



LIVING WATERS, BENEFITING BOTH **NATURE** AND HUMANS



AN APPEAL FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE
FRENCH WATER PARTNERSHIP FOR CBD COP15



2020 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
COP 15 / CP-MOP 10 / NP-MOP 4
Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth
KUNMING – MONTREAL

french
water
partnership



partenariat
français
pour l'eau

The 200 public, private and community members of the French Water Partnership are calling for a new impetus from the international community to combat biodiversity loss, highlighting the importance of freshwater biodiversity and watershed management.



PROMOTION AND FINANCING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

It is time to invest in, and scale up, these promising solutions

Nature-based Solutions address societal challenges, often induced by climate change, by **protecting or restoring ecosystems** which are crucial for biodiversity. They provide answers to the double challenge of climate change and biodiversity loss, while also generating numerous **co-benefits for human societies** such as protecting the water supply, mitigating floods, storing carbon, but also improving general quality of life.

However, Nature-based Solutions are still often unknown to decision-makers, both at the local and national levels. It is time to **invest in, and scale up, these promising solutions** by raising awareness among public and private actors, as well as the general public, in order to finance long term projects sustainably

MOBILIZING FUNDS DEDICATED TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND STOPPING HARMFUL SUBSIDIES

The [Paulson Institute estimates](#) to **711 billion dollars a year the financing gap** needed to protect biodiversity in 2030. The FWP calls for a greater mobilization of the private sector, which represented only 14% of the investments for biodiversity in 2020, while public funds accounted for 86%. **Acting is urgent**, as our inaction will cost us more than our action.

Harmful subsidies supporting activity sectors with adverse effects on biodiversity (such as overfishing, intensive logging and farming, etc.) represent about 550 billion dollars a year. By **applying more stringent criteria and requiring a higher degree of proof** of co-benefits for the environment, financial institutions can contribute to reduce these pressures on biodiversity and help to close the financing gap.



711 billion dollars a year the financing gap



FOCUS ON ECOLOGICAL CONTINUITY AND THE "SOURCE TO SEA" APPROACH TO WATER ECOSYSTEMS

Water connects every ecosystems on Earth

Water connects every ecosystems on Earth: not only as a necessary condition for life, but also as an environment and a habitat. Freshwater ecosystems do not exist in isolation to other terrestrial and marine ecosystems. They are to be understood as a continuum: streams and lakes joining the sea through rivers, and **the species which live in these ecosystems depend on that connectivity**. Wetlands, which are particularly rich in biodiversity, are facing a double challenge due to climate change: inland waters are getting scarcer, while the sea level continues to rise.

Therefore, the responsible management of water ecosystems should be designed at the basin level, by taking into account the constant interactions between terrestrial and marine waters. **This management has to be transparent, democratic, inclusive and collaborative** in order to listen to the needs and expectations of every users of the resource.



+ 200 MEMBERS

DEFENDING WATER IS DEFENDING LIFE ! LET'S DEMAND LIVING WATERS !

The French Water Partnership (FWP) is the platform for public, private and community French players in water who are active internationally. It has engaged in advocacy internationally for 15 years to make water a priority in sustainable development policies, and encourages exchange between French expertise and that of other countries. With its various members (State and public institutions, authorities, NGOs, businesses, research and training institutes, and qualified experts), it delivers collective messages on water in international arenas such as the World Water Forums, the COP climate and biodiversity conferences, and high-level political forums on the Sustainable Development Goals.

FWP PUBLICATIONS

You can see all of the FWP's publications on our website:

www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr/en/our-productions/ or by scanning below



- > Reducing the greenhouse gas emissions of water and sanitation services
- > Bioenergy, geological carbon storage and water resources: Challenges, impacts and good practices
- > Summary of the water impacts of the 3 parts of the 6th IPCC Report
- > Water & Climate, time for action: Initiatives and projects by French stakeholders
- > Water and food security: FWP messages
- > Water and Nature-based solutions: The toolbox for elected officials and communities
- > The French policy for the management of water resources and aquatic biodiversity
- > Better Knowledge for Better Management: Complementarity between field data and satellite data

Projects led by the French Water Partnership are possible thanks to the support of its donors

