

# Bimonthly Publications Review

Produced by the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC), this review brings you every two months the latest publications produced by United Nations agencies and programmes on issues related to water and sanitation. Publications presented here in alphabetical order are freely accessible from the web.

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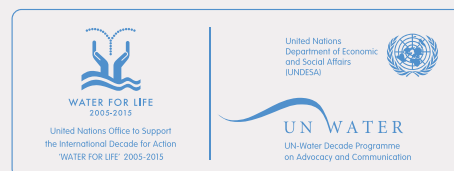
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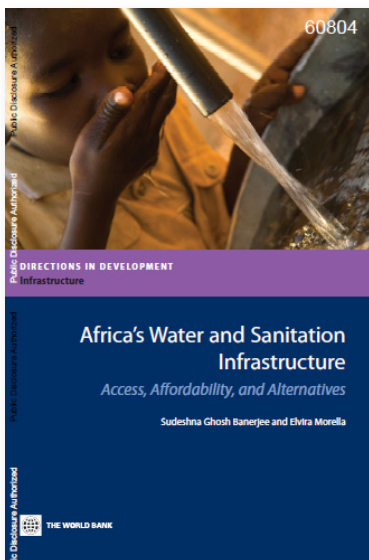
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A Decade for Water, a Decade for Life

United Nations Office to Support  
the International Decade for Action  
'Water for Life' 2005-2015

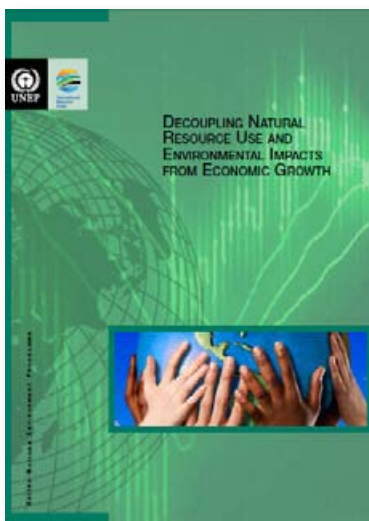


Latest publications



**Africa's Water and Sanitation Infrastructure. Access, Affordability and Alternatives**  
**International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), World Bank. January 2011**  
<http://bit.ly/fbiGPZ>

This publication integrates a wealth of primary and secondary information to present a quantitative snapshot of the state of the water supply and sanitation (WSS) sectors in Africa. It explains the sectoral institutional structures and utility performance and articulates the volume and quality of financing available over time. The authors also evaluate the challenges to the WSS sectors and explore the factors that govern the expansion of coverage over time. Finally, the authors estimate spending needs for WSS, arriving at a funding gap for meeting the MDGs. The proposed directions for the future draw on lessons learned from best practices and present the menu of choices available to African countries, bearing in mind that the challenges differ to a significant extent among countries and solutions must be tailored to national or regional conditions.



**Decoupling natural resource use and environmental impacts from economic growth. A Report of the Working Group on Decoupling to the International Resource Panel**  
**United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). May 2011**  
<http://bit.ly/iBFpCh>

This report presents basic facts and figures on natural resource flows worldwide. Drawing on these data, the report attempts to outline the issues that now need to be addressed to decouple these material and energy flows from social and economic progress. The objective of this study is to provide a foundation for the concept of decoupling, defining key terms and concepts and indicating its many applications to resource management. It assesses whether decoupling is already taking place, and identifies the driving factors, both technological and economic. This report aims to also provide some indications of the kinds of policy measures and considerations that may be needed to stimulate decoupling. Four country studies embedded in the report show that consumption of natural resources such as water is still rising rapidly. The case of South Africa specifically analyzes the water and sanitation sector.



**Five Feet High and Rising. Cities and Flooding in the 21st Century**  
**World Bank. May 2011**  
<http://bit.ly/iG8EP7>

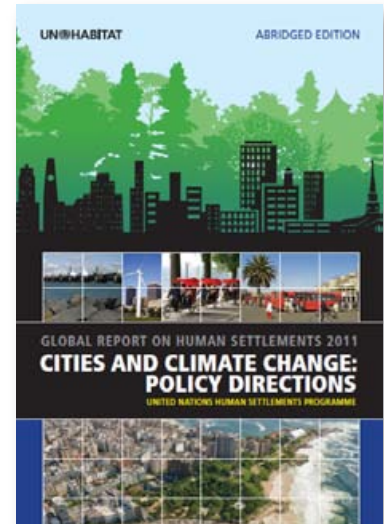
This policy research working paper focuses on floods in urban areas. The first part of the report provides an analysis of trends in reported water-related disasters, particularly of floods and its consequences (numbers affected, damages, and losses). The second part of the report analyses the causes of increased impacts and makes some suggestions of what can be done for risk reduction. A list of devastating floods over the last decade and a list of floods with the highest mortality rates are also provided.

### Global Report on Human Settlements 2011. Cities and climate change: policy directions. Abridged edition

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). May 2011

<http://bit.ly/kN6dtO>

This report reviews the linkages between urbanization and climate change. It illustrates the significant contribution of urban areas to climate change while at the same time highlighting the potentially devastating effects of climate change on urban populations. It reviews policy responses, strategies and practices that are emerging in urban areas to mitigate and adapt to climate change, as well as their potential achievements and constraints. Challenges for water supply and sanitation are described, including an analysis of how climate change may affect sanitation systems and water supply, quality and treatment in cities.

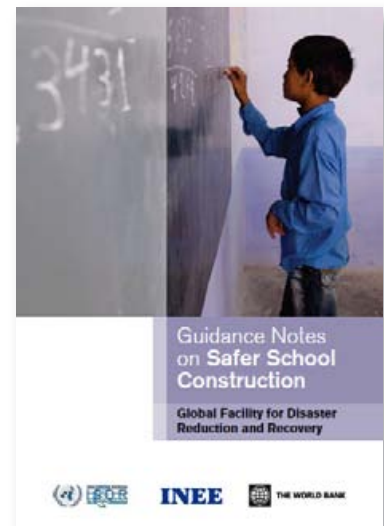


### Guidance Notes on Safer School Construction

Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE), Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) of the World Bank, United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). 2011

<http://bit.ly/gqv2jy>

These guidance notes are intended to be used by policymakers and planners of local, regional and national government bodies and all other organizations interested or engaged in enhancing the safety of school populations through improved hazard resistant construction and retrofitting of schools buildings. They can be used to guide discussion, planning and design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of school construction. The document addresses different types of hazards, including floods. It focuses only on hazards that pose a threat to school structures and hazards for which measures can be taken to help prevent a disaster. The document does not address human-induced nor health or hygiene-related hazards.



### Handwashing with Soap – Two Paths to National Scale Programs. Lessons from the Field: Vietnam and Indonesia

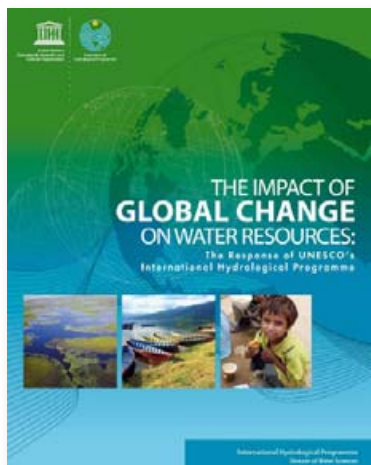
World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). May 2011

<http://bit.ly/l6VY8V>

This document summarizes challenges and lessons learned from two WSP Southeast Asian programs: the Handwashing Initiative (HWI) in Vietnam, and the Public-Private Partnership for Handwashing with Soap (PPP-HWWS) in Indonesia. The program in Vietnam has concentrated on first gaining an understanding on how people actually behave and then determining how to change that behaviour, while the program in Indonesia leverages the reach of the private sector and other partners to scale up handwashing initiatives that were previously researched and already underway. This document is most useful for: Practitioners who see the need or potential for a national scale handwashing with soap promotion program; Governments, and practitioners such as NGOs, who want to add a hygiene component to a new or existing water and sanitation program; and Organizations who are interested in examining public-private.



Latest publications



**(The) impact of global change on water resources: The Response of UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme**

**United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). May 2011**  
<http://bit.ly/jGsQTQ>

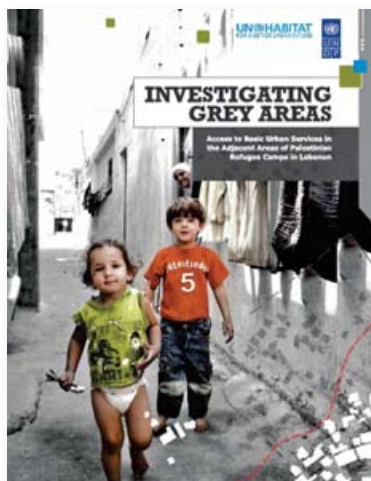
This document provides a brief overview of the likely effects of global change (population growth, climate change, urbanization, expansion of infrastructure, migration, land conversion and pollution) on water resources and the UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme's response to these challenges.



**International Waters: Review of Legal and Institutional Frameworks**

**United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/Global Environment Facility (GEF), University of British Columbia (UBC). April 2011**  
<http://bit.ly/fk5JXP>

This report discusses the legal and institutional frameworks that apply to twenty-eight international water bodies that were identified as part of the UNDP/GEF project on "Good Practices and Portfolio Learning in GEF Transboundary Freshwater and Marine Legal and Institutional Frameworks". The analysis in this report is organized by a common set of eighteen criteria and is intended to provide information that can be used to support further research and analysis, with the ultimate goal of identifying a set of common elements of good governance for transboundary freshwater and marine water bodies as well as groundwater systems. The report identifies and explains the eighteen criteria that are used to describe the legal and institutional frameworks of each of the water bodies discussed and provides a detailed discussion of the legal and institutional frameworks for each water body identified, organized by global region.



**Investigating Grey Areas: Access to Basic Urban Services in the Adjacent Areas of Palestinian Refugee Camps in Lebanon**

**United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). March 2011**  
<http://bit.ly/eJH6nS>

This report presents results of a research on access to basic urban services in the Adjacent Areas of Palestinian Refugee Camps in Lebanon. The basic urban services covered are in the sectors of: 1) Water Provision; 2) Sewerage; 3) Solid Waste Management; 4) Electricity; and 5) Road Networks. The research looks at access to basic urban services from a governance perspective, focusing on dwellers' strategies and mechanisms; their web of relationships with other public and private stakeholders; and the role played by each stakeholder. It also presents a rapid assessment of the state of basic urban services in the Adjacent Areas and investigates the connections of these services to those in the adjacent camps and the surrounding towns and villages.



**Long Term Sustainability of Improved Sanitation in Rural Bangladesh**  
**World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). April 2011**

<http://bit.ly/hTm5Gi>

This research brief summarizes some of the key findings and main lessons extracted from the Bangladesh experience with the Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach. The document also provides some insights for future programming which includes considerations for governments and sector professionals to sustain sanitation programming and behaviour change at scale.

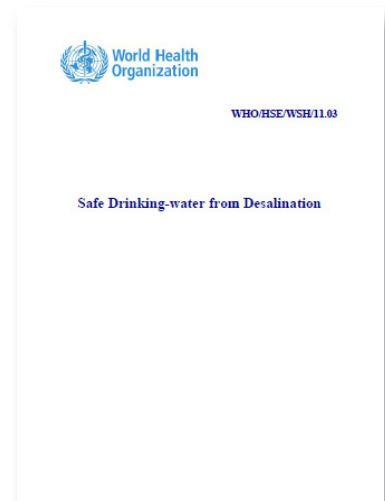


**Safe drinking-water from desalination**

**World Health Organization (WHO). April 2011**

<http://bit.ly/jcYhSL>

This document aims to highlight the principal health risks related to different desalination processes and provide guidance on appropriate risk assessment and risk management procedures in order to ensure the safety of desalinated drinking-water. The document introduces the concept of water safety plans (WSPs) for desalination systems, provides an overview of potential hazards in source water and describes microbial and chemical risks and other key issues associated with treatment, remineralization, storage and distribution. The document will be of use to health authorities, water quality regulators, operators of desalination plants and others interested in water quality and health issues.

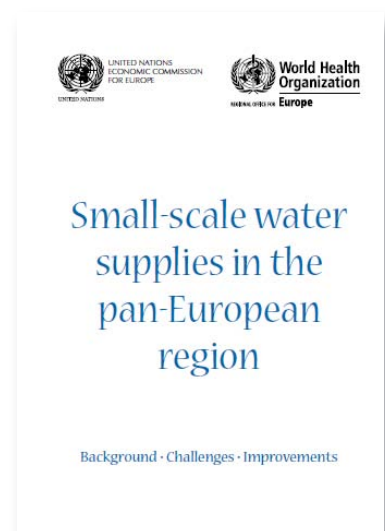


**Small-scale water supplies in the pan-European region. Background, Challenges, Improvements**

**World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe. April 2011**

<http://bit.ly/eCOAwT>

This document is intended for supporting decision-makers, such as policy-makers or regulators in the drinking-water sector, to appreciate better and address the particularities and characteristics of small-scale water supplies. It provides a range of background information, case studies and lessons learned, and gives ideas for addressing issues relating to small-scale water supplies in national programmes. Additionally, information on further reading as well as current international networking activities with respect to small-scale water supplies is provided.

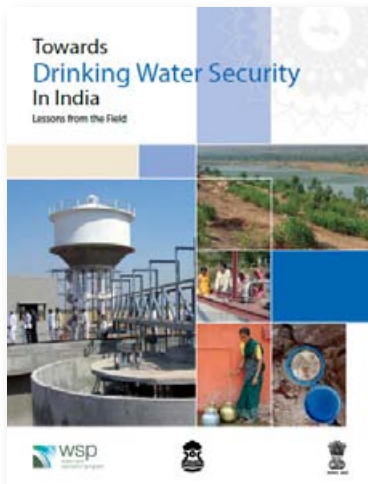


Latest publications



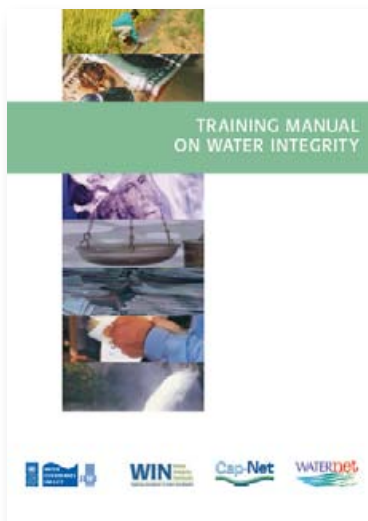
**Summary Findings from the Impact Evaluation Baseline Survey in Vietnam**  
**World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). April 2011**  
<http://bit.ly/fnHXXM>

The WSP Global Scaling Up Handwashing Project has been implemented in 540 Vietnamese communes across 56 districts in 10 provinces. This research brief summarizes the main findings of the baseline survey in Vietnam and provides a snapshot of baseline characteristics of the target population of the impact evaluation in regards to mother's and other caretaker's handwashing behaviour, presence of handwashing facilities and key child health and development indicators.



**Towards Drinking Water Security in India. Lessons from the Field**  
**World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP), Ministry of Rural Development of India. January 2011**  
<http://bit.ly/haNvEW>

This document presents a compendium of rural water good practices from India which have improved drinking-water security. The document introduces successful experiences in different domains, including the following: Practices which have contributed to an improved water supply service; Multi-village scheme innovations; Practices which have improved water quality; Practices which have improved water sources sustainability; Practices related to wastewater management; Experiences in communication; and, State level reforms.



**Training manual on water integrity**  
**United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Water Governance Facility, Water Integrity Network (WIN), Cap-Net, WaterNet. April 2011**  
<http://bit.ly/mmHZUu>

This training manual is developed to assist capacity builders in developing training and educational programmes on water integrity and how it can be promoted and worked with in more practical ways. The primary objectives of the training are to provide: (1) Conceptual grounding in the area of integrity, accountability and anti-corruption in water, its drivers and impacts on water as well as on poverty reduction and sustainable development; (2) An overview of tools and methodologies to promote water integrity, transparency and accountability and their applicability in various contexts; (3) Examples of good practices relating to the promotion of integrity, transparency, accountability and anti-corruption in water. The target groups are primarily water managers, capacity builders, regulators and other water decision-makers. The thematic focus is on integrity, accountability and anti-corruption applicability to water resources management and development mainly through: Water allocation and distribution; Water supply and sanitation services and other water uses; Water infrastructure and procurement processes.

### 2011 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction: Revealing Risk, Redefining Development

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). May 2011

<http://bit.ly/jrjXH4>

The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the UN Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction explores trends in disaster risk for each region and for countries with different socio-economic development. The report also includes country self-assessments of progress towards the Hyogo Framework for Action (Chapter 4) and offers guidance and suggestions to governments and non-governmental actors alike on how they can, together, reduce disaster risks. The report covers water-related risks, mainly floods and drought, and includes a specific focus on drought risk. In particular, the report points to the adoption of standards for measuring drought risk to improve its identification and management.

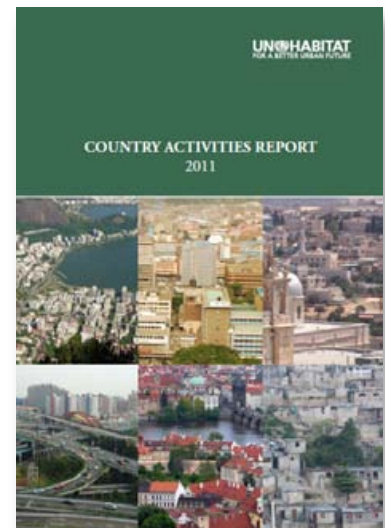


### UN-Habitat Country Activities Report 2011

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). April 2011

<http://bit.ly/gGxtjy>

This report presents UN-Habitat's activities at global, inter-regional and national level. The report includes short summaries of each activity, the total project or programme cost, partner institutions, background, objectives, activities and results. Activities and results from water and sanitation programmes are presented, including the following programmes: the Water for Asian Cities Programme, the Mekong Region Water and Sanitation Programme (MEK-WATSAN), the Water and Sanitation for Cities in the Latin American and the Caribbean Regions Programme (WATSAN-LAC), the Water for African Cities Programme (WAC) and the Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative (LV WATSAN). Activities and results at national level are also described, including water and sanitation-related projects implemented in Ecuador, Kenya, Mexico, Mozambique, Egypt, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

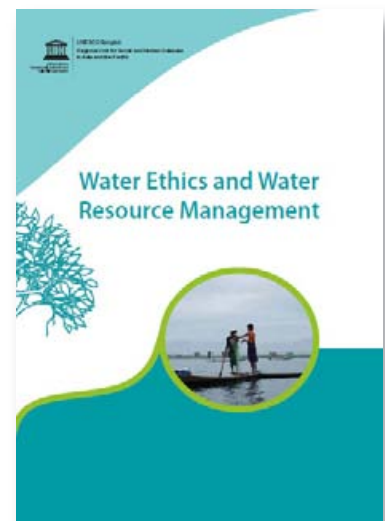


### Water Ethics and Water Resource Management

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Office Bangkok. 2011

<http://bit.ly/iSk9va>

This report examines ethical issues associated with water resource utilization and management, including its uses in energy and other domains. The report, prepared under the "Ethics and Climate Change in Asia and the Pacific" (ECCAP) project, presents different case studies highlighting different ethical issues associated with water resource utilization and management. The report systematically discusses how water ethics can make a difference to water related practices and provides a cross-cultural review of the issues. Policy options are discussed with some examples, that are further explored in the appendices which include four case studies conducted by the members of the working group from perspectives of different fields, and they illustrate both theory and practical application of the ideas in the report more concretely. These include: The Need for a More Efficient Aquaculture Industry; Computer-Aided, Community-Based Water Planning: Gila-San Francisco Decision Support Tool; The South-to-North Water Diversion Project in China; A Review on Chinese Water Ethics. The report reveals gaps in existing knowledge to researchers, policy makers and funders of research, which could be used to examine linkages between research and policy making, and presents areas of policy options to governments.



## Latest publications



### World Health Statistics 2011

World Health Organization (WHO). May 2011

<http://bit.ly/ij4q6q>

World Health Statistics 2011 contains WHO's annual compilation of health-related data for its 193 Member States, and includes a summary of the progress made towards achieving the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and associated targets. Information on indicators for certain risk factors that are associated with mortality and morbidity rates are included; these risk factors include unsafe water supplies and inadequate levels of sanitation, which increase the transmission of diarrhoeal diseases (including cholera), schistosomiasis, trachoma and hepatitis.

You can access the latest publications on water and sanitation from UN agencies and programmes at:

[www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/unpublications.html](http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/unpublications.html)

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