

Bimonthly Publications Review

Produced by the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC), every two months this review brings you 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.

Issue 11, July 2012

www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/

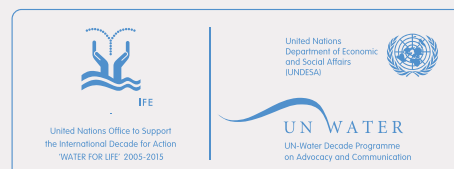
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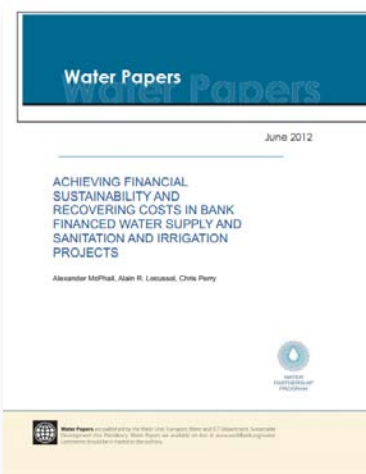
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A Decade for Water, a Decade for Life

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



Latest publications

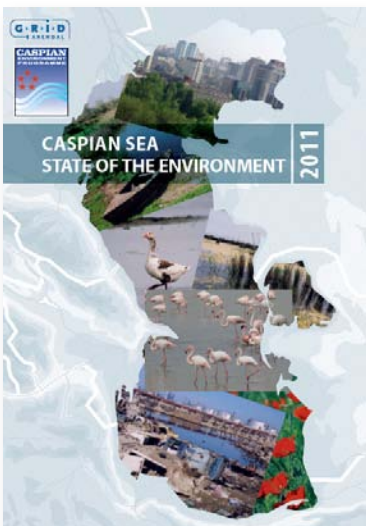


Achieving Financial Sustainability and Recovering Costs in Bank Financed Water Supply and Sanitation and Irrigation Projects

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), World Bank Water Partnership Program (WPP). June 2012

<http://bit.ly/OxtigW>

This preliminary background Note is divided into four parts: 1) A “history” of the call for financial sustainability and cost recovery, and the parallel documenting of the lack of progress; 2) An outline of options to be considered for achieving financial sustainability of Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) service providers and recovering WSS service costs through tariffs. 3) A discussion on what makes financial sustainability of irrigation projects different from WSS projects; and 4) A summary of recommendations to teams involved in the identification, preparation, appraisal and supervision of water projects and of practical measures and actions.



Caspian Sea. State of Environment 2011

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/GRID-Arendal. 2012

<http://bit.ly/NKlyYz>

The Caspian Sea, surrounded by five coastal countries - the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Turkmenistan - is the largest land-locked water body on Earth. This report summarizes the findings of different environmental assessments of the Caspian Sea and includes existing updated figures. It is based on the latest information on policy and legislative measures, institutional set-up, stakeholder engagement, future challenges and barriers to the improvement of the state of the environment in the region.



Climate change vulnerability and human mobility: Perspectives of refugees from the East and Horn of Africa

United Nations University-Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS). June 2012

<http://bit.ly/LLuyd>

This study seeks to examine the personal experiences of people who have become refugees or internally displaced persons in the East and Horn of Africa, and to better understand: 1) How they perceive and manage the impact of climatic change and increased environmental stress in their areas of origin; 2) The ways in which growing environmental stressors interact with other factors affecting their lives and livelihoods; 3) How, and to what extent, climatic and environmental change has contributed to their vulnerability or resilience; 4) If, how and to what extent climatic change and environmental impacts have played a role in their decisions to move away from their homelands.

With regards to water, perceptions of water availability and scarcity are analysed.

Fresh Water for the future. A synopsis of UNEP activities in water
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). June 2012

<http://bit.ly/LIE97U>

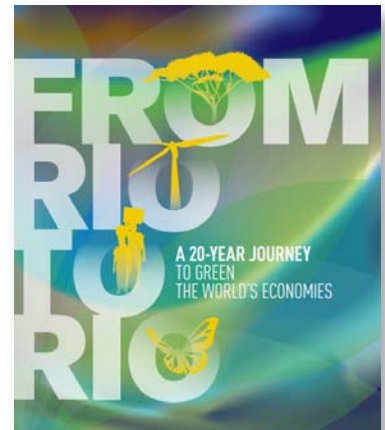
This booklet presents UNEP's comparative advantages and its catalytic role in influencing other partners and UN agencies in meeting global water challenges. It highlights a few of the organisation's achievements and success stories over time as well as contemporary water challenges for further considerations along with partners as part of the international agenda. The cases presented illustrate UNEP's work at the global, regional, national, catchment and sub-catchment levels. Themes covered include water quality, restoring ecosystems, coping with climate change and disaster, green economy and water governance.



From Rio to Rio. A 20-year Journey to Green the World's Economies
Global Environmental Facility (GEF). June 2012

<http://bit.ly/NZXjKq>

This book provides a succinct narrative and analysis of the 20 year history of GEF projects. While the Rio +20 conference provided the initial rationale for the book, it is intended to have lasting value for anyone interested in issues about the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, or about the institutional framework for sustainable development. The book also draws on the tangible experience of GEF projects in the field and offers compelling and pertinent stories that demonstrate the GEF's accomplishments, evolution, and future challenges. It consists of an analysis of 20 select projects that illustrate the key lessons emerging from the 20 years of work by the GEF, plus an introductory overview and conclusion. Analysed water-related projects include, among others, the Congo Basin, the Danube Basin and the Bagmati River.

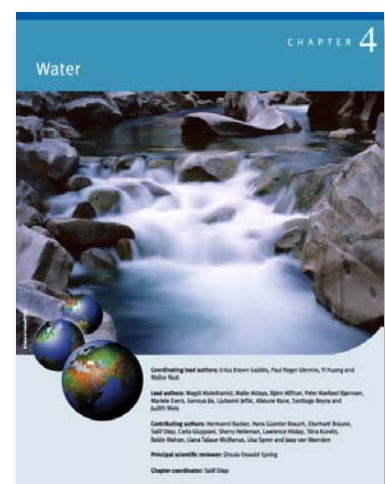


GEO5 Global Environment Outlook 5. Chapter 4 Water
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). June 2012

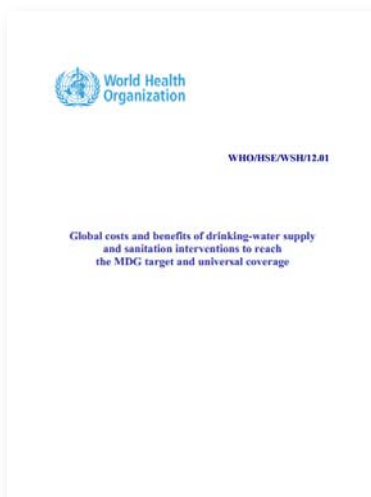
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The GEO Reports analyze environmental states and trends at the global and regional scales, describe plausible outlooks for various time frames and formulate policy options.

The GEO-5 Water Chapter assesses progress towards achieving water-related goals in major multilateral environmental agreements identified by the GEO-5 High-Level Intergovernmental Advisory Panel and regional consultations and highlights a series of messages. The chapter focuses on the state, trends and impacts of the water environment, with references to drivers (Part 1) and responses (Parts 2 and 3), and other environmental sectors (Parts 2, 3, 5 and 6) where appropriate.



Latest publications

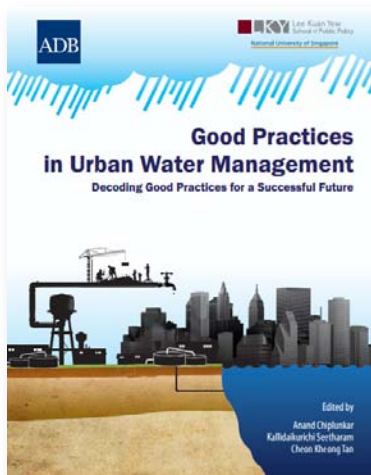


Global costs and benefits of drinking-water supply and sanitation interventions to reach the MDG target and universal coverage

World Health Organization (WHO). May 2012

<http://bit.ly/LUKJfg>

This study aims to estimate global, regional and country-level costs and benefits of drinking-water supply and sanitation interventions to meet the MDG target in 2015, and to attain universal coverage. The report updates previous economic analyses conducted by the World Health Organization, using new Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) coverage rates, costs of services, income levels and health indicators. Benefit-cost ratios (BCR) and costs are estimated to meet the MDG drinking water and sanitation target and to attain universal access of basic services. Rural and urban areas are analysed as separate.

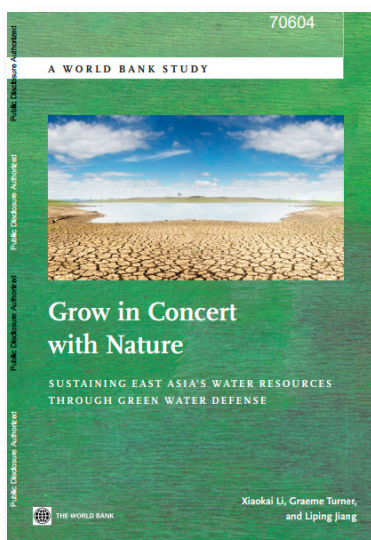


Good Practices in Urban Water Management: Decoding Good Practices for a Successful Future

Asian Development Bank (ADB), National University of Singapore. July 2012

<http://bit.ly/Oul892>

This report presents case studies on successful Asian water utilities. The case studies provide objective, accurate, and critical analyses of urban water management practices in eight Asian cities (Bangkok, Colombo, Jamshedpur, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Phnom Penh, Shenzhen and Singapore) over a 10-year period.



Grow in Concert with Nature. Sustaining East Asia's Water Resources through Green Water Defense

World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). June 2012

<http://bit.ly/MkCB4V>

This study assesses advances in management practices, institutional and technological innovations for managing water scarcity sustainably under a changing climate. The report has the following specific objectives, reflected in the structure of the report: 1) To provide a brief overview of the status of water resources in East Asia, including the diversity of climates, the extent of physical water scarcity and potential changing climate impacts; 2) To summarize major management measures being implemented in selected countries where water is, or has the potential to become scarce, and how they fit in the green water defense concept; 3) To document key lessons learned from best practices in managing scarce water resources from experiences in the country case studies; and 4) To provide a roadmap for East Asian countries to apply the GWD approach in addressing water scarcity issues and improving water security.

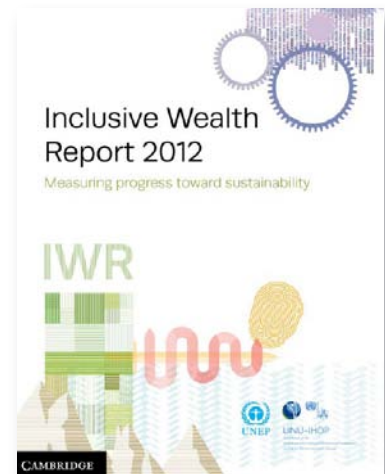
Inclusive Wealth Report 2012. Measuring progress toward sustainability

United Nations University-International Human Dimensions Programme (IHDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). June 2012

<http://bit.ly/LONURP>

This report presents a framework that offers a long-term perspective on human well-being and sustainability, based on a comprehensive analysis of nations' productive base and their link to economic development. The Inclusive Wealth Report (IWR) 2012 was developed on the notion that current economic production indicators such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the Human Development Index (HDI) are insufficient, as they fail to reflect the state of natural resources or ecological conditions, and focus exclusively on the short term, without indicating whether national policies are sustainable. The IWR 2012 features an index that measures the wealth of nations by looking into a country's capital assets, including manufactured, human and natural capital, and its corresponding values: the Inclusive Wealth Index (IWI).

Chapter 10 of the report deals with the issue 'Accounting for water: stocks, flows, and values' and describes some of the issues that arise in devising meaningful water accounts: first regarding the difficult distinction between stocks of water and flows; second, in reporting on water use. A brief history of water accounting is presented, focusing finally on the UN System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water (SEEA), and identifying the extent to which that framework helps understand the role of water in the national economy, and the limitations of physical water accounts – even when linked to economic accounts – as a basis for estimating water wealth.

**Indonesia Water Investment Roadmap 2011-2014**

World Bank Water Partnership Program (WPP), Indonesia Ministry of Public Works. June 2012

<http://bit.ly/KDdkVm>

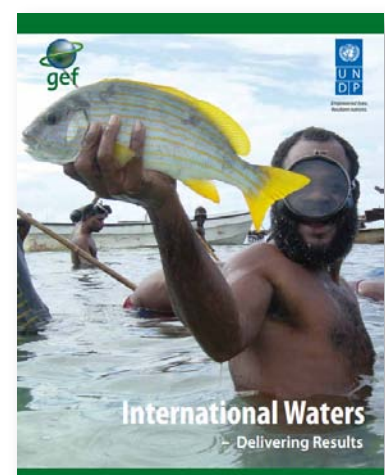
This roadmap provides a set of programming principles which encourage the water sector to attract local financing, use up idle water system capacity, and improve the existing monitoring and evaluation system. The document proposes Rp 7 trillion in sector financing, relying on myriad sources which include revolving funds, public-private partnerships, overseas funding sources and local investment. Key to the success of expanding and sustaining water supply will be to carry out technical assistance programs that improve the absorptive capacity of local service providers to adequately manage the influx of funds needed to achieve the government's target. The roadmap is expected to drive key local and national government decisions regarding water investments and regulation over the next three years.

**International Waters. Delivering Results**

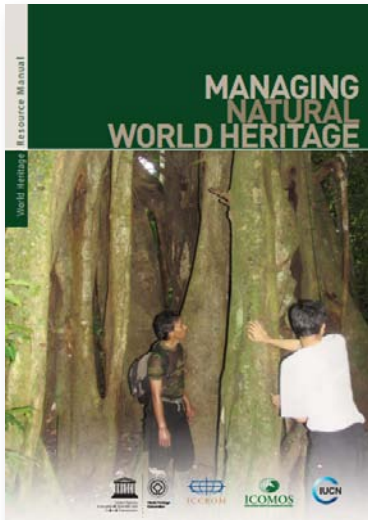
Global Environmental Facility (GEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). June 2012

<http://on.undp.org/M20LkB>

This publication highlights UNDP-GEF International Waters portfolio results achieved across four UNDP-GEF programmes: Large Marine Ecosystems; Transboundary Lakes, rivers and Aquifers; Integrated Water resources and Coastal Area Management; and Global Programmes. A series of project case studies review delivery of results in the context of the GEF International Waters focal area's Results Indicator's framework. The publication also includes an overview of cumulative results delivery across the entire UNDP-GEF International Waters portfolio since 1991.



Latest publications

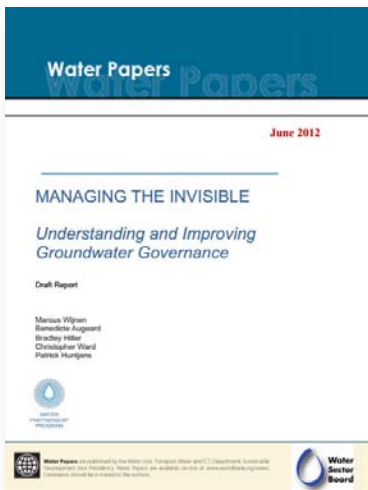


Managing Natural World Heritage

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). June 2012

<http://bit.ly/Na4hqB>

This resource manual aims at helping to manage natural values within World Heritage properties. The intention is to help managers understand and incorporate World Heritage concepts and processes into natural site management. Many of the management principles described will apply to any type of protected area, but here special emphasis is given to those management considerations most relevant to World Heritage status.



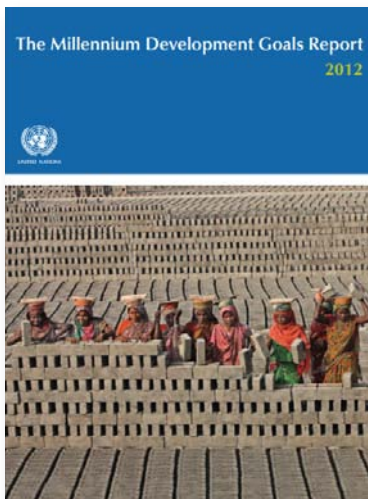
Managing the Invisible: Understanding and Improving Groundwater Governance

World Bank Water Partnership Program (WPP). June 2012

<http://bit.ly/OxDPsv>

The aim of this study is to analyze the impediments to better groundwater governance within a given political economy and to propose recommendations to address key governance issues. The report tries to answer the questions: Why has groundwater governance failed to stop the emergence of very serious threats to the resource? What are the impediments to improving groundwater governance? What are the options to overcome those impediments?

Implicit in the report approach is recognition of the importance of groundwater resources in promoting developing country adaptation to predicted climate changes. Overarching objectives also include addressing the general invisibility problem related to groundwater, as well as strengthening the ability of World Bank teams to undertake political economy and governance analyses related to groundwater (and thereby enhance the effectiveness of Bank operations in the water sector).



(The) Millennium Development Goals Report 2012

United Nations. July 2012

<http://bit.ly/LKXIEq>

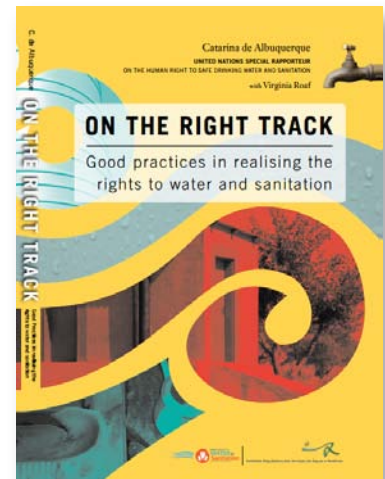
This annual report, coordinated by the Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, presents a global assessment of progress to date towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), based on data provided by a large number of international organizations within and outside the United Nations system. The aggregate figures in the report provide an overview of regional progress under the eight goals and are a convenient way to track advances over time. Water and sanitation are included in the chapter dedicated to Goal 7.

On the right track. Good practices in realising the rights to water and sanitation
UN Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation.
March 2012

<http://bit.ly/OyvUht>

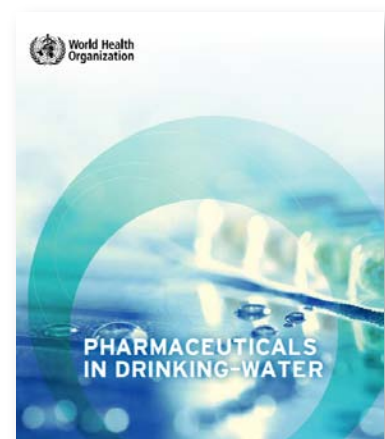
This compendium of good practices on the human right to water and sanitation provides discussion and analysis of existing practices, with the aim of inspiring policy and decision-makers, practitioners, activists and civil society in general to engage with the rights to water and sanitation and to assist in the difficult but crucial process of ensuring that everyone has access to safe drinking water and sanitation services for all basic daily personal and domestic purposes.

Practices have been organised into four main types, and the chapters are named accordingly. Chapter one examines State actions and the legal and institutional frameworks that promote the realisation of the rights to water and sanitation; international and national legislation and policies, such as constitutions, Water Acts and water and sanitation policies and programmes, and the regulatory institutional frameworks are presented in this chapter. Chapter two considers financing for the sector, and presents good practices for targeted budgeting and appropriate subsidies to ensure affordability of services for all, with a particular focus on the difficulties of securing sufficient funding for realising the right to sanitation. Chapter three looks at what non-State stakeholders are doing to promote and protect the rights to water and sanitation, and presents specific practices for the delivery of water and sanitation services to hard-to-reach areas, and for those groups that may be discriminated against. This chapter also presents practices that raise awareness about what the rights to water and sanitation can mean to civil society, particularly to those who do not have access to these rights. It also touches upon the responsibilities of non-State actors in the realisation of the rights to water and sanitation. Chapter four completes the picture by presenting practices that demonstrate how States and other actors can be held accountable through the monitoring of water and sanitation services, including water quality and affordability of services, by monitoring budgets and plans to check whether promises of funding are fulfilled and allocations are spent as intended, and through formal and informal adjudication processes such as court cases and the role of national human rights institutions. The concluding chapter discusses gaps in the practices, the areas where there continue to be problems in both understanding and implementing the rights, and attempts to look into the future to see where these practices may take us.

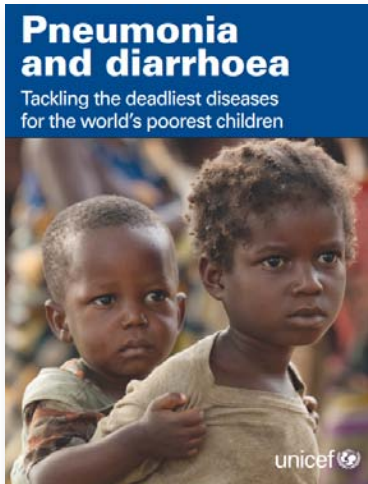


Pharmaceuticals in drinking water
World Health Organization (WHO). June 2012
<http://bit.ly/LIDm1p>

This technical report aims to provide practical guidance and recommendations in managing concerns over pharmaceuticals in drinking-water, taking into consideration the available scientific knowledge and evidence. It emphasizes the importance to prioritize this emerging issue in the overall context of water safety management, which includes microbial and other chemical risks that may threaten the safety of drinking-water.



Latest publications

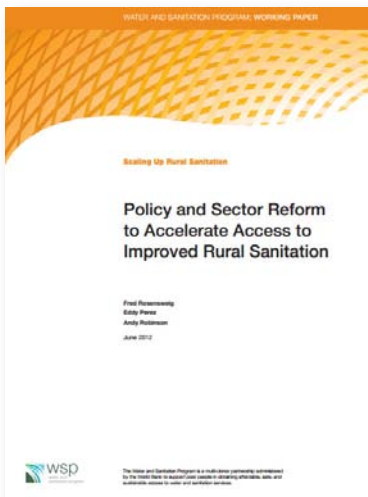


Pneumonia and diarrhoea. Tackling the deadliest diseases for the world's poorest children

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). June 2012

<http://uni.cf/LzL0E1>

This report focuses on the huge potential to narrow the child survival gap between the richest and the poorest by focusing on pneumonia and diarrhoea – the two primary killers of children under the age of five. Apart from identifying key prevention measures and treatment coverage needs, the report estimates children's lives saved by scaling up key interventions in an equitable way and presents an array of data showing progress and challenges over the past several decades.

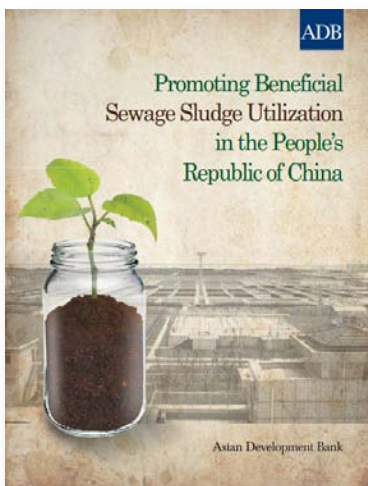


Policy and Sector Reform to Accelerate Access to Improved Rural Sanitation

World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). June 2012

<http://bit.ly/Le0WqK>

This document synthesizes key findings, conclusions, and recommendations from country specific endline assessment reports from India, Indonesia, and Tanzania to provide guidance and insight to other countries seeking to create large-scale sustainable rural sanitation programs.



Promoting Beneficial Sewage Sludge Utilization in the People's Republic of China

Asian Development Bank (ADB). April 2012

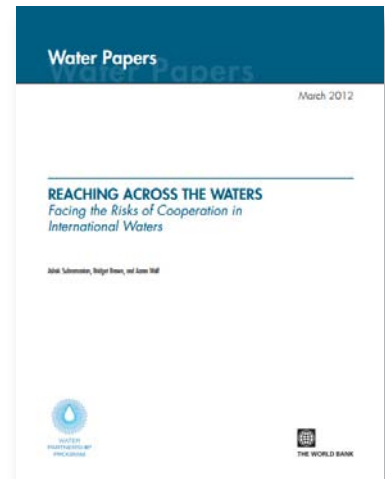
<http://bit.ly/LI87NZ>

This report examines best international practices in sludge management, analyzes the current situation in the People's Republic of China (PRC) relative to this best practice, and suggests a pathway for the PRC to modernize its approach to sludge management. In particular, it highlights the trend towards viewing sludge as a resource with opportunities for beneficial use that result in considerable environmental and energy-saving benefits.

Reaching across the waters. Facing the Risks of Cooperation in International Waters
World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). March 2012

<http://bit.ly/NVQIQ8>

This study reviews the experience of cooperation in five international river basins, focusing on the perceptions of risks and opportunities by decision makers in countries responding to a specific prospect of cooperation. For each basin, the analysis is centered on “tipping points,” or periods in time when policymakers in the countries involved were faced with a critical decision concerning water cooperation. The use of historical events was used in order to help avoid the risk that the analyses would impact current negotiations or controversies. River basins selected for the analysis were: Eastern Nile, Ganges, Niger, Syr Darya, and Zambezi.

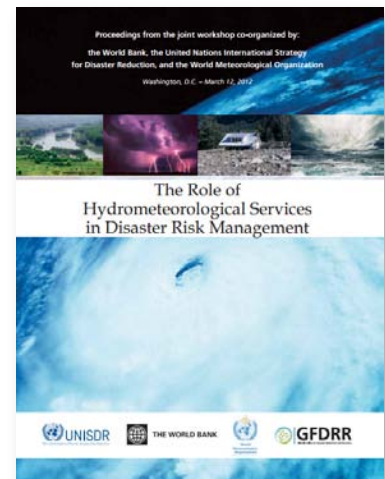


(The) Role of Hydrometeorological Services in Disaster Risk Management

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

<http://bit.ly/Mi3B3m>

This publication presents the proceedings from the joint workshop co-organized by the World Bank, GFDRR, UNISDR and WMO in Washington, D.C. on March 12, 2012. The purpose of the workshop was to share best practices and experience in innovative and state-of-the-art hydrometeorological services and their use in disaster risk reduction mechanisms that are effectively protecting lives, livelihood, and assets. The first part of the workshop focused on best practices in hydro and weather hazard monitoring and early warning for extreme events. The second part focused on investments strengthening weather and climate services for better disaster risk management that are being undertaken by countries with World Bank support.

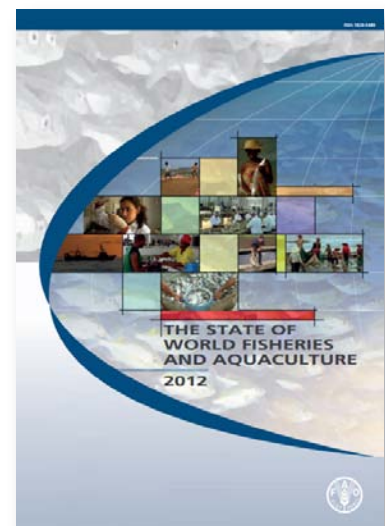


(The) State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2012

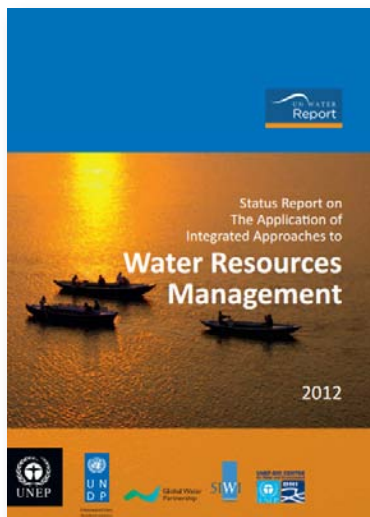
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). July 2012

<http://bit.ly/Nmnuck>

The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2012 presents a world review of fisheries, aquaculture (including freshwater aquaculture) and related issues. It provides trends and statistics, highlights issues debated worldwide and profiles future scenarios.



Latest publications



Status Report on the application of integrated approaches to water resources management 2012

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UN-Water. June 2012

<http://bit.ly/LzjuDU>

Based on a global survey assessing the progress and outcomes of the application of integrated approaches to the development, management and use of water resources, this UN-Water report includes lessons learned and recommendations, as well as focus areas for action. The report also provides guidance for establishing a regular international monitoring and reporting framework to promote sustainable development and management of water resources.



Water Hackaton. Lessons Learned

World Bank. May 2012

<http://bit.ly/M2zSw5>

In October 2011, the World Bank, the Water Partnership Program, the Water and Sanitation Program, and partners convened the Water Hackaton – a simultaneous staging of 10 hackathon events globally – to raise awareness of 1) water problems among the technology community and 2) Information and Communication Technologies solutions among water experts. The Water Hackathon sought to highlight the development role of ICT applications in water management, service delivery, ensuring transparency and driving citizen participation. This report summarizes project outputs, benefits and main lessons learned from this initiative.



What Does It Take to Scale Up Rural Sanitation?

World Bank WSP. July 2012

<http://bit.ly/NfXehN>

This Working Paper synthesizes the work of the WSP in operationalizing sustainable rural sanitation and shares lessons learned. Key components are introduced and illustrated with examples from the field: Chapter I. 'Overview' shares the sector context that shaped WSP's approach to rural sanitation; the status of rural sanitation in countries where the program was initially implemented; and introduces the programmatic and operational approaches that have been tested at scale; Chapter II. 'Programmatic Approaches to Create Demand, Change Behaviours, and Increase Supply' offers an overview to programmatic approaches that have been combined and tested to create demand, change behaviours, and improve supply chains: Community-Led Total Sanitation, Behaviour Change Communication, and Sanitation Marketing. Sections introduce the basic methodology for these approaches, illustrated by examples from fieldwork; Chapter III. 'Operationalizing the Programmatic Approach for Service Delivery at Scale' looks at the roles of national and local government and the local private sector, and discusses strategies to strengthen the enabling environment and build capacity to achieve and sustain improvements in rural sanitation; Chapter IV. 'From Learning to Knowledge to Action' highlights some of the strategies that were used to generate, disseminate, and apply evidence-based learning, and key lessons to date; Chapter V. 'Conclusion' reflects back and looks ahead to next-generation learning questions.

You can keep abreast of the latest UN publications on water and sanitation on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/undcws>

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