

Indicator 6.6.1 Methodology

Tier 2, Custodian Agency UNEP

- **Indicator 6.6.1:** Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time
 - It uses the imminent date of 2020 in order to synchronise with the Aichi Targets of the Convention of Biodiversity but will continue beyond that date to synchronise with the rest of the 2030 Agenda.
- **Methodology established:** including the following ecosystem categories: wetlands (swamps, marshes and peats), inland open water (rivers, lakes and reservoirs), and groundwater aquifers.
- The monitoring coverage can be step-wise increased:
 - Change in spatial extent of water-related ecosystems
 - Change in quantity of water contained within these ecosystems
 - Change of state of ecosystem health
- Wetland extent is computed through the existing Living Planet Index methodology for data collection and analysis (<http://www.livingplanetindex.org/home/index>).

6.6.1 Data collection

- Biophysical data on extent-and quantity are available for the freshwater ecosystems listed in the majority of the countries but with temporal gaps;
- EO data are universally freely available, and can be used by national institutions at a relatively low cost.
- The collection of data is possible through the collaboration of international and national institutions (UNEP (GEMS Water); WCMC; Biodiversity indicators Partnership – Ramsar, Convention on Biological Biodiversity; Convention on Combatting Desertification; GEO/GEOSS, NASA, GRDC and National Governments and other organisations).
- Downscaling to the national level is undertaken on the UNEP Live platform with the relevant national institution in the Indicator Reporting and Information System.

6.6.1 Current work taking place

- **Methodology guide for implementation** is being finalized to be applied in 6 initial roll-out countries for SDG 6 indicators 6.3.1 through 6b (UN-Water coordinated GEMI project).
- 2017: At least 20 more countries involved in the project activity
- 2017: Capacity development material prepared and used in supporting the participating countries
- 2018: Data repository and web portal ready and functioning at national and global level
- End 2018: Global baseline prepared and reported

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- 6.3.1: Tier 1 as indicator conceptually clear, established methodology and standards available and data regularly produced by countries.
- 6.3.2, 6.4.1, 6.5.2 & 6.6.1: Tier 2 as indicators conceptually clear, established methodology and standards available but data are not regularly produced by countries.
- Inter-agency collaboration (GEMI) for roll-out of methodology on-going: FAO, UN-HABITAT, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF WHO, WMO, coordinated by UN-Water

- Custodian agencies:

6.1.1	WHO/UNICEF	6.4.2	FAO
6.2.1	WHO/UNICEF	6.5.1	UNEP
6.3.1	WHO/UN-HABITAT, with UN-DESA	6.5.2	UNECE/UNESCO
6.3.2	UNEP	6.6.1	UNEP
6.4.1	FAO	6a	WHO/UNEP, with OECD
		6b	WHO/UNEP, with OECD