



Together for Integrated Water Resource Management over the World

Sound and balanced management of water resources is a prerequisite to ensure quality of life on our planet and the sustainable socioeconomic development of our societies.

It is recommended that agreements, strategies, programs, funding and controls be designed for river basins. Cooperation agreements should be signed and formalized between riparian countries regarding large transboundary rivers, lakes or seas and aquifers.

An association of general interest

INBO is managed by its President and Liaison Bureau who organize the Permanent Technical Secretariat.

The General Assembly of Member Organizations and Observers is held every three years

The Network Members

The following legal entities may be Members of INBO:

- **"Basin Organizations"**, this implies organizations which have been entrusted by relevant public administrations with integrated water resources management at the level of basins of rivers, lakes or aquifers, either national, federal or transboundary, as well as the cooperation structures they have developed among them.

These organizations must be entrusted with a mission of public interest, have legal existence and their own budget, in accordance with national or federal legislation or international agreements in force.
- **the Governmental Administrations in charge of water** in each country applying or interested in applying integrated and sustainable water resources management:
 - organized at the level of river basins,
 - associating administrations and local Authorities, as well as users from the various sectors,
 - having specific budgetary resources at their disposal, obtained by applying the "user-polluter-pays" principle.
- **bi and multilateral Cooperation Agencies** supporting activities related to integrated and sustainable water resources management at the level of river basins.

Permanent Observers

Other community service organizations interested in INBO, can apply to participate in its activities as permanent observers, provided that they are accepted by the General Assembly.

The Network objectives

The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) has the following objectives:

- to develop lasting relations between the organizations interested in comprehensive water resource management at the river basin level, and favor exchanges of experiences and expertise among them,
- to promote the principles and means of sound water management in cooperation programs to reach sustainable development,
- to facilitate the implementation of tools suitable for institutional and financial management, programming, organization of data banks, and for models adapted to the needs,
- to promote information and training programs for basin organizations,
- to encourage education of the population,
- to evaluate ongoing actions and disseminate their results.

Regional Networks

INBO member organizations, belonging to the same geographic region, may create, on a voluntary basis, a "Regional Network" if they wish so in order to:

- strengthen relations between member organizations from neighboring countries,
- develop INBO joint activities in the region,
- organize joint activities of regional interest.

Up to now the following networks have been created:

- **The African Network of Basin Organizations (ANBO),**
- **The Latin-American Network of Basin Organizations (LANBO),**
- **The Central and Eastern European Network of Basin Organizations (CEENBO),**
- **The Mediterranean Network of Basin Organizations (MENBO),**
- **The Network of International Commissions and Transboundary Basin Organizations,**
- **The Group of European Basin Organizations for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (EURO-INBO),**
- **The North-American Network of Basin Organizations (NANBO),**
- **The Network of Russian-speaking Basin Organizations of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA-NBO).**

The Network relies on its members' willingness to work together. This non-profit association has legal existence and new statutes approved in 2000 during its General Assembly held in Zakopane (Poland).



Plan for Action and Partnership

For developing and strengthening river basin organizations

Four main outputs are expected

The goal of the "INBO Action Plan" is to support all initiatives for the organization of Integrated Water Resource Management at the level of river, lake and aquifer basins, whether national or transboundary, by using the many experiments that allow reconciling economic growth, social equity, environmental conservation, water resources protection and participation of the Civil Society.

Output 1

Organization of twinning arrangements between Basin Organizations

Proposed services:

- Direct exchanges of experiences between twin basin organizations,
- European twinning projects.

Output 2

Mobilization of professional know-how of Basin Organizations

Proposed services:

- Assistance with the implementation of institutional reforms,
- Launching of pilot projects,
- Support to countries sharing a transboundary river basin,
- Drafting of Basin Management Plans,
- Setting-up specialized teams in the new Basin Organizations,
- Establishment of institutional mechanisms for the water users' participation in decision-making and activities of Basin Organizations,
- Financial simulation,
- Audits, ...

Output 3

Synthesis and dissemination of available knowledge and know-how

Proposed services:

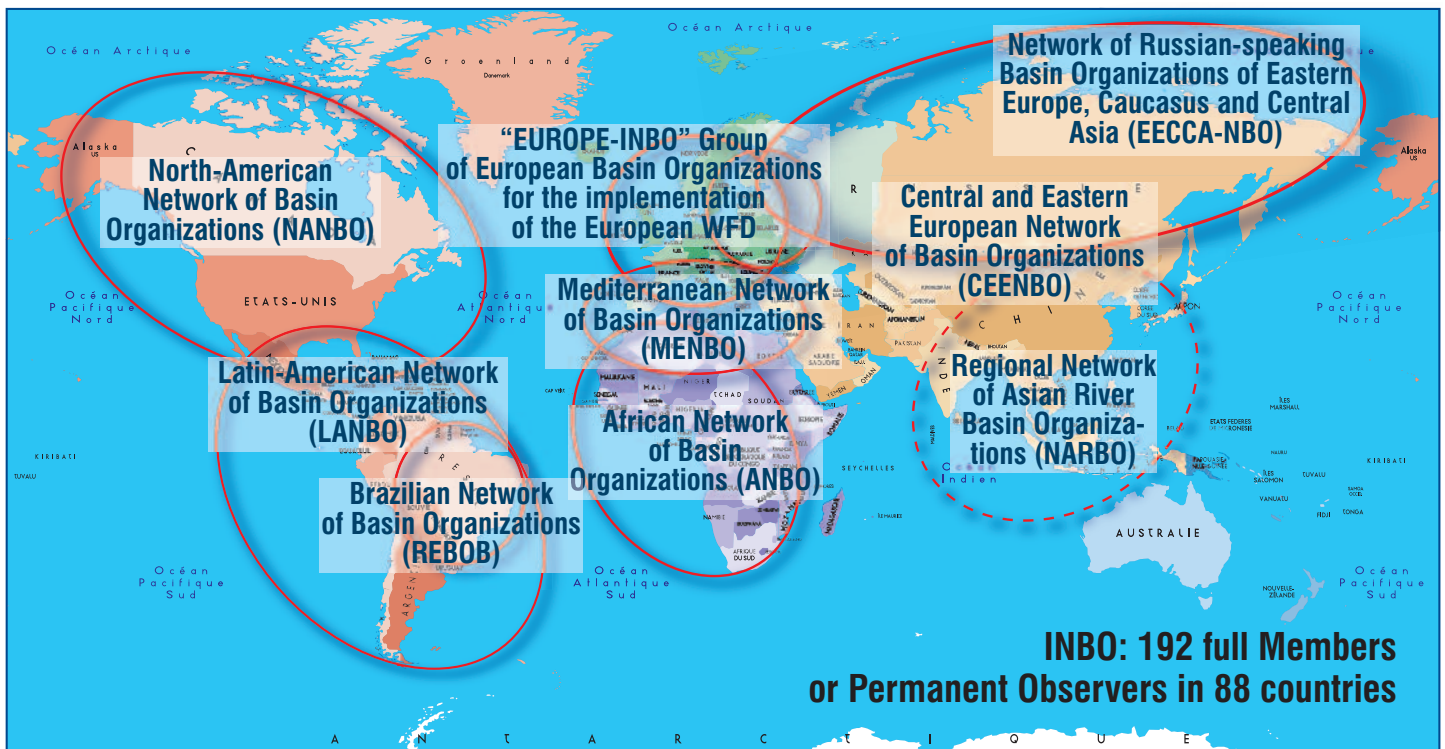
- Contributing to better knowledge and know-how on Basin Organizations and IWRM,
- Making available a set of common performance indicators,
- Training to good practices,
- Publications and Handbooks,
- Promotion of basin management in international events.

Output 4

Establishment and development of water information systems

Proposed services:

- Exchange of information, documentation and data,
- Definition of common standards facilitating data interoperability,
- Assistance with the structuring of Documentation Centers and Databases in each country concerned,
- Design of monitoring networks and databases,
- Dissemination of information to professionals and decision makers,
- Decision-making support tools.



"INBO" PERMANENT TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

c/o International Office for Water - 21, rue de Madrid - 75008 PARIS - FRANCE

Tel.: +33 1 44 90 88 60 - Fax: +33 1 40 08 01 45 - E-Mail: secretariat@inbo-news.org - Internet: www.inbo-news.org

