Financing our future
A global overview of funding for water management

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Our big challenges

We’re quick to say “insufficient financing” … … but what does that mean?

Some examples:
• Lack of political awareness and prioritization in budgeting
• Insufficient capacity to absorb and disburse funds
• Poor coordination between water-related initiatives
• Inadequate legal framework and institutional capacity to support budget allocation and revenue raising
How do we know this?

SDG 6.5.1 IWRM survey

1 indicator score

IWRM implementation (0-100)

4 dimensions

1. Enabling environment
2. Institutions & participation
3. Management Instruments
4. Financing

33 questions (national to basin/aquifer level)

Laws, policies, plans
Cross-sector coordination, capacity development, private sector, gender
Monitoring, efficiency, pollution, ecosystems, data sharing
National/subnational budgets

SDG 6.5.1 in-country multi-stakeholder reporting process

1 national SDG 6.5.1 IWRM survey

National SDG 6.5.1 Focal Point coordinates multi-stakeholder, multi-level consultation process.
IWRM implementation worldwide

- 186 countries across 2017 and 2020  (171 countries reported both years)
- Global average IWRM implementation up 5%: 49% (2017) to 54% (2020)
Financing lags other IWRM dimensions AND reported as a major constraint.
60% of countries report limited revenue raising for IWRM

Revenue raising for water resource management (Q4.2b). Implementation level:
- Very low
- Low
- Medium-low
- Medium-high
- High
- Very high
- No data
- Not applicable
Shining a light on the solutions

1. **Legal frameworks**, based on IWRM principles, at relevant levels.
2. **Improved accounting**: consolidation/analysis of data on investments.
3. **Transparency, anti-corruption and accountability**
4. **Coordinated financing for efficient use of resources**
5. **Advocacy**: decision-makers for national budgets.
6. **Private sector action**
7. **Revenue raising**: incl. capacity for regulation and enforcement.
8. **Mobilization/access to other sources**: e.g. climate financing, COVID-19 recovery packages

Section 5.5 of 2021 global progress report on SDG indicator 6.5.1
How can we make change happen?

- Regional and sub-regional learning exchanges – regional orgs take lead?
- Investment (incl. donor) coordination platforms – is there a gap? Global, regional, sub-regional.
- Coordination / consultation mechanisms at national level.
- SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme
- SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework
Thank you for your attention

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