



3 key facts for World Water Day 2016

- At least **1.8 billion people** globally use a source of drinking water that is fecally contaminated
 - water scarcity affects more than **40 per cent** of the global population and is projected to rise
 - Floods and other water-related disasters account for **70 per cent** of all deaths related to natural disasters
- <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/water-and-sanitation/>

Press release

22nd of March 2016

The French Water Partnership calls for action on World Water Day 2016.

In this day, the French Water Partnership (FWP) with its president, the Member of Parliament Jean Launay, and its members, call the international community to act in order to preserve a climate of peace.

Build on the breakthroughs of year 2015 to act in 2016

In 2015, water became one of the 17 top priorities of mankind with the obtainment of a Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) specifically linked to water. This ambitious Goal also came as a breakthrough as it did not just cover access to water services for quality drinking water and sanitation but also took into account pollution reduction, water shortages, sustainable water management and the restoration of threatened aquatic ecosystems. As a committed actor to the SDGs since RIO+20 in 2012, the FWP continues in 2016 to raise awareness amongst heads of states and water stakeholders, in order to trigger more ambitious policies for the good implementation and monitoring of the Water Goal.

2015 was also the year where water found its place in the Climate Convention of Paris (COP21). While water was not directly featured in the text of the Paris Agreement, water appeared through the term “adaptation”, acknowledged as an equally important matter as the mitigation of greenhouse gases.

In 2016, the mobilization continues within the international campaign #climateiswater, an initiative which was imagined by the FWP and launched during COP21 to show that water is the real face of climate change. The climateiswater collective will seek an even stronger place for water during the COP22 which will take place from the 7th to 18th of November 2016 in Marrakech. It will also mobilize different heads of states to sign a “Water call” during the signatory ceremony of the Paris Agreement happening in New York on the 22nd of April.

The FWP mandate: Make water a peace issue, not a war issue.

At a time where 40% of the world population is already affected by hydric stress, water is more than ever at the heart of our future. In this critical context, the French Water Partnership will stand up for its beliefs to guarantee that water remains a peace issue, never becoming a war issue.

The French Water Partnership is a non profit organization, facilitating a multi stakeholder reflection and debate on international water challenges. The platform is a collective voice for French water stakeholders: Government, NGOs, Local authorities, Small and large companies, Research & Development organizations and Experts

Contacts :

Philippe Guettier, +33 (0) 1 41 20 19 41, philippe.guettier@partenariat-francais-eau.fr

Clara Minjoulat-Rey, +33 (0) 1 41 20 19 78, clara.minjoulat-rey@partenariat-francais-eau.fr