

# UNESCO's Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP)

## 8th Annual Conference



## UNESCO Chair in Sustainable Water Services

Jorge Ellis, Ph.D.



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Intergovernmental  
Hydrological  
Programme

# UNESCO's Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP)



## Views on Water Education Present & future perspectives

UNESCO Chair in  
Sustainable Water Services

8th Annual Conference - June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Jorge Ellis, Ph.D.

# UNESCO's Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP)

- IHP is the **only intergovernmental programme** of the **United Nations system** devoted to water research and management, as well as related education and capacity development.



- started out in 1975 as an internationally coordinated **hydrological research programme**;
- has evolved to facilitate an interdisciplinary and integrated approach to watershed and aquifer management, incorporating the **social dimension of water**;
- supports international cooperation in hydrological and freshwater sciences and at the **interface with policy-makers**; reinforces **institutional and individual capacities**.



UNESCO Chair on Water Resources Sustainability - University of San Carlos, Guatemala



Cuenca del Río Naranjo

GIRH - Gestión Integrada de los Recursos Hídricos de la cuenca del Río Naranjo - Fundación Solar - Embajada Real de los Países Bajos - Diseño y realización: Javier Azurdia



Cuenca del Río Naranjo

UNESCO Chair on Water Resources Sustainability - Guatemala

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# UNESCO's International Science Programmes

□ IHP as one of the International Science Programmes of UNESCO

■ International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP)



■ Man and the Biosphere Programme - MAB Programme

## ROKUA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK (Finland)

*"Tells the story of the last Ice age and the story of people who followed the retreating ice"*



©Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark, Finland / Ilpo Okkonen

# UNESCO's International Science Programmes

- IHP, IGGP &

Man and the Biosphere  
Programme  
(MAB Programme)





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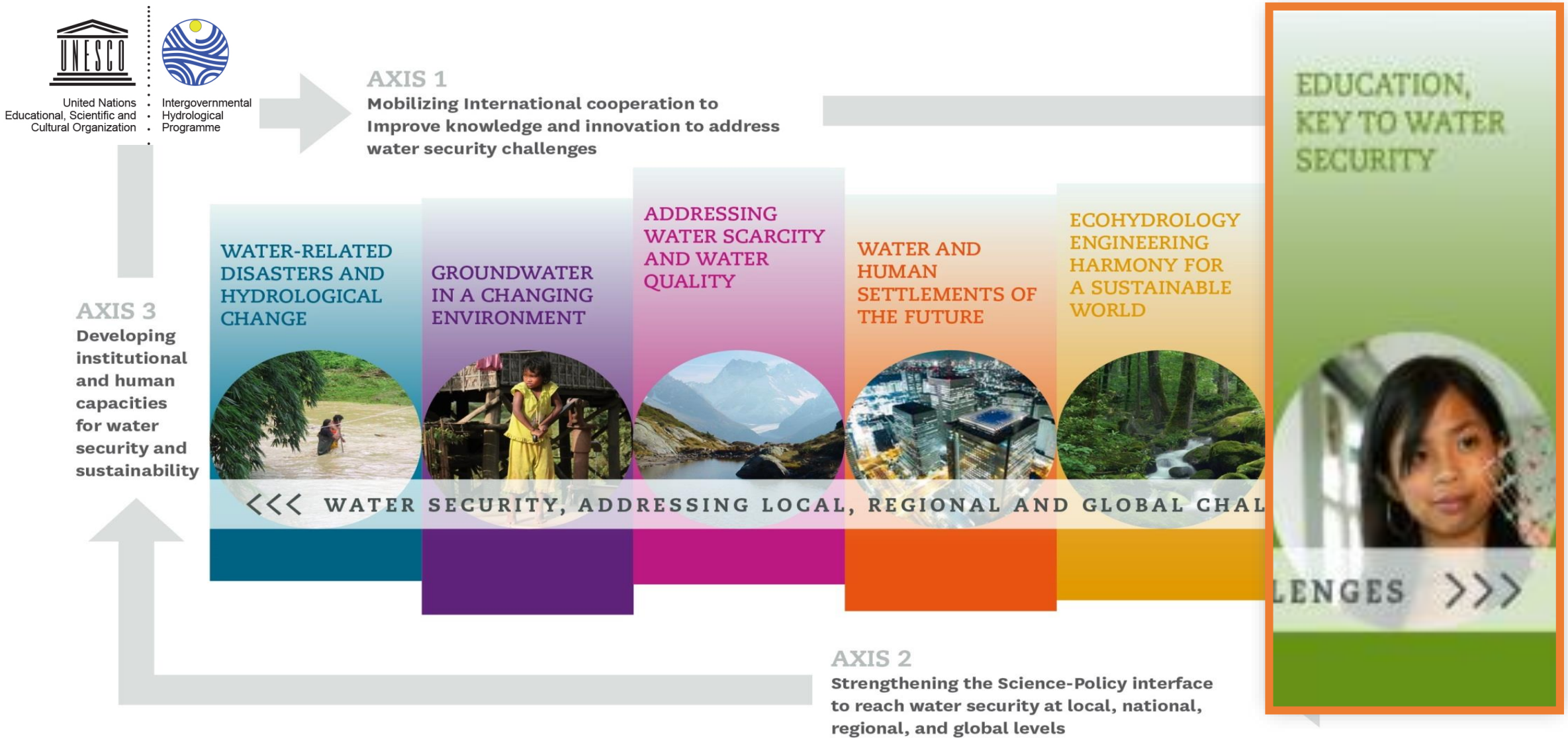
# Member States and IHP Governance

- **IHP Intergovernmental Council:**
  - 36 UNESCO MS;
  - equitable geographical distribution and rotation;
  - ordinary sessions once every two years.
- **IHP Bureau:**
  - 6 MS elected by Council from amongst its members;
  - equitable geographical representation of UNESCO's six electoral regions and -to the extent possible- gender equality;
  - presently composition includes Spain and Zambia.



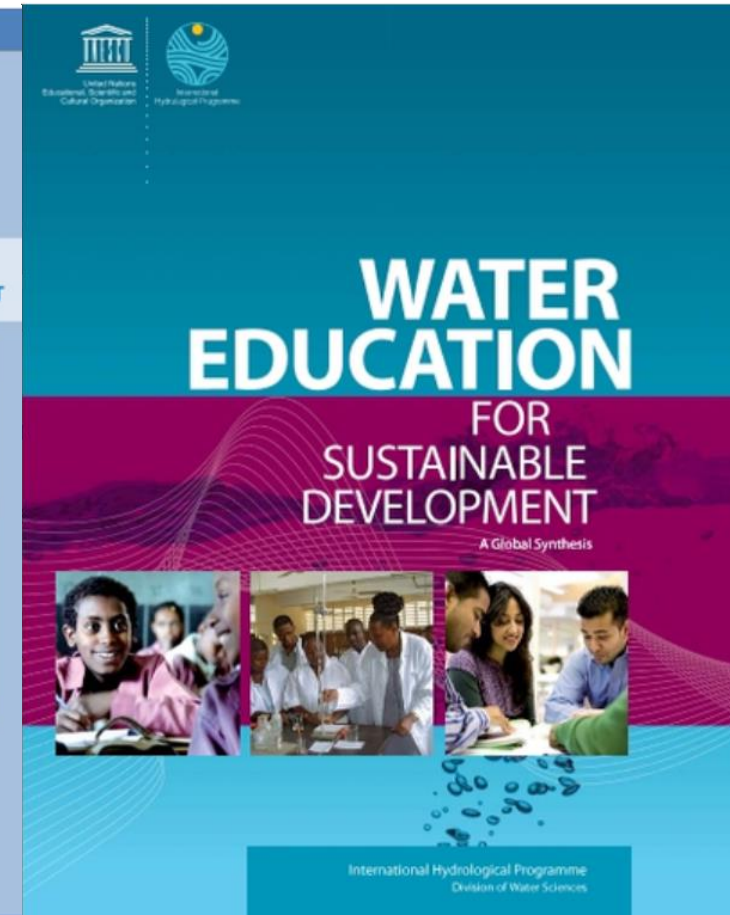
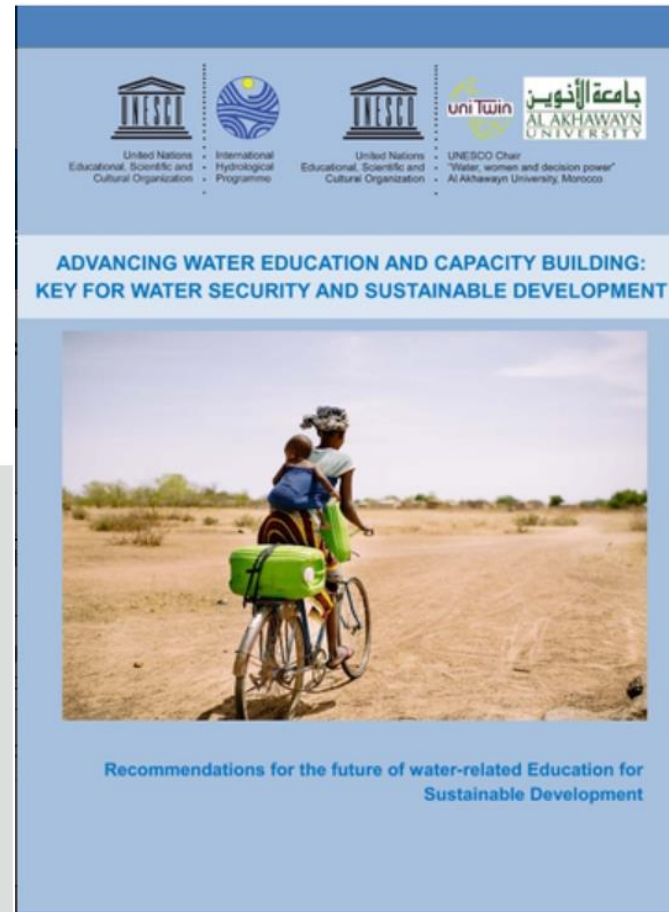
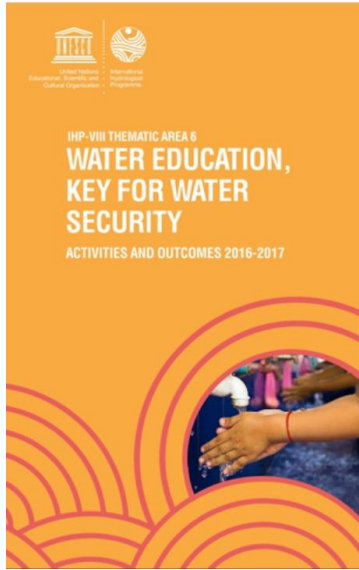
# Water education and capacity development in IHP-VIII (2014-2021)

## Addressing water security: local, regional and global challenges



# Water education and capacity development in the transition from IHP-VIII (2014-2021) to IHP-IX (2022-2029)

## UNESCO Chair in Sustainable Water Services Annual Conference



# WATER EDUCATION: scope & challenges

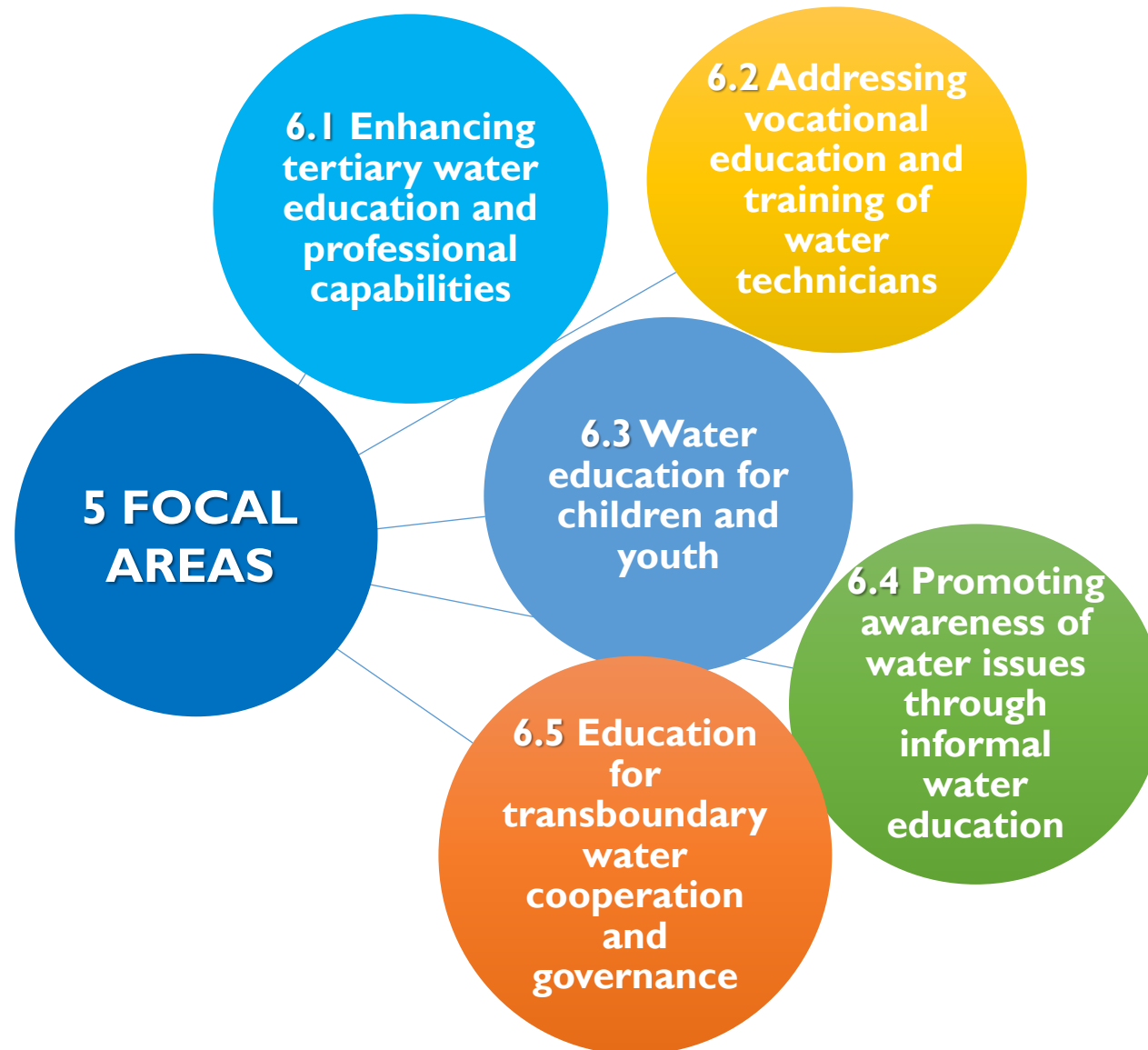


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# IHP Theme 6: WATER EDUCATION





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# IHP Theme 6: Focal Areas

## **THEME 6:** WATER EDUCATION KEY, FOR WATER SECURITY

**Focal Area 6.1** – Enhancing tertiary water education and professional capabilities in the water sector

**Focal Area 6.2** – Addressing vocational education and training of water technicians

**Focal Area 6.3** – Water education for children and youth

**Focal Area 6.4** – Promoting awareness of water issues through informal water education

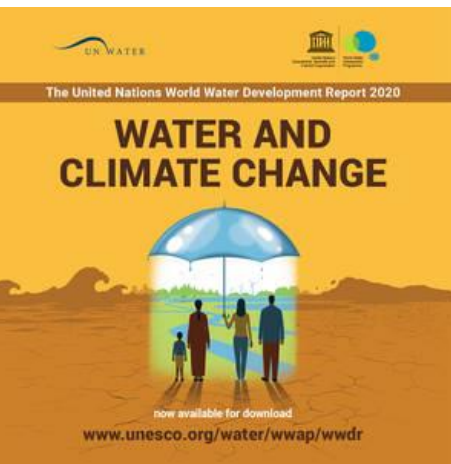
**Focal Area 6.5** – Education for transboundary water cooperation and governance

# UNESCO's Water Family

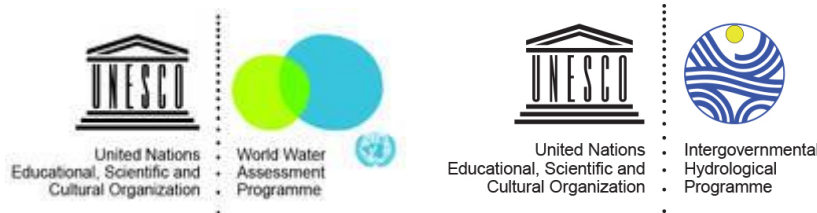


UNESCO works to develop capacities and to build the scientific knowledge base to help countries in the **sustainable management** of their **water resources**.

- ❖ This is done through the **UNESCO Water Family**, comprising IHP, World Water Assessment Programme (UNESCO WWAP), Category 2 Centres under the auspices of UNESCO and water-related Chairs and UNITWIN Networks, in collaboration with the IHP National Committees in the MS.



World Water Assessment Programme (UNESCO WWAP)



water-related UNESCO Chairs and  
UNITWIN networks

**CATEGORY 2 INSTITUTES AND CENTRES**

# UNESCO's Water Family - Water Education in 2019

UNESCO field offices network, UNESCO water-related Chairs and Category 2 Centres:

- ca. 900 trainings were organized
- > 22,880 people trained (41% women);
- 460 international events organized
- ca. 31,500 participants attended (> 13,000 women, 41%)



Both trainings and international events supported and mobilized participants from 124 countries (45 in Africa).

# The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

September 2015 : heads of state gathered in New York to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



**17** goals for the world's future, towards **2030** and through **169** targets



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# SDG6 on clean water and sanitation

## Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



### 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



**Target 6.a:** By 2030, **expand international cooperation** and **capacity-building support** to developing countries **in water-** and **sanitation-related activities** and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse of technologies.

**Indicator 6.a.1:** Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance (ODA) for water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes that is part of a government coordinated spending plan.

*What is missing ?*

# Why a new Indicator on Water Education ?

## → What is missing from Indicator 6.a.1?

Expansion of capacity-building for water related activities: water education

Ex.: Secondary Education / Are Water Sciences studied in the Natural Sciences teaching?

University / Are curricula for Hydrologists and Hydrogeologists adequate - updated?

How many “water professionals” are formed at universities?

→ **Gap:** Indicator 6.a.1 does not contribute necessary information to measure the value of the component of target on capacity building (water education) and does not provide countries with tools to set, monitor and improve their baseline.

→ **Issue:** Impact and sustainability of ODA will be diminished if not sufficient trained and skilled human resources for national water resources studies and assessment of surface water and groundwater resources and sanitation services.



**A dedicated indicator on water education is missing**

# Challenges & future developments

## What are the remaining Challenges?

- Stay youth-inclusive with a continuous focus on gender equality
- Develop and promote bottom-up education strategies related to water issues
- Engage mass media in awareness raising campaigns and programmes
- Obtain and collect data on capacity development to have a clear picture of the state of water education at all levels



## How to improve cooperation on Water Education?

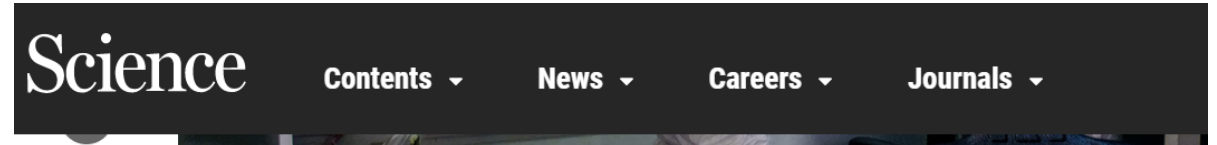
- Join forces with the UNESCO Water Family (C2Cs and Chairs)
- Initiate and promote regional meetings on water education with the aim of developing local projects proposals
- Working with Member States on the proposal of creation of a new indicator on water education related to SDG 6



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# COVID-19 - Water and the 'new normal'



Researchers at the Pasteur Institute in Lille, France, at work on the new coronavirus on 20 February. LEFEVRE/GETTY IMAGES



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'A completely new culture of doing research.'  
Coronavirus outbreak changes how scientists  
communicate



By Kai Kupferschmidt | Feb. 26, 2020 , 2:05 PM



COVID-19 WILL BE WITH US FOR YEARS, WATER  
SECTOR TOLD

Preparing for future waves

Talking to children about  
our "new normal" during  
COVID-19 pandemic

Des « traces infimes » du SARS-CoV-2 dans  
l'eau non potable de la ville de Paris

# COVID-19 - Let's construct together the new (water) normal



## → THE DEBATE

How to adapt to new normal? WHO warns Covid-19 'may never go away'



## A SAFETY GUIDE FOR THE 'NEW NORMAL' AFTER COVID-19

*Public awareness and prevention*

**'A new normal': how coronavirus will transform transport in Britain's cities**





**Thank you for  
your attention!**

