

NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

JULY–NOVEMBER 2017

Report to the 63rd Board of Governors Meeting



Left: 2nd International Conference on Water and Climate, Marseille, 3–4 October; Right: 2nd Meeting of the Roundtable on Financing Water, Tel Aviv, 13 September

COUNCIL EVENTS HIGHLIGHT IMPORTANCE OF CLIMATE AND FINANCING

The World Water Council recently co-organized two successful events to foster discussions on water and climate change and financing water infrastructure.

Fostering dialogue on the Road to CoP23

Endorsed by the Fijian CoP23 Presidency and chaired by World Water Council Honorary President Loïc Fauchon in the presence of Vice-President Dogan Altinbilek, the 2nd International Conference on Water and Climate, 3–4 October in Marseille, mobilized more than 100 political and institutional stakeholders. Charafat Afailal, Secretary of State for Water and Environment, Morocco, Istiaque Ahmad, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Bangladesh and Sindra Sharma-Khushal of the UNFCCC CoP23 Fijian Presidency Team participated.

In highlighting the importance of water as a central element in overall human development and in addressing climate change, the conference successfully strengthened the dialogue between the water and climate communities. The outcomes of the event, which focused on reducing hunger, urban resilience and Water for Africa, will contribute to discussions at CoP23 in Bonn, in November.

Enabling fresh approaches to financing water

The World Water Council, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and Government of The Netherlands organized the 2nd meeting of the Roundtable on Financing Water on 13 September. Hosted by the Government of Israel in Tel Aviv, the meeting drew together 50 invited participants to address the challenge of boosting investment in water.

“Governments must be aware of the importance of adequate water infrastructure to contain the devastating effects climate change has on water resources.”

Benedito Braga, President, World Water Council





World Water Week, Stockholm. *Clockwise from top left:* President Benedito Braga and Cities Task Force Chair Hachmi Kennou, ‘Increasing financial flows for sanitation’ event, 28 August; José Carrera, Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), at the seminar on financing water infrastructure; Vice-President Dogan Altinbilek, #ClimatelsWater event, 29 August

SUCCESSFUL ENGAGEMENT AT WORLD WATER WEEK IN STOCKHOLM

At World Water Week in Stockholm, numerous World Water Council activities shared knowledge and brought participants up to date with its advances on crucial issues, including its signature initiatives. A dedicated event, and a booth jointly organized by the Forum and the Council, stimulated interest in the upcoming 8th Forum.

The Council participated in the K-water – Korea Water Resources Corporation – event ‘Water and green growth: just a concept or reality’ on 27 August. The discussion reflected on the outcomes of the Water and Green Growth programme that was concluded during the 7th World Water Forum.

On 28 August, the World Water Council organized ‘Increasing financial flows for sanitation’, an informal lunch session. The many participants included the Senegalese Minister of Water and Sanitation, Mansour Faye.

Also on 28 August, the World Water Council, OECD and the Government of The Netherlands co-convened ‘Financing water infrastructure for sustainable growth’. The session shared perspectives on attracting investors, the risk profiles of several types of investors and the role of governments in allocating investment risks and returns.

‘Water to mitigate climate change: beyond the obvious’, organized by #ClimatelsWater on 29 August aimed to clarify the links between water, energy and mitigation. The event highlighted water as a central element in reaching ambitious international targets on climate.

On 31 August, the Council’s Task Force on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) co-convened ‘Governance of water and waste: a key to sustainable development?’, with the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), International Water Association, United Nations Development Programme-SIWI Water Governance Facility and the Water Integrity Network. President Braga emphasized the key role that revitalizing IWRM will play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.



“The Roundtable on Financing Water is the best show in town on this topic.” Csaba Kőrösi, Sherpa for Hungary to the High Level Panel on Water, the ‘Roundtable on Financing Water’ event, World Water Week, Stockholm, 28 August

MOBILIZING COLLECTIVE ACTION AT KOREA INTERNATIONAL WATER WEEK

Following up on commitments made at World Water Forums, especially the 7th edition, the World Water Council co-convened the Implementation Roadmaps Annual Review Meeting and the World Water Partnership Meeting during Korea International Water Week in September. The meetings tracked the implementation of solutions. Additionally, the World Water Council took an active part in the Water Leaders Roundtable and the 10th High-level Panel on Water and Disasters.

The five processes of the 8th World Water Forum – Thematic, Regional, Political, Sustainability Focus Group and Citizen’s Forum – are on track. Session coordinators have been selected and in August, the Thematic Commission launched a call for contributions to enhance the content of the Forum.

SPOTLIGHT ON 8TH WORLD WATER FORUM IN STOCKHOLM



8th World Water Forum
Announcement

On 30 August at Stockholm World Water Week the Chairs and Co-Chairs of the Forum Commissions showcased the 8th Forum at a presentation, ‘Join us on the road to Brasilia 2018’. They shared the latest information on each of the preparatory processes and explained how stakeholders could become involved. Discussions contributed to enriching the Forum programme.

The Secretariat took the opportunity offered by Stockholm World Water Week to distribute the Forum announcement, seek sponsorships and launch a call for exhibitors. The booth featuring the 8th Forum at World Water Week proved an excellent platform for stimulating broad interest in participating.

CITY NETWORKS PARTNER FOR WATER

The Brazilian Confederation of Municipalities (CNM), the World Water Council, Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) have signed a partnership agreement for the organization of the 5th International Conference of Local and Regional Authorities which will be held during the Forum week.

FRUITFUL MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

At its sixth meeting during World Water Week in Stockholm, the International Steering Committee for the 8th World Water Forum examined each of the Forum’s processes in detail to accelerate preparations. The Committee meets again in Marseille on 2 November.



Co-Chair of the 8th World Water Forum, Paulo Salles, at the 8th Forum showcase event, World Water Week, Stockholm, 30 August

NEWS IN SHORT

Task Forces are continuing to make progress in implementing the triennium strategy.

Financing water infrastructure

The report on phase one of the study to identify barriers to investment in infrastructure is being finalized.

Cities: At the heart of growth

Following the successful seminar during Stockholm World Water Week, significant progress is being made on the sanitation report. Six of the eight studies have been finalized.

Involving key political actors

To engage policy makers the Council launched a new project, ‘Human rights to water and to sanitation: overcoming challenges to implementation’. Associated with this, the Council attended a consultation with civil society convened in Geneva on 11 September by Léo Heller, the UN Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation.

Water and climate change

The Council took part in the 2nd Global Forum of Alliances and Coalitions, 13–14 September, organized by the UNFCCC Global Climate Action team in conjunction with the Agadir Climate Chance Summit.

Integrating World Water Forums

Champions of the Implementation Roadmaps shared their accomplishments in a 4th Progress Report.

Integrated water resources management

Messages to trigger the revitalization of integrated water resources management tailored to specific stakeholder groups will be presented at the 8th Forum.

Member-led initiatives

The initiative led by the Food and Agriculture Organization promoting a comprehensive approach to water accounting for agriculture is under way.

COUNCIL PARTNERS WITH PUBLIC RELATIONS AGENCY FOR GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS

Following a call for proposals from three agencies and rigorous evaluation, the World Water Council has partnered with Marco de Comunicación (MdC). This global agency will support the Council in its ongoing international communications with a particular focus on media, CoP23 and the upcoming 8th World Water Forum. MdC has supported World Water Council projects since CoP22 with encouraging results, especially from World Water Day 2017.

COUNCIL UNVEILS NEW WEBSITE

To maximize the impact of its messages, the World Water Council has recently launched its newly refurbished website. Redesigned to improve user friendliness and enhance its content, the new platform is compatible with multiple technologies and devices. New functionalities include facilitated sharing of content on social media, an enhanced library search engine and a dedicated media space.

LAUNCH OF KING HASSAN II GREAT WORLD WATER PRIZE

Jointly established by the Kingdom of Morocco and the World Water Council, the Great World Water Prize, launched in July, aims to create global awareness of water issues and to promote concrete action. Applications close 31 December.

MEMBERS UPDATE

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

351

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

11%	Africa	22%	Europe
19%	Americas	8%	International
39%	Asia	1%	Oceania

COLLEGE DISTRIBUTION

4%	Intergovernmental institutions
22%	Governments and government authorities
28%	Enterprises and facilities
17%	Civil society organizations and water user associations
29%	Professional associations and academic institutions

* Membership is determined as of 11 October 2017.



Espace Gaymard
2-4 Place d'Arvieux
13002 Marseille
France

Phone: +33 (0)4 91 99 41 00
Fax: +33 (0)4 91 99 41 01
www.worldwatercouncil.org
@watercouncil.org



www.worldwatercouncil.org

LATEST PUBLICATIONS



Increasing Financial Flows for Sanitation programme leaflet



King Hassan II Great World Water Prize brochure



8th Forum International Conference of Local and Regional Authorities



Implementation Roadmaps Report October 2017