UN Reform. This is critical for the success of the [recently launched SDG6 Global Acceleration Framework](#).



UNDP is a regular contributor to UN-Water's annual flagship product, the [United Nations World Water Development Report](#) (WWDR). The 2020 WWDR, launched [on-line] on World Water Day, puts forward that water availability will become even more unreliable and aggravate the plight in water-stressed regions. At the same time, water management can play a role in climate change mitigation, e.g. as water efficiency measures have a direct effect on energy use, which can lead to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The 'governance' chapter (co-led by UNDP and SIWI) emphasizes the importance of integration, and how participation in decision-making can help achieve that. It also suggests 'poverty alleviation' adaptation, since poverty alleviation reduces vulnerability to climate change effects as well as everyday risks like ill-health and unstable incomes. Good governance provides robustness and resilience in times of crisis.

2020 was also the year when parties to the Paris Agreement

were to update their Nationally Enhanced Contributions (NDCs). To support this exercise UNDP pledged to support over 100 countries to enhance their NDCs. The Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme has joined hands with the UNDP NDC Support Programme to support countries to ensure to acknowledge and address the water and climate interlinkages in their NDCs and broader climate change mitigation and adaptation plans.



In order to reach out to climate and water focal points and professionals, a Water & Climate Webinar Series has been initiated (hosted by Cap-Net/GWP and delivered in collaboration with WGF/SIWI and AGWA). This envisaged to continue with additional webinars in several languages. A set of sectoral ‘checklists’ have been developed to spur discussions on the climate-water interlinkages.

To additionally emphasize the importance of water management for the success of climate change mitigation efforts, a research report on Water and Mitigation has been initiated with SIWI, the Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC) and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK).

Climate change – and more recently also Covid-19 – has become specific focus areas for collaboration between several UN Agencies. High-level discussions are ongoing UNDP and UNICEF, UNEP, FAO and others, respectively.

Under a long-standing tripartite UNDP-UNICEF-SIWI partnership entitled [Accountability for Sustainability](#), a study is being undertaken on the linkages between water resources management and the provisioning of water services. This study addresses e.g. the uncertainty surrounding country-scale impacts of climate change, looking at water resources management and water supply institutional inter-sectoral cooperation as a crucial “no regret” adaptation strategy beyond climate proofing of infrastructure.

The Covid-19 pandemic has brutally shown the importance of disease prevention and universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene. UNDP stands behind the [World leaders' Call to Action on COVID-19](#) global call coordinated by Sanitation and Water for All (SWA). Further emphasis was to the WASH imperative was given in a blog post by the Head of the Water and Ocean Governance Programme: [For a lack of soap and clean water, disease flourishes](#).



The pandemic also resulted in the postponement of several international policy processes, notably the Ocean Conference and the CBD COP. To maintain momentum for such policy processes and harness multi-stakeholder input, UNDP supported the Action Platform on Source-to-Sea Management in the effort to highlight the need for coordinated, cross-sectoral governance to address global challenges for water and ocean as part of preparations and outcomes of these processes. Such efforts included the organization of virtual high-level dialogues and events, joint development of a position paper for SDG 14, and the launch of an [Open Letter](#) for source-to-sea action on World Ocean Day.

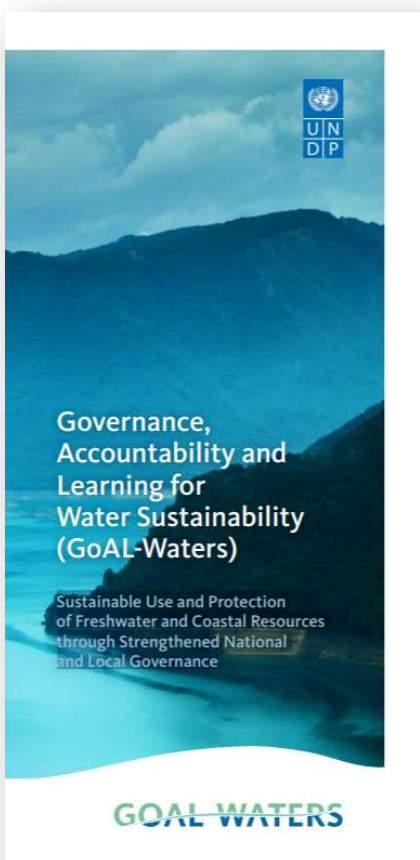
Much of the knowledge development work is carried out in close collaboration with the [UNDP-SIWI Water Governance Facility](#) (WGF). E.g. in support of future World Water Development Reports in the making, SIWI has coordinated a study *Collecting Inputs on Water Governance Arrangements and the Multiple Values of Water*, contributing also to global policy work and processes related to the [Local Communities and Indigenous People’s Platform](#).

WGF also avails SIWI expertise for the backstopping of local and country-level activities delivered through the UNDP Country Offices and partners.



## **Component 2: Freshwater and coastal resources management frameworks strengthened at local and national level**

The second component of the Support Programme helps national and sub-national partners to implement improved frameworks for water and coastal resources management. It is delivered through UNDP Country Offices with technical assistance and strategic management support from the WGF. The signature programme for Governance, Accountability and Learning for Water Sustainability (GoAL-WaterS) was launched last year. Supporting the *Sustainable Use and Protection of Freshwater and Coastal Resources through Strengthened National and Local Governance*, it applies the ‘source-to-sea’ perspective in the application of the governance support.<sup>1</sup> GoAL-WaterS also aligns with the UNDP NDC Support Programme – aiming to support the inclusion and consideration of water-climate interlinkages in the process of NDC enhancement. It is also open to supporting national and sub-national diagnostics and agenda-setting relating to the global monitoring of the level of implementation of integrated water resources management (IWRM). For this the program aligns closely with the SDG6 Support Programme led by GWP and UNEP.



At present, over 10 countries are receiving support through GoAL-WaterS and related modalities.

In **Jordan** GoAL-WaterS is supporting drought management. Drought represents a serious challenge that compromises Jordan’s growth and development. The intervention builds resilience in groundwater basins susceptible to drought, using nature-based solutions and local autonomous measures.

The Drought Management Unit (established at the Ministry of Water and Irrigation) led assessments in four major basins; Yarmouk, Amman-Zarqa, Mujib and Azraq. The assessment revealed the Azraq water basin to be extremely vulnerable to drought, due to the combined effects of over-abstraction of groundwater and climate change. Local communities rely on the abundance of natural rangelands for livestock herding, on cultivation of arable lands for subsistence, and on salt production on the mudflat (Playa) where runoff water accumulates, and minerals concentrate as the water evaporates. Present activities will apply managed aquifer recharge (MAR), capturing and draining rainfall and runoff coming from the highlands into the groundwater system before it evaporates, also controlling the saline water intrusion from the mudflat.

The drought management work in Jordan was presented at the panel of UN-Water’s Side Event on Water and Climate at the COP25 in Madrid, followed by a [video interview](#).

On the **Comoros** the Government is including IWRM principles and the foundations for climate change adaptation into its updated National Water Code. WGF assisted with the methodology for the Water Code consultations and redrafting, and with the integration of governance attributes like accountability, human rights, gender equity, representation and protection of minorities. IWRM is now further supported on the Comoros through a \$42 million grant from the GCF, implemented by UNDP, for [Ensuring climate resilient water supplies in the Comoros Islands](#). The project is to adapt water management and service delivery to address the

<sup>1</sup> Building on the previous MDG GoAL WaSH (Governance, Advocacy and Leadership in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene), GoAL-WaterS retains the demand-responsive gap-filling approach and close alignment to government needs.

increasingly extreme climate risks; droughts, flooding and water quality impacts from pollution, landslides and erosion.

In **Vietnam**, the UNDP Country Office and the GWP-supported Viet Nam Water Partnership are undertaking a research study on Water Governance in the Mekong Delta. Viet Nam has a complex water governance regime, with multiple Ministries holding responsibilities over different components or aspects of water resources. This has raised concerns that local communities may not have enough opportunities to participate or influence on local planning of land use and water resource. The initiative will examine present local governance and make recommendations on measures that will enhance local community involvement, including through the use of new technologies. Research questions being discussed in the inception report are:

- a. What are the current formal and informal water resource governance structures at local level in the different sub-regions of the Delta?
- b. How are these governance structures implemented in practice, and what are the key shortcomings in their implementation?
- c. What are the main risks and threats to water resources in the Delta over the coming decades? (water-use change and climate change)
- d. Are the current water governance structures adequate to cope with those risks and threats?
- e. How could the water governance in the Mekong Delta be improved to be able to better respond to the challenges ahead?

In **India**, GoAL-WaterS has assisted the UNDP Country Office to respond to the government water priorities and develop a portfolio of water activities. UNDP-India will facilitate a stakeholder dialogue on #Water Matters and strengthen Women Leadership for Water Governance and Advocacy.

GoAL-WaterS work in **Tajikistan** have two streams of activities, which relate to the protection of hydropower buffer zones and to wastewater policy assessments in rural areas.

The wastewater policy assessments will identify the returns of improved sanitation on health, water resources, environment / ecosystems, tourism and other welfare indicators in rural areas. To date, no standards for wastewater facilities have been developed and there is no road map or recommendations how to adopt existing policy and regulations and be affordable for wastewater sector development. Due to the non-existence of unified policy and regulations on construction of sanitation/wastewater facilities and the high cost of building and maintaining permanent sanitation facilities, there is a continuing reliance on pit latrines in rural areas which are usually replaced with new pits dug in yards. In light of the Covid-19 crisis, this increased focus on health shift focus into much needed assessment of wastewater and interactions with local environments in rural areas.

Supporting the establishment of hydropower buffer zones may also support water quality and ecosystem protection transboundary collaboration in the region by way of addressing issues that would impede the efficient operations of facilities, such as sediment derived from riparian degradation, as well as opportunities for reconnecting biodiversity flows. The first activity will develop technical guidelines for establishing protection zones around present and future hydro-energy facilities, drawing both on regional and global best practices as well as local stakeholder engagement.

In **Kazakhstan** and **Kyrgyzstan**, GoAL-WaterS supports the transboundary water cooperation around three rivers (shared also with Uzbekistan) with a focus on the protection of water ecosystems and water quality management. The intervention support in both countries is channeled through the Country Office in Kazakhstan for smoother administration.

Responding to the demands expressed at the 26th CTWC (Chu Talas Water Commission) Session held on December 19, 2019, the support is directed to the reformulation of the existing draft Chu-Talas SAP document into a Joint Basin Component under the title of "Joint Basin Action Programme on Chu and Talas River Basins". The reformulated programme draft will be provided for further consideration and approval at the next CTWC session. It will also be submitted for national approval in accordance with the existing national rules and procedures of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan at the high ministerial level.

The support will help the two countries to establish collaboration and strengthen transboundary IWRM in Chu Talas River Basin, with the possibility of disseminating this collaborative practice throughout Central Asia and contribute to achieving several SDGs and potentially other international obligations.

In **Armenia** the GWP Country Water Partnership is implementing GoAL-WaterS support for ‘localizing SDG6’ at national, local and basin levels, including Lake Sevan. This involves the identification of national and subnational governance weaknesses and gaps towards achieving SDG 6, the development of a National Strategy and stakeholder engagement with SDG 6 as target, and the development and implementation of an action plan to help incorporate IWRM principles at all levels. These activities contribute to the Indicator 6.5.1 IWRM monitoring and reporting exercise led by UNEP, and the related GWP-led SDG 6 Support Programme.

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina** GoAL-WaterS supports the implementation of the tariff methodology which was developed with support through the previous GoAL WaSH mechanism. The methodology allows water utilities to mobilize financial resources to invest in wastewater treatment and improve water quality. 16 “Local Self-Governances” participating in the Municipal Environmental and Economic Governance project have signed Public Service Agreements with their respective utilities and defined the methodology for tariff setting as an integral part. Some 8 utilities have already adjusted tariffs or are in final preparation phase with detailed calculations. The 18 participating water utilities have implemented the accounting prerequisite for recording costs by cost centers, most of them aligning their Business Plans with the methodology.

Upon request by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry in Bosnia and Herzegovina, GoAL-WaterS is now also supporting the drafting of a Decree on Tariff Methodology, representing an important step towards more environmentally and financially sustainable water supply and wastewater treatment.

Climate resilient water supply systems are being supported in two communities in the Chaco region in **Paraguay**. This region suffers from reoccurring droughts and flooding and has the highest level of unserved people in the country. GoAL-WaterS helps to set up local management arrangement to address the water resources variability by way of providing training on governance tools. The local experience of using the adapted governance tools are to be shared with other Chaco municipalities and communities, and beyond.

The Climate Promise - delivered in collaboration with a wide variety of partners - is the world’s largest offer of support for the enhancement of climate pledges. It is made possible thanks to support from Sweden, Germany, European Union, Italy, Spain, and other core donors, and underpins UNDP’s contribution to the NDC Partnership’s [\[Climate Action Enhancement Package\] CAEP](#) initiative. Through this, UNDP is currently supporting 114 countries on NDC enhancement.

**Nigeria** was one of the first African countries to start revising their national climate pledge through the Climate Promise. The country has already committed to an ambitious 20-30% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030, and the new pledge will also engage all of society to define and improve climate responses for **water**, short-lived climate pollutants, forestry and other nature-based solutions, in a gender-responsive manner. As the country requested support the water related considerations, WGF participated



LAUNCH WORKSHOP FOR NDC REVISION WITH SUPPORT FROM MEMBERS OF THE NDC PARTNERSHIP  
AT ROCKVIEW HOTEL ROYALE, 5th MARCH, 2020



in a mission to support the NDC enhancement process, both in terms of the revision of the present NDC as well as for identifying opportunities to support the implementation of the enhanced NDC over the next NDC period. Close cooperation with the NDC Support Programme/UNDP Climate Promise Task Force and the broader NDC Partnership is maintained, predominantly through multiple online meetings and one-to-one engagement and resources pooled as necessary.

It is anticipated that the enhanced NDC will be completed during the first months next year. The Covid-19 pandemic has severely curtailed local activities, especially stakeholder engagement and the access to information. As a Federal state, the involvement of State Governments is critical to the preparation of commitments. WGF supports the Federal Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) and the work of a local consultant. The MWR is planning for a situation analysis to be completed by mid-October 2020, a consultation report for the water sector by the end of October 2020, and a synthesis report that includes recommendations to the Inter-Ministerial Committee on the water-related commitments by the end of the year. In this process each sector has been encouraged to design their own process of engagement, which then feeds into the wider process coordinated by the Department of Climate Change within the Federal Ministry of Environment.

There have been discussions with a range of UNDP country offices. One activity which has been approved but yet to start includes the development of a methodology for assessing climate vulnerability in **Laos** by the regional UN-Habitat office there.

Further support to freshwater and coastal management, will be provided as part of the joint country programming under the Sida-UNDP Strategic Collaboration Framework on Environment and Climate Change. Such support is envisaged principally in Cambodia, Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Colombia.

Implementation of GoAL-WaterS-supported activities on the ground will soon start in **Cambodia**. These involve freshwater and wastewater management activities. The objectives are to i) conduct a water assessment for Kbal Chhay Multiple Use Area and improve water governance and monitoring of the area. And ii) to formulate guidelines on wastewater management planning and community engagement in order to assist national and sub-national officials. The second component is being implemented through UN-Habitat.

**Component 3: Enhanced individual and institutional knowledge and capacities for sustainable water management**



The enhanced individual and institutional capacity for sustainable water management is delivered through Cap-Net UNDP. [Cap-Net](#) has 23 affiliated capacity development networks delivering training to water professionals in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. As of April 2019, Cap-Net is implemented through GWPO, as a way to harness the synergies and complementarities between the objectives and the networks of Cap-Net and the Global Water Partnership. In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, Cap-Net is stepping up to continue to help countries and communities to respond to needs on the ground. In response, several COVID-19 Crisis Adaptations for Greater Resilience have been put in place.



**970** water stakeholders trained



**90** countries reached



**USD 457,000** invested



**USD 761,300** leveraged



**1** manual revised; **1** case study supported



Virtual campus and website revamped



Cap-Net is re-positioning itself by increasing outreach, through tailored online courses, tutorials, webinars, blogs, videos and guidance notes, allowing the network to continue to reach out to beneficiaries and deliver on capacity development commitments, in view of the COVID-19 crisis and into the uncertain future. This work is based on three anchor points:

1) Global hub for online water learning

With a new virtual campus, Cap-Net will continue and deepen the path towards achieving “water knowledge for all” – acting as a global hub for online water learning.

2) Impact oriented networks

Cap-Net has performed a detailed approach with its 23 affiliated networks, reaching over 1,000 member institutions in 120 countries, with the aim of having an updated and common understanding of their involvement, capacities and opportunities, and how to adapt to the current global context.

3) Expanding the knowledge base

Cap-Net will take this time as a chance to focus on improving the quality and relevance of training material, in collaboration with our international partners. Some existing manuals will be revised and updated e.g. Drought Risk Reduction and IWRM, the IWRM online course, water-energy and food nexus, while new topics will be fully developed.

With the Virtual Campus as the main delivery mechanism, several initiatives are underway ranging from SADC GMI Sustainable Groundwater Financing (supported by OneWorld), [Training and adaptation of ISO 30500 and 24521](#) across 17 target countries, in English; French and Chinese (with ANSI), to Water integrity and HRBA courses (with WGF/SIWI) and Water Pollution Management in achieving SDG Target 6.3 (with UNEP-DHI). Renewed collaboration for delivery of 6 online courses, as well as planned twinning and regional workshops are in the pipeline. (IW:Learn).

The graphic displays six course cards arranged in a 3x2 grid, each with a status label, title, and availability information. To the right is a teal box titled 'Virtual Campus Overview' containing summary statistics. The Cap-Net logo is at the bottom right.

Course Title	Status	Availability
Preparing proposals to access funding for groundwater-related infrastructure	By invitation only	By invitation only, English, Online Courses
Training Course for ISO 24521 and ISO 30500: International Non-sewered Sanitation Standards	By invitation only	By invitation only, English, Online Courses
Water Pollution Management in Achieving SDG Target 6.3	Apply Now	Apply now, English, Online Courses
Water Integrity: Principles and Concepts	Apply Now	Apply now, English, Online Courses
A Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) to Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)	Coming Soon	Coming Soon, English, Online Courses
Planificación Espacial Marina (PEM) y Economía Azul	Coming Soon	Coming Soon, English, Online Courses

**Virtual Campus Overview**

- 11 courses ongoing
- 10 courses planned
- 20+ partners involved
- 6 networks involved

**Cap-Net**

Programmatic synergies with GWP have also evolved, with initiatives like the SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme (SDG6-SP), online courses delivered in English, French and Spanish on the Virtual Campus, training 217 facilitators from 67 countries.

SDG 6.6.1 is a pilot project that Cap-Net is developing with UNEP and GWP for the protection and restoration of water-related ecosystems and will target 3 countries with the intention of scaling up.



The [Water and Climate Webinar Series](#) (mentioned above) were launched to support enhancing the NDCs with adequate attention and inclusion of water issues and management. Three webinars were delivered in collaboration with GWP, WGF/SIWI, and AGWA during July 2020, reaching close to 400 participants. A fourth webinar - [Enhancing the NDCs: An Opportunity for Addressing Water Interactions](#) - was also held during WWW@Home. This webinar, reaching

over 160 participants, included additional partners and also featured experiences of national climate focal points from Peru and Somalia. Further water & climate webinars, including re-runs, will be held in different languages in the coming months.

The Cap-Net-affiliated networks are increasingly adapting to online delivery in response to the current crisis, in order to maintain their relevance, while continuing to bridge the capacity gaps with demands on the ground.

## Highlights from the networks

### ArgCap-Net

Online seminar:  
"Economic value of water"

29 DE JUNIO DE 2020  
SEMINARIO:  
VALOR ECONÓMICO DEL AGUA  
Modalidad Virtual



Invita la Comisión de Introducción a la Gestión Integral de Cuencas Hidrográficas

Online conference:  
"The descent of the Paraná river"



### Caribbean WaterNet

The Bahamas: Caribbean WaterNet facilitated a Groundwater Management training workshop



### Various

6th Symposium on Knowledge and Capacity Development in the water sector

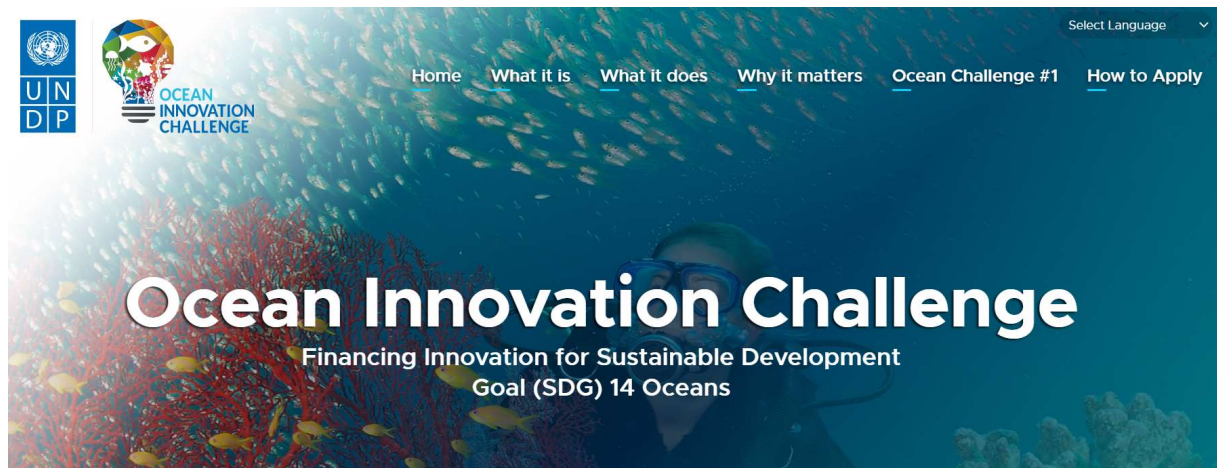


### Cap-Net Lanka



Sri Lanka: Training on WASH awareness and skill development programme

## **Component 4: Innovative and scalable solutions to ocean challenges identified and supported**



The [Ocean Innovation Challenge](#) (OIC) was officially launched in December 2019. It spurs action by identifying and financing a suite of pilot initiatives that demonstrate innovative approaches to ocean sustainability, cutting across SDG14 targets and associated sustainability challenges.

By providing seed financing, advice and guidance, technical knowledge and networking support, the Challenge will help to remove barriers and demonstrate approaches that can deliver transformational changes in ocean-relevant resource management. The OIC’s resources and support are targeted to the private sector, NGOs, local communities, national and sub-national government agencies, UN system organizations, intergovernmental organizations, and others positioned to pilot replicable and scalable innovations for ocean transformation.

The first Call, which opened in January 2020, focused on reducing marine pollution, i.e. SDG target 14.1: “By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution”. The Call received a huge amount of interest, with more than 10,000 users from 199 countries and territories<sup>2</sup> visiting the website during the period of the Call, and more than 180 enquiries and requests for support assisted.

609 proposals (concept notes) were received at the time of closing of the first call in March this year. The concept notes have since been internally reviewed, and after this first screening against the OIC selection criteria, the 13 most promising proposals were shortlisted and have been invited to submit full proposals which will be subject to both external expert peer review and further internal review towards final selection of 2020 awards. Notably, 4 of the finalist proposals were for innovations in Small Island Developing States (Cape Verde, Mauritius, Maldives, Comoros). 12 full proposals are expected this month, and these have been matched against the profiles of expert reviewers for peer reviews to proceed soon.<sup>3</sup> The due diligence and final awarding of funds to successful innovators is envisaged to take place in early 2021.<sup>4</sup> Social media and other outreach will be used to disseminate the results of the final selection process for this first call for proposals.

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<sup>2</sup> Source: Google Analytics.

<sup>3</sup> This first launch initially had a tight timeline in order to announce the winning awards at the 2020 [Ocean Conference](#). As the Conference has been postponed, the review process timeline has been updated to give additional time for full proposal development and eventually expert reviews.

<sup>4</sup> A no-cost time extension will be sought to utilize the ‘proof-of-concept’ funding for the awards in 2021, mostly directed towards the second call on fisheries. This is because additional resources have been mobilized that can cover many of the unfunded proposed innovations related to the issue of plastics and marine litter.

The second Call will focus on sustainable and equitable fisheries, SDG targets 14.4 and 14.B, which will also contribute significantly to increasing benefits to Small Island Developing States. This second Challenge is envisaged to be launched in November this year.

Concerted efforts are underway to attract additional funding to the OIC. The ambition is to mobilize the necessary resources for the OIC to have the capacity to make awards to as many highly qualified proposals as possible, and to be able to continue with a new challenge call each year, focused on different SDG 14 targets. This has seen some success to-date, as the Ocean Innovation Challenge has received a contribution from Norway (US \$1 million) to fund innovations and solutions related to plastics and marine litter under the first call for proposals.

Further attention will also be given to develop visibility and communications guidelines to ensure efficiency and consistency in external outreach in order to continue to attract high-quality applications from a diverse range of sectors.

## Resources and Implementation Arrangements

The present Support Programme is a global programme implemented by UNDP's Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS). The experts involved form part of UNDP's [Global Policy Network](#) (GPN), which aims to become the cutting-edge provider of timely development advice; providing support to Country Offices and programme countries in an integrated and coherent manner. A global policy adviser on Ocean Governance is in the final states of recruitment.

The capacity for advice and support is additionally extended in the area of water governance by way of 'responsible party' agreements with the [Stockholm International Water Institute](#) (SIWI) for the implementation of the [UNDP-SIWI Water Governance Facility](#) partnership, availing the full expertise of SIWI to support UNDP programming and partners.

The International Capacity Development Network for Sustainable Water Management, [Cap-Net](#), consists of 23 affiliated national and regional networks. This vehicle for professional training, individual and institutional capacity development is administered by the [Global Water Partnership Organization](#) (GWPO), which is the secretariat of the [Global Water Partnership](#) (GWP).

UNDP Country Offices support the *Sustainable Use and Protection of Freshwater and Coastal Resources through Strengthened National and Local Governance* in their respective countries, through the [GoAL-WaterS](#) (Governance, Accountability and Learning for Water Sustainability).

The Support Programme is enabled by a set of contributions from the Government of Sweden; one long-standing support to WOGP (which is in its final stage) and a larger Sida-UNDP Strategic Collaboration Agreement on Climate Change and the Environment. Specific support to the Ocean Innovation Challenge has been provided as 'proof-of-concept' by Sweden, and now more recently a contribution has been received from Norway. Table 1 on the next page provides an overview of the resources targeted to the different components of the Support Programme, including also a breakdown of the sources of funds.

Beyond the resources channeled to and through the Support Programme, there are several WGF and Cap-Net initiatives that are funded by contributions directly to the 'responsible' implementing 'parties' SIWI and GWP. This includes capacity development supported by ANSI and OneWorld; reports and research coordinated by SIWI and the Source-to-Sea Action Platform supported by GIZ/BMZ, and tripartite arrangements with UNICEF and SIWI. Water footprint trainings in Latin America have also been supported by the SDC/COSUDE.

Additional resources will need to be mobilized to enable further support to national and local freshwater, coastal and marine resources governance, as well as to strengthen the voice, rights, and access to services and livelihood resources of vulnerable or marginalized communities.

Table 2 – Global Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme Budget and Source of Funds, by Year

Time period:	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	All Years
Project Component	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
Component 1 – Thought/knowledge	901,699	900,000	1,000,000	900,000	800,000	4,501,699
Component 2 – Local/country-level	277,445	759,487	580,000	330,000	256,859	2,203,791
Component 3 – Capacity Development	1,043,895	1,025,000	1,000,000	900,000	800,000	4,768,895
Component 4 – Ocean Innovation	73,755	220,374	2,911,915	1,900,000	1,543,955	6,650,000
<b>Total Project Budget / Expenditure</b>	<b>2,296,794</b>	<b>2,904,861</b>	<b>5,491,915</b>	<b>4,030,000</b>	<b>3,400,814</b>	<b>18,124,385</b>
<i>Subtotal output 113069 ('WOGP')</i>	2,223,039	2,051,346	250,000	-	-	4,524,385
<i>Subtotal output 0012004 ('FW' Area B1)</i>	-	633,141	2,330,000	2,130,000	1,856,859	6,950,000
<i>Subtotal output 0012004 ('FW' Area B2)</i>	-	-	-	1,900,000	1,543,955	3,443,955
<i>Subtotal output 111778 ('OIF/OIC' advance)</i>	73,755	220,374	1,911,915	-	-	2,206,045
<i>Subtotal output 111778 (Norad OIC plastics)</i>	-	-	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000
<b>Note:</b>						
1)	The numbers above do not reflect co-funding/cost-sharing of joint activities which is disbursed directly to WGF (hosted by SIWI) or Cap-Net (hosted by GWP)					
2)	2019 figures as reported in 2019 Project Progress Report, submitted to Project Board June-2020 (The first quarter [Q1-2019] expenditures of Cap-Net [capacity development, component 3] in 2019 were supported through the previous implementation partner [UNOPS]. These are hence not included in this table. [Cap-Net transferred formally to the GWP on 1 April 2019].)					
3)	2020 figures are an update of the 2020 work plan (submitted to Project Board in June 2020). A no-cost time extension is being sought for the re-periodization changes to the Ocean Innovation Challenge 'OIF Advance'.					

The project has an elaborate set of Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation plans contained in its revised project document, including Board, donor, and advisory group reports. The main communications tools are the websites of the different delivery mechanisms that target to their specific constituencies:

- [www.waterrgovernance.org](http://www.waterrgovernance.org)
- <http://www.cap-net.org>
- [www.oceaninnovationchallenge.org](http://www.oceaninnovationchallenge.org)

A broader framing of the Water and Ocean Governance work is found on [www.undp.org/water](http://www.undp.org/water) which provides onward links to related projects and delivery mechanisms. Documents and financial information is also available with some delay through the [UNDP Transparency Portal – Global Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme](#). A new [Water & Ocean 'Spark Blue' site](#) is under development for UNDP offices and partners.

## Looking Ahead

The Global Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme plays a critical role for developing knowledge and facilitate learning and mutual support between projects of UNDP's broader Water and Ocean Governance Programme as well as other programme areas. The Support Programme, as part of the GPN, also helps bridge and facilitate communication between UNDP headquarters, regional hubs and country offices. Importantly, through close engagement with UN-Water, the Support Programme provides an important link with a broad set of partners within and beyond the UN System.

Priorities for maintaining and strengthening this very global support function include:

- Continued exploration of water's role in climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Further coastal and marine governance thought and knowledge development, drawing on new Global Policy Advisor on Ocean Governance (in final stages of recruitment).
- Further integration with 'Strategic Framework' programmatic areas of 'sustainable management and use of ecosystems, biodiversity, and natural capital,' 'scaling up climate change action' and 'sustainable food systems.' This may include working e.g. with inland fisheries which provide the livelihoods of many vulnerable or marginalized communities.
- Strengthen knowledge and capacity development for e.g.
  - o leadership, professionalism and integrity (anti-corruption)
  - o supporting women's leadership and harnessing the contributions of all genders for sustainable development.
  - o further engagement with existing (civil society) networks and broader UN system.
- Resource mobilization towards:
  - o local and national-level and innovation (and help countries/partners catalyze further finance.)
  - o local and national-level governance mechanisms to further the human rights-based approach and increasing accountability for reducing poverty and inequalities
  - o address the urgencies posed by Covid-19 pandemic, including equitable and universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene (in households, schools, health facilities and other institutions and public areas) to prevent the spread of infectious disease. This requires both strong leadership and a conducive enabling environment.



**Thank you!**

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

<b>ANSI</b>	American National Standards Institute	<b>OIC</b>	Ocean Innovation Challenge
<b>BPPS</b>	UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support	<b>OIF</b>	Ocean Innovation Facility (proposed UNDP project / delivery mechanism, renamed to OIC)
<b>Cap-Net</b>	International Network for Capacity Building in Sustainable Water Management (UNDP programme)	<b>PIK</b>	Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
<b>CBD</b>	Convention on Biological Diversity	<b>SADC</b>	Southern African Development Community
<b>COP</b>	Conference of the Parties	<b>SADC-GMI</b>	Southern African Development Community Groundwater Management Institute
<b>COSUDE</b>	La Agencia Suiza para el Desarrollo y la Cooperación (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation)	<b>SAP</b>	Strategic Action Programme
<b>COVID-19</b>	Corona Virus Disease 2019	<b>SDC</b>	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
<b>'FW'</b>	The Framework (Sida-UNDP Strategic Collaboration Framework on Climate Change and the Environment)	<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility	<b>SDG6-SP</b>	SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme
<b>GEF:IW</b>	Global Environment Facility: International Waters	<b>Sida</b>	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
<b>GCF</b>	Green Climate Fund	<b>SIDS</b>	Small Island Developing States
<b>GIZ</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH	<b>SIWI</b>	Stockholm International Water Institute
<b>GWP</b>	Global Water Partnership	<b>SRC</b>	Stockholm Resilience Centre
<b>GWPO</b>	Global Water Partnership Organization (GWP Secretariat)	<b>TAG</b>	Technical Advisory Group
<b>GWOGSP</b>	Global Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme – “The Support Programme”	<b>TDA</b>	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis
<b>GoAL WaSH</b>	Governance, Advocacy and Leadership in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (UNDP programme, closed)	<b>TDA</b>	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis
<b>GoAL-WaterS</b>	Governance, Accountability and Learning for Water Sustainability (UNDP programme / delivery mechanism)	<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>GPN</b>	UNDP Global Policy Network	<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>HRBA</b>	The Human Rights-Based Approach	<b>UNDS</b>	United Nations Development System
<b>IW:LEARN</b>	GEF International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network	<b>UNEP</b>	United Nations Environment Programme
<b>LME</b>	Large Marine Ecosystem	<b>UNEP-DHI</b>	UNEP Centre on Water and Environment hosted at DHI
<b>MELP</b>	Cap-Net’s Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan	<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children’s Fund
<b>MWR</b>	Federal Ministry of Water Resources (of Nigeria)	<b>UNOPS</b>	United Nations Office for Project Services
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization	<b>UN-Water</b>	Inter-agency mechanism that coordinates the efforts of UN entities and international organizations working on water and sanitation issues
<b>Norad</b>	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation	<b>USD</b>	United States Dollars
<b>OAH</b>	Ocean Action Hub ( <a href="http://www.oceanactionhub.org/">www.oceanactionhub.org/</a> )	<b>WASH</b>	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
		<b>WWDR</b>	United Nations World Water Development Report
		<b>WGF</b>	UNDP-SIWI Water Governance Facility (UNDP programme)
		<b>WOGP</b>	UNDP Water and Ocean Governance Programme

