



# INBO

**International Network  
of Basin Organizations**

# Report of Activities 2018

[www.riob.org](http://www.riob.org)



Report of Activities 2018



# News of the Network

## International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)

### INBO prepares its new work program for 2019 - 2021



**The Permanent Technical Secretariat has drafted an ambitious work program in preparation for INBO World General Assembly that will take place in Marrakech (Morocco), from 30 September to 3 October 2019. It will be presented and submitted to the Network Members for adoption during the statutory session of the Assembly.**

The overall objective of this work program is to strengthen basin management, which is developing and relying on structured organizations with the

necessary skills, knowledge and funding for integrated and sustainable management of water resources and associated aquatic ecosystems.

It is essential to reaffirm the relevance of the concept of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and its operationalization on the basin scale. This is INBO's main task. Indeed, all the major processes that punctuate the life of the development sector recognize the need to meet the challenges of our time with a holistic approach to the problems to be solved and to their solutions.

This is the case, of course, with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Sendai Framework for Action for Disaster Risk Reduction or the international climate negotiations (Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UNFCCC) and the conservation and sustainable use of living organisms (Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, CBD).

INBO will be present at the major meetings of these different processes. It will highlight the exemplary achievements of its members, the multiple benefits of basin management and organize exchange of experiences to improve practices and optimize the use of natural resources.

It will increase its capacity building activities, project development, knowledge sharing (including publications), events and advocacy actions on seven thematic priorities:

- **Priority 1:** Improvement, development and strengthening of information systems and data at basin level;
- **Priority 2:** Adaptation to climate change in the basins of river, lakes and aquifers;
- **Priority 3:** Strengthening water governance;
- **Priority 4:** Intersectoral Coordination and Preservation of Biodiversity and Aquatic Ecosystems;
- **Priority 5:** Strengthening city-basin dialogue;
- **Priority 6:** Development of participatory and citizen management of basins and sub-basins;
- **Priority 7:** Reinforcing Institutional Partnerships and the Science-Policy Interface.



## INBO Work Program 2019-2021

Promotion of water management at basin scale through structured basin organizations, with proper governance, competencies and knowledge, as well as sustainable financial mechanisms for IWRM

7 Priorities

- 1 Water Information Systems
- 2 Climate Change Adaptation
- 3 Better governance
- 4 Intersectoral coordination & environmental conservation
- 5 Strengthening city-basin dialogue
- 6 Participatory and citizen management
- 7 Increasing partnerships

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## Message from INBO World President

**Ms. Blanca Jiménez Cisneros, who was appointed General Director of the Mexican Water Commission (CONAGUA) on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018, as part of the new administration of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, is currently INBO President.**

**She presents her message and vision of the future of the network.**

### About INBO importance

As an international platform, INBO enables stakeholders to exchange experiences and knowledge on Integrated Water Resources Management for improving the latter's implementation and on successful cases in variable contexts.

Likewise, it helps to create a space where basin issues can be discussed and analyzed, and solutions can be found to address the most pressing water challenges.

### Regarding CONAGUA

Mexico is a country with vast experience in the field of water. Its geographical position has allowed it to develop knowledge and implement practices that, on the one hand, meet the increasing water challenges and the risks associated with extreme hydrometeorological phenomena, droughts and floods and, on the other, to address the challenges of meeting water needs with drinking water supply and sanitation services in rural and marginalized communities, but also in one of the world's largest megacities with more than 20 million inhabitants, located in an endorheic river basin.

Since receiving INBO Presidency in June 2016, Mexico, through CONAGUA, has committed to share its experience in the international events involving INBO, such as the meetings of the Conference of the Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the World Water Forum. Similarly, we are actively involved in preparing INBO's strategy for the 2019-2021 period.

Our commitment is to guarantee the right to water of our populations, both rural and urban, and, not forgetting anybody, taking into account the complexity of the relationship between cities and basins.

### Message from the President

Several topics seem to me essential to face the challenges ahead, in the current context of climate change. We must prepare for more extreme and increasingly frequent events, as evidenced by the forecasts for the next rainy and hurricane season that is about to begin.

The first challenge is the knowledge of water resources, because "we cannot manage what we do not know and cannot measure".

It is therefore of utmost importance to have monitoring and measurement networks, for collecting and analyzing water data, and reliable Water Information Systems.

Today, most organizations produce data and have their own systems. The next step is to improve cooperation between the various stakeholders to exchange their information via a platform that allows them to be interconnected.

The second key challenge is the relationship between surface water and groundwater, in order to take into account the water cycle as a whole and to achieve a more efficient management of the resource.

International cooperation, the exchange of knowledge and successful cases, as well as the production of handbooks, intended for the stakeholders of the sector to guide them in the management of the resource, seem to me also very important, especially for the shared management of transboundary basins, to achieve sustainable development and prevent conflicts over water resources.

Last, but not least, is the question of how each user participates in the management of the resource. I think it is essential to adopt the concept of social co-responsibility, which defines not only the users' rights, but also their obligations, so that each stakeholder can assume his own responsibility for the sustainability of the resource.

### Following steps

In order to include all the stakeholders involved in basin management, a major challenge is the introduction of other languages into the work of the network, as well as the translation of its publications, now available in French and in English (handbooks on water information systems, participatory management and adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins).

We shall actively participate in the next INBO events, especially in the preparation of the next assembly, as well as in the World Water Forum.

We shall gladly facilitate the transition with the next INBO Moroccan President, who, I am sure, will do an excellent job in pursuing cooperative efforts for better and more efficient integrated management of the world's water resources.



**Ms. Blanca Jiménez Cisneros, General Director of CONAGUA**



# Significant World Events

## 8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum



18 - 23 March 2018 - Brasilia - Brazil

The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), the Global Alliances for Water and Climate (GAWaC), and their partners, were given the coordination of about ten thematic sessions in connection with the Forum's "Regional" and "Citizen" processes.

These sessions allowed addressing the issues of integrated management of transboundary river basins, the adaptation, which is now essential, to the effects of climate change on water resources and the information and training of all stakeholders concerned.

Two Special Sessions, among the most attended throughout the Forum, were devoted to "Strengthening Citizen Participation in Basin Management" and to "Water Information Systems: Data and Tools for Water Management and for Making the Right Decisions".

First, we will remember the slogan, which has prevailed in almost all the themes of the Forum: **"We cannot manage what we do not know how to measure!"**

In each country and each basin, the organization and improvement of the production, collection, conservation and exchange of data, as part of true Integrated Water Information Systems (WIS), whose long-term sustainability must be ensured, should allow for a precise view of the situations and of their evolution, especially in relation with the effects of climate change.

Early warning systems for floods and droughts must be developed wherever necessary.

**A second major advance of the Brasilia Forum is the recognition of the importance of all stakeholders' participation in the definition and achievement of the common objectives for water resources management.**

It is especially necessary to use recognized consultation frameworks such as Basin Committees or Councils, Local Water Commissions or River or Aquifer Contracts for this purpose. Access to information, training and environmental education needs to be improved, especially for the most disadvantaged populations.

**With regard to the prevention of transboundary conflicts:**

- Cooperation and dialogue between riparian countries on transboundary waters offer important perspectives for their sustainable development, regional integration and improved relations for mutual benefit in all economic, social and ecological fields;
- The establishment and strengthening of International Commissions, Authorities or Joint Organizations in transboundary basins improve dialogue, conflict resolution and the sharing of the cooperation benefits between riparian countries;
- These joint organizations should have clear mandates and human, technical and financial resources to carry out their missions;



- There is a broad consensus to promote joint management of surface and groundwater in the same area and to better protect transboundary aquifers.

**Regarding adaptation to climate change:**

Mobilization is essential at global level to urgently implement programs to prevent and adapt to the effects of global warming on freshwater resources.

**The "Paris Pact on Adaptation to Climate Change in the Basins of Rivers, Lakes and Aquifers"**, launched at the COP21, proposes a set of actions that have proven effective and immediately applicable.

Freshwater must be truly recognized as a priority in the UNFCCC COPs' negotiations, especially by emphasizing the importance of adaptation measures alongside mitigation measures.

It is urgent to have a better integration of water policies with those of the other strategic sectors, such as a sustainable city, agriculture and food, health, waterways transport, fisheries, mines or hydropower, in particular.

Stakeholders are encouraged to include Nature-Based Solutions in an ambitious way in their policies and strategies for combating climate change, in land-use planning and water resources management.

It is necessary to significantly increase funding for climate action in the water sector in order to support not only infrastructure projects, but also serve to improve knowledge of water resources and climate change impacts, capacity building, governance, monitoring and evaluation of policies. They should also support river basin organizations for sustainable water resources management, especially when transboundary water resources are concerned.

**Regarding education and capacity building:**

Education and awareness of water issues and capacity building are essential at all levels to improve the management of resources and services.

Vocational training on water needs to be developed, supported by sustainable financial mechanisms and facilitated by the establishment or strengthening of specialized national or international training centers.



# Significant World Events



There is a need to promote the experimentation, evaluation and exchange of know-how in vocational training and education, including support to networks for cooperation between existing or developing training centers.

**The Ministerial Declaration** encourages Governments to establish or strengthen national integrated water resources management policies and plans, including strategies for adaptation to climate change. It supports the

strengthening of institutional arrangements, with the participation of all stakeholders in the policy-making process, while fostering the exchange and sharing of information and experiences among public and private stakeholders and the civil society.

It recognizes that efforts and initiatives taken at all levels should promote the adequate and inclusive participation of all relevant stakeholders.

It recommends developing and sharing solutions, including integrated water resources management, adaptation to the impact of climate change, and nature-based solutions to address the most pressing water challenges, through research and innovation, upscaling cooperation, capacity building and technology transfer.

**The Ministers encourage trans-boundary cooperation based on “win-win” solutions for all, in accordance with applicable international law, namely relevant bilateral, regional and international instruments.**

**In addition to the official sessions of the Forum, several side events allowed the presentation of a wide range of field experiences and direct exchanges between field leaders.**

The strong mobilization of partners, especially South American partners, shows that ideas are progressing and that we are seeing a real convergence towards operational solutions that have proven themselves in the field and that can be implemented quickly.

**But this requires changing words into action without delay!**

**All papers and photos of the events organized by INBO, GAFWAC and all their partners can be viewed and downloaded on the website:**

[www.inbo-news.org](http://www.inbo-news.org)



## Two new “INBO Handbooks”

At the Brasilia Forum, the International Network of Basin Organizations presented two new publications, to be added to the INBO Handbook collection, started in 2009.

The first handbook is entitled **“Water Information Systems. Administration, Processing and Exploitation of Water-Related Data”**.

Access to data and information on the status and evolution of the water resource and its uses is a crucial element for any water policy implementation. Unfortunately, the necessary data are often produced and managed by several organizations in different sectors, with little coordination among themselves and in many cases the information available for decision making and public information is not fully adapted to the needs.

Resulting from a collaboration between INBO and UNESCO, with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Australian Bureau of Meteorology, coordinating the World Water Data Initiative (WWDI), and the International Office for Water (IOWater), with the support of the French Agency for Biodiversity (AFB), this document highlights why the management of water data is so important for the effective management of water resources and presents the main processes to be taken into account when implementing a Water Information System (WIS).

The second is entitled **“Participation of Stakeholders and the Civil Society in the Basins of Rivers, Lakes and Aquifers”**.

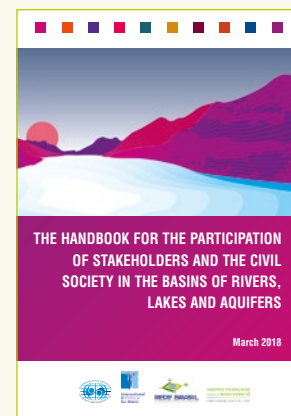
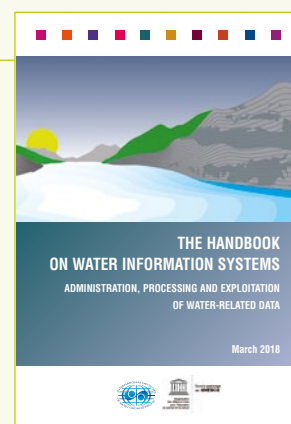
The implementation of many decisions needed for water resources management is only possible when there is

a strong commitment and if all public and private, collective or individual stakeholders concerned are mobilized.

This document, jointly written by INBO, the Brazilian Network of Basin Organizations (REBOB) and IOWater, with the support of the French Agency for Biodiversity (AFB), highlights why participation is so significant in water resources management. It describes the key elements of the participation in water management and it gives many practical examples from basins around the world which show what can be done to make the participation of stakeholders and the civil society a reality and an added-value in the decision-making process at basin level.

**These handbooks are available in English on INBO website (“Network publications” section).**

[www.inbo-news.org](http://www.inbo-news.org)



# Significant World Events

## High Level Political Forum (HLPF)



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM  
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

9 - 18 July 2018 - New-York - USA

### Sustainable Development Goals: Water is not very popular!

The High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development, the UN's platform for review of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), took place in New York City from 9 to 18 July 2018.

It gathered some 2,000 representatives from UN Member States, business leaders, mayors, the scientific community, foundations, UN agencies and civil society organizations.

The first day, the 2018 review of UN Water Sustainable Development Goal 6 "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all" immediately set the scene by concluding: "Modest progress is being made, but most countries will not meet the target by 2030 at current rates of implementation"

A pessimistic observation, the UN Secretary General, HE Mr. E. António Guterres, recalled that the failure to achieve the objectives on water would also jeopardize the other SDGs.

Despite these depressed findings, the session dedicated to SDG 6's review was reduced to three hours of a long series of interventions agreed in advance leaving no room for a debate nor for solution proposals.

Only the Member-States expressed themselves, if one leaves apart three very short interventions of the representatives of the Major Groups.

Representatives of civil society, local authorities, companies, NGOs had only a limited access to a reserved area in the conference room without any opportunity to speak: we cannot really talk about a "Forum"!

As for the "High Level", it must be recognized that most of the seats of the Member-States were not occupied by ministerial level representatives, but often only by a representative of their national delegation to the UN.....

#### The water issue was not very popular at high-level!

While the different interventions of UN Water and Member States focused on the need for urgent and coordinated action, the format of the HLPF did not allow for more in-depth solutions.

The discussions therefore remained very general, as well as the final Ministerial Declaration, which was non-binding and without concrete conclusions, in contradiction with the urgency to act to achieve the objectives!



This format has been criticized by many Member States: and some speakers called for the establishment of regular intergovernmental political meetings to monitor the SDGs implementation for water.

Mr. Jean-François Donzier, former Secretary General of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), who was accredited to participate in the Forum, could only support this idea, but provided that it is not once more to say nothing concrete!

At the end of the sessions, he underlined that the management of aquifers is only mentioned in a secondary way and the basin approach hardly appears and, even if the report and some speeches insist on the transboundary cooperation over shared water resources, they do not go so far as to recommend clearly and explicitly that it is organized on the scale of the entire transboundary basin...

To stay positive, let's say that, at least, the interventions and the UN-Water report reflect the messages conveyed, for decades now, by the Water Community, in general, and INBO, in particular, and presented during major international events on water: the importance of water, its governance, its integrated management, stakeholder participation, data sharing, adequate funding, transboundary cooperation, resource pollution, nature-based solutions and impact of climate change on floods and droughts.

**Solutions do exist and have proven their effectiveness for decades for some of them .... But strong political will is needed to implement them!**



[www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment)



# Significant World Events

## Global Climate Action Summit of Non-State Stakeholders

12 - 14 September 2018 - San Francisco - USA



Speech of Edouard Boinet from INBO

Nearly 4,500 participants, representatives of cities, regions, States, companies, public and private investors and associations participated in the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco from 12 to 14 September 2018.

This was the first climate summit of non-state stakeholders organized on US soil, held in a context of withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Agreement.

INBO participated as well as the Global Alliances for Water and Climate (GAFWaC), the Alliance of Megacities for Water and Climate (UNESCO-IHP)

and the Business Alliance for Water and Climate (BAFWAC), including Suez, the Pacific Institute, the Water Mandate CEO and the Carbon Disclosure Project.

INBO thus took part in the debate on knowledge, education and public involvement. It especially recalled the importance of producing reliable data and information as decision making support tools, the usefulness of involving all stakeholders in establishing a shared diagnosis and vision, and the need to properly train professionals in the water sector to optimize the use of the resource.

It also supported the interventions of the "Hoover Institution" and the Business Alliance for Water and Climate (BAFWAC), insisting on the "security" dimension of water management, perhaps the only one to be likely a priority topic in international climate negotiations. The States are indeed interested in water as a factor of national security (the "Hoover Institution" affirmed that the drying up of Lake Chad and drought in the Middle East were two determining factors in the emergence of Boko Haram and the Syrian Civil War) and as a factor of economic security (BAFWAC recalled that water has been every year in the top 5 of the biggest economic risks for seven years).

INBO was also present at the side event "Forests, Land and Food Day: Meeting the 30x30 Challenge" organized by WWF-US, to represent the water sector. The "30x30" challenge is based on the idea that improving the efficiency of our food systems while preserving our lands, habitats and natural soils, and that reducing waste and excessive consumption would provide 30% of the needed solutions by 2030 to deal

with the climate crisis and help implement the Paris climate agreement. The GAFWaCs are among the partners of this "30x30" challenge.

Representatives of Governments, public and private donors and companies intervened to present the solutions that can be implemented. The Global Environment Facility and its partners announced funding of \$ 500 million for soil protection and restoration.

The role of the social and environmental responsibility of agribusiness companies was stressed: the required changes of scale will only occur if they change their business model towards a fairer remuneration of farmers, practices and products that are more respectful of soil, climate and consumers' health.

[www.globalclimateactionsummit.org](http://www.globalclimateactionsummit.org)



## Stockholm World Water Week

26 - 31 August 2018 - Stockholm - Sweden

INBO participated in this event in order to promote and develop international initiatives that it manages or co-manages, in particular the Global Alliances for Water and Climate (GAFWaC) and their incubation programs, including the "100 Water and Climate projects for Africa", the INBO / UNECE platform of pilot river basins for adaptation to climate change, the World Water Data Initiative and the International Declaration on Nature-Based Solutions.

It also met many transboundary basin organizations (Lake Victoria, Senegal and Mekong Rivers) to discuss their work programs, INBO's program and cooperation projects that could be jointly implemented.

INBO also took part in a side-event to present the National Center for Space Studies (CNES) work on the use of satellite data and imagery for the assessment of water quality.

[www.worldwaterweek.org](http://www.worldwaterweek.org)



Opening Ceremony - © Thomas Henriksson/SIWI

# Significant World Events

## COP24



3 - 14 December 2018 - Katowice - Poland

### INBO's events on water and climate

Measures to halt global warming are generally considered to be one of the most significant civilizational challenges and a prerequisite for implementing the principles and goals of sustainable development. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its annual Conferences of the Parties (COPs), which are the main decision-making body of the Convention, are the most important instrument of international cooperation on the fight against the effects of climate change.

One of the most important tasks of COP24 was to develop and adopt a set of decisions ensuring the full implementation of the Paris Agreement, in accordance with the decisions adopted in Paris (COP21) and Marrakech (CMA1.1). In addition, COP24 included the Facilitation Dialogue to support the implementation of national commitments.

The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), on its own and as Secretariat of the Global Alliances for Water and Climate (GAWaC), organized and participated in 9 events and a dozen bilateral meetings during COP24 (Katowice, Poland) on the theme of water and climate.

These events dealt with challenges and solutions related to:

- Adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins, water security;
- Access to climate funds for adaptation projects in the water sector;
- Capacity building and dissemination of knowledge;
- Dialogue between stakeholders from different sectors;
- Research and innovation to fight against climate change in Africa (AfriAlliance);
- The need for better governance for successful development of the blue economy;
- The value of preserving ecosystems and nature-based solutions for adaptation.

Moreover, during a side event in the French Pavilion, Ms. Brune Poirson, Secretary of State to the French Minister for Ecological and Solidarity Transition, announced that the next "One Planet Summit" will be held in Nairobi (Kenya) on Thursday 14 March 2019. It will address the issue of adaptation and will focus on Africa.



Speech by Mr. Eric Tardieu, INBO General Secretary

Mr. Eric Tardieu, new General Secretary of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), confirmed that he would contribute by presenting the progress made in the "100 water and climate projects for Africa" initiative.

On 8 December, on the occasion of the "Member State and Government" Day, the Global Alliances for Water and Climate (GAWaC), in collaboration with the Governments of Senegal, France and the Kingdom of Morocco, organized an event on "Adaptation in the water sector: ensuring water security in a context of climate change".

As 90% of the impacts associated with climate change affect our societies through the water cycle according

to the 5<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), droughts, floods, desertification are a threat to water security and, beyond that, to the energy and food security of our societies.

This event aimed to promote the French Speaking World as an opportunity for exchanges between river basins around the world to identify and apply climate change adaptation solutions. It presented actions for adaptation to climate change implemented in the basins worldwide.

[www.inbo-news.org/en/events/cop24](http://www.inbo-news.org/en/events/cop24)

[www.water-climate-alliances.org/news/cop24-katowice](http://www.water-climate-alliances.org/news/cop24-katowice)



Ms. Brune Poirson, Secretary of State to the French Minister for Ecological and Solidarity Transition © INBO



COP24 - KATOWICE 2018

UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE







### 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OECD Water Governance Initiative (WGI)

12 - 13 November 2018 - Zaragoza - Spain

The OECD Water Governance Initiative is a multi-stakeholder network of 100+ delegates from public, private and non-profit sectors gathering twice a year in a Policy Forum to share on-going reforms, projects, lessons and good practices in support of better governance in the water sector.

It was launched on 27-28 March 2013 and is chaired by Peter Glas of the Dutch Water Authorities. The WGI is hosted by the OECD and coordinated by a multi-stakeholder steering committee, INBO has been a member since the beginning.

On 12-13 November 2018, the OECD Water Governance Initiative held its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Palacio de Congresos, Zaragoza, Spain.

The meeting gathered 80+ practitioners, policymakers and representatives from major stakeholder groups. The agenda, list of participants, presentations, and pictures from the event are accessible online.

#### Summary and key outcomes:

- Delegates discussed WGI contributions to major international water forums. OECD Secretariat reported on the 2018 High Level Political Forum (New York, 9-18 July 2018), where the OECD program on “A Territorial Approach to the SDGs” was launched. INBO updated delegates on the preparatory process of COP 24 (3-14 Dec, 2018, Katowice, Poland), the key themes of which include technology, solidarity and nature. The Spanish hosts invited delegates to the 24<sup>th</sup> SMAGUA fair to be held on 5-7 February 2019 in Zaragoza.
- Delegates peer-reviewed the paper “An application of the OECD Principles on Water Governance to Flood Management”. This paper provides a checklist of 100+ questions that help policy-makers and practitioners to assess whether governance systems are fit to manage flood in an effective, efficient and inclusive way.

WGI delegates stressed the importance of this tool and issued a call to expand the exercise to other subsectors such as droughts or groundwater governance.

- OECD Secretariat presented the draft WGI 2019-2021 Strategy and Program of Work for discussion. Breakout sessions were conducted to shape the objectives, outputs and timeline of the two Working Groups on Indicators and Capacity Development.
- Delegates shared key messages from latest research and reforms related to water: water governance in Brazil (ANA); water governance in a humanitarian context (Action contre la Faim); the City Water Resilience Framework (Arup); coastal zone groundwater management (BMZ); the role of women in the governance of shared waters (Women for Water Partnership).
- Delegates welcomed the program proposal “The Governance and Economics of Water Security

for Sustainable Development in Africa” which aims to leverage the King Hassan II World Water Prize.

- The session “Water Governance and Circular Economy” shed light on changes in governance frameworks needed to transition from traditional linear economic practices to innovative circular practices. The OECD program, “Economics and Governance of Circular Economy in Cities”, was presented.
- Delegates shared key messages on the water governance forums and conferences organized in 2018.
- A knowledge sharing session was devoted to water governance in Spain during which Manuel Menendez, General Water Director of the Ministry for the Ecological Transition, presented key challenges in the water sector and highlighted opportunities to improve Spain’s water governance system through the lens of the OECD Principles.



The OECD Water Governance Initiative (WGI) contributed to the development of the OECD Water Governance Indicator Framework, through a dedicated working group during the triennium 2016-2018. The next program of work of the WGI towards 2021 will keep working on governance indicators, to complement the framework through the development of impact indicators and by promoting the use of the existing indicator framework.

[www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org)

# International initiatives

## The Global Alliances for Water and Climate (GAfWaC)



**The Global Alliances for Water and Climate (GAfWaC) were launched at the official Water Day of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on 9 November 2016 in Marrakech.**

On this occasion, four Alliances committed themselves, through a Joint Declaration, to mobilize their partners, to identify and disseminate good practices and to support the development of new projects by field stakeholders involved in the adaptation and resilience of the water sector:

- The Alliance of Basins for Climate (which gathers the signatories of the Paris Pact on adaptation in the basins of rivers, lakes and aquifers),
- The Business Alliance for Water and Climate (BAFWAC),
- The Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate (MAWAC),
- The Global Clean Desalination Alliance (GCWDA).

### **INBO provides the Secretariat.**

In 2018, it supported the structuring of the Global Clean Desalination Alliance (GCWDA), whose Secretariat will now be provided by

the International Office for Water, through a cooperation agreement negotiated in 2018 and signed in January 2019.

INBO has also promoted, operated and strengthened the GAfWaC Incubation Platform, which aims to support the first development stages of water and climate projects. In 2018, it focused on the Southern Mediterranean, with the implementation of the "100 water and climate projects for Africa" initiative, launched on 12 December 2017 by the President of the French Republic, Mr. Emmanuel Macron, on occasion of the 1st "One Planet Summit". Under the impetus of INBO, the French Water Agencies have pledged to contribute to the initiative, with the incubation of 20 new projects, including 5 in 2018 (in Senegal, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Madagascar and in the Mono Basin which covers areas of Benin and Togo). The French Development Agency (AFD) also took part in this effort, with the submission

to the French Global Environment Facility of a proposal for a Water Information System project for Congo's transboundary basin. The incubation of a program of 7 projects to adapt to climate change in 7 African transboundary basins (Niger, Senegal, Volta, Congo and Nile Rivers and Lakes Chad and Victoria). The World Bank, for its part, integrated into the Incubation Platform, its project of resilience to climate change in the Niger Basin (P-DReCC).

With the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, INBO jointly developed a methodological guide on "Financing adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins: Preparing projects that are likely to be funded". The handbook is specifically based on the conclusions of the eponymous training workshop held in June 2017 in Dakar, as well as on the experience of INBO's transboundary basin organizations.



River Senegal



# International initiatives

Using case studies, which concretely illustrate the point, the guide provides keys to the successful development of water and climate projects, identifying relevant donors and meeting the complex procedures for accessing climate funds. The handbook was published in January 2019 in four languages: English, French, Russian and Spanish.

On occasion of COP23 (Bonn, December 2017), the French Partnership for Water (PFE) and GAFWaC jointly developed the "International Declaration: Nature-Based Solutions (NBS),

Water Management and Climate Change". Its messages were also furthered by INBO.

INBO promoted these thematic activities (desalination, ecosystem and NBS based adaptation, incubation and funding of water and climate projects) in all major international events related to water and climate (8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum from 18 to 23 March in Brasilia, World Summit for Climate Action on 12-14 September 2018 in San Francisco, 24<sup>th</sup> UNFCCC Conference of the Parties on 3-14 December in Katowice).

During the 8th World Water Forum (Brasilia in March) It organized the GAFWaC steering committee meeting as well as three sessions on the priority topic "1.b. Water and adaptation to climate change":

- **Session 1.b.1** : How Climate Change Affects Water Uses: The Need for Cross-Sector Approaches to Adaptation.
- **Session 1.b.2** : Innovative Financial Mechanisms for Adaptation to Climate Change.
- **Session 1.b.3** : No need to reinvent the wheel: let's take advantage of no-regret adaptation measures!

It also contributed to the preparation of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action (MPGCA), the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), with the planning and holding of the official Water Day (Saturday, 8 December 2018, Katowice).

## Join the initiative

### 100 water & climate projects for africa!

#### Climate change & water security issues in Africa

Droughts, floods, desertification: Africa is one of the regions most vulnerable to climate change and its impacts. They pose a serious threat to its water security and associated food and energy security.

#### A dire need to scale-up actions!

Launched at the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the "One Planet Summit" (12 Dec. 2017, Paris), this initiative aims to support the development of 100 water and climate projects in Africa over 5 years. It provides early stage technical assistance to project holders for the preparation of their concept notes to facilitate access to donors and climate funds.

#### Already 20 incubated projects in 30 countries!

The initiative upholds 20 incubated projects covering 30 African countries, with commitments from the World Bank, the French Water Agencies, the French Development Agency (AFD) and the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM) focusing on the following themes:

- **Knowledge:** monitoring, data, water information systems, modeling, alert systems
- **Governance and sustainable financial mechanisms:** sustainable financial mechanisms: institutional capacity building, training, consistency of sectoral policies, impact & vulnerability studies, disaster prevention action plans...
- **Nature-Based Solutions:** ecosystem services, aquatic environment & wetland restoration

**Join the initiative**  
**EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS**

- Reduction of the industrial pollution in Fez.
- Adaptation to climate change in the Nile river basin.
- Adaptation to climate change in the Senegal river basin.
- Strengthening the National Water Information System.
- Congo transboundary river basin: Nature-based Solutions & satellite technologies for climate change adaptation.

For more information, to submit your project proposal, Express your interest to finance projects

Please contact: Edouard Boinet +33 609 959 274 secretariat@amec-gafwaac.org

Secretariat of the GAFWaC



Network of basins, companies, cities & clean desalination actors for climate action



Providing assistance for project preparation



# International initiatives

## International Water Association (IWA)



### Action Agenda for Basin-Connected Cities

INBO has been associated to the initiative launched by IWA for launched the Action Agenda for Basin-Connected Cities at the IWA World Water Congress on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Tokyo, Japan. Building on the Principles for Water Wise Cities, the agenda aims to influence and activate urban stakeholders to protect and invest in water resources with basin and catchment organizations, including securing the water resource, protecting water quality and preparing for extreme events.

#### Resilience through sustainability

Growing populations and continued economic development of cities within a catchment area requires water security which depends on healthy basin ecosystems coupled with effective water governance. Challenges of water quality, quantity and resilience to extreme events cannot be solved by individual entities alone such as water utilities and city governments, as the wider catchment is usually beyond their mandate.

It is critical to encourage urban leaders to champion water resources protection by connecting in collaboration with basin and catchment organizations, civil society and environmental groups as well as agricultural, energy and other business interests.

#### Target audience

The Action Agenda is targeting multiple stakeholders with different roles to play including water and wastewater utilities, City governments, industry (urban and peri-urban), policy makers and regulators, and basin organizations and water resources agencies.

#### Transitioning to Basin-Connected Cities

The Action Agenda for Basin-Connected Cities outlines the rationale for urban stakeholders to lead the way in realizing their role as water stewards and the different pathways and activities towards achieving more integrated water resources management.

This includes the drivers for action such as flooding, water scarcity and pollution; followed by the pathways for action through assessment, planning and implementation; and the foundations for action from developing a vision to building capacity for improving governance.

#### The Agenda into practice

To support the agenda, IWA is showcasing best practices and experience of transitioning to a basin-connected city through Basin Stories which demonstrate how stakeholders are taking part or contributing to sustainable management of water resources. INBO and IWA plan to compile these stories into a Handbook.

To play a part or learn more, visit:

<http://iwa-network.org/projects/basin-action-agenda>

[www.iwa-network.org](http://www.iwa-network.org)

### Guide on the funding of water and climate projects

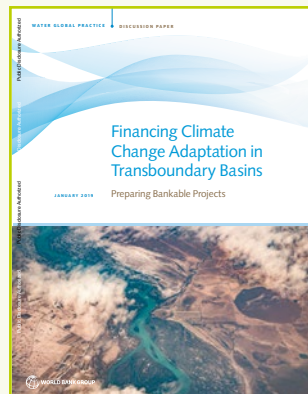
A publication of the World Bank, UNECE, AfDB and INBO

The World Bank, UNECE, African Development Bank and INBO are jointly publishing a methodological guide on “Financing adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins: Preparing projects that can be funded”.

This publication builds on the preparatory work and conclusions of the training workshop “How to prepare bankable projects for financing climate change adaptation in transboundary basins”, held in Dakar, Senegal, from 21 to 23 June 2017 as part of the activities of the Global Network of Basins Working on Climate Change Adaptation led by INBO and UNECE.

The guide provides practical answers to the questions asked by donors and climate change adaptation project leaders, for example on the various stages of a project proposal and the associated procedures (different

according to the donor), on the criteria for eligibility and how to designate a recipient of funds (the transboundary basin organization or one of its Member States), the additionality of funding or the sustainability of expected results beyond the life cycle of the project.



[www.inbo-news.org/pub/Financing\\_CC\\_Basins](http://www.inbo-news.org/pub/Financing_CC_Basins)

#### Principles for “Water-Wise Cities”



- 1 Regenerative Water Services
- 2 Water Sensitive Urban Design
- 3 Basin Connected Cities
- 4 Water-Wise Communities



# International initiatives

UNECE



8<sup>th</sup> Session of the  
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES  
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**



## Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention

10 -12 October - Astana - Kazakhstan

Side event on "Transboundary Cooperation"



**More than 15 countries announced their interest to accede to the Water Convention at the historic eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention in Astana.**

From 10 to 12 October 2018, around 600 participants from 88 countries (including both Parties and non-Parties), River Basin Organizations (RBOs), international organizations and NGOs gathered in Astana, Kazakhstan for the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP8) to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) to discuss progress in transboundary water cooperation worldwide.

INBO actively participated in this meeting, not only during the plenary sessions, but also through the organization of several side events.

Serviced by the **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)**, the Water Convention aims to ensure the sustainable use of transboundary water resources by facilitating cooperation. In 2018, the Water Convention welcomed its two first Parties from beyond the pan-European region namely Chad and Senegal.

MOP 8 was the first Meeting of the Parties held in Asia. More than 15 countries expressed their interest to become Parties to the Convention.

The MOP 8 took stock of progress made in the past 3 years within activities implemented under the Convention in various areas.

For example, the joint work with INBO on climate change adaptation was presented.

The meeting also saw the launch of the first report on implementation of the Convention.

Future activities were also discussed and the new Program of Work for 2019-2021 was adopted. While this new program of work will continue most of the work areas initiated in the past, it will also explore new areas of work such as the financing of transboundary water cooperation. This topic was discussed in depth in the margins of the MOP8 during a high-level workshop organized on 9 October where the urgent need to create enabling conditions for investments in shared basins was stressed, namely through appropriate and strong legal and institutional arrangements for cooperation.

The meeting also launched three new publications: an implementation guide on addressing water related disasters and transboundary cooperation prepared with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, an updated methodology on assessing the water-food-energy ecosystem nexus and a brochure on identifying, assessing and communicating benefits of cooperation.

A number of other decisions and documents were also adopted including the new strategy for the global implementation of the Convention in which a crucial importance is given to the strengthening and development of partnerships, such as with INBO and river basin organizations.

[www.unece.org](http://www.unece.org)





### Innovative solutions for water and climate in Africa



Participants in the AfriAlliance project

The European project AfriAlliance (2016–2020) has reached the halfway point and finished its third year with very positive results on its activities.

The aim of the project is to boost Africa's capacities to respond to the challenges of climate change by working together and sharing innovative solutions between existing networks in Africa and Europe.

INBO is partner in the consortium, which includes 14 other networks on both continents.

New workshops in Mali and Kenya took place to exchange on needs and social innovation related to water and the impacts of climate change.

They wrapped up the first round of meetings between basin organizations, researchers, civil society organizations and water services.

The results of these workshops fed into reflections on the state of research and the availability of results and led to proposals for new strategic directions in terms of research funding.

The first step was to draw up a list of social innovation requirements. The partners then collected data on existing solutions in response to the needs identified.

The needs and research results are then entered into a database managed by the International Office for Water (IOWater), INBO Secretariat, which is also responsible for producing a report presenting the general state of play.

In terms of communication, a new series of themed fact sheets on social innovation is to be published soon.

A first series, available in English and French, is available on the project's website and covers the general theme of monitoring.

This second series focuses on water resource management in the face of climate change.

The project is starting a new phase of events, this time centered on the transferability of solutions.

Field stakeholders and suppliers are invited to meet at transfer workshops and travelling workshops demonstrating innovative solutions across Africa.

**All of this information is available on the website.**



[www.afrialliance.org](http://www.afrialliance.org)

The Handbook on **Data Collection**



# Central and Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia

## Uzbekistan



### International Conference on “Water for Land Reclamation, Economic Sectors and Natural Environment in the context of Climate Change”

An International Conference on “Water for Land Reclamation, Economic Sectors and Natural Environment in the context of Climate Change”, organized by the International Network of Basin Organizations of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA-NWO), took place on 6 and 7 November 2018 in Tashkent.

Throughout the workshop, key stakeholders and participants exchanged views on current issues regarding the management, use and protection of water resources in Central Asia in the context of climate change.

It was especially pointed out that the current challenges facing the countries

in the region, including climate change, the potential increase in water demand of neighboring countries (Afghanistan, China, Iran), population growth and economic and social changes, require appropriate adaptation measures.

In this context, it is important to establish long-term water strategies (2030-2050) for each country and to develop a regional action plan for sustainable and peaceful development.

Other issues were also addressed and discussed in detail regarding the role and future development of water and

environmental sciences, building the capacity of key stakeholders, and continuing and systematic training of water management structure staff. and not forgetting public awareness.

The next conference of the network will be held in 2019 on the theme “Science and innovations for water security” as part of the XV International Scientific Congress and Exhibition “Water of Russia 2019”, to be held in Yekaterinburg.

[www.eecca-water.net](http://www.eecca-water.net)



Participants in the Conference

## Kyrgyzstan / Kazakhstan



### Chu and Talas Transboundary Basins

#### Water accountability

The project on “Water Accountability in the Chu-Talas Transboundary Basins” funded by the SDC (Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency), aims to promote modern, sustainable, transparent management of water resources in the Chu and Talas Basins (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan).

One of the specific targets of the project is the modernization of processes to manage demand and distribution of water for irrigation in the entire Chu and Talas Basins.

The existing system involves communicating data on water demands by fax or telephone between services.

The Water Information System (WIS) currently being installed will be used to securely communicate and interrogate data in almost-real time from work stations and tablets.

Data are available for operational use

and for writing reports and are prepared to make them easy to access and understand by all stakeholders, from water user associations right up to national and transboundary level.

The activities, carried out in collaboration with local experts, consist in improving shared management and data processing, as well as the production and dissemination of information according to needs.

Thanks to this system, local bodies responsible for distributing water for irrigation can now use a tablet to follow online the everyday status of this distribution on the entire network.

In addition, new information services (reports, indicators, newsletters, maps) will be developed for national and basin authorities to make it easier to monitor distribution on each irrigation sector and canal.

At transboundary level, the system will also facilitate production and exchanges of information, thanks to the regular publication of transboundary newsletters on the situation of water resources and uses.

Lastly, the system should also serve as a model for effective management of transboundary waters at national and regional levels.



Using a tablet to operate services at Chu basin level



# 16<sup>th</sup> European “EUROPE-INBO Conference 17 - 20 October



The 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the “EUROPE-INBO” group took place in Seville, Spain, from 17 to 20 October 2018.

It gathered 237 participants coming from 42 countries.

The work of this conference was organised around a workshop on Invasive Alien Species (see page 36) and 4 roundtables on current issues, such as the prevention of drought: the interest in Nature-Based Solutions, international cooperation and the review of the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

**Prevention of drought is required especially due to climate change.**

It involves the adaptation of water resources management at basin level, through short, medium- and long-term planning of measures, as part of the implementation of the WFD and Flood Directive.



The Paris Pact on “Water and Adaptation to the Effects of Climate Change in the Basins of Rivers, Lakes and Aquifers” and the INBO publication on “Water and Adaptation to Climate Change in Transboundary Basins” provide valuable recommendations for carrying out adaptation in basins.

Based on a shared knowledge of the basin’s vulnerability to drought and floods, preventive actions should be carried out: water storage, reduction of water flow, water retention, control of the waterproofing of soils, recovery of rainwater and runoff water, groundwater recharge, reuse of treated wastewater, conservation of floodplains.

The establishment of desalination units is necessary in some cases

Actions for rationalizing and reducing the use of water resources are to be developed, e.g. reasoned irrigation, water saving and recycling techniques or processes without water in industry.

Suitable and effective monitoring networks for surface and groundwater, the exchange of “best practices”, a “drought crisis” or “water scarcity” management plan should provide a proportionate, coherent and prioritized response.

The Basin Management Plans and Programs of Measures of the 3<sup>rd</sup> WFD cycle should integrate this set of actions in consistency with the other components of these management plans and with the implementation of the Directive on Flood Risk Management. The approach must be multisectoral involving all economic stakeholders and the civil society.

It is also of interest to combine conventional hydraulic structures, called “gray” infrastructure, with Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) to face the challenges of climate change in a context of scarcity. These NBS can improve their resilience, optimize performance and reduce costs.

The restoration of wetlands, ponds, marshes, preservation and management of floodplains, actions enabling the infiltration of rainwater, the reduction of runoff are all examples that have shown the relevance of NBS.

This approach should be fostered by the WFD, especially to achieve the objective of Good Ecological Status of Water Bodies. The European Commission’s Blueprint of 2012 indeed proposed the **Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM)** for better WFD implementation. They have been defined and structured through a European web platform ([nwrn.eu](http://nwrn.eu)).

The participants in the conference recommended that the European Union (EU) provide support for disseminating guidelines on the use of NBS in sustainable water resources management, to enhance knowledge in this field and to improve their technical implementation and their financing mechanisms.

**The importance of transboundary waters in Europe calls for the development of international cooperation for the implementation of the European Water Directives.**

The European Union and the Member States should develop these coordination and cooperation structures to ensure more coherence and transboundary efficiency and better solidarity both within the EU and with the neighboring countries, like the International River Commissions already created by treaties between European riparian countries.

International cooperation for the development of IWRM and the improvement of water governance in the basins is a major factor of progress. The participants in “EUROPE-INBO” Conference recommend developing common databases and tools, mobilizing European funds for transboundary cooperation projects, promoting the participation and education of young people, developing agreements on transboundary aquifers.

**“To facilitate the implementation of European Water Directives”**



# 2018” 2018 - Seville - Spain



Closing ceremony © INBO

They also recommend supporting international river commissions, which have proven their effectiveness, and promoting the exchange of data and know-how.

“Twinning” programs between countries and basins have proven their worth in previous years and should be redeveloped.

Structuring partnership projects are also to be developed, such as the EUWI+ East project, as well as exchanges among practitioners of Member States (the “Peer-to-Peer” project).

**In anticipation of the WFD review,** the European Commission proceeded with the evaluation of the Basin Management Plans.

Before the end of 2018, the Commission will present to the European Parliament an assessment report on the second management cycles of the WFD and the first cycle of the Flood Directive. This report will underline the need to re-examine the WFD.

The first results show progress in stakeholders’ participation, knowledge of the status of water bodies and in the results’ level of trust.

**The deterioration of the water status has stopped everywhere in Europe,** but the link between pres-

sure and impact needs to be better understood and the monitoring of polluting substances remains a major challenge.

Progress is also expected in the definition and implementation of the ecological (environmental) flow, the economic analysis, the protection and management of protected areas as well as in drought management plans.

Challenges are still to be met in the implementation of the Flood Directive, e.g. the definition of more measurable objectives, a more complete cost estimate, ecological continuity or links to be created with Climate Change adaptation.

The participants in the conference stressed the need to involve the Member States and basin managers as closely as possible in reviewing the WFD.

Taking into account the first conclusions of the Commission, they questioned the operational and pragmatic implementation of the Directive. It seems essential to rely on the experts of basin organisations, keeping in mind that success also depends on the support of basin organisations, local authorities, economic stakeholders and all European citizens in the field.

Better involvement of field stakehol-

ders is thus necessary in the review of the Directive.

**The Conference participants believe that there is also a need to highlight the progress made that should be widely publicised.** The very penalizing “one out - all out” principle should be reviewed as it masks the very real progress that has been made.

The participants recalled the urgency of taking new pollutants into account.

They reminded the need for greater coordination and even compatibility between the European water policy and other EU economic and sectoral policies, such as the CAP, the transnational transport policy or the renewable energy policy.

An adaptation of quality or discharge standards in relation to the environments is to be sought for, especially for the specific situation of outermost regions of the EU.

It was also suggested that support to enterprises be increased for projects that aim at meeting the goals for discharges into the environment, whose payback rate is long.

Finally, adaptation to climate change needs to be prominent in future work and becomes a priority.

More generally, the participants in the “EUROPE-INBO” conference consider that **we should pass from the WFD “virtuous and theoretical concepts” to a practical approach based on real local situations.**

They considered that the efforts made to implement the WFD need to be increased and supported so that all EU Water Bodies get closer to “Good Status” within a reasonable and realistic time frame.

**The next “EUROPE-INBO” Conferences will be organized in Lahti, Finland, from 17 to 20 June 2019 and in Malta in 2020.**



**The 16<sup>th</sup> Conference ended with a warm tribute to Mr. Jean-François Donzier, INBO General Secretary for 24 years, for his**

**constant and effective commitment to the network with dynamism and enthusiasm.**

**The members conferred him the title of Honorary General Secretary of the Network.**

**He has now passed on the torch to Mr. Eric Tardieu, new INBO General Secretary.**

# 16<sup>th</sup> European “EUROPE-INBO 2018” Conference 17 - 20 October 2018 - Seville - Spain (suite)

## Workshop “Invasive exotic species”

### Prevention and management solutions



Invasive exotic species present a serious threat to indigenous animals and plants, causing billions of euros of damage to the European economy every year.

The European regulation on invasive exotic species came into force on 1 January 2015.

It sets out a series of measures to be implemented in Europe to respond to this issue.

Among these invasive exotic species, some feed off aquatic environments and can impact the good ecological status goals required by the WFD for rivers, lakes, coastal and transition waters.

To debate the issue, a workshop was organized on the theme: “Invasive exotic species: prevention and management solutions”, during “EUROPE-INBO” 2018 held in Seville, Spain in October 2018.

At the workshop, 62 participants attended a presentation of feedback on strategies and case studies from different Member States and basins. The practical exchanges within the working groups underlined the importance of seeking synergies between implementing basin management plans and policies on invasive exotic species.

Concerning monitoring systems, WFD monitoring programs have already gathered interesting data that could be used to monitor invasive exotic species.

The key importance of invasive exotic species when setting up management measures was also underlined during the workshop, with the aim of developing integrated and versatile solutions.





# South America



**XX ENCOB**  
ENCONTRO NACIONAL  
DE COMITÊS DE BACIAS  
HIDROGRÁFICAS

## 20<sup>th</sup> ENCOB

### The Basin Committees meet in Florianopolis

The 20<sup>th</sup> National Meeting of Basin Committees was held in the city of Florianopolis, State of Santa Catarina, Brazil, from 20 to 24 August 2018.

It dealt with the topic “The Future of Water: The Challenges of River Basin Committees”.

It gathered 1,092 participants coming from all over Brazil, representatives of all sectors directly and indirectly related to water resources, especially representatives of water users, civil society, public authorities and private

companies, universities and traditional communities.

The National Meeting of Basin Committees (ENCOB) is an event that takes place every year in Brazil. It is articulated and coordinated by the National Forum of River Basin Committees in association with the Brazilian Network of Basin Organizations (REBOB). It is considered as the largest meeting of the sector and serving as a tool for integration of representations of the country's basin committees.

It gathers various stakeholders to share successful experiences, integrate actions and activities for water resources and strengthen participatory water management.

In this edition held in Florianopolis/SC, Brazil, ENCOB celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and planned various conferences and debates focusing on innovation, transparency and on the possibilities and results of water-resource-related actions, besides promoting the qualification courses that have trained more than 900 people.

At present, Brazil has created 256 basin organizations directly and indirectly involving more than 90,000 people representing all sectors concerned with water-related issues.



**The 21<sup>st</sup> ENCOB will take place in October 2019, in the city of Foz do Iguaçu, in the State of Paraná, Brazil.**

**Lupercio ZIROLDO ANTONIO**

REBOB President

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[www.encob.org](http://www.encob.org)



## "EcoCuencas"

### Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)



The “EcoCuencas” project, funded by the European Union’s WATERCLIMA program and coordinated by the International Office for Water (IOWater), INBO Secretariat, came to an end in December 2017 following three years of implementation in three pilot basins in Latin America:

- The Rio Chira-Catamayo trans-boundary basin, shared between Ecuador and Peru;
- The Rio Grande II dam basin in Colombia, which serves the town of Medellin.
- The Piracicaba, Capivari and Jundiaí (PCJ) basins, which supply water to the city of Sao Paulo in Brazil.

Following preparation of methodological and summary works developed by the Ecologic Institute and the OECD

on economic and financial mechanisms for managing water in a climate change context, the Latin American partners (National Water Secretariat of Ecuador, Cuenca Verde Corporation in Colombia, PCJ Agency in Brazil, National Water Authority of Peru) developed innovative pilot measures.

These measures supported implementation of levies and/or payments for environmental services at various scales (including micro-river basin, basin, and national territory levels).



The results and methods were consolidated by the nine partners of the project and are presented in a massive online open course (MOOC), available in Spanish on the IOWater website:

[www.oieau.org/mooc/eco\\_cuencas](http://www.oieau.org/mooc/eco_cuencas)



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