



Workshop on Transboundary Water Cooperation
"Latin American and Pan-European Regions:
Sharing Experiences and Learning from Each Other"
11–12 June 2013

2nd UNESCO/GEF IW LEARN Integration Dialogue
"Groundwater and Surface Water
Conjunctive Management in the LAC region"
13 June 2013

GEF IWLEARN Regional Workshop
GEF IW projects in the LAC region
14 June 2013

University of Bologna
Representación en Buenos Aires, Argentina



WELCOME FROM THE ORGANIZERS



“2013 is the International Year of Water Cooperation. The delegates participating in this meeting are living proof of water cooperation: different groups of water practitioners and experts coming together to exchange knowledge and best practices to advance the conjunctive management of surface and groundwater resources in the LAC region. On behalf of the UNESCO Division of Water Sciences and the International Hydrological Programme, I wish you every success and I look forward to echoing the results of your discussions.”

Ms Blanca Jiménez-Cisneros, Director UNESCO Division Water Sciences



“I would like to extend my warmest greetings to the participants of the workshop, as well as to thank our partners for co-organizing this event. The UNECE Water Convention represents a unique legal framework and intergovernmental platform for improved management of shared waters worldwide. I welcome the high interest in the Convention and hope that the workshop will represent an important step towards closer cooperation between UNECE and the Latin American and Caribbean region and towards a better understanding of the Convention.”

Mr Nicholas Bonvoisin, Secretary to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, UNECE



“I would like to welcome all the participants to our workshop, which I expect to play a significant role in promoting transboundary water cooperation. Strengthening this cooperation, on the basis of the respect of the right to equitable and reasonable use of water resources, is crucially important for our region in which some 71% of the surface flow is derived from shared basins, which cover 55% of its area.”

Mr Andrei Jouravlev, Economic Affairs Officer, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division, ECLAC



“This year should be a reminder to enhance water cooperation at all levels. The complexities of sharing water across boundaries require innovation and strengthened capacities. In this regard looking at promoting ‘hydrodiplomacy’ from a broad ecosystem-based perspective offers an opportunity to foster cooperation within a wider political, social and economic landscape. On behalf of IUCN, I wish you a successful workshop and a pleasant stay in Buenos Aires.”

Mr Alejandro Iza, Director IUCN Environmental Law Centre



“On behalf of the University of Bologna - Branch in Buenos Aires I would like to welcome all the delegates to this Workshop which, not by chance, is called “sharing experiences and learning from each other”. The results of research and workshops like this one are very important for both academic scholars and policy makers. The governance of important resources like water requires a cooperative approach among countries at the regional and then global level to implement long term effective solutions.”

Mr Angelo Manaresi, Director of the Branch campus in Buenos Aires of the University of Bologna



“Your gathering in Buenos Aires is one cornerstone of Cooperation in Action. As most freshwater resources are shared by more than one country, challenges cannot be addressed unilaterally - country by country or sector by sector – nor can benefits from cooperation be realized. On behalf of the GEF I would like to welcome and encourage you to be outspoken and daring in your deliberations over these coming days. The water challenge highlighted by the designation of 2013 as the International Year of Water Cooperation will need your creativity, innovation and commitment.”

Mr Ivan Zavadsky, International Waters Focal Area Coordinator, GEF

RATIONALE FOR JOINT MEETING

UNESCO, UNECE and the GEF decided to join forces to advance transboundary water cooperation worldwide on the basis of the international law and in particular in light of the global opening of the UNECE Water Convention to all United Nations Member States.

This partnership will aim at raising awareness on the importance, benefits and challenges of water cooperation; enhancing knowledge and developing capacity; fostering partnerships, dialogue and cooperation around water resources as top priority; strengthening international cooperation among institutions, users, social and economic sectors, among others.

The long-term partnership between these three organizations was strengthened with the adoption by the Meeting of the Parties of the UNECE Water Convention (Rome, 28-30 November 2012) of the decisions on cooperation with UNESCO and GEF.



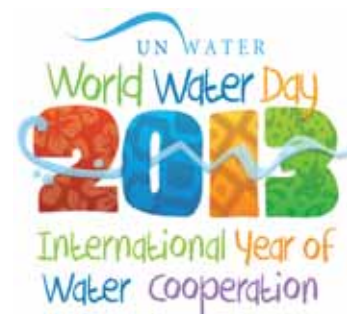
Considering the cooperative nature of this workshop on transboundary waters for the LAC region, UNESCO and GEF have decided to organize two back-to-back events dedicated to GEF International Waters Projects in the region with the objective of promoting conjunctive management of groundwater and surface waters and to discuss options to further improve the governance of these resources.

Key partners in the organization of these meetings were IUCN, ECLAC, the University of Bologna and IGRAC for their respective knowledge and expertise on transboundary waters in the region.

The spirit of the International Year of Water Cooperation finds here its concrete realization when different communities come together to find sustainable solutions to common challenges and share new ideas and perspectives.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF WATER COOPERATION

In December 2010, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2013 as the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation (Resolution A/RES/65/154). In reflection of this declaration, the World Water Day on 22 March 2013 was also dedicated to water cooperation. UN-Water has called upon UNESCO to lead the 2013 United Nations International Year on Water Cooperation, in particular because of the Organization's unique multidisciplinary approach which blends the natural and social sciences, education, culture and communication. Given the intrinsic nature of water as a transversal and universal element, the United Nations International Year on Water Cooperation naturally would embrace and touch upon all these aspects.



The objective of this International Year is to raise awareness, both on the potential for increased cooperation, and on the challenges facing water management in light of the increase in demand for water access, allocation and services. The Year will highlight the history of successful water cooperation initiatives, as well as identify burning issues on water education, water diplomacy, transboundary water management, financing cooperation, national/international legal frameworks, and the linkages with the Millennium Development Goals. www.watercooperation2013.org.



The UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) was adopted in 1992 and entered into force in 1996. To date 38 countries and the European Union are Parties to the Convention.

The UNECE Water Convention helps countries to strengthen transboundary water cooperation, as well as national measures for the protection and ecologically-sound management of transboundary surface waters and groundwaters. The Convention obliges its Parties to prevent, control and reduce transboundary impact, to use transboundary waters in a reasonable and equitable way and to ensure their sustainable management. Parties bordering the same transboundary waters have to cooperate by entering into specific agreements and establishing joint bodies.

Since the 1990s, the UNECE Water Convention has fostered the development of transboundary agreements, the establishment of joint institutions and the strengthening of cooperation at both the political and technical levels, in the pan-European region. This has happened in diverse circumstances, including in the context of economic transition and political tensions, after the dissolution of the former Soviet Union, the former Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. The Convention has provided a permanent intergovernmental forum to discuss transboundary water cooperation, share experience and identify good practices in many areas. The Convention has also made a clear difference on the ground focusing on implementation and directly facilitating legal, technical and practical assistance, in particular in countries with economies in transition. Moreover, over the past 20 years, the work under the Convention has evolved to respond to the changing needs of Parties, and often non-Parties, for instance addressing emerging issues such as ecosystem valuation, adaptation to climate change and the water-food-energy-ecosystem nexus in the transboundary context.

“ The UN Economic Commission for Europe's Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes will soon be available to all UN Member States. I urge countries outside the UNECE region to join the Convention and further develop it. ”

*UN Secretary-General General Ban Ki-moon
(on the occasion of the World Water Day
on 22 March 2013)*

the Convention into a global legal framework for transboundary water cooperation. It is expected that any United Nations Member States will be able to join the Convention as of the end of 2013.

In 2003, building on the results obtained and realizing the advantages of enlarging this cooperative framework to the whole world, Parties to the Convention amended it to allow accession by all United Nations Member States. The amendments entered into force in February 2013, turning



www.unece.org

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The global opening is opportune as water demands are projected to reach planetary boundaries in the coming decades due to increased pressures from agriculture, energy production and population growth. As much of the world's freshwater resources are transboundary in nature, transboundary water cooperation will be more and more vital to avoid conflicts and ensure effective and sustainable use of shared resources. The Convention, with its unique intergovernmental structure, can offer a framework, under the auspices of the United Nations, to ensure water security, prevent conflict and facilitate the resolution of disputes.

This global opening is also timely as in recent years considerable interest in the Convention has been expressed by countries outside the UNECE region. More than 30 non-UNECE countries, including several from Latin America, have actively participated in work under the Convention and some have already expressed formal interest in acceding to it.

In view of the globalization of the UNECE Water Convention, the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its sixth session (Rome, 28–30 November 2012) adopted an ambitious programme of work for 2013–2015. The opening of the Convention to all United Nations Member States, work on supporting implementation and accession, National Policy Dialogues and adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins are the priority areas of work for the current triennium. In addition, in order to addressing today's challenges, work has started in the new areas such as quantifying the benefits of transboundary cooperation and a thematic assessment on the water-food-energy-ecosystem nexus. Countries from outside the UNECE region are heavily involved in most of these areas – the UNECE Water Convention's flexible and open approach allows both Parties and other countries to participate in and benefit from the activities under the Convention.

The globalization of the UNECE Water Convention is also important vis-à-vis the entry into force of the 1997 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses (UN Watercourses Convention), expected in 2013 or 2014. The 1992 UNECE Water Convention and the 1997 UN Watercourses Convention are fully compatible, based on the same principles and complementary in many aspects. Many countries are Parties to both Conventions.

Environment Division /
Water Convention

[www.unece.org/
env/water](http://www.unece.org/env/water)

Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses

The Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses is a document adopted by the United Nations on May 21, 1997 pertaining to the uses and conservation of waters that cross international boundaries, including surface and groundwater when they are related to surface waters. "Mindful of increasing demands for water and the impact of human behavior", the UN drafted the document to help conserve and manage water resources for present and future generations. To enter into force, the document requires ratification by 35 countries, but as of 2013 has received only 30 ratifications. Though not into force, the document is regarded as an important step towards arriving at an international law governing water.

Provisions

The document sought to impose upon UN member states an obligation to consider the impact of their actions on other states with an interest in a water resource and to equitably share the resource, mindful of variant factors such as population size and availability of other resources. Had the document been ratified, each member state that shares in a resource would have been required to provide information to other sharing states about the condition of the watercourse and about their planned uses for it, allowing sufficient time for other sharing states to study the use and object if the use is perceived to be harmful. The document permitted a state with urgent need to immediately utilize a watercourse, providing that it notifies sharing states both of the use and the urgency. In the event that a use is perceived to be harmful, it would have required members states to negotiate a mutually acceptable solution, appealing for arbitration as necessary to uninvolved states or international organizations such as the International Court of Justice. It also would have required states to take reasonable steps to control damage, such as caused by pollution or the introduction of species not native to the watercourse, and imposed an obligation on states that damage a shared water resource to take steps to remedy the damage or to compensate sharing states for the loss.

Synergies and complementarities among the 92 and 97 Conventions and the ILC Draft Articles

The physical scope of the UNECE 1992 Helsinki Water Convention expressly encompasses both surface and groundwaters alike without distinction. Accordingly, the same provisions and principles of the Convention applicable to surface water apply to ground water. Furthermore, the 1992 UNECE Convention provides for a specific obligation for States Parties "to take additional specific measures to prevent the pollution of groundwater". The above comprehensive scope and integrated approach of the UNECE Convention encompassing also groundwater, both related and unrelated, has been recently developed in the Model Provisions on Transboundary Ground Waters prepared by the Legal board of that Convention and adopted by the Sixth MOP held in Rome in 2012. Such Model Provisions represent an authoritative example of good practice of implementation at the multilateral level of the guidance provided by the ILC Draft Articles. Further concrete implementation will follow suit through cooperation by the States Parties to the UNECE Convention on a case specific basis.

The 1997 UN Convention on the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses addresses groundwater only insofar as related to surface waters. This prompted the exercise which led to the 2008 ILC Draft Articles on Transboundary Aquifers commended by the UN GA in 2008 and 2011. The UN ILC draft articles represent a complementary instrument covering all transboundary aquifers did not receive in the 1997 Convention proper coverage, as the Convention was tailored for surface waters.

It is notable that the three basic principles of international water law codified in both 1992 and 1997 Conventions - i.e., the equitable utilization, no-harm and cooperation principles – are confirmed in the Draft Articles and adjusted to the specificities of all aquifers.

The UN ILC Draft Articles on the “Law of Transboundary Aquifers”

In 2002 the UN International Law Commission (ILC) embarked on the codification of the law of transboundary aquifers in order to provide legal regime for the proper management of transboundary aquifers in view of the critically important freshwater resources. UNESCO-IHP played a central role in providing the valuable assistance and support to ILC by mobilizing hydrogeologists, groundwater administrators and water lawyers. A UN General Assembly Resolution (A/RES/63/124) was adopted in December 2008, including a set of 19 draft articles as an annex and encouraging States sharing an aquifer to consider them when entering into an agreement for the proper management of the underground resource.

The Draft Articles provide a comprehensive understanding of transboundary aquifers and their adequate management that includes procedures for data exchange, monitoring and cooperation. The articles also consider the existing disparities in capacity and knowledge between countries and the need for international technical cooperation. The articles include requirements on cooperation, including scientific and technical cooperation for developing countries, and regular exchange of data and information between the countries in whose territory the aquifer is located, as well as provisions concerning monitoring and prevention of contamination, with particular attention to groundwater dependent ecosystems. The UNILC draft articles indicate that regulations should accurately define the limits of the system and identify the recharge and discharge areas. The guiding principles are indeed: the obligation for equitable and reasonable utilization of a transboundary aquifer (Art. 4), the obligation not to cause significant harm to other countries of the country in whose territory such system is located (Art. 6), or where a recharge/discharge area is situated, the general obligation to the countries to cooperate (Art. 7) and the regular exchange of data and information between countries on a regular basis on the condition of their transboundary aquifers or aquifer systems.

The first example of the application of the Draft Articles is the agreement on the Guarani Aquifer signed by the four countries concerned (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay) in 2010. This is the first international agreement that explicitly refers to the Draft Articles as inspiring principles for its formulation and implementation.

At its sixty-six session in December 2011, the UNGA brought once again to the attention of Member States the issue of the form that the “Law of Transboundary Aquifers” should take in the future. By reaffirming the major importance of the subject matter and the need for a proper management of this vital natural resource through international cooperation, the UNGA adopted a second Resolution (A/RES/66/104) on the “Law of Transboundary Aquifers” recommending the set of 19 draft articles already annexed to the first Resolution to be considered by Member States when negotiating future arrangements for the management of their transboundary aquifers. The text of this second Resolution reaffirms “the major importance of the subject of the law of transboundary aquifers in the relations of States and the need for reasonable and equitable management of transboundary aquifers, a vitally important natural resource, through international cooperation”. A significant addition to the second Resolution on the “Law of Transboundary Aquifers” is the specific call that the UNGA makes to the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme to act as the technical and scientific instrument facilitating the implementation of the Draft Articles and providing the necessary assistance to the States concerned in making regional or bilateral agreements. The UNGA decided to further examine the question of the form that might be given to the draft articles during its sixty-eighth session taking place in 2013.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Highlights on UNESCO's work on freshwater resources

The International Hydrological Programme (IHP) is the only intergovernmental scientific programme of the United Nations system devoted to hydrology, water resources management, and water education. The IHP Secretariat serves UNESCO's 190 Member States, through the IHP National Committees, other governmental bodies, and academic and research institutions in the implementation of the programme. The UNESCO Water Family comprises the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education; the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP); a network of 18 water-related Institutes and Centres; and 29 Water-related Chairs and UNITWIN Networks.



Since its inception, IHP has paid due attention to studies on groundwater resources and aquifer characteristics, enhancing the role that aquifers play in supporting human activities and ecosystems. In order to conduct a global inventory of transboundary aquifers and to elaborate recommendations for the sustainable management of these systems, UNESCO launched the multidisciplinary International Shared Aquifer Resources Management (ISARM) programme. ISARM has identified more than 440 transboundary aquifers. These systems exist in each continent, are shared by two or more countries and contain significant quantities of groundwater.

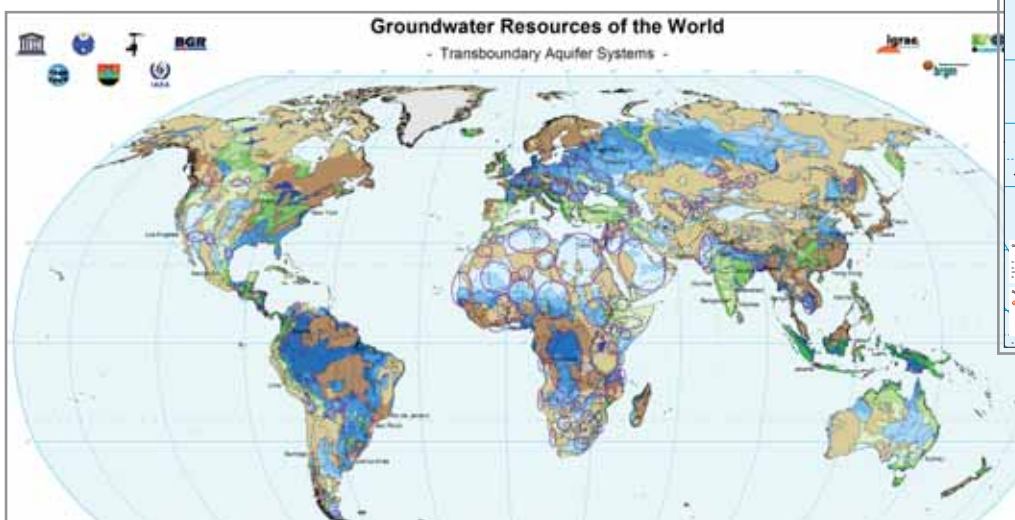
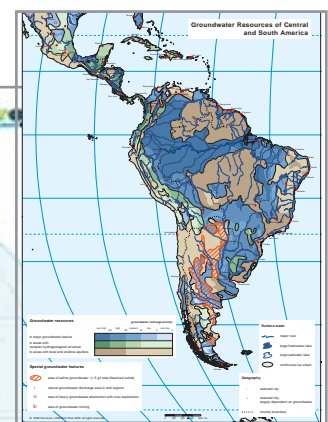


The ISARM of the Americas Project, jointly implemented by UNESCO-IHP and the Organisation of American States (OAS), facilitated the establishment of a regional network of hydrogeologists. Such close cooperation between country representatives greatly contributed to the preparation of the first comprehensive continental assessment of transboundary aquifers. The results of the project, providing valuable tools to decision-makers of the region, have substantially contributed to the sustainable management of these resources.

The UNESCO/WMO International Groundwater Resource Assessment Centre (IGRAC) facilitates and promotes international sharing of information and knowledge on sustainable development, management monitoring and governance of groundwater resources worldwide.



The World-wide Hydrogeological Mapping and Assessment Programme (WHYMAP) compiles data on groundwater from national, regional and global sources, and visualizes them in maps, web map applications and services.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a financial mechanism uniting 182 member governments – in partnership with international institutions, nongovernmental organizations, the civil society and the private sector - to address global environmental issues. Born in 1991, today the GEF is the largest public funder of projects to improve the global environment. An independently operating financial organization, the GEF provides grants for projects related to different focal areas: biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, and persistent organic pollutants.



www.thegef.org

IW LEARN Project

IW LEARN stands for the "International Waters Learning Exchange And Resource Network" Project of the Global Environment Facility. It is a unique initiative in the GEF portfolio and its current phase (2011-2014) places a strong focus on groundwater protection and management. Its goal is to Strengthen Transboundary Waters Management by facilitating information sharing and knowledge management amongst GEF IW projects and partners.



www.iwlearn.net

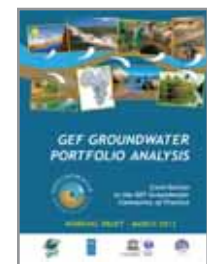
By pursuing these objectives, IW LEARN has entrusted UNESCO-IHP and IUCN to establish and facilitate respectively two Global Communities of Practices on Groundwater (www.groundwatercop.iwlearn.net) and Surface Water (www.freshwater.community.iwlearn.net).



These Communities are formed by water practitioners, GEF IW project managers and representatives of relevant Ministries. The CoPs aim to accelerate learning from and within the GEF IW portfolio, and promote replication of good practices in transboundary freshwater management. The CoPs act as a catalytic coalition among GEF IW projects and are designed to build on existing knowledge from inside and outside the GEF portfolio. Many cross linkages for sharing discussion items between the two communities are being created to facilitate interactive discussions beyond silo attitudes.

Within the Groundwater Community of Practice, in addition to the online facilitated exchanges, three main activities are currently being organized:

Analysis of the GEF Groundwater Portfolio: A tool to present and review the portfolio of groundwater projects (co-)financed by the GEF in light of disseminating outstanding results, lessons learned and replicable practices. The report is a living document that will continue to be enriched with comments, additions and revisions from participants of the Groundwater Community of Practice until end of 2013 when it will be published as UNESCO/GEF publication.



Groundwater Integration Dialogues: Face-to-face meetings in different regions of the world organized by UNESCO-IHP to bring together surface and groundwater GEF IW projects to exchange among each other as well as with local scientific communities in order to identify best practices and promote cooperative approaches and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater resources within a transboundary setting



Groundwater Talks: A series of videos and interviews from events across the world looking at groundwater issues. Groundwater Talks takes you on an "underground" journey to explore what people say and think about groundwater, their experiences and perceptions, what they would like to learn or share.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean

The Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC), through its Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division, conducts research and provides advisory assistance in water management and water supply and sanitation services. As for international aspects of water, its work has concentrated on the consequences of international investment agreements for national capacities to manage water resources and to regulate public services and on the implications of the recognition of the human right to water and sanitation for development strategies and goals.

In the first case, ECLAC's concerns are related to the fact that the common legal principles that govern the activity of investors when they provide public services are largely ignored by international arbitral tribunals despite their undisputed relevance in comparative law. At the same time, these tribunals often equate regulation in the public interest to expropriation while ignoring virtually all of the general principles of the law of nations in this area. The same concerns also refer to measures to address the impact of the economic crisis on public services, where with some exceptions, arbitral jurisprudence tends to ignore the criteria followed by national courts.

In the second case, it is important to distinguish between human rights obligations related to water as a natural resource and those related to water services. Access to water as a natural resource may constitute a human right under certain circumstances, but not everybody may have a right to use it when there is not enough water and there is no intention to put it to a socially acceptable use. Access to water supply and sanitation services is a human right. This access should be equitable and non-discriminatory, adequate in quality and quantity, sustainable, and affordable. Affordable does not mean that services should be provided free of charge, but rather that those who can pay should pay reasonable rates that reflect efficient costs of service provision, and for those who cannot, there should be effective subsidy systems in place.

ECLAC also promotes transboundary water cooperation by advising the countries of the region that they should adopt the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses and that their national laws should incorporate rules on the integrated management of transboundary resources.

In this context, ECLAC is also interested in the potential that the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) offers for strengthening transboundary water cooperation in the Latin America and the Caribbean region.



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and Infrastructure
Division

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Executive Secretary,
Alicia Bárcena Ibarra

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

IUCN: Demonstrations that catalyze solutions

Experience from the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Water and Nature Initiative (WANI) has shown that 'Water Governance Capacity' (WGC) is built most effectively where all stakeholders participate and it is coordinated from the local to the national and transboundary levels. In practical terms, the coordinated development of policies, laws, and institutions which are necessary to build 'Water Governance Capacity' takes place through:

- tangible benefits for local, national, or river basin priorities in terms of socio-economic development from improved water resource management;
- learning, capacity building, and information exchange among decision-makers and other stakeholders;
- support for national policy, legal, and institutional reforms;
- multi-stakeholder dialogues and fora to build consensus and enable coordination of decisions;
- demonstration of and support for international cooperation in transboundary basins.

IUCN's approach to strengthening water dialogues and cooperation is demonstrated through BRIDGE, a project which promotes:

- negotiation and understanding of water agreements and sharing benefits in transboundary river basins;
- the adoption of good water governance practices, water charters, codes of conduct, by-laws, and other types of transboundary governance mechanisms,
- new multi-stakeholders platforms to build trust between stakeholders;
- preventing future or potential conflicts and enabling sustainable use and equitable sharing of freshwater ecosystem services.



www.iucn.org



www.iucn.org/bridge



www.waterlawandgovernance.org

University of Bologna in Buenos Aires

The University of Bologna - the Branch in Buenos Aires (Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna Representación en la República Argentina) is the only fully operating branch of an Italian University abroad, it is also the only foreign university included in the education system of Argentina. Its mission is to promote cooperation at the academic and institutional level, with a particular focus on research project on important matters such as the social, economic and scientific relations between European Union and Latin America.



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10:00–11:40 **Opening remarks**

Chair: *Mr Massimo Cozzone*, Chair of the Bureau of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) (5 min)

- His Excellency *Mr Guido Walter La Tella*, Ambassador of Italy to Argentina (10 min)
- Video messages welcoming the participants (30 min)
- *Ms Irina Bokova*, Director General, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- *Mr Sven Alkalaj*, Executive Secretary, UNECE
- *Ms Alicia Bárcena*, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- *Ms Julia Marton-Lefèvre*, Director General, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Representatives of Argentina – *to be confirmed*

Opening panel: Transboundary water cooperation: benefits, challenges and the situation in the Latin American and Caribbean region (50 min)

- *Ms Zelmira May*, UNESCO -IHP
- *Ms Caridad Canales*, ECLAC
- *Mr Mish Hamid*, Global Environment Facility (GEF) International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network (IW:LEARN)
- *Mr Alejandro Iza*, Environmental Law Centre, IUCN
- *Ms Anna Galletti*, University of Bologna Campus in Buenos Aires
- Introduction to the workshop – *Mr Nicholas Bonvoisin*, Secretary to the UNECE Water Convention (5 min)

11:40–12:00 Coffee break

12:00–13:00 **Session 1: Making use of international legal instruments on water for advancing cooperation**

Chair: *Ms Ximena Fuentes*, Professor of Public International Law, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez and Universidad de Chile

- International water law: sources and principles – *Ms Lilian del Castillo Laborde*, Professor, University of Buenos Aires School of Law
- 1992 UNECE Water Convention and the 1997 Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses (UN Watercourses Convention), their compatibility and complementarity – *Mr Attila Tanzi*, Full Professor of International Law, University of Bologna

- Focus on groundwater: UN ILC Draft Articles on the Law of Transboundary Aquifers and UNECE Water Convention Model Provisions on Transboundary Groundwaters – *Mr Attila Tanzi*, Full Professor of International Law, University of Bologna
- How the UNECE Water Convention promotes transboundary water cooperation – *Mr Nicholas Bonvoisin*, Secretary to the UNECE Water Convention

13:00–13:30 Facilitated discussion with the audience

13:30–15:00 Lunch

15:00–15:15 **Setting the scene in the Latin American and Caribbean region**

- Presentation of the background study analyzing the situation of transboundary water cooperation in the Latin American and Caribbean region – *Mr Liber Martin*, Professor, University of Mendoza

15:15–16:30 **Session 2: Jointly adapting water management to climate change and variability in transboundary basins**

Chair: *Mr Alejandro Iza*, Environmental Law Centre, IUCN

- Water and adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins: activities and lessons learnt under the UNECE Water Convention – *Ms Nataliya Nikiforova*, UNECE Secretariat
- Water cooperation and adaptation to climate change in the Mesoamerica region – *Ms Rocío Córdoba*, IUCN Livelihoods and Climate Change Coordinator for Mesoamerica
- Considering climate variability and change in the Amazon River Basin – *Ms María Apostolova*, Deputy Project Coordinator, Integrated and Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Resources in the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change, Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization
- Transboundary and regional cooperation initiated by Mexico in the area of water and climate change adaptation – *Mr Roberto Salmón*, Director General Mexican Commissioner, Mexican Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission between Mexico and the United States
- Developing a transboundary vulnerability assessment and adaptation strategy in the Dniester river basin – *Mr Ilya Trombitsky*, Executive Director, Eco-Tiras International Environmental Association of River Keepers

16:30–17:30 Facilitated discussion with the audience

19.00 Reception

10:00–10:15 **Session 3: Reconciling different interests and uses in transboundary basins, their requirements and compatibility for good water governance**

Chair: Representatives of Argentina - *to be confirmed*

- **Introduction**

- Important elements for developing a fruitful transboundary cooperation: example of the Rhine – *Mr Ben van de Wetering*, Secretary General, International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine

10:15–11:15 **Institutional and managerial frameworks for transboundary water cooperation in the UNECE region**

- Cooperation on transboundary water management in the most international river basin, the Danube – *Ms Maria Galambos*, Chief Adviser, Department of International Relations, Ministry of Rural Development, Hungary
- Reconciling flood protection and energy in the transboundary cooperation on water management between Finland and the Russian Federation – *Ms Minna Hanski*, Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland
- Cooperation in a transboundary karst aquifer system within a post-conflict area (DIKTAS Project) – *Mr Holger Treidel*, UNESCO-IHP

Institutional and managerial frameworks for transboundary water cooperation in the Latin American and Caribbean region

- Governance: lessons learned from the LAC region – *Ms Ofelia Tujchneider*, Universidad Nacional El Litoral, Santa Fe, Argentina

11:15–11:45 Coffee break

11:45–12:45 **Institutional and managerial frameworks for transboundary water cooperation in the Latin American and Caribbean region**

- Transboundary water cooperation in the La Plata River Basin – *Mr José Luis Genta*, Secretary General, Intergovernmental Committee of Coordination of La Plata Basin
- Transboundary water cooperation in the Goascorán River Basin – *Mr Oscar Everardo Chicas Rodríguez*, Director General Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador

- Guarani Aquifer System: applying the ILC Draft Articles on the Law of Transboundary Aquifers – *Mr Jorge Santa Cruz*, Former Technical Coordinator, Guarani Aquifer System project, Argentina
- Transboundary water cooperation in the Artibonito River Basin – *Mr Astrel Joseph*, Director, Land and Ecosystems Department, Ministry of Environment, Haiti

12:45–13:30 Facilitated discussion with the audience

13:30–15:00 Lunch

15:00–15:30 **Session 4: Fostering transboundary water cooperation in the Latin American and Caribbean region and UNECE region and between them**

Co-chairs: *Ms Caridad Canales*, Economic Affairs Officer, ECLAC, and *Mr Nicholas Bonvoisin*, Secretary to the UNECE Water Convention

- A multilevel approach for water cooperation: the governance perspective – *Ms Ximena Fuentes*, Professor, University of Chile
- The UNECE Water Convention: potential and opportunities for enhancing transboundary water cooperation – *Mr Massimo Cozzone*, Chair of the Bureau of the UNECE Water Convention

15:30–16:15 Break out group discussion on the way forward to further promote the exchange between the UNECE region and the Latin American and Caribbean region, as well as the UNECE Water Convention and the role to be played by different partners

16:15–16:30 Presentation of the outcomes of the group discussion

16:30–17:00 Plenary discussion on the way forward to enhance transboundary water cooperation in the Latin American and Caribbean region, including through GEF projects, as well as on the role to be played by different partners

17:00–17:30 **Session 5: Conclusions and closing**

Chair: *Mr Massimo Cozzone*, Chair of the Bureau of the UNECE

Objectives

1. Contribute to enriching the analysis of the GEF IW Freshwater Portfolio in the LAC Region
2. Review state of integration of groundwater management within river basin commissions
3. Discuss opportunities for conjunctive surface and groundwater management and needs for capacity building in LAC GEF IW projects
4. Generate list of recommendations for making GEF IW projects more sustainable after project closure
5. Discuss appropriate knowledge management and dissemination strategies and review existing tools including participation of members in the Global Surface Water and Groundwater Communities of Practice

Agenda

- 08:30–09:00 Welcome and meeting objectives (*Holger Treidel*, UNESCO-IHP and *Ernesto Fernandez-Polcuch*, UNESCO Montevideo)
- 09:00–10:30 Overview of Projects and RBOs involved in GEF IW Surface/ Groundwater Dialogues. Twinning and tour de table exercise (moderated by *Lucilla Minelli*, UNESCO-IHP and *Kirstin Conti*, IGRAC)
- Description: Participants will be assigned in pairs (one groundwater person + one surface water/RBO person) with the objective of explaining to one another the main achievements/challenges in their respective GEF IW projects. The exercise will be facilitated with prepared material by the organizers. After this exercise, each participant will make a very short presentation (5 minutes) on his/ her partner's project.*
- 10:30–10:45 Coffee Break
- 10:45–11:30 Presentation of Thematic Discussions by three key note speakers
- Review of groundwater management within The Rio de la Plata Basin - *José Luis Genta*, CIC and *Daniel González*, Division of Water Resources of Paraguay (15')
 - Capacity building initiatives to promote conjunctive SW and GW management and supporting knowledge management strategies - *Kirstin Conti*, IGRAC (15')
 - Sustainability of results and best practices after projects closure – *Nelson Da Franca*, Senior International Expert (15')

- 11:30–12:30 1st Thematic discussion on Review of groundwater management within river basin commissions
Facilitator: *Rocío Córdoba*, IUCN
Rapporteur: *Holger Treidel*, UNESCO-IHP
- 12:30–13:30 Lunch Break
- 13:30–14:30 2nd Thematic discussion on Capacity building initiatives to promote conjunctive SW and GW management and supporting knowledge management strategies
Facilitator: *Ofelia Tuchjneider*, Universidad Nacional El Litoral, Santa Fe, Argentina
Rapporteur: *Lucilla Minelli*, UNESCO-IHP
- 14:30–15:30 3rd Thematic discussion on Sustainability of results and best practices after projects closure
Facilitator: *Enrique Bello*, OAS and *Silvia Raffaelli*, La Plata River Basin Project
Rapporteur: *Kirstin Conti*, IGRAC
- 15:30–15:45 Coffee Break
- 15:45–16:45 Way forward to consolidate messages from the group directed (i) to the GEF providing recommendations on how to better design basin and aquifer projects so as to facilitate conjunctive management, and calling for dedicated projects to this end; (ii) to the Groundwater Governance project, which is in the process of identifying a shared global vision where conjunctive management is one of the central features (iii) to inform the analysis of the GEF Groundwater Portfolio and encourage the participation in the Groundwater Community of Practice.

A series of 3/4 recommendations resulting from the previous discussions will be agreed upon.
Facilitators: *Nelson Da Franca*, Senior International Expert and *Lucilla Minelli*, UNESCO-IHP
- 16:45-16:55 Closing remarks, *Holger Treidel*, UNESCO-IHP
- 16:55-17:30 Filming of short collective movie using final recommendations

The overall aim of the workshop will be to raise capacity among the GEF IW projects on aspects of governance, specifically concerning how project outcomes and results can be sustained through the right mix of governance structures, policies and legislation. In other words, how can GEF projects have greater and more sustained impact at national, sub-regional and regional levels and also become more effective catalysts for the improved governance water bodies they address? It is anticipated that an outcome will be implementation of selected approaches and methods discussed at the workshop in the course of GEF IW project implementation.

In partnership with



Objectives

- Presentation of approaches and methodologies to establish governance structures and policies that facilitate the sustainability of GEF project outcomes, results and impacts.
- Determination of key management actions GEF projects can deploy to become effective catalysts for improving governance at national, sub-regional and regional levels.

Outputs

- Collection of learning resource guides, presentations and other materials added as guidance on iwlearn.net, particularly through the IW project manager's manual
- Brief synopsis of applied governance methodologies by projects, the results and good practices from doing so in the context of sustaining project outcomes, enhancing positive impacts at national, sub-regional and regional levels and catalyzing improved governance
- Generate list of management actions for making GEF IW project interventions more sustainable after project closure.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- 09:00–09:30 Workshop Registration
- 09:30–10:00 Welcome Addresses
- 10:30–10:45 Tour de Table/Expectations
- 10:45–11:15 Coffee Break

SESSION I. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES & POLICIES TO SUSTAIN INTERVENTIONS

Objectives

This session will define the specifics of good practice in both governance structures policies and legal frameworks, based on past experience in the GEF IW project portfolio, that generally serve to sustain project outcomes

- 11:15–11:35 Good Practices with Inter-Ministerial Committees: The Case of IWCAM
Chris Corbin, UNEP Caribbean Environmental Programme

- 11:35–11:50 Good Practices with Legal Frameworks: The Amazon River Case - *Maria Apostolova*, Amazon River Project
- 11:50–12:10 Good Practices with Regional Management Bodies: Case of the Sixaola Commission - *Alfonso Sanabria*, Sixaola River Basin Project
- 12:10–13:00 Facilitated Discussion/Small Working Groups
- Inter-ministerial Committees
 - Legal Frameworks – Regional, National Levels
 - Transboundary Management Institutions (*Robin Mahon*)
- 13:00–14:00 Lunch

SESSION III. MAKING GEF PROJECTS MORE EFFECTIVE IN CHANGING GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES

Objectives

- Define the role of GEF projects as change agents, or catalyst for changes in policy
- Highlight specific cases where GEF project played a catalytic role in terms of policy change (global examples as well as regional examples), or played a role in consolidating the legal basis or institutions, or even building individual capacity
- Generate list of management actions for making GEF IW project interventions more sustainable after project closure.

- 14:30–14:50 Presentation of Global Marine Case: Benguela Current Commission and Convention
Nico Willemse, Benguela Current LME Project
- 14:50–15:10 Presentation of Regional Marine Case: La Plata Maritime Front
La Plata Maritime Front Project
- 15:10–15:30 The Caribbean Sea LME Case
Robin Mahon, Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme
- 15:30–16:00 Break
- 16:00–16:30 Presentation of a Freshwater Case: La Plata River Basin
Silvia Raffaelli, La Plata River Basin Project
- 16:30–17:30 Small Group Work on Specific Actions
- 17:30–18:00 Presentation of Small-group work on Specific Actions

Bonus Technical Site Visit

Participants will have opportunity to see demonstration sites and meet with technical experts from the La Plata River Delta. The site visit is not part of the main workshop program.




LOGISTICS

Venue

- Italian Institute of Culture
Marcelo T. de Alvear 1119 - 3rd floor
- Alma Mater Studiorum
Università di Bologna
Advanced Studies Centre in Buenos Aires
Marcelo T. de Alvear 1149 - 4th floor



COUNTRY INFORMATION

- **Currency:** Argentine Peso (AR\$)
- **Local time:** UTC/GMT -3 hours (No daylight saving time in 2013)
- **Climate in June:** Winter in Buenos Aires runs June to August. The month of June is characterized by *gradually falling* daily high temperatures, with daily highs around 15°C throughout the month, exceeding 20°C or dropping below 11°C only one day in ten.
- **Voltage:** 220-240 Volts; Primary Socket Type 
- **Country code:** +54, Buenos Aires (114)

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