



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



SPECIAL EVENT ON THE ROAD TO THE



UN  
2023 WATER  
CONFERENCE

NEW YORK  
22-24  
MARCH  
2023

# National Water Roadmap towards 2030 Agenda

*Pathways to plenty: why, what and how?*

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*Rome Water Dialogue, 29 November 2022, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy and online*

[www.fao.org/land-water](http://www.fao.org/land-water)

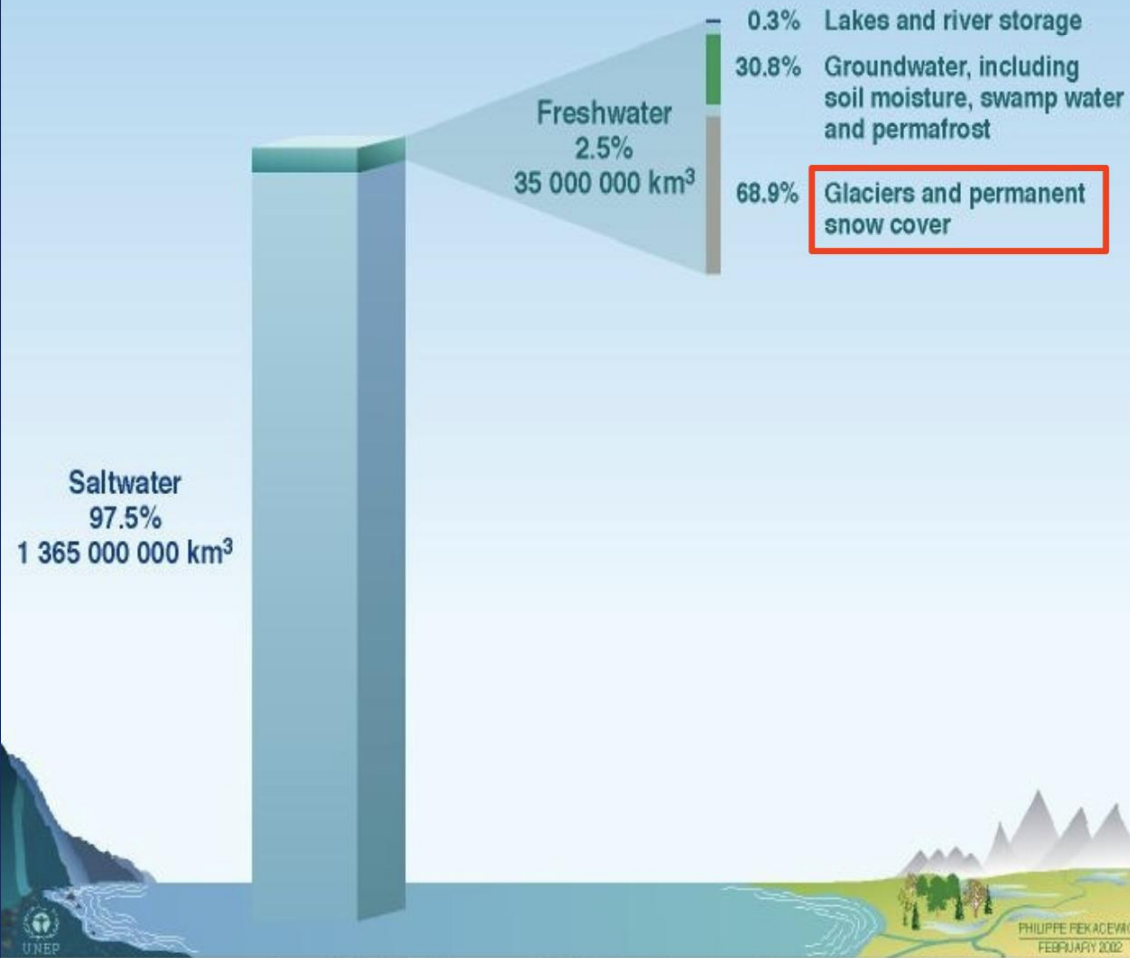
# National Water Roadmap: a rich history

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- *Agenda 21* (1992): “Formulation of costed and targeted national action plans and investment programmes ... to improve integrated water resources management”;
- *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation* (2002): “Develop integrated water resources management (IWRM) and water efficiency plans by 2005”;
- *The Future We Want* (2012): “Water is at the core of sustainable development”;
- *Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015): “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all” (SDG 6 with 6 targets);
- *SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework* (2018): “Global SDG 6 targets must be localized and adapted to the country context”;
- *UN Water Conference* (March 2023): the first UN water conference since 1977.

## A World of Salt

Total Global Saltwater and Freshwater Estimates



## Why now? Why water?

- 1. The amount of water on Earth is abundant. However, the amount of freshwater is finite and becomes smaller as rivers and lakes dry up, groundwater is depleted and glaciers are melting.**
- 2. Climate change is introducing higher risks and instabilities into the global water cycle and rainfall patterns.**
- 3. All countries are water-vulnerable.**



# Impacts of climate change on water: extremes and growing scarcity



@CNN

The rising Clarence River floods the town of Grafton in northern New South Wales, on March 1, 2022.



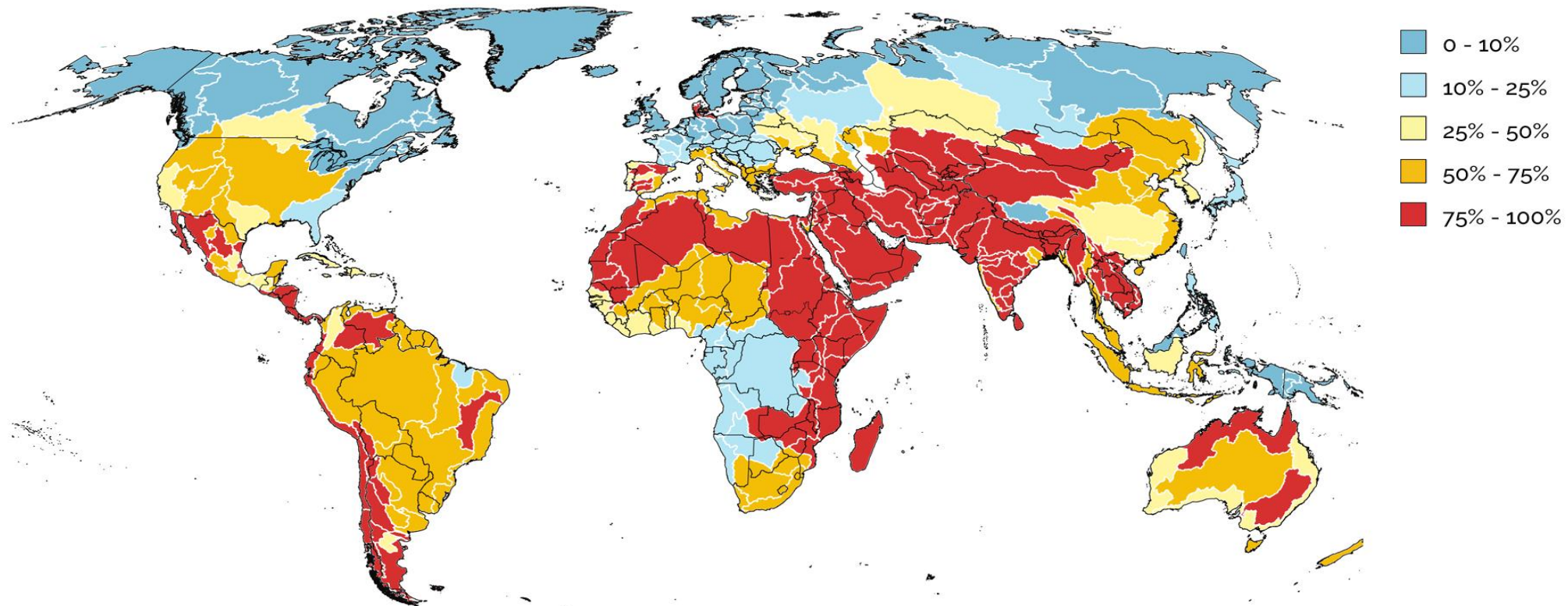
@DPA

The Po River in Italy reached historically low levels in 2022.



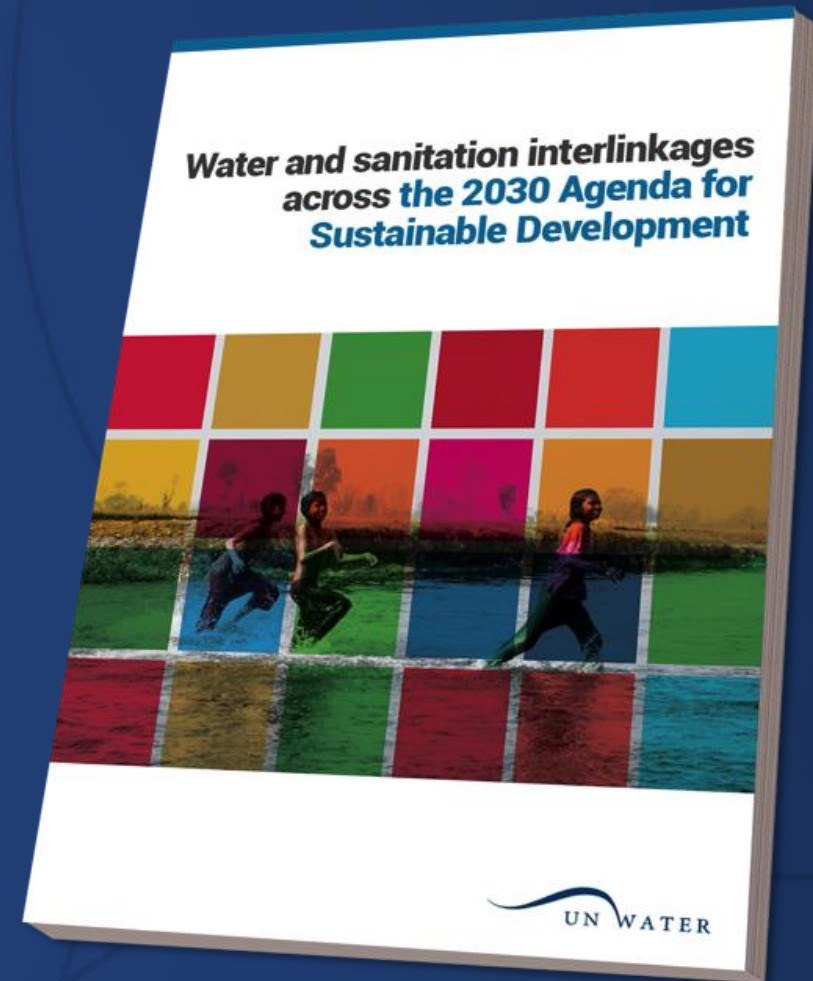
# Agriculture: the largest sectoral water user

Level of water stress due to the agricultural sector by basin, 2018



Source: FAO and UN-Water, 2021  
modified to comply with UN, 2021.

# Looking ahead: Water contributes to all SDGs





# Looking ahead: Water for social development

- poverty (1.1), equal access right to resources (1.4), resilience of the poor (1.5)
- end hunger (2.1), end malnutrition (2.2)
- water-born disease (3.3)
- education (4.1, 4.2, 4.3)
- housing and basic service (11.1, 11.3), water-related disasters (11.5), access to green and public space (11.7)
- sustainable resource use (12.2), chemicals and waste management (12.4, 12.5), information on sustainable development and lifestyle (12.8).



# Looking ahead: Water for environment

- protect and restore water-related ecosystems (6.6)
- environmental impacts of cities (11.6)
- chemicals and waste (12.5, 12.6), information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles (12.8)
- climate change resilience and adaptive capacity (13.1), climate measures in national policies, strategies and planning (13.2)
- ocean pollution (14.1), ocean management and protection (14.2), ocean conservation (14.5)
- freshwater ecosystems and their services (15.1), desertification and soil/land degradation (15.3), habitat degradation and biodiversity loss (15.8), valuing ecosystems and biodiversity (15.9)





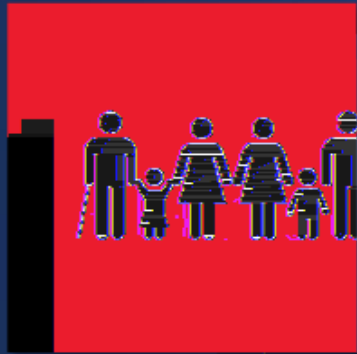
# Looking ahead: Water for economic development

- Agri-food systems (2.3, 2.4)
- energy (7.1, 7.2)
- resource use efficiency in consumption and production (8.4), economic growth and productivity (8.1, 8.2), jobs and decent works (8.3, 8.5),
- infrastructure (9.1, 9.4), industrialization (9.2)
- income growth (10.1)
- urbanization (11.3)
- sustainable consumption and production (12.1), half of global wastes (12.3, 12.5)

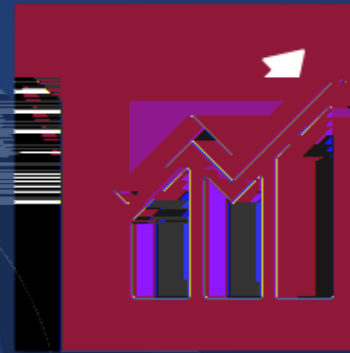


# Integrating water into sustainable development

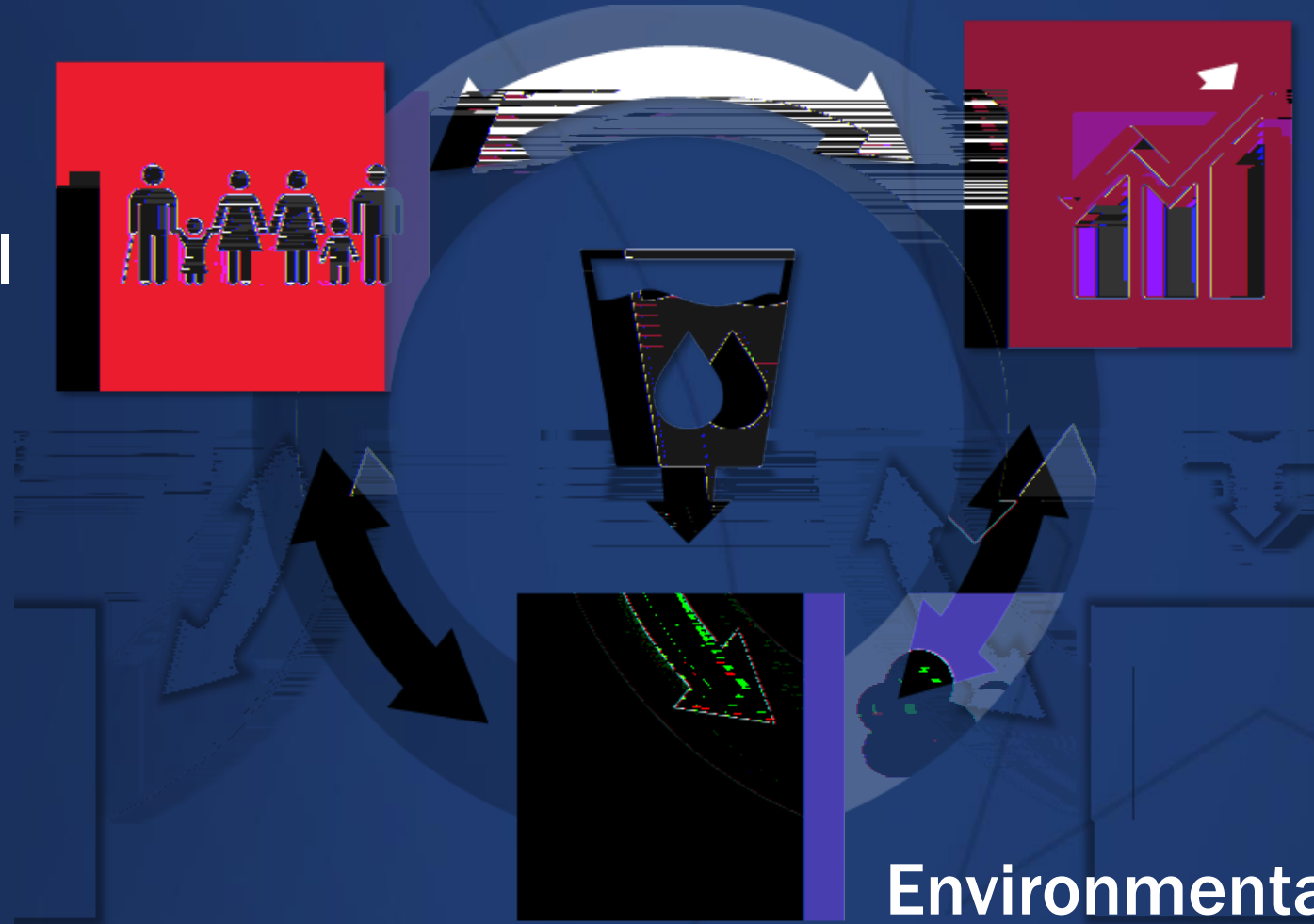
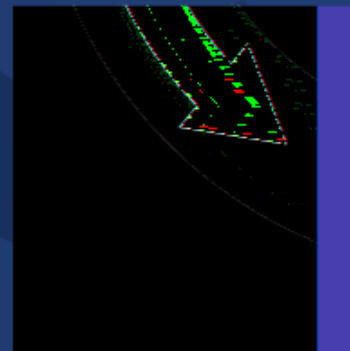
Social



Economic



Environmental

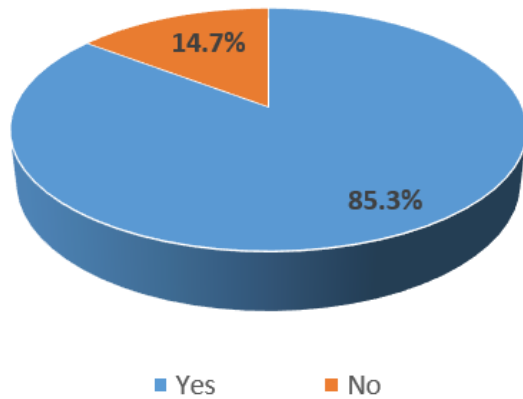




# Integration at country level: National Agri-food Systems Pathways 2022

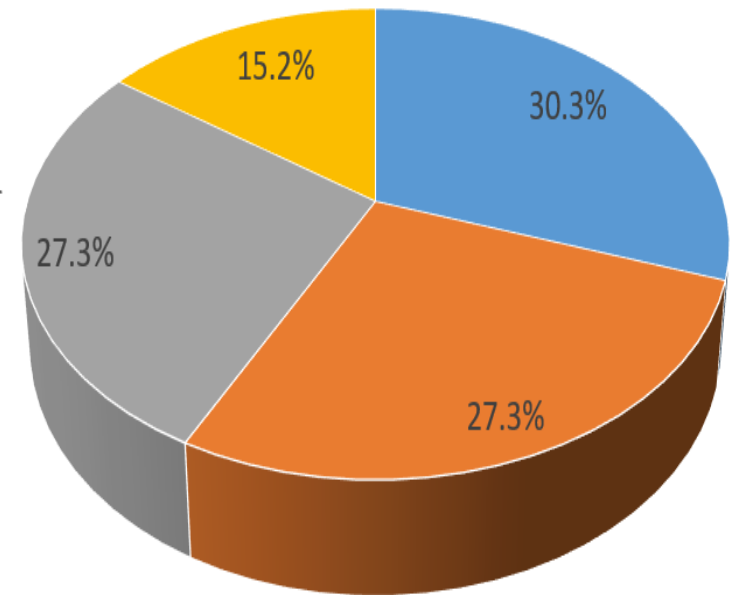
- 116 national pathways in total

Include the topic of water



Inclusion of water as a main driver

- (1) Poor or Not Addressed
- (2) Fair or Addressed but Unclear
- (3) Adequate or Addressed Somewhat Clearly
- (4) Exceptional or Clearly Addressed



# National Water Roadmap: What?

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## Contents:

- A water action plan to achieve all SDGs in countries by 2030; not just for the water sector, but for all economies, for environment and for all 2030 SDGs.
- A renewed country-owned commitment to water built upon National Agenda 21 or National Sustainable Development Strategy, (intended) Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Plans, and other related national development plans and commitments;
- The Roadmap could consist of national targets and indicators, a prioritized water investment plan, partnerships for implementation, and governance arrangements.





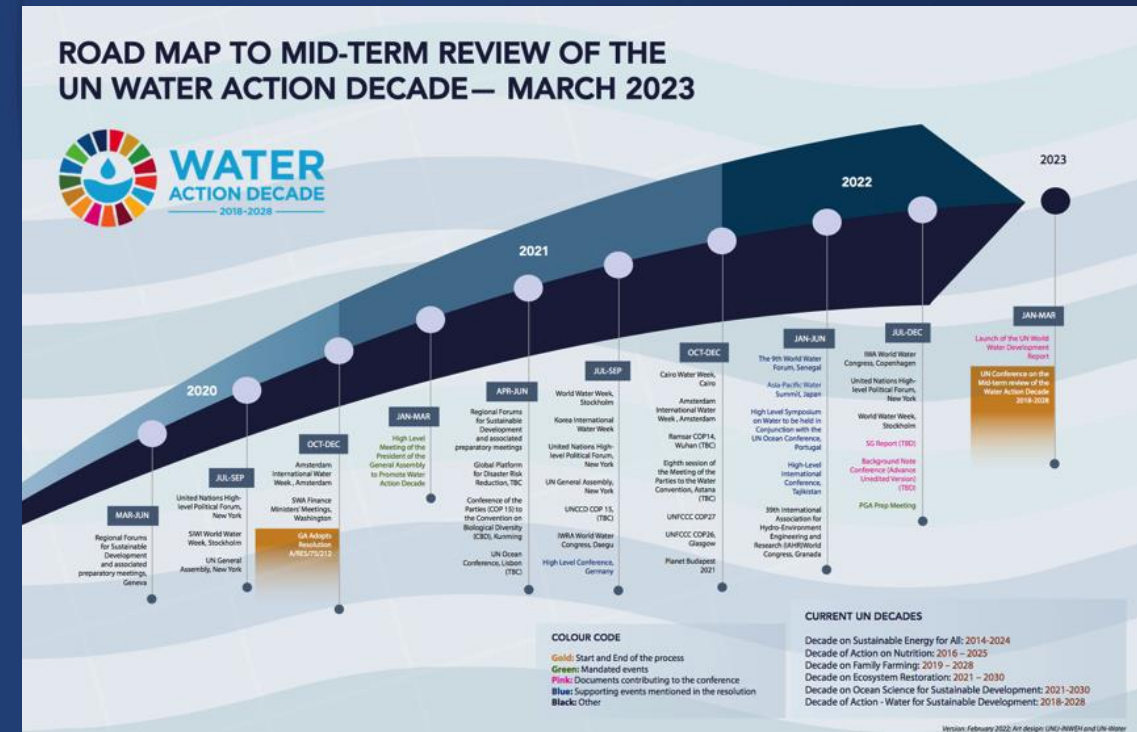
# National Water Roadmap: Technical Framework

- Valuing water => Water Vision
- Strategic objectives (integrating existing commitments in National Development Plans, NDCs, NAPs, IWRM Plans and other key national strategies)
- Outcomes (linking with various SDGs targets and indicators)
- Prioritised water investment plan (Accelerator – Financing )
- Actions, initiatives, programmes (Accelerators of data & information, capacity development, innovation)
- Partnerships, policies and governance (Accelerator – governance)

Accelerators	SDG 1	SDG 2	SDG 3-17
1. Financing			
2. Data and information			
3. Capacity development			
4. Innovation			
5. Governance			

# National Water Roadmap: How? How much?

- A country-led participatory process, e.g. multi-sector/ministry/stakeholder dialogues;
- Supported by interested partners, including related UN-Water Task Force on Country-level Engagement;
- A costed water investment plan;
- To be presented at the UN 2023 Conference on Water, or to be developed by the end of 2023;
- To be integrated into the SDG country monitoring and reporting process.





# Next steps to greater water security

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- **Feb 2023: Southern Africa Regional Dialogue on National Water Roadmaps, Zimbabwe**
- **Mar 2023: UN 2023 Water Conference, New York, USA**
- **Post-Conference: Other regional dialogues world-wide on National Water Roadmaps**
- **UN-Water Country-level Engagement Task Force support:**
  - 1. Global core team from UN agencies supporting National Water Roadmaps**
  - 2. Rostered experts by different agencies**
- **Jun 2023: FAO Conference**
- **End 2023: Countries drafted National Water Roadmaps including a costed and prioritized water investment plan to 2030 Agenda**



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# Thank you for your attention!

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