

Bimonthly Publications Review

Produced by the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC), this review brings you every two months the latest publications produced by United Nations agencies and programmes on issues related to water and sanitation. Publications presented here in alphabetical order are freely accessible from the web.

Issue N° 6. September 2011

www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/

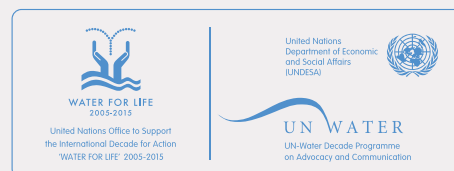
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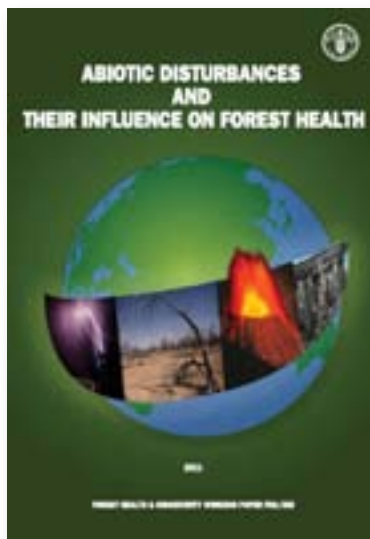
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A Decade for Water, a Decade for Life

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



Latest publications



Abiotic disturbances and their influence on forest health. A review

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). August 2011

<http://bit.ly/oJPerV>

Abiotic disturbances, disturbances caused by non living factors, are a natural and integral part of forest ecosystems that have major impacts, positive and negative. This paper reviews the current knowledge on the impacts of abiotic disturbances. Events are discussed within five categories:

- Meteorological: cyclones, storms (wind, snow, ice and hail, dust and sand), tornadoes, and thunderstorms and lightning;
- Climatological: drought, hydrological floods and flash floods, avalanches, landslides and mudslides;
- Geophysical: tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions;
- Anthropogenic: fire, oil spills, air pollution and radioactive contamination.



Accounting for Health Impacts of Climate Change

Asian Development Bank (ADB), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). July 2011

<http://bit.ly/p8QcfU>

This study aims to improve the understanding of the human health dimensions of climate change and how projects in areas other than health, such as agriculture, water financing programs, and disaster risk reduction need to account explicitly for the health impacts of their interventions. In addition to raising awareness about the projected impacts of climate change on health among policy makers and the civil society of developing countries, this study presents a framework showing the relationship between climate change and health issues in agriculture, water projects, and disaster risk reduction projects. This framework recognizes that climate change will affect all sectors and integrates climate-related health risk into adaptation strategies. As an integrated framework of assessing impacts, this framework can be used to provide guidance to decision makers to deal with climate change impacts and could serve as basis for climate change adaptation policy for each sector.



An Ecosystem Services Approach to Water and Food Security. Synthesis Report

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), International Water Management Institute (IWMI). August 2011

<http://bit.ly/rpCauT>

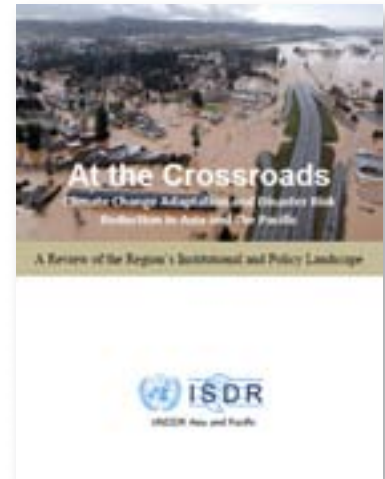
This publication looks at how an ecosystem services approach to the management of water and other natural resources, and the policies that affect that management, can create more stable and sustainable food production and enhanced food security. It brings together the best thinking available from a number of fields to tease out the interconnections between ecosystems, water and food; suggests a way forward; and identifies specific ecosystem-based opportunities to increase food production in ways that make optimal use of water resources, protect the resource base, and improve the incomes and food security of poor people. The main body of this publication focuses on three main areas that require change: environmental protection, water resources management and food production (agriculture, aquaculture and livestock). This publication offers the basis for a multisector agenda on food security, while also providing sector-specific recommendations to guide policymakers and practitioners in ministries and departments responsible for the environment, water, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and livestock as well as donors, international agencies and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) investing and working in these sectors.

At the Crossroads. Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific. A Review of the Region's Institutional and Policy Landscape

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). July 2011

<http://bit.ly/pBTnln>

This report provides a snapshot of how Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) are undertaken and integrated, if at all, in Asia and the Pacific. It does so by taking stock of past and ongoing regional initiatives (Chapter 2) and by looking into the role of certain organizations in the implementation process (Chapter 3). It also discusses key developments in three areas –political, policy and institutional– which are instrumental in facilitating the integration of DRR and CCA agendas in the region (Chapter 4). Concluding remarks and next steps to push the integration forward are presented in the last section (Chapter 5). The report intends to contribute to improved regional planning and programming for DRR and CCA, and highlights areas for cooperation among regional and sub regional organizations. It also aims to support both national and regional stakeholders in DRR and CCA, such as governments, UN agencies, intergovernmental organizations, research and technical organizations, nongovernment organizations in order to enhance regional planning, programming, and cooperation.



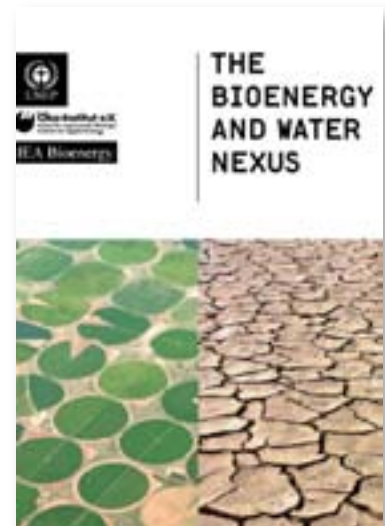
(The) Bioenergy and Water Nexus

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Oeko-Institut and IEA Bioenergy Task 43. August 2011

<http://bit.ly/ndYEhG>

Executive summary <http://bit.ly/p3lwqr>

This report, building on the work of various new initiatives including UNEP's International Resource Panel, provides recommendations and outlines options in respect to bioenergy in support of a Green Economy. The report primarily addresses the following two questions: 1) how are the production and use of bioenergy products likely to influence the future state of water resources? 2) how can society mitigate impacts and guide development towards sustainable use of these resources, including groundwater, rivers, and riparian and wetland systems? In considering the ways in which bioenergy can impact water resources, the report identifies appropriate tools for assessing effects at different spatial and temporal scales. A number of indicators and assessment tools have been developed to include the water perspective in analyses and to assist strategy development and land use planning.



Bringing Water to Where it is Needed Most. Innovative private sector participation in water and sanitation

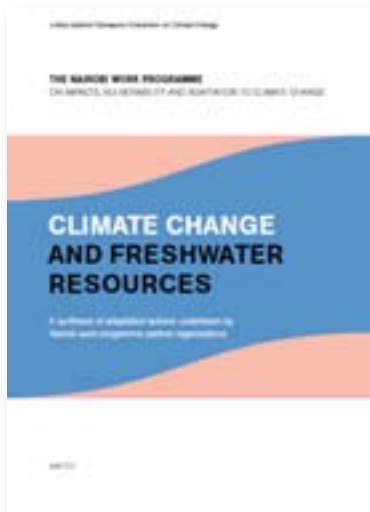
World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP), International Finance Corporation (IFC). July 2011

<http://bit.ly/ptaApl>

This "Smart Lessons" brochure introduces a diverse range of initiatives from across the World Bank Group. The variety of lessons learned and experiences presented range from the Water Footprints Network that supports businesses improving their water use efficiency to the innovative financing mechanisms enabling the expansion of rural water access in Kenya.



Latest publications



Climate Change and Freshwater Resources. A synthesis of adaptation actions undertaken by Nairobi work programme partner organizations

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). 2011

<http://bit.ly/pdk6VK>

This document provides a synthesis of actions undertaken by 21 Nairobi Work Programme (NWP) partner organizations, and highlights the results obtained and lessons learned on freshwater issues in particular. The contributions of partner organizations showcase a rich mix of actions on freshwater resources, which have generated results on the ground, particularly in developing countries, and produced useful lessons demonstrating improved understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The publication consists of two parts:

Part I consists of three chapters. Chapter 2 presents a synthesis of the actions taken by NWP partner organizations under four thematic areas:

- Actions to improve the ability to understand impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in the water sector;
- Actions taken to enhance informed decisions on adaptation planning, measures and action;
- Actions to facilitate communication, dialogue and cooperation among different stakeholders, and enhance adaptive capacity through technical and institutional capacity building; and
- Practical adaptation actions and measures on the ground.

This is followed, in Chapter 3, by key messages and conclusions. Part II presents a selection of case studies of actions reported by partner organizations under the four thematic areas identified.

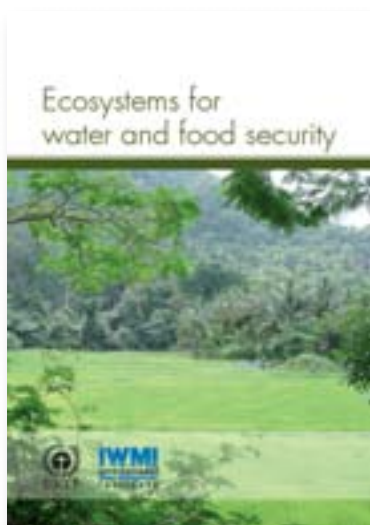


Desertification: A Visual Synthesis

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). July 2011

<http://bit.ly/nWqrZF>

This book is intended as a basic information kit that tells “the story” of desertification, land degradation and drought at the global scale, together with a comprehensive set of graphics. The book indicates trends as they have taken place over the last decades, combining and connecting issues, and present priorities. It also provides information on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and how it works to forge a global partnership to reverse and prevent desertification/land degradation and to mitigate the effects of drought in affected areas in order to support poverty reduction and environmental sustainability.



Ecosystems for Water and Food Security. Background document

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), International Water Management Institute (IWMI). 2011

<http://bit.ly/pbc12m>

The purpose of this document is to show how sustainable ecosystems, explicitly agroecosystems, are essential for water management and food production. This document provides background evidence illustrating the 3-way interdependence between ecosystems, water and food security, demonstrating how ecosystem management can be improved to ensure water availability and to avoid future food crises. It focuses primarily on how to achieve sustainable food production from a biophysical perspective and does not address per se the key social and institutional issues related with food security. Several of those are however highlighted throughout the text in order to remind the reader that these remain a critical component to ensure food security for the poor and socially-disadvantaged groups. The document is structured to show the relationships between ecosystems, water, and food. It starts with chapters on food security (2), ecosystems (3) and water (4) that each provides more insight into the reasons why an integrated ecosystem approach is required and what this should entail. The synthesis chapter (5) then explains how agroecosystems provide water and other services for food security. The target group of this publication consists of high and mid-level professional staff in Ministries of Environment and other relevant government and inter-governmental bodies, as well as other professionals in other institutions e.g. NGOs, bilateral organizations, and UN Agencies.

Environmental Assessment of Ogoniland**United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). August 2011**http://postconflict.unep.ch/publications/OEA/UNEP_OEA.pdf

Executive summary

http://postconflict.unep.ch/publications/OEA/UNEP_OEA_ES.pdf

Ogoniland has been the site of oil industry operations since the late 1950s. Ogoniland has a tragic history of pollution from oil spills and oil well fires, although no systematic scientific information has been available about the ensuing contamination. The Environmental Assessment of Ogoniland covers contaminated land, groundwater, surface water, sediment, vegetation, air pollution, public health, industry practices and institutional issues. This report represents the best available understanding of what has happened to the environment of Ogoniland –and the corresponding implications for affected populations– and provides clear operational guidance as to how that legacy can be addressed.

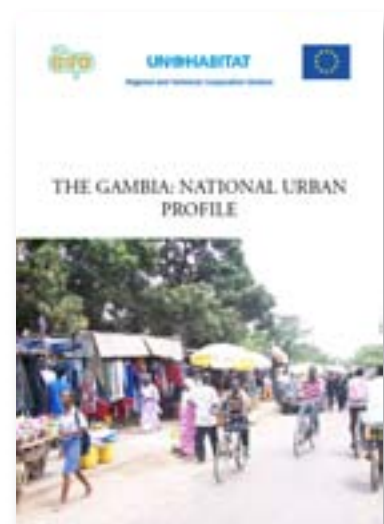
**Final Report of World Water Day 2011. Water and Urbanization, Water for Cities: Responding to the urban challenge****United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). August 2011**<http://bit.ly/opoC7e>

World Water Day 2011 focused international attention on the impact of rapid urban population growth, industrialization and uncertainties caused by climate change, conflicts and natural disasters on urban water systems. It also encouraged action by governments, organizations, communities, and individuals around the world to engage actively in addressing urban water management challenges. This report presents main results and conclusions of activities organized by UN-Habitat and its partners for the official UN commemoration of World Water Day in Cape Town, South Africa.

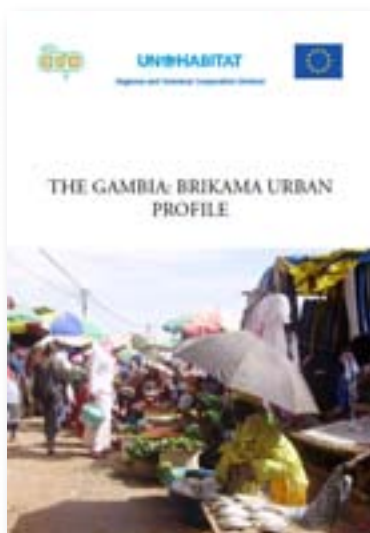
**(The) Gambia: National urban profile****United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). August 2011**<http://bit.ly/oeoH95>

The purpose of this study is to develop urban poverty reduction policies through an assessment of needs and response mechanisms and as a contribution to the wider-ranging implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. The report consists of:

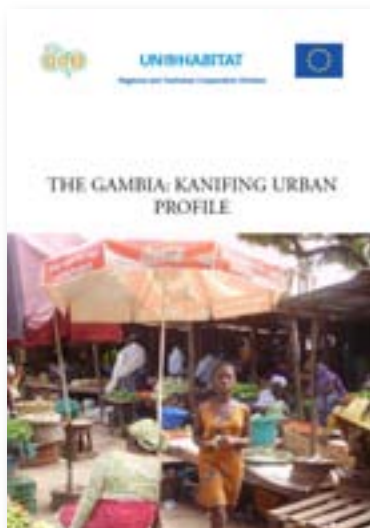
- 1) a general background of the urban sector in The Gambia. The background includes data on administration, urban planning, the economy, the informal sector, the private sector, urban poverty, infrastructure, water, sanitation, public transport, street lighting, energy, health, and education;
- 2) a synthesis of seven main thematic areas –governance, slums, gender and HIV/AIDS, environment, local economic development, basic urban services, and urban safety and urban disaster management– in terms of the institutional set-up, regulatory framework, resource mobilisation, and performance; and
- 3) a SWOT analysis and an outline of priority project proposals for each theme.



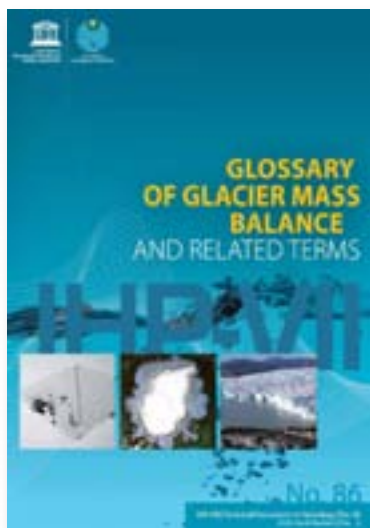
Latest publications

**(The) Gambia: Brikama urban profile****United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). August 2011**<http://bit.ly/nb1LCx>

Brikama, The Gambia, is a cosmopolitan city and many economic activities take place in the town; it also serves as the urban center for surrounding communities. Majority of the poor are women and gender disparities in access to livelihood, skills and economic resources are among the fundamental causes of poverty in Brikama. The urban profiling in Brikama consists of an accelerated, action-oriented assessment of urban conditions, focusing on priority needs, capacity gaps, and existing institutional responses at the local and national level.

**(The) Gambia: Kanifing urban profile****United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). August 2011**<http://bit.ly/n1x9JF>

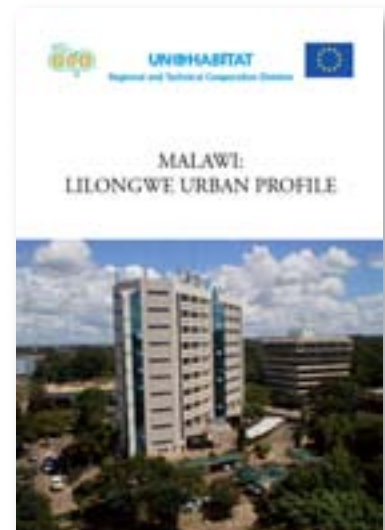
The Kanifing Municipality is and increasingly continues to be the nerve center of The Gambia's urban sector. In addition to being the most densely populated township in the country, the municipality remains a highly multicultural society. It is the centre of attraction for both internal and external migrants, mainly due to its strategic realms and geographical location within The Gambia's territorial landscape. The urban profiling in Kanifing Municipal Council consists of an accelerated, action-oriented assessment of urban conditions, focusing on priority needs, capacity gaps, and existing institutional responses at local and national levels.

**Glossary of glacier mass balance and related terms****United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS). August 2011**<http://bit.ly/naqEtd>

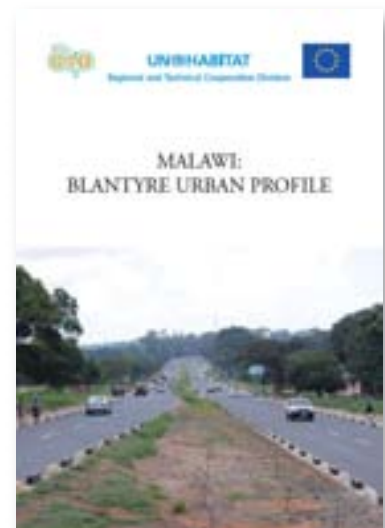
This glossary, produced by a Working Group of the International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS), is the first comprehensive update of glacier mass-balance terms for more than 40 years. The mass balance of a glacier is a measure of the change in mass of the glacier, or part of it, over a period of time. Mass-balance data help to explain why a particular glacier system may be advancing or retreating and what climate drivers (e.g. decreased snow accumulation; increased surface melt) are responsible for the changes. Mass-balance information is essential for defining the links between past, present and future climate changes and changes to glaciers in assessments such as those made by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Having a systematic, concise and unambiguous mass-balance terminology is a critical part of this. The purpose of the Glossary is to promote clarity and reduce ambiguity in the communication of information about glacier mass balance. The Glossary represents a consensus among a group of practising glaciologists.

Malawi: Lilongwe urban profile**United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). July 2011**<http://bit.ly/mVlcCe>

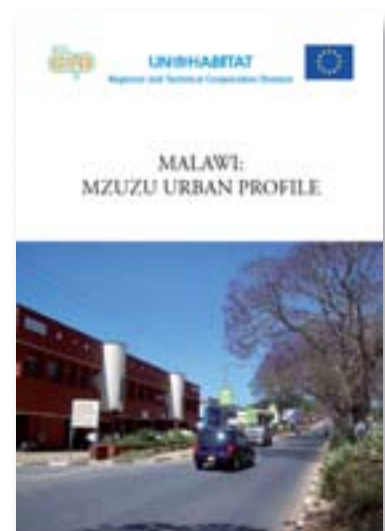
Lilongwe is the fastest growing city in Malawi. This report first presents a general background of the urban sector in Lilongwe. The background includes data on administration, urban planning, the economy, the informal and the private sector, poverty, infrastructure, water, sanitation, public transport, street lighting, energy, health, and education. It then makes a synthetic assessment of eight thematic areas including: governance, local economic development, land, gender, environment, slums and shelter, basic urban services, and waste management in terms of the institutional set-up, regulatory framework, resource mobilization, and performance; this second section also highlights agreed priorities and includes a list of identified projects. Finally, it presents a SWOT analysis and an outline of priority project proposals for each theme.

**Malawi: Blantyre urban profile****United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). July 2011**<http://bit.ly/neY1go>

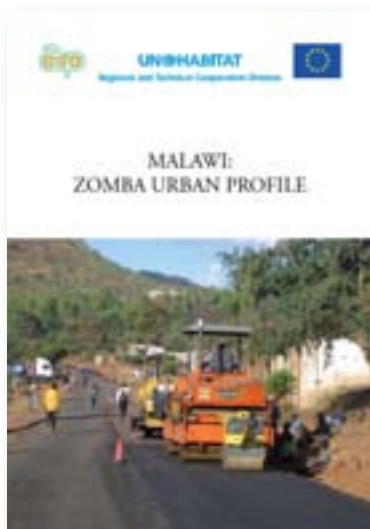
Blantyre city is the oldest urban centre in Malawi. It is the hub for communication, commercial activities and cooperation in Malawi. This report consists of: 1. a general background of the urban sector in Blantyre, based on the findings of the Blantyre City Assessment Report, a desk study, interviews, and a city consultation. The background includes data on administration, urban planning, the economy, the informal and private sector, urban poverty, infrastructure, water, sanitation, public transport, street lighting, energy, health, and education; 2. a synthetic assessment of the following eight main thematic areas: governance, local economic development, land, gender, environment, slums and shelter, basic urban services, and waste management in terms of the institutional set-up, regulatory framework, resource mobilization, and performance; 3. a SWOT analysis and an outline of priority project proposals for each theme.

**Malawi: Mzuzu urban profile****United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). July 2011**<http://bit.ly/q3MfB7>

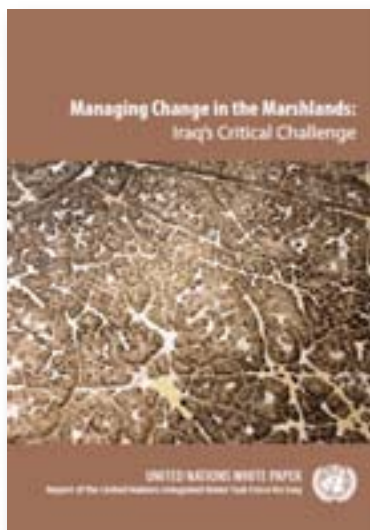
Mzuzu city is one of the fastest growing cities in Malawi and is the third largest urban centre after Lilongwe and Blantyre. It is the hub of government administration, business, industry, commerce, and services for the northern region of Malawi. As previous reports from this series, Mzuzu urban profile presents a general background of the urban sector, a synthetic assessment of eight main thematic areas, a SWOT analysis and an outline of priority project proposals for each theme.



Latest publications

**Malawi: Zomba urban profile****United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). July 2011**<http://bit.ly/q8xTOj>

As previous reports from this series, Zomba urban profile presents a general background of the urban sector, a synthetic assessment of eight main thematic areas, including water and sanitation, a SWOT analysis and an outline of priority project proposals for each theme.

**Managing Change in the Marshlands: Iraq's Critical Challenge****United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). August 2011**<http://bit.ly/owKlpy>

This report focuses on the importance of the Marshlands ecosystem services and the social, economic, and cultural benefits they provide to the Iraqi people. It shows the need to intensify the work being done for Marshlands revitalization and rehabilitation. This report is intended to provide guidance to the Iraqi Marshlands stakeholders as well as the international community, to help build consensus on the desired future for the Marshlands. The purpose of this paper is three-fold. Firstly, it aims to provide a comprehensive overview and analysis of the current situation in the Marshlands region, focusing on both ecosystem and human development analysis. The paper aims to identify specific gaps in the existing data and elaborate on the need for future actions, based on a range of possible development scenarios. Secondly, this paper intends to direct the attention of policy-makers towards governance and management issues in the Marshlands, with view of advocating development of a single national vision for the Marshlands. Finally, the paper will serve as a base reference for the key stakeholders in the Marshlands to launch a specific set of initiatives to re-address the governance, human development and environmental challenges in the Iraqi Marshlands.

**Nature, Socioeconomics and Adaptation to Natural Disasters. New Evidence from Floods**
World Bank. June 2011<http://bit.ly/n6R98j>

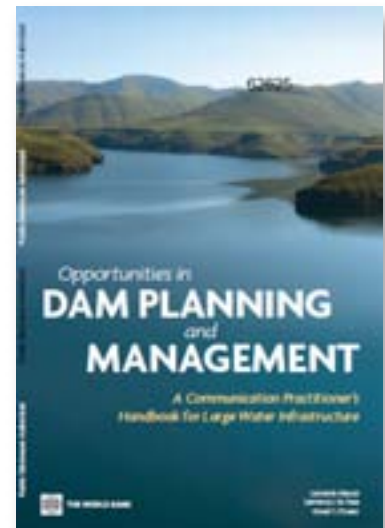
This Policy Research Working Paper analyzes the determinants of fatalities in 2,194 large flood events in 108 countries between 1985 and 2008. Given that socioeconomic factors can affect mortality right in the aftermath of a flood, but also indirectly by influencing flood frequency and magnitude, the paper distinguishes between direct and indirect effects of development on flood mortality.

Opportunities in dam planning and management. A Communication Practitioner's Handbook for Large Water Infrastructure

World Bank. 2011

<http://bit.ly/qiUsgH>

This handbook aims to help foster a “communication culture” that will accommodate the wide range of stakeholder interests in dam planning and management in ways appropriate to the development context of today and the need to promote solutions to sustainability challenges. It seeks to create awareness among practitioners of the benefits and costs of improving the role of communication in infrastructure development. It also demonstrates how communication helps to improve governments’ capacities to address corruption issues in infrastructure. Finally, this handbook is aimed at building the capacity of project teams and government officials to effectively adopt and adapt modern communication principles and tools to cover all stages of the dam project cycle.



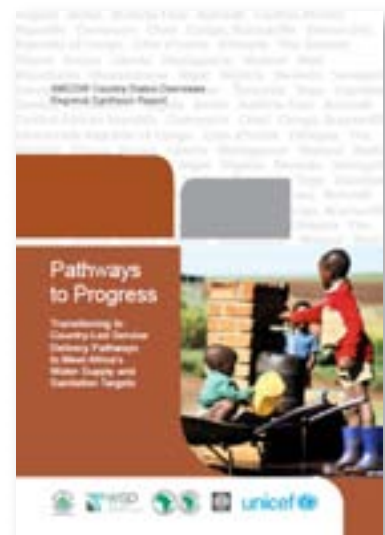
Pathways to Progress. Transitioning to Country-Led Service Delivery Pathways to Meet Africa's Water Supply and Sanitation Targets

World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP), African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW). August 2011

<http://bit.ly/nkt8V4>

This document is the regional synthesis of the 32 country status overviews which collectively account for 95 percent of Sub-Saharan Africa's population and over 90 percent of GDP. The report highlights the most important trends, challenges, and proposed actions for achieving improved water supply and sanitation services across Sub-Saharan Africa. The opportunities for progress are identified based on:

1. Understanding trends: The report analyzes regional performance, the relative progress of individual countries, and progress of groups of countries classified by a combination of political and economic factors. The report considers separately the four water and sanitation subsectors in each country: rural water supply; urban water supply; rural sanitation; and, urban sanitation;
2. Identifying the challenge: For each country and subsector, Country Status Overviews explore the links between inputs (finance) and outcomes (coverage) through the lens of a 'service delivery pathway', which is systematically assessed to identify the major barriers that still constrain performance in each subsector;
3. Prioritizing action: The report builds on the insights from the Country Status Overviews scorecard to provide senior managers in the sector and their development partners with proposals on prioritizing reform and investment options that match the relevant stages of subsector evolution in each country.



Policy guidance on water-related disease surveillance

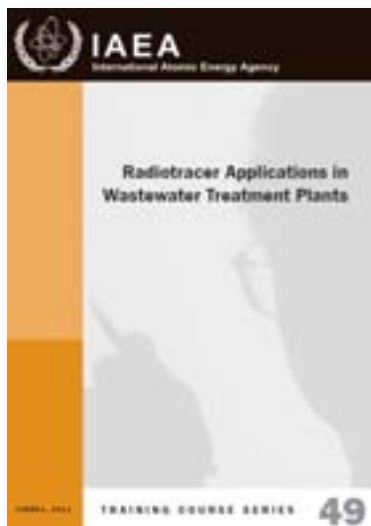
World Health Organization (WHO)-Europe. 2011

<http://bit.ly/n4IN7n>

This document contains guidance on the policy related to water-related disease surveillance developed by the Task Force on Water-related Disease Surveillance established under the Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters and International Lakes. It was adopted by the Meeting of the Parties during their second session (in Bucharest, Romania, in November 2010). The guidance explains countries' legal obligations related to disease surveillance under the Protocol and other international frameworks, and gives advice on policy to set up and maintain an effective and efficient disease surveillance system. These explanations are coupled with illustrative examples of good practice in the European Region.



Latest publications



Radiotracer applications in wastewater treatment plants

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). June 2011

<http://bit.ly/pBi313>

Tracer techniques are very useful tools to investigate the efficiency of purification in wastewater treatment plants. This publication was prepared using the inputs from a meeting of experts held in June 2007 and lecture materials prepared for various IAEA regional training courses. It is intended to assist radiotracer groups in Member States to promote and apply radiotracer technology for better serving the environmental sector.



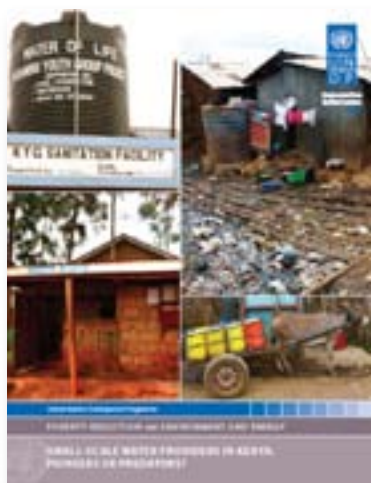
Reader on Water and the Green Economy

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

September 2011

<http://bit.ly/pTbvRo>

This reader is intended for all those interested in getting familiar with issues related to water and the green economy. The reader provides basic references for easy reading and some of the latest and most relevant United Nations publications on the issue. Links are provided when the publication is available online.



Small-scale water providers in Kenya: pioneers or predators?

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). August 2011

<http://bit.ly/ol2B6T>

This study examines the role small-scale water providers play in ensuring affordable, safe and reliable water supply. The paper looks at whether small-scale providers in Kenya are innovative gap fillers, as proponents claim, or predators, as the sceptics argue. The study is organised as follows: Section 2 locates the paper within the conceptual framework of the "poverty penalty" literature. Section 3 outlines the methodology and the data used in the analysis. Section 4 describes the water distribution and supply chain. Section 5 presents the findings on the demand for and consumption of water. Section 6 explores the extent to which the regulatory framework adequately addresses the challenges to ensuring affordable, safe and reliable water supply in informal settlements. Section 7 concludes with some policy recommendations.

Technical guidance on water-related disease surveillance**World Health Organization (WHO)-Europe. 2011**<http://bit.ly/pBLgb8>

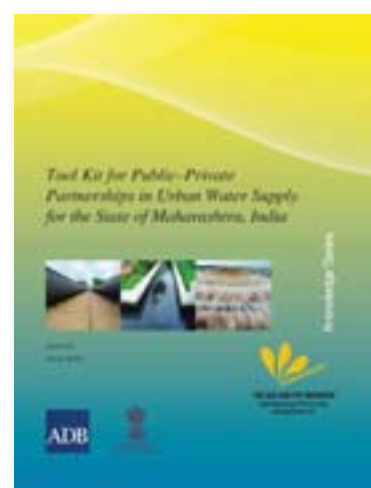
This technical guidance is intended to assist the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes in establishing and/or strengthening outbreak detection and early warning systems, contingency plans and capacity response in accordance with article 8 of the Protocol. The draft guidance reviews the main threats to health related to water services, recalls basic concepts of epidemiology and disease surveillance and provides guidance on data management and analysis. It will therefore also support national efforts towards national and international health security in line with the International Health Regulations (2005).

**Technologies and Practices for Climate Change Adaptation in the Water Sector****United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). April 2011**<http://bit.ly/r9xKpk>

This guidebook aims to provide expert information on the technologies most relevant for climate change adaptation in the water sector in developing countries. It is meant to be a practical tool for use by a broad range of stakeholders, including those in governmental agencies, water utilities, community water boards, non-governmental organizations, and private sector companies. The guidebook first reviews the projected impacts of climate change on the water sector. It then addresses the role of adaptation in the water sector and six typologies under which available strategies are categorized. Eleven technologies and practices are given detailed treatment in this guidebook and four others are covered briefly. While these do not constitute all of the adaptation technologies available in the water sector, they do represent many of the most important adaptation technologies for developing countries.

**Toolkit for Public-Private Partnerships in Urban Water Supply for the State of Maharashtra, India****Asian Development Bank (ADB). June 2011**<http://bit.ly/nDa76O>

This toolkit is expected to assist the relevant public entities in the State of Maharashtra, India, for developing Public-Private Partnerships-based projects in water supply and sanitation, and may also be used as reference by similar other cities across the country. The toolkit comprises four parts. Part 1 is a comprehensive toolkit, while the other parts provide further detail on specific sections, including a series of case studies of sample cities in Maharashtra.



Latest publications



Valuing Water Quality Improvement in China. A Case Study of Lake Puzhehei in Yunnan Province

World Bank. August 2011

<http://bit.ly/pmUTxG>

This paper reports an economic valuation study conducted in Yunnan, China, which aims to estimate the total value of a real investment project to improve the water quality of Lake Puzhehei. Located in Qiubei County, which is far from large cities, the lake has been experiencing fast water quality deterioration in the past years. This study also demonstrates that previous knowledge about water quality changes and the project may have a significant positive impact on people's valuation.



Water and the Green Economy: Information Briefs

UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC).
September 2011

For the purposes of the International UN-Water Conference "Water in the Green Economy in Practice: Towards Rio+20", 3-5 October 2011, Zaragoza, Spain, the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC) has produced a series of information briefs on different issues and tools addressed by the conference.

Issues information briefs

Transitioning to a green economy requires a shift from current practice. The UN-Water conference has identified four priority water-related issues where this change needs to take place: for cities, watersheds, agriculture and industries. The issues information briefs introduce the main challenges, opportunities and key facts related to each of the issues identified. The briefs also outline a set of practices and approaches for transitioning to the green economy as highlighted by the organisations participating in the conference. These approaches are illustrated with case studies featured in the conference. The following issues are covered by these information briefs:

- Water and **Agriculture** in the Green Economy <http://bit.ly/nX0Fd1>
- Water and **Cities** in the Green Economy <http://bit.ly/pLuGKa>
- Water and **Industry** in the Green Economy <http://bit.ly/nHf3eg>
- **Watersheds and aquifers** in the Green Economy <http://bit.ly/mUINJY>

Tools information briefs

The conference highlights different tools which can be used to promote change and support the transition towards a green economy. These tools are essential for overcoming the current barriers that obstruct the transition to a green economy; to harness opportunities; and to address important issues such as inequalities. They enable us to do more with less, to realise potentials and to change behaviours in order to create a green economy.

The tools information briefs introduce the main challenges, opportunities and key facts related to each of the tools identified. The briefs also outline a set of practices and approaches for transitioning to the green economy as highlighted by the organisations participating in the conference. These approaches are illustrated with case studies featured in the conference. The following tools are covered by these information briefs:

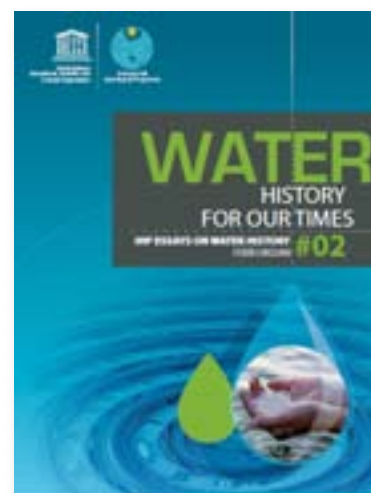
- **Water Financing** in the Transition to the Green Economy <http://bit.ly/r9BelC>
- Water and **Capacity Development** in the Transition to the Green Economy <http://bit.ly/qm5lug>
- Water and **Technology** in the Transition to the Green Economy <http://bit.ly/ntCw91>.

Water history for our times

**United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO),
International Hydrological Programme (IHP). August 2011**

<http://bit.ly/mOVuDe>

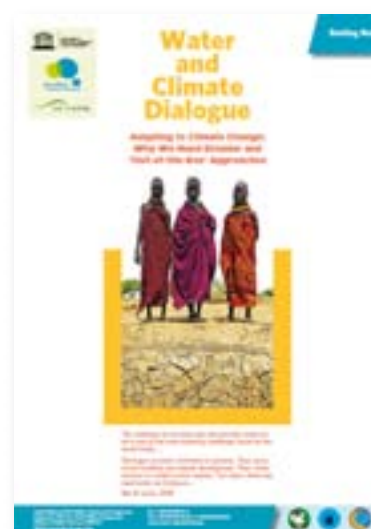
This essay presents a summary of the key developments in the history of water and civilization. It delivers a first attempt to systematize how this wealth of knowledge and practices developed across the globe on time, and why certain strands of it spread over time, geographical and cultural space.

**Water and climate dialogue: adapting to climate change: why we need broader and out-of-the-box approaches**

World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), UN-Water. August 2011

<http://bit.ly/oe22XI>

This briefing note, originally produced for the World Water Assessment Programme session during the Dialogs for Water and Climate Change at COP16, Mexico, December 2010, presents a series of key messages and facts on water-related climate change impacts and relevant policy and response options for adaptation.



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