



MESSAGES FROM THE FRENCH WATER PARTNERSHIP FOR THE WORLD WATER WEEK OF STOCKHOLM 2016

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS NO BUSINESS AS USUAL !



A NECESSARY APPROPRIATION OF SDGs FROM ALL STAKEHOLDERS

Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) implies a real **appropriation and commitment from all** (governments, local communities, companies, civil society organizations, citizens). Sufficient means of implementation - technical, human and financial - must be mobilized to meet these ambitions.

For governments, it means ensuring that the current national policies are aligned to achieve the 2030 targets; otherwise, reviews are needed. As the SDGs' targets are more ambitious than the current trends, many national policies need to be strengthened and accelerated.

For non-state stakeholders, focusing on SDGs means: assessing how their activities can contribute to achieving the 2030 Agenda, acting in line with the new international framework, and limiting activities that are contrary to the 2030 Agenda spirit. Policy makers are sensitive to the public opinion, so non-state stakeholders have a vital role to play in making sure the latter is aware of the importance of SDGs.



SDGs INTERLINKAGES AND NECESSARY LINKS WITH CLIMATE

The SDGs are a coherent and transversal Agenda. Governments should not prioritize goals and targets, as many can only be achieved if others are too. A cross-sectoral and multistakeholder approach is needed to reach a coordinated and integrated implementation and gain cross benefits. Sanitation is one example: ensuring sustainable sanitation reduces national health expenditures (SDG3), increases productivity (SDG 8) and education (SDG4) by reducing absenteeism, promotes gender equality (SDG5), fights against poverty (SDG1), contributes to sustainable cities (SDG11), and limits the pollution of oceans (SDG14). As it is transversal by nature, **Water is fundamental to all of the 2030 Agenda.** Conversely, if food security (SDG2) and the development of industry and infrastructure (SDG9) are not achieved with sustainable production modes, water targets cannot be guaranteed.

Also, the 2030 Agenda on SDGs and the Paris Agreement on Climate, which is also the subject of SDG 13, are inseparable. In many places, climate change makes it more difficult to achieve the SDGs targets related to water: so **successfully reaching the SDG6 depends on our ability to fight against climate change. Similarly, many water projects will not only contribute to SDGs' Water targets but also to adapting and mitigating climate change.**

⇒ *Join us at the #climateiswater event of the World Week in Stockholm - Thursday, September 1, at 4PM in NL Music Hall – to discuss how water issues can be more visible at COP22*



ENSURING THE POLITICAL FOLLOW UP OF WATER-RELATED TARGETS

Member states of the UN will need to regularly evaluate progress towards the 18 water-related targets and take corrective measures in case of insufficient progress. There is currently **no intergovernmental authority dedicated to water that has a political mandate and can produce recommendations** for the United Nations. Its creation is necessary at the policy-makers level so that water doesn't get to be the outcast of the 2030 Agenda, also enabling to set into motion correcting measures for delays which are bound to happen. This structure also **needs to integrate the contributions of existing water-related global platforms and partnerships and include a multi-stakeholder consultation mechanism.**

Among the current initiatives : **France is participating in a working group called the Core Group**, alongside Germany, Finland, Switzerland, Hungary and the Netherlands, which incorporates the recommendations of the report made by the Advisory Board on Water and the UN Secretary General Sanitation (UNSGAB). This report highlighted that the water sector suffers from a lack of

coordination of the 31 UN agencies operating on water, and from the absence of water forum with regular high-level meetings. **The Core Group is promoting the UNSGAB report's recommendations** and aims to create an intergovernmental body, incorporated in the United Nations system and dedicated to all SDG6 water-related. It will feed regularly the work of the High Level Policy Forum in charge of overall monitoring of SDG (HPLF). The report also suggests strengthening **UN-Water** to coordinate UN agencies in the field of water, and provide the secretariat of this intergovernmental forum. The need to strengthen the international water architecture seems to be a widely shared observation amongst countries.

⇒ *Find out more about this initiative at the World Week in Stockholm, during a High Level Event "Global Water Architecture 2030", on Monday August 29th at 2PM at FH Congress Hall A.*



FRAGILE INDICATORS THAT NEEDS TO BE CONSOLIDATED AND LOCALY ADAPTED

A monitoring framework based on reliable, ambitions and cross-sectoral indicators is needed to measure progress in every country and aggregate them globally. The monitoring indicators developed by each state on the basis of the international SDGs' indicators should thus provide an effective monitoring and evaluation framework of the transcript of SDGs into national policies.

Additional national or regional indicators will be needed. For instance in Europe, an indicator on the recycling of wastewater would be an interesting example of adapting the global framework to the local context in order to meet the ambition of the target 6.3. In the case of the indicator 6.4.2, water stress is not a sufficient meter of progress for sustainable water resources management, as it does not include the issue of underground exploitation. A more appropriate indicator could be identified.

In many countries, strengthening the monitoring systems is necessary to improve data collection, quality and management - particularly regarding groundwater and transboundary watersheds.



AMBITIOUS AND ADAPTED FUNDING

Universally implementing the right to water and sanitation, integrated water resources management and protection against floods and droughts **will require more funding than is available today**. The planning of the necessary funds to meet this goal by 2030 can bring a government to consider changing its usual forms of financing to examine all possible sources of funding available.

Complementary and flexible financing is preferable, and must be appropriately chosen according to each situation: following the 3T rule (Taxes which are the national budget, Tariffs which are the water bills paid by households, and Transfers which are public assistance funding to development), loans, private investment, tax on financial transactions or the 1% solidarity for water and sanitation (Oudin-Santini law in France).

The **criteria of equity and universality** of the Agenda will have implications on how to target water and sanitation-related funding, which will be reoriented in priority **towards the poorest households and vulnerable zones** (Least Developed countries, Urban areas but also suburban and rural). The aid paradigm must also be enlarged to include infrastructure as well as a support to **sustainable and affordable services and water management**.



SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATIONS FOR SDGs

Efficient and appropriate solutions are required to meet the ambitions of SDGs. It is also an opportunity to innovate in order to meet all needs : act more effectively on the ground; increase the quantity, quality and accessibility of "safely managed services "; develop early warning systems for natural water-related disasters; observe the earth to consolidate the " data revolution"; develop quality monitoring of rivers; energy recovery and reuse of treated effluents; limit the impacts on natural environments, develop smart and concerted use of water resource for domestic, industrial and agricultural use; ...

⇒ *Discover innovative and multistakeholders projects and multi-actor in our publication "Solutions Booklet from French water stakeholders"*



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