



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Integrated Water Resources Management for Agriculture, Food Security and Sustainable Development - An Overview of FAO's Contribution

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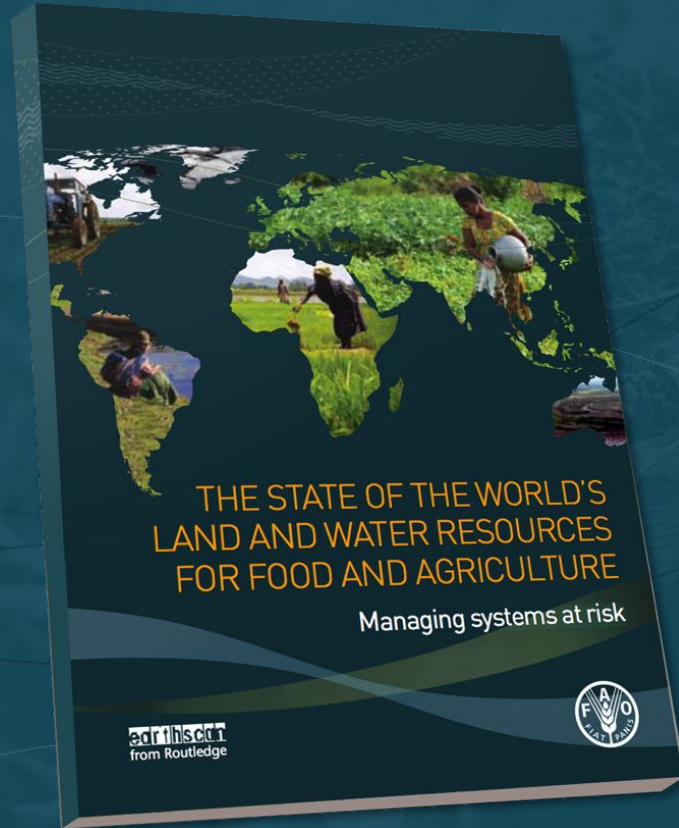
FAO's mandate on land and water

The four Purpose of FAO:

- Raising the levels of nutrition and standards of living of the people,
- Securing improvements in the efficiency of the production and distribution of all food and agricultural products,
- Bettering the condition of rural populations; and
- Thus contributing towards an expanded world economy and ensuring humanity's freedom from hunger.



SOLAW 2011 and 2021



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Water challenges

- ❑ Agriculture uses 72% of global human withdrawal freshwater, largest sectoral water user
- ❑ Projected 24% more freshwater for 50% of more agricultural products by 2050
- ❑ Only 13% of Water Action Agenda commitments address agriculture
- ❑ Water was overlooked in 2/3 of National Pathways for Food Systems Transformation (2021)
- ❑ Are national strategies like NDCs and NAPs effectively addressing water?



FAO's new Water Journey



FAO Conceptual Framework for Integrated Land and Water Resources Management



- a) **Productivity** of land-soil-water resources sustained and increased.
- b) Degraded land-soil-water ecosystems **restored**.
- c) Improved **resilience** of smallholders and land-soil-water ecosystems.
- d) Enhance **governance** over land-soil-water resources.

Biennial Theme 2024-25: Water resources management for the four betters to achieve Agenda 2030 and SDGs



May 2023

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CONFERENCE

Forty-third Session

Rome, 1-7 July 2023

**Biennial Theme 2024-25: Water resources management for the four
betters: better production, better nutrition, better environment and better
life, to achieve Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals**

Executive Summary

Water is the lifeblood of the earth and is central to the entire 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Yet, we are facing a global water crisis. Currently, 2.3 billion people live in water-stressed countries, of whom more than 733 million live in arid countries with high and critical water stress. Urgent action, strong political will and enhanced financing are needed to value and manage freshwater in an integrated manner to achieve all the Sustainable Development Goals.

Agriculture, accounting for 72 percent of global freshwater withdrawals, is central to address this challenge. Worldwide, countries are experiencing water scarcity, droughts and/or floods, aggravated by climate change, while at the same time water quality is deteriorating. All these water challenges pose threats to livelihoods, agricultural production including inland fisheries and aquaculture, food security, nutrition and the environment. Integrated water resources management in agriculture, for agriculture and by agriculture is integral and strategic to achieving each of the *four betters* - *better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life*, leaving no one behind.

Biennial Theme 2024-25: Water resources management for the four betters to achieve Agenda 2030 and SDGs

Water in FAO's future work

1. Soil-Land-Water digital Information System (SoLaWiSe) for major crops
2. **AWSAMe: addressing water scarcity for agriculture and environment**
3. Global Water Data Portal: new AQUASTAT and WaPOR.
4. **Information on water needs, water use and water quality for inland fisheries and freshwater aquaculture.**
5. Integrated management of water resources and inland aquatic ecosystems.
6. **Global irrigation needs and potential mapping**
7. Global assessment of flood risks to agriculture and food security.



Water in FAO's future work

8. Optimize use of flood water for flood-adaptative/resilient agriculture
9. **Reduce water pollution caused by agrifood systems**
10. Capacity building of small-holder farmers for better nutrition
11. **Forest ecosystem services for water**
12. Water for sustainable livestock production
13. **Climate and disaster risk reduction actions for effective agricultural water management**
14. Support Members in resource mobilization and access to finance for water
15. **Rome Water Dialogue**
16. Support IWRM implementation by Members
17. **National Water Roadmap**
18. Water tenure and governance



IWRM at FAO's Governing Bodies 2024

- **36th session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI), July 2024**
Importance of IWRM in fisheries and aquaculture.
- **27th session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO), July 2024**
Forest-water-food-climate nexus;
- **2nd session of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG) Sub-Committee on Livestock, July 2024**
Linking livestock production with sustainable land, soil, and water management.
- **29th session of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG), October 2024**
Global Dialogue on Water Tenure and High-Level Dialogue on WASAG
- **139th session of the Programme and Finance Committee, November 2024**
Progress on implementation of IWRM
- **176th session of the Council**

FAO's 8 commitments to the Water Action Agenda

1. National Water Roadmaps towards the 2030 Agenda
2. Global Dialogue on Water Tenure/ Water Governance
3. Drought finance tracker
4. Irrigation needs & potential mapping
5. Addressing water scarcity in agriculture through partnerships and innovation (WASAG)
6. Global Water Data Portal (AquaStat)
7. Global monitoring of actual evapotranspiration, biomass production and water productivity through remote sensing (WaPOR)
8. AquaLex



National Water Roadmap towards the 2030

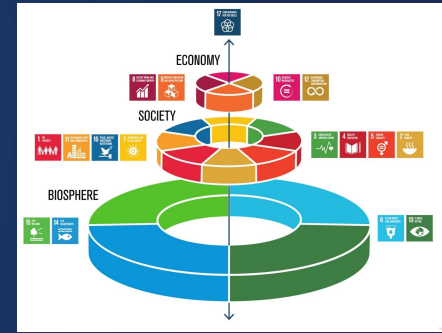
SDGs

- A country-led cross-sectoral participatory process to strengthen the coordination on integrated water resources management in holistic and overall approaches to achieve all SDGs .

- Participating Countries (through FAO-China South-South Cooperation Fund):

Azerbaijan, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, and Zimbabwe

- Technical Framework :
 - A Shared National Water Vision
 - Strategic objectives linking SDGs targets
 - 5 Accelerator: Financing, Data & Information, Capacity development, Innovation, Governance



The Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG)

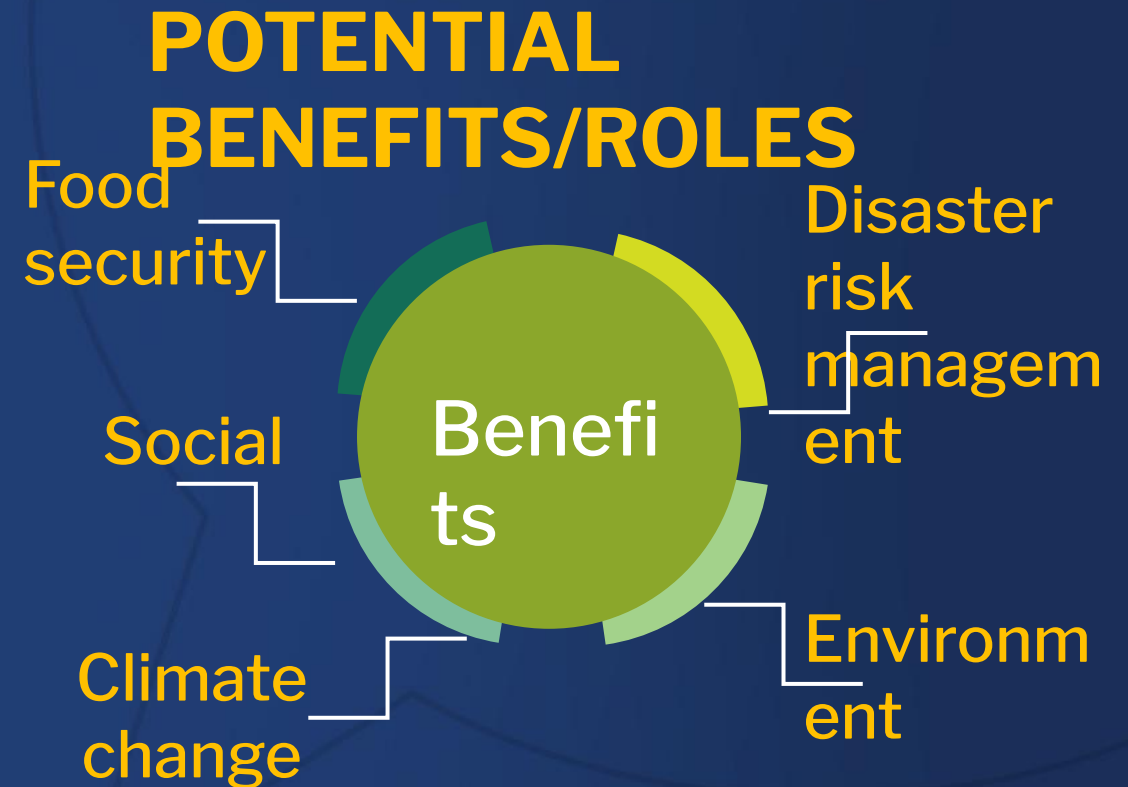
- WASAG: A global FAO-hosted partnership for collaborative solutions to build resilient food systems in the face of climate change.
- Praia Call for Action 2023: Invites all countries to join WASAG under a new business model, expected to be formalized with the Rome Declaration at the World Food Forum in October 2024.
- The AWSAMe: A Value-added Impact Area (VAIA) promoting indigenous drought-resistant crops and saline agriculture.



FAO Water Use Efficiency & Productivity

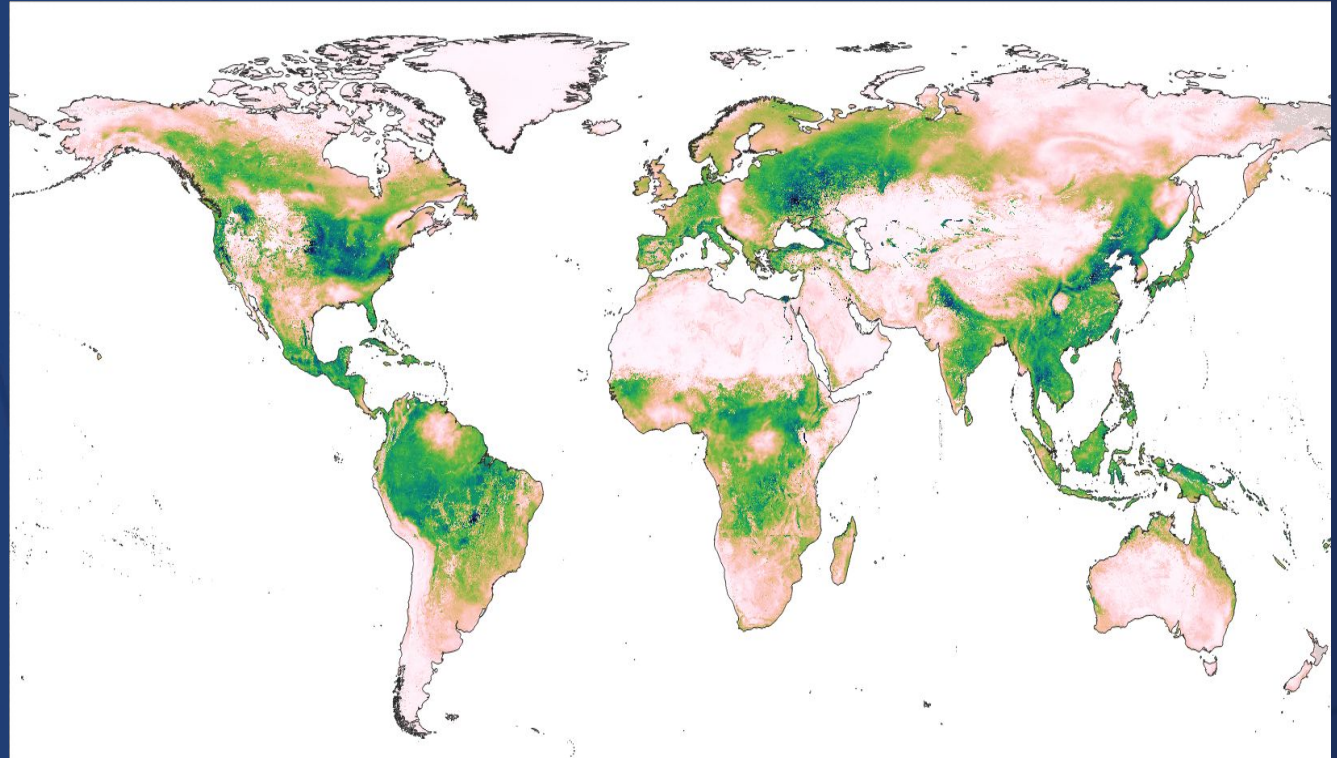
Promoting Productive Water Use and Efficient Water Management in multifunctional paddy fields by:

- ❑ Integrating agri-food systems (e.g. rice-fish)
- ❑ Enhancing agri-environmental systems (e.g. rice-environmental flow)
- ❑ Promoting agri-risk management systems (e.g. rice-flood control)
- ❑ Integrating multiple sectors (e.g. crop production-tourism)



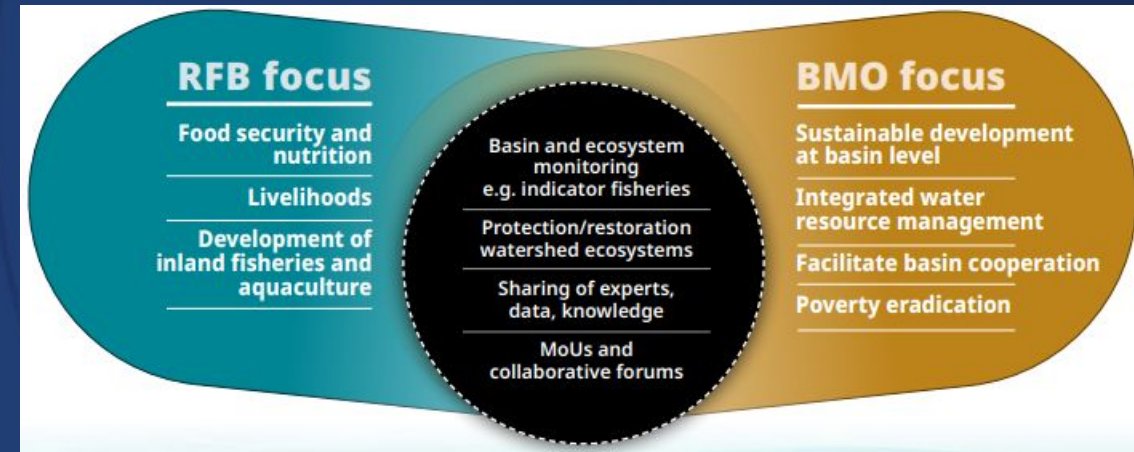
FAO Water Data

- SDG 6.4.1 Change in Water Use Efficiency & 6.4.2 Water stress
- AquaStat, incl. AquaMaps
- WaPOR: global expansion & version 3 launched in 2023
- Global Water Data Portal
- AquaLex



FAO/INBO IWRM and Sustainable Inland Fisheries Initiative

- **1st Global Workshop:** RFBs & BMOs on Sustainable Inland Fisheries, Entebbe, Uganda (Dec 2023).
- **Goal:** Strengthen regional cooperation to integrate inland fisheries into basin management, addressing climate change, food security, and resource sustainability.
- **Key Outcomes:** Identified cooperation areas ecosystem restoration, environmental flows, water quality monitoring.
- **FAO:** Acts as secretariat for the Steering Committee.
- **Next Workshop:** Accra, Ghana (Dec 2024)
- **SC Members:**



•Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA)

•European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)

•Mekong River Commission (MRC)

•African Network of Basin Organizations

•Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO).

•Nile Basin Initiative

•Inland Fishery Resources Development & Management Department (IFRDMD) of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)

•Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC)

Future milestones

- 14-18 Oct 2024: Rome Water Dialogue during World Food Forum
- UNFCCC CoP29 & beyond: FAO as core partner of the Water Pavilion; core partner for Water Resilient Agrifood Systems initiative
- 9-11 Dec 2024: International Soil and Water Forum, Bangkok, Thailand
- FAO biennium 2024-2025 theme on IWRM
- Mid-2025: Countries drafted National Water Roadmaps
- UN Water Conferences in 2026 and 2028
- Implementation of System-wide Strategy for Water and Sanitation
- Implementation of King Hassan II Great World Water Prize and the 11th World Water Forum



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Thank you for your attention!

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