

DOWNLOAD PDF THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD WATER DEVELOPMENT REPORT 4

Chapter 1 : Topic of the Day – United Nations World Water Development Report, UN-Water

The United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR), is the UN-Water flagship report on water. It is a comprehensive review that gives an overall picture of the state, use and management of the world's freshwater resources and aims to provide decision-makers with tools to formulate and implement sustainable water policies.

It offers best practices as well as in-depth theoretical analyses to help stimulate ideas and actions for better stewardship in the water sector. The news media are full of talk of crises - in climate change, energy and food and troubled financial markets. These crises are linked to each other and to water resources management. Unresolved, they may lead to increasing political insecurity and conflict. Pressures on the resource come from a growing and mobile population, social and cultural change, economic development and technological change. Adding complexity and risk is climate change, with impacts on the resource as well as on the sources of pressure on water. The challenges, though substantial, are not insurmountable. The Report shows how some countries have responded. Progress in providing drinking water is heartening, with the Millennium Development Goal target on track in most regions. But other areas remain unaddressed, and after decades of inaction, the problems in water systems are enormous and will worsen if left unattended. Leaders in the water sector can inform decisions outside their domain and manage water resources to achieve agreed socioeconomic objectives and environmental integrity. Leaders in government, the private sector and civil society determine these objectives and allocate human and financial resources to meet them. Recognizing this responsibility, they must act now!

Understanding What Drives the Pressures on Water
2. Demographic, Economic and Social Drivers
3. Policies, Laws and Finance
5. Evolution of Water Use
8. State of the Resource
Changes in the Global Water Cycle
Evolving Hazards - and Emerging Opportunities
Responses and Choices
Options inside the Water Box
Options from Beyond the Water Box
The Way Forward

Appendix 1: Foreword
Overview
Section 1: Asia and the Pacific
Bangladesh
China: La Plata River basin
Brazil and Uruguay: Housed and led by UNESCO, WWAP monitors freshwater issues in order to provide recommendations, develop case studies, enhance assessment capacity at a national level and inform the decision-making process. UN-Water is a mechanism with 25 member agencies to strengthen coordination and coherence among all United Nations bodies that deal with freshwater issues: Established in by the High-Level Committee on Programmes of the United Nations, it evolved from many years of close collaboration among UN agencies. UN-Water is not another agency; through task forces and programmes led and hosted by various members, it adds value to existing activities and fosters cooperation and information sharing among UN agencies and stakeholder representatives.

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Chapter 2 : UN World Water Development Report - Wikipedia

The development of the WWDR, coordinated by the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), is a joint effort of the UN agencies and entities which make up UN-Water, working in partnership with governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders.

Valentina Abete and Diwata Hunziker Communications: Simona Gallese Gender and Regional Monitoring: Arturo Frascani and Lisa Gastaldin Security: Antonio Picascia Water is at the core of sustainable development. Water resources, and the range of services they provide, underpin poverty reduction, economic growth and environmental sustainability. From food and energy security to human and environmental health, water contributes to improvements in social well-being and inclusive growth, affecting the livelihoods of billions. Water in a sustainable world In a sustainable world that is achievable in the near future, water and related resources are managed in support of human well-being and ecosystem integrity in a robust economy. Water resources management, infrastructure and service delivery are sustainably financed. Water is duly valued in all its forms, with wastewater treated as a resource that avails energy, nutrients and freshwater for reuse. Human settlements develop in harmony with the natural water cycle and the ecosystems that support it, with measures in place that reduce vulnerability and improve resilience to water-related disasters. Water is governed in a participatory way that draws on the full potential of women and men as professionals and citizens, guided by a number of able and knowledgeable organizations, within a just and transparent institutional framework. The consequences of unsustainable growth Unsustainable development pathways and governance failures have affected the quality and availability of water resources, compromising their capacity to generate social and economic benefits. Demand for freshwater is growing. Unless the balance between demand and finite supplies is restored, the world will face an increasingly severe global water deficit. Over-abstraction is often the result of out-dated models of natural resource use and governance, where the use of resources for economic growth is under-regulated and undertaken without appropriate controls. Persistent poverty, inequitable access to water supply and sanitation services, inadequate financing, and deficient information about the state of water resources, their use and management impose further constraints on water resources management and its ability to help achieve sustainable development objectives. Competing demands impose difficult allocation decisions and limit the expansion of sectors critical to sustainable Fisher and her husband pulling in the net Timor Leste Photo: Investing in improved water management and services can help reduce poverty and sustain economic growth. Poverty-oriented water interventions can make a difference for billions of poor people who receive very direct benefits from improved water and sanitation services through better health, reduced health costs, increased productivity and time-savings. Economic growth itself is not a guarantee for wider social progress. In most countries, there is a wide “ and often widening “ gap between rich and poor, and between those who can and cannot exploit new opportunities. Access to safe drinking water and sanitation is a human right, yet its limited realization throughout the world often has disproportionate impacts on the poor and on women and children in particular. Economic development Water is an essential resource in the production of most types of goods and services including food, energy and manufacturing. Water supply quantity and quality at the place where the user needs it must be reliable and predictable to support financially sustainable investments in economic activities. Wise investment in both hard and soft infrastructure that is adequately financed, operated and maintained facilitates the structural changes necessary to foster advances in many productive areas of the economy. This often means more income opportunities to enhance expenditure in health and education, reinforcing a self-sustained dynamic of economic development. Many benefits may be gained by promoting and facilitating use of the best available technologies and management systems in water provision, productivity and efficiency, and by improving water allocation mechanisms. These types of interventions and investments reconcile the continuous increase in water use with the need to preserve the critical environmental assets on which the provision of water and the economy

depends. A more holistic focus on ecosystems for water and development that maintains a beneficial mix between built and natural infrastructure can ensure that benefits are maximized. Economic arguments can make the preservation of ecosystems relevant to decision-makers and planners. Ecosystem valuation demonstrates that benefits far exceed costs of water-related investments in ecosystem conservation. Valuation is also important in assessing trade-offs in ecosystem conservation, and can be used to better inform development plans. Human health, food and energy security, urbanization and industrial growth, as well as climate change are critical challenge areas where policies and actions at the core of sustainable development can be strengthened or weakened through water. Lack of water supply, sanitation and hygiene WASH takes a huge toll on health and well-being and comes at a large financial cost, including a sizable loss of economic activity. In order to achieve universal access, there is a need for accelerated progress in disadvantaged groups and to ensure non-discrimination in WASH service provision. Environmental protection and ecosystem services Most economic models do not value the essential services provided by freshwater ecosystems, often leading to unsustainable use of water resources and ecosystem degradation. Pollution from untreated residential and industrial wastewater and agricultural run-off also weakens the capacity of ecosystem to provide water-related services. The increase in the number of people without access to water and sanitation in urban areas is directly related to the rapid growth of slum populations in the developing world and the inability or unwillingness of local and national governments to provide adequate water and sanitation facilities in these communities. It is however possible to improve performance of urban water supply systems while continuing to expand the system and addressing the needs of the poor. Ecosystems across the world, particularly wetlands, are in decline. As the WWDR 3 spatial distributing of water resources and the frequency and intensity of water-related disasters rise significantly with increasing greenhouse gas emissions. Exploitation of new data sources, better models and more powerful data analysis methods, as well as the design of adaptive management strategies can help respond effectively to changing and uncertain conditions. Regional perspectives The challenges at the interface of water and sustainable development vary from one region to another. Haitian students breathe new life into depleted pine forest Photo: Agricultural water pollution, which may worsen with increased intensive agriculture, can be reduced through a combination of instruments, including more stringent regulation, enforcement and well-targeted subsidies. Energy production is generally water-intensive. Meeting ever-growing demands for energy will generate increasing stress on freshwater resources with repercussions on other users, such as agriculture and industry. Since these sectors also require energy, there is room to create synergies as they develop together. Maximizing the water efficiency of power plant cooling systems and increasing the capacity of wind, solar PV and geothermal energy will be a key determinant in achieving a sustainable water future. Many large corporations have made considerable progress in evaluating and reducing their water use and that of their supply chains. Small and medium-sized enterprises are faced with similar water challenges on a smaller scale, but have fewer means and less ability to meet them. The negative impacts of climate change on freshwater systems will most likely outweigh its benefits. Current projections show that crucial changes in the temporal and 4 Executive summary Increasing resource use efficiency, reducing waste and pollution, influencing consumption patterns and choosing appropriate technologies are the main challenges facing Europe and North America. Reconciling different water uses at the basin level and improving policy coherence nationally and across borders will be priorities for many years to come. Sustainability in the Asia and the Pacific region is intimately linked with progress in access to safe water and sanitation; meeting water demands across multiple uses and mitigating the concurrent pollution loads; improving groundwater management; and increasing resilience to water-related disasters. Water scarcity stands at the forefront when considering water-related challenges that impede progress towards sustainable development in the Arab region, where unsustainable consumption and over-abstraction of surface and groundwater resources contribute to water shortages and threaten long-term sustainable development. Options being adopted to enhance water supplies include water harvesting, wastewater reuse and solar energy desalination. A major priority for the Latin America and the Caribbean region is to build the formal

institutional capacity to manage water resources and bring sustainable integration of water resources management and use into socio-economic development and poverty reduction. Another priority is to ensure the full realization of the human right to water and sanitation in the context of the post development agenda. The fundamental aim for Africa is to achieve durable and vibrant participation in the global economy while developing its natural and human resources without repeating the negatives experienced on the development paths of some other regions. With regard to water, the MDGs helped to foster greater efforts towards improving access to drinking water supply and sanitation. However, the experience of the MDGs shows that a thematically broader, more detailed and context-specific framework for water, beyond the issues of water supply and sanitation, is called for in the post development agenda. There also remain major uncertainties about the amount of water required to meet the demand for food, energy and other human uses, and to sustain ecosystems. These uncertainties are exacerbated by the impact of climate change. Such a focused water goal would create social, economic, financial and other benefits that greatly outweigh its costs. Benefits would extend to the development of health, education, agriculture and food. Water management is the responsibility of many different decision-makers in public and private sectors. The issue is how such shared responsibility can be turned into something constructive and elevated to a rallying point around which different stakeholders can gather and participate collectively to make informed decisions. A stakeholder meeting in Punjab, India Photo: Blending structural and non-structural flood management approaches is particularly cost-effective. Risks and various water-related security issues can also be reduced by technical and social approaches. There are a growing number of examples of reclaimed wastewater being used in agriculture, for irrigating municipal parks and fields, in industrial cooling systems, and in some cases safely mixed in with drinking water. A Somali woman drawing water from one of the many man-made ponds dug through a UNDP-supported initiative to bring water to drought affected communities. UNDP Somalia, Jalam, Garowe, Somalia Governance Progress in water-related governance calls for engaging a broad range of societal actors, through inclusive governance structures that recognize the dispersion of decisionmaking across various levels and entities. While many countries face stalled water reform, others have made great strides in implementing various aspects of integrated water resources management IWRM , including decentralized management and the creation of river basin organizations. As IWRM implementation has too often been geared towards economic efficiency, there is a need to put more emphasis on issues of equity and environmental sustainability and adopt measures to strengthen social, administrative and political accountability. Minimizing risks and maximizing benefits Investing in all aspects of water resources management, services provision and infrastructure development, operation and maintenance can generate significant social and economic benefits. Spending on drinking water supply and sanitation is highly cost-effective on health grounds alone. Investments in disaster preparedness, improved water quality and wastewater management are also highly cost-effective. Distribution of costs and benefits among stakeholders is crucial for financial feasibility. Water-related disasters, the most economically and socially destructive of all natural hazards, are likely to increase with climate change. Planning, preparedness and coordinated responses “ including floodplain management, early warning systems and increased public awareness of risk 6 Executive summary Existing assessments of water resources are often inadequate for addressing modern water demands. Assessments are necessary to make informed investment and management decisions, facilitate cross-sector decisionmaking, and address compromises and trade-offs between stakeholder groups. Equity Social equity is one of the dimensions of sustainable development that has been insufficiently addressed in development and water policies. Sustainable development and human rights perspectives both call for reductions in inequities and tackling disparities in access to WASH services. This calls for a reorientation of investment priorities and operational procedures to provide services and allocate water more equitably in society. A pro-poor pricing policy keeps costs as low as possible, while ensuring that water is paid for at a level that supports maintenance and potential expansion of the system. Water pricing also provides signals for how to allocate scarce water resources to the highest-value uses “ in financial terms or other types of benefits. Equitable pricing and

water permits need to adequately assure that abstraction as well as releases of used water support efficient operations and environmental sustainability in ways that are adapted to the abilities and needs of industry and larger-scale irrigation as well as small-scale and subsistence farming activities. The principle of equity, perhaps more than any technical recommendation, carries with it the promise of a more water-secure world for all. The frequency and intensity of local water crises have been increasing, with serious implications for public health, environmental sustainability, food and energy security, and economic development. The global water crisis is one of governance, much more than of resource availability, and this is where the bulk of the action is required in order to achieve a water secure world. Although the central and irreplaceable roles that water occupies in all dimensions of sustainable development have become progressively recognized, the management of water resources and the provision of water-related services remains far too low on the scales of public perception and of governmental priorities. As a result, water often becomes a limiting factor, rather than an enabler, to social welfare, economic development and healthy ecosystems. *WWD 7 A vision for By 2030, humanity has achieved a water secure world,1* where every person has access to adequate quantities of water of an acceptable quality and from sustainable sources, to meet their basic needs and sustain their wellbeing and development. The human population is protected from waterborne pollution and diseases and water-related disasters. Accessing water is no longer a gendered burden, and equitable access to water resources and services for both women and men has fostered greater social inclusion. Ecosystems are protected in a climate of peace and stability. Local and national economies are more robust, as the risks and uncertainties related to the availability of water resources have been taken into account in the long-term planning for poverty reduction and economic development. Norms and attitudes have changed as a result of educational interventions, institutional changes, improved scientific and technical knowledge, sharing of lessons learned and best practices, and proactive policy and legislative developments.

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Chapter 3 : The United Nations World Water Development Report 3: Water in a Changing World - PDF Free

The United Nations World Water Development Report Published in by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 7, place de Fontenoy, Paris 07 SP, France.

Sue Williams, Press Relations Section, tel. Carole Darmouni, Audiovisual Section, tel. The triennial report is the most comprehensive assessment to date of freshwater resources. They also cover a range of issues intimately connected to water, from health and food security, to economic development, land use and the preservation of the natural ecosystems on which our water resources depend. Over half of them live in China or India. At this rate of progress, regions such as sub-Saharan Africa will not meet the UN Millennium Development Goal of halving, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water. The MDG target of halving, by 2015, the proportion of people without basic sanitation will not be met globally if present trends persist. Globally, diarrhoeal diseases and malaria killed about 3. Ninety percent of these deaths were children under the age of five. Evidence indicates that the diversity of freshwater species and ecosystems is deteriorating rapidly, often faster than terrestrial and marine ecosystems. The report points out that the hydrological cycle, upon which life depends, needs a healthy environment to function. Many are the result of poor land use. The tragic and developing drought in East Africa, where there has been huge felling of forests for charcoal production and fuel wood, is a poignant example. The report also cites the case of Lake Chad in Africa, which has shrunk by some 90 percent since the 1960s, mainly because of overgrazing, deforestation and large unsustainable irrigation projects. Two out of every five people now live in areas vulnerable to floods and rising sea-levels. The nations most at risk include Bangladesh, China, India, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, the United States of America and the small island developing states. The report stresses that changing climate patterns will further exacerbate the situation. Food production has greatly increased over the past 50 years, yet 13 percent of the global population million people, mostly in rural areas still do not have enough to eat. By 2030, this will have risen to nearly two thirds, resulting in drastic increases in water demand in urban areas. An estimated two billion of these people will be living in squatter settlements and slums. It is the urban poor who suffer the most from lack of clean water and sanitation. Water is a key resource for energy generation, which in turn is vital for economic development. Europe makes use of 75 percent of its hydropower potential. The report cites a survey in India for example, in which 41 percent of the customer respondents had made more than one small bribe in the past six months to falsify metre readings; 30 percent had made payments to expedite repair work and 12 percent had made payments to expedite new water and sanitation connections. Recognising the vital part freshwater plays in human security and development, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, adopted by Member States and the World Summit on Sustainable Development Johannesburg, 2002, called on countries to develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2015. The report indicates that only about 12 percent of countries have done so to date, although many have begun the process. Financial resources for water are also stagnating. However, only a small proportion 12 percent of these funds reach those most in need. And only about ten percent is directed to support development of water policy, planning and programmes. Added to this, private sector investment in water services is declining. However, many big multinational water companies have begun withdrawing from or downsizing their operations in the developing world because of the high political and financial risks. Water usage increased six-fold during the 20th century, twice the rate of population growth. Our ability to meet the continually increasing global demand, says the report, will depend on good governance and management of available resources. The password for access will be made available upon request. B-rolls and photographs are available.

Chapter 4 : World Water Development Report Archives | UN-Water

In pace with the human population explosion, water shortage is regarded as one of the most concerned issues around the world. About 1 billion people worldwide now don't have access to safe.

The authors are responsible for the choice and the presentation of the facts contained in this book and for the opinions expressed therein, which are not necessarily those of UNESCO and do not commit the Organization. Suggested citation World Water Assessment Programme. Water in a Changing World. Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication data has been applied for. Earthscan strives to minimize its environmental impacts and carbon footprint by reducing waste, recycling and offsetting its carbon dioxide emissions, including those created through publication of this book. For more details of our environmental policy, see www.earthscan.com. It is the route out of poverty for individuals and communities. Managing water is essential if the world is to achieve sustainable development. This challenge is even more pressing as the world confronts the triple threats of climate change, rising food and energy costs, and the global economic crisis. All three are exacerbating poverty, inequality and underdevelopment. The United Nations has responded by consolidating our work and joining with partners who can make a difference through UN-Water, which brings together more than two dozen UN agencies and other stakeholders. Developing countries and countries in transition are striving to manage their water resources more effectively. This is important not only for development; it is a matter of security, too. Lack of basic services can contribute to political instability. Armed conflicts can further disrupt these services. This has left hundreds of millions of people suffering from poverty and ill health and exposed to the risks of water-related diseases. This situation is unconscionable. Governments and the international development community must make more and immediate investments in water management and related infrastructure. We must all work together to address this matter of life and livelihoods. This Report is meant to spur such action, and I commend it to a wide global audience. Despite the vital importance of water to all aspects of human life, the sector has been plagued by a chronic lack of political support, poor governance and underinvestment. As a result, hundreds of millions of people around the world remain trapped in poverty and ill health and exposed to the risks of water-related disasters, environmental degradation and even political instability and conflict. Population growth, increasing consumption and climate change are among the factors that threaten to exacerbate these problems, with grave implications for human security and development. It also, for the first time, shows how changes in water demand and supply are affected by and affect other global dynamics. I am confident that this third volume will prove crucial as a working tool for policy-makers and other stakeholders, providing solid evidence from which to develop an effective and sustainable approach to water issues. The Report could not come at a more important time. We have passed the halfway point towards the target date for achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and despite progress, massive challenges remain. Millennium Development Goal 7 calls for halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. While the world is on track to achieve the water target globally, large regions of the world and many countries lag behind, and some risk backsliding. This is particularly the case in sub-Saharan Africa and low-income Arab states. On current trends the sanitation target will be missed by a wide margin in the majority of developing countries. But water is linked not only to Millennium Development Goal 7. It also directly affects, as this Report establishes, the achievement of all eight Millennium Development Goals, including, notably, the first goal, the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger. Water is a cross-cutting issue that demands a coordinated approach. Our success in avoiding a global water crisis is directly linked to our ability to address other global challenges, from poverty eradication and environmental sustainability to fluctuating food and energy costs and financial turmoil in world economies. It is therefore imperative that global risks, including those associated with water, be dealt with in an integrated manner. We must develop interdisciplinary tools that can take into account different drivers such as climate change and financial markets to achieve sustainable water management. As such, it should be a priority for the

United Nations and the global community as a whole. An expert group, convened by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, developed recommendations for the objectives and targeted audience of the report box 1. The first report provided an inaugural assessment of progress since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro. Both reports were based on key challenge areas such as water for food, water for energy, and challenges for governance. Stand-alone assessments were prepared by UN agencies. The assessments included pilot case studies on which the Report drew in developing appropriate assessment methodologies and lessons learned. This third edition embraces a holistic structure and focuses on the second objective established by the expert group "to accelerate coverage and investments for basic human water needs drinking water supply, sanitation and health, food security, mitigation of floods and droughts and prevention of conflicts", giving priority to developing countries. Contents of the Report A major theme of this Report is that important decisions affecting water management are made outside the water sector and are driven by external, largely unpredictable forces "forces of demography, climate change, the global economy, changing societal values and norms, technological innovation, laws and customs and financial markets. Many of these external drivers are dynamic, and changes are accelerating. A more effective and targeted support of the international community for such local and national efforts would also be an important objective of this awareness-raising and action-oriented report. The figure illustrates how developments outside the water domain influence water management strategies and policies. The Report emphasizes that decisions in other sectors and those related to development, growth and livelihoods should incorporate water as an integral component, including responses to climate change, food and energy challenges and disaster management. The analysis leads to a set of responses and recommendations for action that differ from those that have emerged from more introspective analyses of the water sector because they incorporate the contribution of water to sustainable development. This Report offers a holistic approach to links between water and climate change, food, energy, health and human security. Human security, broadly conceived, includes basic needs for food, water, health, livelihoods and a place to live" issues addressed in the Millennium Development Goals. As the second part of the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC, released in April, demonstrates, poor people are likely to suffer most from the effects of climate change. Fuller treatment is given to such topics as climate change, business and trade, financing, the role of the private sector, water transport and innovations and new technologies. The United Nations Expert Group recommendation to involve countries in preparing the reports was reflected in the first edition in case studies based on 10 countries including 10 national river basins with different physical, climate and socioeconomic conditions. This method was followed in the second edition and in this Report, which presents the case studies in a companion volume to the main report. The World Water Assessment Programme is also launching a series of supporting publications that include scientific side papers, topic and sector reports and dialogue reports, taking the programme out of its rigid three-year cycle. The preparatory process for this Report has followed an inclusive, participatory approach benefiting from opinion and feedback from the scientific, professional and decision-making communities from within and outside the water sector. Broader input to the Report and the World Water Assessment Programme processes in general has been achieved through four mechanisms: They tend to have more limited adaptive capacities and are more dependent on climate-sensitive resources such as local water and food supplies. In Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Cambridge University Press, p. The Expert Group on Policy Relevance consulted hundreds of such leaders to obtain their views on policy issues relevant to the water sector. At the same time, the Report continues to provide useful data for water managers on the state and use of this precious resource. Past reports have looked at trends based on historical data. It is clear that change is accelerating and that the effects of change are not easily projected from trends. To help us understand possible futures and how to cope with their impact on water resources, the World Water Assessment Programme process looks at the development of scenarios that will serve the fourth World Water Development Report. This scenario effort takes into account the main drivers of water, including

demographics, climate change, social and economic processes and technology, along with their interactions. In preparing this Report new data were available to update only a third of the plus indicators that were reported in the second edition. And some indicators were found to be no longer valid. The lack of data was echoed by the coordinators and authors of this Report, who found that indicators and data were often not available for analysing and reporting on issues considered important. As a consequence, a new process was developed for indicators and monitoring that aims at a better understanding of the trends and developments, including changes, in the state of water resources, their uses and the interface between the state and water uses and between water and other sectors. A table showing the status of indicators reported on in this Report is presented in appendix 1. More detailed information may be found at www.un.org/waterforpeople. Few countries know how much water is being used and for what purposes, the quantity and quality of water that is available and that can be withdrawn without serious environmental consequences and how much is being invested in water management and infrastructure. Despite the availability of new remote sensing and geographic information system technologies that can simplify monitoring and reporting and despite the growing need for such information in an increasingly complex and rapidly changing world, less is known with each passing decade. Strengthening such information systems is vital not only at a national scale but also at a global scale – to inform the construction of global models of the hydrologic cycle and decisions on where interventions, including external aid, would be most useful. Chapters 10 and 13 of the Report, in particular, treat this subject. Challenges remain in managing water resources for development The contribution of sustainable access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation to achieving the Millennium Development Goals is well established. Largely ignored, however, is the fact that water resources are at the core of many of the Millennium Development Goals on which progress is lagging. This Report and others elaborate the direct and indirect contributions of water management across all the Millennium Development Goals. It is not enough to hope that the trickle-down effects of economic growth will result in equitable distribution that includes the poor. The economic growth and poverty-reducing contributions of water resources must be made explicit and specific at the country level. Intergovernmental efforts must support such actions and maintain the momentum of the global commitments made since the Millennium Declaration in 2000. Even if greenhouse gas concentrations stabilize in the coming years, some impacts from climate change are unavoidable. These include increasing water stress in many regions, more extreme weather events, the potential for large population migration and the disruption of international markets. These challenges cannot be separated from the challenges of sustainable development in a complex global context. This report provides evidence of the need for public investments in water resources infrastructure and implementation capacity. It also provides evidence of the vital importance of water resources and environmental sustainability to engage the private sector, civil society and communities to invest and become involved, offering examples of how this can be done. Bilateral donors, important in funding water investments, must avoid the temptation to reduce their aid budgets during the current global financial and economic crises. Multilateral aid could be an important source of financing for many years to come. Yet both bilateral and multilateral donors appear not to recognize the contribution of the water sector to growth: This said, the flow of official development assistance has increased in recent years and so has the water component in dollar terms. But most of the increase has gone to water supply and sanitation, to a lesser degree, while aid flows to other water sectors have stagnated in dollar terms and fell as a percentage of total assistance. Like other physical infrastructure, water infrastructure deteriorates over time and needs repair and replacement. Investment is also required in operation and maintenance and in developing the capacity of the sector so that infrastructure meets appropriate standards and functions efficiently. Its progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals lags behind that of other regions. The percentage of the population living in absolute poverty is essentially the same as it was 25 years ago.

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This is the paradigm shift advocated in the United Nations World Water Development Report, Wastewater: the Untapped Resource, launched 22 March on the occasion of World Water Day. A large proportion of wastewater is still released into the environment without being either collected or treated.

Chapter 6 : - 4th Edition | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

4 Released every three years since March , 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.

Chapter 7 : World Water Development Report | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

The United Nations World Water Development Report Executive Summary. Setting the Scene The World's Water Crisis 4 Milestones 5.

Chapter 8 : The United Nations World Water Development Report , Wastewater: The Untapped Resource

The United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR) is a global report that provides an authoritative, comprehensive assessment of the world's freshwater resources. It is produced annually by the World Water Assessment Programme and released by UN-Water.

Chapter 9 : World Water Development Report | UN-Water

The United Nations World Water Development Report Report. 2 In an attempt to better capture the relation between supply and demand, the Millennium.