

OECD Water Governance Initiative

Tools, publications and events from the 14th to the 15th OECD WGI meeting

Inputs by members

15th WGI Meeting
27-28 September
Virtual Event

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Tools and Initiatives

Awareness raising and capacity building

Cap-Net (UNDP), [Source to Sea Action](#) (2021 onwards).

The Action Platform for Source-to-Sea Management (S2S Platform) has influenced policy dialogues, operational and financing strategies to better reflect the need for source-to-sea action, while raising awareness and political attention to source-to-sea issues. In the process, the freshwater and ocean communities have come together at major occasions, and supported policy makers and practitioners through the development and dissemination of knowledge materials, policy briefs and practical tools. As a result of this work there is a broader understanding of the importance of source-to-sea management approach and many around the world have shown interest or started to pilot it. However, steps toward taking source-to-sea action on the ground are highlighting gaps in capacity and barriers to implementation. The S2S Platform has made a commitment in its Strategy 2021-2025 to build local capacity among public, private and civil society actors and increase local and regional expertise in implementing the source-to-sea approach, enlarging the overall number of source-to-sea practitioners.

Conference of Ibero-American Water Directors (CODIA), [The Ibero-American Water Training Program](#) (2022-2023).

Currently a work in progress, the programme will schedule courses and training activities throughout 2022 and 2023. Its goal is to foster the strengthening of public policies and their regional harmonisation. It will be convened annually and coordinated with UNESCO's Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP). The training program is structured around three main topics: Water security and extreme events, Supply and sanitation, and IWRM and Water Planning.

[PROFOUND](#) full-scale flood response field exercise in the Danube region.

The frequency and severity of floods are increasing in the Danube region due to climate change. As a result, national capacities are increasingly supporting neighbouring countries, requiring volunteer organisations to adapt procedures to the international standards and ensure interoperability by meeting EU Civil Protection Mechanism requirements. The project's main goal is to establish unified flood protection operation in the Danube Region by i) Identifying capacities, gaps and good practices of water rescue units and volunteer fire brigades to provide necessary trainings before the exercise; ii) Developing the procedures according to the Guidelines for Standard Operating Procedures of the EU; iii) Developing a sustainable training programme; and iv) Carrying out an exercise to test preparedness. The full-scale field exercise will simulate parallel flooding in the Tisza and Danube rivers in multiple locations, testing the project's general learning objectives: host nation support and coordination of volunteer assets, common understanding of procedures and effective cooperation.

SIWI, Building Governance Capacity for Improved Water Security (GO-WATER) (2021 – 2026).

The GO-WATER programme takes an institutional approach to capacity development and has developed an innovative concept to capacitate 2-4 key water institutions in selected focus countries. It specifically aims to impact the policy (systemic) level by strengthening institutional capacities of select government water institutions in six focus countries¹ to assist them in transitioning from water crisis management to water risk and opportunity management. It will also invite other strategic water stakeholders. Selected participants will among others have to demonstrate water reform commitment and potential as agents of change. The overall goal of the programme is to build more effective water institutions, contributing to improved water security and resilience for poverty eradication and social equity.

Western Mediterranean Water Ministers' Conference, [The Mediterranean Water Training Program \(2022-2023\)](#).

Currently a work in progress, the programme will schedule online courses and training activities throughout 2022 and 2023. It fully responds to the Water Strategy for the Western Mediterranean's priority on capacity building. The first edition of the programme will focus on: Water governance, Unconventional water resources, Information systems, Environmental issues, Climate change and the Water-Energy-Food Nexus – IWRM.

Implementation and calls for action

Cap-Net (UNDP), [Continental Africa Water Investment Programme \(2021 – 2025\)](#).

The AIP supports countries to develop and accelerate implementation of gender transformative climate resilient regional and national water investment programmes and projects, and contributes to continental efforts on universal access to safe water, sanitation hygiene, and integration of water security in COVID-19 economic recovery plans. It seeks to enhance job creation through gender sensitive investments in water security, industrialisation, and climate resilient development. It aims to leverage USD 30 billion in climate-resilient water investments by 2030 and create 5 million jobs.

International Office for Water (OiEau), World Water Council (WWC), the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC), [Water security/Ecological security initiative](#).

Launched at the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 4th September 2021, and to be promoted at the 9th World Water Forum, this initiative voices that water security and ecological security are inextricably linked, and that good governance cannot materialise without an integrated, comprehensive management of both water resources and ecosystems. The initiative comprises both a [declaration](#) and a call to action, and has been approved by the WWC Board of Governors. It aims to i) Strengthen the links between the water and nature communities to enable more integrated and coherent policies and actions; ii) Promote the use of Nature-based Solutions by water professionals for use in water security management and by encouraging the further development of a global standard on NbS, with benefits for local communities being a priority concern; and iii) Build global and political momentum for this initiative towards the 9th World Water Forum by promoting the declaration globally, by translating the signatories' commitment into concrete actions through the 9th WWF, and by receiving new commitments beyond the 9th Forum.

¹ Cluster 1: Afghanistan, Iraq and Sudan; Cluster 2: Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru.

Multi-stakeholder platforms and engagement

Global Water Partnership (GWP), Multi Stakeholder Water Security Open Program.

This web-based collaborative platform will map the contributions of all stakeholders to advance water security-related activities and align the efforts of government, donors, and civil society. It will enable the registration of any initiative and idea, regardless of location; level, duration and stage of implementation; and implementation approach. All initiatives will be synergised through a set of agreed indicators and targets such as SDG, AWDO and the output declaration from the Asia Pacific Water Summit, focusing on Water Security where IWRM (as a set of principles) will be embedded. It will first be piloted at the South-East Asia level, with a view to Pan-Asian implementation. Benefits are foreseen for development partners, governments and donors alike (e.g. identifying gaps by mapping, facilitating multistakeholder coordination and reducing redundancy in funding).

Turkish Water Institute (SUEN), Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Turkey, First Water Council.

Under the coordination of the Ministry, the aim of the first Water Council (launched on 29th March 2021) is to develop Turkey's short, medium and long-term water-related strategies with all water-related stakeholders. Together with experts from the SUEN and the Ministry, various stakeholders including almost 130 researchers, representatives from relevant public institutions, 34 from national NGOs, 31 from the private sector, experts from metropolitan municipalities and water and sewerage administrations and water users worked in co-operation under 11 thematic working groups between April and July 2021. The first Water Council studies will focus on various dimensions to establish an efficient, effective and inclusive water governance policy, including climate change, water security, water efficiency, water law, development of water resources and irrigation. The studies (expected October 2021) will inform recommendations on legislative and institutional regulations, and Council decisions will be published in 2022. The General Secretariat of the Council will prepare a programme enabling the collaborative monitoring of the implementation of the Council Decisions by relevant Turkish water institutions.

[Water Co-Governance \(WaterCog\)](#), co-funded by the North Sea Region Programme (2014-2021). Working with a range of partners and stakeholders from Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, and the UK, WaterCoG aims to understand the extent to which effective stakeholder and community participation in water management (co-governance) can deliver more sustainable and long-term approaches to managing North Sea Region ecosystems by improving the implementation of key environmental objectives such as the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Key findings include but are not limited to: i) Co-governance structure needs a mandate for legitimacy; ii) Access to knowledge (data, evidence) is perceived by stakeholders as particularly important for co-governance process; and iii) Robust knowledge and dialogue platforms are necessary to host partnership-memory. A range of outputs including evaluations, tools, case studies, project reports and animations are available on the website.

Recent and Future Publications

2020– Published

The National Water and Sanitation Agency of Brazil (ANA) published several reports including: Classification of waterbodies into classes; Dam safety report 2020; Industry in the Paranapanema River Basin: water use and good practices; From data collection to decision making; Sewage Atlas: update of sewage treatment plants database; Brazilian Water Resources Report – 2020; Irrigation Atlas: water use in irrigated agriculture; ANA Service Charter – 2020.

Cap-Net (UNDP) et al. (2020), [Drought Risk Reduction in IWRM Training Manual](#). The manual is primarily for learners, trainers and facilitators, practitioners, and water and natural resources managers, and is aimed at strengthening the capacity to anticipate and reduce the impact of drought by enhancing knowledge and skills for drought risk reduction practices as an integral part of the development process at community, national, sub-regional and regional levels. It seeks to:

- Create greater awareness about effective drought risk management and responses
- Provide comprehensive knowledge on drought disaster preparedness, mitigation and rehabilitation
- Enable learners to carry out risk assessment and vulnerability analysis
- Generate awareness of the institutional mechanisms, mobilisation and participation in drought disaster management.

Centre for Life Cycle Analysis and Sustainable Development (CADIS) & ONCE BC for CONAGUA & Swiss Agency for Development Co-operation (SDC) (2020), [Analysis of public policies and market mechanisms that have an impact on corporate water management in Mexico](#). This report analyses policies, market mechanisms, economic, regulatory and voluntary instruments that affect the corporate management of water in Mexico, against a backdrop of a proposed insertion into global markets, particularly within the framework of the Pacific Alliance. Within the framework of the collaboration with SDC, CONAGUA also participates in technical committee meetings where participating companies discuss their results, lessons learned and recommendations on how to involve and engage the private sector in actions related to corporate water management. Moreover, CONAGUA co-organised a virtual forum on water footprint where representatives from the public sector, companies, civil society organisations, academia, and the Pacific Alliance shared experiences, success stories and advances in corporate water management, sustainable production and responsible consumption.

CONAGUA (2020), [National Water Programme \(PNH\) 2020-2024](#). The PNH, a special programme derived from the National Development Plan (PND), guides the national water policy of Mexico. It is the result of a consultation process that began with forums for the development of the PND, and was complemented by 44 PNH-specific forums and 8 consultation forums for the Environment and Natural Resources Sectorial Program (Promarnat). As a multisectoral programme, the PNH contributes to almost all of the SDGs.

Ferri et al. (2020), [The value of citizen science for flood risk reduction: Cost-benefit analysis of a citizen observatory in the Brenta-Bacchiglione catchment](#), *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences*, **24, 5781-5798**. As part of the flood risk management strategy of the Brenta-Bacchiglione catchment in

Italy, a citizen observatory for flood risk management is currently being implemented. Citizens are involved through monitoring water levels and obstructions and providing other relevant information through mobile apps, where the data are assimilated with other sensor data in a hydrological–hydraulic model used in early warning. By calculating the hazard, exposure and vulnerability of three flood scenarios² with and without the proposed citizen observatory, the evaluation of benefits in terms of average annual avoided damage costs shows a 45% reduction in avoided damage compared to a business as usual scenario, mainly through lowered social vulnerability to risk in terms of adaptive as well as coping capacity. The analysis highlights the feasibility of non-structural flood mitigation options such as a citizen observatory for flood risk management compared to the implementation of much more expensive structural measures (e.g. retention areas).

German Development Co-operation Agency (GIZ) and Water Integrity Network (WIN) (2020), [Fighting corruption in the water and sanitation sector – Take preventive measures with tools and best practices](#). Published on International Anti-Corruption Day (December 9, 2020), this paper highlights how corruption in the water sector catalyses the global water crisis, thereby threatening billions of lives and exacerbating environmental degradation. As such, it violates the human rights to water and sanitation and undermines the achievement of several SDGs, particularly SDG 6. The paper puts prevention forward as key to ending corrupt practices in the water sector, as preventive measures strengthen integrity within organisations to reduce the risks of corrupt practices that can lead to investigations and sanctioning. These investigations and sanctions come at a price, as they can further tarnish the reputation of organisations.

WIN & Government Transparency Institute (2020), [Water and Sanitation Integrity Risk Index, working paper](#). The paper employs a data-driven approach to develop a composite Water Integrity Risk Index (WIRI) made up of a host of objective proxy indicators as well as survey-based measures of corruption experience to identify and assess integrity risks in the urban water and sanitation sector in selected settlements around the world. Unlike broader-scope corruption indices, the WIRI outlined in this paper uses administrative datasets and survey data capturing information on corruptible transactions; thus, the analysis is micro-level, narrowly focuses on the water and sanitation sector, and is both transparent and replicable. The result is an actionable index which measures integrity risks over seven countries between 2012 and 2019.

WIN & SERI (2020), [Human Rights and Water Integrity: Implications for Informal Settlements Water and Sanitation](#). The human rights to water and sanitation of people living in informal settlements are not being met, despite international and national obligations to do so. People living in informal settlements have limited access to toilets and pay more per litre than people living in wealthier areas, for precarious, unsafe water. This research on informal settlements in South Africa and Kenya shows that it is not just limited resources that contribute to this unacceptable situation; it is stigma, inaction, and poor integrity.

2021 – Published

[Sustainable Industrial Water Use – Perspectives, Incentives and Tools \(2021\)](#), Cheryl Davis and Eric Rosenblum [eds], IWA Publishing. The Scottish Government contributed a chapter on promoting sustainable water use in Scotland: “The Hydro Nation”.

[Handbook of Catchment Management, 2nd Edition \(2021\)](#), Robert C. Ferrier and Alan Jenkins [eds], Wiley. The Scottish Government contributed a chapter on “Scotland: The Hydro Nation: Linking Policy, Science, Industry, Regulation in Scotland and Internationally”.

Global Water Partnership (GWP) (2021), [Progress on Integrated Water Resources Management \(IWRM\) in the Asia-Pacific Region, 2021: Learning exchanges on monitoring and implementation](#)

² This is required for flood risk management planning by the EU Directive on Flood Risk Management.

[through 16 countries in the Pan-Asia region](#). This report provides insights into national experiences in monitoring, reporting and advancing on IWRM under SDG 6.5 in the Asia-Pacific Region and the basis for further regional collaboration to debate and take action on the next steps needed to achieve full IWRM implementation by 2030 in the context of the SDGs. It aims to present the status of IWRM implementation in the Asia-Pacific region and to make recommendations to progress towards SDG target 6.5 and to identify lessons learned and make recommendations on the stakeholder consultation processes for reporting on SDG 6.5.1 in the 16 countries supported. It highlights that we already know most of what is needed to fully implement IWRM by 2030, but that political will at the highest level is needed above all else. The report therefore constitutes an urgent call to action for all relevant stakeholders to contribute to promoting and enhancing IWRM implementation as a necessary step to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

GWP (2021), [Enhancing the Effectiveness of Multi-Stakeholder Processes for Official SDG Indicator 6.5.1 Monitoring and Reporting](#). This publication will support government officials and mandated institutions in designing and implementing more effective and participatory consultation processes for SDG 6 monitoring. Ensuring robust and inclusive consultation processes for SDG indicator 6.5.1 improves the accuracy of monitoring and reporting on the current status and progress of IWRM. Effective multi stakeholder processes can also improve trust, generate consensus, and enhance information sharing and communication between relevant actors, which ultimately enhances IWRM. Based on the experience of the 61 countries that have conducted multi-stakeholder consultations for SDG indicator 6.5.1, this publication makes recommendations on how to enhance their effectiveness through ensuring the following input legitimacy criteria: (1) stakeholder inclusion; (2) procedural fairness; (3) consensual orientation; and (4) transparency. It also provides a comparative analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of three main consultation approaches: in-person workshop, online forms and events, and hybrid consultations.

GWP (2021), [Status of IWRM implementation in Central America & the Dominican Republic – 2020: Challenges, opportunities & commitments towards IWRM in the region](#). This report was prepared in coordination with the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD); the Ministries of Environment as SDG 6.5.1 focal points, and [GWP Central America](#), with technical support from UNEP and the GWP Global Secretariat through the SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme. It provides strategic actions at the region and country level according to the consultation process held for SDG 6.5.1 in 2017 and 2020, as well as interviews with IWRM Focal Points in each country. Prioritised actions can be used as a roadmap to accelerate progress in IWRM implementation in the short run (2023). In the medium run (2026), progress should focus on reinforcing laws, policies, plans and financial mechanisms. The report also provides a consolidated overview of the region that reflects the challenges, opportunities and progress in the implementation of IWRM as of 2020. These results can inform national work plans and regional strategies, allowing accelerated progress towards a better implementation of IWRM by 2030.

GWP (2021), [Advancing towards gender mainstreaming in water resources management](#). This report presents the key findings of the study “Understanding and advancing towards gender mainstreaming in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), in line with SDG indicator 6.5.1” commissioned in 2020. It draws on the findings gained from structured interviews conducted in late 2020 with 23 states around the world following their submissions of the 2020 SDG 6.5.1 survey. Its main objective is to showcase a range of practices implemented in different countries to mainstream gender in WRM, highlighting some of the common gaps, challenges and constraints, and key enabling factors, and providing recommendations on how to replicate and upscale these practices.

GWP (2021), [Gender in the policy and planning framework on climate change and water in Central and South America](#). This GWP Central and South America analysis provides state of play of gender inclusion in the regulatory, policy and planning framework of water management and climate change in eight Latin American countries³. It collects and articulates the perspective of countries, considering the

³ Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Peru.

UNFCCC international regulatory frameworks in terms of gender inclusion in the climate agendas, water resources management and the 2030 Agenda. It provides a country description on gender inclusion in water and climate change political and regulatory frameworks, as well as a score card positioning countries on the gender inclusion ladder. It will serve as a starting point to support the identification of actions for gender inclusion in the design and prioritisation of water management and climate change investments in the region. In this regard, two pilot projects will be designed for one South American and one Central American country, as well as knowledge generation and capacity building activities targeting representatives from climate and water institutions and organisations at different levels.

GWP (2021), [Socioeconomic Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Water Sector of Central America](#). This report seeks to estimate the socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Central America, specifically in sectors related to IWRM, as well as response actions carried out by the countries. After providing an overview of the methodology, the results and a synthesis of result, the report provides recommendations. The findings highlight the need to increase institutional capacities and investment for water resources, considering the improvement of water quality, quantity and continuity), as well as green and grey infrastructure increasing water availability for different uses and to face crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Establishing coordination mechanisms to generate information on the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, exchanging information and lessons learned are also identified as important steps to support decision making at country level.

IWRA (2021), [Policy Briefs](#). IWRA publishes two series of Policy Briefs that aim to provide high quality analysis and practical recommendations for policy makers on important development issues: Water International Policy Briefs are based on thematic special issues of IWRA's journal and published with the support of Routledge Press; IWRA Policy Briefs are published in association with key partners. The April 2021 IWRA green series policy brief was published in collaboration with EU COST Land4Flood Initiative focusing on "Taking Land Seriously in Spatial Flood Risk Management". The other five IWRA green series policy briefs focusing on groundwater issues were published in December 2020, building on the first IWRA Online Conference on "Addressing Groundwater Resilience under Climate Change" (28-30 October 2020) and the five dedicated themes. Key messages for the briefs can be found below.

IWRA Policy Brief on "Taking Land Seriously in Spatial Flood Risk Management":

- Stop financing measures! Focus on the governance of private land for flood risk management.
- Focus on private land! Flood risk management today leans too much on publicly owned land.
- Take time! Getting landowners on board is a long process.

Policy Brief on "Groundwater education and capacity building":

- Education in groundwater is urgently required across the world.
- An interdisciplinary approach leads to better management.
- Deliver innovative education at the grassroots level in developing countries.

Policy Brief on "Groundwater governance, management & policy":

- Groundwater governance is multi-scalar, from households to local, state, national, and global.
- Solutions are varied, contextualized, and situated increasingly within the water-energy-food nexus.
- Self-organization and collective action are crucial for addressing groundwater problems.
- Approaches should be adaptive, context specific and with systems thinking.

Policy Brief on "Contribution of technology to groundwater resilience":

- Groundwater management requires cooperation and information exchange among experts, regulatory authorities, and water users.

- Technology allows for cheaper and more extensive data collection, organisation, sharing, and communication among stakeholders.
- Designers should develop groundwater data management tools that balance technicality with usability.

Policy Brief on “Climate change effects on groundwater resilience – Pollution and remediation”:

- Climate change and growing water demand mandate creative, targeted, and scientifically-informed interventions to protect groundwater.
- Monitoring networks and models are crucial for understanding hydrological and hydrogeochemical processes related to groundwater quality.
- Passive remediation can be effective for point-source contamination and in areas facing water scarcity.
- Managed Aquifer Recharge can support groundwater resilience but requires context-sensitive design and robust regulation of water quality.

Policy Brief on “Groundwater assessment under climate change”:

- Legislative, management and knowledge gaps need to be filled urgently.
- Modelling advances seek to improve climate-induced recharge projections.
- Variations in climate change impacts on groundwater require locally-specific approaches.

Kunekke, Ménard and Groenewegen (2021), [Network Infrastructures: Technology meets Institutions](#), Cambridge University Press. This book explores the interface between technology, organisational arrangements and the institutional environment. Several chapters reference water networks, with Chapter 6 entirely on the institutional background of the water network in Singapore.

Lai & Tortajada (2021). [The Holy See and the Global Environmental Movements](#). *Frontiers in Communications*, Volume 6, 715900. This paper conducts a historical review of the Holy See’s involvement in UN environmental efforts from the mid-20th Century to the present day. It shows that a clear critique of industrial pollution first emerged in the official addresses and letters penned by Pope Paul VI in the early 1960s. It also shows that the Holy See has joined the global community on the pursuit of sustainable development that promotes human dignity, and the right to development and to a healthy environment for all, mainly the poorest populations.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary (2021), [Preparatory study on sewage sludge treatment and recovery in the Danube Region](#). Recognising the development of wastewater treatment in the Danube region and the growing need for sewage sludge treatment and recovery as a result, the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (Priority Area Water Quality (EUSDR PA4)), supported by the Ministry, initiated a preparatory study on sewage sludge treatment and recovery in the Danube Region in 2020. The study was carried out by TRENCON Consulting and Planning Ltd, and its content was subject to consultation with countries of the Danube Region within the framework of the Steering Group of EUSDR PA4. The study provides a comprehensive overview of available information on Danube countries’ sludge management, legislation, best practices, challenges and issues, and recommendations for next steps.

Martínez-Fernández et al. (2021), [The role of the Water Framework Directive in the controversial transition of water policy paradigms in Spain and Portugal](#), *Water Alternatives* 13(3): 556-581. This paper looks at the role the WFD implementation process is playing in the struggle for the transformation of water policy in Spain and Portugal. It examines this through the lens of the New Water Culture (NWC) movement.

Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR) (2021), Report: [Coordination for comprehensive protection and sustainable use of bodies of water?](#) Based on a comprehensive study

of the new water management system in Norway, including a survey of river basin district boards (RBD boards) in 2013, 2015 and 2019-2020, this report presents the results from the latest survey and a comparative analysis with previous ones. As part of the [EcoGaps \(NFR\) research project](#), another survey will be carried out in 2022-2023. Results show that the Ministry of Climate and Environment's follow-up of the national agency group's advice on priority improvement measures from June 2016 has yielded results, including clearer joint guidelines on participation in planning and implementation; governmental clarifications (national ambition levels) concerning conflicts of interests at policy level; a simpler and more effective planning process; clarified roles and responsibilities in the catchments, RBDs and nationally. Among other key findings, one of the main success criteria identified is the continuity of skilled catchment coordinators, considered a critical factor for securing local support. A summary in English can be found [here](#).

van Rensburg & Tortajada (2021), [An assessment of the 2015-2017 drought in Windhoek](#), *Frontiers in Climate*. Namibia is the most arid countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. In Windhoek, the capital city, accelerated population growth and expanding economic activities, coupled with highly variable rainfall and multiyear droughts, have jeopardised water security and put enormous stress on socioeconomic development. This paper offers a review of the 2015–2017 drought and the responses that were implemented during it, with a focus on engagement with the public, industries, and public institutions to achieve water-saving targets. It also considers how the use of the Windhoek Drought Response Plan during the 2015–2017 drought furthered preparedness efforts for future droughts. The assessment ends with a discussion of government responses, challenges faced, and lessons learned—lessons that can hopefully pave the way for more effective responses to future drought situations in the country.

SIWI, UNICEF, WHO and IDB (2021), [The WASHREG Approach: An Overview](#). The WASHREG approach is a multi-stakeholder diagnostic approach used to identify national regulation gaps and challenges in water and sanitation services provision and facilitates the development of actions and practical solutions to bridge them. This overview is intended to help WASH professionals and other stakeholders understand the elements of WASH regulation within a broader enabling environment for effective and sustainable WASH service delivery, and clarify the main areas of WASH regulation and the main tasks of water and sanitation regulatory actors. It introduces a conceptual framework for a phased approach to regulatory reform. The separate “WASHREG Implementation Guide” provides a practical approach to help countries identify and plan for implementing the “best-fit” solution to regulatory reform. The WASHREG package is intended to support strengthening regulation, to help countries improve the performance and sustainability of water and sanitation service delivery, achieving the SDG targets on universal access to services, and realising the human rights to water and sanitation for all.

Tortajada, Koh, Bindal, and Wee Kiat (2021), [Compounding focusing events as windows of opportunity for flood management policy transitions in Singapore](#), *Journal of Hydrology, Volume 599, 126345*. This paper discusses flood events in Singapore over 2010 and 2011 specifically in the Orchard Road area, one of the traditionally most important retail and touristic areas in the city-state, as the compounding focusing events that opened a window of opportunity for national flood management policy transitions. Using qualitative case study analysis and topic modelling, the authors evaluate the multi-pronged plans and measures taken by the government to strengthen Singapore's flood resilience, and the lessons learned from these events. The paper concludes that the Orchard Road floods served as a focusing event that directed and raised the attention to the limitations of flood management in Singapore and reaffirmed the importance of adaptive management in policy making.

The Arctic University of Norway (UiT) (2021), [The degree of trust in, and knowledge of, Norwegian water governance](#), *National Water Journal “Vann”*. People's trust in authorities is a key element to agree on ecologically sound and sustainable choices in water governance. Analysing a sample of 511 northern Norwegian respondents' answers on a survey on trust in water governance, the research finds that poor knowledge of water governance does not mean lower trust in water governance authorities. Rather, Norwegians' history of high trust in political authorities may also be valid when it comes to water

governance, despite the fact that they do not know much about it. Furthermore, younger people, men and relatively more educated people, as well as respondents with higher levels of vertical and horizontal trust, tend to have more trust in the River Basin District (RBD) Competent Authorities. Further information on the research project EnTruGo (WUR) can be found [here](#).

Vaidya et al. (2021), [The role of hydropower in South Asia's energy future](#), *International Journal of Water Resources Development*, 37(3):367-391. With rising energy demand in Asia, the high potential for hydropower development and the need for low-carbon energy development, hydropower would seem to have a significant role in South Asia's energy future. However, the extent of hydropower development will depend on several risk factors, including the cost of alternative energy sources, the environmental sustainability of hydropower and social issues of equitable development. Using a risk analysis framework, it is concluded that the future of hydropower will depend on how well policies and institutions manage the risks, facilitate efficient financial markets, and promote fair and friendly cross-border electricity trade.

The World Bank, GFDDR, GWSP and Deltares (2021), [An EPIC Response: Innovative Governance for Flood and Drought Risk Management](#). The report presents a new governance perspective for the combined management of floods and drought: the EPIC Response Framework (Enabling, Planning, Investing, Controlling, and Responding).

World Health Organisation (WHO) (2021), [Reflecting on TrackFin 2012-2020: Key results, lessons learned, and the way forward](#). To respond to the need to bridge gaps in our understanding and tracking of financial flows in WASH, in 2012, the WHO's GLAAS initiative developed the TrackFin methodology to provide a global standardised methodology for collecting and analysing WASH financial data. This report highlights the key outcomes of TrackFin, results from countries and lessons learned. Eight years of experience with TrackFin have confirmed its strengths and highlighted opportunities for improvements that increase cost-effectiveness, promote sustainability and support expansion of WASH accounts to new countries. Demand from countries for support for the standard production of WASH accounts using the TrackFin methodology is increasing, and governments are recognising the value of WASH accounts for monitoring and supporting SDG 6 progress, and for informing decisions on funding allocations, policy development and planning. WHO plans to further develop TrackFin as a global public good, promoting the institutionalisation of WASH accounts. The capacity of country teams will be enhanced through new materials leading to decreasing reliance on external technical support, thereby increasing country ownership.

WIN (2021), [Water Integrity Global Outlook: Urban Water and Sanitation](#). The Water Integrity Global Outlook (WIGO) 2016 explored corruption in water and sanitation, and proposed routes to integrity. WIGO2021 continues this work, with a focus on urban water and sanitation. Corruption in urban water and sanitation might seem insurmountable but evidence from around the world shows that change is possible, and essential, to realise the human rights to water and sanitation for all. WIGO2021 shows how service providers, regulators, governments, NGOs, and residents can all help bring integrity to water and sanitation in cities and beyond.

WIN (2021), [Annotated Water Integrity Scan \(AWIS\) and Integrity Management Toolbox \(IM Toolbox\)](#). Updated tools for assessing and managing integrity in the water and sanitation sectors. AWIS is an assessment tool for local stakeholders to build a joint understanding of integrity issues and identify priorities for integrity programmes. The IM Toolbox accompanies integrity change in a water or sanitation sector organisation and utilities in particular. It is a means to collaboratively identify integrity risks for the organisation, plan and follow-up on mitigation strategies.

2021-2022 – Forthcoming

Action Contre la Faim (ACF) (forthcoming), Diagnosis of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) service governance in Ituri province, DRC. This diagnosis, conducted with the support of WATERPRENEURS as an independent expert, is part of the broader framework of the "Resilience to food and nutritional security project" in Ituri province, funded by the European Union and deployed by ACF. The final report, to be validated by 15th September, will highlight the complementarities of the 9 IRCWASH blocks and the OECD Principles, used as the primary and secondary methodology respectively for the diagnosis.

The National Water and Sanitation Agency of Brazil (ANA) foresees the publication of the following books and reports:

- Lessons Learned from Dam Accidents and Incidents (2021)
- COVID Sewage Monitoring Project – Detection and Quantification of the new Coronavirus in Sewage Samples in the cities of Belo Horizonte and Contagem (2021)
- Dam Safety Report 2020 – plain language summary (2021)
- Surface Freshwater Quality in Brazil - 2012 edition update (2021)
- Water Resources Plans (2021)
- Sewage Atlas: River Basin Cleanup - English and Spanish editions (2021)
- 20 years of the National Water Resources Policy - a critical and prospective analysis - Final Report (2021)
- Water Quantity in Brazil – partial content update of the Water Resources Handbook no.2, 2007 (2021)
- Water Resources Plan for the Hydrographic Region of Paraguay - English and Spanish editions (2021)
- Efficient Use of Water in Irrigated Agriculture: Subsidies for Program Development (2021)
- Handbook of Consumptive Water Uses in Brazil – English and Spanish editions (2021)
- Groundwater Governance: Challenges and Paths (2021)
- The State River Basin Committees and the Procomitês (National Program for Strengthening River Basin Committees) (2021)
- National Water Resources Plan – PNRH 2022-2040 (2021)
- Climate Change: Water Quantity (2021)
- Booklet on the review of implementation cycle of the Integrated Water Resources Plan of the Paranapanema Water Resources Management Unit – IWRP-Paranapanema (2021)
- Booklet on the review of implementation cycle of the Integrated Water Resources Plan of the Piancó-Piranhas-Açu River Water Resources Management Unit (2021)
- Water Producer Program – outcomes and prospects (2021)
- Brazilian case study - application of the SSP-ODS 6 tool from the United Nations University – Portuguese, English, and Spanish editions (2021)
- Evaluation of the Incentive Program to Water Quality Data Dissemination – QUALIÁGUA. 2014 – 2020 (2021)
- Brazilian Water Resources Report 2021

Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF), UNESCO Asia-Pacific Science Beaubureau and UNESCO-IHP (forthcoming), Assessing SDG progress from water cycle management's stakeholder perspective.

Using a basic template, members of APWF and UNESCO-IHP in Asia and Pacific steering committees are drafting case studies to evaluate progress towards SDG 6 and other water-related SDGs in terms of sound water cycle management. You are invited to share your thoughts, impressions, and ideas on progress towards SDG 6 and other water-related 2030 Agenda goals and targets. Assessments will be collated and published in a regional volume to contribute towards the 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit in Kumamoto in April 2022.

Conference of Ibero-American Water Directors (CODIA) (forthcoming, Q1 2022), [Ibero-America's Progress Report on Transboundary Cooperation on Water - SDG 6.5.2](#). This report, funded by the EU Investment Facility for Latin America and jointly promoted by IADB's Water and Sanitation Division and CODIA, aims to develop country coordination dynamics enhancing the achievement of SDG 6. It will assess the share of transboundary basin area within each country regulated by operational arrangements for water cooperation within the scope of CODIA, based on national information delivered on indicator 6.5.2. This will provide a consistent starting point that can help guide and prioritise future actions by CODIA in this field. The report also assesses reporting of indicator 6.5.2 and suggest recommendations for greater coherence, as well as, possible improvements for future reports where appropriate. Both issues are of special interest considering that follow-up reports will need to be delivered in following years.

Chair 'Water for All' (Suez-Agro-Paris Tech) (forthcoming), Sanitation, Wastewater, and Wastewater Treatment in Egypt: Institutional and Technological Dimensions. This report provides an overview of institutional arrangements for the water sector in Egypt through in-depth case studies on Alexandria and El Mansoura. It addresses the issues raised by polycentric regulation.

Hager, G. et al. (forthcoming), Onto new horizons: learnings from the WeObserve project to strengthen awareness, acceptability and sustainability of Citizen Observatories in Europe⁴, *Journal of Science Communication*. [WeObserve](#) is the first European-wide Citizen Observatory (CO) knowledge platform to share best practices, address challenges and inform practitioners, policy makers and funders of COs. This paper presents key insights from WeObserve activities into leveraging challenges to create interlinked solutions, connecting with international frameworks and groups, advancing the field through communities of practice and practitioner networks, and fostering an enabling environment for COs. It also discuss how the new Horizon Europe funding programme can help to further advance the CO concept, and vice versa, how COs can provide a suitable mechanism to support the ambitions of Horizon Europe. Recent developments around the concept and implementation of COs within the European funding context are summarised, highlighting cross-cutting impacts and changes from micro- to macro-level from four CO projects, as well as addressing CO challenges and opportunities.

INBO (forthcoming), Handbook on water law enforcement. Water law enforcement is an essential component of water governance. This publication will present tools and methodologies to establish and carry out water law enforcement in the form of a handbook presenting recommendations and case studies. It will provide examples of global experiences to implement water control, and present the main administrative and legal processes of water law enforcement and its organisation at country and basin level. It will be available for the 9th World Water Forum in March 2022 in English, French and Spanish.

INBO (forthcoming), Handbook on "basin-connected cities". This publication provides an overview of tools and methodologies for strengthening dialogue between cities and organisations involved in managing water resources at basin level, including examples of experience from around the world. It will be available for the 9th World Water Forum in March 2022 in English.

SIWI & Arup (forthcoming), [City Water Resilience Framework: A governance-based planning tool to enhance urban water resilience](#), *Sustainable Cities and Society journal*. This paper presents a governance-based water resilience planning tool, the City Water Resilience Framework (CWRf),

⁴ Publication submitted by IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, the Netherlands.

designed to enable cities to collectively assess and plan for strengthening urban water resilience. Based on the analysis of data collected for this research, different resilience factors of infrastructure, human, societal and institutional factors were identified. These factors informed the development of different components of CWRF, which includes a set of resilience goals and sub-goals, qualitative indicators that help assess a city's water resilience capacity in a holistic manner to build resilience across four dimensions: infrastructure and ecosystems, health and wellbeing, planning and finance, and leadership and strategy. Evidence from CWRF application in Cape Town and Greater Miami and the Beaches (GM&B) is presented. The CWRF assessment informed actions to enhance Cape Town's and GM&B's water planning and strategies. The tool was co-created through research, fieldwork and a peer-review process with eight partner cities and consultation with global experts, making it globally applicable.

UNDP-SIWI Water Governance Facility and UNICEF [possibly UN-Water] (forthcoming), Bridging the Gap: How to Overcome Fragmentation between Water Resources Management and Water Services Provision [Final Title TBC]. This report aims to catalyse accelerated joint WRM-WASH action to tackle the water crisis. Its purpose is to increase understanding of and attention to WRM-WASH linkages and potential concrete opportunities to strengthen cooperation among decision makers and practitioners at country level. It does so by undertaking an in-depth analysis of "joint WRM-WASH outcomes" and related "WRM-WASH co-operation areas", providing a practical "WRM-WASH cooperation framework" and a related menu of opportunities for strengthened cooperation, all illustrated with case studies. The WRM-WASH cooperation framework presented in the report is intended to be further developed for use by countries as a tool for assessing the status of cooperation in the country with a view to planning for taking concrete steps to strengthen cooperation.

[Water Special Issue on 'Social learning for sustainable water resource management' \(forthcoming\), Guest Editor: Kevin Collins.](#) Social learning for sustainable water resource management has been part of literature and practice for over 15 years, and much longer in other guises and as part of other discourses. This Special Issue is an opportunity for authors to offer new, critical insights into how social learning approaches to sustainable water resource management have developed and evolved in practice in a variety of settings, contexts and scales. It also provides a key opportunity to establish the contribution social learning approaches can make to transforming the water resource management practices needed for this critical decade. The final call for papers is 30th September 2021.

WHO (forthcoming), [UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water \(GLAAS\) 2022 report.](#) The Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) is a UN-Water initiative implemented by WHO. The objective of GLAAS is to provide policy- and decision-makers at all levels with a reliable, easily accessible and comprehensive analysis of WASH systems to make informed decisions for sanitation, drinking-water and hygiene. GLAAS collects data through country and external support agency (ESA) surveys and publishes reports summarizing WASH systems data every two to three years. Additionally, GLAAS, in collaboration with OECD and UNDP, monitors the means of implementation targets for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6.

Past Events on Water Governance

January-October 2021

July-December 2020: AfriAlliance webinar series. As a member of AfriAlliance, IHE Delft co-organised a series of webinars aiming to tackle key challenges for African stakeholders relating to climate change and water, as well as the impact of social innovation in confronting these issues.

- Webinar #0: Fostering the sustainability of the AfriAlliance Action Groups, 28 July 2020.
- [Webinar #1](#): Strengthening African stakeholders to face climate change impacts: The AfriAlliance approach, 7 October 2020
- [Webinar #2](#): Renforcer les acteurs africains face aux impacts du changement climatique: l'approche AfriAlliance, 7 October 2020
- [Webinar #3](#): How to create sustainable Communities of Practice in Africa on Water and Climate activities, 21 October 2020
- [Webinar #4](#): The AfriAlliance Triple Sensor Approach, 26 November 2020
- [Webinar #5](#): L'approche Triple Sensor, 26 November 2020
- [Webinar #6](#): The Geodata Portal and other AfriAlliance Database, 1 December 2020
- [Webinar #7](#): Le Portail Geodonnées et autres bases de données d'AfriAlliance, 3 December 2020
- [Webinar #8](#): How to design your data-driven WASH programme for impact, 9 December 2020
- [Webinar #9](#): The AfriAlliance Needs & Solutions Hub, 16 December 2020
- AfriAllianceInnovation Bridge Events:
 - [5th AfriAlliance Innovation Bridge Event](#), October 2020 (online)
 - [6th AfriAlliance Innovation Bridge Event](#), December 2020 (online)

10th November 2020 and 28th January 2021: Webinar series on City-Basin Dialogue, INBO. Ahead of the publication of the INBO and IWA Handbook on City-Basin Dialogue, INBO organised two webinars: i) [on city-basin dialogue](#) in partnership with the International Water Association (IWA) in the framework of Europe-INBO 2020, gathering 140 participants from 47 countries; ii) on [French and Mexican experiences](#) of city-basin dialogue for adaptation to climate change, in partnership with the National Water Commission of Mexico (CONAGUA), gathering 155 participants from 39 countries.

December 2020: [Pan Asia Learning Exchange Workshop on Monitoring the implementation of IWRM in Pan Asia region](#), Global Water Partnership (GWP) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). This online workshop was designed to evaluate and share experience between countries on the implementation of SDG 6.5.1 IWRM survey in 2020 and to discuss the challenges and opportunities towards the achievement of the water-related SDGs in the region. Its focus was to provide opportunities for Pan Asian countries to exchange lessons learned in terms of survey process and substance in IWRM, which had been carried out in 2020, to discuss the way forward and establish collaboration at Asia Pacific level towards the achievement of SDG 6.5.1 on IWRM.

21st January 2021: [6th APWF Webinar, Water Governance in Asia-Pacific: lessons learnt from the AWDO 2020](#). Through the Asian Water Development Outlook (AWDO) 2020, the ADB and the OECD provide an overview of water governance conditions to water security. The webinar invited Dr. Maria Salvetti, Water Policy Analyst, OECD, and Dr. Thomas Panella, ADB, and discussed the key governance dimensions affecting the water sector in the region, obstacles, and ways forward. A session summary can be found [here](#).

March 2021: **Training session on Institutional Dynamics in the Water Sector, Chair Water for All (Suez-AgroParisTech)**. One-week training session for 50 managers from 30 different countries.

22nd March 2021: [Scotland's World Water Day Event](#), **Hydro Nation International Centre**. Under the World Water Day 2021 theme "Valuing Water", the Scottish Government funded an event hosting leading experts in Scottish water policy, industry and research to hear their perspectives on what it means for a nation to truly value water.

Spring 2021-1st July 2021: **BMU "Water Dialogues for Results – Accelerating cross-sectoral SDG 6 implementation"** (Regional and thematic dialogues in spring 2021; High-Level Conference on 1 July 2021). The Dialogues are an initiative of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety on behalf of the German government to overcome silo thinking and accelerate cross-sectoral implementation of water-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. The Dialogues culminated in a High-Level Conference on 1st July 2021 where ministerial representatives of UN Member States and representatives of international organisations and Major Groups discussed water needs and priorities and showcased examples of how policy can be translated into action. This resulted in comprehensive recommendations and policy messages based on the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework. The policy messages, officially presented at the High-Level Conference on SDG 6 (1st July 2021) in Bonn, will stand as official inputs into the Midterm Review of the UN Water Decade in 2023.

6th April 2021: [First Meeting of the Israeli International E-Forum for Water Regulators](#), **Israeli Water Authority**. The E-Water Forum for Regulators aims to foster cooperation among water regulators from around the world, and to share best practices with regulators facing common challenges in managing sustainable water sectors in changing environments. These challenges call for collaborative thinking and raise the need for greater knowledge of what is happening all over the globe. Participants from over 40 countries took part in this online meeting.

25th-27th May 2021: **US-Israel Collaboration on Water Reuse: [Israel Water Reuse Virtual Tour](#)**, **Israeli Water Authority**. This event was hosted by the Economic & Trade Mission at the Embassy of Israel, the Israeli Ministry of Environmental Protection, and the US Environmental Protection Agency. This event fulfilled Action 11.1 of the National Water Reuse Action Plan, "Facilitate U.S.-Israel Collaboration on Water Reuse" and was carried out in support of the EPA/Israeli Ministry of Environmental Protection Memorandum of Understanding.

7th June 2021: **EU Green Week on Clean & Circular Water in Cities and Regions**. **Eurocities** took part in order to contribute to the Zero Pollution Action Plan for water and the revision of the Urban Waste Water Treatment directive. Eurocities highlighted that new EU rules on water reuse and initiatives kicked off recently to align urban waste water legislation with the ambition of the European Green Deal, together with the upcoming Zero Pollution Action Plan, will provide excellent conditions for instilling more sustainability and circularity into water management in the near future. Municipalities and regions play a decisive role in counteracting most worrying water trends: they are engaged in increasing the sustainability and circularity of water management and to better protect water, as well as citizens' health, from the hazards human activity may engender.

7th-9th June 2021: [IWRA's 2021 Online Conference](#). Under the overarching theme of "One Water, One Health: Water, Food & Public Health in a Changing World", IWRA's 2021 conference was organised with the support of the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and the UNESCO Intergovernmental

Hydrological Programme (IHP). The American University of Beirut, the China Water Resources Association and Texas A&M also contributed. The conference promoted the sharing of latest scientific and policy knowledge on the links between Water, Food, and Public Health for the sustainable governance, use, and management of these resources globally. FAO's support enabled open access to all conference-related materials and free access to over 850 registered attendees, with the participation of experts from Africa, low-income countries, women and youth. 115 countries were represented and over 100 speakers, panelists and poster authors took part in the discussion.

10th June 2021: [Workshop on Sewage Sludge Management in the Danube Region for a Greener EU](#).

This stakeholder workshop, organised as an EU Green Week Partner Event, was organised by the EUSDR Priority Area Water Quality, the International Commission of the Protection of the Danube River, the Danube Water Programme and the International Sava River Basin Commission with the assistance of the Danube Strategy Point. Its main objective was to initiate meaningful discussions on the issues and potential of sewage sludge management in the Danube Region. The state-of-play, technology and policy aspects, future potentials, including, among others, the issues of treatment, pollution control, agricultural application, energy source were addressed with a view to promoting sustainability and the establishment of the circular economy. National water agency representatives presented the legal environment and regulatory issues in their respective countries, while technology companies introduced successful projects and results ranging from biomethane production to nutrient recovery. Key messages to policy makers were identified with the active participation of attendees.

15th June 2021: [Why track WASH expenditures through WASH accounts?](#), Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) webinar co-convened with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The development of WASH accounts is increasingly being recognised as good practice and supports elements of SWA's framework such as building sustainable financing strategies and transparency and accountability, which aid in resource mobilisation. This webinar relayed the experiences of early-adopting countries, together with the perspective of donors on the value of, and challenges inherent in, developing, maintaining and using WASH accounts to influence policy and decision-making. The webinar also introduced soon-to-be-released online tools and resources that will make implementing WASH accounts easier than ever before. Speakers included the Minister of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene of Madagascar, the Minister of Water Resources of Nigeria, and as well as representatives from the International Rescue Committee (IRC), SWA and WHO.

July-October 2021: [IWRA 2021 Master Classes on Water Cooperation & Diplomacy](#). This series of Master Classes seeks to help develop skills relevant to water diplomacy. Experts from around the world will participate and classes will be closely linked to each expert's style and methodology, as well as to the distinct characteristics of each subject matter. This new online series of master classes by the IWRA and the Universities Partnership for Water Cooperation and Diplomacy (UPWCD) constitutes a series of ten weekly classes ([see indicative programme here](#)), divided into: i) 60-minute, freely accessible public lectures, and ii) 90-minute skill-building workshops reserved for IWRA Gold and Silver members and for UPWCD students and members. Register by [clicking here](#).

26th July-18th September 2021: E-learning course on Water Governance in Latin America and the Caribbean, Conference of Ibero-American Water Directors (CODIA). The e-learning course is part of CODIA's Ibero-American Water Training Program, which aims to share best practices and discuss potential lines of collaboration within the Ibero-American region. The objective of the course is to provide participants with up-to-date knowledge on the concept, dimensions and strategies on the topic, placing emphasis on the contribution and participation of stakeholders in enforcing broadly agreed national water governance policies.

August 2021: [Climate resilience to IWRM online course](#), Cap-Net (UNDP). This course addressed the challenges of implementing sustainable water resource management and boosting climate resilience by demonstrating how the two are intrinsically linked and explaining that addressing them in an integrated

manner will increase the chances of success for both. It pays particular attention to the development and implementation of integrated approaches, building on the co-benefits of tackling water management and climate action simultaneously and bridging together these two domains.

23rd-27th August 2021: [Stockholm World Water Week: Water Integrity Sessions](#) organised by the **Water Integrity Network (WIN) and partners. Series of integrity sessions focusing on climate adaptation and urban water service provision with case studies from WIN partners around the globe.**

- Monday 23.08.2021, 17:00 -18:00 CET: Tackling Corruption and Integrity Failures in Water Sector Climate Adaptation
- Wednesday 25.08.2021, 8:00 – 9:00 CET: Asia Focus: accelerating inclusive water governance to advance sustainable development
- Wednesday 25.08.2021, 14:00 – 15:00 CET: Launch: Water Integrity Global Outlook 2021: urban water and sanitation
- Thursday 26.08.2021, 18:00 – 19:00 CET: Integrity and water service provision: tools and experiences for water utilities
- Friday 27.08.2021, 11:00 – 12:00 CET: Integrity for inclusive urban sanitation

24th August 2021: [A governance framework to strengthen urban WASH Performance Assessment System](#), SIWI, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and CEPT University, Stockholm Water Week.

This session presented a framework with a set of water and sanitation governance indicators that aims to strengthen an existing tool monitoring WASH performances of Urban Local Bodies in over 900 Indian cities (96.5 million population) and will inform stakeholders to make better decisions, further contributing to achieve the Government of India's Jal Jeevan Mission (URBAN) objectives of ensuring universal coverage of water supply and improved sanitation in cities. The subsequent panel discussion hosted a diverse group of speakers, ranging from water regulators, water service providers, government representatives from India and other countries, practitioners and development bank representatives. The event concluded with an interactive Q&A session. The discussion highlighted some of the best practices and views on how urban WASH service performances could be improved to ensure that services are in place, in an era where cities are faced with climate hazards and infectious disease outbreaks like COVID-19.

25th August 2021: [Launch: Water Integrity Global Outlook 2021: Urban Water and Sanitation](#), Water Integrity Network (WIN), Stockholm International Water Week. Organised with ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability-Africa and the Stockholm International Water Institute, the session aimed to learn about dealing with corruption in urban water and sanitation, drawing on case studies and recommendations from cities around the world.

25th August 2021: [Asia Focus: Accelerating inclusive water governance to advance sustainable development](#), Stockholm International Water Week. Co-convened by APWF, OECD, Global Water Partnership Organization, ADB, Water Integrity Network, IUCN Asia, JICA, ICHARM, this session invited key regional actors to share innovative approaches in examining and improving water governance to boost sustainable and inclusive development and kick-start commitments towards concrete collaborative action. The session started by providing an overview of the status of water governance in the Asia-Pacific and examining regional water governance challenges. It then proposed the necessary water governance framework to promote sustainable and inclusive development based on the analytical outcomes of the OECD report on [Water Governance in Asia-Pacific](#). A panel discussion then shared key lessons and innovative approaches to water governance in Asia-Pacific. The OECD provided a presentation on water governance for Blue Cities. Finally, GWP Southeast Asia presented "Breaking down the silos: a multi-stakeholder open program for enhanced water security", and encouraged all water governance experts and practitioners to participate in the open program and conduct joint actions and solutions.

27th August 2021: [Priority-setting, commitments and accountability: keys to better water governance?](#), SIWI et al⁵, Stockholm International Water Week. This session explored how national priority-setting processes (e.g., WASH Bottleneck Analysis Tool, Mutual Accountability Mechanism) can shape government commitments and accountability. After presenting the concepts and tools, interactive sessions discussed country experiences and merit of tools in priority-setting, commitments and accountability as interlocking keys to better water governance. The aim of this session was to explore how national multi-stakeholder partnerships, platforms and tools can contribute to improved water governance. Using the concepts of priority-setting, commitments and accountability, the session explored to what extent tools, such as the WASH Bottleneck Analysis Tool, the SWA Mutual Accountability Mechanism, and sector progress reviews, can contribute to an improved enabling environment for WASH service delivery, using examples from countries which have used one or more of these tools.

13th September-5th November 2021: E-learning course on [Integrated Water Resources Management - IWRM](#), Conference of Ibero-American Water Directors (CODIA). The e-learning course is part of the CODIA's Ibero-American Water Training Program, which aims to share best practices and discuss potential lines of collaboration within the Ibero-American region. The course presents the evolution of the concept of IWRM at the basin level, including urban and transboundary water management, as well as the different organisational models, their roles and functions. Likewise, guidelines are provided for the elaboration of a management plan by basin and modelling tools are developed for decision-making.

16th September 2021: Global Water Partnership (GWP), Learning Exchange: Gender mainstreaming in IWRM: Advancing towards gender transformative water resources management. Based on the observations that gender-related aspects of SDG 6.5.1⁶ were among the least advanced in the 2017 baseline survey, that progress had been made between the 2017 and 2020 survey, but that much more needed to be done, the SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme carried out a study to understand bottlenecks on this topic, showcase best practices, highlight common gaps, challenges and constraints, and key enabling factors, and recommend how to strengthen current practices. The findings will be published in a report on "[Advancing towards gender mainstreaming in water resources management](#)". This workshop will serve as a platform to better understand the needs and expectations of relevant stakeholders, which will in turn inform the exact definition and scope of potential follow-up activities. It primarily targets national teams responsible for IWRM and for gender issues, and more broadly anyone working towards SDGs 5 and 6.

⁵ IRC, Sanitation and Water for All, Stockholm Environment Institute, United Nations Children's Fund, University of Technology Sydney.

⁶ The 2020 SDG 6.5.1 survey contained a gender-related question on the inclusion of gender in laws/plans or similar in water resource management (WRM) (Question 2.2d).

Future Events on Water Governance

October 2021-December 2022

Water Integrity Global Outlook – what integrity in urban water and sanitation means for you (local launch and Q&A). The Water Integrity Global Outlook (WIGO) will be presented at a series of local events at different levels to share case studies and new evidence on corruption in the urban water and sanitation sectors. The focus of each event will be practical tools and strategies to build integrity in the sector. Please contact info@win-s.org for inquiries and visit the [WIGO2021 page](#).

May 2021-February 2022, Systems Thinking in Practice, STiP@50. The Open University (OU) celebrates 50 years of Systems education (systems thinking in practice) in 2021. The OU is perhaps the largest and most experienced provider of STiP education and scholarship in the world, with a substantial archive accessible to the public. A series of activities to celebrate this achievement have begun under the auspices of the [ASTiP \(Applied Systems Thinking in Practice\) group](#). This includes a series of recorded webinars and talks with STiP leaders and practitioners on using systems concepts and approaches in a variety of contexts, including water governance in South Africa. All recordings are available [here](#).

27th-29th September 2021: Conference of Ibero-American Water Directors (CODIA), High Level Regional Workshop on [Harmonization of the legal framework for the management of water resources](#). This workshop is part of CODIA's Ibero-American Water Training Program, which aims to share best practices and discuss potential lines of collaboration within the Ibero-American region. The workshop addresses the need to ensure compatibility across national water resources legal frameworks between countries sharing transboundary water basins. Guidelines to jointly develop such legislation and relevant monitoring metrics will be discussed.

November 2021: Gender and IWRM online course, Global Water Partnership (GWP). The online course provides an introduction to Gender and Integrated Water Resource Management, WHY gender is a crucial part of IWRM, WHY and HOW to mainstream gender in water management work. It explains the adverse impacts of climate change on water resources, especially on women and vulnerable groups, offering various management solutions and explaining WHY and HOW to reap the benefits of inclusive adaptation responses. It highlights the importance of meaningful participation of all stakeholders, including those from the most vulnerable parts of society and how careful planning can help avoid exclusion and ensure improved results of any IWRM decision-making processes. Guidelines and tools on how to ensure meaningful participation, using examples from IWRM and broader development context are provided. Finally, the course highlights the importance of inclusive monitoring in IWRM; monitoring of gender-disaggregated outcomes, and provides relevant tools, and informed decisions to choose one or the other.

November 2021: Scotland's Hydro Nation Virtual Water Pavilion, COP26, Glasgow. Scotland's Water Pavillion will seek to generate networking and knowledge exchange, and to highlight good practice in Scotland's water sector contributing to tackling climate change impacts.

29th November-3rd December 2021: [XVII World Water Congress](#), International Water Resources Association (IWRA) and Korean co-organisers (Daegu Metropolitan City, Korea Water Resources Association, K-Water and Ministry of Environment of Korea). IWRA's XVII World Water Congress &

Korea International Water Week 2021 will be held concurrently in Daegu, Korea. This international water congress aims to advance water resources knowledge, policy and management around the world. The main theme of this Congress will be “Foundations for Global Water Security and Resilience: Knowledge, Technology, and Policy”. Additional sub-themes include:

- Building resilient systems for climate change, growing populations, and epidemics
- Maximising social, cultural, and economic benefits
- Adopting smart technologies, policies, and processes
- Securing healthy waters, catchments, and ecosystems
- Implementing pathways for development and cooperation

Moreover, the congress will provide a meeting place to share experiences, promote discussion, and to present new knowledge, research results and developments in the field of water sciences around the world.

8th-10th December 2021: [Europe-INBO 2021](#). The 19th “Europe-INBO” International Conference is organised at the invitation of the Energy and Water Agency (EWA) of Malta. Organisations, administrations and other stakeholders interested in IWRM at basin level are invited to participate in the event and share their experiences on the implementation of European water directives. The conference includes one workshop and four thematic sessions: i) Engaging basin actors in the evaluation and evolution of the Water Directives; ii) Economic tools for basin management: integrating environment and biodiversity in cost-recovery; iii) Sustainable quantitative management of water resources, and iv) Special panel “International & transboundary cooperation for basin management”. All sessions will have simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Spanish. One key outcome of the conference will be the provision of recommendations in the form of a Declaration.

23rd-24th April 2022: 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit (APWS), Kumamoto City, Japan. Co-organised by the Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF) and Kumamoto City, Japan, under the theme "Water for Sustainable Development - Best Practices and the Next Generation", the 4th APWS aims to invite Heads of State and Government from 49 countries in Asia and the Pacific. Its objective is to discuss how to accelerate actions that contribute to the achievement of water-related SDGs in the recovery from COVID-19, chart a pathway to resilient, inclusive, sustainable, and quality growth, and support policy decisions by Heads of State and Government in Asia and the Pacific. It also aims to encourage further collaboration, accelerate the dissemination of the solutions, and strengthen the partnership by sharing good practices and forward-looking solutions to various challenges. As one of the outputs of the APWF, the organisers are working towards a publication of case studies from the region.