

CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

On March 20, 2018, during the 8th World Water Forum, GWP is launching a campaign to speed up the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal on water, SDG 6.

The World Economic Forum's Global Risks Reports consistently place "water crises" among the top-ranked global risks. In the 2018 report, at least seven out of the top 10 greatest impact risks are water related. This is an urgent and compelling case for making SDG6 a top policy priority so that the global community can solve a range of development challenges – from achieving food and energy security to alleviating poverty, creating equitable and inclusive societies, reducing disaster risk, combating climate and ecosystem destruction, and contributing to peace.

The **ActOnSDG6** campaign is a call for decision makers to ensure that water management actions are integrated across sectors, and that investments in water are both increased and sustainable. Multi-stakeholder partnerships can speed up the coordinated action that is needed.

Water is everywhere...

... in food, health, energy, jobs, climate recovery, poverty eradication, education, ecosystems – so SDG 6 is linked to virtually all other SDGs.

The array of actors needed to deliver on the SDGs presents a risk of fragmentation and duplication. Most water problems stem from the demands of competing users. Business as usual – a fragmented approach with each sector acting unilaterally – means we will need three planets worth of water!

A water secure world needs all users around the



table to understand that unless water is managed well, the well may dry up for everyone.

Money

Water investments are often spread across many institutions and different levels of government. Decisions can be fragmented and conflicting. Water may be covered by a related ministry, e.g., agriculture, energy, or industry, making sustainable decisions less likely unless there is an integrated approach to water resources management.

Political leaders need to finance SDG 6 because water security is essential to economic growth and social well-being. Almost all economic activity depends on the management and development of water resources and a reliable water supply.

Governance

But financing is not enough. *Good governance*

Call to Action #ActOnSDG6

Integrate – ensure water management policies and actions are integrated across sectors.

Finance – increase financing for water management and governance: fair policies and strong institutions.

Partner – take an inclusive, multi-stakeholder approach by bringing all users – government, civil society, and business – to the table to solve water problems together.

guides good investments. That means creating an enabling environment with coherent policies, legal frameworks, informed stakeholders, and strong institutions. This improves decision-making that takes into account stakeholders' concerns, and reduces risk.

Financing this enabling environment and all that constitutes sound water management is the best insurance policy for speeding up SDG 6 implementation and water-related goals.

Water and...

Health: More than 340,000 children under five die annually from diarrheal diseases due to poor sanitation and hygiene, or unsafe drinking water – almost 1,000 per day.

Food: 40% comes from irrigated agriculture, which is responsible for approximately 70% of global water withdrawals.

Energy: 75% of industrial water withdrawals are used for energy production.

Ecosystems: Between US\$4.3 and \$20.2 trillion worth of ecosystem services were lost every year between 1997 and 2011.

Climate: By 2030, water scarcity will displace between 24 million and 700 million people. 90% of natural disasters are water-related.

Economics: By 2050, water demand will exceed supply by over 40%. This will put at risk 45% of global GDP, 52% of global population, and 40% of grain production.

Transboundary: 145 states have territory within transboundary lakes or river basins; 30 countries lie entirely within them.

Sustainable Development Goal 6

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

- 6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
- 6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations
- 6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally
- 6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity
- 6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate**
- 6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes
- 6.a By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies
- 6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management