SUMMARY PROGRESS 2021: SDG 6 INDICATORS

6.1.1 DRINKING WATER
2 billion people 26% of the world’s population lacked safely managed drinking water services in 2020.

6.2.1a SANITATION
3.6 billion people 46% of the world’s population lacked safely managed sanitation services, and 494 million people practised open defecation, in 2020.

6.2.1b HYGIENE
2.3 billion people 29% of the world’s population lacked a basic handwashing facility with soap and water at home in 2020.

6.3.1 WASTEWATER
Globally 44% of household wastewater is not safely treated.

6.3.2 WATER QUALITY
The lack of water quality data for over 3 billion people means that they are at significant risk because the health of their rivers, lakes and groundwater is unknown.

6.4.1 WATER-USE EFFICIENCY
Since 2015 water-use efficiency has increased by 9% globally.

6.4.2 WATER STRESS
2.3 billion people live in water-stressed countries, of which 733 million live in high and critically water-stressed countries.

6.5.1 INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT
107 countries are not on track to have sustainably managed water resources by 2030. Globally, the current rate of progress needs to be doubled.

6.5.2 TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION
Only 24 countries reported that all the rivers, lakes and aquifers that they share with their neighbours are covered by operational arrangements for cooperation.

6.6.1 ECOSYSTEMS
1/5 of the world’s river basins are experiencing rapid changes in the area covered by surface waters.

6.a.1 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
Official development assistance (ODA) commitments to the water sector increased 9% from 2015 to 2019, but disbursements showed little change.

6.b.1 PARTICIPATION
Only 14 countries out of 109 report having high levels of participation by communities in water and sanitation decision-making.