



**Under the framework of the “Urban Water Resilience and Local Climate Action”
Thematic day:**

*“City-basin dialogue: urban resilience through improved monitoring
and IWRM planning”*

Tuesday 11 November, 15:30 - 16:30

Organized by:



In partnership with:



Context & thematic framework

Most of the world's population lives in cities and there will be nearly 6 billion people in urban areas by 2050. This concentration of population creates challenges, as well as opportunities. Major cities around the world are at risk of running out of water: Cape Town, São Paulo, Mexico, Tokyo, Beijing, Jakarta, Bangalore, Melbourne or even London (in the next 25 years and due to various factors, including an aging water supply network, a booming population and climate changes) being notable examples.

It is therefore essential to build capacities for collaborative actions of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) that (re)connect cities and their hydrographic basins and reconcile the technical cycle of urban water with its natural cycle: this would contribute to a more optimal and sustainable use of water resources. The natural cycle of floods and droughts cannot be ignored and should be integrated in urban planning to ensure urban water resilience in light of a changed climate.

It is equally important to strengthen Citywide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS), since it provides a robust framework for integrating sanitation into IWRM and wider urban planning by defining sanitation as a public service that must achieve equitable, safe, and sustained outcomes for everyone.

Programme

INTRODUCTION (5 min):

- Mr. Eric Tardieu, Secretary General, International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)

MODERATION

- Dr Kate Strachan, Senior Manager for Climate Change Resilience, Disaster Risk Reduction and Coastal Management, ICLEI Africa

KEYNOTE DIALOGUE (20 min):

- Ms. Ana Asti, Under-secretary of Water resources and Sustainability, Secretariat of Environment and Sustainability, State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Ms. Maria Aparecida Vargas, Secretary Paraíba do Sul River Basin Integration Committee (CEIVAP), Brazil

PANEL (25 min):

- Mr Ewan Botha, Member of the Executive Council for Environment, Gauteng Department of Agriculture, South Africa
- Ms. Zoé Lorient-Chevalier, Deputy for International Relations, City and Metropolitan Area of Poitiers, France
- Mr. Sharif Jamil, Buriganga Riverkeeper & Coordinator, Waterkeepers Bangladesh, Board & Council Member, Waterkeeper Alliance, Member Secretary, Dhoritri Rokkhai Amra (DHORA), Executive Director, Blue Planet Initiative (BPI)

CONCLUSION (5 min):

- Mr. Edouard Boinet, Head of project for international cooperation, International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)

ANNEX

Event Objective(s)
To accelerate urban water resilience by promoting practical frameworks for City-Basin Dialogue, focusing on improved monitoring, IWRM planning, and the integration of Citywide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) to bridge the gap between urban water cycles and their natural basins.
Anticipated main messages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities cannot be resilient without managing water resources at the basin level; collaborative governance is essential. • Integrating sanitation (through CWIS) into IWRM is critical for protecting water quality, public health, and the entire water cycle. • Practical tools, business models, shared monitoring data, and proven case studies are available to guide effective city-basin collaboration and action.
Anticipated target sectors outside water
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Planning & Development: City mayors, municipal planners, and metropolitan authorities. • Finance & Economic Development: National finance ministries, city treasuries, and private investors in urban infrastructure. • Environment & Climate: National environmental agencies, climate adaptation bodies, and conservation groups.
Anticipated key message for outside sectors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Urban Planners: Your city's economic growth and livability are directly threatened by water risks that can only be solved by partnering with your basin. • For Finance & Economic Sectors: Investing in integrated city-basin water security is a cost-effective strategy to de-risk major urban economies and ensure long-term, sustainable returns. • For Environment & Climate Sectors: Effective city-basin dialogue is a primary mechanism for achieving climate resilience, biodiversity, and water quality goals.
Key Announcements and/or Outcomes and/or anticipated collective action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination of the IWA-INBO handbook "Basin-Connected Cities, Connecting Urban Stakeholders with their Watersheds" • Publication of a "CWIS-IWRM Integration Guide": A new handbook demonstrating how to embed Citywide Inclusive Sanitation principles into basin-level management plans. • Dissemination of the ICLEI Compendium of Good Practices for Urban Circular water Management