

6<sup>TH</sup> W O R L D W A T E R F O R U M

# The 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum

12-17 March 2012, Marseille, France

which lessons?



MARSEILLE, FRANCE '12

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TIME FOR SOLUTIONS

# *The 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

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# *The preparatory process*



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# 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

## *Ensure Everyone's Well-Being*

- 1.1 Guarantee access to water for all and the Right to Water
- 1.2 Improve access to integrated sanitation services for all
- 1.3 Contribute to hygiene and health through water and sanitation
- 1.4 Prevent and respond to water-related risks and crises
- 1.5 Contribute to cooperation and peace through water

## *Contribute to Economic Development*

- 2.1 Balance multiple uses through IWRM
- 2.2 Contribute to food security by the optimal use of water
- 2.3 Harmonize water and energy
- 2.4 Promote Green Growth and value ecosystem services

## *Keep the Planet Blue*

- 3.1 Improve the quality of water resources and ecosystems
- 3.2 Adjust pressures and footprints of human activities on water
- 3.3 Respond to climate and global changes in an urbanising world

## *Conditions for Success*

- CS1 Good governance
- CS2 Financing water for all
- CS3 Enabling environments

*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 6<sup>th</sup> 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
  - I. 5-6 December 2011
  - II. 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 officials 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 dialogues 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 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum – Time for Solutions

- ❖ Contribute with a solution  
[www.solutionsforwater.org](http://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

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*Participate and Contribute to the  
Solutions platform !*



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# *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](http://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

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**Merci (Thank you)**

[www.worldwaterforum6.org](http://www.worldwaterforum6.org)



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