



# 3 KEY MESSAGES from French water stakeholders

french  
water  
partnership



partenariat  
français  
pour l'eau



MESSAGE

1

French Water Stakeholders : innovative expertise to address major global challenges.

MESSAGE

2

Water must be at the heart of the future United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development (Post 2015 Development Agenda).

MESSAGE

3

French stakeholders call for the inclusion of water in climate actions and negotiations.

# FRENCH WATER STAKEHOLDERS : INNOVATIVE KNOW-HOW TO ADDRESS MAJOR WATER CHALLENGES

## *Some insight into the history of water in France and throughout the world:*

*France initiated a revolution in the 1960s in terms of participatory governance, funding and improvement of the quality of water, aquatic environments and biodiversity.*

*The evolution of French legislation since the French law of 1964 on water resources indicates France's willingness to provide suitable responses to new water challenges at the national and international level.*

1964



The law of December 16, 1964 is the first major French law on water. It organizes the management of water around six major **hydrological basins** which are divided according to the natural boundaries of watersheds. Under this law, the responsibility for carrying out decisions made by **participatory basin committees** is assigned to a new public institution : **the water agency**.

1992



The Law of January 3, 1992, recognizes water as part of the “**nation's common heritage**.”



The **United Nations Convention on Transboundary Watercourses** in the UNECE region (countries belonging to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) is adopted . To date, 37 countries in the pan-European region have signed bilateral and multilateral agreements to improve the management of their shared waters.

2000



The **European Water Framework Directive (WFD)** of October 23, 2000, is a European Directive designed to ensure the consistency of all legislation through a comprehensive **Community policy** on water. The WFD sets a goal of achieving a “good ecological status of water and aquatic environments” by 2015.



2006

The law on **Water and Aquatic Environments** transposes and adapts the objectives set by the European Water Framework Directive of 2000 to the French legal framework. This law also represents a major step forward for French legislation by ensuring that the adaptation to climate change is taken into account in the management of water resources. It recognizes the right to access safe drinking water.



2012

The law on solidarity in the field of water (**Cambon law**) came into force. It creates assistance measures for people who have difficulties paying their water bills.



2005

The **Oudin-Santini law on Solidarity and Decentralized Cooperation for Water** is adopted. This law allows local government entities and Water agencies to allocate 1% of their water budget to actions of international solidarity.



2010

After more than fifteen years of discussions, the United Nations General Assembly recognized **the right to safe drinking water and sanitation** as a fundamental right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all other human rights.



2014

Entry into force of the 1997 United Nations Convention on **Transboundary Basins**.



2015

Draft law on access to water and sanitation for the poorest people. This draft law considers the issue of access to water for **200,000 homeless people** and for **3 million French people** living in precarious housing conditions.



Since the 1960s, the definition and implementation of French water policy has been based on a process of **continuous innovation**. The result is the creation of effective governance and the development of technological, environmental and social innovations in close connection with an effective training system. This policy resulted in numerous progresses concerning the protection of water resources. Two challenges still lie ahead : the reduction of agricultural pollution and the response to extreme weather hazards including flooding and drought.



## Creation of a participatory and innovative system of governance

### The chain of water stakeholders in France:

#### The government: the promoter and guarantor of a legislative framework which adapts to evolving water challenges

Since the passage of the Water law of 1992, water is considered as part of the nation's common heritage. Within this framework, and in line with EU Directives, the State sets the terms of the water policy and ensures the monitoring of its implementation through the creation of a police force for water and aquatic environments.



#### ONEMA: a public institution in the service of the environment and the good ecological status of water and aquatic environments



#### Created in 2007, ONEMA (French National Agency for Water and Aquatic Environments) is a French Specificity

ONEMA coordinates the French Water Information System (WIS-F) and is connected to the Water Information System for Europe (WISE). It has also created a national water and sanitation service monitoring system (SIS-PEA) which provides data on organization, prices and performance.

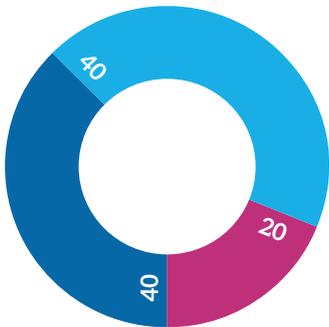
ONEMA is the National Office for Water and Aquatic Environments. ONEMA has four major missions: to mobilize research on the issues of sustainable management of water and aquatic environments; to improve and gather knowledge on the status of water bodies in France; to protect and monitor aquatic environments by carrying out preventive work and inspection (Water police, fishing activities and migratory and heritage species); to provide technical support for territorial management to ensure better integration of ecological issues in water-policy planning.

LEARN MORE AT:  
[www.services.eaufrance.fr](http://www.services.eaufrance.fr)



A closer look at :  
basin committees

A basin committee is a truly innovative French deliberative body consisting of :



40% local government entities,

40% representatives of water "users" : industrialist, farmers, environmental protection associations, fishing associations and consumer groups,

20% State representatives.



### 7 basins in mainland France

Adour-Garonne, Artois-Picardie, Corse, Loire-Bretagne, Rhin Meuse, Rhône Méditerranée, Seine-Normandie



### 5 basins in overseas regions and territories

Guadeloupe, Guyane, Martinique, la Réunion, Mayotte

« Water pays for water »  
and « the polluter pays »

These two French principles are applied by the Water agencies and have inspired the European legislation.

## Basin committees : pioneers in participatory management and water democracy

For the past 50 years, water management in France has been carried out at the level of hydrological basins.

In each basin, a participatory body known as a « basin committee » was created. These « water parliaments » bring together all stakeholders (local authorities, industrialists, farmers, State representatives, consumers, NGOs, etc.), who work together to determine a strategy for protecting water resources, coastlines and aquatic environments. This strategy is set out in a management plan : **the management and organization plan of water resources (SDAGE).**

The Basin committees' role is to :

- Establish guidelines to maintain or restore the good status of water resources,
- Vote on an action plan for Water agencies in mainland France and water use charges (environmental taxes) within the limit of the maximum rates established by law,
- Set terms and conditions for funding work and studies related to the different water uses (urban, agricultural, industrial).



## French Water Agencies : 50 years of experience in the sustainable management and funding of water resources

Water Agencies are executive bodies responsible for managing water within a large given hydrographic basin in France. Using this management approach, the agency provides a virtuous system of funding based on solidarity and cost-sharing at the basin level. Users pay on a pro rata basis for their water use and environmental impact under the « polluter pays » principle. Industrialists, farmers and consumers pay charges to the Water Agency. The agencies use this revenue to subsidize or provide loans to public entities (local authorities, etc.) or private organizations (industrial or agricultural actors and associations) in order to establish initiatives or projects of common interest within their basin.



## Local decision-makers : Local authorities, industrialists and farmers

These three entities decide on the work and studies to be carried out in their region.

- **LOCAL AUTHORITIES :**  
**DECIDE ON POLICIES FOR ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION**

Local authorities are responsible for water and sanitation services. They are in charge of planning, obtaining funding and managing these services. They also determine the price of water.

- **INDUSTRIALISTS :**  
**DECIDE ON WATER-SAVING PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES**

All industrial facilities need water for their production (automobile, cement and transportation industries, among others.) These facilities are in charge of planning and obtaining funding for managing their water-related projects.

- **FARMERS :**  
**DECIDE ON SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT POLICIES IN AGRICULTURE**

Farmers are confronted to water issues on a daily basis. They must manage their crop production while also preserving water resources. They also need to obtain funding for their water-related projects.

The Water Agencies provide these decision-makers with financial support, and ensure that all projects comply with the guidelines set by the Basin Committee.



### A closer look at : the free choice of local authorities

In France, emphasis on free choice is given to local elected officials to manage water and sanitation services. They can choose the operator, whether public or private, that best meets the requirements of their community.

To guarantee optimal transparency and competitiveness, the Sapin Law provides since 1993 a legal framework that regulates open competition between operators. This fosters innovation and ensures the quality of the tenders as well as the performance of the services. Ultimately, consumers also benefit from this policy.

**The FWP advocates for strengthening the capacities of local authorities and ensuring that they are adequately equipped with the financial means for fulfilling their responsibilities.**



## Companies in the water sector : An expertise at the service of decision-makers

Companies in the water sector (large, small and medium-sized enterprises) develop expertise, know-how and innovative technology while supporting various decision-makers in carrying out their projects. French water companies are also experts in the management of water and sanitation services on behalf of local authorities and industrial clients. They carry out research and development programs to improve technology in the field of water management and the protection of natural environments.

In France, actors in this sector are grouped together into networks, in particular in three competitiveness clusters created in 2010. The purpose of these clusters is to support the growth of companies (especially Small and medium-sized enterprises SMEs) and to stimulate public-private partnerships within innovative and collaborative projects.



### French companies are active throughout the water sector and have expertise in every branch of the sector

The sector includes global leaders as well as world-renowned SMEs, in particular in the fields of research, engineering, drilling/extraction technology, water treatment equipment and techniques, etc.



### An innovative research program

The aim of Allenvi (National Research Alliance for the Environment) is to plan and coordinate environmental research at the national level. It has a sub-group devoted to water.

## Research organizations : knowledge applied for the benefit of water

Research organizations are centers for managing, sharing and exchanging knowledge between experienced professionals. These organizations (public or private scientific institutions) have achieved major international breakthroughs, such as the development of climate services and the use of membranes for drinking water treatment processes.

### An active group of 29 French NGOs

Coalition Eau is an alliance of 29 French NGOs working on water and sanitation issues.

## Associations and NGOs : the voices of civil society

France has a large pool of NGOs and associations (including environmental protection associations, consumer groups and fishing associations) with strong track records on water issues. They are stakeholders in debates and lead actions related to water in France and abroad.



Users have a twofold role to play in managing water in France : as both **consumers and stakeholders**, they have the ability to influence local water policies by participating in their region's basin committee.

## Water Consumers

Water consumers use water and help to fund the water management system in France. They are associated with the management of public water services through Advisory Commissions for Local Services established by law.





All the following solutions from French stakeholders are available in the Solutions booklet



### The circular economy : a concept for efficiency and sustainability

The circular economy is a new concept for resource management and consumption. It is based on the idea that it is possible to recycle or repair anything that has already been used in order to make it as good as new. French water stakeholders actively apply this innovative principle in a variety of areas, as such as water, sanitation and power access in eco-districts.



### A closer look at : desalination

When the mobilization of new water resources, whether conventional or non-conventional, is not enough to meet local needs, the desalination of sea water or brackish water can be considered as an alternative solution. The cost of desalination treatment should be evaluated carefully due to the significant amount of energy required. France's two major groups in the water sector, SUEZ environnement and VEOLIA, have extensive experience in this area, including : a desalination plant for the Marafiq industrial towns in Saudi Arabia [VEOLIA : [www.veolia.com](http://www.veolia.com)] and for providing a water supply to the city of Melbourne, Australia [SUEZ environnement : [www.suez-environnement.fr](http://www.suez-environnement.fr)]



## Bold technological and environmental innovations

*In an international context characterized by significant changes such as urbanization, demographic developments and climate change, certain regions must address great challenges that call for technological and environmental innovation.*

French stakeholders have developed technologies in a variety of areas, including :

### Drinking water treatment and supply :

French companies have developed internationally-recognized know-how in design, construction, management and maintenance of facilities in the drinking water industry whether this be for treatment, abstraction, storage or supply.

Over the past twelve years, the joint venture VEOLIA Pudong has revolutionized water supply services of Shanghai's financial and commercial district by implementing the most innovative technologies designed to improve the performance of water supply system ( see **solutions booklet 3** ).

### Exploitation of unconventional resources :

Reuse of treated wastewater, exploitation of rainwater, energy production from wastewater and sludge, aquifer replenishment, desalination, etc. The subsidiary of SUEZ environnement (United Water) and the West Basin Municipal Water District responded to the challenges of water stress in southern California, in particular in the Los Angeles region, by creating a state-of-the-art plant for recycling wastewater ( see **solutions booklet 3** ).

### Fighting against urban nonpoint source pollution : small quantities of pollution that are becoming more widespread :

Drug residues, micro pollutants in sanitation networks, stormwater and agricultural pollution ... ONEMA the Water Agencies and the French Ministries of Ecology and Health recently approved thirteen projects to fight against these increasing challenges.

### Protecting and restoring ecosystems and aquatic environments :

Facilitating the movements of migratory species in watercourses, preserving wetlands, maintaining low river flows to support fish life, limiting the warming of water and maintaining water quality for the benefit of wildlife. ONEMA performed a study on freshwater fish in a context of climate change ( see **solutions booklet 3** ).



### A closer look at : ecological engineering

Ecological engineering is concerned with restoring water courses, maintaining natural outdoor spaces and preserving biodiversity. Addressing these environmental issues through the use of new know-how is essential for public and private stakeholders alike.

The aim of the Franco-German PhytoRet project is to ensure the long-term protection of the Rhineland aquifer from pollution by pesticides.

[see solutions booklet 3]

## Multi-purpose dam management:

Develop sustainable hydropower, to optimize and coordinated different uses. From September 2012 to October 2014, EDF carried out a major engineering project to improve the drainage and flood discharge capacity of the Sarrans dam in south west of France, in consultation with local stakeholders (see solutions booklet 3).

## Knowledge and data management and transfer:

Water Information Systems gather millions of data on aquatic environments, water-related human activities and their direct and indirect impacts, Responses through public policies ... Through its SWOT (Surface Water Ocean Topography) mission, the CNES (French National Center for Space Studies) worked with NASA to develop an observation satellite to check the levels of the Earth's surface water, lakes and waterways (see solutions booklet 3).

## Water and local planning:

In the 60s, France has implemented Regional Development Companies (public-private entities) in charge of designing, building and implementing projects in order to contribute to the development of the territory and meet the water needs of local authorities, farmers and private companies. These Regional Development Companies are still nowadays contributing to implementing sustainable development strategies in France.



### Companies set up a "social pricing" policy for water

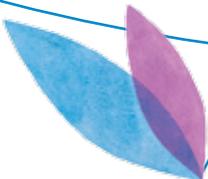
French water companies can implement solidarity mechanisms for the poorest. For example, some Companies give "Water checks" to Local social service agencies in order to help social welfare beneficiaries with paying their water bills.

Moreover, companies can contribute to the Solidarity Fund for Housing managed by the social services of the French Departments. As part of agreements with three quarters of French departments, three million debts have been waived every year for the past ten years. 35,000 French households have benefited from these waivers.

## Social innovations in France and abroad

*France has also implemented social innovation strategies to benefit the most vulnerable populations by providing them with access to safe drinking water and sanitation :*

- **IN FRANCE :** on March 6, 2014, the French government published instructions allowing local authorities to implement social pricing policies for water, which can be modified according to each family's resources and size.
- **ABROAD :** at the international level, the Oudin-Santini Law made it possible for local French authorities and Water Agencies to use up to 1% of their water and sanitation budgets to fund water and sanitation projects ran by local authorities in developing countries. Under this law, a North-South solidarity system is also created among local authorities: the Grand Lyon Metropole has been committed in such a solidarity mechanism by improving the management of water resources in the Haute Matsiatra region in Madagascar. (see solutions booklet 3).



## Professional training : a field of French innovation

*France is distinguished by its broad variety of training programs in the water sector (human, technical, social and environmental sciences), which are designed for all those working in the sector (from engineers to plumbers). It also provides support for the creation of training centers for water professionals in various countries around the world.*

### A few examples of these innovations in training :

- The International Office for Water has launched the first professional training platform in Quebec, known as QUEBEC'EAU Training (see [solutions booklet 3](#)).
- The aim of the « Water for All » chair sponsored by SUEZ environnement and AgroParisTech, is to address the challenges related to the operational management of water and sanitation services in developing, emerging and transitional countries (see [solutions booklet 3](#)).
- The town of Bangangté, Cameroon, together with its technical and financial partners (AIMF, Seine-Normandy Water Agency, VEOLIA Foundation, SIAAP), has set up a program to improve the conditions of access to water and sanitation for the people in its region. The project focuses on rehabilitating infrastructure and strengthening the skills of local technical departments as well as developing a management model that is suitable for the local context (see [solutions booklet 3](#)).



# Innovative know-how from multiple French actors: now exported around the world

*French innovations in participatory water governance and training as well as environmental, technological, social and training innovations are widely exported. Today the quality of French know-how is recognized the world over.*



## The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)

has two primary aims:

- developing an integrated, solidarity-based management system for water resources at the national, regional and transboundary basin levels
- addressing the challenges faced by our planet by searching for multi-actor solutions.

## At the European level

The European Water Framework Directive of 2000 (WFD) was developed largely on the basis of the principles of French water management policies.

The European Union now acknowledges the innovative character of France's experience in the integrated management of environmental protection policies. The connection between the water sectors, marine environments and biodiversity is now well-established. The creation of a Water and Biodiversity Department at the French Ministry of Ecology, the forthcoming establishment of a French Agency for Biodiversity and the cross-implementation of European Directives on these three issues are all examples of the progress that has been made.



## The Agence Française de Développement (French Agency for Development - AFD)

is a public development finance institution that has been working to fight poverty and foster economic growth in developing countries for seventy years. In 2014, AFD committed nearly 917 million euros with the signing of 40 financing agreements.

## At the international level

French experience and know-how have inspired a number of initiatives, including the creation of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO).

In this context, France directs its efforts toward the sustainable management of basins based on cooperation among countries. Its involvement was invaluable in ensuring the recent entry into force of the 1997 United Nations Convention on the Management of Transboundary Basins, which aims to limit the risks of water-related conflicts.



Learn more about French innovations



[www.water-expertise-france.fr](http://www.water-expertise-france.fr)  
The first platform dedicated to the French water know-how

## THE MEMBERS OF THE FWP CALL FOR THE INCLUSION OF WATER-RELATED ISSUES AT THE HEART OF THE FUTURE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA (AGENDA POST 2015)



*In December 2014, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, shared his opinion on the major issue raised by the vote on the Sustainable Development Goals : « 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. »*

### Water is a fundamental component of human development

Challenges for the water sector are enormous and still growing.

Agriculture, which depends on water, and food security are threatened by climate change. However, 9 billion people will need to eat by 2050.

Access to safe water and sanitation remains a major issue. Each year, in children under five years of age, 361 000 deaths could be prevented through better water, sanitation and hygiene (WHO, 2014) ; 1.8 billion people use water contaminated with fecal matter (WHO-UNICEF 2014) and 90% of all waste water in developing countries is discharged untreated, polluting rivers, lakes and seas (UN Water 2012).

Water must be managed throughout an integrated and sustainable approach to meet and reconcile the human and natural needs such as domestic water, water for agriculture, energy and industry, water for nature. In the mean time, water resources are degraded or threatened in many regions.





## MDGs, SDGs : what's the difference?

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) covered the period from 2000 to 2015 and concerned only developing countries. They were a first step towards establishing a common vision of our future between the different countries. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will cover the period from 2015 to 2030 and will concern all countries (developed and in development). These goals set out a common road map for the sustainable future of the planet and humanity. This road map will be applied by the States.



One target to meet :  
the members of the FWP want to see  
better account taken of **water quality**.

**Hygiene** is an essential pillar for any  
sanitation-related initiative.

# The FWP's commitments

In a context in which water is still a major issue for our development, the French Water Partnership is advocating for incorporating water into the definition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These Goals will be negotiated until the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015.

The issue of water was addressed in the MDGs primarily in terms of access to water and sanitation. The aim was to halve the proportion of the global population without access to improved water source (protected from animal pollution) and basic sanitation. Although the goal of providing access to water was achieved, the actual quality of the water was not really taken into account. As for the goal on sanitation, it is far from being reached.

The members of the French Water Partnership are conducting an initiative in favor of adopting a much more ambitious Sustainable Development Goal for water within the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda . This Water goal must guarantee a sustainable management of water resources to satisfy the needs of all the sectors and ensure universal access to water and sanitation services.

Furthermore, members of the French Water Partnership advocate for the need to link water with other Goals connected with water resources (Food Security, Poverty, Health, Energy, Sustainable cities, Disasters ...). Each Goal must have targets which include water issues.

# The Water Goal

Members of the French Water Partnership propose a Water Goal which would include the following six dimensions :

 **Achieving universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for households, schools and health institutions.**

The MDGs did not take into account the quality of water. The members of the FWP would like to see water services that guarantee minimal levels of fecal bacteria (Escherichia coli), arsenic and fluoride. These services, which should be managed safely, would include measures aimed at protecting water supplies and ensuring that water is safe to drink.

 **Achieving access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, and ending open defecation.**

Members of the French Water Partnership wish that the new Sustainable Development Goals ensure that human excreta are safely managed, in particular for households, schools and health institutions in urban and rural areas.

 **Improving water quality by reducing pollution through halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and increasing the proportion of recycled and reused water in an appropriate context.**

Sustainable management of water resource must ensure the needs of all sectors.



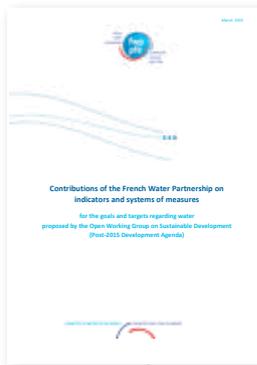
Increasing water productivity (a drop of water produces more and better) in particular to ensure food needs and, in regions where water is scarce, better manage water resource to reduce its overexploitation while ensuring the needs of all sectors.



Implementing an integrated management model for water resources at all levels, including through cross-border cooperation.



Protecting and restoring aquatic ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.



## The Sustainable Development Goals: beyond good intentions

The SDGs must give local and vulnerable populations their rightful place and must be based on:

- good governance tools ;
- a high degree of decentralization ;
- adequate levels of funding to address the challenges at hand ;
- technology transfers along with training ;
- strict monitoring and operational follow-up.

These objectives will only be effective there are combined with a monitoring system based on ambitious, reliable indicators that allow for assessing each country's progress toward achieving the Goals.

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

A more detailed version of these indicators is available at [www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr](http://www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr)

**STEADY  
MONITORING  
OF PROGRESS  
IS NECESSARY**

indicators



monitoring



## FRENCH WATER STAKEHOLDERS CALL FOR THE INCLUSION OF WATER IN CLIMATE ACTIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS

*The world has entered an age of major climate change that has seen an increase in global temperatures and the intensification of extreme natural events.*

*By 2050, the average yearly air temperature is projected to increase by 1.5° to 2.8°C (compared with a rise of 0.6°C between 1901 and 2000 - IPCC Report 2014).*

*Greenhouse gas emissions from, among other things, population growth, urbanization, changing consumption patterns and economic growth are the leading cause of climate change. Global changes and climate change are intrinsically linked.*

An action for the climate needs to be an action for water



### A brief history of international climate negotiations

Every year since 1992, countries which have ratified the Rio Convention participate in a "Conference of Parties" (COP) organized by the United Nations. These international climate negotiations have contributed in defining economic tools for the reduction of green gas emissions.

#### 1992

United Nations Framework Convention, also known as the Rio Climate Convention, made it possible to set out the principles of international action on climate change.

#### 1997

The Kyoto Protocol introduced caps on greenhouse gas emissions by developed countries for 2008-2012 and introduced innovative mechanisms for the cost-effective distribution of efforts.

**2007** The Conference of the Parties in Bali laid down principles for ensuring the continuation of the Kyoto Protocol.

**2014** The Conference of the Parties in Lima set out a road map in preparation for an international agreement at COP21.

#### 30<sup>th</sup> > 11<sup>th</sup> of December

## 2015 COP 21

All eyes are on the COP21

This is a crucial moment: it must lead to the adoption of an initial universal and binding climate agreement in order to keep the global temperature rise below 2°C compared to pre industrial levels.



## Adaptation, Mitigation : what does it mean?

Adaptation relates to the steps taken to reduce vulnerability to climate change. They may include moving housing away from flood-prone areas, choosing plant varieties based on the new climatic equilibrium...

Mitigation refers to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the proper assimilation of greenhouse gases by ecosystems : developing inland navigation, using sustainable hydropower ...

**Establishing a continuum between adaptation and mitigation is a challenge that needs to be addressed notably for water resources.**

## Water is the first concerned by climate change, particularly in the most threatened regions:

- Rainfall decreases of 10 to 30% in middle latitude countries (IPCC Report 2014);
- Amplified intensity and frequency of natural disasters, including flooding and droughts;
- Worsening trends: melting ice cover, river flow variations and rising sea levels.
- Pressures on water resources which effects notably food security.

Climate change reflects and worsens current tensions over water resources. As water is threatened, it can become a cause of threat and create major disasters.

Threats on water resources can create major disruptions on our basic needs such as: access to food, safe drinking water and energy ; health, biodiversity, water quality. These are all essential aspects for our development.

**One thing is clear:** this inseparable link between water and climate issues must be brought to the attention of negotiators and decision-makers at all levels and at every major forthcoming climate event in order to ensure that climate responses also involves water action.

France will have the honor and great responsibility of hosting the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2015. The aim of the conference will be to reach a fundamental agreement for the future of our planet.



The FWP will add best practices from French water stakeholders to the Agenda of solutions at the next COP21

A publication to be presented at the World Water Forum :  
"Water & Climate, acting for the future"



The FWP and its members carry out the following message :  
The international agreement reached during COP 21 must incorporate water as a central component of adaptation and must be treated as fundamental to the allocation of climate funding.

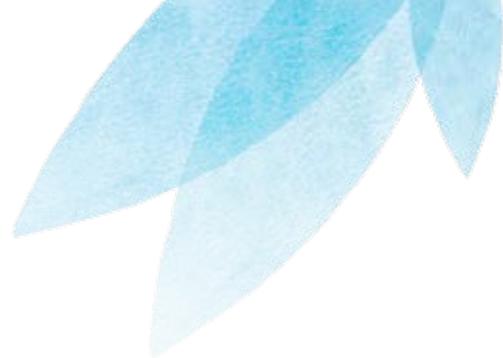


This publication and the database of these water climate-prone actions are available at [www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr](http://www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr)

**In this context, the FWP and its members work actively to ensure that :**

- the COP21 results in a universal, ambitious and legally binding agreement on reducing greenhouse gases to a level that will hold down the global rise in average temperature by 2100 to less than 2°C compared to the pre-industrial era ;
- this agreement includes provisions on adaptation to climate change that are equal to those on mitigation. The water sector must be a core focus of the vast majority of proposed actions on adaptation ;
- the agreement takes into account the urgent need to respond to the worsening of major water-related risks such as flooding and drought in regions that are already affected.
- significant international funding, in particular via the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund, earmarks water as one of its priorities by the international community in order to support the poorest, most threatened regions of the planet.
- many good local practices in the water sector are highlighted at all level.

# 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



Access to drinking water



Sanitation



Water basin management



Food Security



Energy



Emergency, Reconstruction and Development



Biodiversity



Global and Climate Change



Sustainable Cities



Solidarity Mechanisms



Innovations and French Know-how



Governance



Financing



Training

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## PRESENTATION OF 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 helps 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 counts more than 120 members from the public and private water sectors.

The FWP consists of six panels 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 in Stockholm.



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[www.french-water-partnership.fr](http://www.french-water-partnership.fr)  
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