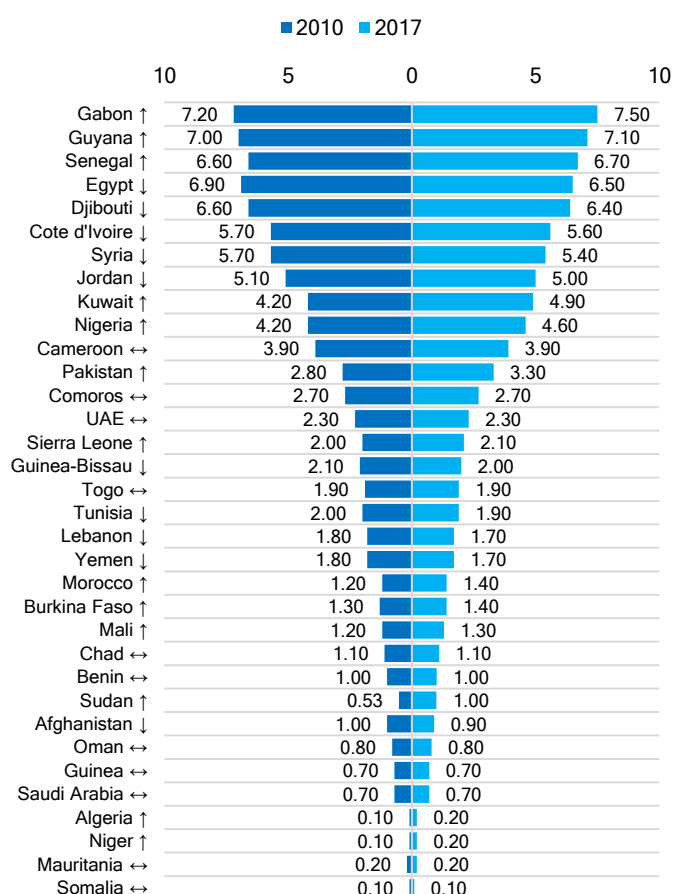
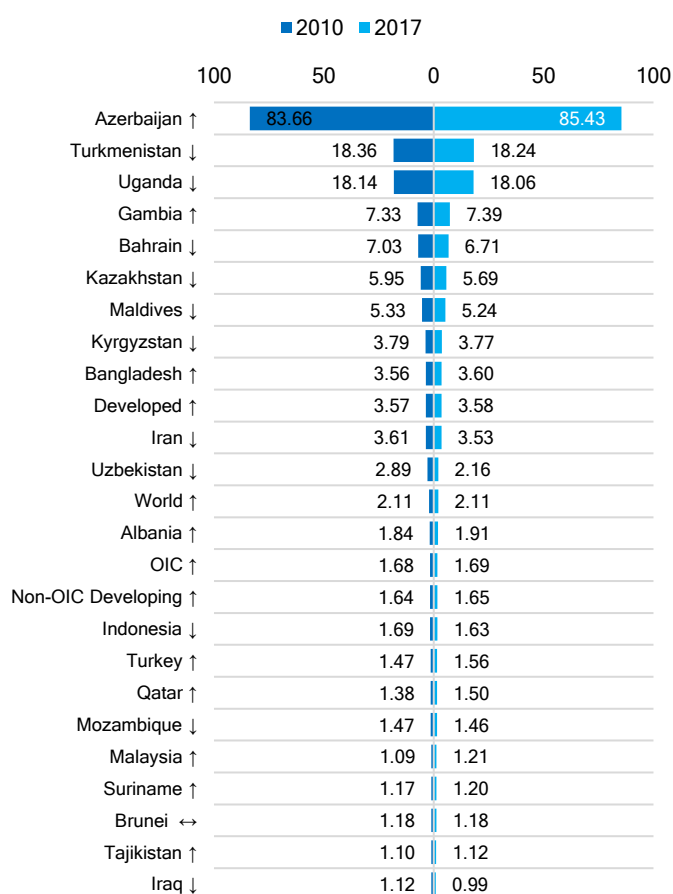


DID YOU KNOW?

2020-11

Permanent Water Body Extent, 2000 vs. 2017



- Water body extent (WBE) shows the surface area of the permanent water bodies (not the volume of the water) such as lakes and rivers within the boundaries or under the management of a country.
- Proportion of the permanent WBE in total land area of a country provides an idea regarding the water availability while also revealing the country's potential in the sectors like agriculture, food, tourism, and electricity production.
- A large number of OIC countries, which are located in the most arid regions of the World, suffer from water scarcity.
- Due to their wide geographical distribution, some OIC countries belong to the most water abundant countries.
- In 2017, the permanent WBE of the OIC countries group was 1.69% of their total land area which was below that of the Developed countries (3.58%) and the World (2.11%) yet above that of the Non-OIC Developing countries (1.65%).
- The Caspian Sea is the largest inland water basin managed by four OIC countries; Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan, together with Russia.
- Additionally, Kazakhstan (4th), Turkmenistan (7th), Azerbaijan (8th), and Iran (9th) were among the top 10 countries globally with the largest permanent water bodies (in km² terms) in 2017. These 4 OIC countries only made up nearly 70% of the OIC permanent WBE in 2017.
- Surface area of the permanent water body managed by Azerbaijan was equal to 85.43% of its total land area in 2017 which places the country as number one in the World.
- Following Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan came with 18.24%, thanks to her boundaries with the Caspian Sea, and Uganda with 18.06% thanks to having 4 great lakes of East Africa, namely; Victoria, Kyoga, Albert, and Edward within the country or on its boundaries.
- Overall, in 21 OIC countries, the WBE was around 1% or above of their total land area. Of that, 11 OIC countries were above the global average of 2.11%.
- On the other hand, 8 OIC countries including Somalia, Mauritania, Niger, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Guinea, Oman, and Afghanistan, the proportion of the surface area of the permanent water were even below the 1 permillage (1‰) of their total land area.

Note: Arrow direction signs next to the country names show the change in the permanent WBE from 2010 to 2017. According to the data source, there is no permanent water body in Libya and no data is available for Palestine.

Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 18/03/2020 from UNEP Environment Live Database. Please visit OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database (<http://bit.ly/2F7W8cv>) for other Water category indicators.