



2021

ANNUAL REPORT
SUMMARY



WATER KNOWLEDGE FOR ALL

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INTRODUCTION

Cap-Net is [UNDP](#)'s global network for capacity development in sustainable water management within the [Sida Global Water and Oceans Governance Support Programme](#). Cap-Net UNDP assists partners in formulating, coordinating, and implementing water governance reforms by providing necessary policy, advice and technical assistance, knowledge and capacity development.

Cap-Net UNDP's objective is for water knowledge not to be a scarce commodity but readily available at the least possible cost with improved accessibility.

As Sida's contribution to the [Water and Oceans Governance Programme](#) to Cap-Net UNDP 2014-2021 ended, it provided an opportunity to reflect on the wealth of impact, which can be traced to the individual, the institutional level and beyond.

The programme meaningfully contributes to SDG 6 on water management and sanitation; SDG 14 on conservation and sustainable use of marine resources and related SDG targets of the 2030 Agenda.

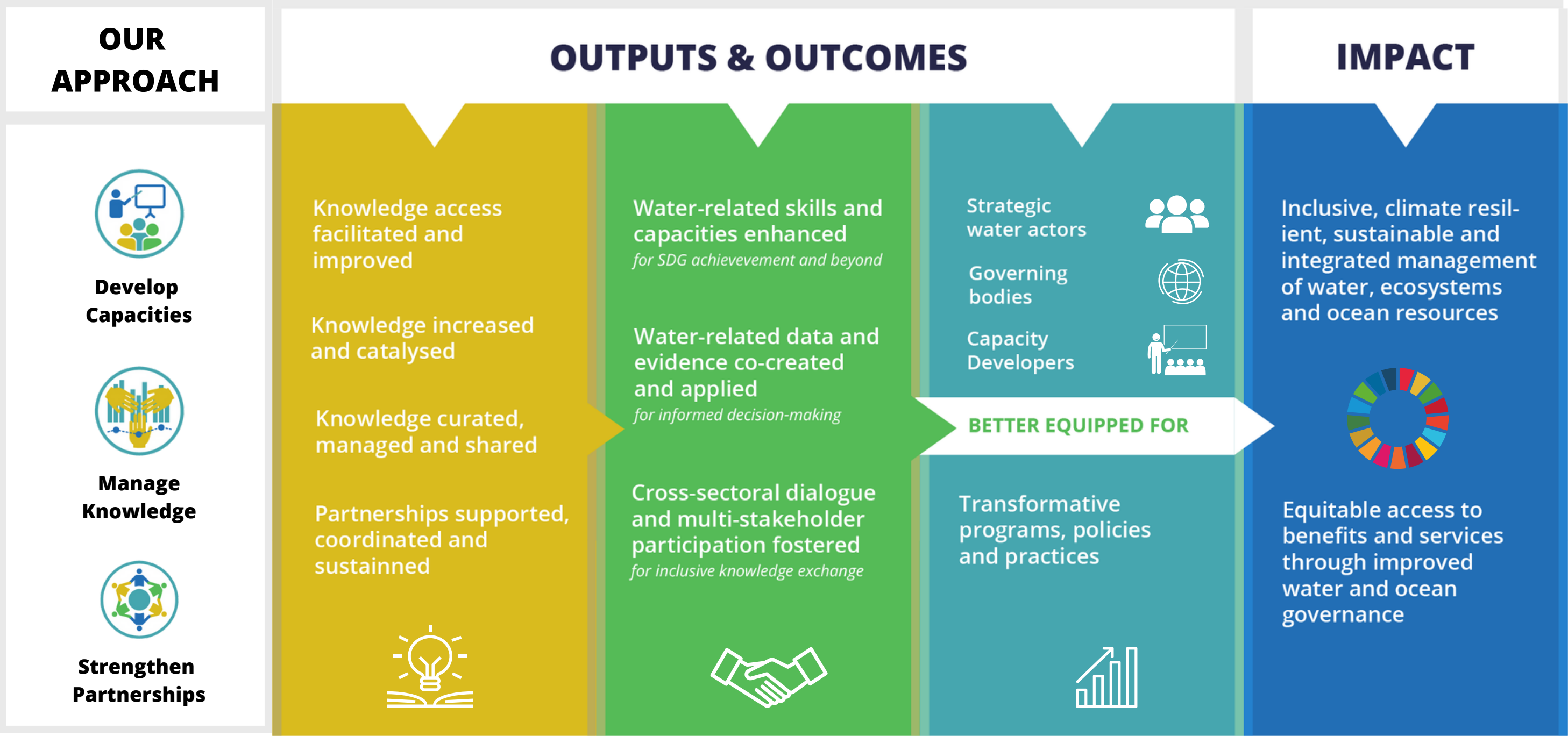
Cap-Net UNDP's strength lies with its [23 affiliated networks](#), reaching over 1,000 member institutions in 120 countries. Networks remain the spearhead and at the core of the Cap-Net programme. Without networks having sufficient capacity to deliver, the impact of the programme would be significantly undermined.

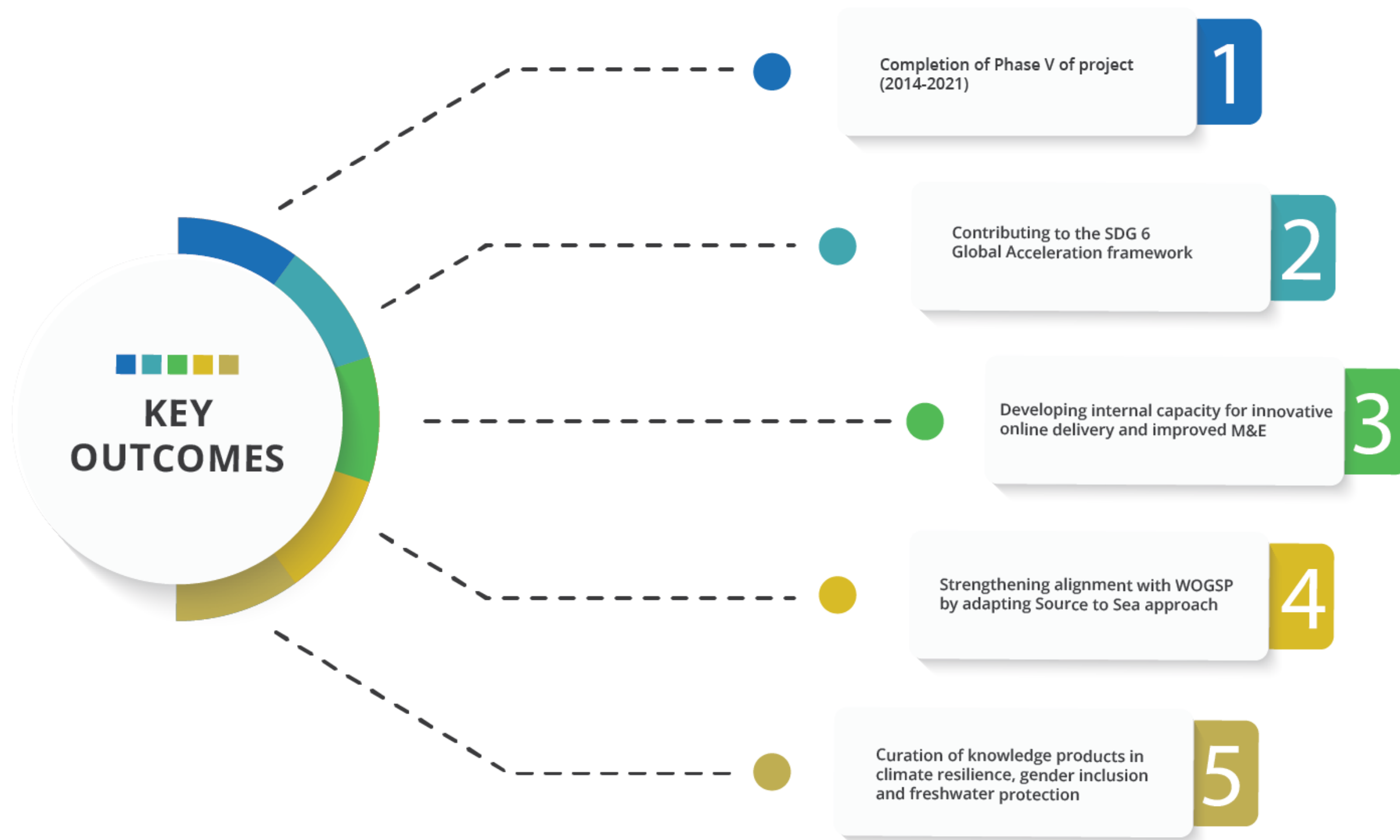
"Besides the numerous interventions by the various capacity development actors globally, what is still lacking is a robust monitoring and learning framework which will indicate and inform progress such that capacity development is in tandem with implementation efforts".

Themba Gumbo - Director, Cap-Net UNDP



CAP-NET UNDP THEORY OF CHANGE





A photograph showing two individuals from behind, walking away from the camera along a muddy, rocky shoreline. They are wearing full-body blue protective suits, hoods, and yellow gloves. The person on the left is carrying a black equipment case. To their right is a calm body of water that reflects the sky and the surrounding trees. The ground is a mix of brown mud and dark rocks.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

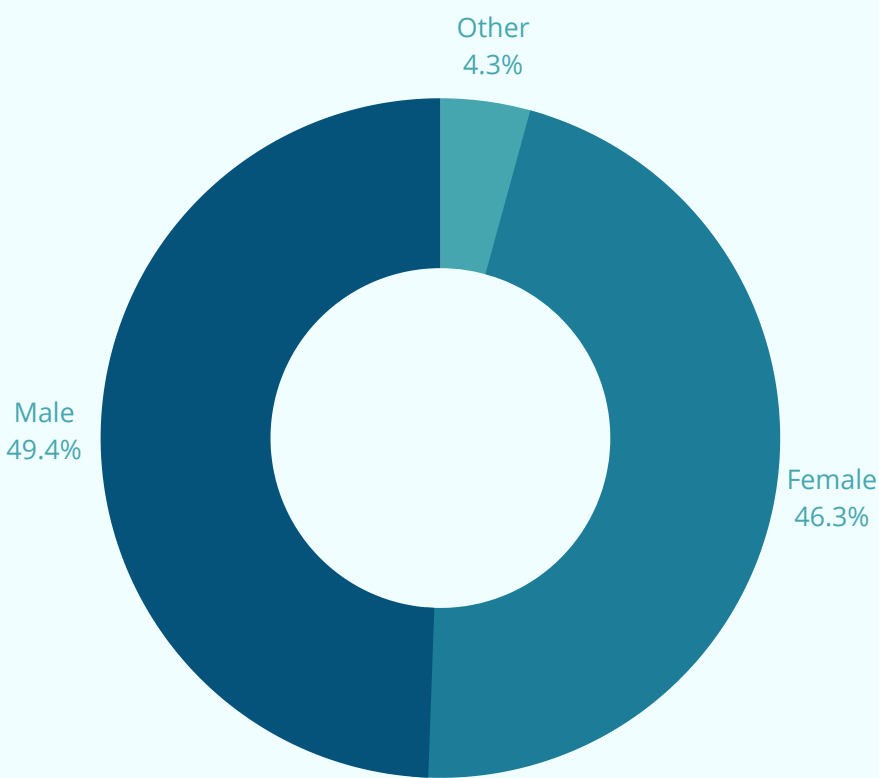
Activity 3.1, 3.2

- Climate-resilient integrated water resources and coastal management
- Climate-resilient access to water supply and sanitation
- Protection of transboundary surface and groundwater in a changing climate
- Cross-cutting areas

WATER KNOWLEDGE FOR ALL

Capacity development activities focus on tailored training for a balance between the development of management expertise, practices and understanding of integrated management.

Cap-Net UNDP’s interventions are still focused on the global South, with a growing demand coming from Europe and the US in open courses, highlighting the relevance and quality of our courses. Activities have been delivered face to face, virtually and through blended modalities based on the target audience, on the ground needs and outreach objectives.



Participation Distribution by Gender

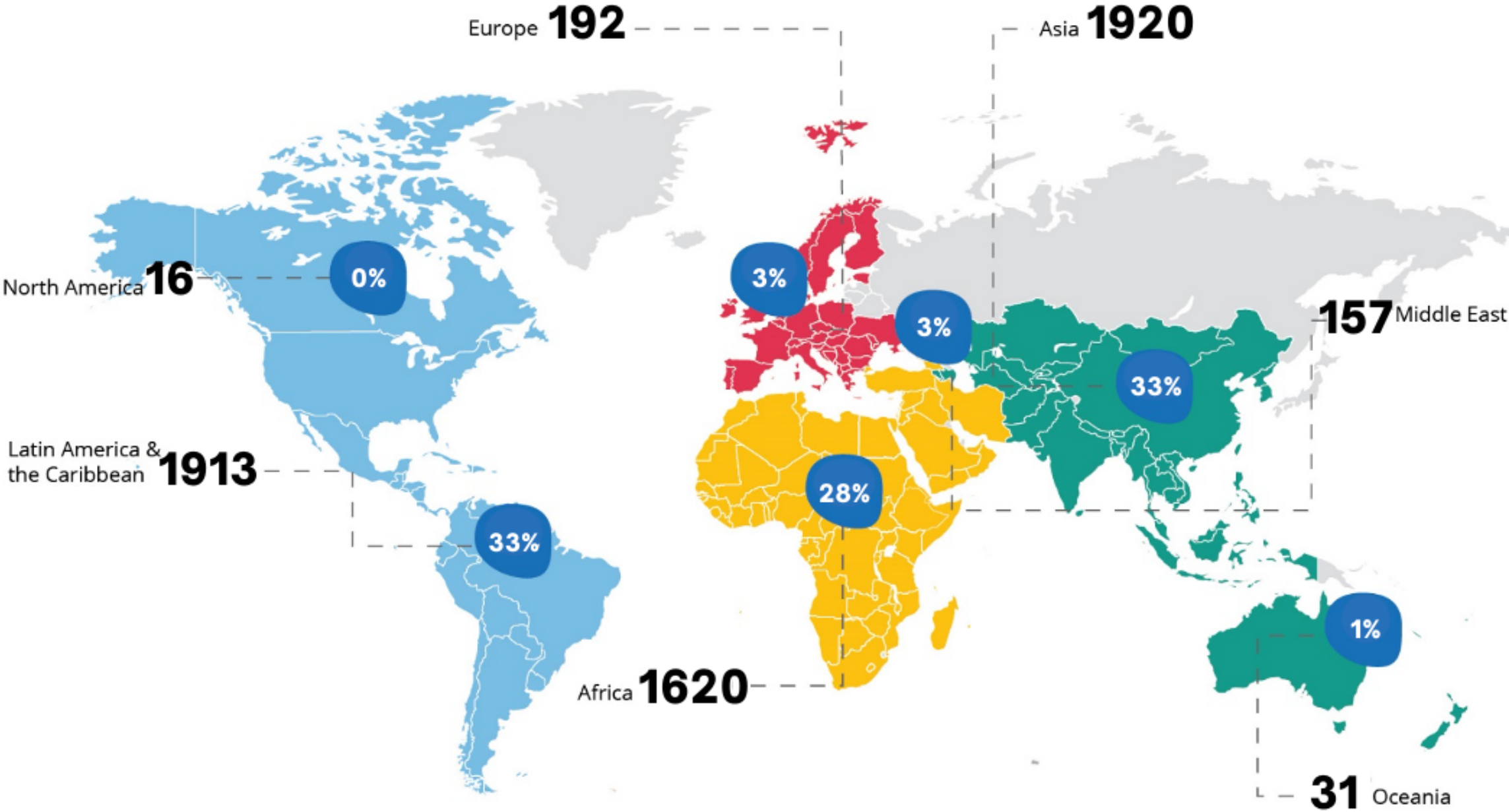
GENDER INCLUSION

The programme continues to strive towards gender inclusion in all trainings, beyond participation, and through knowledge products and approaches. Cap-Net UNDP is working more closely with GWPO in identifying trends, sharing lessons learned and addressing inequality through a collaborative and inclusive approach.

Cap-Net Networks Achievements - 2021

Number of people reached through all training activities

Total 5849





STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS

Activity 3.3

- Building the knowledge and skills of trainers and educators in various aspects of water management.
- Improving network effectiveness
- Partnership development

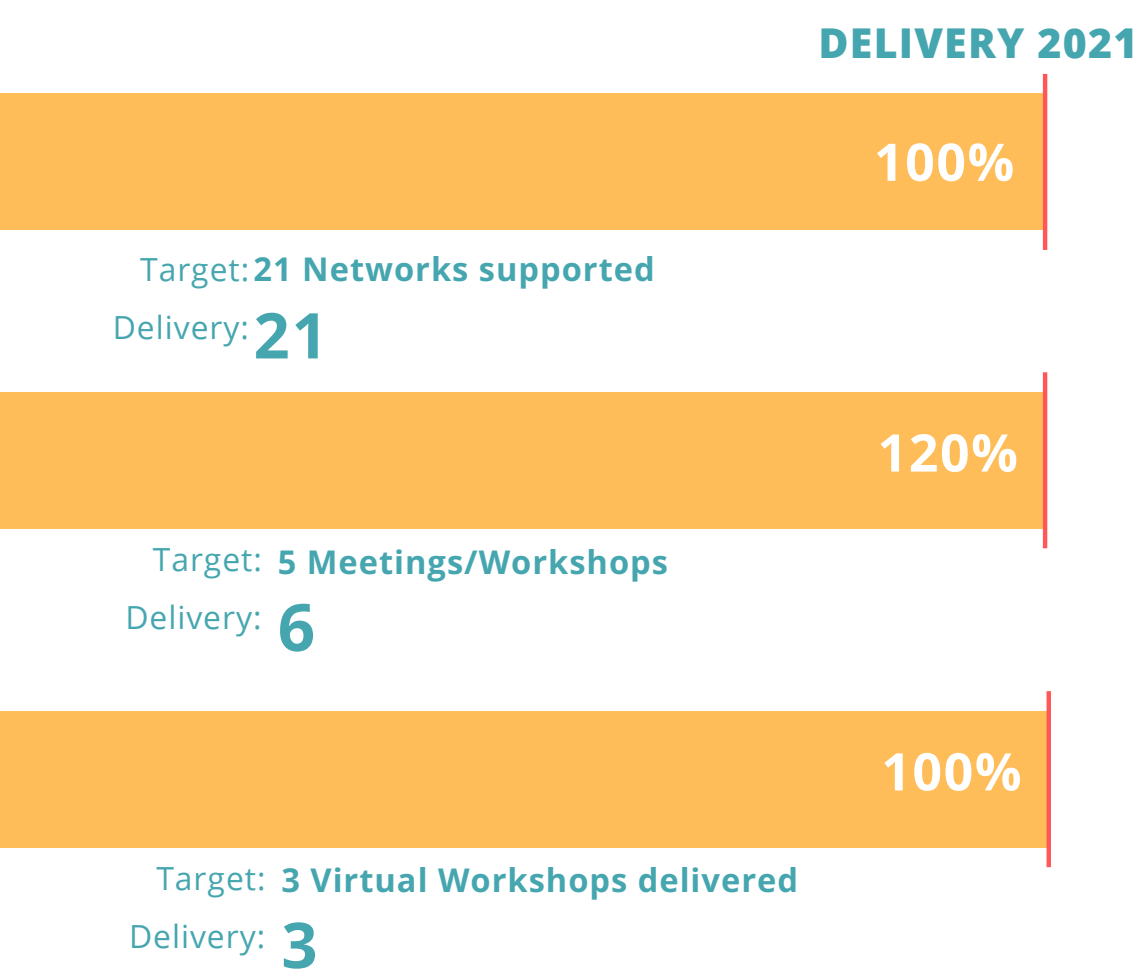
STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS

Cap-Net UNDP leveraged effective networks of capacity developers to ensure impact on the ground. The team placed focus on developing partnerships with international agencies and private sector organizations to improve outreach and deliver capacity development. Partnerships with specialized organisations are indispensable for the development of technically sound programmes and materials that provide resources to networks to deliver.

Output 3.3.1 Building the knowledge and skills of trainers and educators in various aspects of water management.



Output 3.3.2 Improving network effectiveness

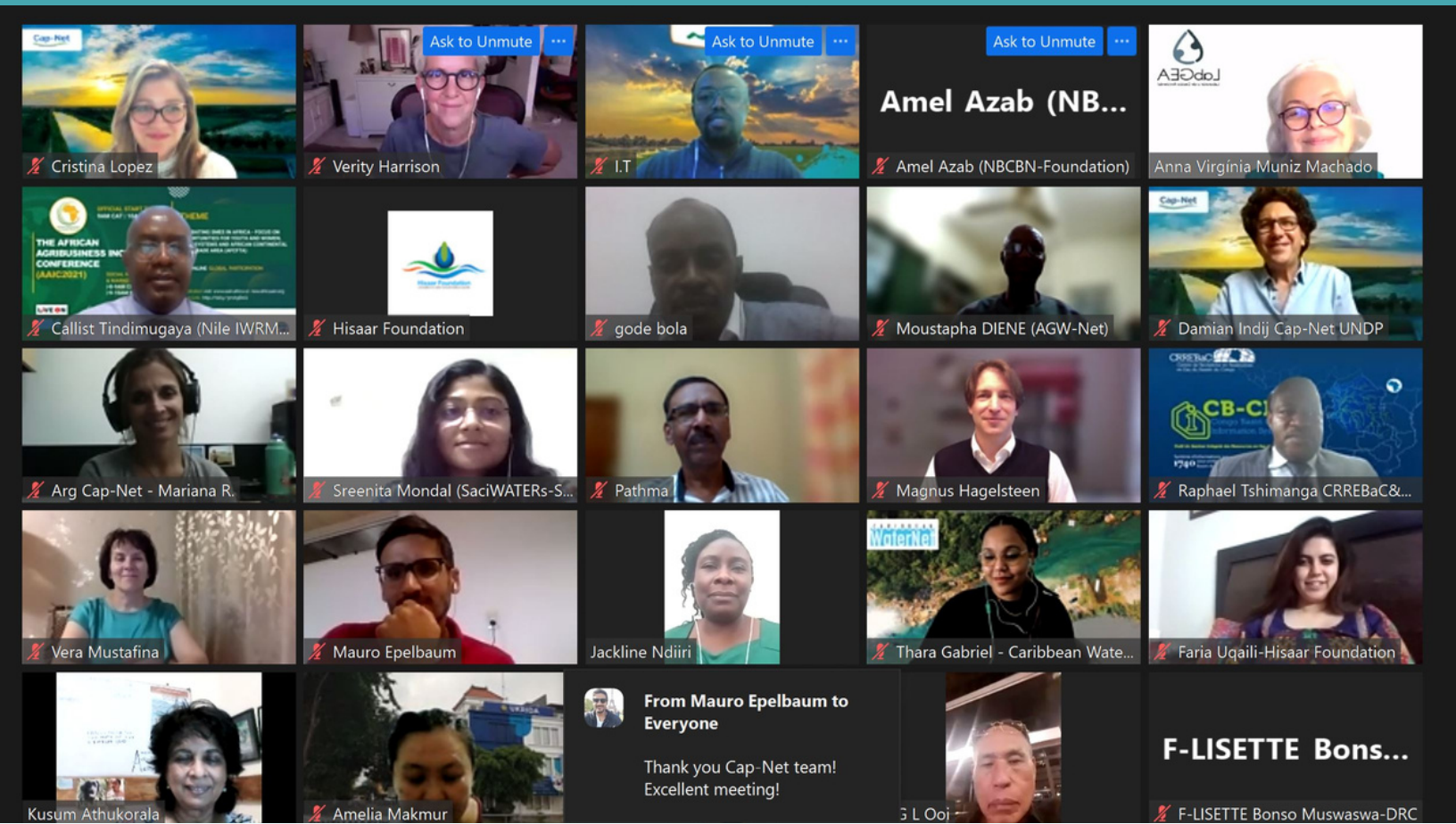


Effective networks are leveraged to ensure impact on the ground and to develop partnerships to improve outreach and deliver state of the art capacity development.

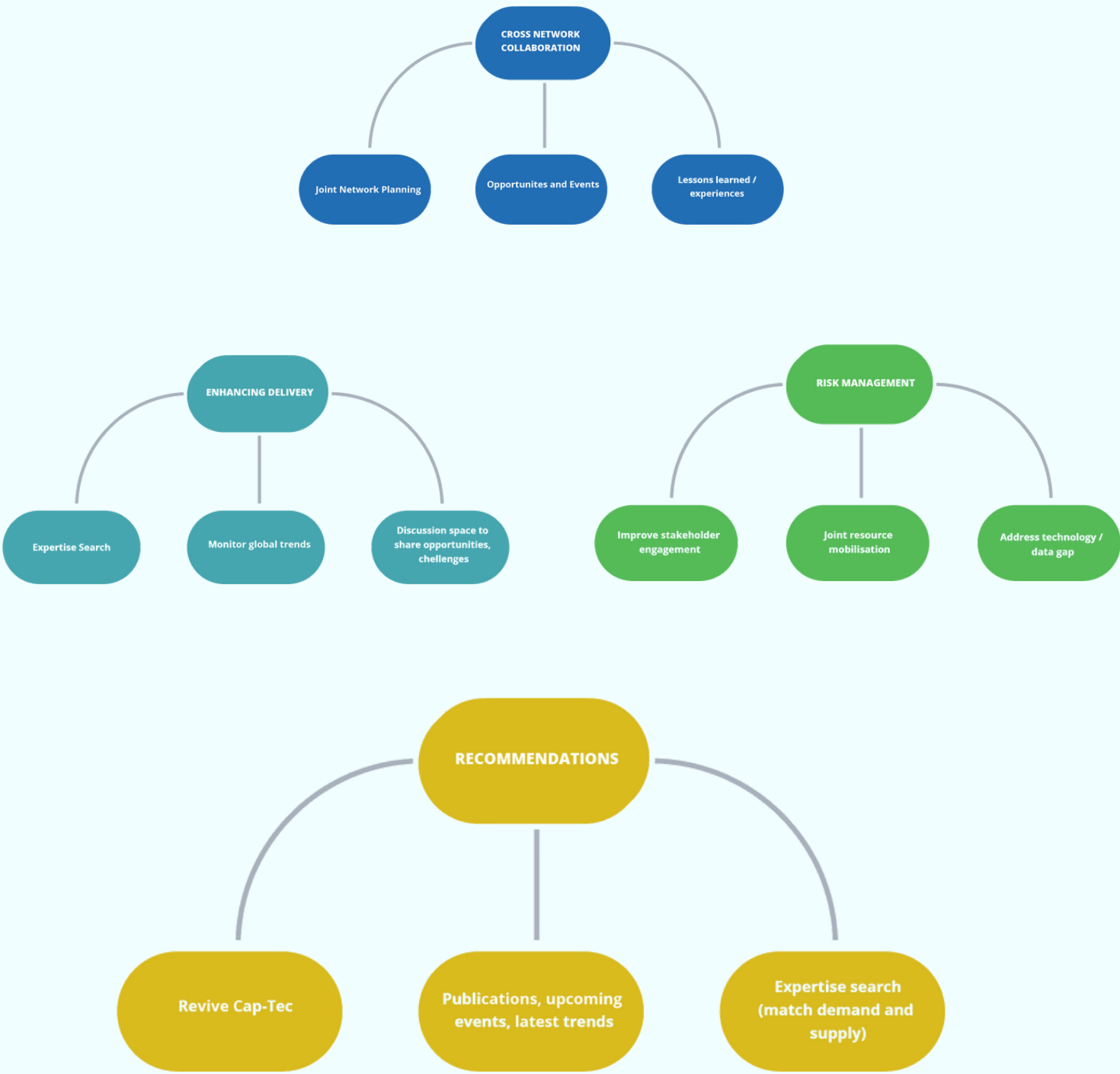
REGIONAL DIALOGUES

Dialogues were grouped by regions, rather than one on ones, to promote further cross-regional collaboration, identify common regional challenges and seek for joint solutions. The key areas and recommendations which emerged from the regional dialogues regarding support and facilitation required from Cap-Net UNDP.

A comprehensive Action Plan was developed based on the outcomes, which has now fed into the 2022 workplan, where support for improved network management will extend beyond the typical core support. The Secretariat will identify and support collaboration and opportunities for networks to deliver, expand partnerships and invest in internal capacity development initiatives, such as gender-specific trainings, M&E, and improved use of the virtual campus for online delivery.

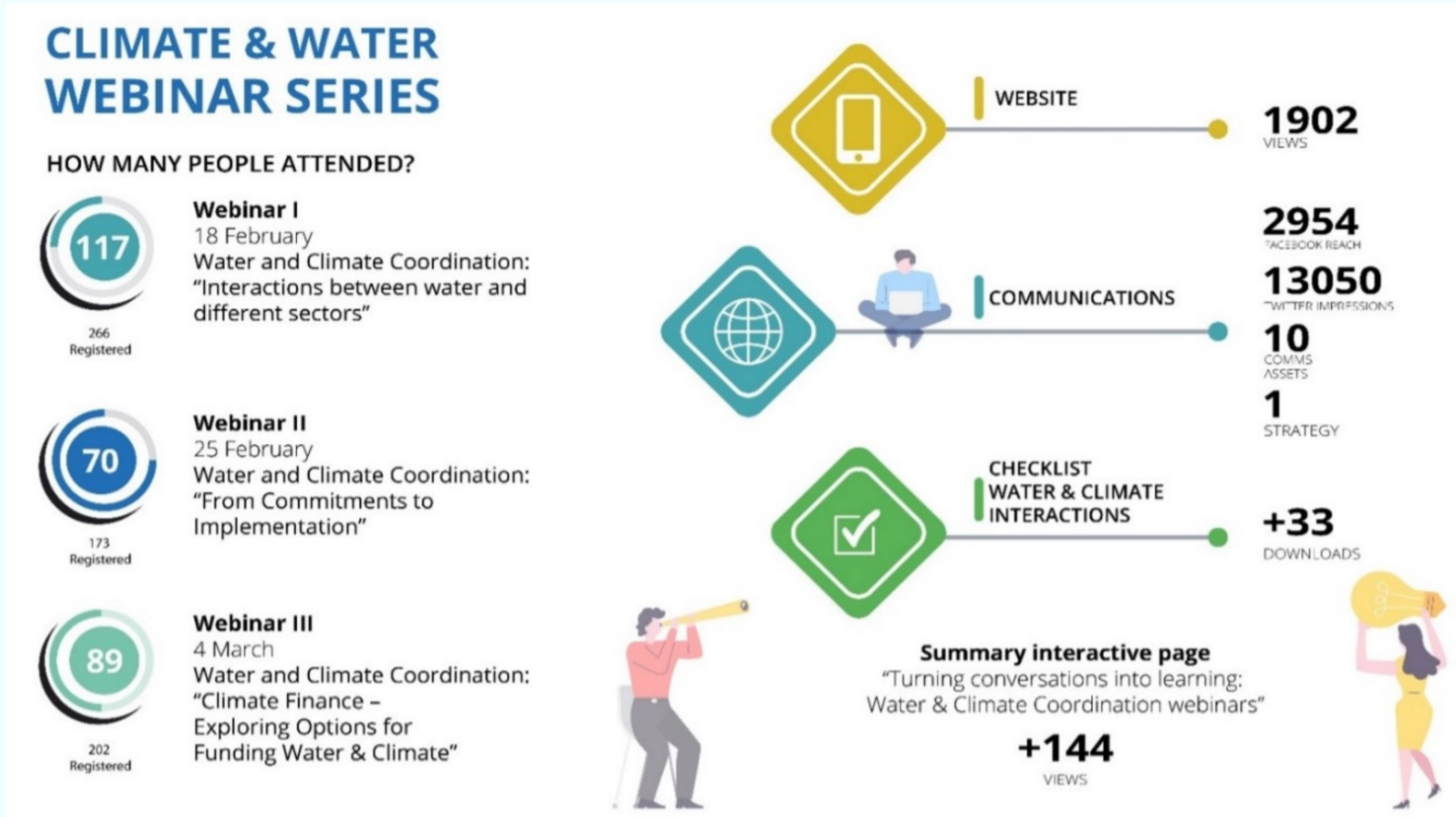


Annual Network Managers' Meeting held virtually in October 2021



Key Areas for Development following regional dialogue

CAP-NET UNDP and GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP
(GWP)





SDG 6.6.1 Pilot Project

[“Integrating freshwater data into sector-wide decision making to improve the protection and restoration of freshwater ecosystems – pilot project”](#) is jointly developed between Cap-Net UNDP, **UNEP-DHI** and **GWP**. The initiative will foster and promote the integration of environmental data within relevant decision-making processes through multi-stakeholder engagement, to improve the protection, management, and restoration of freshwater ecosystems.

Networks and partners completed the first component of the project, training over 250 people across three countries - Argentina, Kazakhstan and Kenya. Target countries will have increased capacity and political will to protect and restore freshwater ecosystems, and stakeholders in the countries will have endorsed action plans to protect and restore prioritised key ecosystems, once the project is completed.



MORE HOW THE APPROACH,
FROM SOURCE TO SEA,

Cap-Net UNDP joined forces with the **S2S Action Platform Secretariat** to increase local and regional expertise in implementing the source-to-sea approach. In June 2021, a capacity needs assessment was launched with the objective to understand the current degree of awareness, the capacity levels for implementation and the challenges and barriers for doing so. Survey results provided an overview of the needs and highlighted underlying gaps. Training and capacity development materials and events will be based on the findings and coordination calls with partners.

A woman wearing a pink headscarf and a blue patterned dress is operating a hand pump. She is holding a rope attached to the pump handle. The pump is mounted on a concrete base. In the background, there is a yellow wall and a green building. A silver metal pot is placed on the ground next to the pump.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

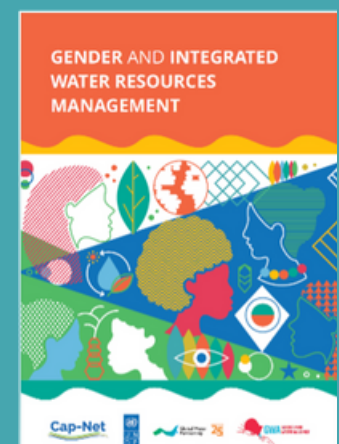
Activity 3.4

- Development of training materials
- Information management, communication and case studies in support of capacity development activities
- Monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL)

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

Cap-Net UNDP has repositioned itself by increasing outreach, through improved communication, tailored online courses, tutorials, webinars, blogs, videos and guidance notes. This approach ensures relevance, allowing the network to continue to reach beneficiaries and deliver on capacity development commitments despite the effects of COVID-19.

OUTPUT 3.4.1: Development of Training Manuals



In collaboration with GWA and GWP, Cap-Net developed the [Gender and IWRM training manual](#), and online course, reaffirming our commitment to advancing equal access to, and management of, water resources.

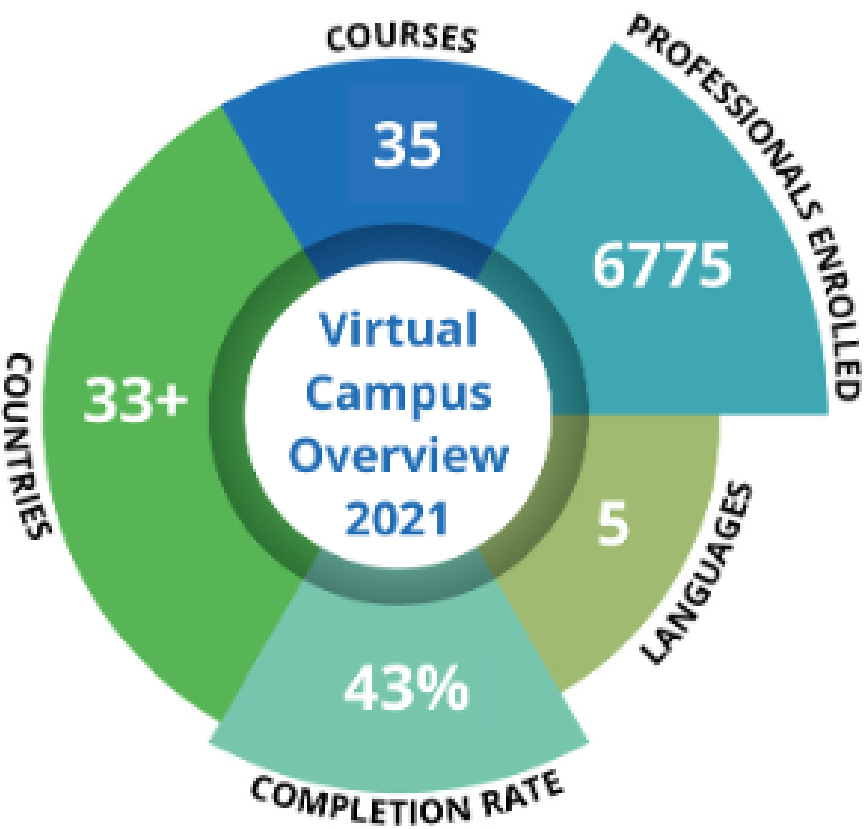


A training manual on "[Integrating freshwater data into sector-wide decision making to improve the protection and restoration of freshwater ecosystems](#)" was adapted for country context, to increase awareness and understanding of relevant stakeholders and decision-makers, guided by the SDG661 pilot project.

Output 3.4.3: Information management, communication and case studies in support of capacity development activities

VIRTUAL CAMPUS

The growing demand for innovative technologies in the light of the current pandemic and within a context of financial restrictions, has established the Virtual Campus as the main delivery mechanism for Cap-Net UNDP and partners, in 2021 and the foreseeable future.





"Since completing the course, I have this year led the development of various proposals for funding. One has just been funded by UNICEF on revision of the Hydrogeological & Water Quality Atlas. It was a fruitful course and enhanced the Ministry capacity in developing bankable proposals."

*Course Participant from Malawi
Virtual Campus Course on Preparing Proposals to Access
Funding for Groundwater-Related Infrastructure*

Output 3.4.3 Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)

In 2021, Cap-Net UNDP revamped its Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) system by creating online data collection tools (surveys on knowledge increase and application) as well as project management and reporting templates for activity proposals and reporting.

Networks received a comprehensive MEL Guidebook, a newly revised MELP template and a workshop to guide them in preparing their own MEL system and plan (MELP).

DELIVERY 2021



Target: 20 MEL plans and reports submitted
Delivery: 17

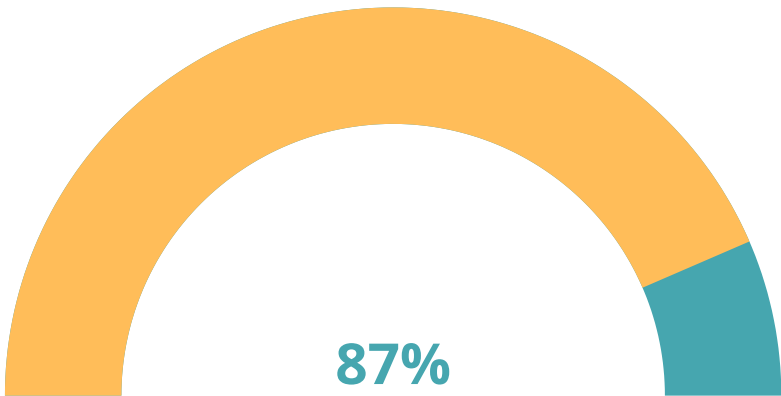


Target: 1 Network Attachment supported
Delivery: 1

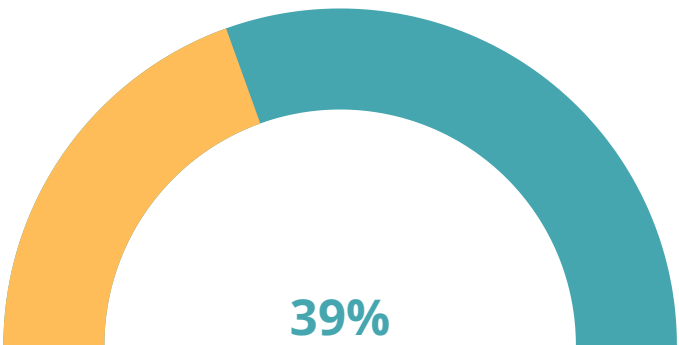


MONITORING, EVALUATING AND LEARNING

During 2021, a total of 25 courses that were carried out in 2020 were monitored and evaluated for outcomes and impacts.

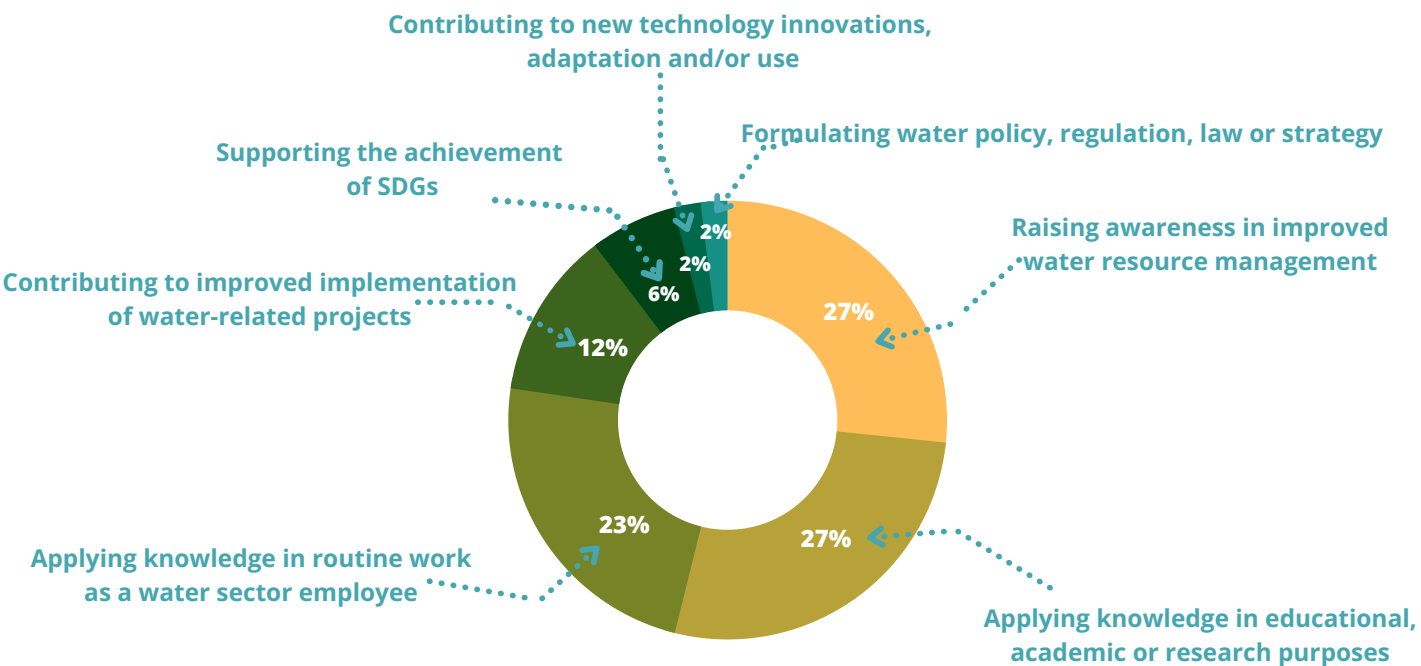


respondents confirmed they gained and applied knowledge.



respondents identified positive actions or relevant institutional change in water resource management

40% response rate in average out of a total of over 3,294 participants reached.



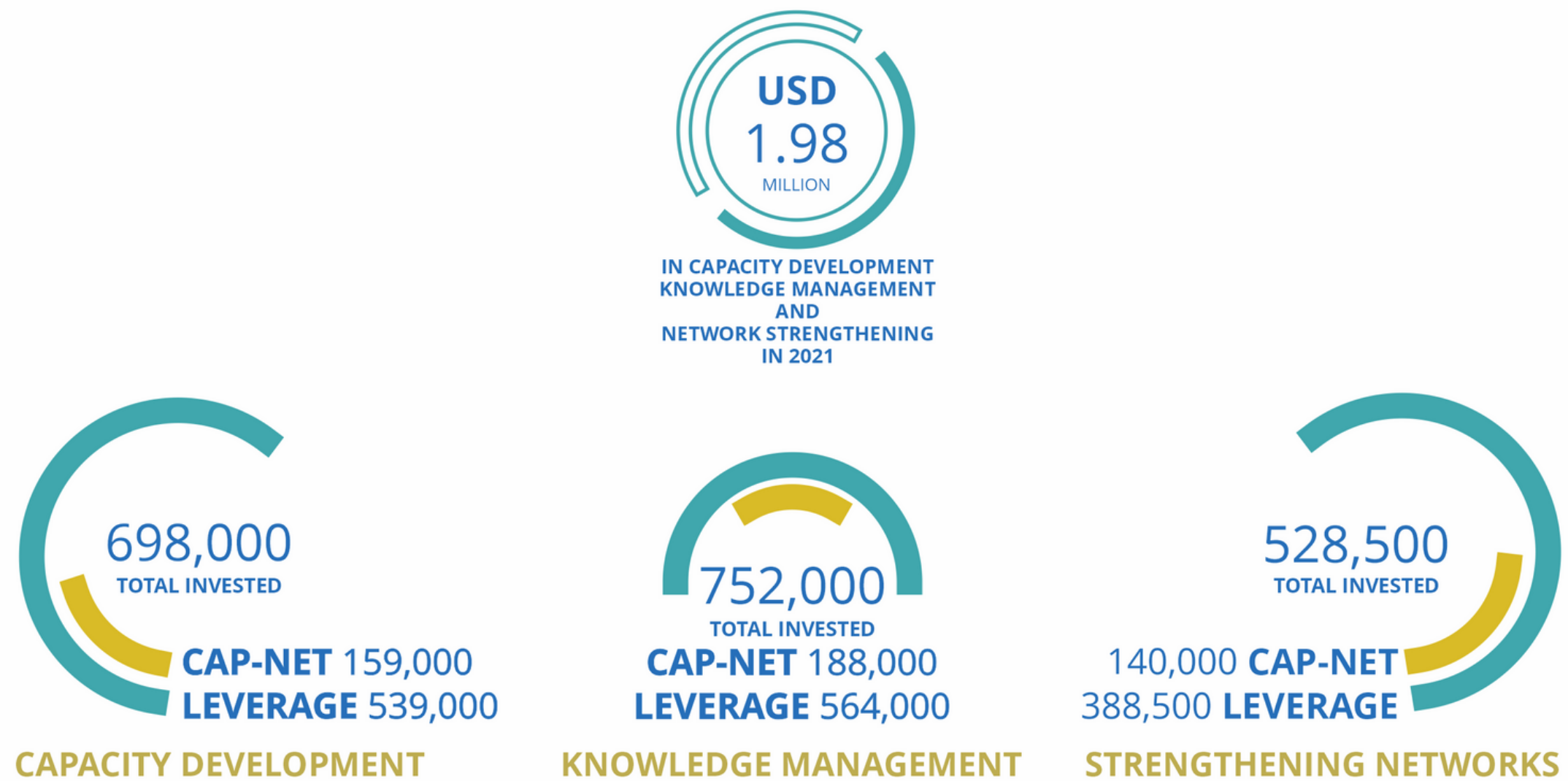
How participants applied knowledge based on survey results (of 87% that reported they gained and applied knowledge)



The stories seek to bring to the surface the invisible: the learning, inspiration, and evolution of our learners. Watch three stories from around the world that demonstrate transformational change in Costa Rica (REDICA), Sri Lanka (Cap-Net Lanka) and Bangladesh (Cap-Net Bangladesh).



PROJECT MANAGEMENT



Overview of leverage 2021

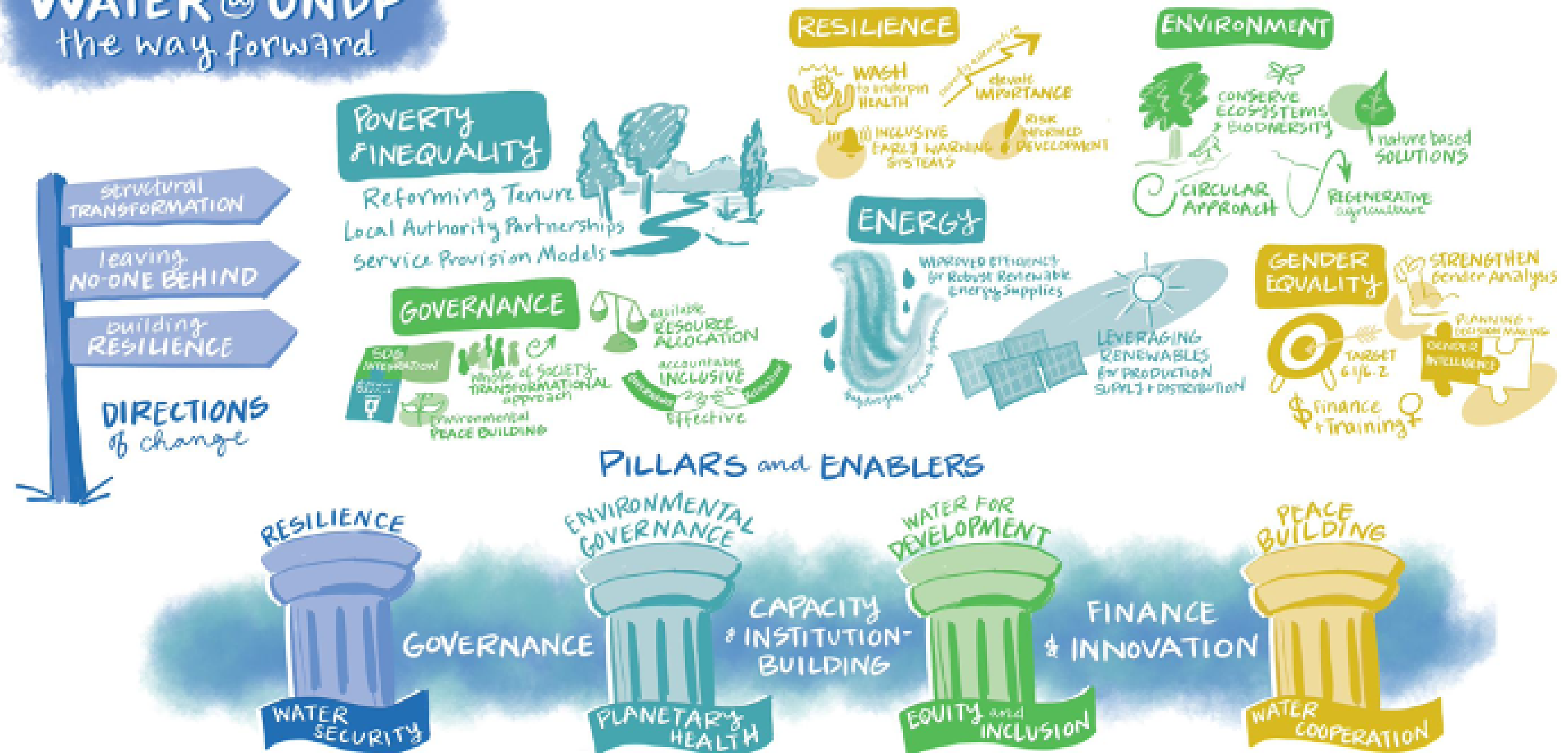
Resource mobilization in 2020 - 2021 led to a total contribution of USD 2.4 million from UNDP, (GWOGSP and SDG661) ANSI, OneWorld, IW:Learn (UNESCO), Water Integrity Network (WIN), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)-GO-Water, Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO), Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWPSAF)-UNICEF and University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU). These funds have been invested in capacity development efforts at the institutional level, leveraging substantial impact and change towards the achievement of the SDGs, with some projects extending into 2022. This does not include the leveraged funds outlined in the subsequent section, from partners raised by the networks for delivery of capacity.



THE FUTURE

Water@UNDP and opportunities for Cap-Net Contribution

WATER@UNDP
the way forward



2022

Like the rest of the world, we continue to navigate the uncertainty of the ongoing global pandemic. What it has taught us is that networks are resilient, pivoting and delivering despite full lockdowns and dwindling resources.

Our focus turns to compiling the lessons learned from trainings and regional dialogues, and integrating them into our planning. We will also pay keen attention to our most vulnerable, those with limited connectivity, so that no one is left behind.

We take the plunge into the deep oceans through **our first Source to Sea (S2S) initiative**, embracing more holistic approaches beyond freshwater alongside the Secretariat of the Action Platform for Source-to-Sea Management.

In 2022, all Cap-Net UNDP-supported activities **must include a gender inclusive component**, acknowledging and contributing to gender equality through accessible water resource management. We are available to provide capacity development initiatives, guidance and support in shaping proposals and developing gender-specific indicators as needed.

Cap-Net UNDP and its networks remain committed to providing capacity development for poverty alleviation through climate-resilient, equitable natural resources governance and nature-based solutions for a sustainable and inclusive planet, and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.