

5th joint meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment under the Water Convention, 6-8 May 2024

**Item 9.
Initial outcomes of the 3rd reporting
exercise under the Water Convention**

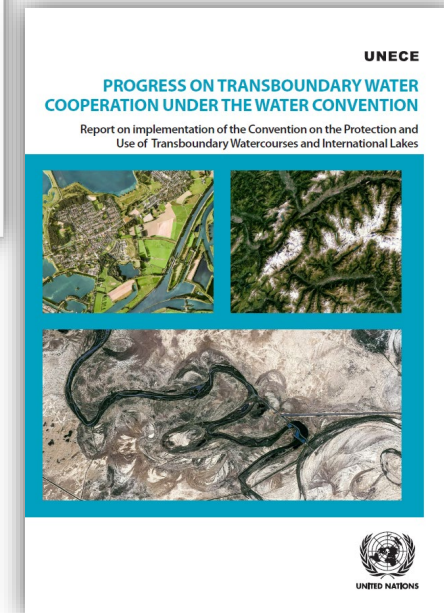
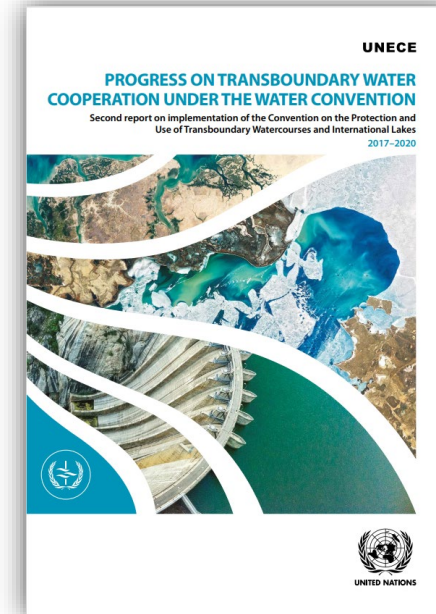
**Iulia Trombitcaia
Water Convention Secretariat, UNECE**

Background on reporting under the Water Convention

- Reporting mechanism introduced in 2015, with Decision VII/2 by 7th Meeting of Parties

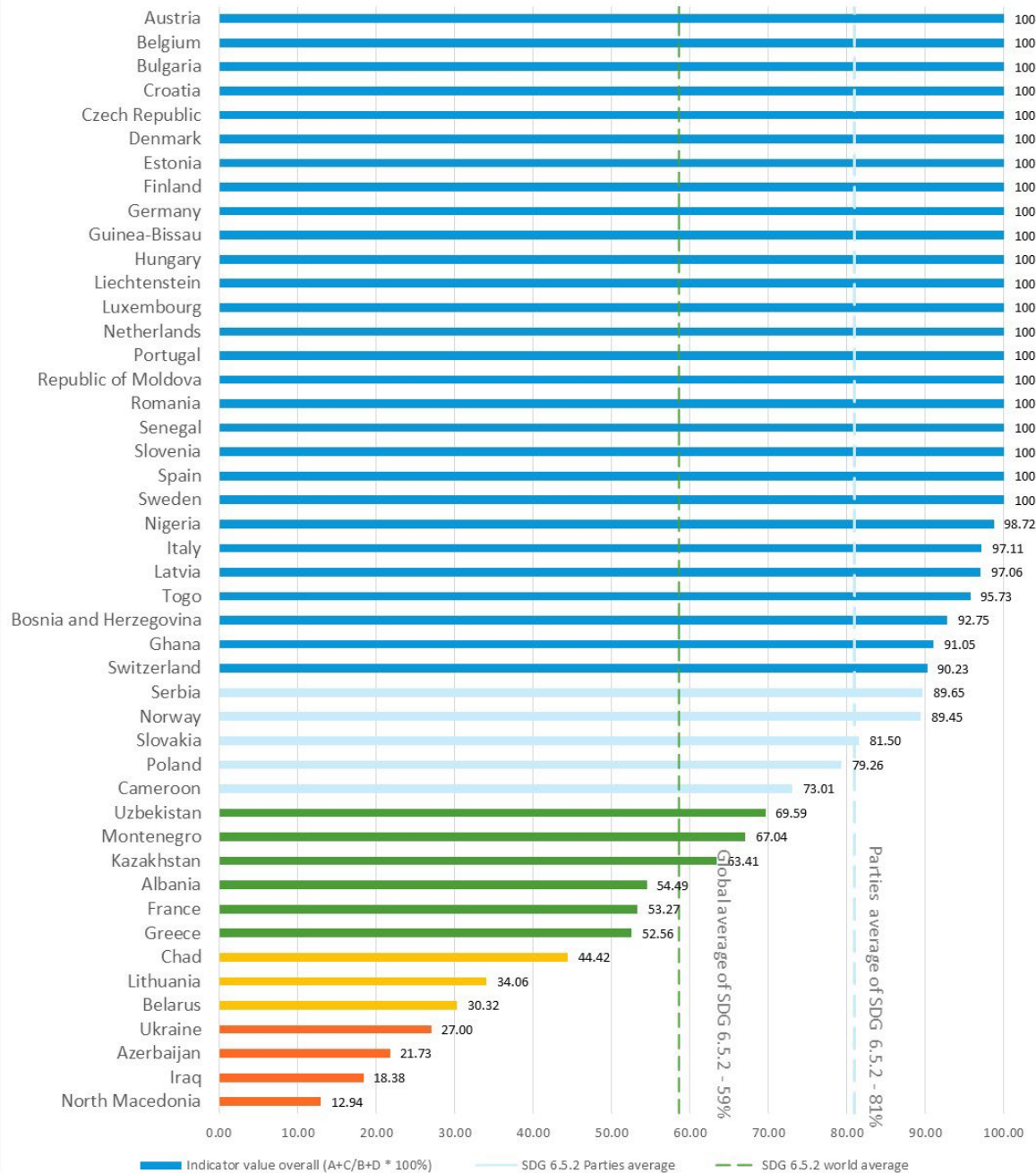
Coincided with SDGs: for Parties, reporting under the Convention and SDG 6.5.2 is combined to increase synergies and avoid duplication of efforts

- Transparent means by which to:
 - assess implementation
 - identify gaps and difficulties
 - highlight good practice and lessons learned
- Support future implementation by helping to focus efforts on key challenges
- Secretariat requested to prepare synthesis report based on national reports submitted



Initial results from the 3rd reporting under the Water Convention

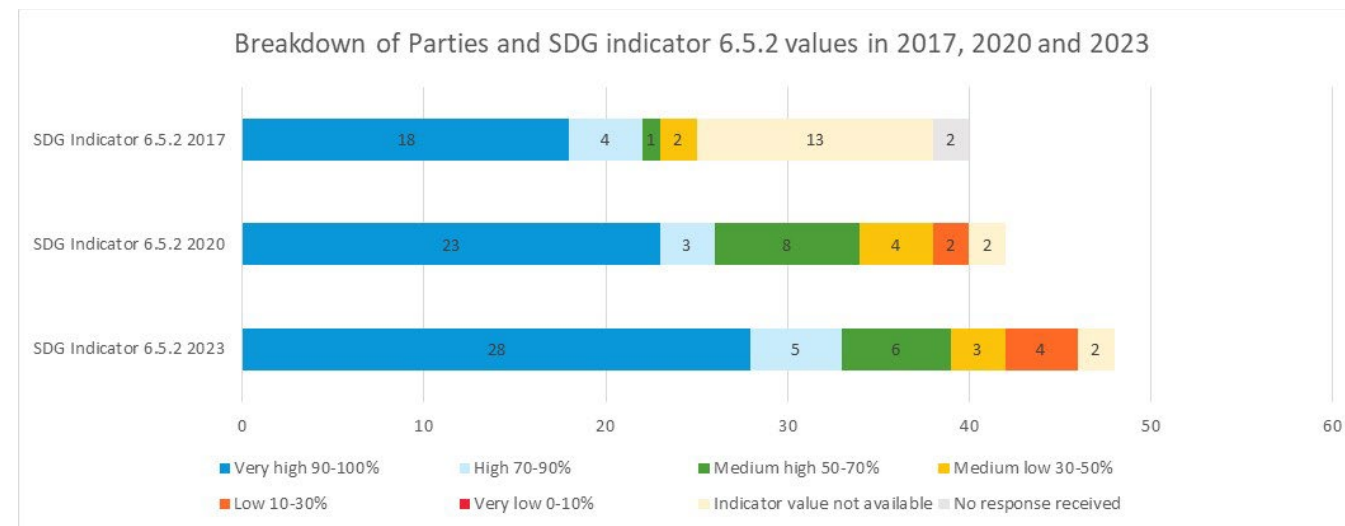
Parties SDG indicator 6.5.2 values



- ✓ All Parties responded in 2023 (2020: 100%; 2017: 95%)
- ✓ Coordination improved: Many Parties have engaged in consultations on the content of their reports at national level and with riparian countries and/or joint body
- ✓ Average value of the SDG indicator 6.5.2 for Water Convention Parties is **81%** (global average **59%**)
- ✓ 22 out of 26 countries worldwide with 100% value are Water Convention Parties
- ✓ Improved data on areas and many additional small basins reported in the 3rd cycle

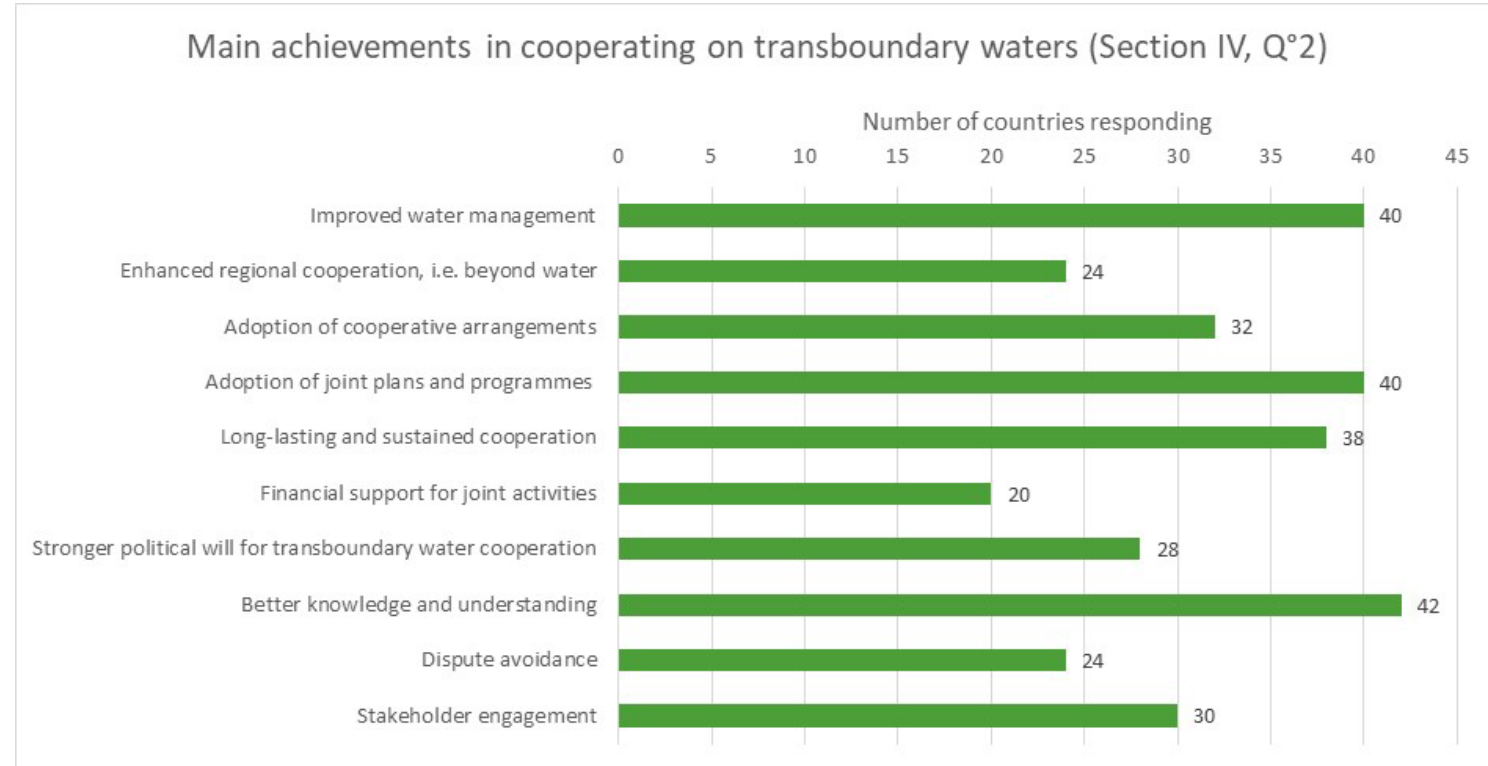
Recent examples of progress among Parties

- Norway, Sweden: Agreement on cooperation 2021-2027 between the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (Sweden) and the Environment Directorate (Norway) on water management in accordance with EU WFD (2020)
- Albania, North Macedonia: Agreement on international water way transport in Ohrid Lake (2022)
- Hungary-Serbia-Croatia: Trilateral cooperation agreement on ice control in the section of the Danube River of common interest between Dunafoldvar (rkm 1560) and Vukovar (rkm 1333) (2019)
- Moldova, Romania and Ukraine: (ministerial) Declaration on cooperation on the management of the Prut river basin (2023)
- Poland, Ukraine: MoU in the field of Geology and Mineral Resources between the Polish Geological Institute-National Research Institute and the State Geology and Subsoil Service of Ukraine (2022)
- Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan: Inter-agency Roadmap on Protection and Sustainable Use of the Pre-Tashkent Transboundary Aquifer (2022)
- Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan: Agreement between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan on management, protection and rational use of water resources of the Amu Darya River (2022)



Recent examples of progress among Parties

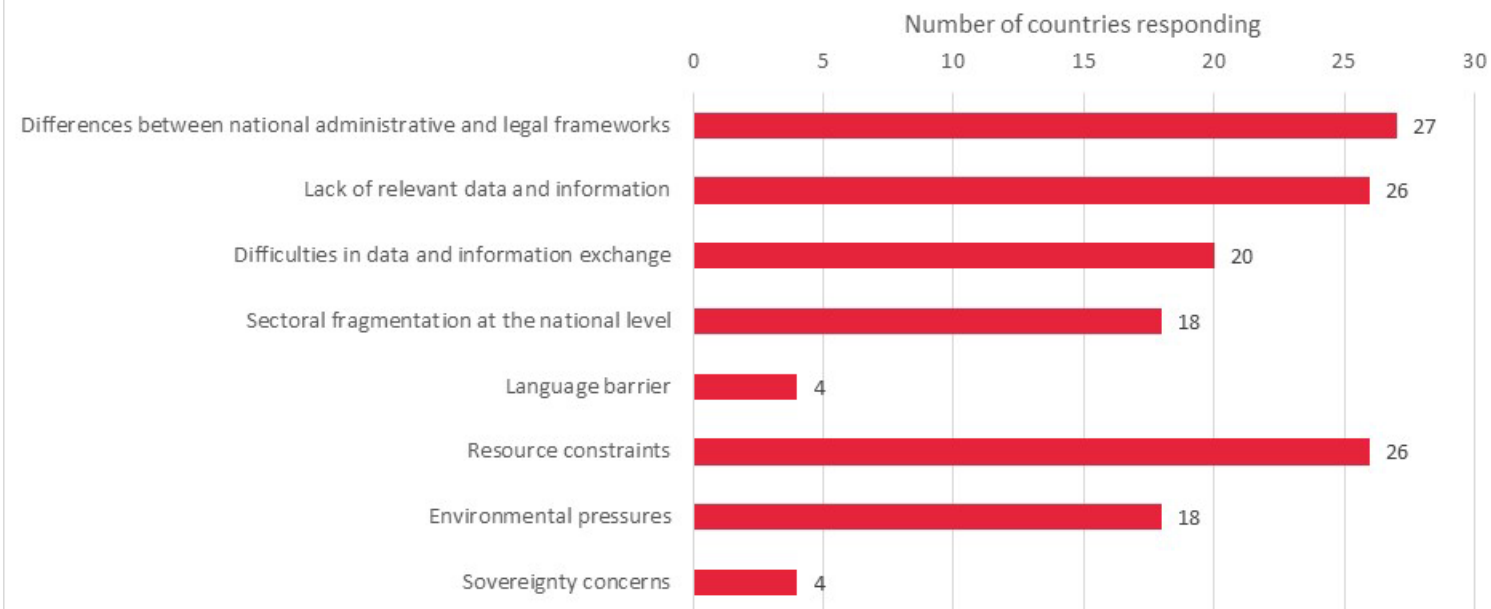
- Numerous new/updated RBMPs and Flood risk management plans
- Action Plan 2021-2030 of CIPEL
- Updated Action Plan 2019-2027 of CIP AIS
- Strategy for the reduction of nutrients in waters in the International Oder River Basin Area (2022)
- Rhine Monitoring Programme Chemistry 2021-2026
- Joint operation procedure regarding the Lake Saimaa and River Vuoksi Discharge Rule (2021)
- Plan of approach for exceptional low water events in the Meuse basin (2020)
- Strategic Action Programme on the Dniester (2021)



Challenges remain

- ✓ Need to strengthen/establish cooperative arrangements for transboundary waters
- ✓ Differences between national administrative and legal frameworks
- ✓ Resource constraints
- ✓ Lack of relevant data and information

Main challenges faced by countries in cooperating on transboundary waters
(Section IV, Q°1)



Elaboration of the 3rd progress report

- Similar structure as in the 2nd progress report (2021) to ensure consistency and allow for comparison

Chap. 1 Overview

Chap. 2 Transboundary water management at the national level

Chap. 3 Transboundary agreements

Chap. 4 Joint bodies

Chap. 5 Activities related to the implementation

Chap. 6 Selected basin analysis (Rhine, Dniester, Syr Darya, SMAB)

Chap. 7 Implementation of the Water Convention in 2020-2023

- Focus on recent Parties
- Increase communication friendliness
- Increase number of figures and add infographics
- Consolidated analysis of information by basins

Full draft – to be disseminated in late June 2024 for comments



Thanks for listening!

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Further information

www.unece.org/water/transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting.html

