

# Activities under the Water Convention as impacted by COVID-19

Sonja Koeppel, Secretary to the Water Convention

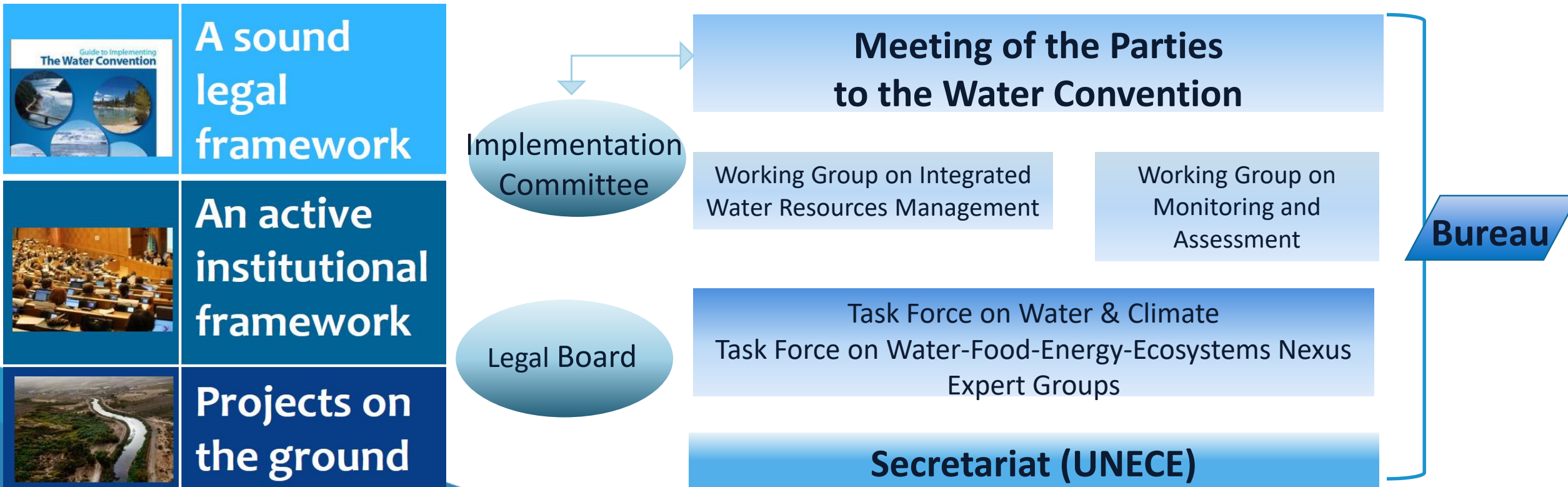


# The good news... water cooperation continues!



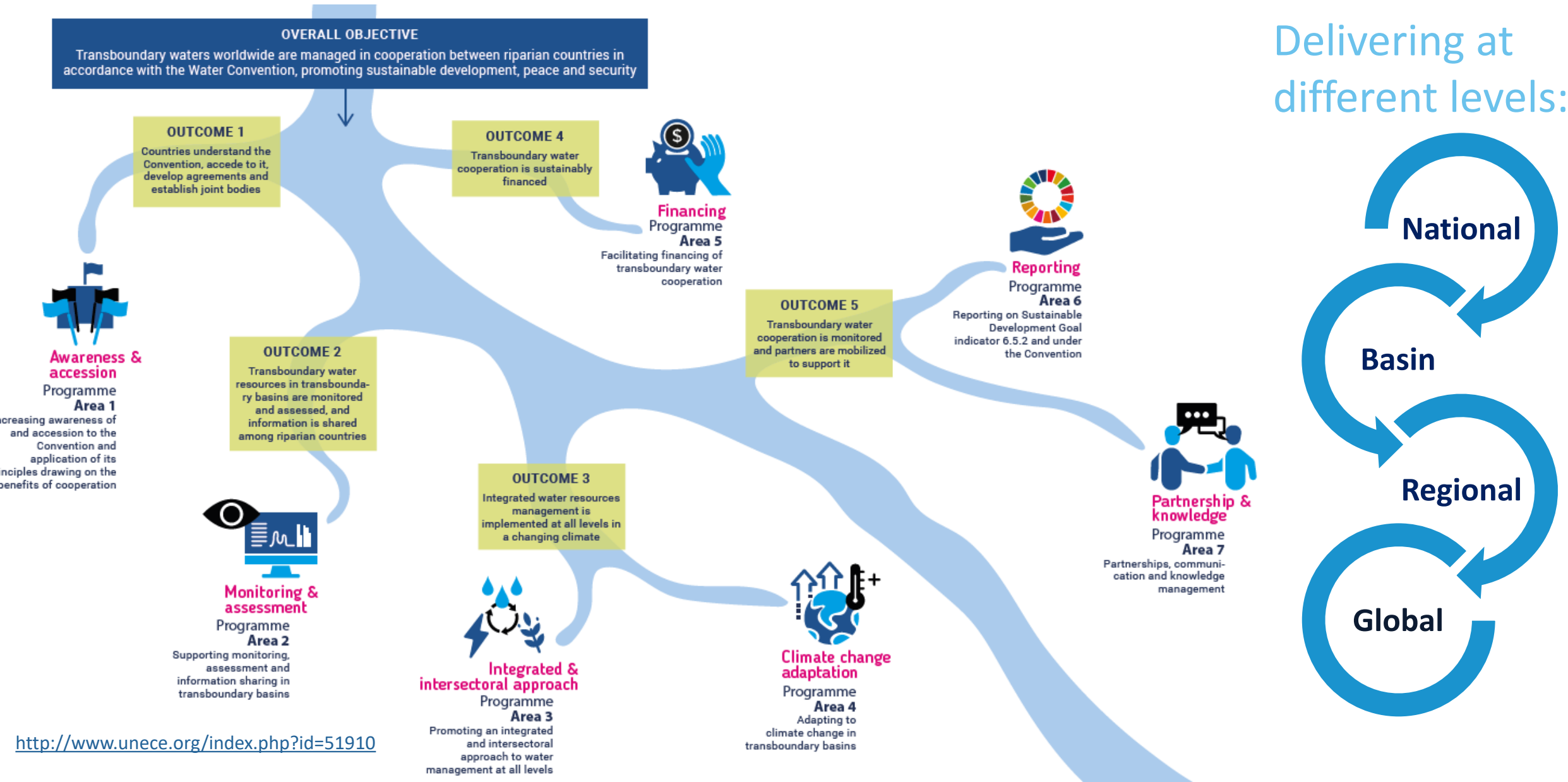
Drin Basin Strategic Action  
Programme  
online signature  
24 April 2020

# How the Water Convention works in a nutshell



# Water Convention Programme of Work 2019-2021

Delivering at different levels:



# Intergovernmental meetings: provisional calendar

11th meeting of the **Implementation Committee** (*postponed to 31 Aug - 1 Sept 2020 tbc*)

15th meeting of the **Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management** (main subsidiary body, *postponed to 30 Sept - 1 Oct 2020, probably hybrid*)

11th meeting of the **Task Force on Water and Climate Change** (2 October 2020 tbc)

6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the **Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus** (22-23 October 2020 tbc, probably hybrid)

**9<sup>th</sup> session of the Meeting of the Parties (29 Sept – 1 Oct 2021), Tallinn, Estonia**

- Decisions under preparation for MOP9 on:
  - Financial sustainability of the Convention
  - Procedure for proposing to host future sessions of the Meeting of the Parties
  - Future work programme

# Capacity building activities

**Global workshop on transboundary agreements** (*postponed to 28-29 July 2020, online*)-

Elaboration of a checklist for developing transboundary agreements

**3rd Expert Group on the Development of the Transboundary Water Allocation**

**Handbook** (20-21 Oct 2020 tbc virtual or hybrid)

**Workshop on water, climate change, health and disasters** (*postponed to 2021*)

**Global workshop on financing transboundary basin development** (16-18 December 2020 tbc, probably hybrid)

**Capacity building for countries in accession** (some activities online; some national and regional workshops postponed)

**National Policy Dialogues on IWRM** (technical meetings online)

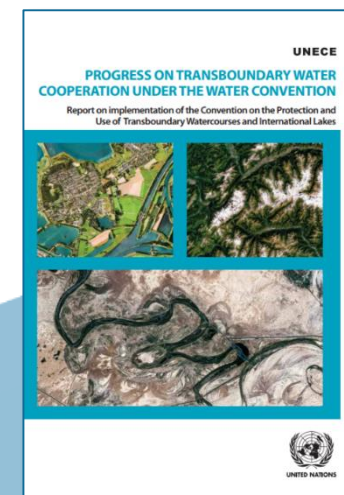
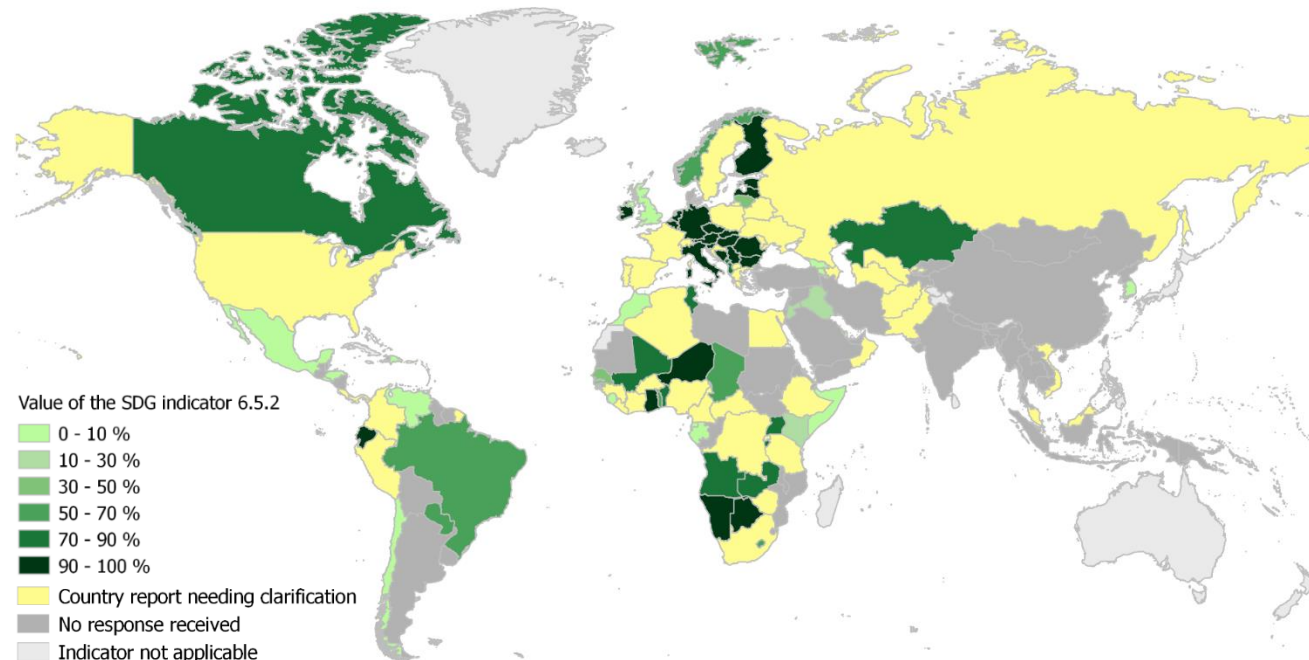
# Reporting under the Convention and SDG indicator 6.5.2

## 1st reporting exercise in 2017-2018:

- Among **153** countries sharing transboundary waters **108** responded
- **38** out of **40** Parties responded
- Only **17** countries have all basins covered by operational arrangements

## 2nd reporting exercise in 2020:

- Feb 2020 invitation to report sent to countries
- **30 June 2020**: deadline to report
- Webinars: 12 May (ENG), 20 May (FRE), 27 May (SPA), 28 May (RUS), 4 June (ENG)



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



**SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2**  
TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION

# Protocol on Water and Health

Serviced by UNECE and WHO Regional Office for Europe

It is critical to provide safe and sufficient WASH to protect human health during COVID-19

- Improving governance for water and health through target setting and periodic reporting
- Prevention and reduction of water-related diseases
- Institutional water, sanitation and hygiene (health care facilities, schools)
- Small-scale water supplies and sanitation
- Safe and efficient management of water supply and sanitation systems
- Equitable access to water and sanitation

Programme of work (2020-2022) => Meeting of the Parties (2022)

Dedicated webinar in June



# Thanks for your attention!



## **Water Convention Secretariat:**

[Water.convention@un.org](mailto:Water.convention@un.org)

[Sonja.koeppel@un.org](mailto:Sonja.koeppel@un.org)



## **For more information:**

<https://www.unece.org/env/water/>

<http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/conventions/water/envwater/covid-19-the-role-of-the-water-convention-and-the-protocol-on-water-and-health.html>



## **Water Convention Newsletter:**

<https://www.unece.org/env/water/newsletter.html>



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