

1st Meeting of the OECD Water Governance Initiative

27-28 March 2013

OECD Headquarters, 2 rue André Pascal, Paris
Room CC 12 (Conference Center)

The OECD Water Governance Initiative provides for a **multi-stakeholder network** and **policy forum** to share ongoing reforms, projects, lessons and good practices in support of better governance in the water sector.



The initiative builds on the OECD-led Good Governance Core Group of the 6th World Water Forum (Marseille, 12-17 March 2012) and seeks to bridge the gap between two World Water Fora with a community of practice aiming to:

- contributing to the **OECD water governance programme** through peer-reviewing, policy dialogue across decision-makers, exchange of experiences, and technical support to OECD Principles on Water Governance;
- supporting the **implementation of the governance targets** designed in Marseille, up to the 7th WWF in Korea;
- setting an **International Observatory** on water governance to collect innovative tools and success stories;
- setting up a **Web Portal on Water Governance** to link existing water governance platforms, tools, methodologies and programmes worldwide;
- providing **policy guidance** in support of the global water governance agenda such as the International Year on Water Cooperation and the development of Sustainable Development Goals


The Initiative gathers delegates from different geographic and institutional background in OECD and non OECD countries: senior representatives from national governments, local and regional authorities, service providers and their networks, economic and environmental regulators, non-for-profit organisations, river basin organisations and their networks, donors and international financial institutions, international organisations, think tanks and independent experts. Delegates will meet twice a year at OECD Headquarters, Paris to implement the Initiative's programme of work, and several thematic and regional working groups (to be defined during the launch meeting) will contribute to the Initiative's objectives throughout the year. The Initiative is hosted by the OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate. Its strategic orientation will be on a steering committee that will include thematic and regional working groups' coordinators, a representative from the World Water Council, a representative from the Korea Forum organisation, and sponsors.

This first meeting of the OECD Water Governance Initiative has the following **objectives**:

1. Agree on the **scope, mandate and activities of the Initiative** and define who does what;
2. Take stock of the **progress since the 6th World Water Forum** regarding "good governance targets" related to stakeholder engagement, performance of water supply and sanitation, river basin management, water security, integrity and transparency in the water sector;
3. **Share experiences on recent water governance reforms** in OECD and non OECD countries, cities and rural areas ;
4. Discuss **strategic and operational organisation of the Network** including the value added of an OECD Observatory on Water Governance, Principles on Water Governance, leadership of regional/thematic working groups, inputs to the global water governance agenda, and synergies with forthcoming events.

<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 27 March 2013</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OECD Conference Center, Room CC12 (Table U seating)</p>	
9h30 – 10h15	 <u>Registration of Participants and Coffee Networking</u>
10h30	Video message from Angel Gurría , OECD Secretary-General
10h35 – 11h	<u>Welcoming remarks</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rolf Alter, Director, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD ▪ Dogan Altinbilek, Vice-President, World Water Council
11h – 13h	<p><u>An OECD Water Governance Initiative: Why, to do What and How?</u></p> <p>Chair : Rolf Alter, Director, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate</p> <p>Presentation of the rationale, scope and proposed activities of the Network</p> <p>Group discussion</p> <p><u>Questions for delegates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Where are the current gaps to advance on the water governance agenda? How can the OECD Water Governance Initiative help bridge them? – How can we maximize the value added of the Initiative, building on what already exists? – What could be your own contribution to this multi-stakeholder platform? – Should other stakeholders be involved in this Initiative?
13h – 14h	Lunch Buffet, Room George Okrent, OECD
14h – 16h	<p><u>One Year after Marseille: Where do we stand in achieving water governance targets?</u></p> <p>Chair : Aziza Akhmouch, Water Governance Programme, OECD</p> <p>Progress in implementing the 6th WWF Good Governance Targets (30')</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder engagement for effective water management, Alexandre Brailowsky, SUEZ ▪ Performance of water services : Enhancing regulation and capacity, Pierre-Alain Roche, ASTEE ▪ Basin management plans as instruments for water governance, Daniel Valensuela, INBO ▪ Integrated water resources management through the lens of water security, Alice Aureli, UNESCO ▪ Integrity and anti-corruption policies in the water sector, Teun Bastemeijer, WIN ▪ Information, transparency and accountability in the water sector, Hakan Tropp, SIWI <p>A regional perspective (30')</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tour de table of water governance targets' progress in the different continents <p>Group discussion (1h)</p> <p><u>Questions for delegates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Are there critical dimensions overlooked the governance targets and how to address them? – How can you contribute to the implementation of these targets in your respective fields?
16h – 16h30	 <p>Coffee Break</p>

16h30 – 18h	<p><u>Recent water governance reforms in OECD and non OECD countries</u></p> <p>Chair : Mario Marcel, Deputy Director, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate</p> <p>Group Discussion</p> <p><u>Questions for delegates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What are the recent water governance changes/reforms in your respective countries? – Which obstacles to effective water management do they aim to address and how? – What are the remaining governance bottlenecks to make water reform happen? – How can the OECD Initiative on Water Governance help?
18h	Cocktail, Room George Marshall, OECD
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 28 March 2013</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OECD Conference Center, Room CC12 (Table U seating)</p>	
8h45 – 9h30	 <u>Coffee networking</u>
9h30 – 10h	<p><u>Welcoming remarks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yves Leterme, Deputy-Secretary General, OECD ▪ Blanca Jiménez-Cisneros, Director, Division of Water Sciences, UNESCO
10h – 11h15	<p><u>Meeting the Water Governance Challenge in Cities and their Hinterland</u></p> <p>Chair : Anthony Cox, Coordinator of the Horizontal Water Programme, OECD</p> <p>Group Discussion</p> <p><u>Questions for delegates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What are the critical challenges for urban water management in developed/emerging countries? – What are the remaining bottlenecks in terms of stakeholder engagement, regulatory frameworks, financing, integrity, transparency and rural-urban linkages? – How can the OECD Water Governance Initiative help make urban water reforms happen?
11h15 – 11h45	 Coffee Break
11h45 – 13h	<p><u>Recent water governance reforms in OECD and non OECD cities</u></p> <p>Chair : Joaquim Oliveiras-Martins, Head, Regional Development Policy Division, OECD</p> <p>Group Discussion</p> <p><u>Questions for delegates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What are the good practices to address rural-urban linkages in water management? – Which countries or cities have taken the lead in adopting urban water reforms? Why? – How to manage competing demands across users and related trade-offs?
13h – 14h	Lunch Buffet, Room George Okrent, OECD

14h – 15h30	<p><u>Strategic Orientations of the OECD Water Governance Initiative</u></p> <p>Chair: Aziza Akhmouch, Water Governance Programme, OECD</p> <p>Group discussion on the organisation, management and financing of Initiative</p> <p><u>Questions for delegates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Do delegates have suggestions on the governance of the network? – Who is willing to lead a thematic or regional working group? Or contribute in another form? – What are suitable funding options for the OECD Water Governance Initiative? – How to link the Initiative with forthcoming major events and activities? <p>Group discussion on setting an Observatory and Web Portal on water governance</p> <p><u>Questions for delegates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What are the good practices and lessons in terms of Observatory and Web Portal? – How can the Observatory federate water governance thematic and regional initiatives? – Do you have comments on the draft inventory of water governance tools, initiatives and platforms prepared by the OECD? – What should an OECD Observatory on Water Governance cover or not cover?
15h30 – 16h	 Coffee Break
16h – 17h15	<p><u>On the road to OECD Principles on Water Governance : Building on what already exists</u></p> <p>Chair: Claire Charbit, Deputy Head, Regional Development Policy Division, OECD</p> <p>Group discussion</p> <p><u>Questions for delegates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What are the recent/ongoing projects on water governance instruments and policy guidance? – How can an OECD instrument foster better governance for better water policy outcomes? – What would be the value added to help guide decision-making? How could it be complementary to other initiatives?
17h15 – 17h30	<p><u>Conclusion and next steps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rolf Alter, Director, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD