

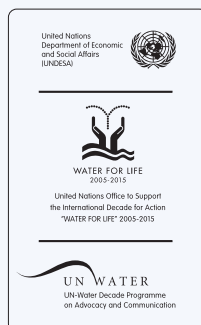
Water and Cities Reader

UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC)

Produced by the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC), this reader is intended for all those interested in getting familiar with issues related to water and sanitation in cities. The reader provides basic references for easy reading and some of the latest and most relevant United Nations publications on urban water and sanitation management. It also contains references for specific audiences such as water operators, educators and children. Link is provided when the publication is available online.

United Nations Office to Support
the International Decade for Action
'Water for Life' 2005-2015

www.un.org/waterforlifedecade



An overview

■ **Solid Waste Management in the World's Cities: Water and Sanitation in the World's Cities 2010**

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2010

<http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2918>

Regardless of the context, managing solid waste is one of the biggest challenges of the urban areas of all sizes, from mega-cities to the small towns and large villages, which are home to the majority of humankind. It is almost always in the top five of the most challenging problems for city managers. Uncollected wastes often clog drains and cause the stagnation of water, the breeding of mosquitoes or the contamination of water bodies from which the population normally takes water for consumption, cooking and cleaning. Using the framework of Integrated Sustainable Waste Management, the report presents research from 22 cities across six continents. It describes the rich diversity of waste management systems used throughout the world drawing out the practical lessons for policymakers.

■ **Water for sustainable urban human settlements. Briefing note**

World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2010

www.unwater.org/downloads/WWAP_Urban_Settlements_Web_version.pdf

Today, half of humanity lives in urban areas. By 2050 all regions will be predominantly urban. Building on the outcomes of the World Water Development Report 3 (WWDR3) and on work implemented by UN-HABITAT, this Briefing Note restates the critical water-related challenges of this unprecedented urban expansion – from providing access to basic services to

ensuring environmental and human security. The paper provides for concrete policy options to meet these challenges, protect against potential water-related disasters and ensure the development of sustainable urban settlements.

■ **State of the World's Cities 2010/2011 - Cities for All: Bridging the Urban Divide**

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2010

www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2917

This edition of the State of the World's Cities uses the framework of 'The Urban Divide' to analyse the complex social, political, economic and cultural dynamics of urban environments. The book focuses on the concept of the 'right to the city' and ways in which many urban dwellers are excluded from the advantages of city life, using the framework to explore links among poverty, inequality, slum formation and economic growth. Poor sanitation, combined with unsafe water supply and lack of hygiene, claims the lives of many slum dwellers every year. In many cities of the developing world, water supplies are undrinkable, contaminated as they are by bacteria, untreated or poorly treated sewage, heavy metals or silt from soil erosion, fertilizers and pesticides, mining tailings and industrial waste. This edition of the Report underlines the choices available to policymakers across the range of economic, social, cultural and political challenges that are needed to bridge this urban divide.

■ **Progress on sanitation and drinking water: 2010 update**

World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). 2010

www.unwater.org/downloads/JMP_report_2010.pdf

This report describes the status and trends with respect to the use of safe drinking-water

and basic sanitation, and progress made towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) drinking-water and sanitation target. It indicates the striking divide between urban and rural populations in terms of water and sanitation services provided.

■ **3rd United Nations World Water Development Report: Water in a Changing World.** Chapter 2

World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2009

www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/wwdr3/pdf/12_WWDR3_ch_2.pdf

This chapter explores a set of fundamental processes, 'drivers', that are external to the water sector, but that directly or indirectly co-determine the evolution of the water system in terms of the quality, quantity and spatial distribution of the resource. Demographic processes, such as population growth and urbanization, are such drivers that create great pressures on water resources. They directly affect water availability and quality through increased water demands and through pollution resulting from water use. One section is specifically dedicated to urbanization, a strong driver of water use.

■ **State of the World's Cities 2006/2007**

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2006

www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2101

This edition of the State of the World's Cities Report provides an overview of a range of issues that link cities, slums and the Millennium Development Goals. It makes clear that the global fight against poverty – encapsulated in the Millennium Development Goals – is heavily dependent on how well cities perform. Sections 2.3 - Safe Drinking Water in Cities- and 2.4 - The Silent Tsunami: The High Price of Inadequate

Sanitation in Urban Areas- provide an insight in the state of the world's cities in relation to drinking water and sanitation.

■ **2nd United Nations World Water Development Report: Water, a Shared Responsibility.** Chapter 3

World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2006

www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/wwdr2/pdf/wwdr2_ch_3.pdf

The rapidly increasing urbanization rate has huge implications for freshwater use and wastewater management. Cities face rising water and sanitation demands and problems such as pollution and overexploitation. Especially the large urban population living in slums often lack access to safe water and sanitation services. This chapter explores the scale of the growing urban water challenges.

■ **1st United Nations World Water Development Report: Water for People, Water for Life.** Chapter 7

World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). 2003

www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/pdf/chap7.pdf

This chapter addresses a range of issues related to urban water management. It explores the water-related challenges that cities nowadays experience, such as water contamination, health issues, waste water management and the challenge of providing low-income urban dwellers with sufficient drinking water and sanitation facilities. Several case studies of water management in cities around the world are highlighted.

Main related challenges

Climate change

■ **Climate Change and Urban Water Utilities: Challenges and Opportunities.**

Water Working Note No.24

World Bank, Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). 2010

www.wsp.org/UserFiles/file/climate_change_urban_water_challenges.pdf

The forecasted changes in average global temperatures will affect water availability and both short and long term operations of urban water supply and sanitation systems. The key objectives of this document are to improve understanding and awareness of the implications of climate change on the provision of urban water and wastewater services; present adaptation actions conducted at the utility level for inspiration; establish an analytical framework in order to identify and prioritize potential climate change adaptation measures; and assess the feasibility of implementing adaptation measures based on a set of criteria.

Poverty

■ **Guidance Notes on Services for the Urban Poor. A Practical Guide for Improving Water Supply and Sanitation Services**

World Bank, Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). 2009

www.wsp.org/UserFiles/file/Main_Global_Guidance_Note.pdf

In 2006/07, the Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) initiated research to identify barriers to service delivery for the urban poor. The findings of the research were presented in the Guidance Notes on Improving Water Supply and Sanitation Services to the Urban Poor in India. The Urban Global Practice Team of WSP decided to expand the work to a global

context. The Guidance Notes provide a systematic analysis of the barriers to service delivery for the urban poor and recommend practical solutions and strategies to overcome these barriers. The Guidance Notes are based on an in-depth research of various initiatives from Africa, East and South Asia, and Latin America.

Transparency

■ **Deterring corruption and improving governance in the urban water supply and sanitation sector**

World Bank. 2008

www.wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/03/03/000333038_20090303233641/Rendered/PDF/468290REPLACEM10WN181Sourcebook1rev.pdf

This sourcebook is meant as a resource to assist water and sanitation sector practitioners to assess the extent and risks of corruption in the sector and to improve governance in ways that reduce corruption. Water and sanitation providers fail to serve citizens for many reasons. This publication suggests that the ultimate cause is poor governance at the utility, sector, and government levels. This sourcebook aims to help sector practitioners to: a) assess the extent and risk of corruption in sectors in which they work; and b) improve governance in ways that will reduce corruption.

Floods

■ **Urban Flood Risk Management**

World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Global Water Partnership (GWP), Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM). 2008

www.apfm.info/pdf/ifm_tools/Tools_Urban_Flood_Risk_Management.pdf

The sustainable management of urban flood risk is becoming an increasingly challenging task for urban communities and

the responsible authorities to address. This guideline aims to bring the different aspects of urban flood risks together under the umbrella of a risk management approach that aims to explain urban flood risks as well as to show possibilities of how they can be managed successfully. It is argued that only the combination of spatial, technical and organizational measures will lead to a more sustainable and effective management of urban flood risks.

A focus on...

Community-driven development

■ **Community-driven development for water and sanitation in urban areas. Its contribution to meeting the Millennium Development Goal targets**

Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC). 2005

www.wsscc.org/pdf/publication/Community_driven_development.pdf

This document focuses on the role of local, community-driven schemes in directly addressing the needs of the unserved or ill-served in urban areas. It describes initiatives that improved and extended provision for water and sanitation as a result of changes in approach by local governments and civil society organizations. It shows how local initiatives not normally considered part of 'water and sanitation' can have great relevance for improving and extending provision. Furthermore, it explores the partnerships offered to local governments by organizations of the urban poor. Besides, it discusses the local constraints to improving and extending provision for water and sanitation and explores how these can be addressed.

Specific climate zones

■ **Integrated Urban Water Management: Humid Tropics**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 2010

Only available for purchase

publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?Code_Livre=4735

Integrated Urban Water Management: Humid Tropics– the outcome of UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme project on the topic –focuses on engineering aspects related to water supply, wastewater and storm water management in the humid tropics. Flood control is dealt with, focusing on reducing vulnerability to flood disasters in urban areas. The book also addresses environmental health concerns related to the different components of the urban water system and proposes strategies for their control. It illustrates different aspects of integrated water management in the urban environment by drawing upon a set of case studies – predominantly from South America.

■ **Integrated Urban Water Management: Arid and Semi-Arid Regions**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 2009

Only available for purchase

publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?Code_Livre=4678

This publication examines the integrated management of water resources in urban settings, focusing on issues specific to arid and semi-arid regions. The urban water management system is considered here as two integrated processes: water supply management and water excess management. The first six chapters provide an overview of the various aspects of Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM) in arid and semi-arid regions, with emphasis on water supply technologies, such as artificial recharge, water transfers, desalination, and rainwater harvesting. Water excess management is examined in the

context of both storm water management and floodplain management. Case studies from developed and developing countries are presented in order to emphasize the various needs and challenges of water management in urban environments in arid and semi-arid regions worldwide. These case studies include: Mexico City, Mexico; Tucson, Arizona; Awash River Basin, Ethiopia; China; and Cairo, Egypt.

What are the proposed solutions?

Specific approaches and experiences

Capacity Development for Water Efficiency and Water Loss Management

UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC), Water Strategy Initiative Office (IBWS) of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). *Forthcoming*

In most of the urban agglomerations worldwide water losses are about 30-40% - sometimes far more. This publication focuses on the critical issue of water loss, emphasises possible solutions and outlines the capacity development needs and opportunities to address this problem. The book provides an overview of water scarcity as a manmade and solvable issue and outlines the current trends and drivers of water losses. It analyses the benefits gained from investment in water loss reduction based on various Good Practice Cases from around the world and provides strategic steps for capacity development based on a solution oriented and universal approach. Written for actors on different levels, this book aims to lead to a new paradigm: from charity to investment.

Urban Water Security: Managing Risks

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 2009

Only available for purchase

publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?Code_Livre=4679

This publication is the result of a project by UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme and addresses issues associated with urban water risks, such as health risks. Health risks associated with urban water systems and services include the microbiological and chemical contamination of urban waters and outbreak of water-borne diseases, mainly due to poor water and sanitation in urban areas, and the discharge of inadequately treated, or untreated, industrial and domestic wastewater. After a description of the risks associated with urban water systems and services, the volume discusses the concept of risk management for urban water systems and explores different approaches to managing and controlling urban water risks. A concluding section presents case studies on managing urban water risks.

Managing water in the city of the future; strategic planning and science

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE). 2009

www.springerlink.com/content/hpl0391360756161/fulltext.pdf

Increasing global change pressures, escalating costs and other risks inherent to conventional urban water management are causing cities to face ever increasing difficulties in efficiently managing scarcer and less reliable water resources. In order to meet these challenges, SWITCH - Sustainable Water Management Improves Tomorrow's Cities Health- intends to bring about a paradigm shift in urban water management. SWITCH is a European Union (EU) funded research programme aimed at achieving more sustainable integrated urban water management. It consists of a Consortium of 33 partner organizations working in 15 European and developing

cities worldwide, with UNESCO-IHE as lead partner. This paper explores the SWITCH approach and other approaches related to urban water management.

■ **The UN-HABITAT Water and Sanitation Trust Fund Strategic Plan (2008-2012)**

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2008

www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2537

The UN-HABITAT Water and Sanitation Trust Fund aims to create an enabling environment for pro-poor investment in water and sanitation in urban areas of all sizes in the developing world. The Strategic Plan's purpose is to guide the Trust Fund's work in addressing challenges of the international water and sanitation goals and UN-HABITAT mandates. This document examines current responses, drawing conclusions on gaps to be filled and the types of actions urgently required. It outlines four key programme areas: delivering sustainable services to the poor; ensuring synergy between the built and natural environments; monitoring the internationally agreed water and sanitation goals; as well as integrating infrastructure and housing provision.

■ **Urban Water Cycle Processes and Interactions**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 2007

Only available for purchase

publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?Code_Livre=4556#

Urban Water Cycle Processes and Interactions represents the fruit of a project by UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme on this topic. This publication argues that effective management of urban water should be based on a scientific understanding of the impact of human activity on both the urban hydrological cycle – including its processes and interactions –

and the environment itself. The volume begins by introducing the urban water cycle concept and the need for integrated or total management. It then explores in detail the manifold hydrological components of the cycle, the diverse elements of urban infrastructure and water services, and the various effects of urbanization on the environment – from the atmosphere and surface waters to wetlands, soils and groundwater, as well as biodiversity. It concludes with a series of recommendations for effective urban water management.

■ **Innovative Financing. Experiences with Secondary Urban Centres Water Supply and Sanitation Service**

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2006

www.un-habitat.org/downloads/docs/6529_23302_Water%20Sector%20in%20Small%20Urban%20Centres%20-%20financing.pdf

This paper reviews some of the creative ideas that have emerged to address the financial constraints to secondary urban centers water and sanitation service delivery. It specifically addresses the financing mechanisms for towns with populations between 2,000 and 50,000 people. Such towns represent a significant proportion of the population to be reached if the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are to be met. The paper emphasizes domestic sources of finance for both hardware and software investments. These ideas involve a range of different stakeholders, including users, informal providers, utilities, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), domestic banks, and donors.

■ **Changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production. Human settlements and water**

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), Division for Sustainable Development. 2005

www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd13/documents/bgground_4.pdf

This background paper addresses the issue of water and sanitation in relation to sustainable urban planning and water conservation, highlighting several policy experiences from around the world. It suggests a number of policy options and actions that have proven effective in making consumption and production patterns more sustainable and that could be applicable in other countries.

■ **Dialogue on urban services: making the private sector work for the urban poor.**

World Urban Water Forum 2004
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). 2004

ww2.unhabitat.org/cdrom/wufl/documents/Dialogues/Background%20papers/Urban%20Services.pdf

The present paper focuses on how to get the private sector to be more responsive to the needs of low-income urban households which lack adequate access to safe water and sanitation. It is argued that this responsiveness can enhance the progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), especially concerning the target on water and sanitation.

Protection of the environment and urban water

■ **Aquatic Habitats in Sustainable Urban Water Management Science, Policy and Practice**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 2007

Only available for purchase

publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?Code_Livre=4568

Aquatic Habitats in Sustainable Urban Water Management – the result of collaboration between UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme and its Man and the Biosphere Programme – aims at improving our understanding of

aquatic habitats, related ecosystem goods and services, and conservation and sustainable use – with a special focus on their integration into urban water management. The first part of this volume reviews basic concepts and challenges in urban aquatic habitats, as well as strategies for their management integration. The second part examines technical measures related to habitats management and rehabilitation, along with their incorporation into urban planning and their role in human health. The final part looks at current urban aquatic habitat issues and practical approaches to solving them through the lens of case studies from around the globe.

■ **Running Pure: The importance of forest protected areas to drinking water**

World Bank, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Alliance for Forest Conservation and Sustainable Use. 2003

www.unesco.org/water/wwap/targets/index.shtml#cities

This report focuses on the role of forests, and particularly protected forests, in maintaining quality of drinking water for large cities. It explores the various sources of urban drinking-water supply and investigates how many cities worldwide rely on –protected– forests for their drinking water supply. Moreover, the report examines the economic, social and environmental implications of protecting and managing forests for urban water supply. Finally, several case studies of urban water management experiences from around the world are highlighted.

Information materials for specific audiences

Water operators

■ **Every Drop Counts. Environmentally Sound Technologies for Urban and Domestic Water Use Efficiency**

United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), Delft University of Technology, Environment Management Centre India (EMC). 2008

www.unep.or.jp/ietc/Publications/Water_Sanitation/EveryDropCounts/Contents/EveryDropCounts_Sourcebook_final_web.pdf

The focus of this publication is on efficient water use in urban and domestic environments and decision-making about sustainable development of human settlements. The document is written as a sourcebook, highlighting essential questions that will have different answers in different situations. By looking at water use efficiency within the context of sustainable water use, the emphasis is on the means for maximizing and optimizing between safe and sufficient supply and demand of water, and on articulating a key role for Environmentally Sound Technologies.

■ **Water in Asian Cities - Utilities Performance and Civil Society Views**

Asian Development Bank (ADB). 2004

www.adb.org/Documents/Books/Water_for_All_Series/Water_Asian_Cities/water_asian_cities.pdf

This document provides a study on the performance of water supply and sanitation utilities in eighteen Asian cities and explores how civil society perceives its role in improving water services in the cities. The presented data comprise essential benchmarking indicators on service level, service quality, operational efficiency, and financial management. Also included are broader performance dimensions including water resources management, policy and regulation, private sector participation, small-scale service providers, wastewater and sanitation, and urban flood management.

Water managers

■ **Data Requirements for Integrated Urban Water Management**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 2007

Only available for purchase

publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?Code_Livre=4569

This publication is geared towards improving integrated urban water management by providing guidance on the collection, validation, storage, assessment and utilization of the relevant data. The first part of this volume describes general principles for developing a monitoring programme in support of sustainable urban water management. The second part examines in detail the monitoring of individual water cycle components. Two case studies in the final part illustrating attempts to deliver an integrated monitoring system help demonstrate the fundamental principles of sustainable urban water management elaborated here.

■ **Advanced simulation and modelling for urban groundwater management – UGROW**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 2010

Only available for purchase

publishing.unesco.org

Advanced Simulation and Modelling for Urban Groundwater Management (UGROW) presents the result of a project of UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme on the topic. The book presents UGROW - a complete and fully integrated modelling package - for simulating urban water systems. As a decision-support tool for urban water management, it focuses on urban groundwater, but all other key urban water system elements are fully represented and seamlessly linked. The theory behind UGROW is thoroughly described in the book, with three case studies illustrating how UGROW can be applied in practice. A CD-ROM containing a fully functional version of UGROW is included in the book.

Educators

■ Human Values in Water Education – Creating a New Water-use Ethic in African Cities

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2002

www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/2169_61084_Human%20Values%20in%20Water%20Education%20-%20United%20Nations%20Human%20Settlements%20Programme.pdf

This document contains regional and country reflections on the contribution on the Human Value-based Water Education initiative in meeting the national education goals and objectives of six pilot countries, and creating a new water-use ethic in cities. It furthermore presents a summary of the process and experiences gained in the implementation of the water education initiative in African cities.

Children

■ The Magic Waterman

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2009

www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/TheMagicWaterman_web.pdf

Everyone in the township thinks that Mzee Marende is a witch, because he always has enough water, even to spare, when other people do not have a drop to drink. Incensed at Mzee Marende's mysterious source of water, the people decide to attack him and his family accusing him of witchcraft. In this exciting story, you will witness the deadly conflict as one man confronts and defeats an entire township and teaches his neighbours to use water sustainably.

Water and cities around the world

Africa

■ A Snapshot of Drinking Water and Sanitation in Africa

World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). 2008

www.wssinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/resources/1251454622-A_Snapshot_of_Drinking_Water_in_Africa_Eng.pdf

This document provides an assessment of the population currently using an improved drinking-water source and basic sanitation, disaggregated by sub-regions and urban and rural areas. It further details African progress towards the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target for drinking-water supply and sanitation (target 7c).

■ A Snapshot of Sanitation in Africa. A special tabulation for Africa based on preliminary data from the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation

World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). 2008

www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/monitoring/african.pdf

The analyses presented here provide a snapshot of the proportion of population in Africa that, in 2006, used an improved sanitation facility. It also shows the proportion of the population, in Africa as a whole and in various regions, using shared or unimproved sanitation facilities in addition to those practising open defecation disaggregated by urban and rural areas.

Latin America and the Caribbean

■ Servicios urbanos de agua potable y alcantarillado en Chile: factores determinantes del desempeño

Available in Spanish

United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC). 2007

www.eclac.cl/publicaciones/xml/0/28650/lcl2727e.pdf

This publication identifies the key factors that have influenced the water supply and sanitation services in the urban areas of Chile, especially in the city of Santiago. It is suggested that the outcomes of this study are applicable to other countries in the region.

■ **Servicios de agua potable y alcantarillado en la ciudad de Buenos Aires, Argentina: factores determinantes de la sustentabilidad y el desempeño**

Available in Spanish

United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC). 2007

www.eclac.cl/publicaciones/xml/7/28847/cl2751e.pdf

This publication identifies the key factors of the economical, social and environmental sustainability of drinking water and sanitation services in the Buenos Aires metropolitan area. Focus lies on both endogenous and exogenous factors for its successes and problems. It is suggested that the perspective and outcomes of this study are applicable to other Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Arab countries

■ **The Drinking Water and Sanitation Situation in the Arab States, 2006**

World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). 2008

www.wssinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/resources/1251453395-WES_ArabStates_11132008.pdf

This document provides an assessment of the population in twenty-two Arab States currently using an improved drinking-water source and basic sanitation, disaggregated by urban and rural areas. It also details progress towards the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target for drinking-water supply and sanitation (target 7c).

Asia

■ **Water for Asian Cities Annual Report 2009**

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). 2010

www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2962

The UN-HABITAT Water for Asian Cities (WAC) Programme is a collaborative initiative between the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Asian governments. The programme was officially launched at the Third World Water Forum (WWF) in 2003. The Annual Report 2009 outlines the key achievements made by the UN-HABITAT's WAC Programme in urban water management in India, Nepal and Pakistan between January and December 2009 with support from the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund (WSTF), governments, partners and local communities.

■ **A Snapshot of Drinking Water and Sanitation in South-Eastern Asia and the Pacific**

World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). 2008

www.wssinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/resources/1251452757-A_Snapshot_of_Drinking_Water_in_SEA_Pacific_Final.pdf

This document provides an assessment of the population currently using an improved drinking-water source and basic sanitation disaggregated by urban and rural areas. It details regional and country progress towards the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target for drinking-water supply and sanitation (target 7c) in South-East Asia and the Pacific.

International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005-2015

A Decade for Water, a Decade for Life

Towards the primary goal of the Water for Life Decade, Spain has agreed to provide resources to the United Nations to establish an Office to support the International Decade for Action. Located in Zaragoza, Spain, and led by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the Office implements the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC) aiming at sustaining the global attention and political momentum in favour of the water and sanitation agenda at all levels during the Decade.

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations Secretariat or the United Nations Office to Support the International Decade for Action (UNO-IDfA) 'Water for Life' 2005-2015.

The designations employed in this publication and the presentation of the material do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations or the UNO-IDfA 'Water for Life' 2005-2015 concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

**UN-Water Decade Programme
on Advocacy and Communication
(UNW-DPAC)**

Casa Solans
Avenida Cataluña, 60
50014 Zaragoza, Spain

Tel. + 34 976 478 346
Tel. + 34 976 478 347
Fax + 34 976 478 349

water-decade@un.org
www.un.org/waterforlifedecade

