



Africa Regional Process

Call for Case Studies

The Eighth World Water Forum

The 8th World Water Forum is scheduled to take place in March 2018 in Brasilia, Brazil (South America). The World Water Forum is a large gathering of the international community held every three years to take stock of achievements, share experiences and lessons, discuss emerging challenges and formulate joint strategies for tackling global challenges related to water and water management. The ultimate objective of the series of Forum events is to build global consensus for action to ensure rational and sustainable use of the world's freshwater resources.

The organisation of the World Water Forum is coordinated by the [World Water Council](#), which is an international think tank that seeks to promote awareness, build political commitment, and trigger action across the world on critical water issues. The Forum brings together tens of thousands of water experts and water managers, policy makers, water users and user groups, advocacy groups, researchers, water equipment manufacturers and suppliers, financiers, service providers, and educators and media practitioners drawn from governmental agencies, international organizations, cities and municipalities, public and private companies, water utilities, universities, research organisations, pressure groups and other civil society organisations from over all over the world.

The Processes Leading to the Eight World Water Forum

Seven World Water Forum events have taken place between 1997 and 2015. The Eighth World Water Forum, which will take place in Brasilia from 18th to 23rd March 2018, will focus on the theme "Sharing Water".

In preparation for the Forum, there are five distinct processes that are underway through which the scope, focus and content of regular and special events and sessions at the Forum will be defined. The processes are the following:

- a **Thematic Process**, which discusses and selects the themes to be addressed at the Forum;
- a **Political Process**, which brings together politicians, policy makers, parliamentarians and public authorities and governments at local, regional, national and international levels with the aim of obtaining commitment for actions to address water challenges;
- a **Regional Process**, which discusses the major issues and challenges faced by each continent or geographic region, and the management actions that the continent or region needs to take in a coordinated fashion to address the challenges;
- a **Sustainability Focus Group**, which discusses the adherence of public policies and actions to the principles of sustainable (economic, social and environmental) development in a cross-cutting perspective, participating in all the other processes; and
- a **Citizens' Forum**, which engenders the participation of organized civil society in the discussions, exchanges of experience, and all other activities of the Forum's.

In addition to the above five processes, each World Water Forum features a **Fair and Exhibition**, which provides an opportunity for the dissemination of ideas



and good practices and showcasing innovation in industrial and corporate products and processes.

The Global Regional Process

The Regional Process, as introduced above, facilitates the involvement of regional and sub-regional actors and stakeholders in deliberations addressing major water-related challenges affecting each region of the world. The process utilizes commonalities within regions and sub-regions to share knowledge, learn from one another's experiences and exchange good practices.

A total of six world regions, some subdivided into sub-regions, will take part in the 8th Forum. Their participation will help bring regional specificities to a global platform. The coordination of the Regional Process is chaired by the **African Development Bank** (AfDB), with the Brazilian Ministry of Integration serving as Vice-Chair.

The Africa Regional Process

Coordination of Africa's Regional Process is led, at the policy level, by the **African Ministers' Council on Water** (AMCOW). AMCOW is a specialised technical committee of the **African Union** (AU). Coordination of the regional process at the technical level is led by the Global Water Partnership Regional Offices for Central, Eastern, Sothern and Western Africa. The Northern Africa sub-region will participate in the global regional process as a member of the Arab Region process.

Six key themes have been selected for the discussions at the Eight World Water Forum. They are:

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|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Climate | 4. Urban |
| 2. People | 5. Ecosystems |
| 3. Development | 6. Finance |

There are also three cross-cutting themes that will be addressed under each of the six main themes. These are **sharing**, **capacity** and **governance**. A brief explanation of the key issues under each theme is given in the Table below.

Call for Case Studies

The World Water Forum provides a unique opportunity for regions of the world to carry out self-examination, take note of achievements, acknowledge failures, recognise emerging threats, and share experiences and lessons relating to water management. In this context, the coordinators of the Africa Regional

Process are sending out an invitation to all interested individuals and institutions from across Africa to submit brief write-ups in **English** or **French** highlighting important cases of achievements and lessons with respect to the six key themes and three cross-cutting themes of the Eighth World Water Forum.

Each write-up, which should be about 4-5 A4 pages long (excluding figures), should cover the following: (a) background about the case, including the problem addressed, the implementers, target area and implementation period; (b) description of the actual interventions/actions taken; (c) the quantitative and qualitative results obtained; (d) the challenges faced in taking the actions and how they were addressed; (e) important lessons from the effort; (f) conclusions and recommendations; (g) supporting data and images (with appropriate captions); and (h) relevant references.

The best write ups will be incorporated in the Africa Regional Process Report, and successful authors will stand a strong chance to obtain sponsorship to travel to the Forum in Brazil through an online '**Citizen's Sponsorship Programme**' that will be run by the Forum Organisers from November 2017 to January 2018.

Possible areas that the write-ups could focus on include climate change adaptation; disaster risk preparedness and management; science-policy dialogue on climate change; implementing the water-food-energy nexus; promoting water reuse; payment for ecosystem services; aquatic ecosystem conservation; financing water and sanitation services in cities and municipalities; financing water and sanitation services in rural areas; financing repairs and rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities; water sector capacity building; ICT promotion in the water sector; innovative water sector monitoring and evaluation systems; innovations in technology and lessons in technology transfer; improving water governance frameworks at transboundary level; innovative approaches to solving of water challenges; novel approaches in community engagement and stakeholder participation; unique policies and legal and regulatory tools for water sector management; good practices in any area of water management; etc. The authors are referred to the matrix below for further explanation on the Forum themes.

Write-ups bearing the names and contact address of the authors should be submitted electronically before **December 15, 2017** to Mr. Jembere Kidanemariam at: K.Jembere@cgiar.org

The themes for the Eight World Water Forum

Theme Description	Focus Topics To Be Discussed At the Eight World Water Forum	Lead Sub- Region
<p>Theme 1: Climate</p> <p>Climate change is a reality, and Africa is among the most vulnerable continents to the impacts of global climate change and vulnerability. Climate change exerts its greatest impacts on water resources and leads to changes in the water cycle and in water availability and distribution in space and time. Key risks for Africa related to global climate change include climate change-induced shifts in the ranges of species and ecosystems, loss of coral reefs, reduced crop productivity, reduced livestock productivity, increased livestock diseases, increased spread of vector- and water-borne human diseases, increased water scarcity, increased famine and malnutrition, and increased flooding and damage from flood-related disasters.</p> <p>Through the 2015 Sendai, SDG's and COP21 agreements, the world has committed itself to ambitious goals and targets for both water and climate. The urgent task left now is for the global community to implement these goals and targets.</p> <p>The Eighth World Water Forum provides a unique opportunity for governments and members of the international scientific community, business community and civil society to discuss ways of collaboration in taking actions to address the above challenges. The Forum discussions shall focus on sharing inspiring examples and experiences on relevant policies and innovative financing and institutional mechanisms used to move towards achievements of the ambitious global goals and targets. The discussions at the Eighth World Water Forum will further aim to make climate change a major consideration in sharing water and implementing the SGDs, and make water central to the process of implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Managing risk and uncertainty for resilience and disaster preparedness b. Water and adaptation to climate change c. Water and climate change mitigation d. Climate science and water management: the communication between science and decision/policy making 	Southern Africa
<p>Theme 2: People</p> <p>Recognizing that providing access to water and sanitation is essential for guaranteeing human well-being and ending poverty, this theme seeks to draw attention to the large proportion of the global community that still does not have access to safe water and decent sanitation, and to those that are taken ill or die each year from water-related diseases. It also seeks to highlight the plight of millions of women and children (many of them from Africa) who walk long distances each day to fetch water.</p> <p>Guided by the perspectives of protecting peoples' dignity, ensuring human equality and facing up to new realities like the migrant and refugee crisis, this theme aims to create a space in which all water sector actors, including youth, will discuss development and implementation of novel and effective water and sanitation services delivery models, and new financial mechanisms to strengthen public health. Also, it will seek to be a space for showing innovation and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Enough safe water for all b. Integrated sanitation for all c. Water and public health 	East Africa

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<p>partnership models, fostering know-how transfer, scaling-up best practices, improving access to data, and attracting additional funding to the water and sanitation sub-sector.</p> <p>The 'People' Theme, which will support efforts to meet the targets of SDG 6 and human rights to safe water and sanitation (HRWS), will focus on three topics (shown in the next column).</p>		
<p>Theme 3: Development</p> <p>Freshwater is a strategic resource that underpins all development activities including agriculture, fisheries, energy, industry, cities and municipalities, tourism and recreation, navigation and environment and ecosystems. But the world's freshwater resources are finite and can be depleted or polluted and destroyed by unwise use. Already, development activities are affecting water quality and the availability and access to water. This in turn is affecting the ability of society to sustain or expand development activities and ensure that water services and goods continue to be enjoyed by present and future generations. Managing water to meet competing and often conflicting demands and ensuring sustainable development is one of the biggest challenges of our times.</p> <p>Agricultural irrigation and hydropower are two of the largest water using sectors. The 'Development' theme will be used to address how coordination between the two sectors can be used to achieve greater efficiency in water use through a Nexus approach. The agricultural sector is faced with the challenge of producing enough food with less water to feed a growing world population. To realise this calls for many changes in food and agricultural systems, including increasing energy uptake. Meeting ever-growing demands for energy will generate increasing stress on freshwater resources with implications for other users, including agriculture and industry, which require energy, thereby creating some synergies as they develop together.</p> <p>Through water stewardship, businesses around the world are taking a leading role in addressing sustainable development challenges through making wise investments in hard and soft infrastructure that aim to increasing efficiency in resource use and minimise waste generation.</p> <p>Discussions under the 'Development' Theme will be used to support the development and implementation of policies and actions on the sustainable use of water, and to achieve the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Discussions will focus on five topics (shown in the next column).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Water for Food b. Water for Energy c. Inclusive and sustainable growth, water stewardship and industry d. Efficient use of surface water and groundwater - urban and rural e. Infrastructure for sustainable water resource management and services 	<p>Southern Africa</p> <p>West Africa</p>

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<p>Theme 4: Urban</p> <p>Urban water security is coming under increasingly pressure from rapid urbanisation, growing demand for water, depletion of water resources, flooding, surface and ground water pollution and poor municipal wastewater management. Rapid urbanization is also often accompanied by a worsening social gap, with the urban poor being progressively displaced to poor districts where there is high crime and where public infrastructure and social services are significantly inferior to the infrastructure and services enjoyed in rich districts. The situation is further aggravated by impacts of climate change which disproportionately affect the urban poor.</p> <p>Water is a key resource for making cities healthier, greener and safer but realising this goal calls for adopting integrated approaches in city planning, taking into account all water uses, introducing new financing models, promoting multi-sector circular economy, promoting behaviour change, introducing demand management, facilitating dialogue among key stakeholders, and adjusting regulatory frameworks. Water governance cannot be limited to city boundaries but requires adopting an integrated vision that considers implications for communities upstream and downstream of cities, and involving technical, economic and social actors in systems thinking approaches.</p> <p>The 'Urban' Theme seeks to build bridges and stimulate conversations amongst a wide range of actors thereby laying the ground for collective action to build the sustainable and water-wise cities of the future. Discussions in the theme, which will support the implementation of SDG 6.3, SDG 11, SDG 14 and Habitat III targets, will focus on three topics (shown in the next column).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Water and cities b. The circular economy – reduce, reuse, recycle c. Treatment and reuse technologies 	Southern Africa
<p>Theme 5: Ecosystems</p> <p>Aquatic ecosystems provide a wide range of goods and services, the exploitation of which supports livelihoods for millions of people across the world. In recent decades, human pressure on rivers, lakes, wetlands and other water-related ecosystems like montane systems, has been rising steadily, not only threatening biodiversity but also the many essential goods and services that healthy freshwater ecosystems provide to society, including the provision of clean drinking water on which life is dependent.</p> <p>Balancing the water needs for humans and ecosystems is a major challenge for modern society, requiring improvements in water use efficiency in rural and urban settings, and water planning reforms that can incentivise behavioural change. Restoration of hydrological connectivity and the identification and provision of environmental flows for river and wetland systems will also be important to achieving this balance. Cost-effective approaches combining grey and green infrastructure to reduce water pollution are needed, not only for urban and industrial sources but also to minimize the delivery of sediment, nutrients and other contaminants from diffuse sources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Managing and restoring ecosystems for water services and biodiversity b. Natural and engineered hydrological systems c. Water and land use d. Ensuring water quality from ridge to reef. 	Central Africa

Theme Description	Focus Topics To Be Discussed At the Eight World Water Forum	Lead Sub- Region
<p>Improving resilience of catchments and waterways to extreme weather events will also become increasingly important in the face of a changing climate and growing population. New strategies and tools are needed to quantify the full costs and benefits of these actions to society, and to effectively communicate these values to decision makers and the broader community.</p> <p>The 'Ecosystem' theme will explore these challenges and identify ideas and actions that can be condensed into technical, social, legal and political proposals that influence and enable society to adopt a new agenda for development and lead to a sustainable water future. Discussions under the theme, which aim to support the implementation of SDG 6.3, 6.6 and SDG 15, will focus on three topics (shown in the next column).</p>		
<p>Theme 6: Finance</p> <p>Water Security is a major multidimensional requirement for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, in many developing regions of the world, Africa inclusive, the availability of finance with which to implement the wide-ranging interventions needed to attain water security is a challenge. The 'Finance' theme at the Eighth World Water Forum will address this challenge through a review of emerging innovations on payments for environmental services and green infrastructure, land value capture tools, performance-based contracts, microfinance for small-scale water services, research and innovative technologies, and public-private-partnerships approaches for irrigation and water/wastewater services.</p> <p>One of the critical issues to be discussed at the Eighth World Water Forum is the investment needed to bridge the water infrastructure gap in the developing world, which gap has been widening with the growing risks related to climate change. A related issue is the investment needed for rehabilitation and replacement of ageing infrastructure. Theme discussions will closely examine the role of the private sector in water sector development, and in the bridging of the investment gap.</p> <p>The 'Finance' theme discussions will further explore opportunities for mitigation of business and fiduciary risks associated with water, and the improvement of public policies to stimulate investments, including those from capital markets. Also, discussions will examine the practical applications of tariffs, taxes and transfers and good global practices to assess the economic value of water, including cost/benefit and cost/effectiveness analyses. Finally, reinforcing the idea of water at the core of sustainable development, the thematic sessions will discuss water security holistically by linking water and growth and the water-energy-food nexus.</p> <p>The 'Finance' theme discussions, which will support the implementation of SDG 6 and SDG 17, will focus on three topics (shown in the next column).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Economics and financing for innovative investments b. Financing implementation of water-related SDGs and adaptation to climate change c. Finance for sustainable development – supporting water-friendly business 	West Africa

Theme Description	Focus Topics To Be Discussed At the Eight World Water Forum	Lead Sub-Region
<p>Cross-cutting Theme 1: Sharing</p> <p>Recognising that the groups represented at the Eighth World Water Forum will have considerable cultural diversity and widely differing viewpoints on the critical issues affecting water, the priorities for the sector, and the solutions to common challenges, the Eighth World Water Forum aims to provide, through the 'Sharing' theme, an opportunity for the global community to share their various views and experiences and consider possible ways in which this diversity can contribute to sustainable development, empowerment and dignity for all. The groups represented at the 8th World Water Forum are expected to include governments from local to national level, indigenous peoples, civil society, businesses and the private sector, the scientific and academic community, the UN system and other international institutions.</p> <p>The Theme's topics shall focus on learning amongst countries, public and private actors and amongst urban and rural communities. It will also cover sharing of traditional and scientific knowledge, informed free and prior consensus and the monitoring of SDG implementation while emphasizing community participation and water education for the empowerment of civil society, women and youth.</p> <p>The 'Sharing' theme discussions, which will support the implementation of SDG 3, SDG 6.3, SDG 15 and SDG 17, will focus on three topics (see the next column).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sharing solutions and good practices b. Involving all: public, private, civil society – women and men – young and old - in bottom up and top down approaches c. Water, cultural diversity, justice and equity 	All Sub-regions
<p>Cross-cutting Theme 2: Capacity</p> <p>Building capacity is an essential undertaking at all levels of development work. Capacity resides at three levels: human capital, institutions and institutional systems, and the enabling environment. Each of these levels needs to be assessed and strengthened to improve the ability of actors in the water sector to recognise challenges affecting the sector, formulate measures and strategies for addressing the challenges, implement the measures identified, and monitor and evaluate the implementation process.</p> <p>Capacity building is a running theme across World Water Forum events. The discussions at the Eighth World Water Forum will be a continuation of the discourse initiated at WWF7 in Korea, but will focus on four areas: (1) enhancing education, capacity building and awareness raising, (2) strengthening the science-policy interface, (3) improving monitoring tools, and (4) encouraging effective international cooperation.</p> <p>Strengthening water education and training makes it possible to raise awareness on better approaches for water resources management, and improve the success of water projects. Facilitating multi-way dialogue between scientists and policy makers broadens the appreciation for the rationale for actions in water and sanitation, and strengthens</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Enhancing education and capacity building b. Science and technology and decision/policy making – 7th World Water Forum S&T Process c. ICT and monitoring d. International cooperation. 	All Sub-regions

Theme Description	Focus Topics To Be Discussed At the Eight World Water Forum	Lead Sub-Region
<p>evidence-based decision making. Monitoring is essential to enabling the global community understand whether or not targets are being realised, and desired impacts being registered. Smart monitoring systems incorporating innovations in ICT could greatly improve monitoring capability, including capability for monitoring indicators for SDG targets. Addressing capacity constraints in this area is therefore a priority for the water sector. Finally, efficient international cooperation is crucial for sharing knowledge on innovative technologies in the water/ sanitation sector. This can increase capacity for developing Countries to implement and manage measures needed to better manage water and sanitation issues</p> <p>The 'Capacity' theme discussions at the Eighth World Water Forum, which will support the implementation of SDG 4, SDG 6a and SDG 17, will focus on four topics (see next column).</p>		
<p>Cross-cutting Theme 3: Governance</p> <p>Water governance refers to the political, social, economic and administrative systems in place that influence the access, use and management of water resources. Essentially, water governance is about determining who gets what water, when and how, and who has the right to water and related services and benefits. Governing water includes the formulation, establishment and implementation of water policies, legislation and institutions, and clarification of the roles and responsibilities of government, civil society and the private sector in relation to water resources and services.</p> <p>Water policies can only deliver if functional institutions are in place; if problems are addressed at the relevant scale within integrated basin systems; if stakeholders are coordinated and engaged in a whole-of-society approach to secure social and political acceptability; if regulatory frameworks safeguard the public interest; if data and information are guiding decisions; if decisions are made in a transparent way and decision-makers are held accountable; if capacity is built; and if monitoring and evaluation are in place to guide policy and trigger enforcement and compliance.</p> <p>Governance discussions at the 8th World Water Forum will provide policy guidance and highlight lessons from practice that can be used by governments, acting in partnership with a broad range of stakeholders, to build effective, efficient, inclusive and trustworthy water governance frameworks, in order to achieve the global targets for sustainable development. Governance frameworks for fostering cooperation in the management of surface and groundwater systems that traverse international boundaries will receive special consideration in the discussions.</p> <p>The 'Governance' theme discussions at the Eighth World Water Forum, which will address the issues of water governance for the 2030 Development Agenda, and support the implementation of SDG 6.5, and SDG 17, will focus on three topics (see next column).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. SMART implementation of IWRM b. Cooperation for reducing conflict and improving transboundary water management c. Effective governance: Enhanced political decisions, stakeholder participation and technical information 	All Sub-regions