# Overview of Secretariat Actions for the UNEA-3 Water Resolution

Lis Mullin Bernhardt

**Side Event: "Partnering for Implementation of the UNEA-3 Water Resolution"**
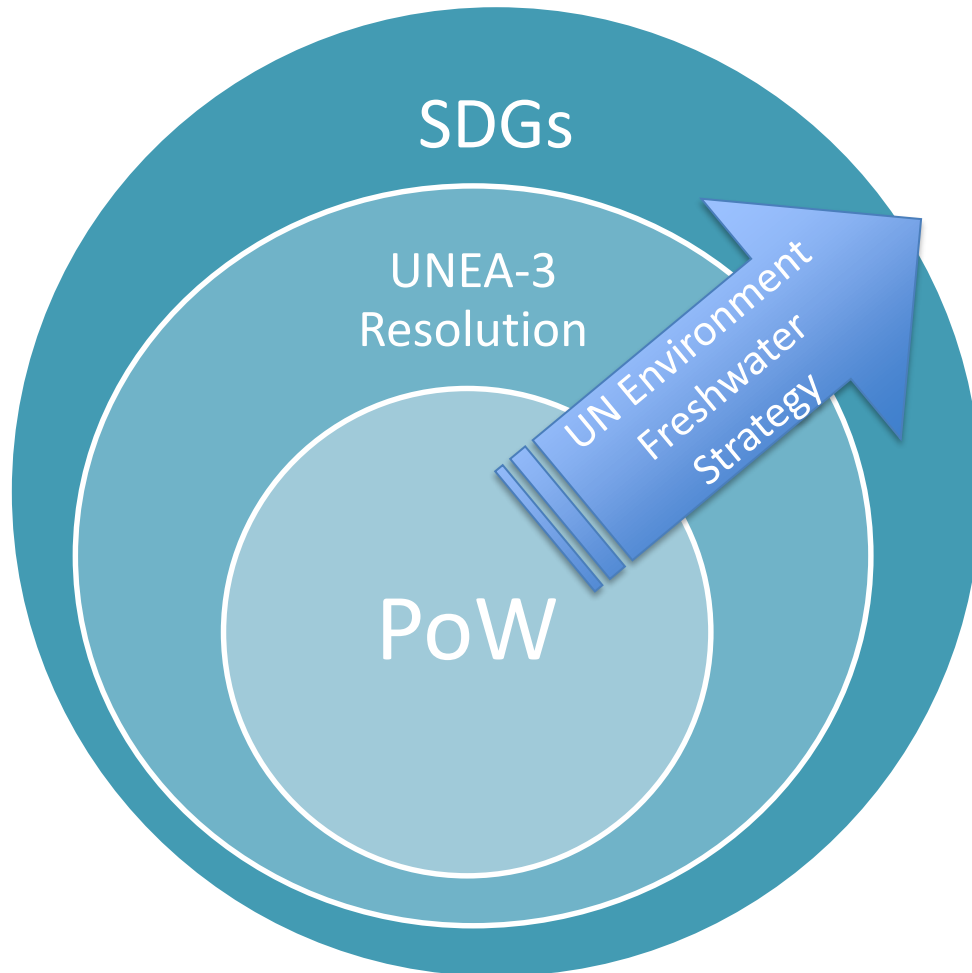
**Tuesday, October 23rd 2018**

**1pm – 2:30 p.m.**

# Outline

- Overview of UN Environment's tasks in the UNEA-3 Water Resolution
- Actions on:
    1) SDG 6 Monitoring
       - Earth Observation and Big Data
    2) IWRM: tools and capacity building
    3) Water Quality: capacity building for monitoring and the World Water Quality Assessment
    4) Global Wastewater Initiative, including emerging pollutants
    5) Framework for Freshwater Ecosystem Management
- Fundraising

# Connecting UNEA Resolution, PoW and SDGs



SDGs

UNEA-3 Resolution

UN Environment Freshwater Strategy

PoW

**Key Collaborations**

- UN-Water – global analyses, SDG 6 monitoring

- Freshwater Ecosystems Unit – Freshwater Health and Changes

- GEMS/Water – Water quality

- UNEP-DHI - IWRM

- GPA – Wastewater, Nutrients, Plastics

UNEA-3 Water Quality Resolution (Res. 3/10)  OP 16
"Assist countries to…" "in collaboration with national governments, local authorities and, as appropriate, the private sector":

- Build upon the GEMS/Water Trust Fund to assist in **WQ monitoring**, capacity-building, and data management; information WQ testing for contaminants (new and emerging)
- Strengthen **capacity** to reach wastewater targets including wastewater treatment options
- **Tools** to address water pollution and ecosystem health, implement IWRM, address water-related impacts of disasters
- **Assessments**, propose solutions, policies and technologies of invasive species, pharmaceutical contaminants, emerging pollutants;
- World Water Quality Assessment by UNEA-5;

- Support countries data collection, analysis and sharing to implement w-r SDGs, drawing on EO and global data; provide necessary technical support **monitoring/reporting SDG 6**

- Develop **programmes** that invest in land and ecosystem management to prevent pollution

- Create **enabling environment** including policies, laws and regulations, technologies and finance for water pollution including ww management

- Clean and recover polluted water bodies

**Sustainable Development Goal 6**
Synthesis Report on Water and Sanitation

2018

**6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**

United Nations

SDG 6 Integrated Monitoring Initiative

sdg6monitoring.org

unenvironment.org/water

UN WATER

# SDG indicators for which UN Environment is custodian: 6.3.2, 6.5.1 and 6.6.1

- SDG indicator 6.3.2: Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality
- SDG indicator 6.5.1: Degree of implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)
- SDG indicator 6.6.1: Change in extent of water-related ecosystems

➢ Comparable over time, between countries
➢ Statistically robust
➢ Now all 3 official indicators

UN Environment as custodian:
➢ Methodology development
➢ Tested in countries, feedback
➢ Technical support: tutorials, webinars, helpdesk
➢ Methodology revision
➢ 2017/18 data drive: data reported to UNSD
➢ Data analysis and progress reported globally

# Country data submissions
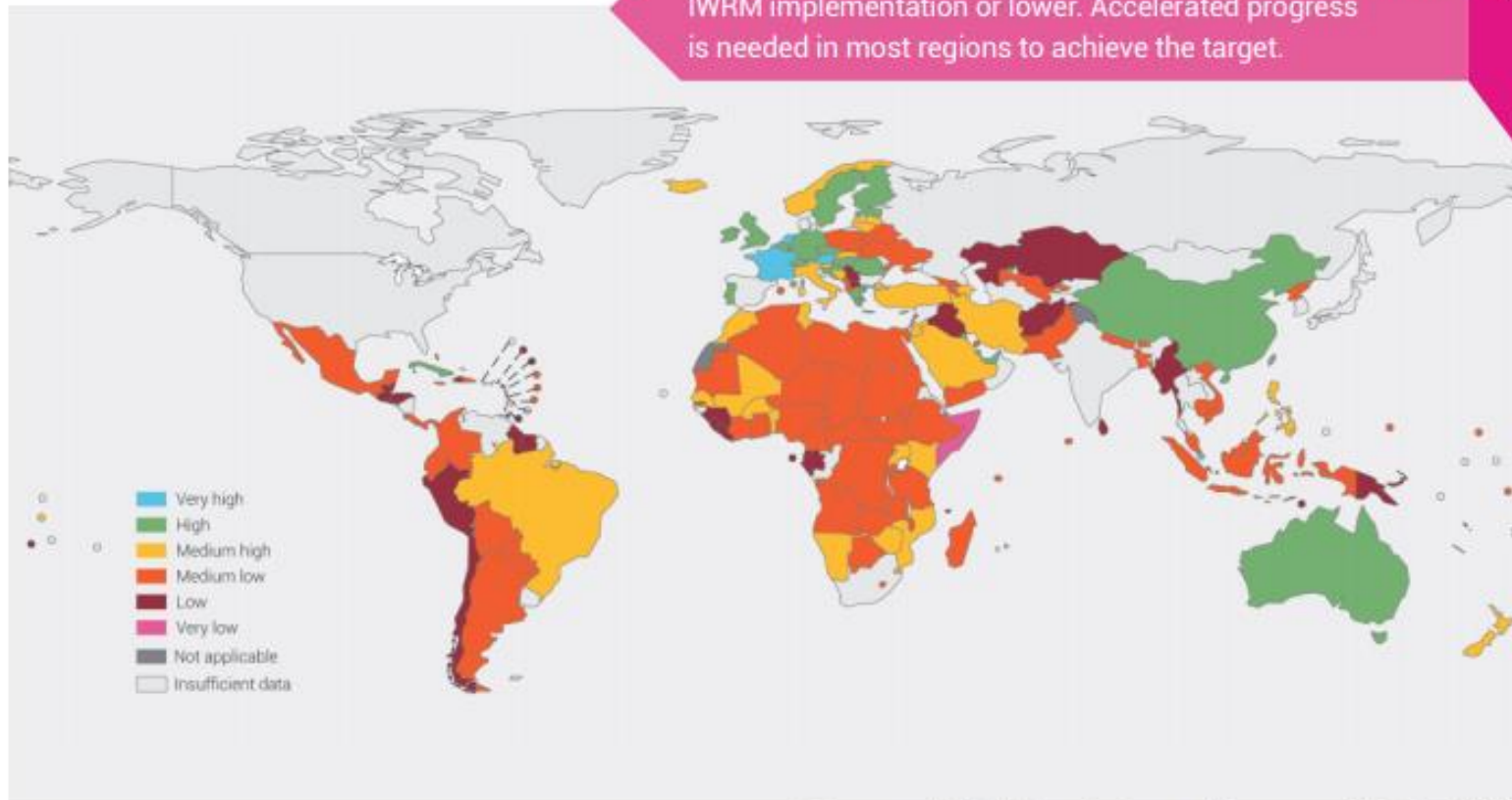
**Water quality: 50**     **Water ecosystems: 40***     **IWRM: 176**



Current status of SDG Indicator 6.5.1 global data collection

Status of data collection

- Survey response submitted (176)
- Submission pending (12)
- Awaiting confirmation of national focal point (3)
- No contact established yet (2)

# IWRM status and implementation



Status of IWRM implementation in countries in 2017/2018

In 2017/2018, 62 per cent of countries reported medium-low IWRM implementation or lower. Accelerated progress is needed in most regions to achieve the target.

Legend:
- Very high
- High
- Medium high
- Medium low
- Low
- Very low
- Not applicable
- Insufficient data

Data source: United Nations Environment Programme-DHI Centre (2018).

www.iwrmdataportal.unepdhi.org
www.flooddroughtmonitor.com

# SDG partnerships – EO and global data



Global Landsat Timelapse Animations

Columbia Glacier Retreat, 1984-2011

Saudi Arabia Irrigation, 1984-2012

Las Vegas Urban Growth, 1986-2012

Brazilian Amazon Deforestation, 1984-2012

# Capacity Development in Water Quality Monitoring

**GEMS/Water Programme Capacity Development (within its current workplan until 2020):**

- Training Courses (online and workshops) on all aspects of WQ monitoring, incl. data management)
- Technical assistance in WQ monitoring

**GEMStat Database:**

- GEMStat is the most comprehensive global database on water quality monitoring data
- HOWEVER, there are significant data gaps (spatial and temporal)
- Trust Fund for setting up monitoring stations, capacity building and data management
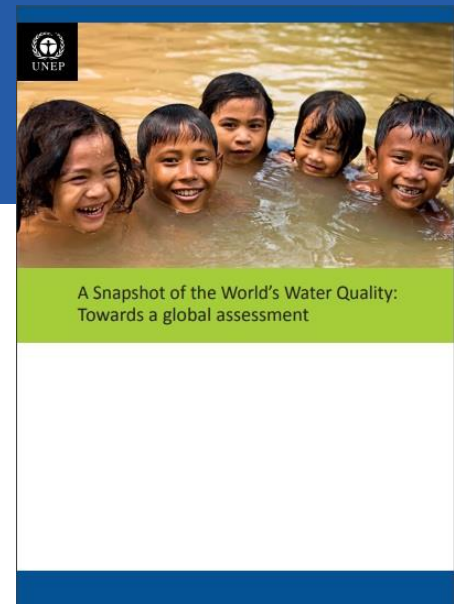
# World Water Quality Assessment (WWQA)

- A World Water Quality Assessment (WWQA) to be developed by UNEA-5 (2021)

**Progress:**
- A draft workplan for the full assessment developed
- Call for Expressions of Interest from all UN-Water members and other relevant organizations
- Inception meeting will take place 28-29 November 2018

**Funding:**
- US $200,000 received from Switzerland to initiate the assessment
- In-kind funding from Germany
- Additional funding required to fully complete the assessment ($3.8 million)



A Snapshot of the World's Water Quality: Towards a global assessment

**Towards a Worldwide Assessment of Freshwater Quality**
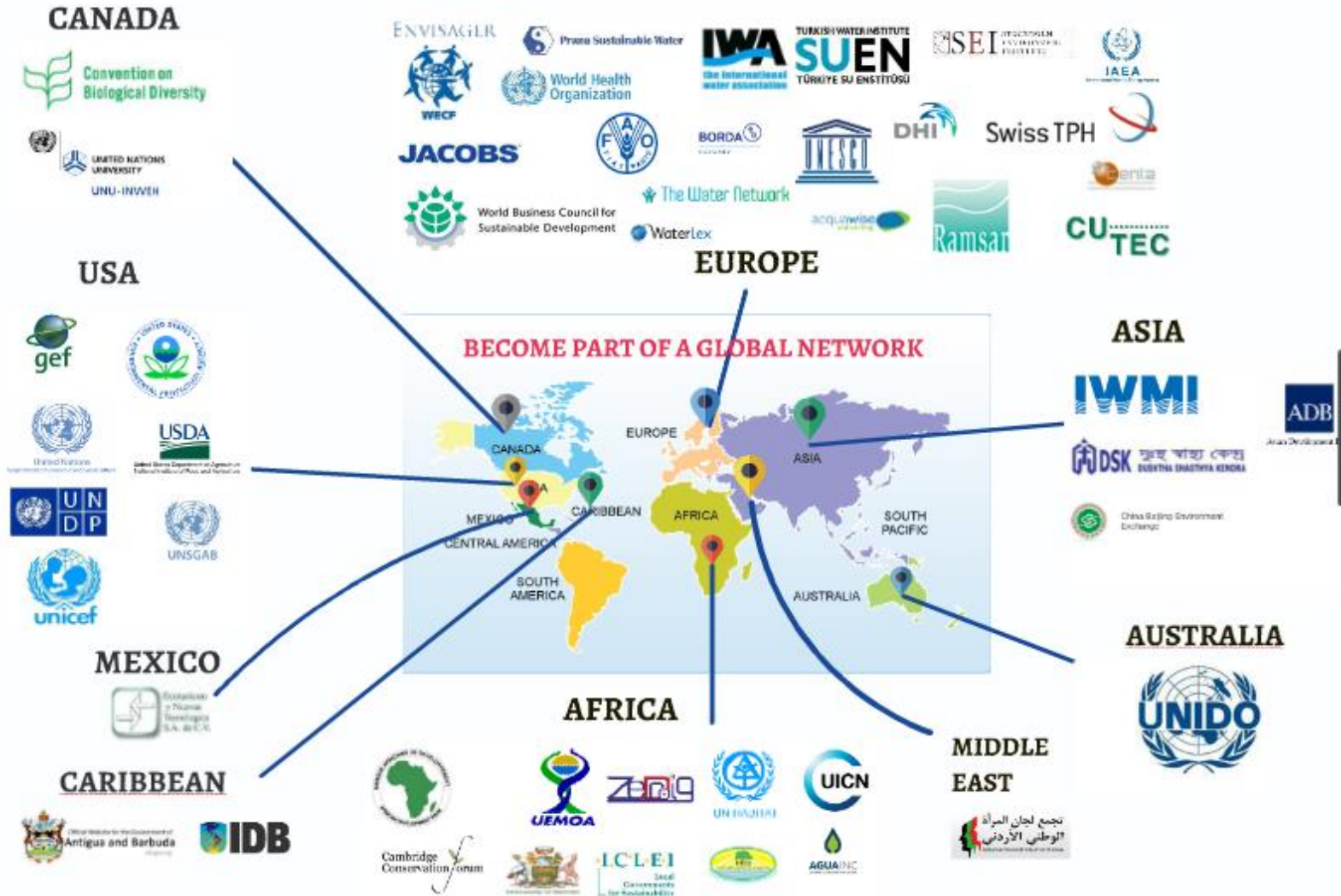A UN-Water Analytical Brief

# Global Wastewater Initiative (GW$^2$I)

- One of three partnerships hosted by the inter-government programme known as the GPA

- Strengthening the **normative basis** for managing and monitoring the impacts of wastewater.

  - Wastewater Technology Matrix;
  - Economic valuation of wastewater.

- Support countries to **develop policies**, **guidelines and standards** for **sustainable wastewater management**;

- Collaborate with the private sector to **invest and upscale business models for wastewater management** tapping into innovative financing mechanisms;

- Addressing **emerging pollutants**, including pharmaceutical contaminants, personal care product including proposed solutions, policies, and technologies.
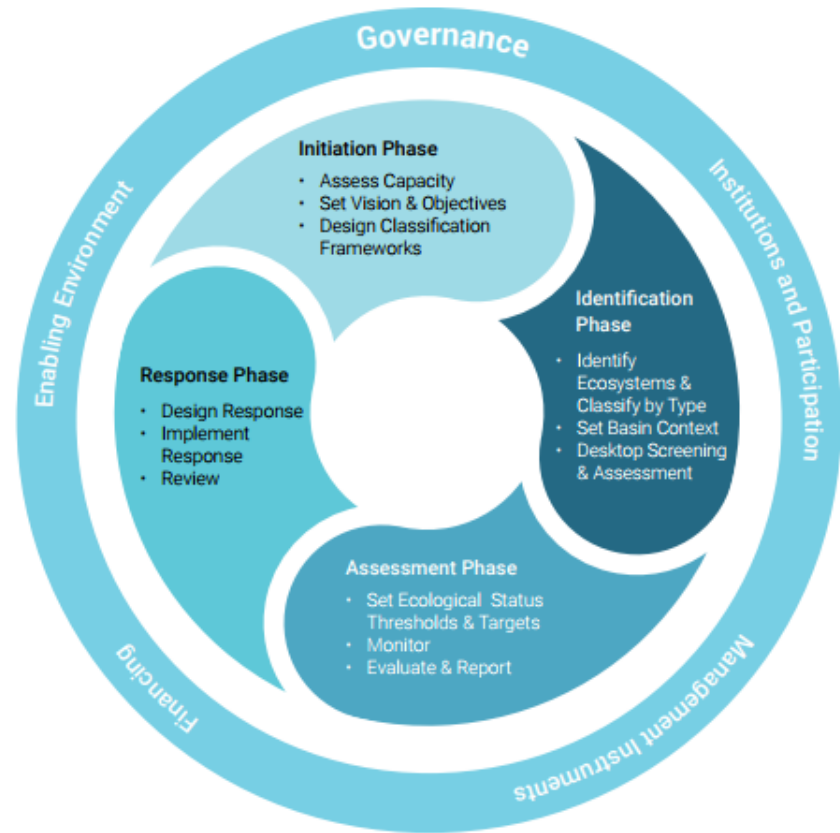
# Implementing the Framework for Freshwater Ecosystem Management

Building on IWQGES

In line with SDG implementation

Cycle of 4 phases:

- Initiation
- Identification
- Assessment
- Response / Policy

# Fundraising for UNEA-3 Water Resolution Implementation
## Donor meetings held: Stockholm, Paris, breakfast meeting in NBO, Bilateral meetings

| UNEA-3 Water Resolution item | Funds raised (USD) Cash and in-kind | Additional funds needed 2019/21 (USD) |
|---|---|---|
| SDG 6 Monitoring | 1.4 million | 2.7 – 4 million |
| Earth Observation and Big Data | 300,000 | 1.2 million |
| Tools and capacity building for IWRM implementation | 500,000 | 3 million |
| Capacity Building for Water Quality Monitoring | 1.2 million | 1.5 million |
| World Water Quality Assessment | 400,000 | 3.8 million |
| Wastewater Management through GW$^2$I | 500,000 | 4.8 million |
| Framework for Freshwater Ecosystem Management | 100,000 | 2 million |
| Emerging Pollutants | 100,000 | 1.4 million |
| Developing programmes to address land and water management to reduce pollution | 1 million | 10 million |
| **Total** | 5.5 million | 31.7 million |

# Thank you

UN environment