

Water security is one of the main global risks related to socioeconomic development. According to the World Bank, “the world will not be able to face the challenges of sustainable development for the 21st century (human development, habitable cities, climate change, food and energy security) without improving water resources management and ensuring access to reliable water and sanitation services”.

Water is goal number 6 on the 2030 agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) promoted by the United Nations Organisation (UN). At ACUSTER, we are committed to the implementation of projects 100% aligned with the SDGs, as well as to the evaluation and measurement of the social impact of all these projects through key performance indicators (KPI).

Along these same lines, we issue an annual financial report for our shareholders that includes the results of the social impact arising from all our projects.

The challenges established in the 2030 Agenda for goal 6 (Water) in the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations Organisation (UN) are the following:

- By 2030, achieve universal and equal access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.
- By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equal sanitation and hygiene for all and end defecation in the open air, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and people in vulnerable situations.
- By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating spillage and minimizing the release of chemicals and hazardous materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse worldwide.
- By 2030, substantially increase the efficiency of water use in all sectors and ensure sustainable extraction and freshwater supply to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.
- By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through cross-border cooperation, as appropriate.
- By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.

- 2030, expand international cooperation and support for capacity development in developing countries in activities and programs related to water and sanitation, including technologies for collection, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse of water.
- Support and build the participation of local communities in the improvement of water and sanitation.

According to World Bank data:

- 3 out of 10 people do not have access to safely managed drinking water services and 6 out of 10 people do not have access to sanitation facilities.
- At least 892 million people continue to practice open defecation.
- Women and girls are responsible for water collection in 80% of households without access to water.
- Between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of the world's population using an improved drinking water source increased from 76% to 90%.
- Water scarcity affects more than 40% of the world's population and is expected to rise.
- 2.4 billion people lack access to basic sanitation services, such as toilets or latrines.
- More than 80% of wastewater resulting from human activities is discharged into rivers or the sea without any pollution removal.
- Every day, almost 1,000 children die due to preventable diarrheal diseases related to water and sanitation.
- Approximately 70% of all water extracted from rivers, lakes and aquifers is used for irrigation.
- Floods and other water-related disasters account for 70% of all deaths from natural disasters.