



*Asia-Pacific Synthesis and Commitment
Session at the 6th World Water Forum*



MARSEILLE, FRANCE '12

Asia-Pacific Water Forum

**Secretariat of the APWF
5 June 2012**



Asia-Pacific Synthesis and Commitment Session



Date	16 March 2012
Organizer	Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF)
Co-chairs	Mr. Yoshiro Mori, APWF President Mr. Ravi Narayanan, APWF GC Vice chair
Agenda	Part I: Regional Synthesis (ESCAP, UN-Habitat, FAO, ICIMOD, KWF, UNESCO, SIC ICWC) Key messages for decision makers from AWDO (ADB) Part II: Regional Commitments (ADB, ICHARM, IUCN, PUB Singapore, FAO, SOPAC, NWWP)



Targets from the Asia-Pacific Region

Target	Coordinator
<p>Household Water Security: Reduce by half the number of people who do not have access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation in our region by 2015 and to reduce that number to achieve universal and sustainable targets by 2025. On sanitation, this includes the adoption of new and innovative sanitation systems that are not as water reliant as current methods.</p>	<p>ESCAP</p>
<p>Economic, Food and Water Security: By 2012, propose a framework for action on water in green growth in support of economic, food and water security, that addresses local, national and regional action and could be included in the Forum's political declarations</p>	<p>FAO</p>
<p>Economic, Food and Water Security: By 2015, creation of a mechanism of financing for local government engaged in the realization of the target C of the objective 7 of the Millennium Development Goals: reduce by half the percentage of population having no sustainable access to safe drinking water supply nor to basic purification services.</p>	<p>UN Habitat</p>
<p>Urban Water Security: Reduce by half the number of people who do not have access to safe drinking water by 2015 and aim to reach universal and sustainable access to water and sanitation in the Asia-Pacific region by 2025.</p>	<p>UN Habitat</p>
<p>Water Risks and Resilience: By 2015, to develop a strategic flood risk-management framework that engages emerging technologies and strengthens regional information systems for enhanced community resilience through appropriate policies and practices in the Himalayan region.</p>	<p>ICIMOD</p>
<p>IWRM Process: By 2018, Northeast Asia countries will have committed to establish and manage a training centre in Northeast Asia responsive to water and climate change, which serves the purpose of research, education, and teacher training in North East Asia.</p>	<p>KWF</p>
<p>IWRM Process: Enhance capacity of River Basin Organizations to implement IWRM including adaptation to climate change.</p>	<p>UNESCO</p>



Additional Ideas & Solutions

- Improved demand management, reducing non-revenue water, waste water treatment, and a pro-poor rights based approach to services
- Food and water security. (i) a multi-sector approach for hunger; (ii) the complexity needs to be explored in a detailed manner; and (iii) the importance of food security and the impact of agricultural water use on the environment and overall water use
- Disaster risk management. (i) improved technology and analytical tools, (ii) enhanced regional cooperation and (iii) capacity development for all activities
- Promotion of IWRM. (i) recognize the overall variability of water not just climate change; (ii) use traditional knowledge for solutions: and (iii) look beyond a sector approach
- Improve regional cooperation, data and its management, and an adaptive approach especially for climate change
- An overall transformative approach to the economy. Consider local context and local resources



Updates to the Target Action Plan & Follow-up Actions

- Get reforms and provide indices and benchmarks to influence decision makers
- More emphasize on regional cooperation as the framework for disaster risk management
- Include civil society in all water related dialogue for sustainable solutions
- Raise women's profile in all water related issues
- Special attention to the Pacific island nations whose ability and options are much more limited than other countries
- Demand management in cities through improved pricing, regulation and engaging stakeholders
- Center the environment and ecosystem services in all water resources discussions



Take Away Messages & Unexpected Result

- Make the message for the 2nd APWS bold and forward looking
- Support leadership of not only today's leaders, but also tomorrow's leaders
- Support local actions in a regional dimension
- Address specific activities in an integrated fashion
- The postponement of the 2nd APWS:
Keep the process alive for further discuss and refinement of the message for 2nd APWS at events such as the SIWW, SWWW, and through upcoming APWF Governing Council meetings



10 key messages for decision makers from AWDO

- (i) setting and implementing policies for demand management,
- (ii) water, food and energy are inextricably linked and setting clear productivity targets are needed,
- (iii) introducing groundwater regulation and self-management,
- (iv) adopting a service-oriented model can deliver better results from public investments in irrigation for sustainable O&M and management,
- (v) implementing a process and institutions for IWRM in river basins will increase the return on public investment in water storage, productivity, and conservation and are best matched to the emerging challenges of increasing water scarcity and climate change,
- (vi) investing \$1 in clean water and comprehensive sanitation “from toilet to river” can unlock as much as \$8 to \$12 dollars in health and economic benefits,
- (vii) engaging the private sector in stewardship of water resources and market-based approaches can reduce pollution of rivers in the Asia-pacific region,
- (viii) investing in flood forecasting and early warning systems that reach the “last mile” helps save lives,
- (ix) make water everybody’s business by promoting local collective action in rural communities to increase access to safe drinking water and sanitation,
- (x) implementing a combination of structural and non-structural approaches for disaster risk management can significantly reduce the cost of public investment.