

WORLD
WATER
COUNCIL



NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 2015 - MARCH 2016



MOBILIZE ACTION

7TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MARKS BEGINNING OF A NEW TRIENNium

The 7th **General Assembly** took place in Marseille, France, on 13-14 November 2015. Over 250 members, from 40 countries, gathered to discuss the way forward by adopting the **triennial strategy** of the World Water Council.

The 7th General Assembly also elected the Board of Governors which appointed **Benedito Braga** as **President** for a new mandate to lead the Council in the implementation of the 2016-2018 Strategy.

President Braga said "I am honored that the Board of Governors has given me again the mission to place water at the highest political level globally. We are a winning team and this mission can only be attained if we work together as a family, the family of water."

› [Download the Council's 2016-2018 Strategy](#)

Over 250 World Water Council members from 40 countries gathered at the 7th General Assembly in Marseille, France, on 12-14 November 2015 © WWC

MILESTONES

November 2015

- WWC General Assembly elects its President and adopts the 2016-18 strategy

December 2015

- WWC and a dozen members of the water community launch the #ClimateisWater initiative - coordinated by the WWC
- Council participates in official CoP21 events to raise the profile of water in the climate agenda

January 2016

- WEF's Global Risk Report 2016 lists water as the number one global risk of highest concern in the next ten years
- Heads of State Panel on Water is announced by UN and World Bank

Nations Unies

Conférence sur les Changements Climatiques 2015

COP21/CMP11

Paris, France



CoP21 Press event on water's position in the climate debate ©UNFCCC



STRENGTHENING THE POSITION OF WATER IN THE CLIMATE DEBATE

At the **21st Conference of the Parties** on climate change (COP21), the World Water Council, together with over a dozen members of the international water community, came together through the **#ClimatelsWater** initiative, to elevate recognition for water and climate at the political level.

Water issues were explored during “Resilience Day”, which was rounded off with a **press event** that focused on the need to place water issues at the heart of climate discussions. The event brought together Ségolène Royal, Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy of France, Charafat Afaïlal, Minister Delegate in Charge of Water of the Minister of Energy, Mining, Water and Environment of Morocco, and Anna Lindstedt, Climate Ambassador of Sweden, and was chaired by Benedito Braga, President of the World Water Council.

World Water Council will continue to build on the momentum of the **#ClimatelsWater** initiative, with a particular emphasis on strengthening the position of water in **COP22** in Marrakech. A preparatory meeting is planned mid-year with the Governments of France and Morocco.

› [Watch the Press conference at CoP21](#) › [Download the #ClimatelsWater initiative leaflet](#)

IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAPS AND ACTION MONITORING SYSTEM

The **Implementation Roadmaps**, a key outcome of the 7th World Water Forum, aim to crystallise extensive, behind-the-scenes efforts by the global water community into actions to move forward on the global water agenda.

Flexible and dynamic, the roadmaps have three simple objectives: to ensure continuity between Forum editions, to catalyse action and to contribute to other global processes, such as the SDGs.

Supported by the World Water Council, together with the Government of the Republic of Korea, host of the 7th Forum, 67 organizations coordinated by 19 champions have initiated reporting actions through the online **Action Monitoring System** platform. A brochure was issued on 22 March 2016 on the occasion of World Water Day and progress reports are to be released on a biannual basis.

“It is through water that we can measure both the severity and the acceleration of global warming, however we can also see that, through water, solutions can be found.”

Ségolène Royal, Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy of France



HEADS OF STATE PANEL ON WATER

During the World Economic Forum (WEF) 2016 Annual Meeting the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the World Bank announced the creation of a Heads of State panel on Water to mobilize high level political momentum for water.

Other organizations such as WEF, SIWI and the World Water Council are formally associated with the initiative. "Solutions will only be possible if the political class is engaged and this is where a High Level Panel on Water can make a real difference," said Benedito Braga, President of the World Water Council, who welcomed the announcement.

ENGAGE IN DEBATE

COP21 SUMMIT, PARIS

President Braga participated in a **High level Panel on Water and Climate Change** organized by the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), linking the potential difficulties posed by climate change to delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals. In view of the GDP lost annually in Africa due to poor access to water and sanitation and to droughts and floods, President Braga concluded that "All these aspects of economic loss are directly related to poor infrastructure development...Investment is critical."

The **#ClimatelsWater** initiative organized an event coordinated by the Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA) on "**Solutions for the future.**" Fraser MacLeod, Executive Director of the World Water Council, presented how water resources management contributes practical solutions based on emerging findings from the Council's program on "Increasing Resilience to Climate Variability and Change: The role of infrastructure and governance in the context of adaptation."

WATER IN THE SPOTLIGHT MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT

On 14 June 1996, the World Water Council was established on the initiative of renowned water specialists and international organizations to promote awareness, build political commitment and trigger action on critical water issues at all levels.

Ever since, the World Water Council and its members have played a strategic role in bringing water to the forefront of the global agenda. Twenty years later, water is finally being acknowledged as a global priority.

The World Water Council is happy to announce the launch of a celebrations campaign that will last throughout 2016.



©Budapest Water Summit

"Water is a precious resource, crucial to realizing the SDGs, which at their heart aim to eradicate poverty."

Ban Ki-moon, United Nations
Secretary-General



20 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT



WORLD WATER COUNCIL REACHES OUT TO INDIAN AUDIENCES

On the occasion of its first Board meeting in India, the World Water Council is partnering with Indian members to increase its visibility within the country and build greater connections with political actors, especially on the governmental level.

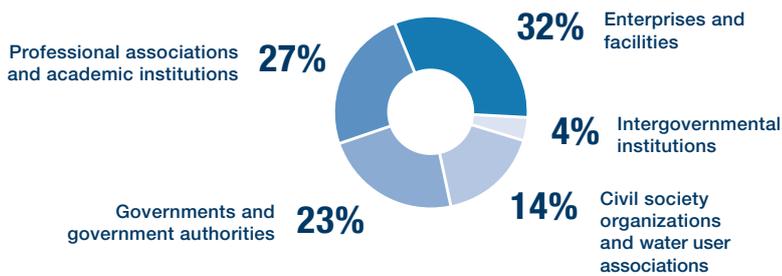
MEMBERS UPDATE

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS*

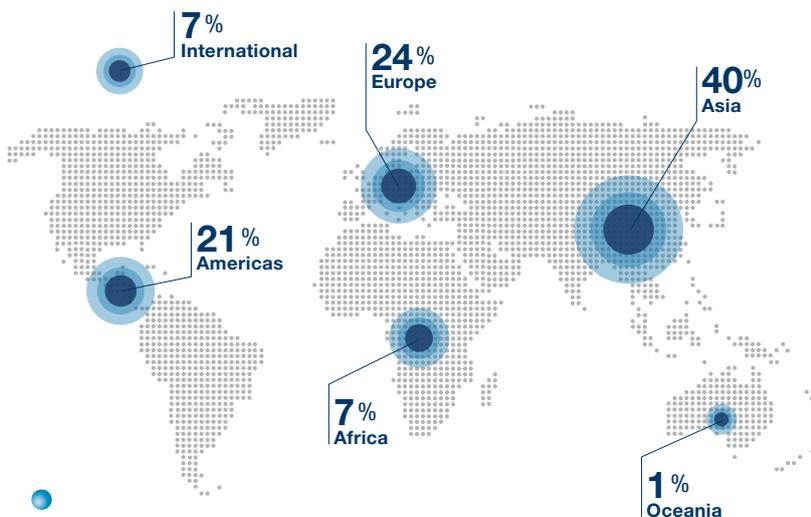
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* Membership is determined as at 17 February 2016.

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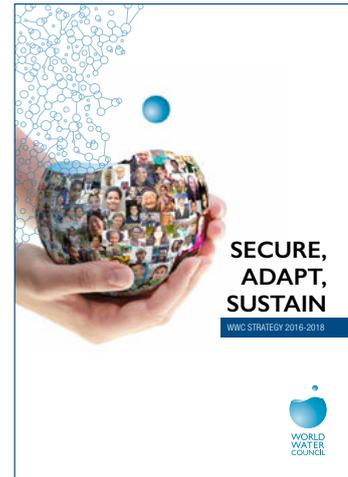
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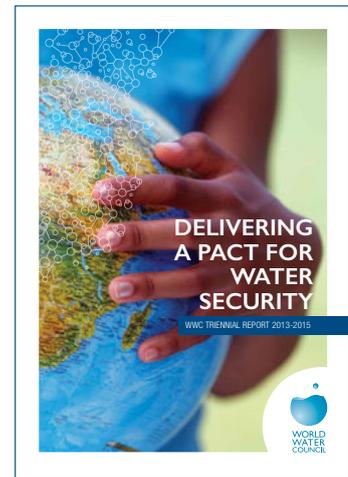


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READ THE LATEST BY THE COUNCIL



> 2016-2018 Strategy



> 2012-2015 Triannual Report



> Contributions by President Braga to the 2015 *G20* magazine

> Contributions to publications *Hydropower and Dams* and *UNFCCC Outreach* magazine

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