



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

International
Hydrological
Programme

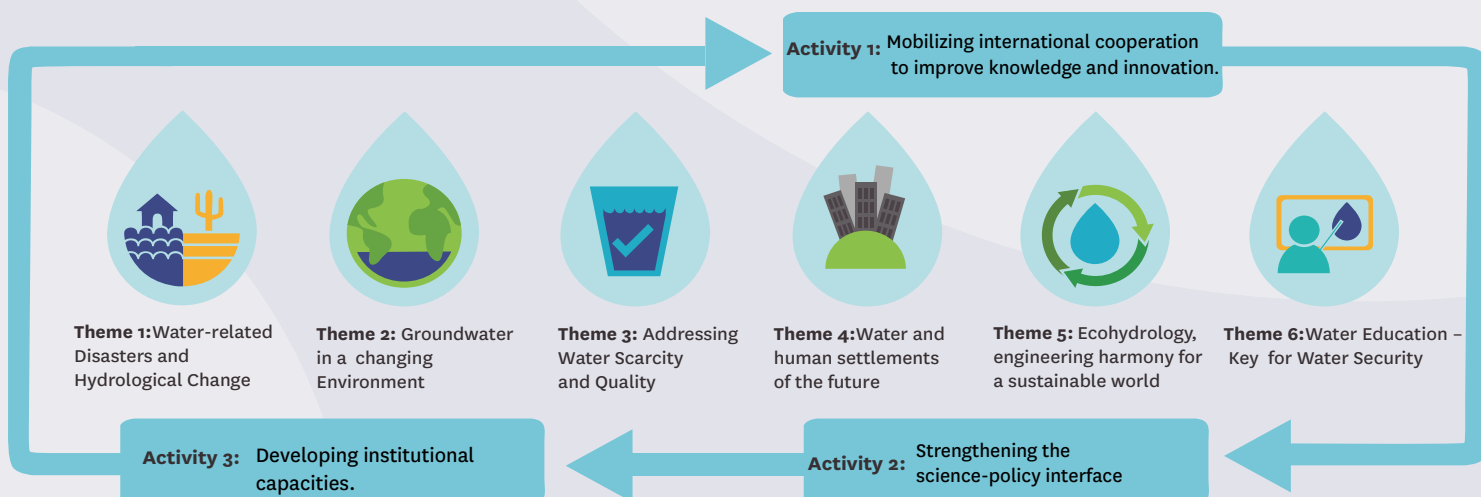
THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROLOGICAL PROGRAMME

Water Science and Capacity Development for Water Security

The International Hydrological Programme (IHP) is UNESCO's Intergovernmental Programme on water. It currently runs its eighth phase (IHP-VIII), from 2014 to 2021, which is dedicated to Water Security. In 42 years of existence, IHP has evolved from an internationally coordinated hydrological research programme into a holistic programme facilitating the sustainable management of water resources and governance, based on science, reliable data and dissemination of knowledge.

IHP facilitates a trans-and interdisciplinary approach to surface and groundwater, incorporating transboundary dimensions of water resources in six Thematic areas, performing three core activities.

The Division of Water Sciences coordinates UNESCO's Water Family that includes IHP, WWAP and the work of Member States through National Committees and Focal Points, Category 2 Centres, Chairs and the experts contributing to 15 different international IHP initiatives.



Recent results and outcomes of IHP's work

Groundwater: IHP helps Member States, including Small Island Development States (SIDS), strengthening groundwater governance at local, national and transboundary level and thus improving living conditions and peaceful cooperation. At least 20 countries have benefited from the methodology developed by IHP for the transboundary aquifers assessment and 42 SIDS benefited from specific groundwater assessments.

Water scarcity and quality: IHP helps Member States managing water scarcity and quality by promoting innovative tools and scientific approaches. More than 33 countries from LAC, Asia and Africa have benefited from actions through the work of the Global Network on Water and Development Information in Arid Lands (G-WADI), an IHP flagship initiative. For instance, it facilitated the production of real time rainfall data through PERSIANN, a tool that is widely used, e.g. in Namibia's daily flood bulletin. Over 20 countries have benefited from new knowledge and innovative approaches to water quality. Through 16 case studies, IHP's International Initiative on Water Quality (IIWQ) improved the knowledge base on emergent pollutants.

Water and Cities: IHP continuously supports Member States and urban authorities in exchanging on and developing innovative, integrated and sustainable approaches to water management. For instance, IHP helped to share the data and experiences of 36 urban areas through the books *Urban Water Challenges in the Americas* and *Water, Megacities & Global Change*.

Ecohydrology, green solutions for water management: IHP assists Member States in improving integrated water resources management by combining nature-based and engineering solutions. 15 new demonstration sites were established in host countries for a total of 23 sites, showcasing solutions that improve aquatic ecosystems, water quality and alleviate pollution. Since 2016, the Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Electricity of Ethiopia has included ecohydrology in its "Growth and Transformation Program" as management tool for Integrated Water Resources Management.

Water education: IHP strengthened water education in at least 50 Member States to improve water security. In all UNESCO regions and across all IHP Themes, the UNESCO Water Family enhanced the capacities of around 14,600 persons (45% women and 55% men) to address water security challenges. Furthermore, IHP supported the participation of young people, youth organizations and young water professionals in international events.

IHP-WINS

In January 2017, IHP launched its Water Information Network System (IHP-WINS), an open-access, knowledge-sharing platform on water-related issues, freely available to Member States, water stakeholders and partners. WINS encourages the building of a water proactive community. Users are empowered to easily access and share GIS data and information in a standardized format. WINS thus contributes in closing the gap between North and South in terms of access and dissemination of knowledge. As of September 2017, 30 countries, two water-related Category 2 Centres and two Chairs, as well as 15 other entities (UN, research centres and associations) have agreed to share their data through IHP-WINS.

IHP and the Sustainable Development Goal 6

“Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”

IHP-VIII supports Member States in implementing of SDG 6 and related targets. UNESCO is the custodian agency monitoring the indicator 6.5.2 on transboundary cooperation. In this frame, as of August 2017, 840 Member States of the 154 expected have reported on sharing transboundary waters. Furthermore, IHP promoted transboundary water diplomacy and cooperation, inter alia through fostering dialogue on enhanced science and policy linkages.

The UNESCO Water Family
implements IHP-VIII, through the cooperation of
over 3000 experts worldwide

UNESCO staff located at the Paris headquarters of the IHP Secretariat and the Regional Hydrologists

IHP National Committees representing the Programme in 169 Member States

36 water-related Category 2 Centres under the auspices of UNESCO (Sept. 2017)

The World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), based in Italy and which produces the periodic World Water Development Report

48 UNESCO Water Chairs (Sept. 2017)

15 IHP Flagship initiatives operating worldwide



UNESCO WATER RELATED OFFICES, CHAIRS AND CENTRES

