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Interlinkages of Water and Sanitation and the SDGs under review at HLPF 2019

Stefan Uhlenbrook and Stephen Max Donkor



Kofi Annan on Africa's green and blue revolution

"If we want to accelerate Africa's transformation, then we have to significantly boost our agriculture and fisheries, which together provide livelihoods for roughly two-thirds of all Africans. [...] The time has come to unleash Africa's green and blue revolutions. These revolutions will transform the face of our continent for the better ..."

Source: Africa Progress Panel (2014, p. 11).



Regional Office
for Eastern Africa



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa





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WATER AS CROSS-CUTTING FACTOR IN THE SDGS UNDER REVIEW AT HLPF 2019 IN AFRICA

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. SDG INTERLINKAGES
2. WATER-ENERGY ACCESS
3. REDUCE INEQUALITIES, EXAMPLE WASH
4. TRANSBOUNDARY SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER
5. PURPOSE OF POLICY PAPER
6. REGIONAL ACTIONS
7. WATER AND EDUCATION (SDG 4)
8. WATER, ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DECENT JOBS (SDG 8)
9. WATER AND REDUCED INEQUALITY (SDG 10)
10. WATER, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS (SDG13)
11. WATER FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS (SDG 16)
12. WATER AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION (SDG 17)
13. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Sustainable Development Goal 6
Synthesis Report on Water and Sanitation

2018

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



WATER AS
CROSS-CUTTING FACTOR
IN THE SDGS UNDER REVIEW
AT THE HIGH-LEVEL PANEL
FORUM FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT (HLPF) 2019
IN AFRICA



SDG Interlinkages

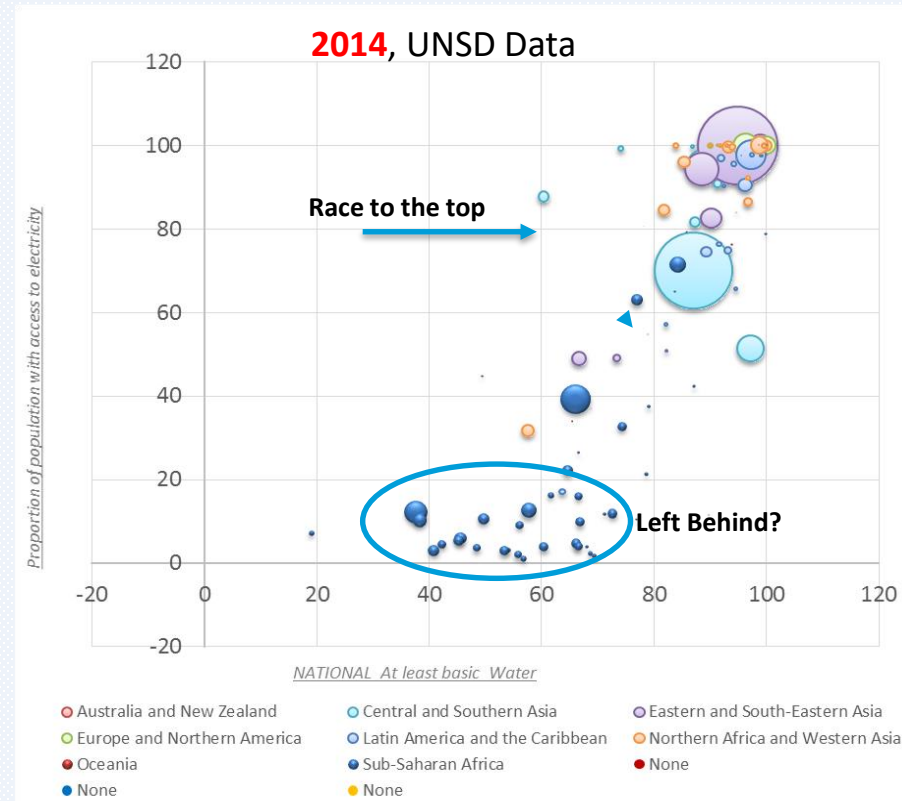
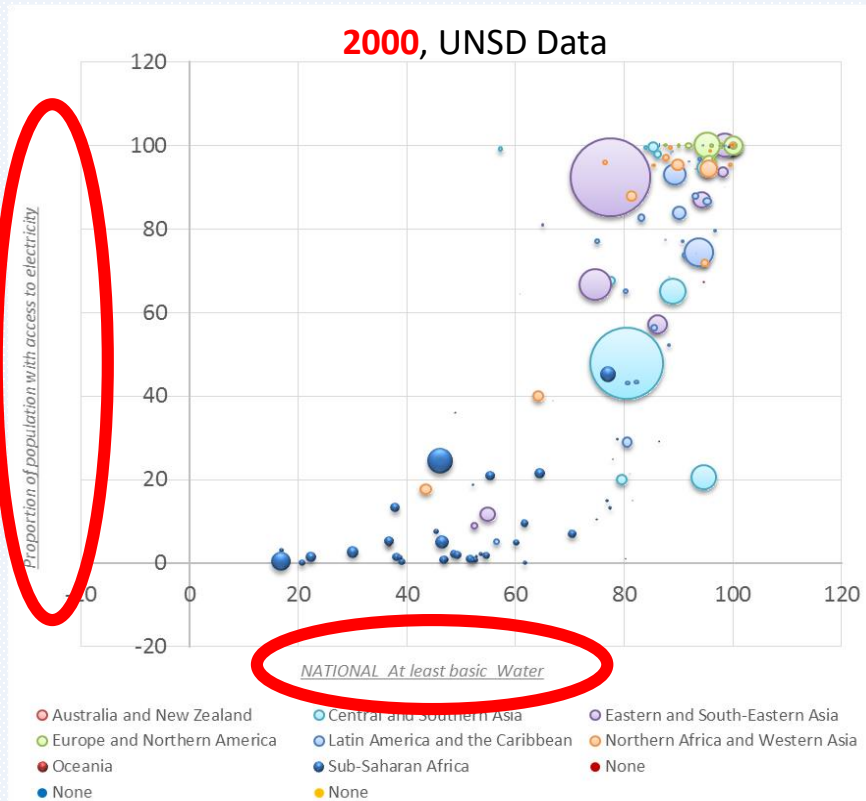
Achieving SDG 6 is essential for progress in all other SDGs, and vice versa



UN, 2018



Interlinkages Water-Energy Access

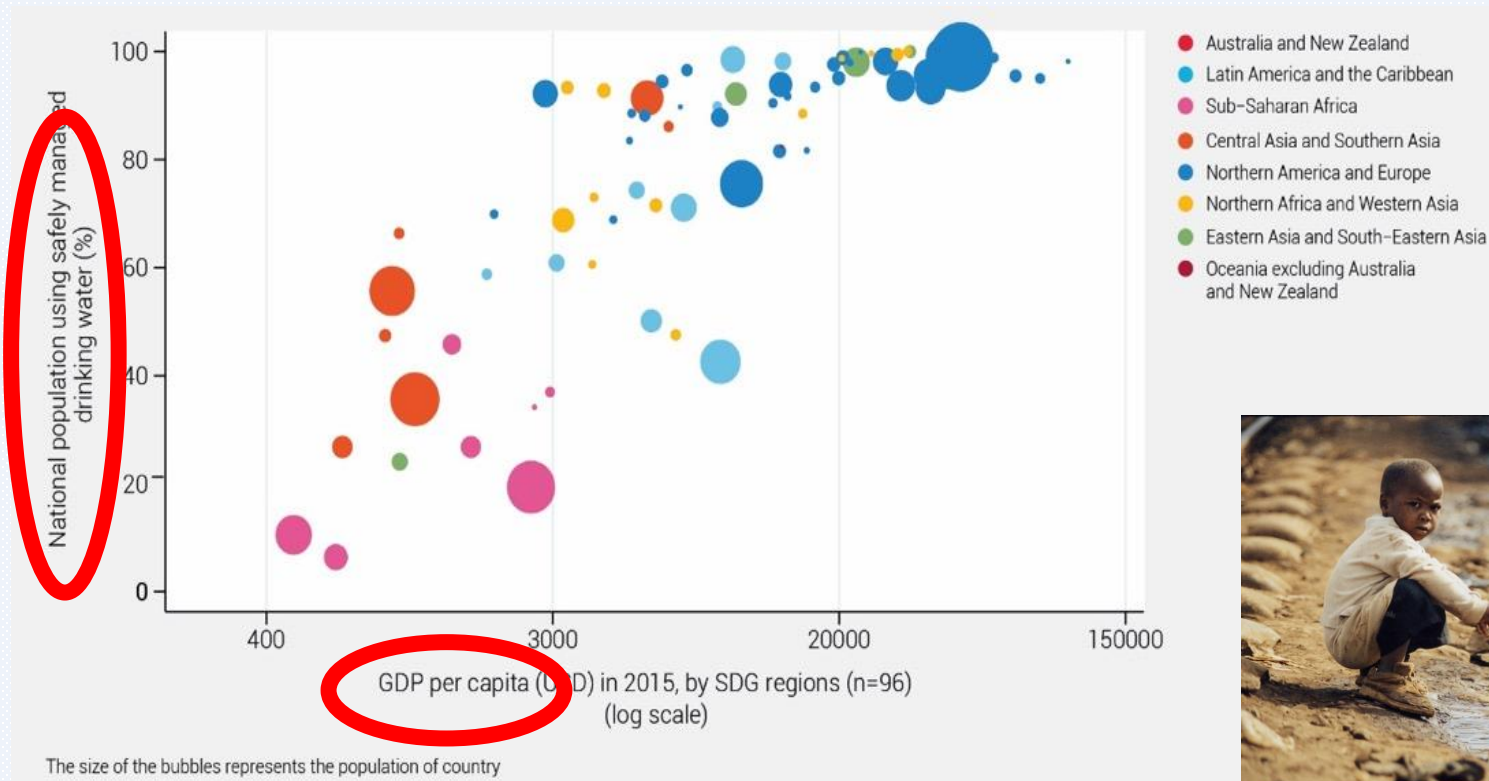


UN, 2018



Eliminating inequalities is essential

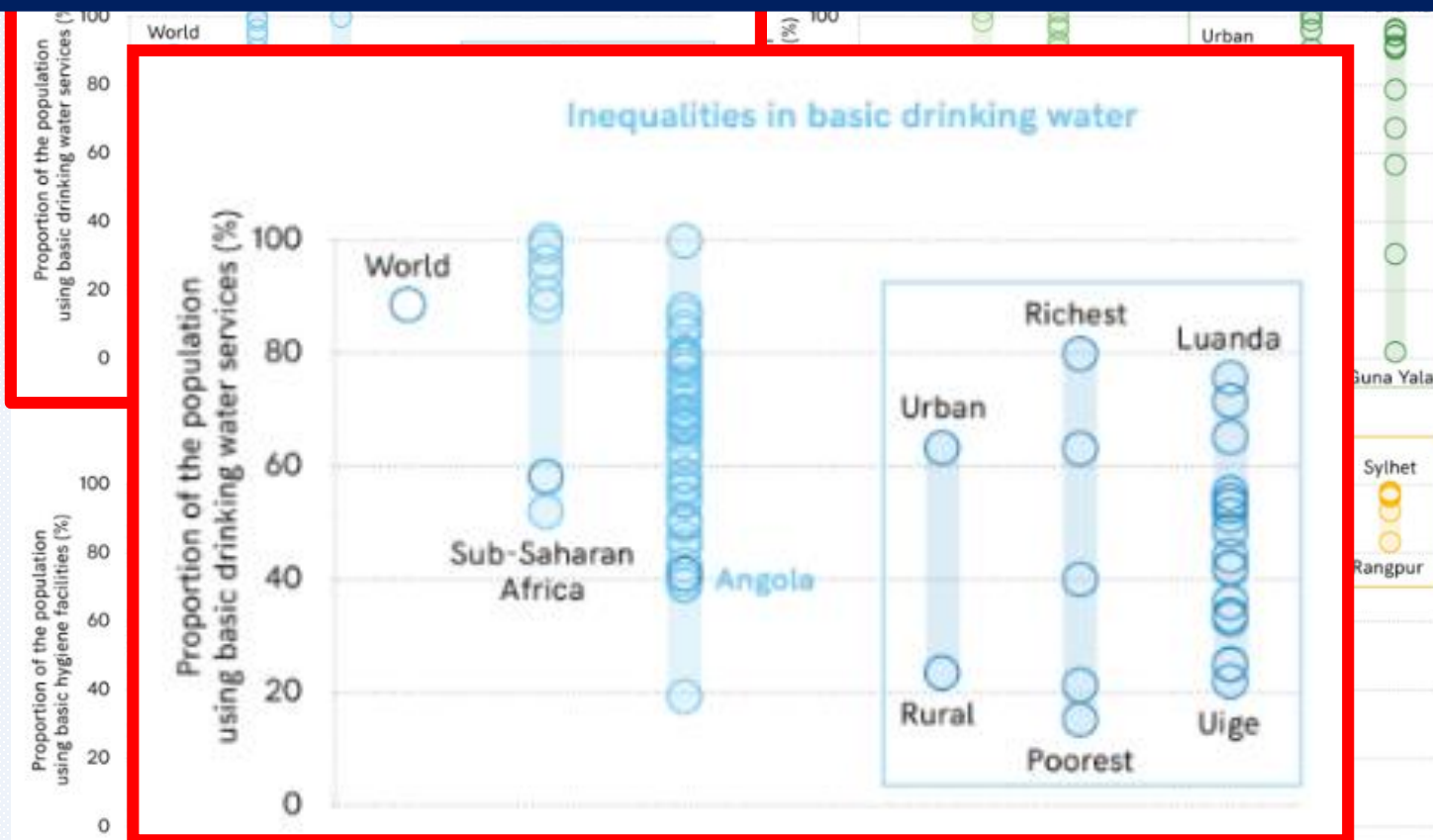
Effective policies, strategies and subsidies must be developed to ensure no one is left behind.



UN, 2018

WASH and Inequalities

4.5 billion people lacked safely managed sanitation services
2.3 billion people still lacked even a basic sanitation service
892 million people still practised open defecation



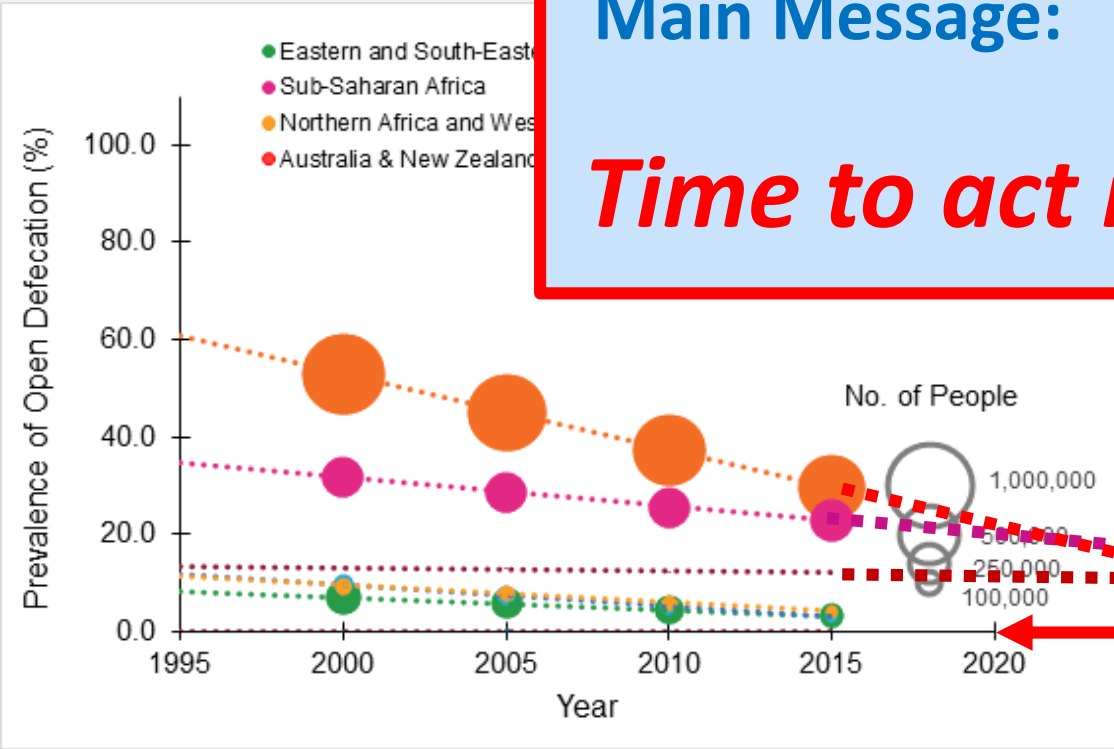
UN, 2018



SANITATION and HYGIENE: End open defecation



Main Message:
Time to act now!

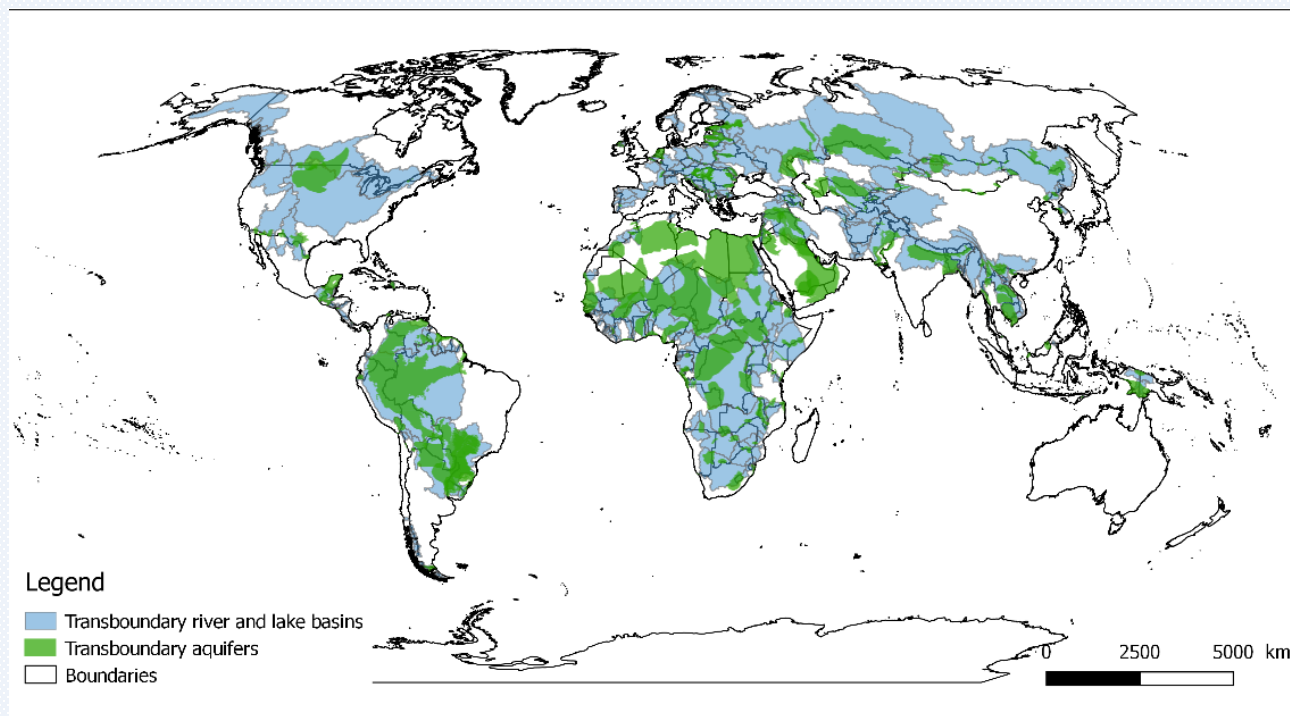


Faster progress is required to end open defecation by 2030, especially in rural areas

Not zero!

Data source: JMP 2017

SDG 6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation

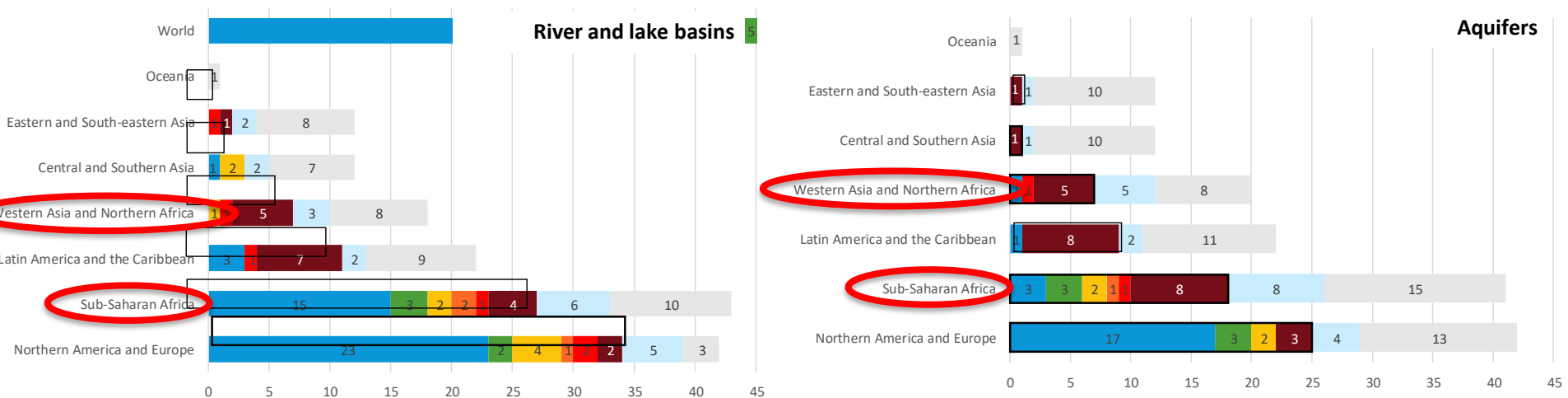


The world's 286 transboundary river and lake basins cover almost half of the Earth's surface area, over 150 countries have territory in a transboundary water basin and almost 600 transboundary aquifers (TBAs) have been identified.

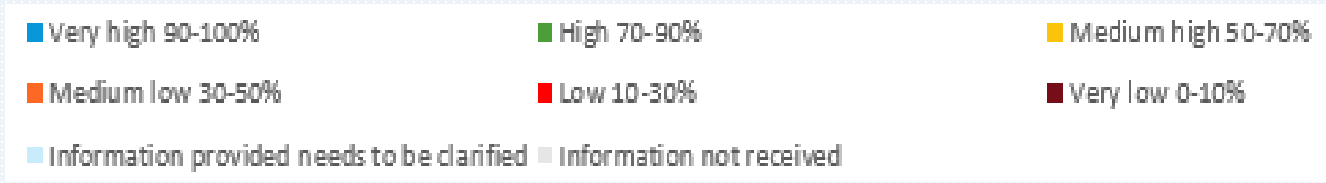
Data sources: UNECE / UNESCO

SDG 6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation

Regional breakdown of the number of countries sharing basins and level of transboundary water cooperation (based on SDG6.5.2 indicator)



The average of the national percentage of transboundary rivers and lake basins covered by an operational arrangement is 64% and it is 47% for aquifers.



Data sources: UNECE / UNESCO

Water and sanitation require a new financing paradigm

- Costs are increasing (ca. 500 bill./year); triple WASH investments to US\$114 bill./year (without O&M costs), additional water resources investments
- >80% of participating countries reported insufficient financing for national WaSH targets
- WaSH ca. 5% of total ODA disbursements; aid commitments have declined in SSA



Water as a cross-cutting factor for SDGs

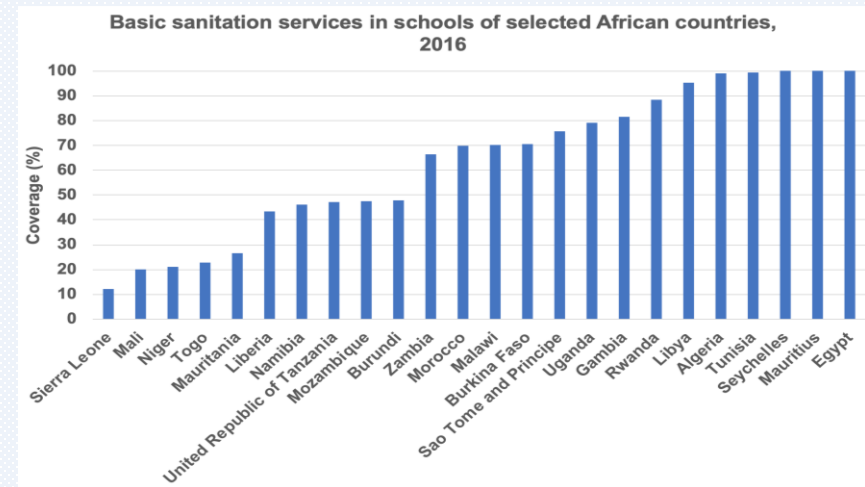
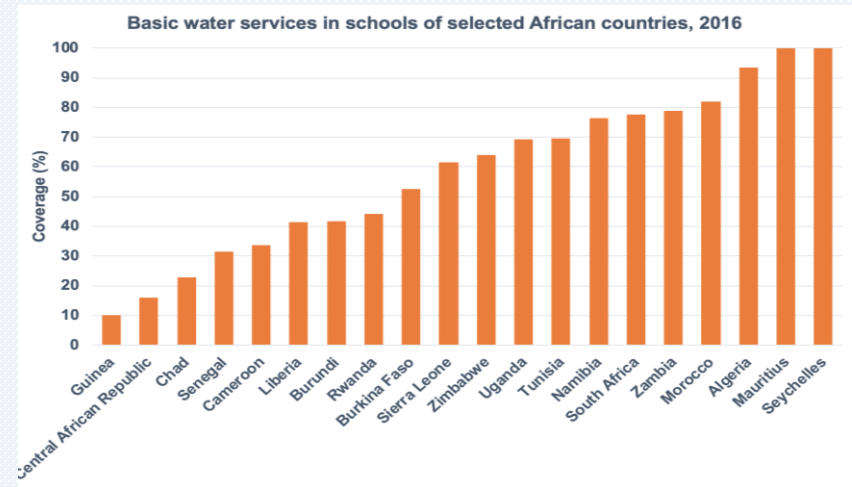
- Supporting African policy-makers to make key policy recommendations that address water-related issues when implementing SDGs.
- Acknowledge and invest in stronger links between the SDG 6 on water and the various other water-related SDGs
- Efficient and effective strategy for lifting millions of people from poverty and achieving the African Water Vision 2025, the 2030 Agenda.

Policy Recommendation #1-Regional Actions

- 1a. -To commit 10% of National Budgets to the agriculture and water sectors from 2020 link progress made in both AWWV 2025 to reporting of the SDG 6 Implementation (AU Summit Sirte Declaration, 2004).**
- 1b. To ensure improved coherence and effective coordination of water programmes in Africa, the UNECA must revive UN Water/Africa as part of the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM).**

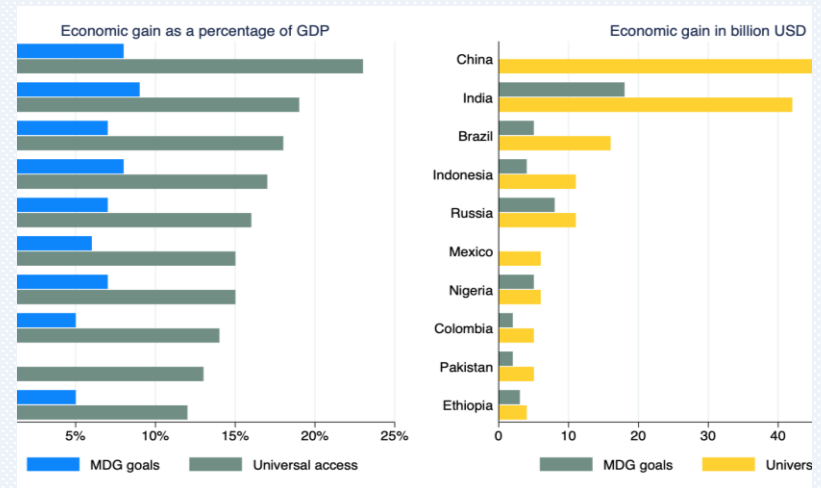
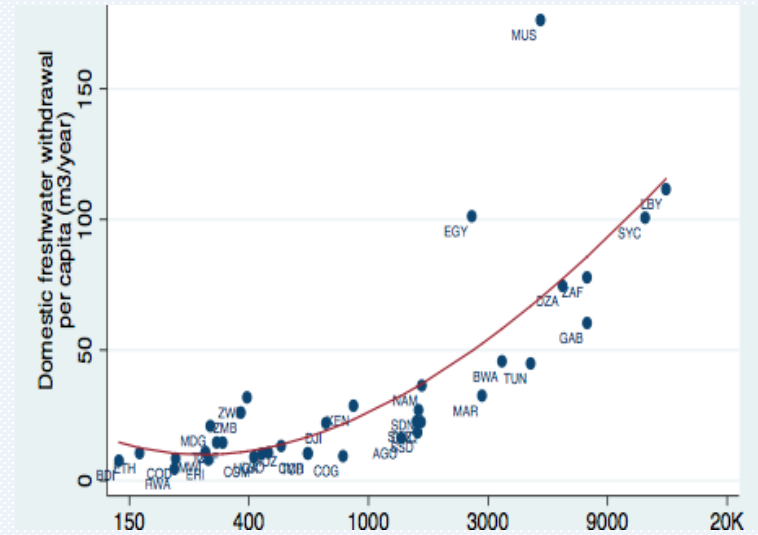
Water and Education (SDG 4)

- **Basic water and sanitation facilities with regular maintenance as part of its recurrent budget and Hygiene should be (re)introduced**
- **Building Code and regular inspection of schools**
- **Rainwater harvesting facilities must be integrated wherever possible**



Water, Economic Growth and Decent Jobs (SDG 8)

- *Allocate adequate investment in water resource development and efficient use in their national development plans.*
- Economic Growth and transformation of raw agricultural products requires good quality, sufficient and accessible water and Hydropower



Water and Reduced Inequality (SDG 10)

4a. In Africa, Gender Inequality in the provision of sanitation services contributes to Income Inequality and Spatial inequality in provision of water services amplifies this. **There is strong need to empower women and their engagement in the decision making, management and use of water resources.**

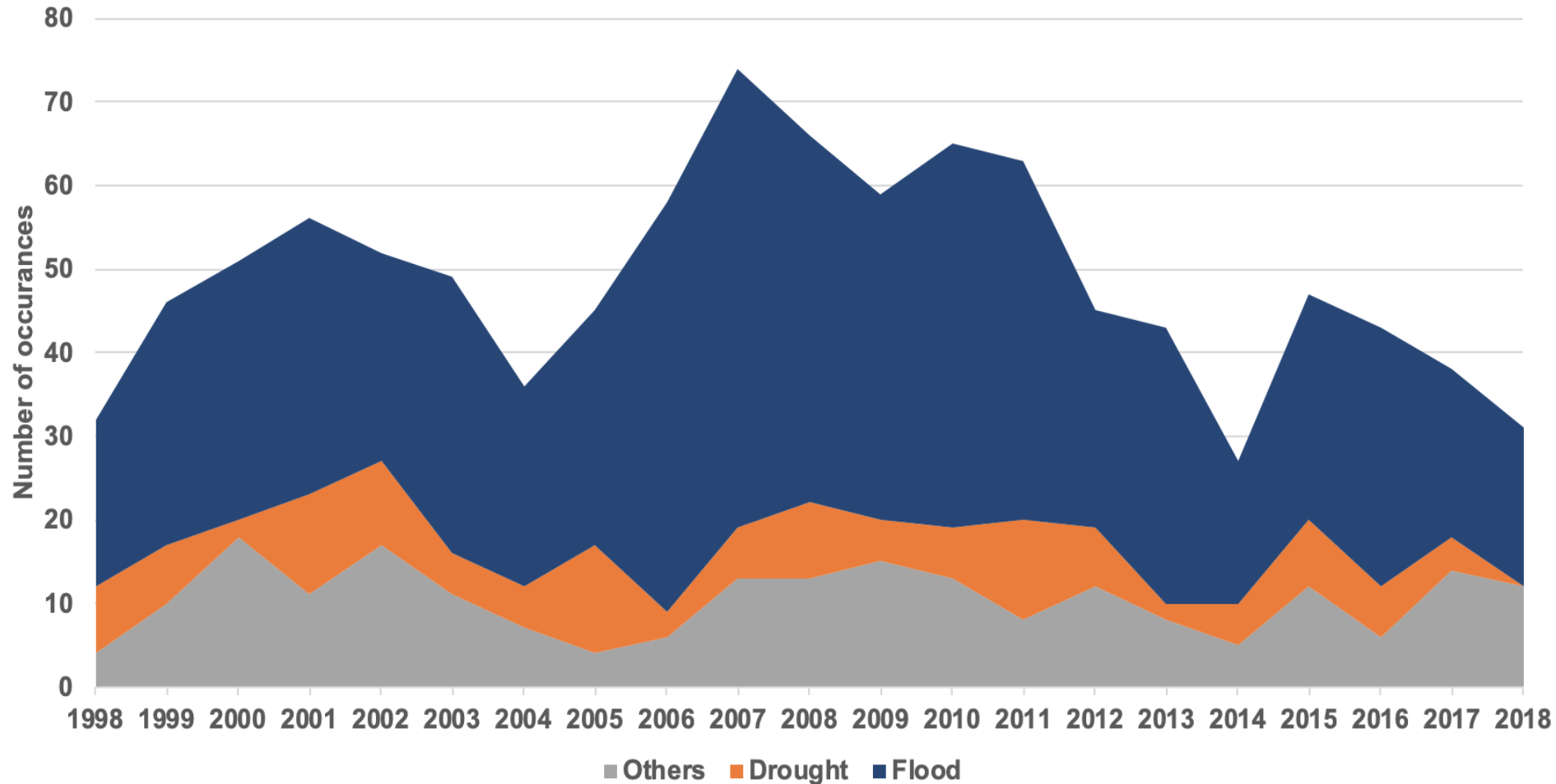
4b.12 Need to distinguish between different populations and design specific actions to address each of them. **Disaggregated data are key tools in determining which groups are at greatest risk of being ‘left behind’, and why.**

Water , Climate Change and its Impacts (SDG 13)

5a. In Africa, Climate Change Impacts are manifested through water (floods and droughts). **Water storage infrastructure and Early warning systems must be prioritized**

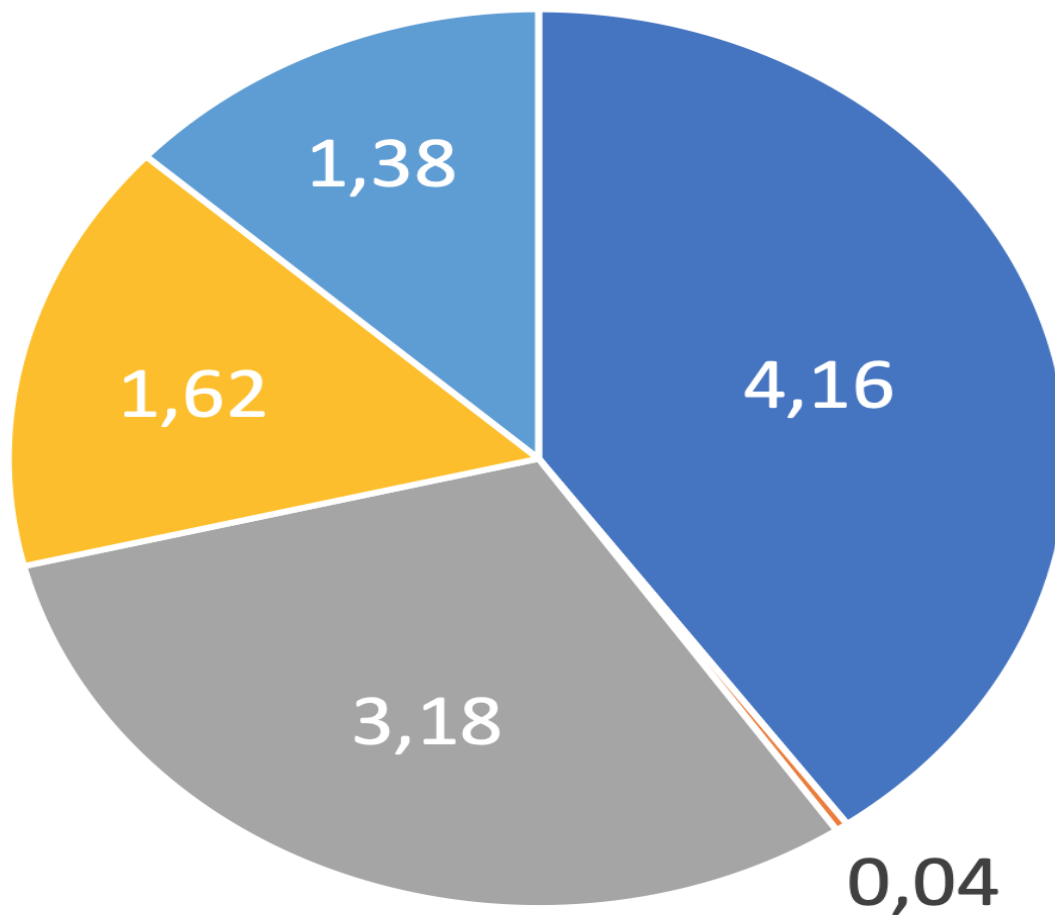
5b. African governments and their relevant institutions/partners must **invest more human and financial resources in data gathering and analysis on the human and economic losses** from disasters (especially floods and droughts).

Number of climate-related disasters by major category per year from 1998-2018





Total reported economic losses due to flooding in SSA for 1998-2018 in Billion USD



■ Eastern Africa ■ Central Africa ■ North Africa ■ Southern Africa ■ Western Africa

Water for Peace , Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16)

In Africa, Governments must **utilize water as an instrument of regional economic and social integration** in which access to **water as a human right** is affirmed and supported by strong institutions to assure peace and sustained development.



Water for Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16)

Water and Peace

- 55 countries with some 63 transboundary river basins and 72 Transboundary Aquifers (TBAs), the potential for conflicts is high
- competition between herders and farmers, ethnic conflict over land and water resources

Water and Justice

- African countries have adopted the principle that access to water and sanitation is a Human Right
- Only exceptions being South Africa. and Kenya have implemented

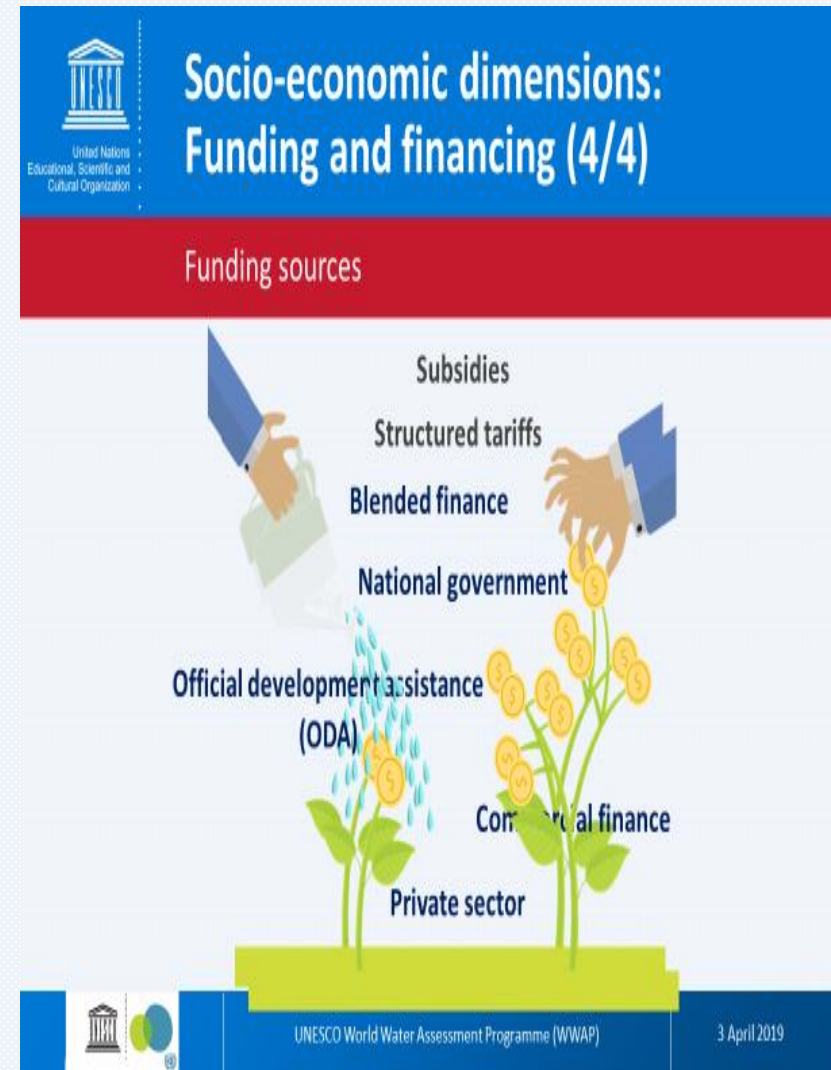
Water for Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16)

Water and Strong Institutions

- Africa has made significant progress since 2004 , the **African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW)** was established and all the sub-Regional Economic Communities (RECs) **have established or strengthened their Water Units**

Water and Means of Implementation (SDG 17)

- mobilize **new domestic sources** of funding and **improve the efficiency** in the use of existing funds.
- make water and sanitation investments **more attractive for (domestic and foreign) private sector financing**
- increase **the use of technology for data acquisition**, monitoring and accountability





Key Conclusions

- 1. Achieving SDG 6 on Water has positive impacts on all the other SDGs under Review. Investing in Water infrastructure and Systems enables the achievement of the other SDGs.**
- 2. No School must be established without sustainable Water and Sanitation Facilities and Hygiene education must be made compulsory in Schools.**



Key Conclusions

- 3. In Africa, Governments and their partner stakeholders must utilize water as an instrument of regional economic and social integration in which access to water as a human right.**
- 4. More human and financial resources in data gathering and analysis on the human and economic losses from disasters (especially floods and droughts) to support evidence based planning and budgeting..**