



# SDG Indicator 6.3.2

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**Proportion of water bodies with good ambient water quality**

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# Outline

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- Background and rationale for indicator re-classification.
- Information how the methodology has become an international standard and who is the governing body.
- Development and testing of the methodology.
- Results of the pilot studies and list of countries consulted.
- Confirmation of joint submission with other partner and co-custodian agencies.
- Conclusion.

## Background and justification

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- Water is an HLPF focus area this year
- Methodology relies on well established approaches, tested over the last decades with GEMS water.
- Straightforward methodology with five simple parameters.
- Methodology is based on experiences across all UN Members involved in the SDG 6 integrated monitoring and compliant with the EU Water Frameworks directive.

# Adoption process

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- A Task team was established for 6.3.2
- Terminological alignment with the [International Glossary of Hydrology](#), FDES [Basic Set of Environmental Statistics](#) and SEEA-Water.
- Conceptually inspired by and partially aligned with the EU Water Framework Directive monitoring and assessment approach.
- Circulated to the Expert Group on Environment Statistics.
- Communications sent to all countries on extent to the NSO, Ramsar focal point and the UN Water focal point.

# Development and testing

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- UN Water integrated monitoring initiative involving 60 countries.
- Five Proof of Concept countries.
- 8 webinar series in 6 languages – all countries invited.
- UN Environment help desk.
- Regional and national trainings involving more than 50 countries primarily in Asia, Africa, Latin America and West Asia.
- Every NSO, every Ramsar focal point and every UN Water focal point was included in every communication

## Pilot

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- UN Environment conducted a pilot data collection round in 2017. All member states were requested to send data.
  - To increase synergies and reduce duplication, UN Environment combined the data collection for 6.3.2 and 6.6.1. We received 38 submissions for 6.6.1 and 48 for 6.3.2.
  - UN Environment maintained a help desk during the data collection and the help desk had more than 4000 interactions with countries on 6.3.2 and 6.6.1.
  - Methodological revision after the pilot to add higher degree of flexibility and to reduce the reporting burden.
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## Joint submission with partners and co-custodians

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- Active collaboration with UN Water and its 31 agency members.
- Task team on 6.3.2 was established.
- Collaborating across Goal 6 to improve collection of data by river basin.
- Based on more than 2 years of work with partners.

# Conclusions

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- Methodology is based on experiences from countries and expertise from water quality experts.
- Partners and countries were involved in the development.
- Monitoring already captures 48 countries.
- This indicator will be continue to undergo methodological refinements.
- Based on our views and consultations with countries and experts, this methodology is ready for an upgrade.



# For further information visit

UN Environment Website

<http://www.unep.org/ecosystems/freshwater/sdgs-freshwater>

UN Water website:

<http://www.sdg6monitoring.org>

UN Water website:

<https://environmentlive.unep.org/goal/index/six>

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Thank you

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[www.unenvironment.org](http://www.unenvironment.org)