



Egypt's experience in reporting for SDG Indicator 6.5.2

**Expert Group Meeting on Pursuing Improved Shared Water
Resources Cooperation within the Framework of Global and
Regional Agreements**

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Background

- In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 6 which deals with water and aims to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all .

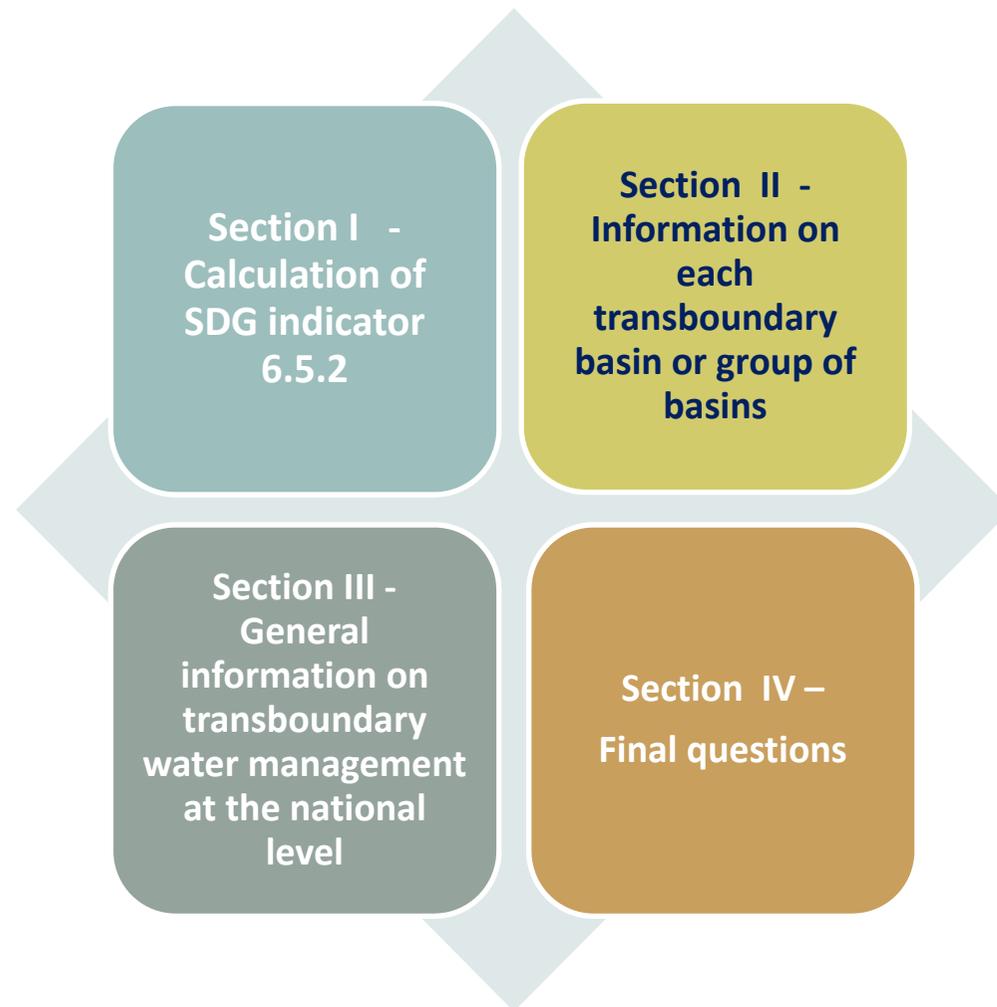
Goal 6 Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate

6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation

6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation

The template was composed of four sections



Reporting process in Egypt

- A working group from different sectors (Nile Water Sector, Planning sector, Ground water institute) was formed according to a ministerial Decree in order to complete the national report on the SDG (6.5.2).
- The working group held several meetings to discuss the methodology of work and to distribute the tasks among the concerned sectors, according to their respective scope of work.
- In August 2017, the questionnaire was partially filled in and submitted to the Ministry of Foreign affairs for review and contribution. **The Egyptian permanent mission in Geneva submitted the questionnaire.**

- In September 2017, an e-mail was received from the UNECE secretariat regarding a number of queries about the report received from Egypt, and it was addressed to the parties who filled out the questionnaire according to their scope of work to respond to these queries.
- **A modified version of the questionnaire is being prepared**
- Egypt participated in the **technical meeting on the template of reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.2 and under the water convention** that has been held in Budapest, Hungary during the period (16-17) January 2018. The objective of the meeting was to review the first notification form technically, without addressing any data sent by States, to improve and modify the model.

Egypt interventions in the meeting focused on the following:

- For the first section concerning the use of the percentage of the basin area within the state to the entire area of the basin, the percentages of areas do not reflect cooperation between States, therefore it's requested to modify this indicator or use another one which would be timely representing the progress achieved in cooperation between the riparian countries for each basin.
- **UNECE reported that this indicator cannot currently be modified, and that there is a possibility to address it in the second notification of 2020.**
- In the section concerning environmental impact studies, Egypt stated that any country located upstream any shared water resources should conduct detailed, environmental impact studies of their projects before implementation.

Challenges:

- ❖ The percentages of areas do not reflect cooperation between States. *For example*, Egypt supports the Nile Riparian countries in the field of water management, water conservation and water supply through bilateral technical cooperation projects such as: Institutional Strengthening, Capacity building and training, Academic scholarships, Exchange visits and Applied research, Rainwater harvesting dams, Groundwater wells, Hydrological stations.
- ❖ There is a difficulty to monitor cooperation in transboundary aquifers since it is hard to delineate transboundary aquifers, their abstractions in order to realize commitments to coordinated or joint management

Lessons learned:

- ❖ The importance of monitoring transboundary water cooperation
- ❖ The importance of enhancing future reporting
- ❖ Sharing knowledge and experience to reach common ground regarding SDG6.5.2 indicator methodology and template

Recommendations:

- During the preparation of the second reporting cycle, there is a need to organize regional workshops & meetings for countries sharing transboundary basins (specially outside Europe) in order to reach common ground and agree on a more reliable indicator that measures transboundary cooperation in a more realistic way.