The 6th World Water Forum
12-17 March 2012, Marseille, France

which lessons?

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October 2012
The 6th World Water Forum – Marseille 2012

Time for Solutions!
Time for commitments!

Why?

• To tackle the challenges our world is facing and to bring water high on all political agendas.

• To try to ensure a concrete follow-up to the previous Forums.

For whom?

• All stakeholders were welcome to participate and contribute to the 6th world water forum: a real willing from the organizers.
The preparatory process
A preparation process
for Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic & Time-bound (SMART) priorities and targets

- A process based on **concrete goals and targets** served by **solutions** and **commitments**

- The preparation of the forum, as well as the programme and the desired outcomes, are based on:
  - The definition, selection or promotion of **realistic & sustainable solutions**
  - **Multi-stakeholder** discussions and **participation**
  - **Actions** and commitments
  - Strong political **mobilisation**
  - All of the above in a **friendly spirit**

- On the road to March 2012, a preparation process based on 4 commissions:
  1. **Political**
  2. **Thematic**
  3. **Regional**
  4. **Grassroots & Citizenship**
The Forum directions and priorities

• 3 conditions for success
• 12 priorities for action
• An international strategy for water
# The Forum directions and priorities

developed by the Thematic Process Commission

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<tr>
<th>Ensure Everyone’s Well-Being</th>
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<td>1.1 Guarantee access to water for all and the Right to Water</td>
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<td>1.2 Improve access to integrated sanitation services for all</td>
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<td>1.3 Contribute to hygiene and health through water and sanitation</td>
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<td>1.4 Prevent and respond to water-related risks and crises</td>
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<td>1.5 Contribute to cooperation and peace through water</td>
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<th>Contribute to Economic Development</th>
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<td>2.1 Balance multiple uses through IWRM</td>
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<td>2.2 Contribute to food security by the optimal use of water</td>
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<td>2.3 Harmonize water and energy</td>
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<td>2.4 Promote Green Growth and value ecosystem services</td>
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<th>Keep the Planet Blue</th>
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<td>3.1 Improve the quality of water resources and ecosystems</td>
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<td>3.2 Adjust pressures and footprints of human activities on water</td>
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<td>3.3 Respond to climate and global changes in an urbanising world</td>
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<th>Conditions for Success</th>
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<td>CS1 Good governance</td>
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<td>CS2 Financing water for all</td>
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<td>CS3 Enabling environments</td>
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Highlights on four processes and an Expo
Some figures about the 6th Forum

- 173 countries represented
- More than 400 open sessions
- 35000 entrances
- Close to 900 journalists from 5 continents
Major events

• 10 high level panels, some drawing 500 people, 3 special focus sessions, 2 water debates

• On opening day many high level speakers delivered a message. In addition several events stressed major issues as Rio + 20, water crisis in Gaza strip, the European Water Year and the launch of the 4th World Water Development Report

• Great interest for the 10 panels (water and food security, right to water and sanitation, water and green growth, water, food and energy nexus,…) and the 3 special focus sessions (water and the future of humankind, water storage, adaptative strategy in west US)

• A new concept: the water debate. Innovative ground to build upon bridges between polarized viewpoints (private versus public water and sanitation services, water storage for building resilience to climate change)
Political process

• 176 national delegations and international organisations supporting the Ministerial Declaration
• 1 ministerial conference: 112 ministers, vice ministers and secretaries of State participating
• 12 ministerial roundtables
The Ministerial Process

- Goal of producing a Ministerial Declaration that is based on the Thematic Framework of the 6th World Water Forum and other major international meeting and develop a link with the Rio+20 process to raise the profile of water
- Two Preparatory Committee Meetings (PrepComs) at UNESCO Headquarters
  1. 5-6 December 2011
  2. 2-3 February 2012
- True international consensus on the right to water and sanitation and States governments’ commitment to accelerating the access to water and sanitation in line with United Nations resolutions
The Parliamentarian Conference: a meaningful manifesto

- Strengthens the role of parliaments and parliamentarians in drafting, passing, implementation and oversight of national water legislation and budgets

- Facilitates the sharing of information and knowledge along with legal and political cooperation on legislation and national regulations connected to water, utilizing a “Water Legislation Helpdesk”

- Mobilizes Parliaments and their elected officials to ensure the follow-up of commitments

- Improves the dialogue between the Ministerial, Parliamentary and Local levels to reinforce the coherence between water policies

- 250 participants
Local and Regional authorities galvanise small-scale efforts

- More than 350 local and regional elected official from across the 5 continents participated
- They reinforce the commitments agreed upon in the Istanbul Water Consensus (over 1100 signatories)
- A common message which promotes mobilization for sustainable local governance and reaffirms the need for local control of water as a public good
**Trialogues: focus on multi-level governance**

- 6 regional trialogues between ministers, parliamentarians and local authorities: Africa, Asia-Pacific, Americas, Arab States, Europe and Mediterranean
- Key message is that coordination and cooperation between these actors is essential
The Regional process

- Delegated to a regional institution
- Key objectives: engage local and regional actors in a participatory process to identify priorities, targets, solutions and commitments to address regional water challenges
- High level commitments on financing in Africa
- Access to water and sanitation in the Americas
- Water security for all in Asia-Pacific
- International cooperation and river basin management in Europe
- Synergy of solutions for the Mediterranean region
- Towards the implementation of the Arab ministerial strategy on water resources security
The thematic process

- Over 2000 people from all over the world involved through 160 «think and action» groups: from strategy to commitments
- Accelerating the sustainable implementation of the right to water and sanitation
- Making integrated sanitation a priority
- Preventing and responding to water-related risks and crisis
- Using our resources smartly
- Ensuring food security through the optimal use of water
- Contributing to cooperation and peace
- Harmonizing water and energy
- No nature, no water, no growth
- Adapting to climate change in an urbanizing world
- Addressing the water governance crisis
- Financing water for all
Grassroots & Citizenship process: a new preparatory process to mobilise civil society

- In order to raise public awareness on the connections between civil society and water as well as to ensure its involvement into water policy, notably
  - NGOs and associations
  - Youth: schoolchildren, students, young professionals
  - Women
- To promote and support events related to the cause of water (labeling projects)
- To organize events in and around the Forum (ethical guidance for an ethical action)
Exhibition and side-events

• 120 side-events held by organizations from 33 countries, one third held by NGO’s
• 16000 visitors at the Forum expo: 143 country pavilions
  = 40 countries as well as local and regional authorities
  = 60 public and private enterprises, facilities, research and academic institutes
  = 40 intergovernmental organizations, international institutions, NGO’s
How to get involved and contribute to the 6th World Water Forum – Time for Solutions

- Contribute with a solution
  www.solutionsforwater.org
- Join a World Water Forum working group
- Join a networks initiatives of major groups
- Propose a project to labelling
- Come and participate to the Forum sessions
- Organise a Forum side event or a conference
- Participate to the water exhibition with a pavilion or a booth
- Or why not ....
  - Apply to one of the major Water Prizes
  - Or join the volunteers
Participate and Contribute to the Solutions platform!
International solutions platform

- More than 1400 solutions collected
- 60000 visitors from 189 countries
- 350/400 visitors each day
- 1600 active members on www.solutionsforwater.org
A village of solutions

- An innovative concept and realization
- A physical and symbolic place
- Around 100 of the 1400 solutions showcased in the village
Merci (Thank you)
www.worldwaterforum6.org