

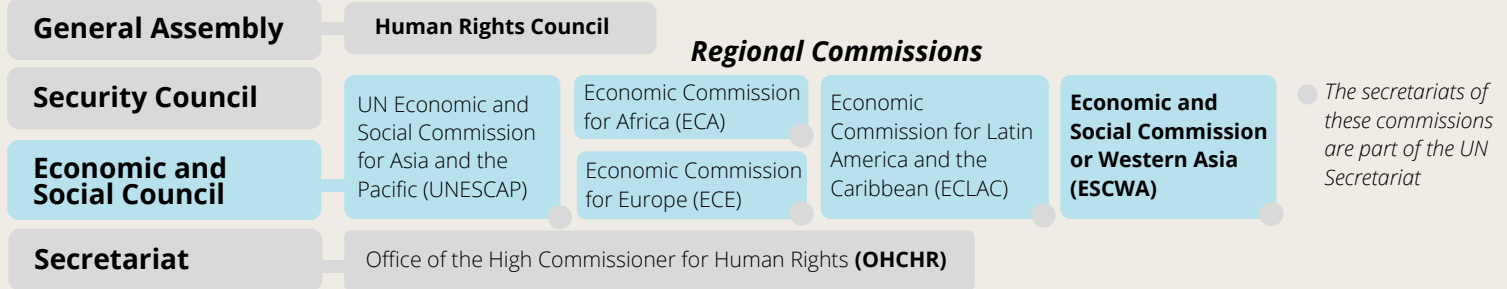


United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)

UNESCWA is part of the UN System and together with other regional commissions, it reports to one of the branches of the UN Economic and Social Council.

WHAT IS UNESCWA?

UN PRINCIPAL ORGANS

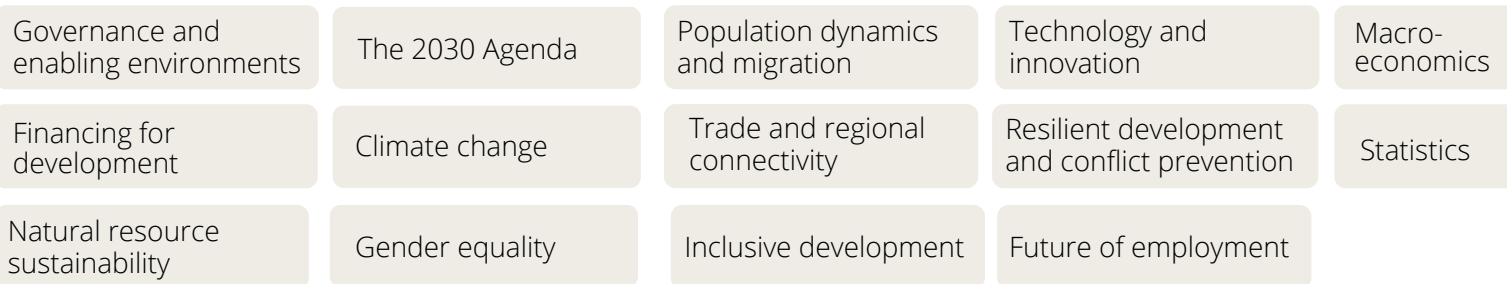


WHAT IS THE ROLE OF UNESCWA?

UNESCWA was

established in 1973 to stimulate economic activity in member countries in Western Asia, strengthen cooperation between them, and promote development. Committed to the 2030 Agenda, UNESCWA produces innovative knowledge, fosters regional consensus and delivers transformational policy advice. UNESCWA counts 20 member states in the Arab region.

Some areas of UNESCWA's work include:



UNESCWA AND WASH

AWARENET, the Arab Integrated Water Resources

Management Network is an independent, impartial regional network of training and research institutes, NGOs, government institutions and experts in the field of water, engaged in the development and delivery of capacity development programs and resource material on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) policies and practices for the Arab region.

UNESCWA implements the Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region (**RICCAR**), which aims to provide access to information that can facilitate cooperation, coordination, dialogue and exchange among Arab States, organizations and stakeholder and to support awareness raising as well as regional networking and exchange on issues related to climate change and water resources in the region.

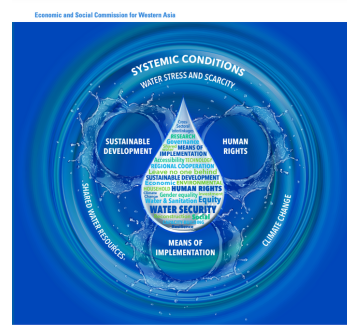
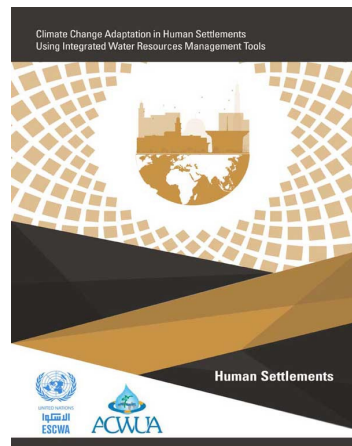
UNESCWA is actively engaging in various activities to support the Water Action Decade (2018-2028), and is involved in regional forums, initiatives, networks and other mechanisms that are contributing to the objectives of the Decade.

ESCWA organises the **Arab Forum for Sustainable Development**. The Arab Forum for Sustainable Development (AFSD) is the primary regional mechanism for the follow up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Arab region. AFSD's outcome formally delivers the voice of the region to the global High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development held annually in New York. The report of the Arab Forum sets out key messages emanating from the regional dialogue on the opportunities and challenges of implementing the 2030 Agenda and reports progress on key sustainable development priorities.

PUBLICATIONS



ESCWA Water Development Report 8
The Water-related Sustainable Development Goals
in the Arab Region



Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
Moving towards Water Security
in the Arab Region



Arab Sustainable Development Report
2020



THE WAY FORWARD

One of my three key objectives of as Special Rapporteur is to promote water as a key to collaboration and peace. I am greatly interested in working with States and other actors in Western Asia in order to transform and place water as a tool for peace.

Pedro Arrojo-Agudo
UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

*The Special Rapporteur held a meeting with UNESCWA representatives on 10 December 2020

