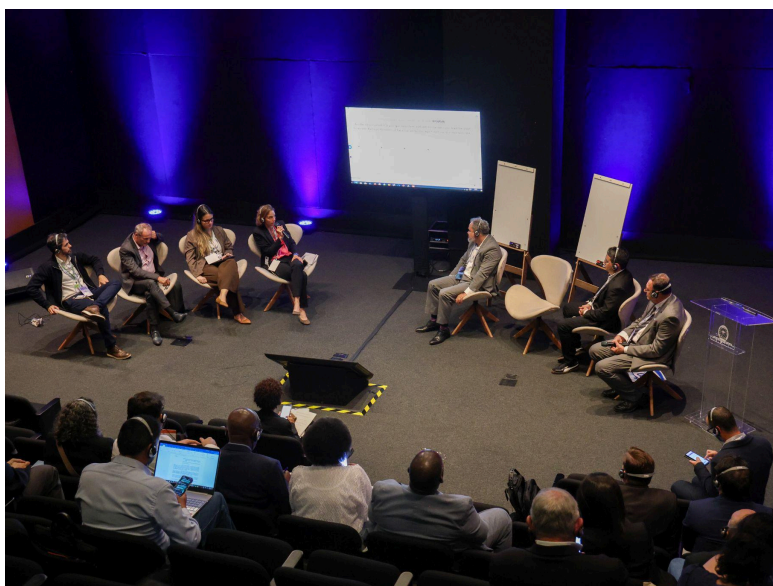


World Basin Summit 2026 Interactive Workshop 1 Report

Water security and governance in the metropolitan regions of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo



June 16th - 19th 2026, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Workshop Report

Context and workshop objectives

The workshop took place on Tuesday afternoon, 16 June 2026, in the Auditorium at the *Museu de Arte do Rio* (MAR). Sharing common goals with two other afternoon sessions, this workshop aimed to:

- Reflect on and discuss drought planning and water allocation in contexts of scarcity, sharing concrete experiences.
- Facilitate peer-to-peer dialogue between basin organizations from different regions and continents.
- Enable exchanges around transferable tools developed in different countries and contexts.
- Foster active participation through interaction in subgroups.

The event was highly successful, bringing together over 80 participants of numerous nationalities, made possible by simultaneous interpretation into 4 languages.

The workshop was introduced by Ms. Ana Asti (Undersecretary for Water Resources and Sustainable Development, Secretariat for the Environment and Sustainable Development, State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) and Dr. Eric Tardieu (Secretary General, International Network of Basin Organizations - INBO/RIOB). The entire session was jointly moderated by Professor Rosa Formiga (State University of Rio de Janeiro - UERJ) and Alain Bernard (Head of Department at the International Office for Water).

Shared perspectives on water crisis management

The first part of the workshop highlighted the Brazilian experience through two presentation sequences focusing on a major case study: water security and governance in the metropolitan areas of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo.

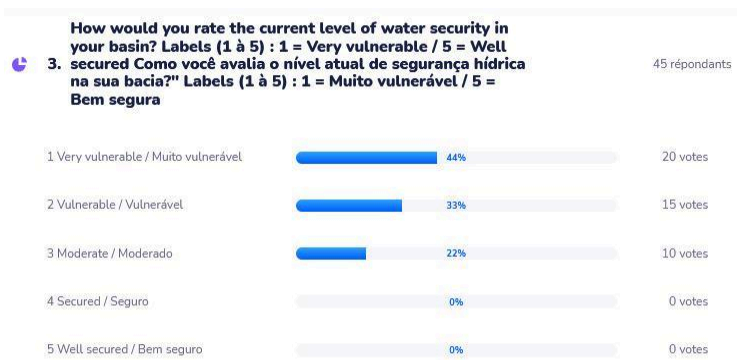
Two panels (gathering 5 different points of view from experts) provided a detailed review of the 2014–2016 water crisis, the current situation, and future outlooks for these two complex metropolitan supply systems. This diverse lineup of speakers provided cross-perspectives on crisis management and future solutions:

- Mr. Nazareno Marques de Araujo (ANA - National Water and Sanitation Agency, Brazil).
- Mr. José Edson Falcão (INEA - State Environmental Institute of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil).
- Mr. Anderson Esteves (SP Águas - São Paulo State Water Agency).
- Mr. Francisco Carlos Castro Lahóz (Executive Secretary, Piracicaba, Capivari, and Jundiaí River Basin Committees - PCJ, Brazil).
- Mr. Denis Herisson da Silva (Executive Secretary, Consortium of the Piracicaba, Capivari, and Jundiaí River Basins - PCJ Consortium, Brazil).

- Ms. Larissa Ferreira da Costa (Coordinator, Permanent Working Group on the Monitoring of Hydraulic Operations in the Paraíba do Sul Basin - GTAOH).

Drawing from the operational feedback of these crises, the sessions emphasized that securing the public water supply requires a combination of multiple strategies. To successfully adapt to climate change, the discussion highlighted a clear shift in paradigms: moving beyond traditional "gray infrastructure" alone, incorporating Nature-based Solutions (NbS) alongside water demand management, and fostering continuous stakeholder dialogue to ensure good governance.

A Shared Global Challenge: during this segment, an interactive online smartphone poll revealed that nearly half of the participants rated their own basin as "very vulnerable" to water risks, confirming that the issues discussed were of major and universal concern to the attendees.



French perspectives and feedback

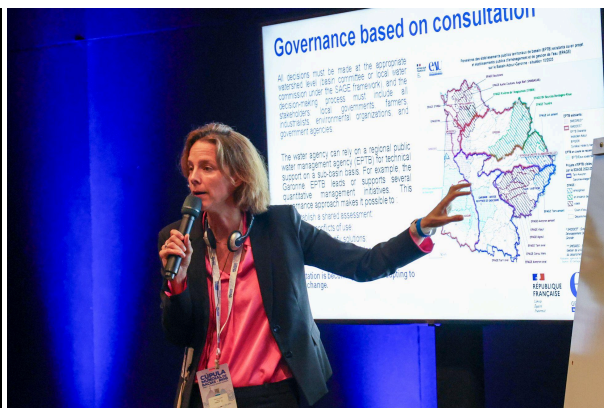
Following the Brazilian presentations, two French experts took the floor to provide a European perspective and stimulate further discussion:

- Ms. Elodie Galko (Director of the Adour-Garonne Water Agency) gave a striking presentation titled: *"1 out of every 2 liters will be missing by 2025: How the South-West of France is adapting to climate change"*.
- Mr. Hervé Gilliard (Loire-Bretagne Water Agency) shared his insights on the workshop topic, drawing from his extensive knowledge of water management in France as well as his deep understanding of the Brazilian context.

Key takeaways from the Q&A session

The presentations paved the way for a dynamic Q&A session with the audience. The discussions crystallized around questions raised by the participants like:

1. Prioritization in times of immediate crisis: If a similar crisis were to hit tomorrow, what would be the response sequence among metropolitan regions facing water scarcity?
2. Coordination of planning tools in France: In France, what is the relationship between the master water management plan (SDAGE), climate change adaptation, and drought risk management?
3. Communication protocols: How did the AGEVAP communication protocol work, and what were its outcomes?



Credits: Fabiano Veneza/SEAS