

United Nations
World Water
Assessment Programme

W W A P



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



World Water
Assessment Programme



The United Nations World Water Development Report **WWDR**

The *United Nations World Water Development Report* (WWDR) represents the voice of the United Nations on the state, use and management of the world's freshwater resources. The WWDR aims to give information and tools to decision-makers on how to promote sustainable use of water resources.

The first edition of the Report was released as a comprehensive triennial publication in 2003 until 2012. The four consecutive Reports described the changes in water resources management and highlighted the progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In 2012, following a decision of the United Nations, the WWDR became an annual and thematic publication which analyzes each year the linkages between water and a specific theme, highlighting interconnections, conflicts or synergies. The first annual edition in 2014 focused on the theme "Water and Energy". The 2015 edition addresses the "Water for a Sustainable World" theme.

The Report, coordinated by the United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (UN WWAP), is the result of the collaboration of 65 UN agencies and partners, including international organizations and other major stakeholders, who all make up UN-Water.



The World Water Assessment Programme **WWAP**

Hosted and led by UNESCO, the United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) coordinates the work of the UN-Water members and partners in the World Water Development Report (WWDR).

In particular, WWAP:

- 💧 assesses and reports on the state, use and management of the world's freshwater resources, the demands on these resources, and knowledge about emerging critical issues;
- 💧 seeks to equip water managers and key decision-makers with the information, data, tools and skills necessary to enable them to effectively participate in the development of water resources policies; and
- 💧 aims to influence leaders in government, civil society and private sector to ensure that their policies and decision-making that affect water promote sustainable social and economic development at local, national, regional and global scales.

In the frame of the post-2015 development objectives, WWAP is committed to continue its efforts in reporting on progress towards achieving sustainable use of water resources at global level, and in assisting countries to develop new types of water resources assessments to address water nexus decisions.

Since 2007 WWAP has been funded by the Italian Government, which is providing all the financial support required to run the WWAP Secretariat, develop activities, and publish the WWDR, and by the Umbria Region, which generously offers Villa La Colombella in Perugia as headquarters of this UNESCO Programme.



WWAP's activities include:

1

Preparing and producing the United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR)

The development of the United Nations WWDR, coordinated by WWAP, is a joint effort involving UN agencies and entities which make up UN-Water. The WWDR is a key UN report which aims to provide decision-makers and other stakeholders with updated information and tools to promote the sustainable use of world water resources.

2

Case studies in collaboration with partners

The case studies are prepared by institutional and national partners. These are real-life examples of responses to current freshwater challenges and imminent problems from all regions of the world. The case studies volume complements the in-depth assessment of thematic issues in WWDR. Since 2003 until now, the case studies have covered close to 70 countries.

3

Indicators

Indicators are at the heart of WWDR's mission. They allow for informed, rational decisions and actions to be taken. In this regard, one of WWAP's tasks is to develop/refine and implement a comprehensive set of indicators on water-related issues. The WWAP Expert Group on Indicators, Monitoring and Databases (EG-IMD) and WWAP's coordination of UN-Water Task force on Indicators, Monitoring and Reporting (IMR) were established to address certain challenges, most notably the lack of available data and robust monitoring mechanisms. These also reflect WWAP's commitments in the post-2015 agenda and the development of the SDGs.

4

Capacity-building programmes

WWAP regularly organizes modules and courses that aim at training decision-makers and senior water professionals to adopt new approaches for comprehensive assessment of the water resources.

5

Mainstreaming gender equality

WWAP mainstreams gender equality in all its activities and publications. One of the main goals for WWAP is to provide tools for Gender Sensitive Water Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting, with special focus on sex-disaggregated indicators for the water sector.



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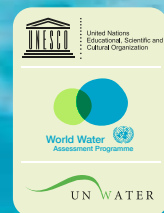
UNESCO Programme Office for Global Water Assessment

The WWAP Secretariat, initially hosted at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France, moved its offices to Umbria, Italy in 2007. The Umbrian Region has generously assigned UNESCO the use of the Villa La Colombella in the municipality of Perugia.

WWAP headquarters is based at the Villa, where conference and guesthouse facilities are available to host capacity-building activities and other events.

Villa La Colombella is the old Colombella's castle, which was transformed into a private residence during the 17th century. Once the property of the prominent Piccolomini family, the Villa La Colombella was acquired by the University for Foreigners in 1972.

For information on conference facilities and guesthouse:
wwap.perugia@unesco.org



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