

PRESS KIT 7th World Water Forum South Korea April 12-17, 2015

7th World Water Forum french water bartnership





2015 : FROM THE 7TH WORLD WATER FORUM IN SOUTH KOREA TO COP21 : CHALLENGES LIE AHEAD!

GROWING NEEDS



ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION



GENDER INEQUALITY





South Korea, the cities of Daegu and Gyeongju, the Gyeongbuk province and the World Water Council are organizing the 7th World Water Forum. Daegu and Gyeongju will host the 7th World Water Forum from April 12 to 17, 2015. All water stakeholders — from governments to parliamentarians, local and regional authorities, NGOs, users, intergovernmental organizations, public and private corporations, professionals, scientists and experts — will be present.

Since 1997, these Forums have become essential triennial events and have been instrumental in adressing the major water issues and challenges of the 21st century :

Mexico 2006 Highlighted the key role played by local and regional authorities in water management

MEXICO

Istanbul 2009 Paved the way for recognition of the right to water, resulting in the adoption of this right by the United Nations in 2010

TURKEY

Marseille 2012 :

FRANCE

This was the first Forum hosted by France. In particular, this edition called « A Time for Solutions » facilitated the entry into force in 2014 of the 1997 United Nations Convention on Transboundary River Basin Management SOUTH KOREA

THE 7TH FORUM, «WATER FOR OUR FUTURE,» WILL FOCUS ON IMPLEMENTATION AND INNOVATION

The Forum will be held in Daegu and Gyeongju and will center on the following issues :

Water must be a core focus of global public policies

Setting the course for the coming years

Innovation :

a key to success to make the water sector move forward

Taking into account the specific characteristics of each world region

Making sure the voice of civil society is heard

Political Process

The Political Process has three main components : government, parliamentarians, and local and regional authorities. Its aim is to serve as a stimulus for political recommendations to ensure that water is at the top of the global agenda. Discussions will be held with a view of preparing for the negotiations that are on the post-2015 Development Agenda for the United Nations and the Paris COP21.

Thematic Process

Over one hundred multi-stakeholder sessions focusing on 16 different themes and approximately twenty special sessions will bring together water experts and high-level participants.

Science and Technology Process

For the first time at a World Water Forum, sessions, debates and panel discussions will form the basis for discussions on technological, social and environmental innovations.

Regional Process

Abundance or shortage of water resources, vulnerability to climate risks, etc. This process will highlight the specific geographic problems of each of the world's major regions.

Citizen Forum

Through conferences, sessions and workshops, all participants will be able to share their thoughts on topics ranging from sea water to governance, education on water issues and more.

Side events will be held during the 7th Forum. These side events include traditional prizes such as the King Hassan II Great World Water Prize and the Kyoto World Water Grand Prize, as well as two new events : the World Water Challenge and the World Water Showcase. For more information, please visit : www.worldwaterforum7.org

This Forum represents an opportunity for France to share its know-how and exchange views with the international water community within the frame of global Sustainable Development policies.











Our 3 strategic messages



French water stakeholders : innovative know-how to address major global challenges.

Water must be a core focus of the United Nations post-2015 Development Agenda. French stakeholders call for the inclusion of water within climate actions.

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THE 200 FRENCH STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT DURING THE FORUM WILL BE QUITE ACTIVE :

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• They will participate in 51 of the Forum's 104 thematic sessions

• They are co-organizing the European Regional Process and will be highly involved in the Mediterranean Process.

• They are responsible for initiating high-level panel discussions on climate.

The challenges for France

The French Pavilion, which is coordinated by the French Water Partnership (FWP), will be a host for all French water stakeholders (ministries, NGOs, professionals, local authorities, basin authorities, scientific organization, experts). Thirteen special events will be held at the Pavilion. Highlights will include climate-related events, the presentation of indicators attached to the post 2015 Development Agenda, as well as an assessment of commitments made during the 2012 Forum held in Marseille, France. These events will enable the FWP to carry out its three key messages in a collective way.



@PFE_FWP
A hashtag for live reports :
#WWF7France

TO STAY UP TO DATE ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE FRENCH DELEGATION TO THE WORLD WATER FORUM, FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!

You will also find information on all events held at the French Pavilion and news broadcast on highlights from the Forum every day on the FWP website at www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr in the live section.



4 QUESTIONS FOR MR. HENRI BÉGORRE, PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH WATER PARTNERSHIP

1 What are your expectations regarding the 7th World Water Forum?

As Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, recently said, « Never before has the world had to face such a complex agenda in a single year, the year 2015. And this unique opportunity will not come again in our generation.»

The challenges for the water sector remain tremendous. Each year, in children under five years of age, 361 000 deaths could be prevented through better water, sanitation and hygiene. 1.8 billion people use water contaminated with fecal matter and 90% of pollution is discharged without treatment in developing countries. This situation is all the more alarming considering the population growth : 9 billion people are expected to live on this planet by 2050. We will have to secure water resources in order to insure food security and sustainable access to water and sanitation, all the while preserving the environment.

Global management of water resources, involving all the players of a water basin, within a coherent framework between agriculture, energy and environment policies, is a first step to solving these problems. This is what the French Water Partnership strongly believes.

I am therefore hoping that the Forum will set the tone for the fundamental decisions that lie ahead in 2015 in order to:

 > Reduce the risk of disasters, particularly through the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction which will take place in March 2015, Sendaï, Japan;
 > Fund development, on the occasion of Addis Ababa Conference on Financing for Development in July 2015;

> Define planetary priorities for the next 15 years (post-2015 Development Agenda) at the UN General Assembly in September 2015, New York, United States;

> Provide responses to climate change with a view to the United Nations Climate Change Conference which will be held in Paris in December.

2 Were the commitments made by French players at the Marseille Forum met?

Today I can tell you that 84% of the 121 commitments made by French water stakeholders in Marseille have already been met or are underway!

The theme of the 6th World Water Forum was «A Time for Solutions» but it was also a time for commitments. Evidence lies in the 358 commitments that were made there, including 121 commitments made by French players.

Additionally, one of these French commitments requested that the French Water Partnership monitor the implementation of these commitments. We have prepared an initial assessment of results that will be included in a publication to be distributed at the Forum in Korea. French players will moreover pursue the follow up of their commitments between each Forum.

As president of this Partnership, I am very pleased to see the investment made by French water stakeholders in contributing to the sector's progress on a global scale.

In its own way, France is setting an excellent example!

3 What role do you hope to see the FWP play at this Forum?

The French have something to say. They will share their extensive collective experience in the global management of water resources in France and abroad within the Forum's different processes. France will be gladly represented by its different local stakeholders in all their diversity, including ministers, parliamentarians, local and regional authorities, NGOs, economic players, scientists and experts. They will be more than two hundred to carry the voice of our country. Among other things, they will speak at 51 of the 104 thematic sessions (i.e. nearly half of them!) and at two of the regional processes (the European and Mediterranean Processes).

A digital French Pavilion, organized by the FWP, will be the assembly point for all French attendees and their foreign partners. It will host thirteen events during the week of the Forum.

4 France will host the United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP21, later this year. How will the FWP be involved in this event?

Water is strongly affected by climate change. The water world however holds the keys to the fight against climate change, both in terms of adapting to the change as well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This sector has a number of solutions that are just waiting to be shared on a much broader scale! In this context, the French members of the FWP have prepared a publication showcasing their actions which will be available during the Forum. These actions can also be found on a dedicated database within the FWP website as well as on the COP21 solutions platform.

I can tell you that the members of the French Water Partnership are very galvanized for this crucial milestone that will determine the future of humanity.



THE FRENCH WATER PARTNERSHIP

The French Water Partnership (FWP) is a non-profit organization founded in 2007 on World Water Day.

It is a French platform for discussing and exchanging ideas that help to place water at the top of the global political agenda. It also helps to share the collective know-how of French players throughout the world. The FWP now has more than 120 members from the public and private water sectors.

The FWP consists of six colleges made up of representatives from 1 the government and its public institutions; 2 NGOs, organizations and foundations; 3 regional authorities and parliamentarians; 4 economic players; 5 research and training establishments and 6 French and foreign private individuals. It carries out its activities in a collaborative manner, without any category of members taking priority over the others. Together they develop common, consensus-based messages and communicate them in European and international bodies and networks such as the United Nations, the European Union, the Union for the Mediterranean and at events such as the World Water Forum and the World Water Week conference in Stockholm.



FWP and its members' expertise on key topics





A key player in the international water community

The FWP's means of action : collaborating in order to speak with one voice on the international stage Integrated management of water resources : water management by and for everyone

The FWP's main message

Current French legislation provides for an integrated management of water resources policy at a coherent hydrological unit scale: the hydrological basin.

This requires:

• A comprehensive approach to water resources, including surface water, groundwater and coastal water;

- Cooperation, organization and solidarity among all water stakeholders and users
- Financial solidarity mechanisms;
- A balanced approach between efficient resource management and the mobilization of new resources;

• Consistency among policies in the areas of water, climate, agriculture, energy and the environment.

This concept is a first step toward the resolution of global water challenges.





TARGETED INITIATIVES FROM THE FWP TO MEET THE THREE LANDMARKS OF 2015

April 2015





Creation of Water Expertise: the first French platform for water experts

The expertise of the various French water stakeholders is being brought to the international stage by the French Water Partnership. To spread the influence and extend of this expertise, the FWP has collaborated with the Scientific and Technical Association for Water and the Environment (ASTEE) to develop the « Water Expertise France » platform.

This tool is a showcase for the diversity and complementary of French experts, who work to ensure the efficiency and sustainability of water resource management. It serves as a directory for the stakeholders of the water sector and provides an overview of the most innovative projects in the field.

Discover French innovations and stakeholders at : www.water-expertise-france.fr



World Water Forum South Korea 12-17 April 2015

French water stakeholders : innovative know-how to address major global challenges



The vote on post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals New York September 2015

Water must be a core focus of the future United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda

«Water indicators» to monitor progress in achieving the post-2015 Goals

The post-2015 Agenda will only be effective if it is combined with a monitoring system based on ambitious, reliable indicators that allow the assessment of each country's progress towards achieving the Development Goals.

The FWP has worked alongside its foreign partners and the French Ministry of Ecology as well as the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in order to develop a monitoring system using indicators linked to the water-related targets.

An expandable version of these indicators is available at : www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr





The FWP identifies climate proof actions to show the ways in which water stakeholders, in all their diversity, have developed solutions to respond to climate change.

The publication and the database of these actions are available at : www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr

United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21) Paris, France November 30

to December 11, 2015.

Water and Climate : Acting for the future



APRIL 2015

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Printing:

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Glossary of the FWP

Pictogram of our Colleges



Government and Public Institutions



NGOs, non-profit Organizations and Foundations



Local Authorities and Parliamentarians



Economic Stakeholders



Technical, Scientific, **Research and Training Organizations**



French and International Individuals



Pictogram of our themes

Sanitation















Sustainable Cities



Solidarity Mechanisms



and French Know-how

Governance





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PRESENTATION OF THE FRENCH WATER PARTNERSHIP

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