

## Indicator 6.6.1 why we need to monitor our water-related ecosystems

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## **UN Environment & Freshwater**

**UN Environment** is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment



United Nations Environment Programme

#### **UN Environment Freshwater Unit** supports

countries in conserving, restoring and sustainably managing their freshwater ecosystems, the biodiversity they contain and the products and services they provide for human well-being and prosperity.



## **UN Environment Freshwater Priorities**

Meeting the global water quality challenge (SDG target 6.3)

Protecting and restoring freshwater ecosystems (SDG target 6.6)

Advancing the Integrated Water Resources Management approach (SDG target 6.5)

Promoting resilience and addressing the environmental aspects of water-related disasters and conflict (SDG targets 11.5 and 16.1)



## Goal 6



### SDG Indicator 6.6.1

#### Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time



#### **Sub-indicators:**

- Spatial Extent
- Quantity
- Quality

#### **Freshwater Ecosystems:**

- Open Water Bodies
  - lakes, reservoirs, rivers, estuaries
- Vegetated Wetlands
  - swamps, swamp forests, marshes, paddies, peatlands and mangroves
- Groundwater

## Status of the data collected

- Request for indicator data sent to 193 Member States in March 2017
- Indicator training webinars rolled out in May and June 2017 with over 60 countries participating available to watch at sdg6monitoring.org
- In-country indicator training provided to 9 countries
- Helpdesk providing technical support
- 35 Member States have so far submitted data
- JRC/GEE data for 189 Member States

## Sub-indicator data

Sub-indicator	Number of countries reporting these data	Waterbody type	Number of countries reporting these data
Extent	32	Vegetated Wetlands	21
		Open Water Bodies	30
		River Water Bodies	18
Quantity	28	Open Water Bodies	18
		River Water Bodies	23
		Groundwater Bodies	14
Quality	31	Open Water Bodies	20
		River Water Bodies	30
		Groundwater Bodies	24

# The role of Earth Observations in measuring indicator 6.6.1



#### Benefits of EO data:

- a. High accuracy
- b. Captures lots of water bodies
- c. Low data collection cost

# Challenges of EO data:

- Measurements of wetlands available by end of 2018
- Flow data still required from ground measurements
- Country ownership critical

# "The goal is to turn data into information, and information into insight"

Carly Fiorina, former executive, president, and chair of Hewlett-Packard Co



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## Thank you