NATIONAL CENTRE
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Enhancing Knowledge

SULTANATE OF OMAN

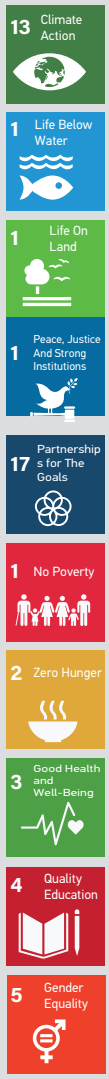
Towards Achieving Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs)

2030

Sixth Goal

Clean Water And Sanitation

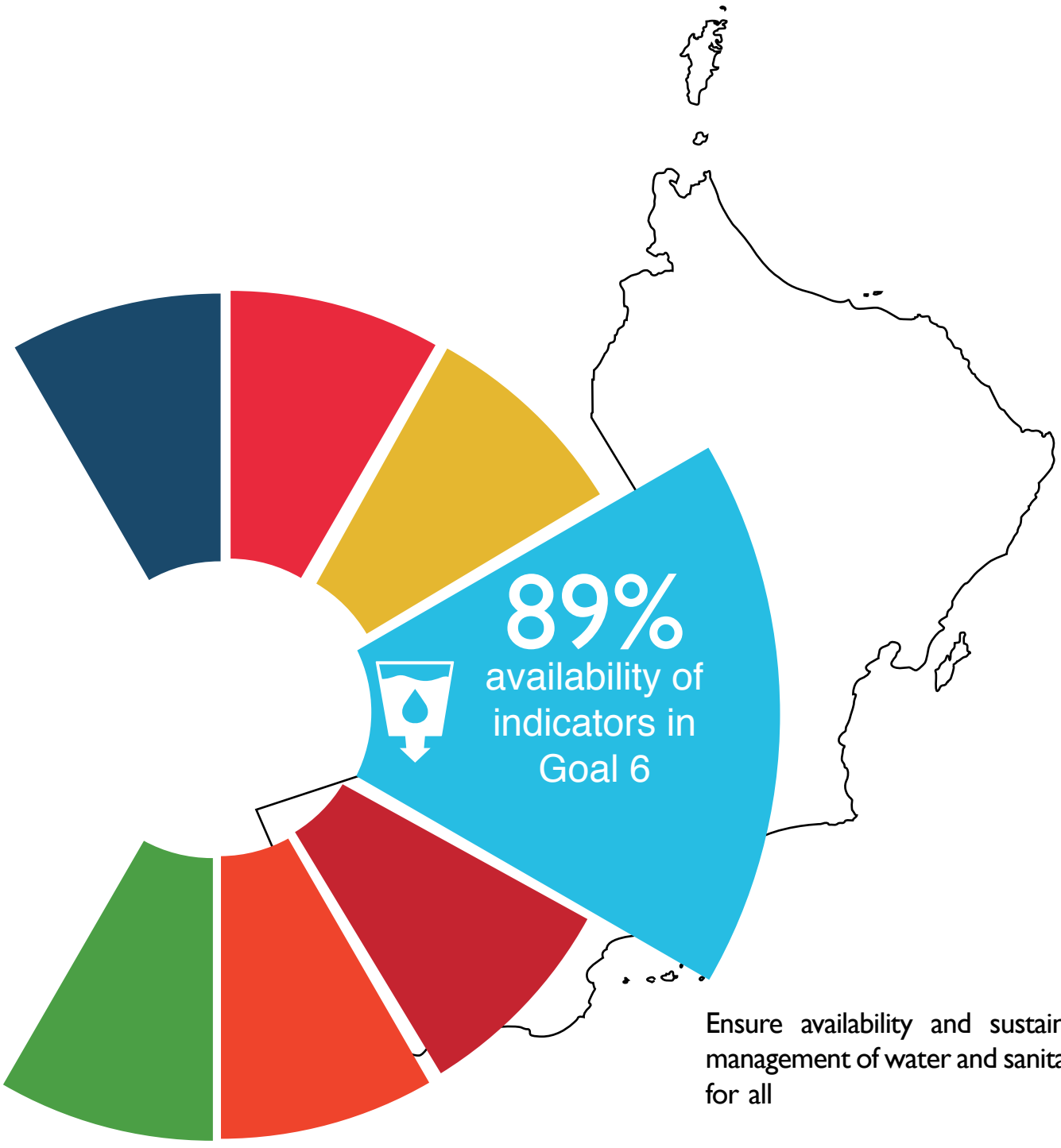


Issue no 4
January 2020

Introduction

This report is issued within a series of reports monitoring the progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) 2030 in the Sultanate of Oman. It focuses on reviewing the sixth SDG, which ensures availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

This goal includes 8 targets, measured by various indicators. The report reviews the latest available values for different indicators, taking into account that a number of indicators are not available through administrative records, rather field surveys are to be conducted.



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Target 6-1

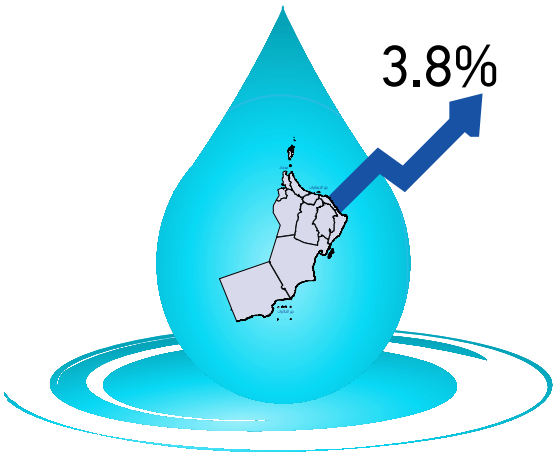
By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

6.1.1: Proportion of population using safely managed drinking Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services and a hand-washing facility with soap and water services.

Refers to

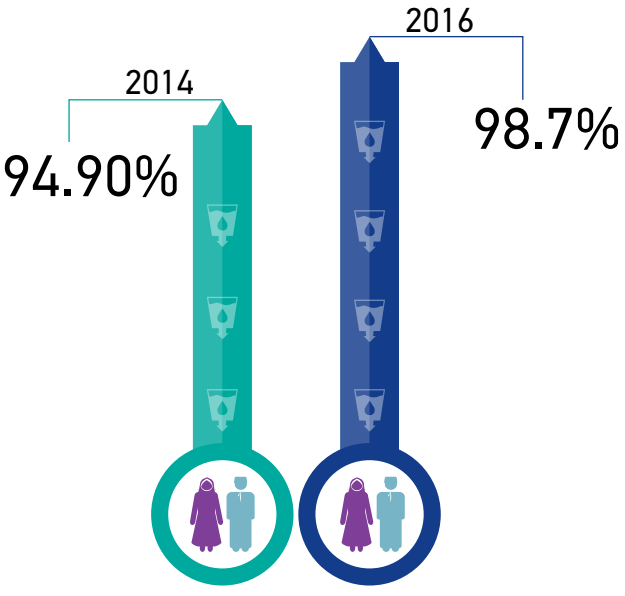
Population who use an improved source of drinking water (such as, piped water into dwelling, public taps, standpipes, protected tube wells, protected rain water and springs and bottled water), available when needed at designated locations, free from fecal contamination and priority chemical pollutants.

The percentage of the Sultanate's population who have access to clean and safe drinking water sources Has increased during the period of 2014-2016.



Availability of safe drinking water is one of the essential human right. Access to fresh water in sufficient quantity and quality is also a prerequisite to achieve several aspects of sustainable development. In this context, percentage of the Sultanate's population who have access to clean and safe drinking water sources increased by 3.8% per cent during the period of 2014-2016, as 97% of the urban population and 89.3% of those in rural areas enjoyed drinking water services in a controlled and safe manner in 2014, compared to 97.8% in urban areas and 99.0% in villages in 2016.

Figure (1):
Percentage of population using safely managed drinking water services.



Sources: (1) National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) - Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey – Data of 2014
(2) NCSI - Comprehensive Household Survey– Data of 2016 – Table 8A-2

Target 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.

6.2.1: Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services and a hand-washing facility with soap and water.

The Following figure shows the percentage of population in the Sultanate who live in houses with improved sanitation facilities as well as basic hand washing facilities, whether in urban or rural areas, covering almost all of the population.

Refers to

Proportion of population using improved sanitation facilities at the household level that are not shared with other households, as waste is safely disposed of in location or treated outside it.

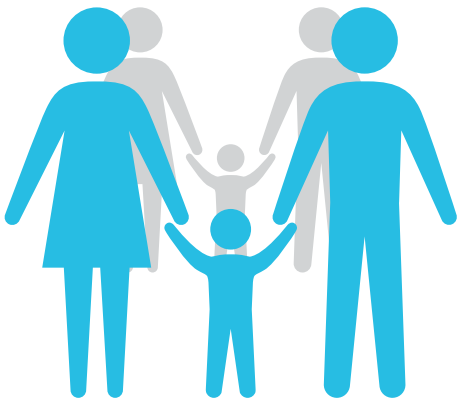
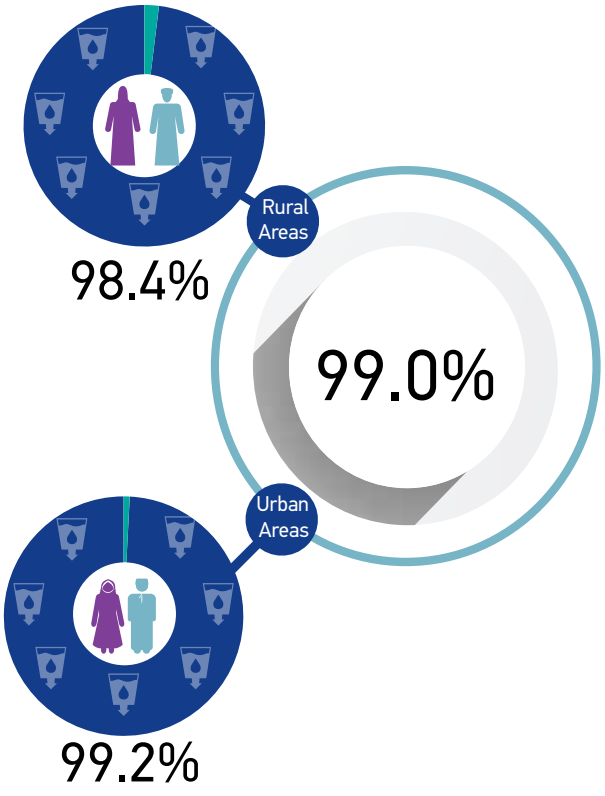


Figure (2):
Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services and a hand-washing facility with soap and water in 2014.



Sources: (1) NCSI - Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey – Data of 2014

Target 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.

6.3.1: Proportion of wastewater safely treated

Refers to

The percentage of wastewater generated by households and from economic activities that are safely treated based on the sanitation ladder defined in the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, as well as the International Recommendations for Water Statistics.

The Following figure shows the percentage of population in the Sultanate who live in houses with improved sanitation facilities as well as basic hand washing facilities, whether in urban or rural areas, covering almost all of the population.

Figure (3): Proportion of wastewater safely treated (2018)

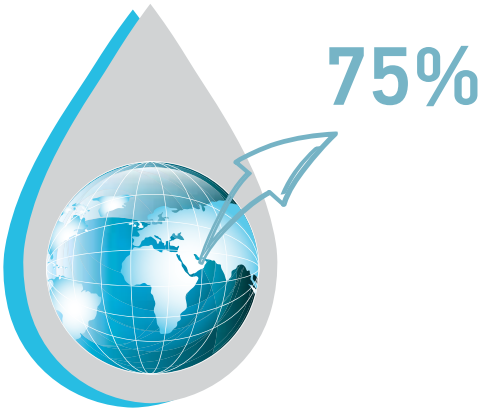
Source: Ministry of Regional Municipalities & Water Resources

6.3.2: Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality.

This indicator refers to the ratio of the country's water masses that have good ambient water quality. Ambient water quality refers to untreated natural water in rivers, lakes, and groundwater. It signifies a blend of both natural influences and effects of all human activities.

Good ambient water quality ensures constant availability of fresh water in a manner that does not adversely affect human health. Regular monitoring of fresh water helps in identifying potential pollution sources in a timely manner. Based on periodical measurement of monitoring points, the implementation rater of water basins monitoring programs in the Sultanate has reached (75%).

Figure (4): Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality in 2018



Target 6-4

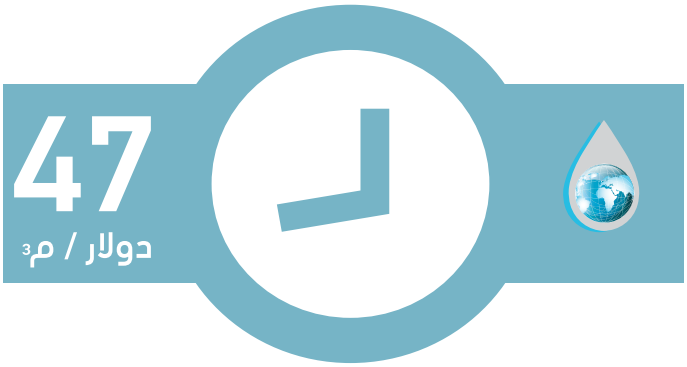
By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.

6.4.1: Change in water-use efficiency over time.

This indicator is defined as the value added per water withdrawn a result of any economic activity (based on categories of the International Standard Industrial Classification) over time in USD/m3 (showing the trend in water use efficiency) over time. The indicator includes water uses by all economic activities, with an emphasis on agriculture, industry and the service sector.

This indicator allows countries to assess the impact of economic growth on the utilization of water resources. It is measured in USD per m3. It had a value of 47 USD per cubic meter in 2018.

Figure (5): Change in water-use efficiency over time.



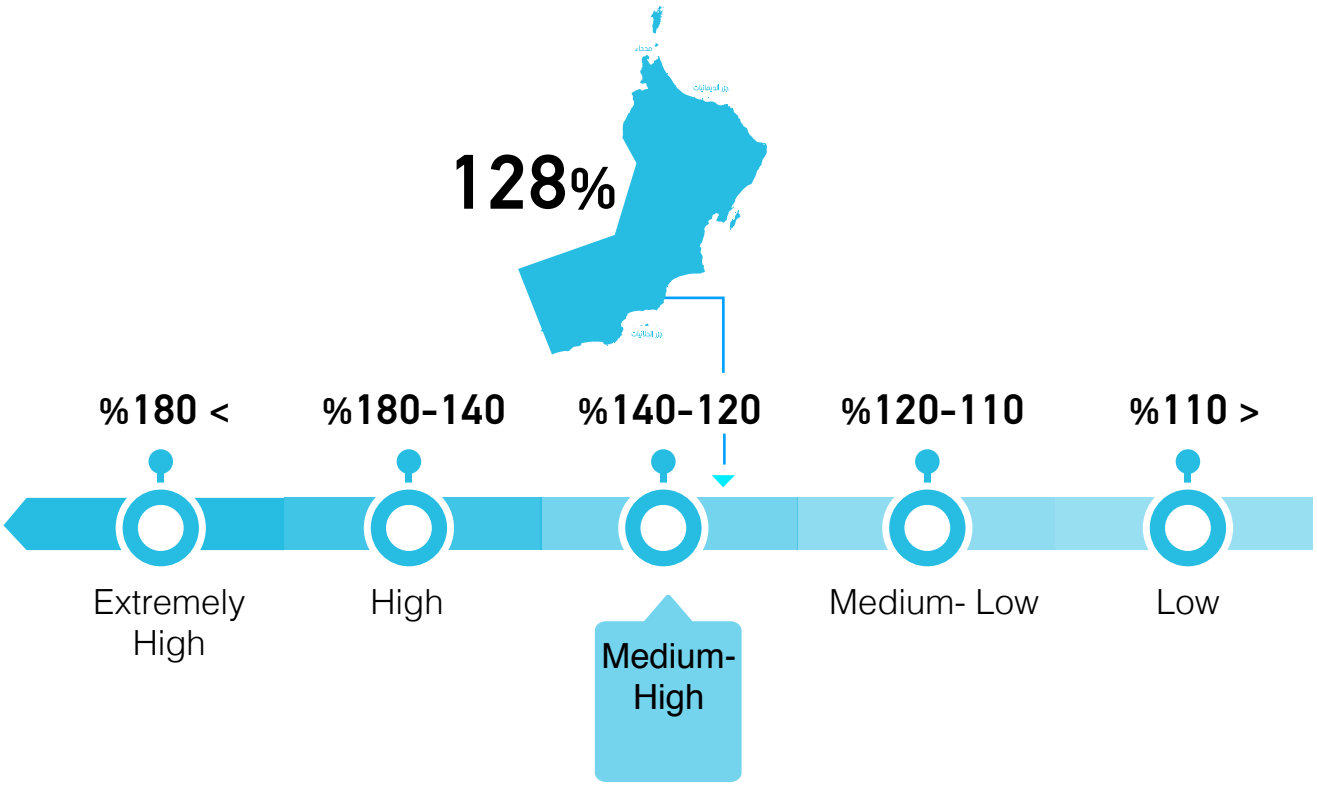
Source: Ministry of Regional Municipalities & Water Resources

6.4.2: Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources.

Freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources, also known as (level of water stress) refers to the ratio between total freshwater withdrawn from all major sectors and total renewable freshwater resources, having regard to environmental water requirements. This indicator is also known as intensity of water withdrawal.

This indicator shows the extent to which water resources are actually used. It indicates the significance of effective supply and demand management policies. It also demonstrates the possibility of increasing competition and disputes between different water uses and users, as the rate of water scarcity increases. The increase in the level of water stress that is demonstrated by the high value of the indicator has negative effects on sustainability of natural resources as well as economic development. Pressure or stress rate on water consumption, represented by freshwater withdrawal rate, by all major sectors across the sultanate, reached a value of (128%) in 2018, i.e. Medium-High level.

Figure (6): Levels of water stress are defined in accordance with the following percentages of renewable resources withdrawals as shown below:



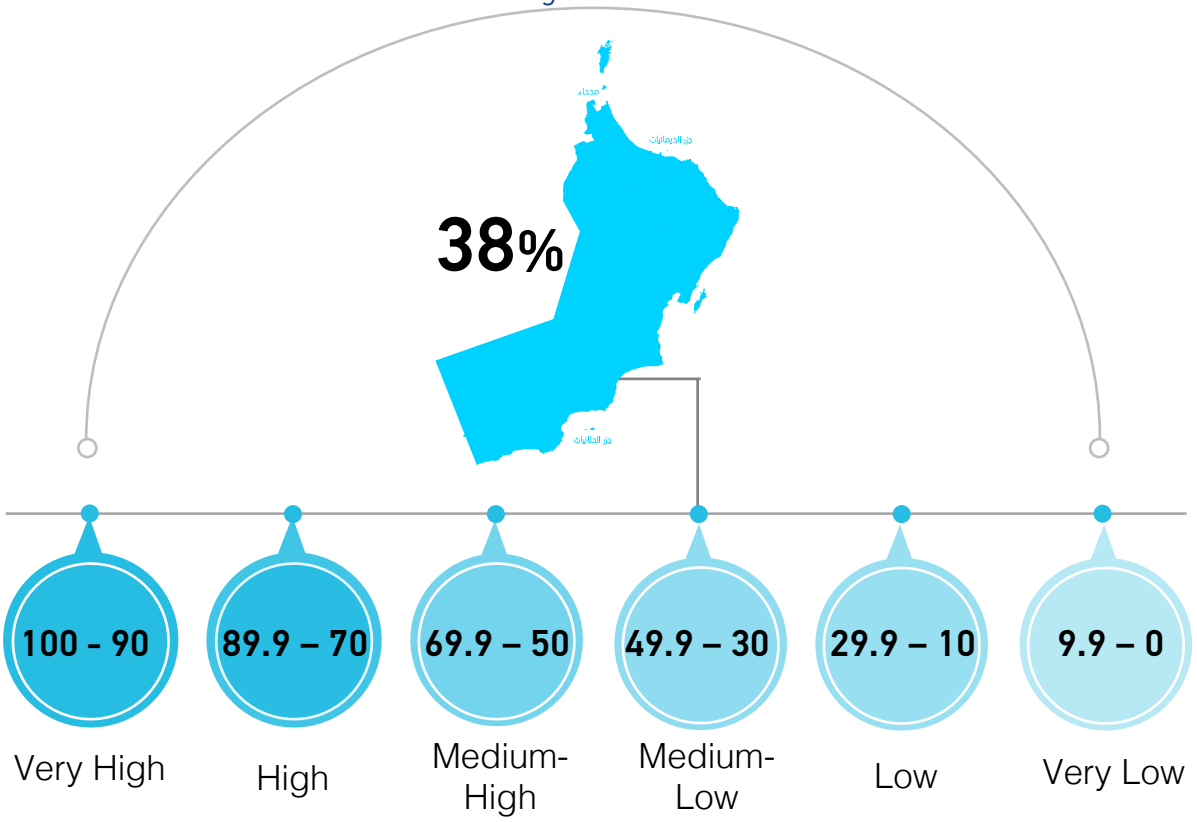
Target 6-5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate.

6.5.1: Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (100-0).

Based on the survey conducted by the UN in relation to IWRM, the sultanate's current status is at (38%) i.e. (Medium - Low level), as reflected by the indicator.

Integrated water resources management (IWRM) is a process which promotes the co-ordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems. The percentage scale provides an easy and understandable way to measure goal progress, starting at a "zero" degree (not implemented yet) to a "100" degree (fully implemented).

Figure (7): Degree of the Sultanate's implementation of integrated water resources management for 2018



Target 6-6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes

6.6.1: Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time

The Sultanate has implemented specific programs on communication, education and public awareness. These programs are implemented to achieve the participation of major groups of stakeholders and to adopt the strategic and operational tools aimed to implement the Ramsar Convention by adopting certain measures at the local and national levels and through the ongoing international cooperation in this field.

Ramsar Convention

An international treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, which are areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six meters. The treaty has been concluded in order to stop present and future gradual increase in the loss of wetlands, and to realize basic ecological functions of wetlands and to develop their economic, cultural, scientific and recreational value.

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