Under the Patronage of His Excellency **Eng. Abdulrahman bin Abdulmohsen AlFadley**Minister of Environment, Water & Agriculture



# UN SYSTEM-WIDE STRATEGY FOR WATER AND SANITATION

Bruce Gordon, UN-Water Vice Chair



29 April - 01 May 2024



Hilton Riyadh Hotel & Residences Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

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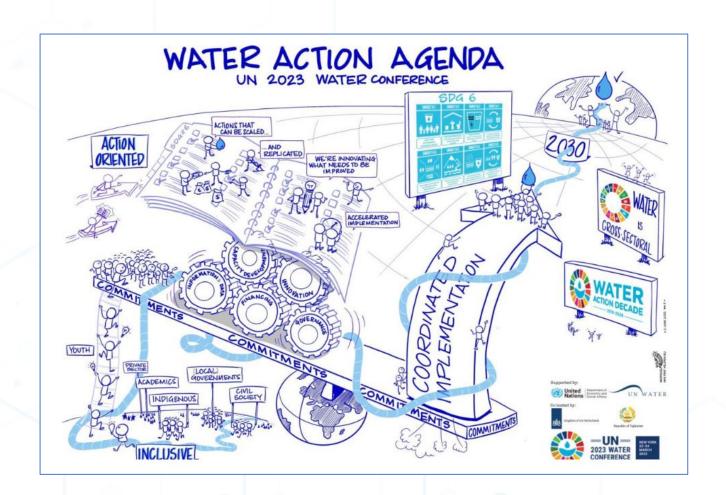




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## **UN 2023 Water Conference + Water Action Agenda**





- Milestone Conference in March 2023
- Water Action Agenda of 840+ voluntary commitments
- <u>UNGA resolution</u>, adopted on 1 September 2023





- The mandate for the SWS from resolution 77/334.
- Vision: A world with available and sustainably managed water and sanitation for all
- The **goal** of the strategy is to enhance UN system-wide coordination and delivery of water and sanitation priorities across the United Nations system in support of countries to accelerate progress on national plans and priorities, internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, the realization of human rights and transformative solutions to current and future water-related challenges for the benefit of people and planet.

## Entry Points for UN system-wide collaboration on water and sanitation

- 1 Lead and inspire collective action for water and sanitation
- Engage better for countries by leveraging "whole of UN system" support and mobilizing stakeholders and partnerships
- Align UN system support to integrate water-related issues across sectors and mainstream into intergovernmental processes
  - **Accelerate** progress and **transform**ational change through unified UN system support to the five SDG 6 global accelerators- *financing*, *data and information*, *capacity development*, *innovation and governance* 
    - **Account** through joint review and **learning**

### **Expected Outcomes**



- 1. Strengthened UN system-wide leadership on water-related issues.
- 2. Demand-driven support to countries by the UN system and its partners at all levels, with a particular focus on the water-related needs of developing countries.
- **3. Improved policy coherence** on water and sanitation through aligned UN system support to integration across sectors and mainstreaming across Member State-led inter-governmental processes.
- 4. More impactful UN system support to countries to accelerate progress and transformational change through the five SDG 6 accelerators- finance, data and information, capacity development, innovation, and governance.
- 5. Strengthened accountability for progress through joint review and learning.

A "Collaborative Implementation Plan" (CIP) will be developed jointly by UN entities and partners to establish the priorities and guide implementation.

Lead and inspire collective action for water and sanitation

Engage better for countries by leveraging "whole of UN system" support and mobilizing stakeholders and partnerships for water and sanitation

Align UN system support to integrate water and sanitation issues across sectors and mainstream into intergovernmental processes

Accelerate progress and transformational change by unifying UN system support to the five SDG 6 accelerators-

financing, data and information, capacity development, innovation and governance

Account through joint review and learning.

**Output 1.1.** Water and sanitation issues are a strategic leadership priority for the UN System.

**Output 1.2.** Action is inspired by compelling and unified UN system communications and messaging on water and sanitation.

**Output 2.1.** Expertise and resources are fully leveraged by the UN system to support countries, with emphasis on the water and sanitation needs of developing countries.

**Output 2.2.** Diverse stakeholders and partnerships are mobilized by the UN system to support countries' progress on water and sanitation.

Output 3.1. Operational and financial strategies, policies and approaches of the UN system are aligned to harness complementarity.

Output 3.2. Integrated policy frameworks to manage water and sanitation across sectors are supported by the UN system using latest data and evidence.

**Output 3.3.** Mainstreaming of water and sanitation issues into Member States led intergovernmental processes is supported by the UN system.

**Output 4.1** Financing strategies, frameworks and plans for investing in water and sanitation across sectors are prepared and implemented with UN system support, with emphasis on the financing needs of developing countries.

**Output 4.2.** High-quality, disaggregated water and sanitation data and information are available and shared transparently through strengthened national monitoring systems, regional and global platforms with support from the UN system.

**Output 4.3** Institutional and human resources capacity development support that responds to national needs and priorities is provided by the UN system, contributing to a skilled water and sanitation workforce.

**Output 4.4.** Enabling environments for water and sanitation innovation are supported by the UN system, including policies, partnerships, and transfer of technology to remove barriers, with emphasis on the technology transfer needs of developing countries.

**Output 4.5** Governance of water and sanitation is improved through UN system support, including with emphasis on the needs of developing countries.

**Output 5.1.** Progress on the implementation of the SWS is reviewed jointly by the UN system at technical and leadership levels.

**Output 5.2.** Progress on water-related goals and targets are reviewed through joint learning and exchange among all actors with support from the UN system.

Outcome 1. Strengthened UN system-wide leadership on water and sanitation.

Outcome 2. Enhanced demanddriven support to countries on water and sanitation through the mobilization of available capacities and resources of the UN system and its partners at all levels to leave no one behind, with emphasis on the needs of developing countries

Outcome 3. Improved policy coherence on water and sanitation through UN system support to integration across sectors and mainstreaming across Member State-led inter-governmental processes.

Outcome 4. More impactful UN system support to countries to accelerate progress and transformational change through the five SDG 6 accelerators-finance, data and information, capacity development, innovation, and governance.

**Outcome 5.** Strengthened accountability for progress through joint review and learning.

#### VISION

A world with access, availability and sustainably managed water and sanitation for all people and planet

#### **IMPACT**

A more holistic approach to the sustainable management of water and sanitation that accelerates progress on internationally agreed water-related goals and targets and leaves no one behind

#### **GOAL**

To enhance UN system-wide coordination and delivery of water and sanitation priorities across the United Nations system in support of countries to accelerate progress on national plans and priorities, internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, the realization of human rights, and transformative solutions to current and future water and sanitation challenges for the benefit of people and planet.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To fully operationalize inter-agency coordination, capitalize on reforms of the UN development system, and to leverage upscaled water and sanitation action of UN entities to support Member States, with emphasis on the water and sanitation needs of developing countries.





- 1. Catalyze and drive a mechanism to shape, mobilize and inspire action, collectively and individually, across the UN system for water and sanitation;
- 2. Serve as a practical tool for UN entities to plan, coordinate and collaborate on water and sanitation actions, monitor and report progress on achievements; and
- 3. Facilitate experience sharing and learning at all levels global, regional and country-level, and across all relevant actors.

### **Proposed timeframe**



- 1. First CIP cycle to cover 4-year period: January 2025 thru December 2028
- 2. Aligned with Quadrennial Comprehensive Programme Review (QCPR)
- 3. Key global highlights during the proposed cycle:
  - United Nations Water Conferences in 2026 and 2028
  - SG's report presented at UNGA 81 (September 2026)
  - Water Action Decade (2018-2028)
  - Continued SDG 6 acceleration; next HLPF in-depth review of SDG 6 (date TBC)
  - COP processes (UNFCCC NDC 3.0, CBD, UNCCD) and other high-level UN meetings and processes
  - Preparations for the post-2030 global sustainable development agenda.

#### **Content**



## It is proposed that the CIP will both:

- ✓ Feature a few inspiring and strategic priority areas
  - to shape UN system-wide collaborative action over the CIP period (2025-2028)
  - o to leverage collaboration across mandates and levels of the UN system (roof, pillars, foundation)
  - o to identify areas where entities can invest in working together to deliver results
- ✓ Key global highlights during the proposed cycle:
  - o to contribute towards the achievement of the 14 outputs and 5 outcomes
  - to demonstrate how UN entities and UNCTs are elevating and aligning water and sanitation priorities and programmes with the SWS and contributing to the CIP.

Q2 2024: First round of consultations on the Collaborative Implementation Plan

July 2024: Official launch (tbc) of the strategy at the SDG 6 and Water Action Agenda Special Event of HLPF + meeting of UN-Water Principals

August-October 2024: Second round of consultations November 2024: Finalization of Collaborative Implementation Plan

## **Guiding questions**



#### **VALUE**

What value can the
UN system-wide
strategy's
Collaborative
Implementation Plan
add to your work on
water and
sanitation?

#### **IMPROVEMENT**

What can the UN system do better, especially at the country level, thanks to the Collaborative Implementation Plan?

#### **AREAS**

In your view, what should the Strategic Priority Areas of the Collaborative Implementation Plan be in 2025-2028?

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## THANK YOU!



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