

PREPARATION OF THE HANDBOOK ON THE MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION OF WATER ECOSYSTEMS IN RIVER AND LAKE BASINS

Following our two previous publications in 2009 and 2012, INBO and GWP, together with ECCR, WWF, International River Foundation, Great Rivers Partnership, GEF, ONEMA and FFEM plan to publish a new handbook on management and restoration of ecosystems in river and lake basins. This handbook will be based on practical experience and know-how gained in national and transboundary basins worldwide.

First published in English, this handbook will be presented at the 7th World Water Forum in Korea in April 2015. A Steering Committee will supervise the work throughout the drafting of this handbook.

In addition to the material provided by the partners, relevant **case studies** coming from the contributions of various basin organisations will be included in various parts of the handbook.

The main topics to be addressed in the handbook are as follows:

- Functions and benefits of water ecosystems, main problems related to human activities, and how to ensure their normal functioning;
- Management and restoration of water ecosystems, retention measures, cross objectives;
- Water footprint and virtual water for the management of water ecosystems;
- Green infrastructures, environmental flows and impact assessments;
- Governance and regulation, and the difficulties encountered in the implementation of restoration projects;
- Monitoring of water ecosystems, of their functions and restoration measures, of their quality and pollution sources;
- Economic and financial aspects, economic value of water ecosystems, payment for environmental services, funding of actions.

Basin organisations are strongly encouraged to contribute to the preparation of this handbook, especially through case studies. They can do so by sending their proposals to INBO secretariat:

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