

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 13. November 2012

www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/

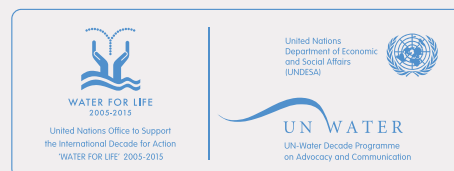
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A Decade for Water, a Decade for Life

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



Latest publications

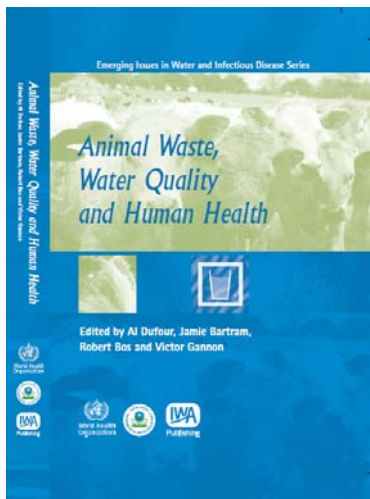


UN Documentation Centre on Water and Sanitation

English: <http://www.unwaterlibrary.org>

Spanish: <http://www.bibliotecaonagua.org>

The UN Office to support the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' (2005-2015)/UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNDCWS) are pleased to introduce the UN Documentation Centre on Water and Sanitation. Launched on 24 October 2012, on the occasion of UN Day, the centre provides access to water and sanitation related publications produced by the United Nations system (agencies, programmes and initiatives). This virtual library is available in English and in Spanish but publications are accessible in different languages when available (including the 6 official UN languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

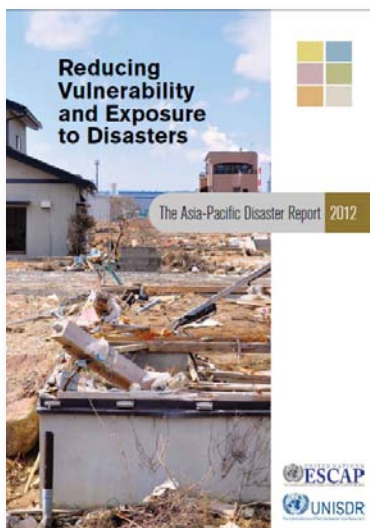


Animal waste, water quality and human health

World Health Organisation (WHO). October 2012

<http://bit.ly/SkUWU2>

This book collects relevant information, in connection with five different pathogens, on the scope of domestic animal and bird faeces discharged into the environment, the fate and transport of the faecal wastes (and the pathogens they may contain) that have been discharged into the environment, human exposure to the faecal wastes, potential health effects associated with those exposures and interventions that will limit human exposures to livestock waste. It also addresses the monitoring, detection and management related to these phenomena.



(The) Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2012: Reducing Vulnerability and Exposure to Disasters

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). October 2012

<http://bit.ly/UM7SKH>

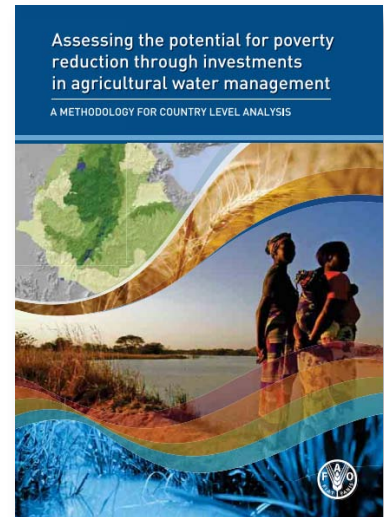
The Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2012 provides an analysis of the impact of disasters on Asian and Pacific countries between 1970 to 2011, and discusses the twin challenge faced by the region of increasing exposure of its people and economic assets, and heightened vulnerabilities experienced by the poor and other disadvantaged groups to disasters. Pressures resulting from rapid urban development and economic growth have resulted in people and economic activities expanding into increasingly exposed and hazard-prone land. It also highlights that smaller economies, those that have less diversified economic structures, and countries with high fiscal deficits, show greater strains of vulnerability even when faced with relatively small-scale disasters. The Report discusses how the poor or most vulnerable are often at risk, as they are increasingly forced to live in fragile or hazardous areas. Several recommendations are made on how to reduce this growing exposure and vulnerability including the need to strengthen the socio-economic evidence base for more informed policy making and enhanced integration of disaster risk reduction into broader development issues, a minimum level of universal social protection and improved land use planning.

Assessing the potential for poverty reduction through investments in agricultural water management. A methodology for country level analysis

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

<http://bit.ly/SlbAmm>

This report proposes a methodology for identifying the locations where water constraints are a major factor affecting smallholders' livelihoods and where agricultural water management in general, as well as specific technologies, can boost the poorest farmers' livelihoods. The report presents the methodology used for mapping and assessing the potential for investments in agricultural water management at country level in support of rural livelihoods. The approach presented in the report has been implemented and tested in surveys conducted in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Tanzania and Zambia, and in the states of Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal in India.

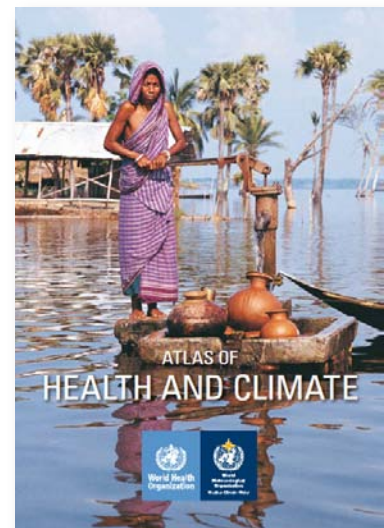


Atlas of health and climate

World Health Organization (WHO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO). October 2012

<http://bit.ly/SohtO6>

This atlas provides sound scientific information on the connections between weather and climate and major health challenges. These range from diseases of poverty to emergencies arising from extreme weather events and disease outbreaks. They also include environmental degradation, the increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases and the universal trend of demographic ageing. Water-related diseases such as malaria and diarrhoea or water-related emergency situation such as floods and droughts are analysed. The Atlas gives practical examples of how the use of weather and climate information can protect public health. Numerous maps, tables and graphs assembled in the Atlas make the links between health and climate more explicit.

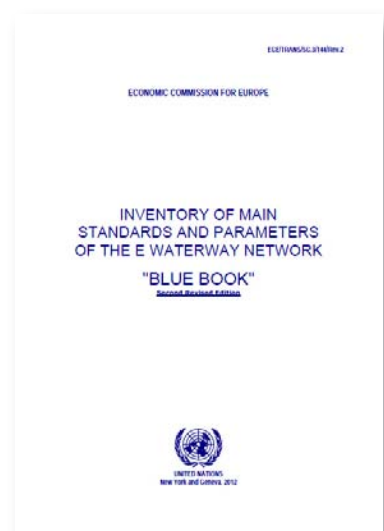


Blue Book: Inventory of main standards and parameters of the pan-European inland waterway network. 2nd revised edition

Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). October 2012

<http://bit.ly/UW6g5L>

The objective of the Blue Book is to establish an inventory of existing and envisaged standards and parameters of European inland waterways and ports of international importance and to show, on an internationally comparable basis, the current inland navigation infrastructure parameters in Europe as compared to the minimum standards and parameters prescribed in the European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN).

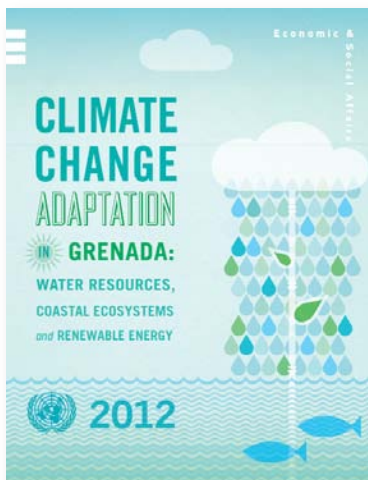


Latest publications



Children's Action for Disaster Risk Reduction 2012. Views from Children in Asia
United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). October 2012
<http://bit.ly/UM98EC>

The Asia Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) Declaration adopted in Incheon in 2010 recognized “the need to protect women, children and other vulnerable groups from the disproportionate impacts of disaster and to empower them to promote resiliency within their communities and workplaces”. The aim of this publication is to provide children and youth in Asia a platform to report on progress made towards these commitments from their own point of view. This publication seeks to document the perspective of children from seven Asia countries on how disasters and climate change affects their lives and their rights. It highlights their views on what they believe their role can be in addressing disaster risk and climate change in their community and what they are expecting from their government, NGOs and the private sector. By presenting their own experiences of participating in disaster risk reduction activities, it aims to highlight the capacity of children in order to inspire other children and youth, as well as encourage local governments, NGOs, and the private sector to support child-centered community risk reduction and climate change adaptation.



Climate Change Adaptation in Grenada. Water Resources, Coastal Systems and Renewable Energy
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). September 2012
<http://bit.ly/V1JSU>

This study serves as a starting point for the development of a more in-depth and comprehensive analysis of climate change impacts and adaptation programmes for Grenada and other Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The study focuses on three priority areas: water resources, coastal ecosystems and renewable energy systems. It identifies the best potential courses of action to hedge for and adapt to these critical impact areas.

Chapter two outlines the comprehensive assessment and analytical process followed in evaluating the impacts of climate change in Grenada and the selection of the three critical priority areas. Chapter three assesses the quantity and quality of water in the Northern Grenada watersheds and offers options for the design of an efficient architecture for storage of water for communities in the northern part of the island during floods and droughts in light of the projections for changes in rainfall patterns. It contains recommendations in relation to minimization of costs, enhancement of the efficiency of the water system, and use of appropriate green technologies in this field. Chapter four provides an assessment of the current status and the major factors affecting coastal ecosystems. Chapter five presents the current status of energy sources for medical and community centres in Grenada and their ability to provide the necessary services to communities during and after a disaster. Chapters six and seven contain a summary of the conclusions, recommendations and policy options for integrating climate change into national development planning.



Climate Change in the West Balkans
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC). 2012
<http://bit.ly/RcQLeD>

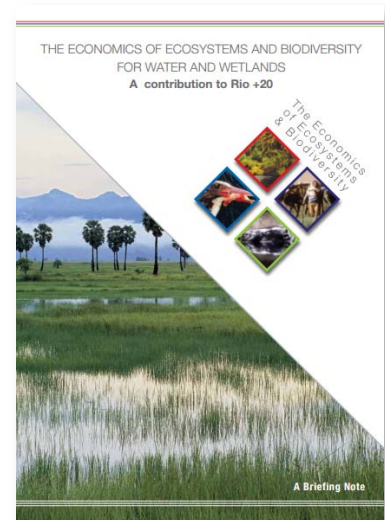
This report forms part of an awareness-raising campaign by the United Nations Environment Programme and the Environment and Security initiative on the effects of climate change. Representatives of governments, international organizations, civil society organizations and research institutions and other experts from the region have compiled this booklet with the objective of revealing and explaining the linkages between people and the environment in the Balkans. The influence of climate change on water resources is also addressed.

(The) Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity for Water and Wetlands. Final Consultation Draft

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB), Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. September 2012

<http://bit.ly/UW6EkZ>

This report responds to the following questions by presenting insights from experience from across the globe: What are the values and benefits associated with water and wetlands? What are the roles of wetlands in terms of providing water and wetland related ecosystem services and what are their values? What is the wider set of ecosystem system services that water and wetlands provide and what are their values? What needs to be done to improve the consideration of the values and benefits of water and wetland in policy developments and in practical decision making? What approaches have been successfully used to date to respond to the challenges and take account of the values of water and wetlands? What existing examples demonstrate how policy, investment and water and land use decisions can be based on the values and benefits associated with water and wetlands? What are the recommendations for transforming the regional, national and international approaches for managing water, wetlands and their ecosystem services?



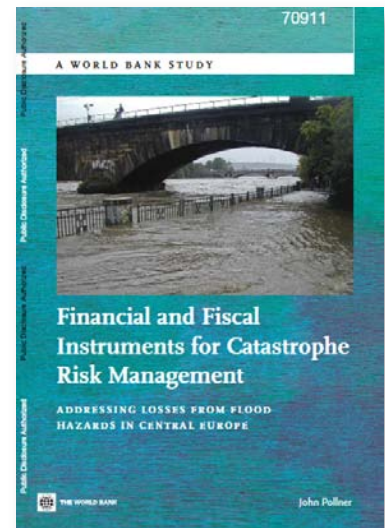
Financial and Fiscal Instruments for Catastrophe Risk Management. Addressing Losses from Flood Hazards in Central Europe

World Bank. July 2012

<http://bit.ly/SleHul>

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 (V-4) 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 also addressed to finance ministries and to the insurance and securities regulators and the private insurance and capital markets, which may all play a role in the proposed mechanisms.



Gaza in 2020. A liveable place?

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). August 2012

<http://bit.ly/XVHQ4b>

This document focuses on a range of the most important issues affecting the daily lives of the people in Gaza. The broad objectives of this study are to: highlight the longer-term effects and implications of current developmental and social trends and challenges affecting the Gaza Strip; raise awareness of these both locally and internationally; and, inform the strategic programming of the United Nations in support of the Palestinian people of the occupied Palestinian territory. Water and sanitation issues are addressed in a specific chapter.



Latest publications



Global Scaling Up Handwashing Project. Results, Impacts, and Learning from Vietnam
World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). September 2012

<http://bit.ly/YjdOGF>

This learning note presents the achievements, learning, and reflections that resulted from implementing a large-scale handwashing program in Vietnam and provides recommendations for future hygiene promotion initiatives.

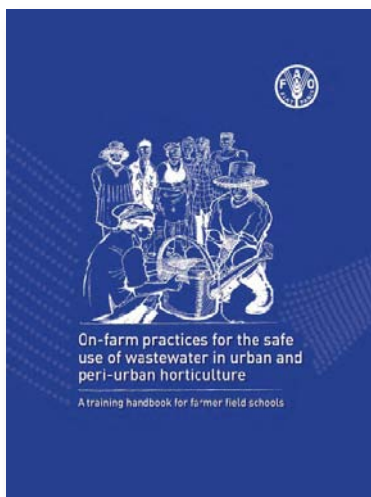


(A) New Angle on Sovereign Credit Risk. E-RISC: Environmental Risk Integration in Sovereign Credit Analysis

United Nations Environment Programme Financing Initiative (UNEPFI). November 2012

<http://bit.ly/QliHeM>

This report addresses how and why natural resource, including water resources, and environmental risks are becoming financially material for sovereign credit risk, not just in the medium term, but even in the short run. The E-RISC (Environmental Risk in Sovereign Credit analysis) methodology focuses on the development of metrics and methods for quantifying natural resource and environmental risks so they can be incorporated into sovereign credit risk assessments. It assesses how growing natural resource scarcity and environmental degradation can impact a country's economy, and in turn what financial risks these pose in the context of sovereign credit ratings. Case studies from Brazil, France, India, Turkey and Japan are highlighted.



On-farm practices for the safe use of wastewater in urban and peri-urban horticulture. A training handbook for farmer field schools

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

<http://bit.ly/Yjdbwl>

This training handbook is a field guide for training urban and peri-urban vegetable farmers in safe practices when using wastewater in vegetable production. It is designed to provide complete information, knowledge and skills for safer and successful production of vegetables in urban and peri-urban farming systems.

The handbook covers five major topics:

1. It explains how irrigation water might be polluted with wastewater from the town or city and how using such water for production of fresh vegetables poses health risks to the farmer and to people who eat the vegetables produced;
2. It describes the various methods that can be used on the farm to reduce the health risks associated with using wastewater for irrigation;
3. It shows how farmers can check the performance and results of these safe practices;
4. It helps farmers to train other farmers in the neighbourhood;
5. It explains ways to effectively disseminate and communicate the knowledge and skills acquired from the training.

Policy Brief: Securing the future of mangroves**United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH).****October 2012**<http://bit.ly/YjbQWO>

Mangroves are vital for food security and protection of coastal communities; they provide a wide diversity of forest products, nurseries for aquatic species, fishing grounds, carbon sequestration, and crucial natural coastal defences that mitigate the impact of erosion and storm action. The aim of this policy brief is to provide managers with lessons learned on the conservation and management of mangroves, and recommend policy measures that could be taken in order to protect them.

**Protected Planet Report 2012. Tracking progress towards global targets for protected areas****United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC). October 2012**<http://bit.ly/TgmXcM>

Well-managed protected areas support not only healthy ecosystems and threatened species, but also provide multiple benefits to people. These benefits include a wide range of ecosystem services such as clean water provision, food security, disaster risk reduction and climate regulation.

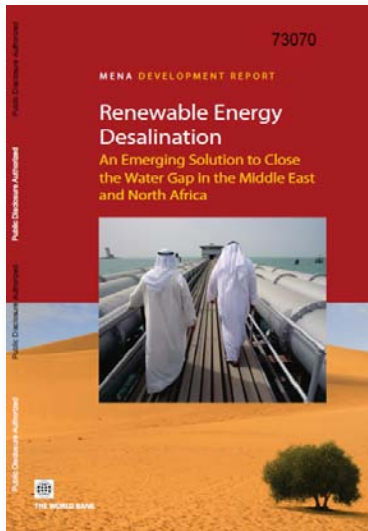
This report tracks global progress towards Target 11 of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Aichi Biodiversity Targets and summarises the status and trends in global biodiversity protection for decision makers and the conservation community. It is the first in a series that will be produced every year until 2020 to evaluate progress towards international protected area targets. In order to highlight trends over time, this report draws on a range of indicators that cover at the period 1990–2010.

**Rapid assessment of drinking-water quality. A handbook for implementation****United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO). October 2012**<http://bit.ly/Tm0Bqs>

This assessment explores the quality of drinking-water from "improved" sources and was conceived to probe into the question to what extent the quality of drinking-water from "improved" sources deviates from the assumption that it is safe. Results in five pilot countries shows a wide range of conditions, from full compliance with the WHO Drinking-water Quality Guidelines to specific sources in a given country only meeting standards in 34% of the samples. The handbook describes the methods and procedures applied by WHO and UNICEF in the five countries, for adoption by any authority or institution that wants to prepare a snapshot of the quality of "improved" sources of drinking-water, as a first step towards strengthening drinking-water quality regulations.



Latest publications

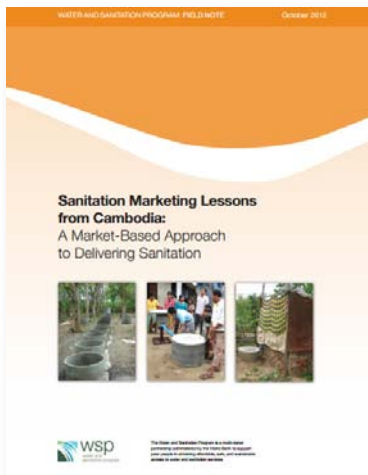


Renewable Energy Desalination. An Emerging Solution to Close the Water Gap in the Middle East and North Africa

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), World Bank. September 2012

<http://bit.ly/V20PTs>

This study aims at assessing the viability of desalination to close the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region's growing water gap, including associated technological, economic, and environmental implications. After an introduction to the volume, Chapter 2 assesses current and future water availability and water demand. Chapter 3 draws on the findings and methodology of the 2030 Water Resources Group study "Charting Our Water Future" (2009) to identify the potential mix of technical measures to close the supply-demand gap for the MENA Region as a whole and for each country in particular. Chapter 4 reviews the growth of desalination in MENA and the current state of desalination technology. Chapter 5 discusses the growth of Renewable Energy (RE) desalination globally. Chapter 6 supplies an overview of the environmental impacts of desalination and the opportunities to alleviate them. Chapter 7 takes a more holistic view of the energy demands of desalination vis a vis the region's future energy production. Chapter 8 highlights the major findings of this volume.

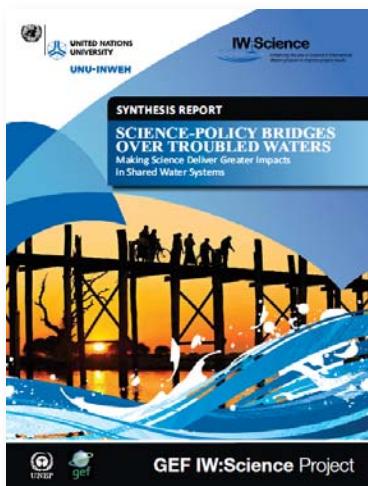


Sanitation Marketing Lessons from Cambodia: A Market-Based Approach to Delivering Sanitation

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

<http://bit.ly/Tek5YT>

This field note summarizes the results and challenges of a WSP-supported Sanitation Marketing Pilot Project, which applies the sanitation marketing approach to the rural Cambodian context.



Science-Policy Bridges Over Troubled Waters. Making Science Deliver Greater Impacts in Shared Water Systems. Synthesis Report

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

<http://bit.ly/XVHafI>

This report serves to provide a global perspective on the state of challenges and pressures facing transboundary water systems, both freshwater and marine. The context of this Synthesis is the need and effective use of science to address these challenges and the translation of such science use to policy for multi-country management of shared water resources. The report brings together the findings and efforts of the International Waters (IW) System Type Working Groups on groundwater, lakes, rivers, land-based pollution sources and, large marine ecosystems and the open ocean.

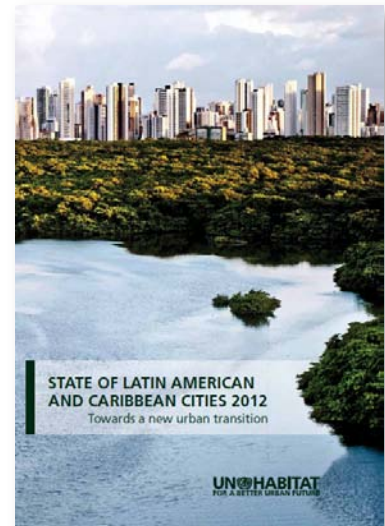
State of Latin American and Caribbean cities. Towards a new urban transition. Chapter 4.1. Water and Sanitation

UN-Habitat. October 2012

<http://bit.ly/XVFhK>

This edition of State of Latin American and Caribbean cities presents the current situation of the region's urban world, including the demographic, economic, social, environmental, urban and institutional conditions in which cities are developing.

Chapter 4.1 addresses the issue of access to water and sanitation, conditions under which services are being provided and water management concerns. The issue of the human right to water and sanitation is addressed in the last part of the chapter.



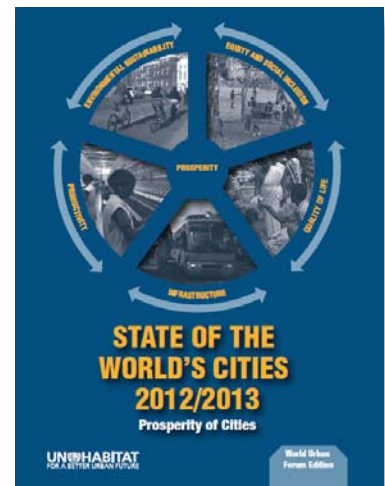
State of the World's Cities 2012/2013. Prosperity of Cities

UN-Habitat. October 2012

<http://bit.ly/Tm0X0i>

The State of the World's Cities Report 2012 presents some of the underlying factors behind the financial, economic, environmental, social and political crises that have strongly impacted on cities.

Chapter 2.2 'Urban Infrastructure: Bedrock of Prosperity' addresses the issue of 'Water Supply: When Good Governance Changes the Equation'.



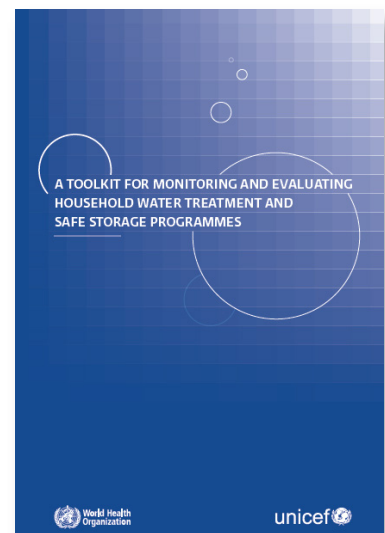
(A) toolkit for monitoring and evaluating household water treatment and safe storage programmes

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO). November 2012

<http://bit.ly/WRC9mu>

This document is intended to address the lack of harmonized relevant tools and indicators to assist in the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of household water treatment and safe storage (HWTS) programmes. The document delineates a step-by-step guidance to conduct monitoring and evaluation, including descriptions on how to 1) understand the context within which the HWTS programme is operating; 2) develop the M&E question(s); 3) select the appropriate indicator(s) to answer the question(s); 4) develop an M&E plan; 5) develop the M&E tools; 6) select and train the M&E team; 7) conduct the M&E; 8) compile and review the data; and 9) analyse the data and disseminate the results.

Real-world examples of M&E in HWTS programmes are included throughout the document to highlight key points, and annexes provide additional resources on the topics presented.



Latest publications



Turn Down the Heat. Why a 4°C Warmer World Must be Avoided
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), World Bank. November 2012

<http://bit.ly/Yj8OSn>

E-book: <http://bit.ly/10kVGuh>

Executive summary: <http://bit.ly/QGu3eQ>

This report provides a snapshot of recent scientific literature and new analyses of likely impacts and risks that would be associated with a 4° Celsius warming within this century. It is a rigorous attempt to outline a range of risks, focusing on developing countries and especially the poor. A 4°C world would be one of unprecedented heat waves, severe drought, and major floods in many regions, with serious impacts on ecosystems and associated services. But the report points out that, with action, a 4°C world can be avoided.

Chapter 6 analyses sectoral impacts in different fields, including water resources.

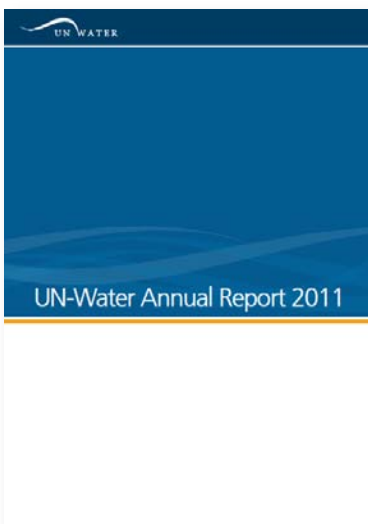


UNU-INWEH Annual Report 2011

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

<http://bit.ly/10XUjSG>

The UNU-INWEH annual report summarizes initiatives and progress report on activities and projects from the Institute. It also introduces outputs from events and presents publications produced in 2011.



UN-Water Annual Report 2011

UN-Water. October 2012

<http://bit.ly/UWsyVd>

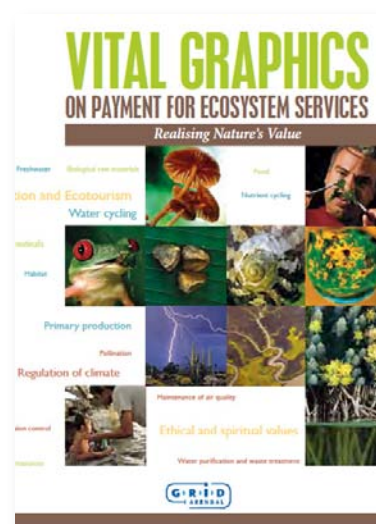
This report introduces main UN-Water achievements in 2011, including UN-Water programmes, thematic priority areas and task forces activities and outputs. The Annual Report highlights in particular UN-Water's accomplishments in building synergies and joint efforts amongst its Members and with its Partners as a way to support Member States in their efforts towards achieving internationally agreed goals for water and sanitation.

Vital Graphics on Payment for Ecosystem Services. Realising Nature's Value
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) GRID-Arendal. September 2012

<http://bit.ly/S7FNUG>

This publication highlights the concept and selected market segments relating to payments for ecosystem services. It emphasises the role natural capital can play in both environmental conservation and in poverty alleviation, and highlights the potential benefits of ecosystem-based economic development in an accessible, non-technical manner.

The publication looks at the 23 ecosystem services as described by the World Resources Institute (2011) and the United Nations Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA, 2005). Five specific market segments relating to Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) – carbon sequestration, watershed management, biodiversity, landscape beauty, and bundled services – are illustrated, drawing on case studies, graphics and photographs. An additional section explores the role PES could play in alleviating poverty.



WorldRiskReport 2012. Focus: environmental degradation and disasters

Alliance Development Works/Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS). October 2012

<http://bit.ly/QlIXqt>

Environmental degradation is a significant factor that reduces the adaptive capacity of societies to deal with disaster risk in many countries around the globe. The WorldRiskIndex, the centrepiece of the report, determines the risk of becoming the victim of a disaster as a result of natural hazards for 173 countries throughout the world.



You can access the latest publications on water and sanitation from UN agencies and programmes at: <http://www.unwaterlibrary.org>

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

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