



2004 State of the UNEP GEMS/Water Global Network and Annual Report

United Nations Environment Programme

Global Environment Monitoring System (GEMS) Water Programme





Annual Report 2004

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Source for all quotes is WHO Water for Life

UNEP GEMS/Water Programme Structure

Established in 1978, the Global Environment Monitoring System (GEMS) Water Programme is the primary source for global water quality data. It is a multi-faceted water science centre oriented towards building knowledge on inland water quality issues worldwide. Key activities include monitoring, assessment and capacity building. The twin goals of the programme are to improve water quality monitoring and assessment capacity in participating countries, and to determine the state and trends of regional and global water quality.

These goals are implemented through the GEMS/Water data bank, GEMStat, with water quality data from more than 100 countries, and over two million entries for lakes, reservoirs, rivers and groundwater systems. GEMS/Water activities add value to country-level data by creating global and regional water quality assessments. The programme also carries out assessments on a range of water quality issues and methodologies. GEMS/Water data have been used by many organizations, including the UN system and universities around the world. GEMS/Water is part of the Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Governance and strategic guidance for GEMS/Water is provided by a Steering Committee, while scientific expertise is enhanced by a Technical Advisory Group.

Members of the Steering Committee

Dr. Jamie Bartram World Health Organization (WHO)

Dr. Avinash Tyagi World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Dr. Andras Szöllösi-Nagy UNESCO International Hydrology Programme (UNESCO-IHP)

Mr. Halifa Drammeh UNEP Division of Environmental Policy Development and Law

Dr. Steve Lonergan UNEP Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA)

Dr. Salif Diop UNEP Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA)

Dr. Veerle Vandeweerd UNEP Global Programme of Action

Dr. Gordon Young World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

Dr. Jean-Marc Faurès Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Dr. Pradeep Aggarwal International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Isotope Hydrology Section

Members of the Technical Advisory Group

All Steering Committee members plus:

Dr. Rafik Hirji World Bank

Mr. Neils Henrik Ipsen UNEP Collaborating Centre on Water and Environment (UCC-Water)

Mr. Hiroya Kotani International Lake Environment Committee (ILEC)

Dr. Jac A.M. van der Gun International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC)

Dr. Thomas Maurer Global Runoff Data Centre (GRDC)

Dr. Gen Inoue National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)

Mr. John Chilton British Geological Survey (BGS)

Dr. Michel Meybeck IGBP Water Group

Mr. Ingvar Andersson
UN Development Programme (UNDP)

View from the Executive Director of UNEP

Will there be enough water to grow food for the almost eight billion people expected to populate the Earth by 2025? This is among the many questions that are interlinked with a complex series of other serious water sustainability issues. I am pleased that 2005 marks the kick-off for the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" 2005-2015. It offers an exciting framework within which the world's water and sanitation problems can be resolved.

UNEP's GEMS/Water Programme is doing its part by focusing specifically on environmental water quality, and by providing sound scientific assessment results to the international community. Canada's friendly challenge issued at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, of having 35 new developing countries participate in the Programme by 2007, is on track. At the end of 2004, 16 developing countries joined in GEMS/Water activities.

This report outlines the current state of the GEMS/Water global network of water quality monitoring and assessment, and directions for the future. It highlights efforts over the past year to broaden global data coverage, improve collection and methods, promote alternate technologies, contribute to assessments and early warning, and keep aquatic environmental protection as an international priority. You will find that a common thread that connects these core activities: the global guest for healthy and sustainable water resources.

As I have said before, the role of UNEP GEMS/Water – the UN system's centre for water quality data – will grow even more important in the years ahead as the world wrestles with the need to do more to protect our vital water resources.

Dr. Klaus Töpfer



View from the Director, GEMS/Water Programme

Access to fresh water and sanitation services is a precondition to the other goals in the Millennium Declaration. The way we perceive nature and the value of the goods and services it provides to people are fundamental to peace, security and prosperity. Water is vital to the survival of ecosystems, and in turn ecosystems help to regulate the quantity and quality of water.

Our Programme serves to provide water quality monitoring and assessment results at regional and global levels. To be comprehensive and valuable to decision-makers and all governance processes, we must have as much governmental participation as possible. All Governments benefit from participating in GEMS/Water, including from the perspective of implementing policy commitments and achieving targets. A summary of your country's participation in GEMS/Water's global database is listed at the back of this report.

Many results have been achieved over the past year, relating to GEMS/Water's four core activities: data warehousing, data integrity, capacity building and assessments. The new global database GEMStat was launched, while new publications include the Analytical Methods guide, this report, newsletters, and several technical papers. GEMS/Water has become increasingly engaged with water assessments, including the Global Environment Outlook, the Millennium Assessment, the World Water Development Report, and indicators development work.

Linkages with the UN family are a critical factor in our work. The ability to provide results within UNEP, such as to GPA, UCC-Water, IETC, and others, is a priority. At the system-wide level, we are delighted to team up with IAEA, UNESCO, WMO, WHO, CSD, UN-Water, UNSD, FAO, UN-ECE and others. Some of our collaborations are highlighted in this report. I would like to thank the GEMS/Water Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Group for their continued leadership and cooperation.

Dr. Richard D. Robarts



GEMS/Water and the International Decade of Action: Water for Life 2005-2015

GEMS/Water Youth:Living on the Edge

The world's 263 international watersheds generate about 60% of global freshwater flow and are home to about 40% of all people. Youth know this means that many of their friends are living on the edge of a river, a lake, a stream, a wetland and other types of surface water resources.

"Living on the Edge" is GEMS/Water's Youth initiative which focuses on young people documenting observations about water quality from shorelines of any inland water body around the world.

The main objectives of "Living on the Edge" are:

Awareness-raising:

 By showcasing studies so that others are inspired to do similar

Knowledge and Information:

- Learning about water quality in one's own local environment so that it can be celebrated or action can be taken to mitigate changes and problems
- Experiences and observations can contribute to environmental assessments and reports

Communication:

 By showing that youth can make a difference (especially international cooperation) The recent international water agenda has put water quality issues at the forefront, with the need for measuring the achievement of the "Water and Sanitation Targets" including water quality assessment, as a priority. As 2005 marks the launch of the International Decade of Action, Water for Life, UNEP is preparing to strengthen water quality monitoring and assessment results through the GEMS/Water Programme. We will focus on increasing developing country participation, particularly Africa, Small Islands, Latin America, and Central Asia.

Water Quality and the Millennium Development Goals

How will water quality data and assessments help reach our common goals?

While the global community has pledged to halve the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and sanitation by 2015, realizing these goals is a monumental task. UNEP reckons that one billion people will need help over the next 12 years. There is a need for reliable, current data and information about water resources at the global level for the water and sanitation goals and targets to be measured. We plan to focus on these three steps to help the process of reaching these goals:

- 1. It is vital to recognize that the global water demands implicitly need good quality water, not just any water availability
- These goals, and their related activities, must be measured. This requires enough data and information about quality and quantity of global water resources
- Any state of the world's water assessment must be policy relevant

In 2004, we answered 271 requests for information from the international community not including any United Nations body.

Key Performance Measures

We are in the process of developing and implementing a core set of indicators for our core activities.

Data Source for International Community

Key Indicators	1992	Baseline 2000	2005	2008 Targets	2011 Targets	2015 Targets
Global Coverage through participation/data submission	58	69	76	114	152	191 UN member states
Global Coverage through proactive data collection	n/a	n/a	80	140	200	261 countries and areas
Watercourse Coverage	69	69	112	162	232	263 major international basins

The Great Water Quality Data Drive

To mark World Environment Day 2004, we launched "The Great Water Quality Data Drive," designed to strengthen the scientific basis for global and regional water assessments, indicators and early warning.

The Great Water Quality Data Drive was a specific call for inland water quality data to all water

Global Call to Action: Send Water Quality Data from All Types of Water Resources Now

authorities around the world. Geographic priorities include Central America and the Caribbean islands, South America, Central Asia, Africa and the Small Pacific Islands. Key data to submit were: metadata, BOD, pathogens, POPs, nitrogen and phosphorus, suspended solids and sediment quality data. Data from all types of inland aquatic environments are important. These include surface waters such as lakes, reservoirs, streams, rivers, estuaries, and wetlands; and ground water aquifers. Monitoring stations include baseline, impact, trend and flux stations. The 2004 Drive was implemented over six

To reach the MDGs, there is a need for more trained personnel in the water sector: 300% more in Africa and 250% more in South East Asia.

The main outcomes were:

months, closing in December 2004.

- www.GEMStat.org a new searchable database of global water quality data and statistics
- new data and information sources, such as metadata, BOD, pathogens, POPs, nitrogen and phosphorus, suspended solids and sediment quality
- 3. renewed focus on groundwater data and monitoring as a regional and global priority
- 4. integration of alternate technology: from indigenous knowledge to remote sensing

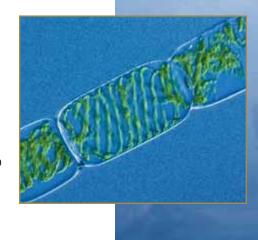
These four results will serve to strengthen our data warehouse, which contains over two million data points of over 100 parameters covering nutrients, organics, metals, ions and is expanding to address emerging issues.

Harmonization Reporting Processes

How can the plethora of requests for data and reporting be handled more effectively?

GEMS/Water-Belgium focal point, the Flemish Environment Agency, provides some answers. There are a number of international environmental reporting processes taking place at sub-regional, regional and global levels, calling for water quality data — submissions. For example, UNSD, UNEP, UN-WWAP, the CBD, OECD, EU, and many regional and basin treaties include provisions for assessments and reporting. These reports are important tools for tracking progress, policy evaluation, and for informing the general public.

The trouble is that the number of reports and processes brings a heavy reporting burden to national governments who are responsible for submitting water quality data and information to each report. This burden can be particularly great for developing countries, small islands, and economies in transition. To help cope with multiple reporting requirements, our Belgium NFP has developed a synthesized work sheet for data collection, as a tool to manage data reporting. The UN Statistical Division is also helping by holding a work session on water statistics in June 2005.

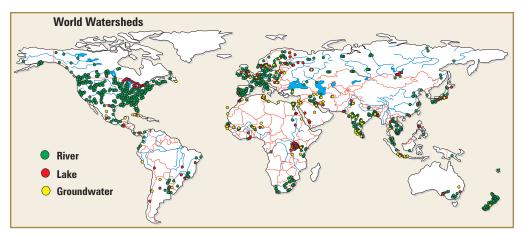


In order to meet the water supply MDG target, an additional 260 000 people per day up to 2015 should gain access to improved water sources.

Year in Review: Global Water Quality Data

Increasing Global Data Coverage





Results:

Development and maintenance of global water quality data and information systems to improve accessibility to credible and comparable data; and contribution to the development and use of indicators for better understanding and decision-making of inland aquatic environmental and human health issues, and in support of MDG/WSSD and other targets.

Regions	Number of Stations	Number of Data Points	Physical / Chemical	Major Ions	Metals	Nutrients	Organic Contaminants	Microbiology	Date Range
Africa	138	206907	26712	79889	6439	41289	370	832	1977 - 2004
Americas	662	417994	47198	73210	88124	47284	3593	10401	1965 - 2004
Asia	332	641940	118868	159329	83005	98796	6794	32018	1971 - 2004
Europe	318	823323	146747	136392	154742	108815	14539	27260	1978 - 2003
Oceania	94	206650	31678	12237	2535	46992	1438	1383	1979 - 2004
Total	1544	2296814	371203	461057	334845	343176	26734	71894	1965 - 2004

Service	Human Health	Agriculture	Energy/	Ecosystem Stability,	Tourism &
and Use	Drinking Water		Industrial	Structure & Health	Recreation
Parameter	Total Coliform Faecal Coliform Pathogens POPs Turbidity	Nutrients Nitrogen Phosphorus Salinity Chlorophyll A Pathogens	BOD COD Heavy Metals (particularly in Sediment)	Temperature pH - acidity Conductivity Major ions Oxygen Suspended Solids Biodiversity	Parasites Pathogens

Different health requirements and water uses need different degrees of water quality. The needs of an aquatic ecosystem are the most important. If the ecosystem is healthy, then the others fall into place. The suite of substances that can be monitored are summarized at left.

The United States was the Number 1 data provider for

Links with WHO Guidelines

GEMS/Water is working with WHO guidelines and other assessment publications. The World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Health Promoting Water Management and Risk Communication, Institute for Hygiene and Public Health, was tasked with reviewing the occurrence of pathogens in surface waters for the WHO Drinking Water Guidelines. The study included information about the occurrence and measured concentrations of selected bacteria, viruses, fungi and protozoa and their relationship with indicator parameters as well as types of catchment areas. The related database contains 230 references on the occurrence of pathogens in surface waters with 87 entries for bacteria, 70 for parasites, 60 for viruses and 12 for fungi. The Centre is located with the University of Bonn in Germany.

Launch of GEMStat: Global Water Quality Online Database



Water quality statistical summaries and other information are now online with a search engine and other features. Access to information and sharing tools and resources are vital to achieving results.





New Monitoring Guidelines for Europe

A new strategy was tabled at the 5th UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Water Convention's Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (WGMA). The paper covers all types of transboundary waters (rivers, lakes and groundwater). The main objective is to show the key principles of monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters to people responsible for establishing and carrying out official co-operation between riparian countries. We provided input on water quality monitoring and assessment from a multilateral perspective. The strategic guidelines present a common view of the main principles applied to joint monitoring of transboundary watercourses. Although the strategy is not legally binding, the Meeting of Parties when adopting it in Berlin, in 2006, will strongly recommend it for the entire UNECE region. The guidelines are linked to other European monitoring systems, as well as to our operations. The Finish Environment Institute, as chair of the process, is leading the development of the guidelines.

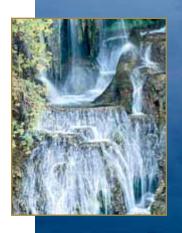
"The Millennium Development Goals are not limited to water scarcity and access.

Water quality is as an important determinant of availability. Water which is not fit for a particular use is effectively unavailable."

 Richard Robarts, quote of the month on www.UNESCO.org/water

LOOKING AHEAD

- GEMSoft new software tools for our focal points
- continued focus on data sources
- renewed attention to groundwater





Year in Review: Global Water Quality Assessments

Results:

Enhanced awareness of, and cooperation on, water quality and water quality monitoring, problems and emerging issues, among governments and the public, to better support sustainability.

Pollution prevention and successful water treatment systems reduce harm to water courses flowing to coastal areas.

Our water quality data are useful for regional and global environmental water assessments. This past year, data and statistics were used by UNEP's GEO Yearbook. We tailor-create graphics and maps for all assessment results including the World Water Development Report.

Biodiversity Convention Work on Water Quality Indicators

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is working on the "2010 Biodiversity target" including indicators and targets for water ecosystems. Suitable indicators and datasets will be considered for use in the Global Biodiversity Outlook 2006.

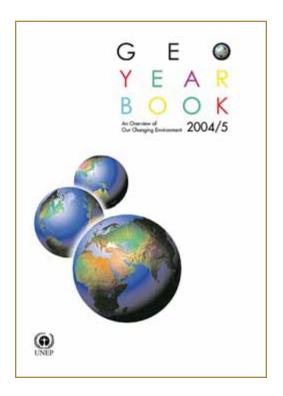
GEMS/Water was invited to chair one of the meeting's sessions. We will provide up-to-date information on the water quality indicators selected (BOD, NO3+NO2-N and SS) and graphical presentations. We work with the CBD Secretariat to develop text that more strongly links water quality to biodiversity. Also, the meeting asked us to consider creating a water quality index of the three indicators by, for example, setting start values in 1977 and calculating decadal changes relative to this for each indicator. The mean of the sum of the calculated values for each time period could then be shown as "changes in water quality." Participants included CITES, Ramsar, FAO, UNESCO, UNEP-WCMC, FAO, IUCN, WWF, EEA, CGIAR, and other agencies and governments.

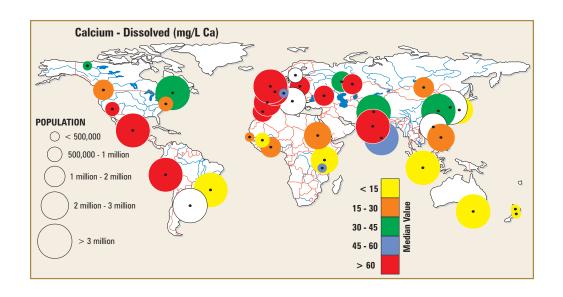
LOOKING AHEAD:

- work with UNESCO-IHP and UNSD
- global water quality indicators workshop
- 2nd Technical Advisory Group meeting

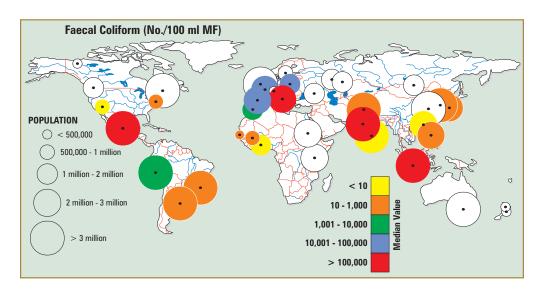


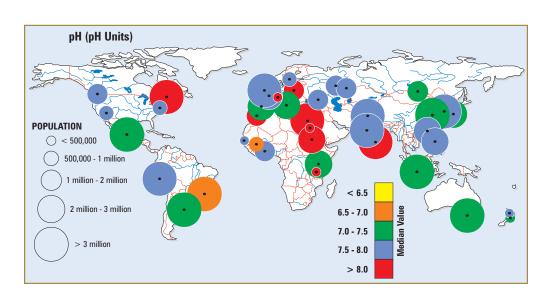














Year in Review: Data Integrity (QA/QC)

Results:

Increased reputation as a credible and reliable source for global water quality data and information, to add value to local-level data collection, and appropriate monitoring and observation technology.

Data verification and integrity mean reliable information, but QA/QC work is often more complex and detailed than it appears.

Analytical Methods Guide

The new Analytical Methods for Environmental Water Quality provides an overview of methodologies that are, or were previously, used in laboratories that contribute water quality data and information to both GEMS/Water and the International Atomic Energy Agency's International Hydrology Section (IAEA-IHS). The target audience includes water quality laboratories and other partners of both agencies. The use of documented analytical methods is important for generating reliable water quality data. They also facilitate the production of environmental water assessments at regional and global levels by defining the comparability of data from different sources. The book is organized into two sections, Part A is a key to more than 380 analytical methods codes for over 100 parameters. Part B provides the definition of, and sampling procedures for, environmental stable and radioactive isotopes; and major and noble gases.

5th Laboratory Performance Evaluation

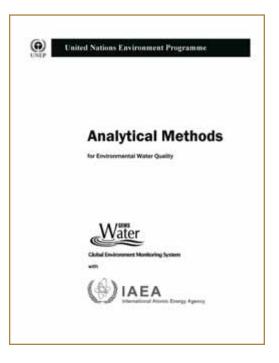
The fifth Laboratory Performance Evaluation study (PE No. 5) was completed. 68 laboratories from 38 countries received individual performance reports, designed to help laboratories improve their own analytical capabilities. Participation of 14 developing countries was enabled by IAEA, whose support is gratefully acknowledged.

Plans for subsequent studies include progressive increases in scope and participation each year up to 2008. PE Study No. 6 is scheduled for later this year.

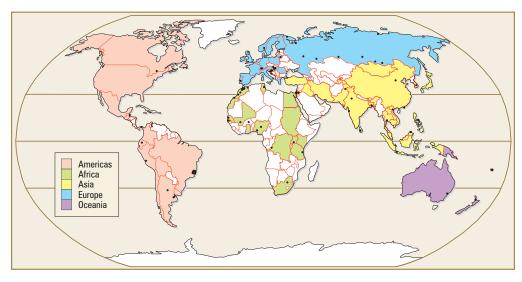
LOOKING AHEAD

- alternate data such as indigenous knowledge
- laboratory PE Study No. 6
- new tools and publications





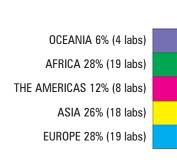
Global Participation in Laboratory Performance Evaluation Study No. 5

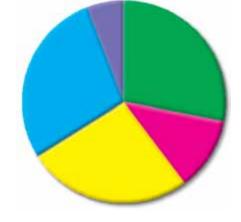




Participation by region:

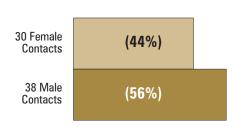
(samples were sent to 43 different countries; data were received from 38 countries)





PE Study 5 gender statistics:







Year in Review: Building Capacity in Water Quality

Results:

Increased participation or involvement in water quality monitoring, assessment and reporting in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to better achieve MDG/WSSD targets.

Regional Leadership with GEMS/Water-Japan Mekong Shared Waters Initiative

GEMS/Water-Japan (the National Institute for Environmental Studies) and the Kasetsart University are leading a new regional capacity building initiative focused on the Mekong River. The second workshop was held in September, to kick-off regional presence for GEMS/Water in the Mekong region. Participants in the project came from five of the riparian countries which share the Mekong: China, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Viet Nam, and other local authorities. Links with private sector partners could contribute to the technical strength of the initiative.

The project aims to provide a new integrated water resource management training programme at the regional riparian level. GEMS/Water-Japan's regional approach could be adopted in every region around the world, to help promote global coverage of water quality and monitoring activities.

Global population growth is cancelling many of the gains already made. Though more than a billion people gained improved sanitation between 1990 and 2002, the population without coverage declined by only 100 million.

Without sharp acceleration in the rate of progress, the world will miss the sanitation target by half a billion people.

Between 2002 and 2015, the world's population is expected to increase every year by 74.8 million people.

From now until 2015, greater effort must be made to reach the poor and those in rural areas, whose deprivation is hidden behind national leverages.

UNEP IETC and Iraq Training Course

Important opportunities for environmental cooperation and peace.

The Iraqi Mesopotamian Marshlands constitute the largest wetland ecosystem in Western Asia. The global community recognizes the ecological and cultural importance of the Marshes, as well as the need to restore them. In response, UNEP International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC) has prepared a series, "Training Courses on Water Quality and Wetlands Management," in cooperation with the International Lakes Environment Committee (ILEC). One course was held in December 2004 in Shiga, Japan. Participants included 28 officials from the Iraqi Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Water Management, provincial and local officials and one NGO. GEMS/Water was invited to give the opening lecture on International Water Governance, followed by a second session on Global Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment. The presentations were well received, including a demonstration of the new GEMStat website.

UNESCO IHP Ecohydrology

The Scientific Advisory Committee for UNESCO IHP VI Ecohydrology and UNEP International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC) Phytotechnology projects met in Paris in May. The purpose was to review ecohydrology and phytotechnology activities for 2003-2004 and determine opportunities for 2004-2005. A new Manual Integrated Watershed Management: Ecology and Phytotechnology, jointly led by UNESCO and IETC has been published in hard and electronic forms. Training courses are being planned for Sudan (Nov 2004), Argentina (Mar/Apr 2005) and Bali (July 2005). GEMS/Water has lectured in past courses on global water resources issues, monitoring and assessment and general limnology. About 20 demonstration sites around the world were selected for possible seed funding. The sites aim to show how ecohydrology and phytotechnology can be used to prevent or remediate environmental impacts on aquatic ecosystems in diverse geographical locations, with the socio-economic benefits.



International Course and Modular Series



LOOKING AHEAD

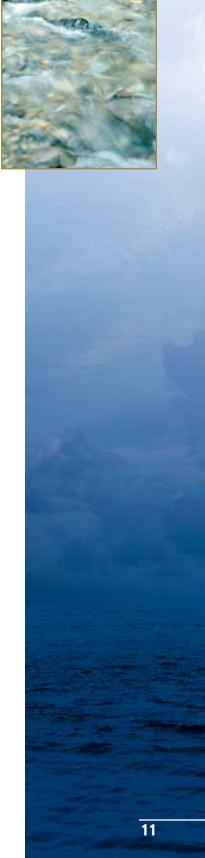
- workshops tailored to Francophone Africa
- NIES work in the Mekong region
- plans for SIDS, CAS, and Latin America

In 2002, 1.1 billion people lacked access to improved water sources, which represented 17% of the global population.

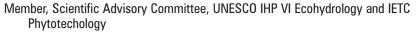
Of the 1.1 billion without improved water sources, nearly two thirds live in Asia.

REGION	MEN	% of Total	WOMEN	% of Total
Africa	17	85.0	3	15.0
Americas	14	77.7	4	22.3
Asia	21	91.3	2	8.7
Europe	19	86.3	3	13.7

Gender and National Focal Points, Collaborating Focal Points and Other Data Sources







Member, Scientific Committee, International Lake Environment Committee (ILEC)

Member, Scientific Board, International Centre of Ecology, Polish Academy of Sciences

Member, Steering Committee, UNESCO-IHP and IAEA Integrative Science Initiative

Member, Steering Committee, Global Runoff Data Centre (GRDC)

Member, Editorial Board, Aquatic Ecology

Member, Interdisciplinary Committee, World Cultural Council

Member, Advisory Committee, UNEP-DEWA North America

Member, UNEP-GEO Data Working Group

Member, UN Economic Commission for Europe Water Convention's Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (WGMA)

Member, Science Advisory Group, UNESCO International Sedimentation Initiative

Contributor, UN-Water and World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

Editor, SILnews, newsletter of International Associate of Theoretical and Applied Limnology

Co-chair, SIL Working Group on Ecohydrology

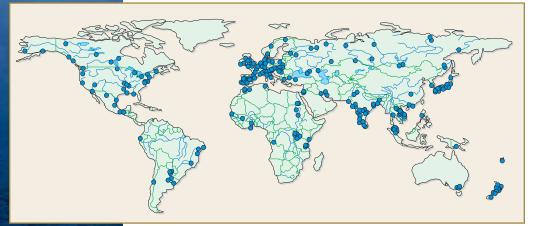
Associate Editor, Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences

Science and Technology Advisor, LakeNet

Co-editor, UNESCO Ecohydrology & Hydrobiology

Observer, UN-Water

GEMS-GRDC Common Stations



GEMS/Water coordinates station and data collection issues with our hydrological counterpart, the Global Runoff Data Centre of WMO. GRDC collects water quantity data and information, and maintains and develops a global water quantity database of 6,737 stations. Their primary mission is to obtain, compile and interpret flow data for

major river systems of the world and contribute to the international water assessment programmes of the United Nations. GRDC also carries out external contracted studies primarily with universities.





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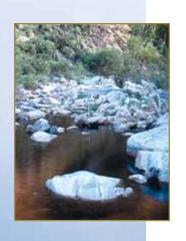
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Financial Status

As GEMS/Water is functionally part of UNEP, it does not have legal status, and relies on a UNEP General Trust Fund, and Canada's financial and in-kind support. The General Trust Fund for GEMS/Water was established under the auspices of UNEP in 2002, with an initial contribution from Canada of US \$1.0 million over three years. Financial health and prospects are improving, and the number of projects and new partnerships is increasing, and will grow in 2005. Nevertheless, the current positive trend needs to be further strengthened to ensure the successful implementation of our expanding work programme, and to meet the demands of the broader assessment community.

The General Trust Fund is the main mechanism for financing core activities. To implement the current programme of work, GEMS/Water still needs increased contributions from a broader donor base. We are planning to achieve this by building new strategic partnerships, ensuring good quality products, and strengthening local activities.

Financial resources have been gratefully received from sources listed below.

Funds & Resources Summary

Source	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
	(US\$) 2003	(US\$) 2004	(US\$) 2005
In - kind			
NWRI - Environment Canada	30,000	30,000	30,000
	220,000	230,000	230,000
GEMS/Water Japan	15,000		
Sub-total	265,000	260,000	260,000
	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
	(US\$) 2003	(US\$) 2004	(US\$) 2005
Core Funds			
Canada - DFAIT	115,000	118,000	118,000
General Trust Fund	385,000	390,000	390,000
UNEP - Secretariat	50,000	50,000	50,000
Special Projects			
ILEC	5,000		
Un of Nicaragua Water Resources	7,000		
Auditor General of Canada	7,000		
IAEA		13,000	
MRC		1,200	2,800
UNESCO - IHP	8,000	3,000	
UNESCO - SIL		5,785	
Sub-total	570,000	580,985	560,800
Total per Year	835,000	840,985	820,800

Strengthening Groundwater in GEMS/Water Global Network

A total of 1,544 stations in 79 countries form the GEMS/Water global network. There are 1,332 river stations, 98 lake stations and 114 groundwater stations. Eighteen of the groundwater stations have no data, while 96 stations contain 82,143 data points. However, only 52 of the stations have recent data, and many of the stations have very fragmentary data holdings.

We are working to increase our groundwater quality network. Some possible combinations of landuse category and aquifer type are relatively unimportant on a global scale. It is anticipated that 200 to 400 groundwater stations would be required globally. To take proper account of the complex hydrogeology and land-use distribution, 150-250 sampling points are considered necessary to meet primary objectives.

Groundwater Quality Problems

PROBLEM	CAUSES	CONCERNS				
Anthropogenic pollution	Inadequate protection of vulnerable aquifers against human - made discharges and leachates from: • urban and industrial activities; • intensification of agricultural cultivation	Pathogens, nitrates, ammonium salts, chlorine, sulphates, boron, heavy metals, DOC, aromatic and halogenated hydrocarbons nitrates, chlorine, pesticides				
Naturally occurring contamination	Related to pH-Eh evolution of groundwater and dissolution of minerals (aggravated by anthropogenic pollution and/or uncontrolled exploitation)	Mainly iron, fluorine and sometimes arsenic, iodine, manganese, aluminium, magnesium, sulphates, selenium and nitrates (from paleorecharge)				
Well-head contamination	Inadequate well design and construction allowing direct intrusion of polluted surface water or shallow groundwater	Mainly pathogens				

Source: Foster, Lawrence and Morris 1998; UNEP Global Environment Outlook 2002

Distribution of Stations by Regions

REGION	REGION NUMBER OF STATIONS		NOTES ON OMISSIONS (COUNTRIES AND AQUIFERS)				
	TOTAL	WITH DATA					
Africa	31	19	None in Burundi, Ghana, South Africa, Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo				
Americas	15	15	None in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama and USA				
Asia	49	45	None in China, Hong Kong SAR, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, and Viet Nam				
Europe	14	13	None in Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Russian Federation, and Switzerland				
Oceania	5	4	None in Fiji and Papua New Guinea				
TOTALS	114	96					

Factors which determine network design

SAMPLI	NG POINT	SAMPLING FREQUENCY	CHOICE OF	
TYPE	DENSITY		DETERMINANDS	
Primary Assessment Objectives	Primary Assessment Objectives	Primary Assessment Objectives	Primary Assessment Objectives	
Hydrology (complexity)	Hydrology (complexity)	Hydrology (complexity)	Water Uses	
	Geology (Aquifer distribution)	Hydrology (seasonal influences)	Water quality issues	
	Land Use		Statutory Requirements	
	Statistical considerations	Statistical considerations		
Costs	Costs	Costs	Costs	

State of the GEMS/Water Global Network

Thank You to Focal Points and Data Providers

National focal points (NFPs) are appointed and funded by member countries and are in charge of national cooperation with GEMS/Water and national coordination of activities related to the GEMS/Water programme of work. Collaborating Focal Points play similar roles as do NFPs, although they are institutionally different; CFPs are non-governmental organizations, universities, and other institutes. Full specifications of the roles of GEMS/Water, NFPs and CFPs are provided in the NFP Specifications.

• Data for Western Europe are often contributed by the European Environment Agency focal point.

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Mr. V. Choga Director Department of Water Resources

Statistical Summary of Countries and Areas

Data Submissions as of January, 2005

Countries and Areas	Last Updated	No. of Stations	No. of Para- meters	No. of Data Points	No. of Records	Temporal Coverage	Coverage by River Basin	Population	Network Readiness Index	Basin Name
Afghanistan								28,513,677		
Albania								3,544,808		
Algeria	2004							32,129,324	87	
American Samoa	2002							57,902		
Andorra								69,865		
Angola								10,978,552	99	
Anguilla								13,008		
Antarctica								1000 - 4000		
Antigua and Barbuda								68,320		
Argentina	2000	12	84	9581	787	1979 - 1999	yes	39,144,753	50	Parana, Uruguay
Armenia								2,991,360		
Aruba								71,218		
Ashmore & Cartier Islands (A		11	100	21121	2052	1070 2004		10.012.144		M Davida
Australia	2004	11	102	21121	2053	1979 - 2004	yes	19,913,144	9	Murray-Darling
Austria Azerbaijan	2000	6	15	612	57	1995 - 1996	yes	8,174,762	21	Danube
· ·								7,868,385 299,697		
Bahamas, The Bahrain								677,886		
Baker & Howland Islands								0//,000		
	1998	9	19	4446	438	1979 - 1995		141,340,476	93	Brahmaputra, Ganges
Bangladesh Barbados	1990			4440	430	1979 - 1990	yes	278,289		Dialiliapulia, daliges
Belarus								10,310,520		
Belgium	2004	51	92	51983	1635	1978 - 2002	yes	10,348,276	24	Schelde
Belize	2004			31303		1370 - 2002	yes 	272,945		Scrietue
Benin								7,250,033		
Bermuda								64,935		
Bhutan								2,185,569		
Bolivia		2	21	625	33	1979 - 1982	no	8,724,156	90	
Bosnia and Herzegovina								4,007,608		
Botswana								1,561,973	55	
Bouvet Island (Norwegian)										
Brazil	1994	12	67	15805	916	1979 - 1990	ves	184,101,109	39	Parana, Sao Francisco
British Indian Ocean Territory	(British)									
British Virgin Islands (British)								22,187		
Brunei Darussalam								365,251		
Bulgaria								7,517,973	67	
Burkina Faso								13,574,820		
Burundi		1						6,231,221		
Cambodia	2001	5	18	1739	100	1993 - 1995	yes	13,363,421		Mekong
Cameroon								16,063,678	83	
Canada	2004	70	107	281497		1965 - 2004	yes	32,507,874	6	Fraser, Mackenzie, Nelson, St. John, St. Lawrence, Yukon
Cape Verde								415,294		
Cayman Islands (British)								43,103		
Central African Republic	2004							3,742,482		
Chad								9,538,544	102	
Chile		3	36	4498	291	1979 - 1988	no	15,823,957	32	
Christmas Island	2003	12	100	41173	1619	1980 - 1997	yes	1,298,847,624	51	Amur, Hwang He, Xi Jiang, Yangtze
Cocos Islands (Australian)								629		
Colombia (Australian)		3	52	1409	72	1981 - 1988	yes	42,310,775	60	Magdalena
Comoros				1409		1901 - 1900	yes 	651,901		iviaguaiciia
Congo, Republic of the								2,998,040		
Cook Islands (New Zealand)								2,990,040		
Coral Sea Islands (Australian								21,200		
Costa Rica								3,956,507	49	
Côte d'Ivoire	2004	12	11	131	4	1997-1999	no	17,327,724		
Croatia								4,496,869	48	
Cuba	1996	3	34	359	18	1993 - 1995	no	11,308,764		

Countries and Areas	Last Updated	No. of Stations	No. of Para-	No. of Data	No. of Records	Temporal Coverage	Coverage by River	Population	Network Readiness	Basin Name
			meters	Points			Basin		Index	
Cyprus								775,927		
Czech Republic								10,246,178	33	
Democratic Republic of the	Congo	1	16	16	1	1984	yes	58,317,930		Congo
Denmark	2001	6	17	3335	617	1979 - 1996	no	5,413,392	5	
Djibouti								466,900		
Dominica								69,278		
Dominican Republic								8,833,634	57	
Ecuador	1997	3	32	1419	111	1979 - 1986	no	13,212,742	89	
Egypt		10	15	2284	210	1979 - 1980	yes	76,117,421	65	Nile
El Salvador								6,587,541	62	
Equatorial Guinea								523,051		
Eritrea								4,447,307		
Estonia								1,341,664	25	
Ethiopia								67,851,281	101	
Falkland Islands (British)								2,967		
Faroe Islands (Denmark)								46,662		
Fiji	2004	1	29	3002	266	1980 - 2004	no	880,874		
Finland	2002	12	68	12488	1796	1979 - 1998	yes	5,214,512	3	Kemijoki, Pasvik, Torne
France	2002	20	50	71014	4856	1979 - 1996	yes	60,424,213	19	Garonne, Loire, Rhone,
										Seine
French Guiana (French)								191,309		
French Polynesia (French)								266,339		
Gabon								1,355,246		
Gambia,The	2004							1,546,848	82	
Georgia								4,693,892		
Germany	2002	20	50	34791	3273	1979 - 1995	yes	82,424,609	11	Danube, Elbe, Rhine & Meuse, Oder, Weser
Ghana	1997	4	42	2127	208	1991 - 1995	yes	20,757,032	74	Volta
Gibraltar (British)								27,833		
Greece	2000	6	14	3385	482	1990 - 1995	no	10,647,529	34	
Greenland (Denmark)								56,384		
Grenada								89,357		
Guadeloupe (French)								444,515		
Guam (USA)								166,090		
Guatemala		4	14	459	33	1981 - 1982	yes	14,280,596	86	Motaqua
Guernsey (British)								65,031		
Guinea								9,246,462		
Guinea-Bissau								1,388,363		
Guyana								705,803		
Haiti								7,656,166	100	
Heard & MacDonald Islands (Australia)									
Holy See (Vatican City)								921		
Honduras								6,823,568	98	
Hong Kong SAR	2004	2	21	3296	314	1979 - 2004	no	6,855,125	18	
Hungary	2000	4	71	15513	671	1979 - 1996	yes	10,032,375	36	Danube
Iceland								293,966	10	
India	2004	72	28	206610	10,175	1978 - 2002	yes	1,065,070,607	45	Godavari, Krishna, Mahanadi, Narmada, Tapti
Indonesia	1993	22	63	30712	906	1979 - 1994	no	238,452,952	73	
Iran	1993	20	34	6159	463	1980 - 1992	yes	69,018,924		Kura-Araks, Tigris & Euphrates
Iraq		10						25,374,691		
Ireland	2001	4	18	4249	401	1979 - 1996	no	3,969,558	22	
Isle of Man (British)								74,655		
Israel		2	37	5141	305	1980 - 1981	yes	6,199,008	16	Jordan
Italy	2000	16	21	10352	1051	1979 - 1995	yes	58,057,477	28	Po
Jamaica								2,713,130	53	
Jan Mayen (Norwegian)										
Japan	2004	27	271	148946	6051	1979 - 2002	no	127,333,002	12	
Jarvis Island (USA)										
Jersey (British)								90,502		

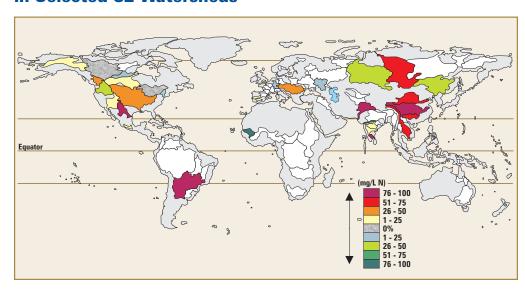
Countries and Areas	Last Updated	No. of Stations	No. of Para- meters	No. of Data Points	No. of Records	Temporal Coverage	Coverage by River Basin	Population	Network Readiness Index	Basin Name
Johnston Atoll (USA)								396		
Jordan	2000	4	59	893	48	1987 - 1999	yes	5,611,202	46	Jordan
Kazakhstan								15,143,704		
Kenya		11	56	2524	242	1977 - 1988	yes	32,021,856	84	Nile
Kingman Reef (USA)										
Kiribati								100,798		
Korea, Democratic Republic	of (North)							22,697,553		
Korea, Republic of (South)	2004	1	39	9310	478	1982 - 2004	yes	48,598,175	20	Han
Kuwait		2				1302 2004		2,257,549		Tiuli
Kyrgyzstan								5,081,429		
Lao, People's Republic of	2001	15	21	28872	1502	1985 - 1995	ves	6,068,117		Mekong
Latvia	2001			20072	1302	1303 - 1333	y 	2,306,306	35	MEKONY
Lebanon								3,777,218		
Lesotho								1,865,040		
Liberia								3,390,635		
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		5						5,631,585		
Liechtenstein				1007		1001 0001		33,436	40	N
Lithuania	2002	4	36	1207	41	1991 - 2001	yes	3,607,899	42	Neman
Luxembourg	2000	1	20	1158	101	1979 - 1995	yes	462,690	14	Rhine & Meuse
Macau (China)								445,286		
Macedonia, The former Yugos	slav Republi	c of						2,071,210	75	
Madagascar								17,501,871	92	
Malawi								11,906,855	88	
Malaysia	1994	8	80	13723	641	1979 - 1992	no	23,522,482	26	
Maldives								339,330		
Mali	1997	11	34	1596	81	1987 - 1996	yes	11,956,788	96	Niger, Senegal
Malta								396,851	27	
Marshall Islands (USA)								57,738		
Martinique (French)								429,510		
Mauritania								2,998,563		
Mauritius								1,220,481	43	
Mayotte (French)								186,026		
Mexico	1998	16	91	32398	2157	1979 - 1996	yes	104,959,594	44	Balsas, Rio Grande, Rio Grande de Santiago, Grijalva, Usumacinta
Micronesia, Federated States	of							108,155		,
Midway Islands (USA)										
Monaco								32,270		
Mongolia	2004	4	9	212	24	2004	no	2,751,314		
Montserrat (British)								9,245		
Morocco	2001	8	75	15021	607	1985 - 1999	no	32,209,101	64	
Mozambique				10021		.000 1000		18,811,731	97	
Myanmar								42,720,196		
Namibia								1,954,033	59	
Nauru								12,809		
Navassa Island (USA)								12,609		
Nepal		3						27,070,666		
•										
Netherland Antilles (Netherland			7/		16102	1070 1006		218,126	12	Phina & Mauca
Netherlands	1996	15	74	105554	16182	1979 - 1996	yes	16,318,199	13	Rhine & Meuse
New Caledonia (French)	2000	01		100501	0700	1070 1007		213,679		\A/=:I+-
New Zealand	2000	81	87	182521	8798	1979 - 1997	yes	3,993,817	23	Waikato
Nicaragua								5,359,759	94	
Niger		9						11,360,538		
Nigeria	2004							137,253,133	79	
Niue (New Zealand)								2,156		
Norfolk Island (Australian)								1,841		
Northern Mariana Islands (US	(A)							78,252		
Norway	1996	18	39	8473	696	1981 - 1993	yes	4,574,560	8	Glama
Oman								2,903,165		
Pakistan	2004	7	65	32632	1554	1979 - 2003	yes	159,196,336	76	Indus
Palau								20,016		
								-,		

Countries and Areas	Last Updated	No. of Stations	No. of Para-	No. of Data	No. of Records	Temporal Coverage	Coverage by River	Population	Network Readiness	Basin Name
			meters	Points			Basin		Index	
Palestine								3,636,195		
Palmyra Atoll (USA)		3	22	4140	100	1979 - 1986		2 000 462	58	Changuinala
Panama Papua New Guinea		ა 1	33 6	4149 6	180 1	1979 - 1986	yes no	3,000,463 5,420,280		Chanquinola
Paracel Islands						1373		3,420,200		
Paraguay								6,191,368	91	
Peru		10	27	893	58	1979 - 1983	no	27,544,305	70	
Peter Island (Norwegian)										
Philippines	2004	4	66	4262	483	1979 - 2004	no	86,241,697	69	
Pitcairn Islands (British)								46		
Poland	2004	8	70	75820	2350	1991 - 2003	yes	38,626,349	47	Oder, Vistula
Portugal	2001	13	66	17577	1245	1980 - 1994	yes	10,524,145	31	Duero, Guadiana, Mino,
Duarta Diag (LICA)	2002							2 007 000		Tagus
Puerto Rico (USA) Qatar	2002							3,897,960 840,290		
Republic of Moldova								4,446,455		
Reunion (French)								766,153		
Romania								22,355,551	61	
Russian Federation	2004	43	39	138403	23,554	1980 - 2003	yes	143,782,338	63	Amur, Don,Kolyma, Lena,
										Neva, North Dvina, Ob, Ural, Volga, Yenisey
Rwanda	2004							7,954,013		
Saint Kitts and Nevis								38,836		
Saint Lucia								164,213		
Saint Vincent and the Grenad	ines							117,193		
Samoa								177,714		
San Marino (an enclave in ce Sao Tome and Principe	• •							28,503 181,565		
Saudi Arabia		4						25,795,938		
Senegal Senegal	2001	11	55	777	59	1986 - 2000	yes	10,852,147	81	Senegal
Serbia and Montenegro								10,825,900	77	Ourogui
Seychelles								80,832		
Sierra Leone								5,883,889		
Singapore								4,353,893	2	
Slovakia Republic	2004							5,423,567	41	
Slovenia								2,011,473	30	
Solomon Islands								523,617		
Somalia	2004			470000	40004	4000 0004		8,304,601		0
South Africa South Georgian & South Sand	2004	23	21	172080	13861	1990 - 2004	yes	42,718,530	37	Limpopo, Orange
Spain Spain	2001	21	45	17145	1240	1979 - 1995	ves	40.280.780	29	Duero, Ebro, Guadalquivir.
Spain	2001	21	43	17143	1240	1373 - 1333	yes	40,200,700	23	Guadiana, Mino, Tagus
Spratly Islands										dadiana, mino, ragas
Sri Lanka	2004	21	20	1955	105	1979 - 2004	no	19,905,165	66	
St. Helena & Dependencies (E								7,415		
St. Pierre & Miquelon (French	n)							6,995		
Sudan	1993	4	27	4423	241	1980 - 1992	yes	39,148,162		Nile
Suriname								436,935		
Svalbard (Norwegian)								2,756		
Swaziland	2001	15		15045	1050	1070 1005		1,169,241		Dalahaan Man I
Sweden Switzerland	2001	15 7	39	15845	1256	1978 - 1995	yes	8,986,400	4	Dalalven, Klaralven, Torne
Syrian Arab Republic	2003	7	31	103892	4561	1978 - 2002	yes	7,450,867 18,016,874	7	Po, Rhine & Meuse, Rhone
Taiwan								22,749,838	17	
Tajikistan								7,011,556		
Thailand	1997	7	54	5574	305	1978 - 1993	yes	64,865,523	38	Chao Phyra
Timor-Leste (East Timor)								1,019,252		
Togo								5,556,812		
Tokelau (New Zealand)								1,405		
Tonga								110,237		
Trinidad and Tobago								1,096,585	52	

Countries and Areas	Last Updated	No. of Stations	No. of Para- meters	No. of Data Points	No. of Records	Temporal Coverage	Coverage by River Basin	Population	Network Readiness Index	Basin Name
Tunisia		7	15	681	70	1980 - 1982	no	9,974,722	40	
Turkey	2003	14	55	12072	1280	1971 - 2002	no	68,893,918	56	
Turkmenistan								4,863,169		
Turks & Caicos Islands (Britis	h)							19,956		
Tuvalu								11,468		
Uganda		17	21	2858	538	1978 - 1980	yes	26,404,543	80	Nile
Ukraine								47,732,079	78	
United Arab Emirates								2,523,915		
United Kingdom	2003	28	94	130527	6146	1980 - 1999	yes	60,270,708	15	Bann, Thames
United Republic of Tanzania	1994	9	47	2389	254	1978 - 1993	yes	36,588,225	71	Congo, Nile
United States of America	2004	516	72	61377	8063	1976 - 1997	yes	293,027,571	1	Alabama & Tombigbee, Colorado, Columbia, Hudson, Mississippi, Rio Grande, Sacramento, St. Lawrence, Susquehanna
Uruguay	1994	5	38	3525	156	1981 - 1987	yes	3,399,237	54	Uruguay
Uzbekistan								26,410,416		
Vanuatu								202,609		
Venezuela								25,017,387	72	
Viet Nam	2002	52	22	84213	4765	1985 - 1995	yes	82,689,518	68	Mekong
Virgin Islands (USA)	2002							108,775		
Wake Island (USA)										
Wallis & Futuna (French)								15,880		
Yemen								20,024,867		
Zambia	2004							10,462,436	85	
Zimbabwe	2004							12,671,860	95	
TOTALS		1544	:	2296814		1965 - 2004		6,378,903,469		

The Networked Readiness Index (NRI) is defined as a nation's or community's degree of preparation to participate in and benefit from information and communication technology (ICT) developments. *World Economic Forum 2004*.

Percent Change of Nitrogen, Nitrate + Nitrite in Selected 82 Watersheds





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Vision

The only global water quality monitoring and assessment programme, recognized for providing credible scientific information on the state of the world's water quality.

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To be the leading provider of data and information on the state and trends of global inland water quality required for their sustainable management, to support global environmental assessments and decision-making processes.

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Leadership in providing reliable global water quality data to improve decision-making for a healthy planet.

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Data, information and knowledge about environmental change and environmental trends are readily available to present and future generations in order to foster the broader societal goals of peace and security, development, and human rights and democracy.