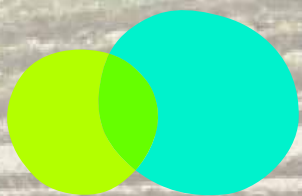
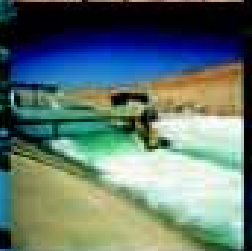
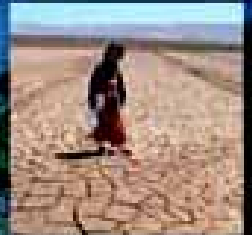
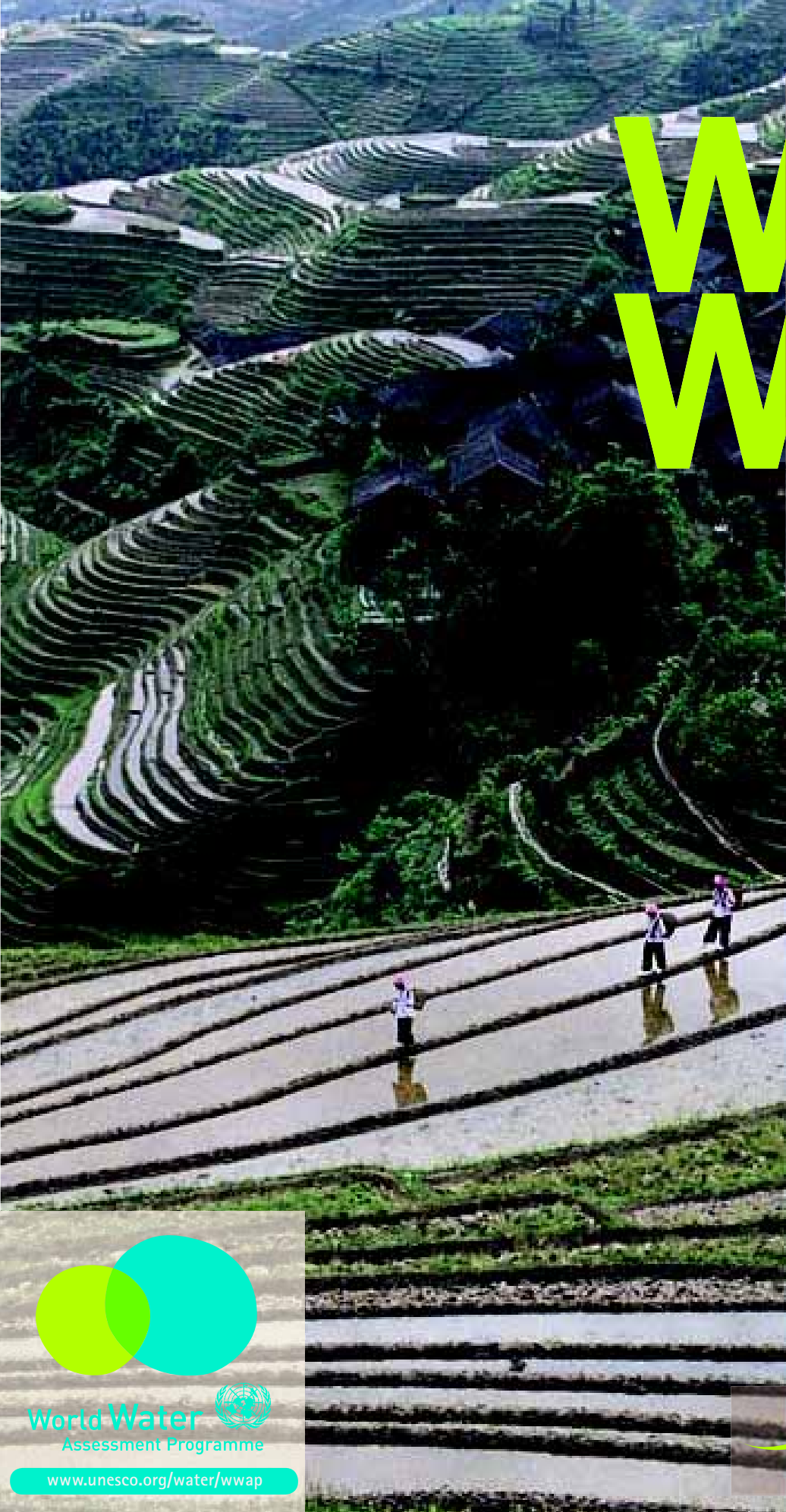


THE UNITED NATIONS

# World Water

ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

*for development, capacity-building  
and the environment*



World Water   
Assessment Programme

[www.unesco.org/water/wwap](http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap)

UN WATER

COMPRISING 24 AGENCIES AND ENTITIES, UN-WATER is the inter-agency mechanism that promotes the coordination and coherence of UN-system actions in the sphere of freshwater. Its focus encompasses surface water and groundwater resources, the interface between freshwater and sea water, and all aspects of freshwater resources in terms of quality, quantity, development, assessment, management, monitoring and use. Water-related disasters, emergencies and other extreme events and their impacts on human security are also growing areas of concern.



Founded in 2000 as a collective response of the 24 agencies comprising UN-Water to assist countries in reaching their commitments in key water-related challenge areas, the **UN WORLD WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME (WWAP)** creates a sustainable mechanism for reporting on progress made in these areas through the production of a series of **WORLD WATER DEVELOPMENT REPORTS (WWDRs)**.

Produced every 3 years, the Reports draw on the expertise and knowledge of the UN system in partnership with governments and other entities concerned with freshwater issues. Their aim is to provide a comprehensive overview of the state of

the resource and its uses, the critical problems related to the resource and the extent to which societies are able to cope with such problems and adapt to changing conditions. Through a series of assessments, the Reports provide a mechanism for monitoring changes in the resource and its management and tracking progress towards achieving targets, particularly those of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

The first Report, *Water for People, Water for Life* (WWDR1, 2003) produced a momentum for the creation of the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' (2005-2015).

## A RENEWED SENSE OF URGENCY

WWAP's Phase 1 (2000-2003) reinforced two significant conclusions about the state of the world's water resources:

- There is a growing water crisis: demand for freshwater consumption is rising, and this, combined with a lack of effective governance, is resulting in increased water stress and poverty in many parts of the world.
- Many countries are not on track to reach the MDG targets, most of which are water-related, which means that a significant proportion of the world's population remains mired in poverty, plagued with preventable diseases and confronted with food insecurity.

The sense of urgency is reflected with renewed vigour in WWAP's Phase 2 (2003-2006) and in the second Report (WWDR2), *Water, A Shared Responsibility* (March 2006).

### ACTION THROUGH SHARED INVESTMENT

Undertaken by UN-Water on behalf of the UN system, WWAP is aided by a Trust Fund and sustained by donors' contributions:

- The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) hosts and manages the WWAP Trust Fund, and houses the WWAP Secretariat.
- Generous assistance from the government of Japan has supported the programme in its first two Phases. Many other governments have also contributed to its success, with major donations from Spain, the United Kingdom, France and Turkey, in addition to those governments that have supported country case-study preparation.

## Global Case Studies:

- |                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. State of Mexico        | 11. Uganda                      |
| 2. Lake Titicaca Basin    | 12. Ethiopia                    |
| 3. La Plata River Basin   | 13. Kenya                       |
| 4. Senegal River Basin    | 14. Sri Lanka                   |
| 5. Mali                   | 15. Mongolia (Tuul River Basin) |
| 6. Basque Country (Spain) | 16. Thailand                    |
| 7. France                 | 17. China (Heihe River Basin)   |
| 8. Danube River Basin     | 18. Japan                       |
| 9. South Africa           |                                 |
| 10. Lake Peipsi Basin     |                                 |



## WWAP IN THE MEDIUM-TERM

It is widely accepted that sustainable and equitable water management must be undertaken using an integrated approach, that assessment of the resource is the basis for rational decision-making, and that national capacities to undertake such assessments must be further supported and expanded at local through international levels. Recognizing this, WWAP's **PHASE 2 (2003–2006)** and **PHASE 3 (2006–2009) INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES** aim to enhance the capacities of all governments, agencies, professionals and individuals – in particular those of developing and in-transition countries – to achieve sound governance and management of their water resources.

### MAJOR INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES:

#### ESTABLISH A KNOWLEDGE BASE:

- The triennial **World Water Development Report (WWDR)**, addresses the major intersections of water, development and human well-being and offers best practices as well as in-depth theoretical analyses, to help stimulate ideas and actions for better stewardship in the water sector.
- **The Living Document**, WWAP's water information network, enhances communication with stakeholders and beneficiaries and raises awareness about water-related issues.

#### REINFORCE NATIONAL CAPABILITIES:

- New and ongoing **case studies** assist countries in undertaking their own national assessments and inform the process of setting priorities for international action at all levels.
- The development and application of UNESCO's '**From Potential Conflict to Co-operation Potential**' (PC-CP) helps to promote peaceful cooperation between countries that share water resources.

#### DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A SYSTEM OF INDICATORS:

- **Indicators** serve as a mechanism for monitoring global, national and local progress towards improved policy and management of freshwater resources, by enabling better assessment of the water resource situation, identification of critical problems and their causes, and cross-country or inter-regional comparisons.

#### CREATE A WEB-BASED SYSTEM FOR WATER GOVERNANCE:

- In order to facilitate a comparative vision of water governance, this system will enable countries to better manage their water resources through the creation of a **Water Governance Index**, based on consolidation of different water governance indicators.

#### ADMINISTER A SERIES OF CAPACITY-BUILDING PROJECTS:

- At international, national, local and basin levels, the development of educational and awareness-raising materials will support and contribute to both the **International Decade for Action 'Water for Life'** (2005–2015) and the **UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development** (2005–2014), as well as the **International Expo on Water and Sustainable Development** in Zaragoza, Spain, in 2008.

### THE DRIVING FORCES OF WWAP:

- **Inclusion of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)** in the planning processes of all national governments (WSSD target)
- **Achievement of the MDGs** related to or dependent on water

# Water

## a shared responsibility

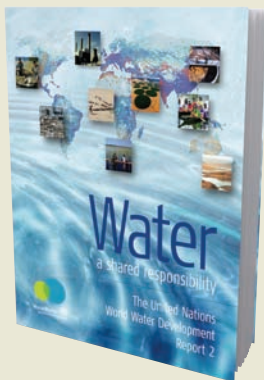
The United Nations World Water Development Report 2 (March 2006)

A joint undertaking of the 24 UN agencies comprising UN-Water, and in partnership with governments and other entities concerned with freshwater issues, this volume, covering all regions and most countries of the world, provides an up-to-date global overview of the state and uses of freshwater, critical water-related problems and societies' coping mechanisms. Drawing on an extensive database, expert analyses, case studies, and hundreds of graphic elements, it is the most comprehensive assessment of freshwater issues, providing a mechanism for monitoring changes in the resource and its management and progress towards achieving development targets, particularly the Millennium Development Goals.

Building on the conclusions of the first World Water Development Report, *Water for People, Water for Life* (2003), the 2006 Report confirms the ongoing, growing and serious water crisis – to a large extent a crisis of governance – and points to a prevalent lack of capacity and knowledge as today's primary obstacles to achieving better water governance. This volume proposes an integrated vision of water resources management to respond to changing environmental and socio-economic conditions.

The accompanying interactive, searchable and hyperlinked CD-ROM includes all of the WWDR2 data tables, graphs, charts and world maps, as well as detailed sections on indicator and case-study developments, among other valuable materials, all of which are available as of March 2006 on the WWAP website at <http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap>.

WWDR2 is aimed at a wide audience, including all those interested or directly involved in the formulation and implementation of water-related policies, as well as managers, researchers, teachers, students and, of course, water users themselves.



### THE WORLD WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

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UN WATER



Including,  
UNDESA  
UNECE  
UNESCAP  
UNECA  
UNECLAC  
UNESCWA

#### FRONT MATTER

- Foreword – Kofi Annan (UN Secretary General)
- Prologue – Koïchiro Matsuura (UNESCO Director General)
- Preface – Gordon Young (WWAP Coordinator)

#### PART 1 – CHANGING CONTEXTS

- Chapter 1 – Living in a Changing World
- Chapter 2 – The Challenges of Governance (UNDP, with IFAD & UNECE)
- Chapter 3 – Water and Human Settlements in an Urbanizing World (UN-HABITAT)
- Chapter 4 – The State of the Resource (UNESCO & WMO, with IAEA)
- Chapter 5 – Coastal and Freshwater Ecosystems (UNEP)

#### PART 2 – CHALLENGES FOR WELL-BEING AND DEVELOPMENT

- Chapter 6 – Protecting and Promoting Human Health (WHO & UNICEF)
- Chapter 7 – Water for Food, Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods (FAO & IFAD)
- Chapter 8 – Water and Industry (UNIDO)
- Chapter 9 – Water and Energy (UNIDO)

#### PART 3 – MANAGEMENT RESPONSES AND STEWARDSHIP

- Chapter 10 – Managing Risks: Securing the Gains of Development (WMO, ISDR & UNU)
- Chapter 11 – Sharing Water (UNESCO)
- Chapter 12 – Valuing and Charging for Water (UNDESA)
- Chapter 13 – Enhancing Knowledge and Capacity (UNESCO)

#### PART 4 – SHARING RESPONSIBILITIES

- Chapter 14 – Case Studies: Moving Towards an Integrated Approach
- Chapter 15 – Conclusions and Recommendations for Action