

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.

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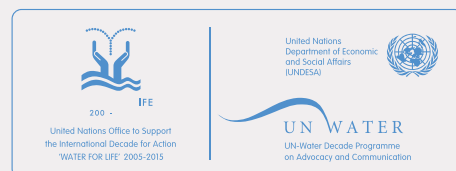
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A Decade for Water, a Decade for Life

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



Latest publications



Assessing International Funding for Climate Change Adaptation. A Guidebook for Developing Countries

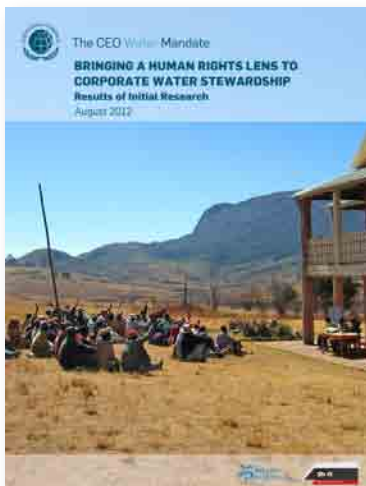
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). August 2012

<http://bit.ly/NjTlpN>

This guidebook is intended to be a starting point for developing country governments, planners, and stakeholders who are carrying out technology needs assessment (TNAs) and technology action plans (TAPs) for adaptation to climate change. The guidebook reviews options for international financing of adaptation activities and projects in developing countries. It examines both public and private sources of funding and presents the most important technical criteria and concepts used by public donors and private financiers in evaluating proposals.

The guidebook provides a number of concrete tools and recommendations that will help TNA countries identify and access funding to implement their TAPs, such as:

- (1) An overview of international public funding sources dedicated to adaptation investments;
- (2) Seven fundamental eligibility criteria for accessing international public funding and guidance on how to apply these concepts to project ideas;
- (3) A template for developing/presenting adaptation project ideas to international donors;
- (4) An overview of critical concepts and requirements for accessing private financing for adaptation and a number of instructive case studies.



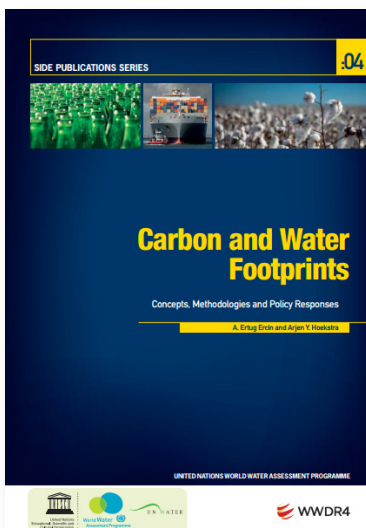
Bringing a Human Rights Lens to Corporate Water Stewardship: Results of Initial Research

United Nations Global Compact, Pacific Institute. August 2012

<http://bit.ly/OCQQ5x>

This publication summarizes initial research to understand and elucidate international and national legal trends relate to the human right to water and sanitation (HRWS), illustrating some of the current challenges businesses face in respecting this right, as well as the perspectives of potentially-affected communities, and lastly identifying areas of potential synergy with companies' existing water stewardship efforts.

The report is divided into 7 sections. Section A introduces the report. Section B outlines key developments in the broader business and human rights field, focused on the endorsement of the UN Guiding Principles. Section C summarizes recent legal and policy developments relating specifically to the HRWS at the international and national levels. Section D draws on significant research in identifying some of the current expectations of stakeholders regarding business-related impacts on water. Section E discusses a number of cases relating to corporate respect for the HRWS drawing on actual corporate practice. Section F discusses some areas of potential difference, and also synergy, between the UN Guiding Principles and current corporate water stewardship practices. Finally, Section G concludes with possible areas for examination during the project's second phase.



Carbon and Water Footprints: Concepts, Methodologies and Policy Responses

United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). 2012

<http://bit.ly/PYTLpk>

There is a tendency among practitioners to treat carbon and water footprints in a similar way. But water is not carbon, and although the two footprints have similarities, they differ in important ways and each tells its own story about pressure on the planet.

In this context, *Carbon and Water Footprints* first analyses the origins of the carbon and water footprints. It makes a detailed exploration of the similarities and differences of aspects such as definition, methods of measurement, spatiotemporal dimensions, components, and entities for which the footprints can be calculated. Carbon and Water Footprints then discusses the two in terms of accounting and response strategies, investigating for example the setting of sustainable caps and targets for reduction, and the problematic rebound effect encountered with increasing efficiencies.

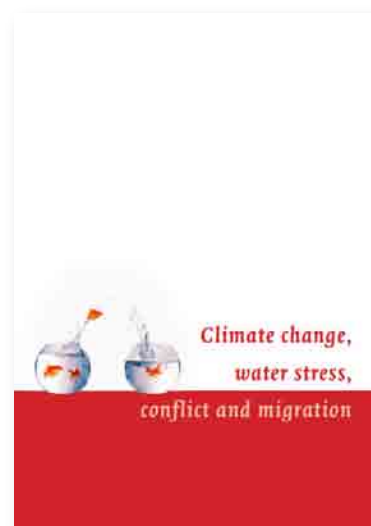
The aim of this document is to draw lessons from each footprint which can help society as a whole build on the two concepts. It also seeks to help decision-makers recognize the need to fully evaluate the effectiveness of a 'solution' to one footprint before applying it to another and potentially creating unnecessary challenges in successfully tackling environmental problems.

Climate change, water stress, conflict and migration

Alliance for Peace, the Netherlands IHP National Committee (IHP-HWRP), Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education. August 2012

<http://bit.ly/OnfThm>

This publications includes a collection of papers presented at the Symposium "Climate change, water stress, conflict and migration" held on 21 September 2011 in The Hague, the Netherlands. It also provides a summary of the conclusions and recommendations of the symposium.

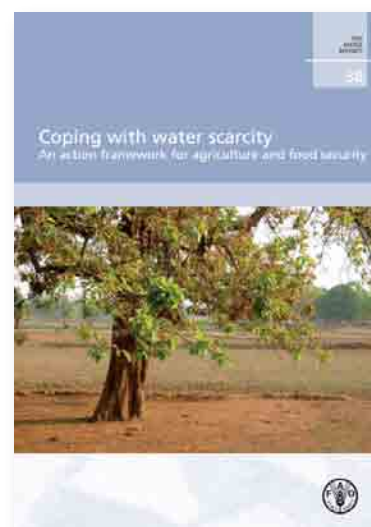
**Coping with water scarcity. An action framework for agriculture and food security**

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

<http://bit.ly/NU33qz>

This report aims to provide a conceptual framework to address food security under conditions of water scarcity in agriculture. The purpose of this report is twofold. First, to define a water accounting framework that allows water scarcity to be interpreted objectively. Second, to indicate where and how agricultural water management can play a more proactive and effective role in response to increasing concerns over global freshwater scarcity.

The document offers views on the conceptual framework on which FAO's water scarcity programme should be based, proposes a set of definitions associated with the concept of water scarcity, and indicates the main principles on which FAO should base its action in support to its member countries

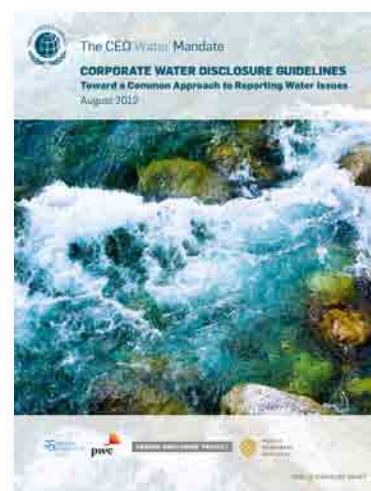
**Corporate Water Disclosure Guidelines: Public Exposure Draft**

UN Global Compact, Pacific Institute. August 2012

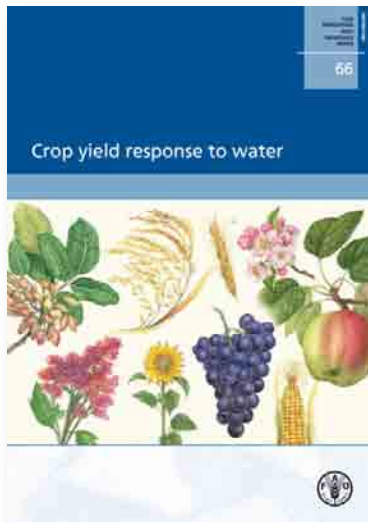
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Executive summary <http://bit.ly/QavLT8>

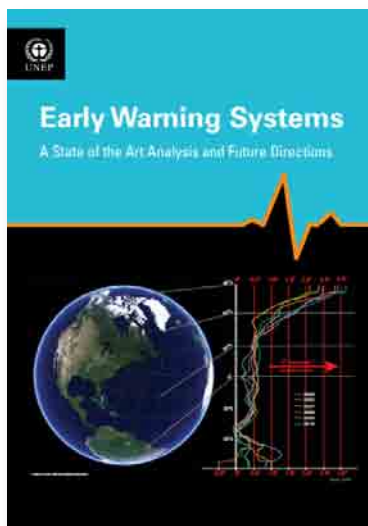
This document advances a common approach to corporate water disclosure that addresses the complexity and local nature of water resources, by 1) identifying common metrics that support harmonization and comparability over time and across companies, 2) providing guidance on how companies can assess the water topics that are the most relevant to them, 3) describing how companies can best report activities that are difficult to depict quantitatively, and 4) aligning corporate water management with disclosure so as to enable companies to understand which information is most appropriate to report and how to generate water disclosure content.



Latest publications

**Crop yield response to water****Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). 2012**<http://bit.ly/OXJFVv>

This publication will provide the practitioner with strengthened skills to: assess the effect of water shortages on crop production; investigate the impact of climate change on crop yield; compare the results of several water allocations plans; optimize irrigation scheduling (either full, deficit or supplementary); and enhance management strategies for increased water productivity and water savings.

**Early Warning Systems. A State of the Art Analysis and Future Directions****United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). 2012**<http://bit.ly/O90Zct>

This report presents a state of the art assessment of existing monitoring/early warning systems (EWS) organized according to type of environmental threats, including among others hydro-meteorological hazards (desertification, droughts, floods, impacts of climate variability, severe weather, storms, and tropical cyclones), epidemics and food insecurity. It identifies current gaps and needs with the goal of laying out guidelines for developing a global multi-hazard early warning system.

Chapter 1 introduces the basic concepts of early warning systems; Chapter 2 introduces the role of earth observation systems for disasters and environmental change; Chapter 3 focuses on existing early warning/monitoring systems; and Chapter 4 presents a global multi-hazard approach to early warning.

**Economic Assessment of Sanitation Interventions in Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China. A six-country study conducted in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines and Vietnam under the Economics of Sanitation Initiative (ESI)****World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). September 2012**<http://bit.ly/P9pcOV>

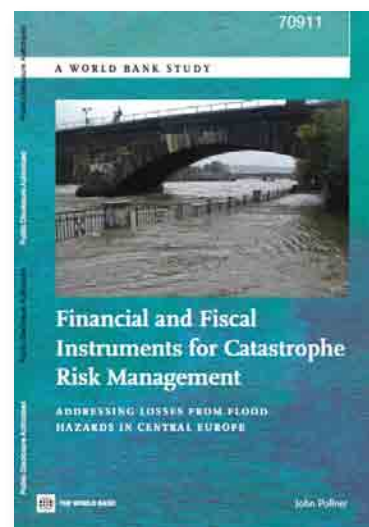
This study evaluates the costs and benefits of technical sanitation options and sanitation programs in Yunnan Province, China. The study compares the costs and benefits of alternative improved sanitation options over the expected life of each technology, to estimate efficiency of alternative sanitation options. For the study, sanitation options in eight different sites throughout Yunnan Province were selected, representing urban, peri-urban and rural areas as well as different socio-economic levels and cultural settings. Sanitation options evaluated in the study include the facilities to collect and convey human excreta, household wastewater treatment and related hygiene practices. The benefits of sanitation evaluated include health, water quality, time to access sanitation facilities, external environment, reuse of human excreta, quality of life improvement and other intangible benefits such as privacy, cleanliness and comfort. The costs of sanitation measured include investment costs and recurrent costs (operations and maintenance).

Financial and Fiscal Instruments for Catastrophe Risk Management: Addressing Losses from Flood Hazards in Central Europe

World Bank. July 2012

<http://bit.ly/UKmem5>

This report addresses the large flood exposures of Central Europe and proposes efficient financial and risk transfer mechanisms to mitigate fiscal losses from natural catastrophes. In particular, the Visegrad countries of Central Europe, namely, Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and the Slovak Republic, have such tremendous potential flood damages that reliance on budgetary appropriations or even European Union (EU) funds in such circumstances becomes ineffective and does not provide needed cash funds for the quick response and recovery needed to minimize economic disruptions. The report is primarily addressed to the governments of the region, which should build into their fiscal planning the necessary contingent funding mechanisms, based on their exposures. The report is addressed to finance ministries and also to the insurance and securities regulators and the private insurance and capital markets, which may all play a role in the proposed mechanisms.

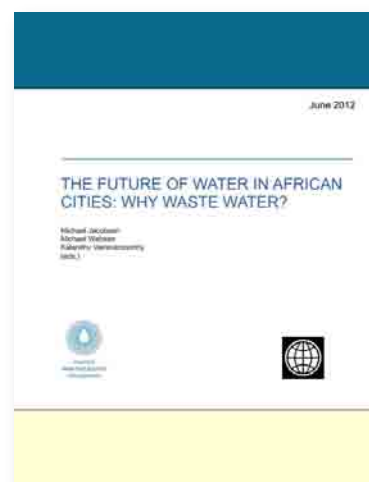


(The) Future of Water in African Cities: Why Waste Water?

World Bank Water Partnership Program (WPP). June 2012

<http://bit.ly/QwgWUJ>

This Report provides examples of cities in Africa and beyond that have already implemented Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM) approaches both in terms of technical and institutional solutions. Case studies explore the ways in which IUWM can help meet future water demand in African cities.

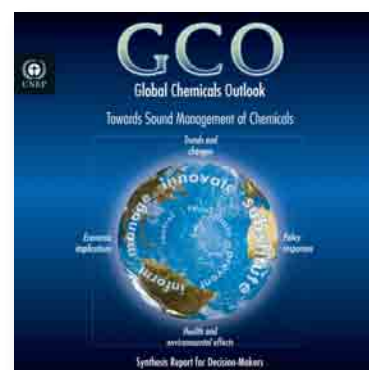


Global Chemicals Outlook (GCO). Towards Sound Management of Chemicals. Synthesis Report for Decision-Makers

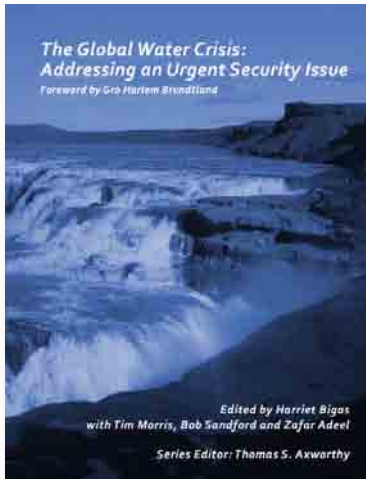
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). September 2012

<http://bit.ly/P3TPEW>

The release of chemicals affects all aspects of natural resources including water. This synthesis report for decision-makers describes the main findings and conclusions of the full report: "Global Chemicals Outlook: Towards Sound Management of Chemicals." The report is designed to inform governments and industry on trends in chemicals production, use and disposal while offering policy advice aimed at meeting the 2020 goal agreed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. It focuses particularly on the challenges and opportunities facing developing nations.



Latest publications



(The) Global Water Crisis: Addressing an Urgent Security Issue. Papers for the InterAction Council, 2011-2012

United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH). September 2012

<http://bit.ly/RGXsiu>

With views from water experts around the globe and insightful reactions from members of the InterAction Council, this volume speaks to the urgent needs and challenges ahead for addressing the global water crisis and contributes informed perspectives to the emerging global dialogue on achieving water security.



Green Accounting and Data Improvement for Water Resources

United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). August 2012

<http://bit.ly/TOIK12>

This paper outlines key initiatives of different agencies, including the initiatives of the United Nations (UN) System of Environmental-Economic Accounts for Water (SEEAW) and Eurostat, the recent efforts of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) or that of the European Environment Agency (EEA), to incorporate water-related indicators into wider systems of environmental accounting, as a step towards raising the profile of water's role in economic and environmental policy-making.



Green Economy in Action: Articles and Excerpts that Illustrate Green Economy and Sustainable Development Efforts

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). August 2012

<http://bit.ly/OU4uG0>

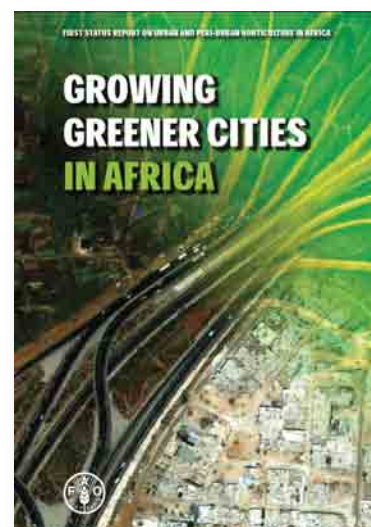
This review, selection and documentation of articles emerged in response to the need to fill the knowledge gap on practical, concrete, and on the ground green economy country experience. The articles and excerpts included in this publication have been selected: to provide information and knowledge for policy and decision makers and practitioners on the positive implications of greening some priority sectors, including job creation, resource efficiency, and generally contribution to sustainable development through an extensive review of scientific publications and magazines. Two cases on water are included: (1) Groundwater Pumping Leads to Sea Level Rise, Cancels out Effect of Dams; (2) Failing Water Infrastructure Drains Economy, Report Warns.

Growing Greener Cities. First status report on urban and peri-urban horticulture in Africa

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

<http://bit.ly/O0tVW1>

This report draws the attention of policymakers to urban and peri-urban horticulture (UPH), and how it can help to grow greener cities in Africa. Based on an Africa-wide survey and on case studies prepared by national experts, the report reviews the current state of UPH in countries across the continent, from Algeria to Zambia, and in cities from Nairobi to Dakar. It presents major findings, detailed profiles of urban and peri-urban horticulture in 22 countries and recommendations for the development of market gardens to serve Africa's rapidly growing urban population. Issues such as access to water and sanitation or irrigation practices are covered in the report.

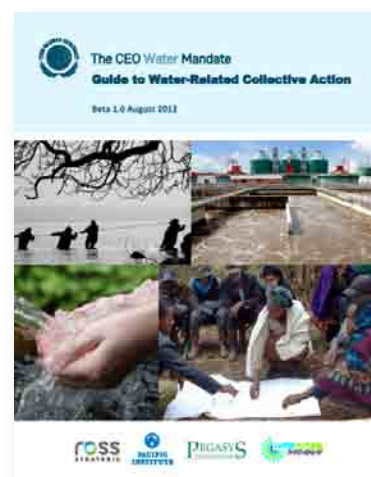


Guide to Water-Related Collective Action Beta 1.0

UN Global Compact, Pacific Institute. August 2012

<http://bit.ly/QRBmJx>

This publication offers good practice to help companies establish enduring relationships with a broad spectrum of stakeholders, leaders, and individuals to advance sustainable water management. Specifically, it: 1) identifies and characterizes various engagement methods and collective action models, 2) describes how companies can understand the nature of such collaborations, and 3) provides recommendations for how they can best organize and execute these actions.



International Recommendations for Water Statistics

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) Statistics Division. April 2012

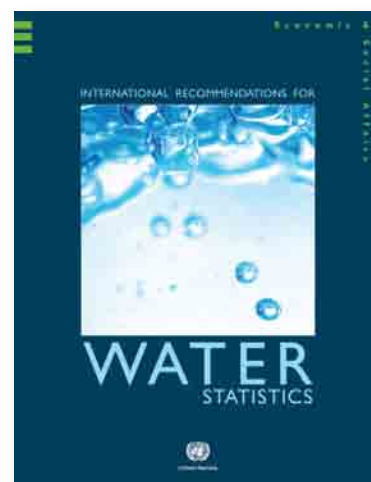
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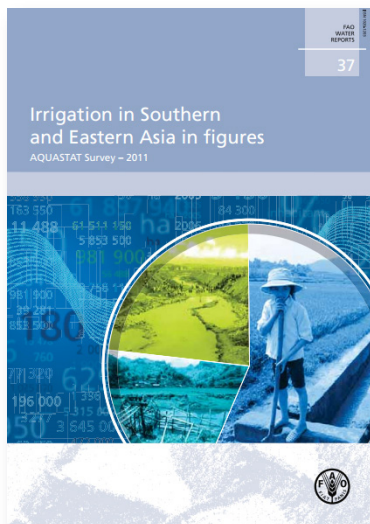
Russian: <http://bit.ly/SB8AEA>

The recommendations included in this report were developed to assist countries establish and strengthen information systems for water, which in turn support the design and evaluation of better water policies. In particular, these recommendations support the collection, compilation and dissemination of internationally comparable water statistics in countries, as well as the implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts for Water (SEEA-Water). They also provide the necessary information for deriving coherent and consistent indicators, enabling comparisons over time and between countries from an agreed list of data items, and consolidate the experiences and practices of countries and international organizations in water statistics.

The report is organized in two parts. Part one, "International recommendations", provides the main concepts on water statistics, including definitions and classifications of statistical units related to water and a list of recommended data items that countries are encouraged to compile. Part two, "Guidelines for implementation", provides general guidelines on the collection and compilation of water statistics, in particular as regards data sources, data quality, data-collection strategies and dissemination.



Latest publications

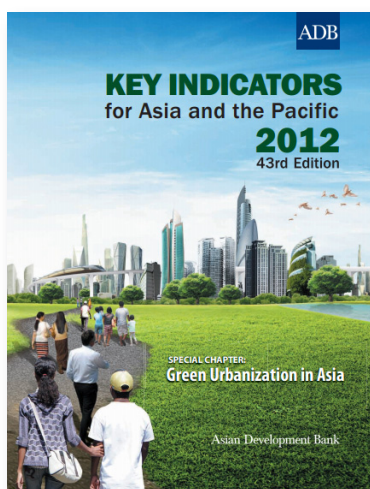


Irrigation in Southern and Eastern Asia in figures. AQUASTAT Survey – 2011

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

<http://bit.ly/OqdoHk>

This AQUASTAT report presents the most recent information available on water resources and their use in the 22 countries of the Southern and Eastern Asia region, and analyses the changes that have occurred since the first AQUASTAT survey in 1999. It gives a more detailed description of four transboundary river basins in the region, highlighting the different levels of cooperation and the agreements between countries located in the same river basin: the Ganges–Brahmaputra–Meghna basin, the Indus basin, the Mekong basin and the Salween basin.



Key indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2012. Special chapter: Green Urbanization in Asia

Asian Development Bank (ADB). August 2012

<http://bit.ly/Pa39Ym>

This special chapter of the report “Key indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2012” focuses on the environmental challenges Asia faces as it urbanizes. It begins by highlighting special features of Asia’s urbanization. The chapter then discusses the environmental challenges associated with urbanization, covering topics such as access to water and sanitation, loss of natural ecosystems, and urban slums and poverty. Before concluding, the chapter offers a number of evidence-based policy options that can help achieve a win-win scenario of urban growth with improvement in the environment.



Making Cities Resilient Report 2012. A global snapshot of how local governments reduce disaster risk

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). September 2012

<http://bit.ly/P7ciAY>

The aim of this report is to provide a global snapshot of local-level resilience building activities and identify trends in the perceptions and approaches of local governments toward disaster risk reduction, using the Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient developed by the Making Cities Resilient Campaign as a framework. This report also analyses the factors that enable urban disaster risk reduction activities, including how the Campaign has helped improve local knowledge of disaster risk and support capacity building.

The report is divided into five chapters, featuring a combination of analysis of cities’ resilience activities and short stories from cities on good practice in urban disaster risk reduction. Chapters one and two draw conclusions on the core building blocks and enabling factors for urban resilience and the Campaign’s role in driving disaster risk reduction awareness and action. Chapter three identifies key trends in resilience building at local level. Chapter four reviews cities’ activities against the Ten Essentials developed by the Campaign. In a look toward the future, Chapter five proposes ideas to measure cities’ progress and performance as they embark on a path toward strengthening their resilience to natural hazards and more extreme climatic events.

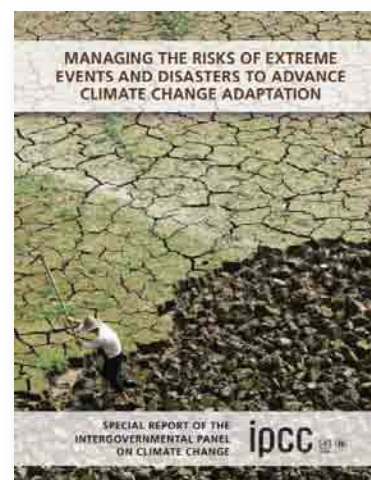
Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation. Special Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Meteorological Organization (WMO). July 2012

<http://bit.ly/OWyTyT>

Summary for policy makers

<http://1.usa.gov/OckFP1>

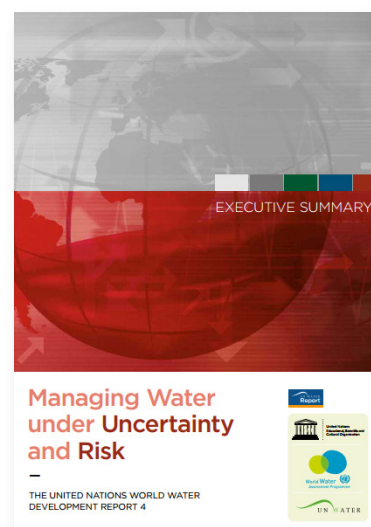
This report focuses on the relationship between climate change and extreme weather and climate events, the impacts of such events, and the strategies to manage the associated risks. In particular, it contributes to frame the challenge of dealing with extreme weather and climate events as an issue in decision-making under uncertainty, analyzing response in the context of risk management. The report consists of nine chapters, covering risk management; observed and projected changes in extreme weather and climate events; exposure and vulnerability to as well as losses resulting from such events; adaptation options from the local to the international scale; the role of sustainable development in modulating risks; and insights from specific case studies.



Managing Water under Uncertainty and Risk. WWDR 4 Executive Summary
United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). 2012

<http://bit.ly/RGGeY5>

Executive summary of the United Nations World Water Development Report 4. Released every three years since March 2003, the United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR), a flagship UN-Water report published by UNESCO, has become the voice of the United Nations system in terms of the state, use and management of the world's freshwater resources. The report is primarily targeted at national decision-makers and water resource managers, but is also aimed at educating and informing a broader audience, from governments to the private sector and civil society. It underlines the important roles water plays in all social, economic and environmental decisions, highlighting policy implications across various sectors, from local and municipal through national to regional and international levels. This fourth edition of the WWDR, released in March 2012, addresses the most salient strategic and technical aspects relating to how and why we need to use, manage and allocate water to meet multiple, often competing goals, from all major policy directions – from poverty alleviation and human health to food and energy security and environmental stewardship. In describing how water underpins all aspects of development, the report provides a critical point of reference for linking water to global policy tracks, such as those for poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); sustainable development, the Rio+20 process; climate change, and the respective COP process.

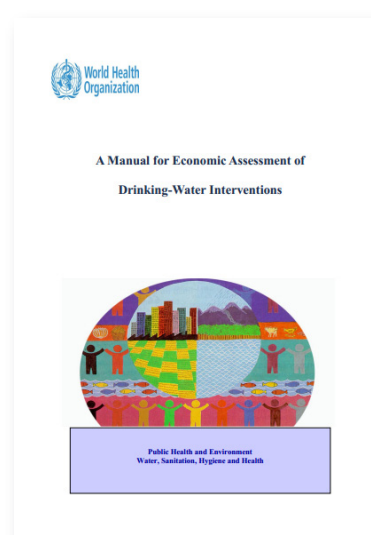


(A) Manual for Economic Assessment of Drinking-water Interventions
World Health Organization (WHO). June 2012

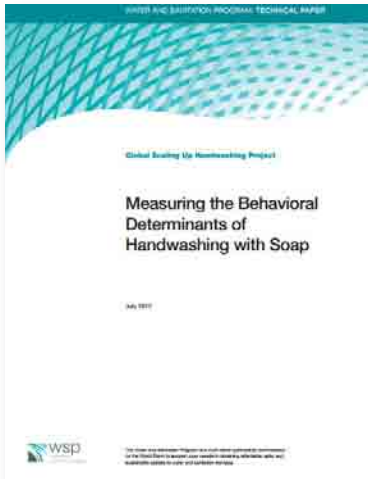
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This manual describes a practical technique for appraising or evaluating small-scale interventions that seek to provide safer and more accessible drinking-water to rural people.

The manual is primarily aimed at experts who are involved in advising on the most appropriate drinking-water interventions to install in small-scale, mainly rural, settings. These experts may be working in any of the disciplines relevant to drinking-water. They include health professionals, engineers and economists. The manual presents practical techniques in a way that will satisfy the expert yet also be accessible to the non-expert.



Latest publications

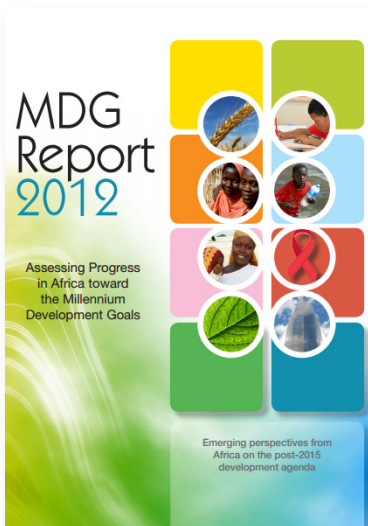


Measuring the Behavioral Determinants of Handwashing with Soap

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

<http://bit.ly/Py8CHI>

This Technical Paper presents lessons learned from the application of the Focus, Opportunity, Ability, and Motivation (FOAM) framework to identify handwashing determinants. The discussion focuses on findings from the analysis of data collected in Peru and Senegal and provides practical recommendations for researchers and program managers working in handwashing promotion. In addition to offering a rationale for measuring handwashing determinants, the paper describes the FOAM framework and details the process used to measure the determinants, focusing on lessons learned.



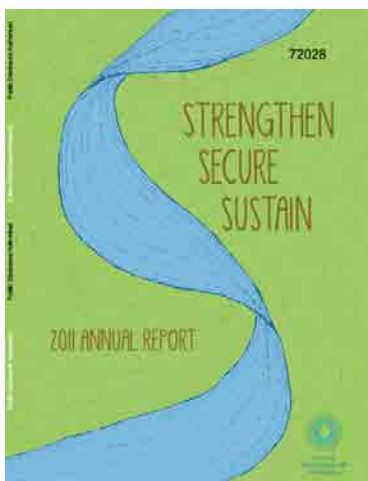
MDG Report 2012. Assessing Progress in Africa toward the Millennium Development Goals. Emerging perspectives from Africa on the post-2015 development agenda

African Union Commission (AUC), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), African Development Bank (AfDB), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). July 2012

<http://bit.ly/PhFqDC>

The 2012 Africa MDG Report tracks progress to the MDGs and offers a perspective on the continent's development priorities for the post-2015 development agenda.

Target 7C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, is analysed in Section II.



Strengthen, Secure, Sustain. WPP 2011 Annual Report

World Bank Water Partnership Program (WPP). August 2012

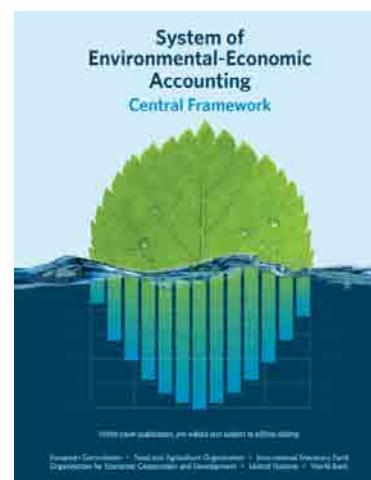
<http://bit.ly/NBOVwv>

The WPP 2011 Annual Report offers examples of how program activities are strengthening the World Bank's water lending portfolio; securing access to water in a changing climate; and sustaining long-term water availability and quality toward achieving inclusive green growth. It presents key results and discusses WPP's impact across regions through work that addresses the complex interlinkages between water and other economic sectors, and includes a special focus on Africa.

System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA). Central Framework
European Commission, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) Statistics Division, World Bank. May 2012

<http://bit.ly/Q1ELqB>

The System of Environmental Economic Accounts (SEEA) Central Framework was adopted as the international statistics standard for environmental-economic accounts by the UN Statistical Commission in 2012. It contains the internationally agreed standard concepts, definitions, classifications, accounting rules and tables for producing internationally comparable statistics on the environment and its relationship with the economy.

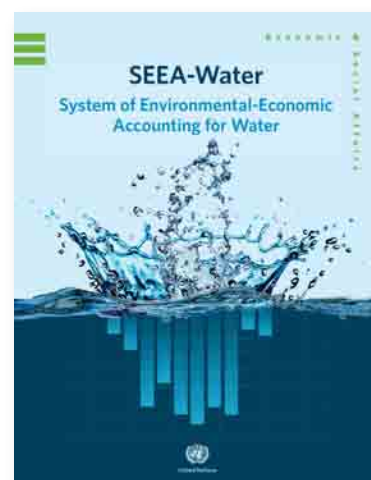


System of Environmental Economic Accounting for Water (SEEA-Water)
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) Statistics Division. 2012

<http://bit.ly/P4iE1F>

Russian: <http://bit.ly/Uuz1a6>

To support implementation of environmental-economic accounts, the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts for Water (SEEA-Water), a SEEA sub-system, provides compilers and analysts with agreed concepts, definitions, classifications, tables, and accounts for water and water-related emission accounts. SEEA-Water is fully coherent with the broader SEEA. It elaborates and expands the guidance on accounting in the International Recommendations for Water Statistics (IRWS). UNSD coordinated the preparation of SEEA-Water in collaboration with the London Group on Environmental Accounting.

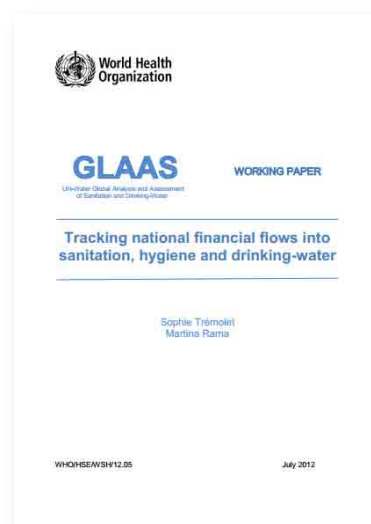


Tracking national financial flows into sanitation, hygiene and drinking-water
World Health Organization (WHO). July 2012

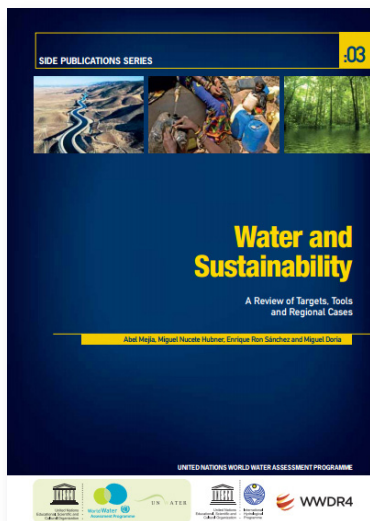
<http://bit.ly/Nka6qk>

This working paper lays out basic proposals for a common methodology to track WASH financial flows at the national level. It outlines a process that countries will need to go through in order to derive more comprehensive and reliable estimates of spending on WASH at the national level. The objectives of this working paper are twofold:

- (1) to determine the state of the evidence on the monitoring and reporting of financial flows to the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector at the national level;
- (2) if knowledge gaps are confirmed, to identify the key tenets of a methodological framework that could significantly improve our understanding of financial flows in the WASH sector and be rolled out in a large number of countries as part of UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) 2014 and beyond.



Latest publications

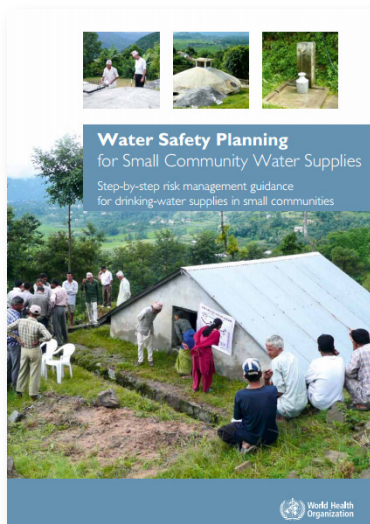


Water and Sustainability. A Review of Targets, Tools and Regional Cases

United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). 2012

<http://bit.ly/P2Hvbi>

This report reviews some current sustainability targets for the water sector and provides an overview of selected tools and approaches to assist decision-makers improve performance and achieve results – and ultimately, meet development targets. The report reviews three widely known systems of water sustainability targets: (i) the water targets set under the umbrella of the Millennium Development Goals; (ii) the comprehensive water targets established as part of the European Union Water Framework Directive; and (iii) the target-setting process for the 6th World Water Forum. The report presents five cases to highlight some of the practices followed to set water sustainability targets. These cases include four river basins of different size (Danube, Mekong, Zambezi and Nile) and a large aquifer (Guarani).



Water Safety Planning for Small Community Water Supplies. Step-by-step risk management guidance for drinking-water supplies in small communities

World Health Organization (WHO). July 2012

<http://bit.ly/QSLAcU>

Russian: <http://bit.ly/RRlpb2>

This manual is designed to engage, empower and guide communities in the development and implementation of water safety plans (WSPs) for their drinking-water systems. It provides guidance on how to apply effective and achievable management actions in order to improve the safety and quality of supplied water. Relevant to all community-managed systems, it is applicable to piped schemes, point sources such as hand pumps, protected springs or household rainwater harvesting systems and other sources. The guidance provided is valid for both new and existing schemes.

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