

IHP involvement in the **9th World Water Forum**
World Water Day Campaign
and other relevant high-level events
towards **2023 UN Conference on Water**

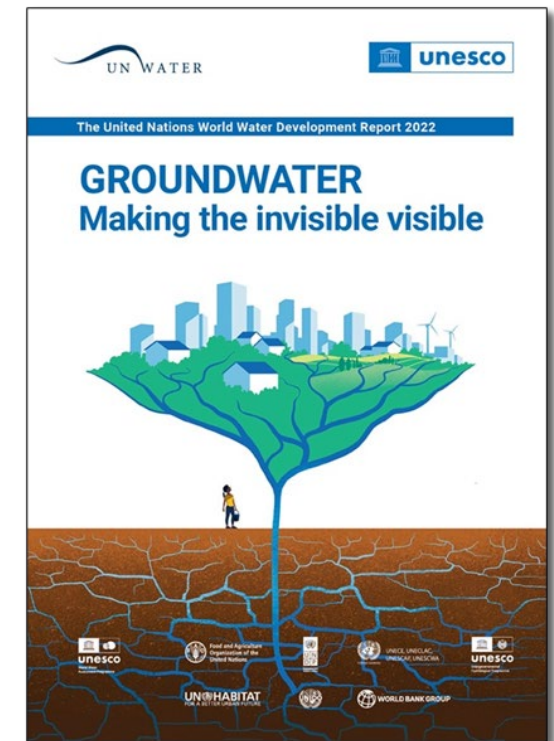
Item 5.1 - UNESCO at the 9th World Water Forum

UNESCO coordinated and/or participated in **33 events**, of which the **main celebration of the World Water Day** and the **high-level panel on Groundwater** on 22 March, 12 ordinary thematic sessions and special sessions, and 19 sessions at the UNESCO Water Family Pavilion. The sessions attracted an estimated cumulated **in-situ audience of over 2500 persons**, approximately 40% women and 60% men.

In the presence of heads of States from Africa, UNESCO's Director-General launched the **UN WWDR2022 'Groundwater: making the invisible visible'** on **21 March 2022** at the Opening Ceremony of the 9th World Water Forum (WWF9) by handing over a copy of the Report to the President of Senegal on behalf of UN-Water. The report was presented in more depth during the **World Water Day (WWD) pivotal event** the next day.

The Report launch and the topic of "groundwater" received extensive **media coverage**.

The World Water Development Report is available in English, French and Italian with Spanish and Chinese **translations** available later this year. The Executive Summary is available in 11 languages.



Item 5.1 - Celebration of the UN World Water Day 2022

“Groundwater: making the Invisible Visible”

The celebration of the **World Water Day**, organized on the 22nd March by UNESCO and IGRAC **on behalf of UN-Water**, included three events:

- A **Plenary session** which witnessed a “**Pass the groundwater baton ceremony**” from the World Water Day Task Force to the World Water Council, aimed at **sustaining attention to groundwater in future editions of the World Water Forum**. It was also the occasion for UNESCO to launch the **Groundwater Youth Network**.
- A **High-Level Panel on Groundwater** that examined how groundwater offers a potential pathway to sustain human activities and ecosystems health, with a particular **focus on Africa and SIDS**.
- A **special session** that introduced the **Groundwater Catalogue**, a tool compiling management and governance tools, measures and instruments that will assist policy makers in exploring and finding suitable **solutions for complex groundwater issues**.



Youth Network expert

Item 5.2 – UN-Water campaign on groundwater during the year 2022

UNESCO, together with its International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC), led the **World Water Day 2022 campaign on “Groundwater: Making the invisible visible”** on behalf of UN-Water; **the campaign will remain active throughout the year.**

UNESCO will coordinate the organization of a **series of key events related to groundwater**, aimed at conveying a message about the importance of these hidden resources to the UN intergovernmental Water Conference taking place in March 2023.

UNESCO has organized as a pre-event the **Second International Conference on Transboundary Aquifers (ISARM2021)** at UNESCO HQs, 6-9 December 2021

Some Groundwater-related initiatives in 2022

22 March 2022: Main celebration
of the WWD at the 9th World Water Forum,
Dakar, Senegal



H.E. Isatou Touray,
Vice President Gambia



Mr Teodoro Estrella Montreal, DG
Water, Ministry for the
Ecological Transition and
Demographic Challenge, Spain



H.E. Serigne Mbaye Thiam,
Minister of Water and
Sanitation, Senegal

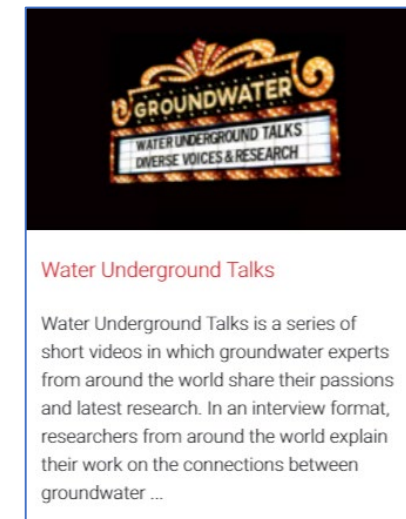


Passing the Groundwater baton to Ms Asma El Kasbi, Vice-President
World Water Council



World Water Day Photo Contest 2022

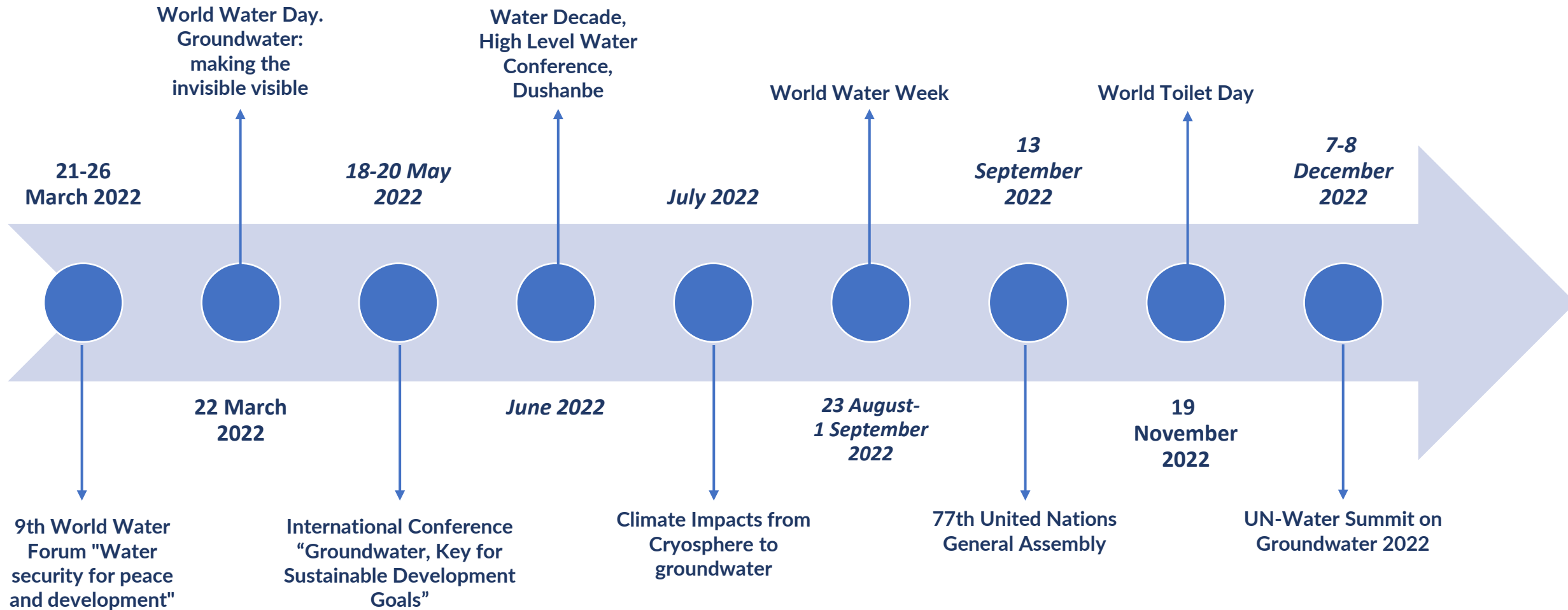
The Lions Club of Seregno AID is organizing the sixth edition of the World Water Day Photo Contest focusing on the theme of 'Water - making the invisible visible'. The competition is open to all lovers of photography and to ...



Water Underground Talks

Water Underground Talks is a series of short videos in which groundwater experts from around the world share their passions and latest research. In an interview format, researchers from around the world explain their work on the connections between groundwater ...

Item 5.2 - Groundwater campaign/year 2022 including the Groundwater Summit



Item 5.2 - Groundwater campaign/year 2022 including the Groundwater Summit

The **UN-Water Summit on Groundwater** will take place on 7th and 8th December 2022 at UNESCO HQs, Paris, and is tentatively planned as a hybrid meeting with the most possible on-site presence. The 6th December will be a **Pre-Summit** day, devoted to side-events only.

The Summit will use as baseline the **World Water Development Report 2022** focused on Groundwater, and the **SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework** as a guideline to define actions towards more **responsible and sustainable use and protection of this vital natural resource**.

PROGRAMME DETAILS

- Opening session
- 5 Sessions on groundwater and SDG6 accelerators
- 5 Thematic sessions
- Closing Session
- Side Events

unesco **UN WATER** **igrac**
International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre

SAVE THE DATE

UN-Water Summit on Groundwater

6
December
2022
Pre-Summit
Side-Events

The UN-Water Summit on Groundwater organized by UNESCO and its International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) on 7-8 December 2022 in UNESCO HQ, Paris, will be the culminating event of this special year about groundwater. The Summit aims to make groundwater more visible in order to better manage and protect it. It will unify the statements from all major water-related events in 2022 in one comprehensive groundwater message for the UN Water Conference 2023.

7-8
December
2022
Summit on
Groundwater

Item 5.3: Stockholm World Water Week 2022

Stockholm World Water Week 2022 *"Seeing the unseen: The value of water"*

23-25 August: *on-line sessions /*
29 August - 1 September: *on-site and hybrid sessions*



- UNESCO is a **Key Collaborating Partner** and therefore participates in the preparation of the scientific programme
- In particular, UNESCO participates in the preparation of the programme of the Seminar **"Water as a driver for peace and cooperation"**
- UNESCO is one of the co-conveners of the Seminar **"Using science to inform water governance"**
- UNESCO will convene and co-convene **regular sessions** on different topics (list to be confirmed)

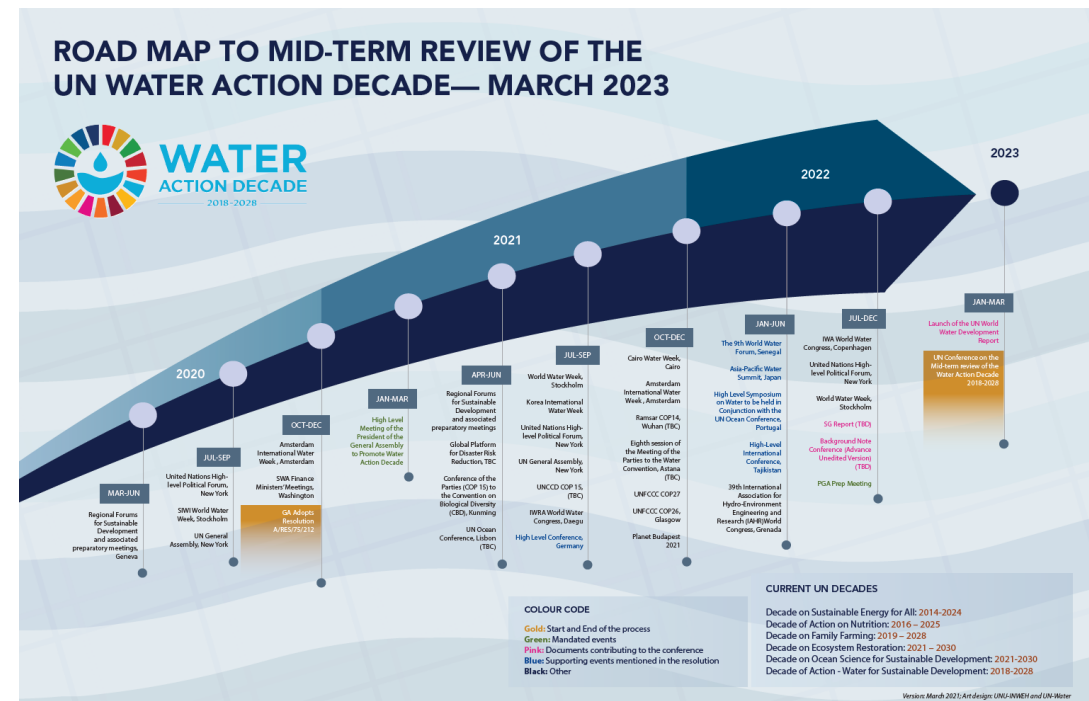
Item 5.4 - Other high-level events: UNESCO IHP towards the UN 2023 Water Conference

- In 2018, the United Nations General Assembly decided to convene in New York, from 22 to 24 March 2023, the United Nations Conference on the **Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Sustainable Development' 2018-2028.**
- The **UN 2023 Water Conference** will be co-hosted by the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Tajikistan.
- It will be preceded by regional and global preparatory meetings and informed by other water-related meetings (**Roadmap**).



UN
2023 WATER
CONFERENCE

NEW YORK
22-24
MARCH
2023



Item 5.4 - Other high-level events: UNESCO IHP towards the UN 2023 Water Conference

- As a follow up of the UNESCO IHP Council Resolution XXIV-5, IHP is pursuing its involvement in the **preparatory process** of the UN 2023 Water Conference and participating/contributing to the **global and regional events** listed in the Roadmap.
- UN Regional Commissions have been invited to **provide regional inputs** to the UN Water Conference 2023 by the end of June 2022. These inputs aim to reflect the diversity of views and experiences from the regions, and not any agreed position from the region. They will inform the UN Secretary General's report on the mid-term review to be presented at the 77th session of the UN General Assembly and will inform the United Nations 2023 Water Conference:
 - **ESCWA 18-19 May**
 - **ESCAP 20 April**
 - **ECE 12-13 April**
 - **ECLAC 28 April**
 - **ECA – date tbc in May (in consultation with AMCOW)**



Agenda Item 5.4 - Other high-level events: UNESCO IHP towards the UN 2023 Water Conference

- In addition to the regional preparatory meetings, the following **global events** are also part of the Roadmap:
 - 9th World Water Forum (Dakar, Senegal)
 - High Level Symposium on Water (Lisbon, Portugal)
 - IAHR Congress (Granada, Spain)
 - Second International Conference on the Water Decade (Dushanbe, Tajikistan)
 - World Water Week (Stockholm, Sweden)
 - UN-Water Summit on Groundwater (Paris, France)
- The **37th Session of the UN-Water Meeting** will be organized at UNESCO HQs the 5 and 6 December 2022 before the UN-Water Summit on Groundwater.
- In line with its the IHP-IX Strategic Plan, UNESCO's messages are/will be focused on strengthening the **international recognition of the importance of groundwater and of water science in general**, as well as of the critical **need to fill the gap of available and required capacities**, particularly in developing countries, in view of attaining SDG 6 and other SDGs



Item 5.4 - Asia-Pacific Water Summit

4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit

23-24 April 2022

- **Thematic session 9: Sound water cycle including groundwater**
Presentation by UNESCO Regional Sciences Bureau in Jakarta on the topic: **“Water Cycle Management in a changing Asia and the Pacific”**.
- **Thematic Session 3: Water and the Environment from Source to Sea**
Presentation by UNESCO-nominated youth delegate Ms. Elvira Apriana (Indonesia) on the topic: **Water Resilience in UNESCO-Designated Sites: Case Study on Rinjani-Lombok Biosphere and UNESCO Global Geopark, Indonesia**
- **Integration session: Science and Technology (24 April 2022)**
 - **Opening** by ADG/SC
 - Keynote **“Water, Culture and Peace”** by UNESCO-IHP



4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit
Kumamoto Japan 2022

5.4 - Dushanbe Water Decade Process Conference

2nd High-Level International Conference on International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028

6-9 June 2022

- UNESCO is **member** of the International Advisory Committee
- UNESCO is **co-convener**
 - Panel: Transboundary water cooperation for Economic Growth
 - Panel: Sustainability and Promoting Science-Based Water Solutions, Tools and Technology
 - Forum: Water and Mountains Towards Sustainable Development
- UNESCO **contributes** to 10 panels



Item 5.4 - Dushanbe Water Decade Process Conference

Panel “Transboundary water cooperation for economic growth and sustainability” (7 June 2022)



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe



International Association
of Hydrogeologists
the World-wide Groundwater Organisation



International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre

Goal of the session: to identify concrete actions to promote cooperation on shared waters in support of national efforts to reach the SDG targets by 2030.

Through discussion with selected panelists, the session will:

- review current state of cooperation on shared waters
- identify barriers and tools to strengthen cooperation, as well as steps that national governments can take
- showcase examples of effective transboundary water cooperation from Central Asia and beyond.

Expected main messages of the session:

- Sound integrated management of transboundary waters is critical to achieving food, energy, and water security.
- Action must be accelerated to meet SDG target 6.5 by 2030
- There are solutions available for promoting the cooperative management of shared water resources
- To accelerate action, investments are needed in addressing data and information gaps, capacity development, infrastructure, legal and institutional strengthening and water diplomacy.

Item 5.4 - COP27

27th session of the Conference of the Parties the UNFCCC

7-18 November, Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt

- **Water Pavilion**

- For COP 26, SIWI established the group ***“Water Pavilion Core Partners”***.
- UNESCO is participating in the meetings of the group, that is currently discussing the programme of the Pavilion
- UNESCO will organize several events in the Pavilion (tbd)



Item 5 - UN-Water SDG 6 Capacity Development Initiative (CDI)



UN SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework



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- Formal **Initiative** of **UN-Water** established in **March 2021**, in the context of the **SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework** launched by the **UN Secretary General**, which has capacity development as one of its pillars (“accelerators”):
- The **CDI** is coordinated by **UNESCO through IHP** together with **UN DESA**. The **Concept Note** for the CDI was approved by UN-Water in October 2021 and the **Workplan** was approved at the 36th UN-Water meeting 7-8 April 2022.
- **CDI Membership**: 35 (including UN-Water Members and Partners).
- **Spain** already supporting the **CDI**, as well as the **IHE Delft Institute for Water Education**. **Dialogue** with other potential **donors** to be held **on 5 May 2022**.



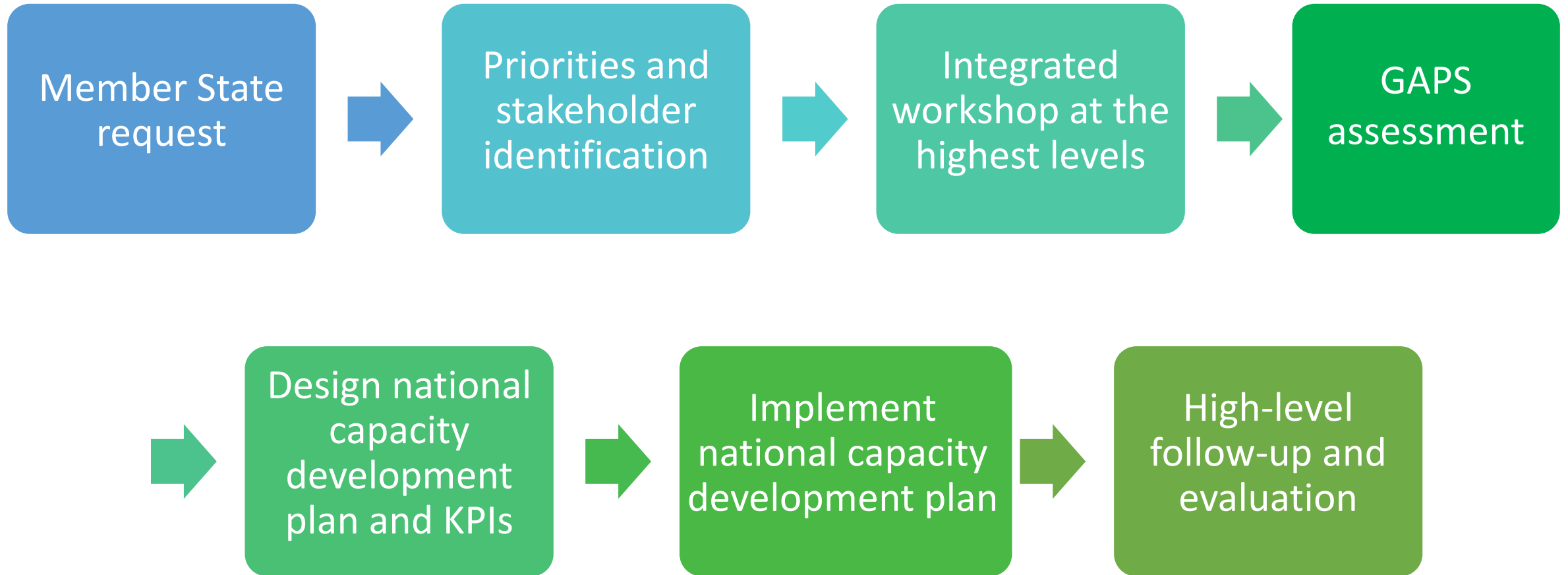
Item 5 - UN-Water SDG 6 Capacity Development Initiative (CDI)

Objectives

1. **To provide a coordinated entry point** for countries requesting UN-Water's support to identify capacity gaps hindering the implementation of SDG 6.
2. To support the countries in **undertaking a capacity gaps assessment** based on inter-sectoral/inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholder approaches, and in preparing a **national capacity development plan**.
3. **To facilitate access to capacity development offerings and experience** of UN-Water Members and Partners, tailoring them as needed, and support follow-up of capacity development interventions.
4. **To raise awareness of the indispensable role that water and sanitation play** within sustainable development, in particular for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and for the realization of all human rights, and of the importance to involve other key stakeholders in capacity development initiatives as appropriate (such as civil society, academia, TVET, the private sector, local government, technicians and operators, including those in the informal sector).

Item 5 - UN-Water SDG 6 Capacity Development Initiative (CDI)

Implementation Process



Item 5 - UN-Water SDG 6 Capacity Development Initiative (CDI)

Next Steps



Activity	Due Date
Development of CDI two-pager	May 2022
Finalization of the CDI work plan	May 2022
Presentation of the Initiative at the UN-Water Donor Dialogue	May 2022
Presentation of the Initiative in relevant events (e.g. Dushanbe Water Conference, Stockholm World Water Week)	2022
Identification of pilot countries	2 nd -3 rd Quarter 2022
Communication and coordination with UN DCO and UN Country Teams in pilot countries (e.g. through dedicated webinars)	2 nd -3 rd Quarter 2022
Mapping of UN-Water family's capacity development resources	2 nd -3 rd Quarter 2022
Kicking off "Module A" in selected pilot countries	3 rd Quarter 2022