

# **Water Quality in the Americas-Country Chapters**

1. General introduction.
  - a. Background.
  - b. Main problems on water quality.
  - c. Objectives and scope of the chapter.
2. Authorities and governance for water quality.
  - a. Legal framework.
  - b. Relationships with NGO's, universities (scientific research), etc.
  - c. Monitoring and database.
3. Main problems that impact water quality in the country.
  - a. Eutrophication.
  - b. Natural contaminants.
  - c. Pollution.
  - d. Agrochemicals.
  - e. Heavy metals.
  - f. Deforestation.
  - g. Salinization.
  - h. Wastewater. Lack of treatment plants and bad management of existing plants. How many cities and municipalities without treatment plants.
  - i. Lixiviation in groundwater and surface waterbodies.
  - j. Emergent contamination.
  - k. Others.

## Water Quality in the Americas

### 4. Social and economical aspects.

- a. Health.
- b. Poverty.
- c. Level of education in communities. Education programmes and curriculae.
- d. Gender.
- e. Rural and urban areas.
- f. Investment in water quality programs.
- g. Industry, mining and agriculture, others and conflicts related to quality of water caused by these factors.

### 5. Coping with Sustainable Development Goals 6 (SDG-6).

#### **Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.**

- a. Universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water.
- b. Access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene.
- c. Improve water quality by reducing pollution.
- d. Increase water-use efficiency.
- e. Integrated water resources managements at all levels.
- f. Protect and restore water-related ecosystems.
- g. Expand international cooperation and capacity building.
- h. Support and strengthen participation of local communities.

(See: [www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/))

*How your country can meet these goals and give suggestions to government authorities.*

## Water Quality in the Americas

6. Successfully experiences in improving water quality.
  - a. Basin restoration/protection plans.
  - b. Pilot experiences (guidelines for policy makers, etc.).
  - c. Education, training and public awareness.
  - d. Others.
7. Conclusions and recommendations.

*\*The content of the country chapters should have a maximum of 25 pages (Arial 11, single line interspacing).*