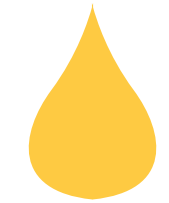


ISW Annual Report 2012



SEAF-SWA-SAA



SEAS-SWA



SEAM-SWA-SAA



SEE-SWE



SIE-ISW-SIA

Solidarité Eau Monde
World Water Solidarity
Solidaridad Mundial del Agua



SEAC-SWCA



SEM-SWM



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SIE-ISW-SIA

A TESTIMONY

« Faced with a global water crisis, our movement, made up of regional networks affiliated with and supported by the International Secretariat for Water, has worked hard to help meet the challenges associated with this vital resource; a resource that tells the story of civilisations and cosmogonies, and which we see as an essential factor in social organisation.

New data is always emerging about this on-going issue and after 25 years water remains one of the most strategic matters of our time and one of the most problematic; for while life depends on it, we cannot manufacture it.

From the beginning we have refused to reduce its complexity to a single type of variable or to entrust decisions solely to the scientific, technical and financial instigators of development.

Despite our very different origins and situations we all agreed to speak out loud and clear on the need for a new approach, a new way of learning and of identifying ways to take action and cooperate in the context of revised partnerships. We conceptualised our point of view, ensuring we took into consideration the latest progress and confirming the importance of developing

knowledge, education, capacity building and awareness-raising about water as much at local and national level as through institutions and networks.

We listened and shared experiences from those who are too often left unheard, shaping the social and cultural aspects of water into key issues, but also providing practical advice and tools for respecting and preserving this vital resource. Our action is characterised by listening, "gendered" participation and the respect of local knowledge.

Our movement has seen its ideas duplicated everywhere, sometimes without reference to us; we have seen NGOs and networks blossom sometimes with our help, sometimes not.

Today, the approach to water issues has matured considerably and may seem normal to young people, but at the end of the 1980s, when our movement was just beginning, the approach was technical and usually centralised.

We never forget that water is a constantly evolving issue. We knew from the outset to what extent it raises challenges for our generation that underlie legal, environmental, socio-economic, strategic and geopolitical issues, clearly proving that conventional technical solutions are not enough and highlighting the importance of an overall, interdisciplinary approach that can tackle the topic of water in all its complexity, whether it be within a project, in education, by capacity building or through information.

From the beginning we were all determined that we must look at this information according to an interdisciplinary and holistic approach with a long term vision and in the context of sustainable development. We believe that to manage water resources efficiently and effectively, no aspect (agriculture, demographics, migration, industry, food, health biodiversity, climate change, leisure, peace, conflict, etc.) nor any sector, nor any of the physical laws governing water resources and especially not any of the communities who depend on it must be overlooked.

Throughout our action, a "core" battle has been led and continues. Pioneers in calling for application of the right to water, this right has been recognised in many countries and at international level, and we continue to work to ensure it is upheld.

And the battle is not won! We are working to ensure our action will continue with the next generation. Young people are ready to work with us.

Our quest includes the building or enhancing of opportunities to meet, to seek synergies and form partnerships on a regional level. We play a role as an independent facilitator, encouraging collaboration and sharing among academics, civil society and all stakeholders in sustainable development, without demonising the private sector but calling for regulation of its actions and initiating appropriate solutions to meet the needs identified within the framework of effective governance.

It is in this way that we have been able to highlight the need to build partnerships and networks based on sharing, seeking agreed solutions, mediation, collaboration and dialogue around knowledge and experiences as a vector of social acceptability.

Today there is a consensus around the concepts that in the early days were subject to debate, but today they are shared; water is an essential component in poverty reduction and citizenship, a factor in security, peace, safeguarding people's continued livelihoods in their regions and their cultural diversity, it is an essential element in the green economy providing that a balance is found between supply and demand.

However, the fact remains; we need water available in sufficient quantity and of sufficient quality at an affordable price for all without discrimination, water that is consumed with prudence and then collected and recycled. This seemingly simple objective has still not been attained everywhere.

Based on a wealth of experience, we are now looking to International Law to recognise that the dilemma is even sharper when we look at water as a resource subjected to national sovereignty. Recognising water as a human right is not enough, we call on the international community to advance the process of integrating uses by speeding up the drafting of an International Law on Water in a sustainable development perspective and to comply with certain rules of solidarity around water governance. This is essential if we are to meet the tactical and strategic challenges associated with conflicts of interest over water use. We must also accept and encourage the participation of all users in the decision-making process, making water a factor of transnational citizenship through the use of appropriate tools and financing mechanisms and the mobilisation of the necessary political will.

We are proud to have many men and women (and no, we did not wait to practice parity in a sector where there are few women) by our side as we face these challenges.

At the centre of everything, is Raymond Jost, Secretary General of ISW. Thank you and all those who work with us. We all agree that our life would have been very different without water!

Thank you to all of you who believed in us.

Thank you to all those who will continue the fight for this noble cause.



**Le droit à l'eau
The right to water
El derecho al agua
Das Recht aufs Wasser**

Houria Tazi Sadeq, Morocco

**A REMINDER OF
OUR MISSION
AND OUR AREAS
OF EXPERTISE**

The International Secretariat for Water (ISW) with headquarters in Montreal and the General Secretariat in Europe, is an international non-governmental organisation created in the context of the International Decade for Water and Sanitation (1980-1990). The objective of ISW is to facilitate the application of the four principles in the Montreal Charter (June 1990) on drinking water and sanitation, which are:

1. Access to water and sanitation is first and foremost a policy issue,
2. All action taken in the field of water must be designed with the support of the communities concerned,
3. Access to water must be integrated into an overall development approach,
4. All water related programmes must include the education and training of the local communities.

Our Mission

- To Act** to improve living conditions through improved access to water, whether for drinking, for production or for hygiene and sanitation.
- To Advocate** for more democracy, more justice, more equality and respect of the environment.
- To Support** the capacity of people and their partners to seek innovative solutions for land development.
- To Help** to develop interlinked financial mechanisms within a context of ethical governance.

Our Areas of Expertise

ISW has acquired sound experience in the field of water management and fair and sustainable development, particularly as regards:

- Supporting local community capacity building
- Seeking synergies and building institutional capacities
- Promoting regional alliances and supporting global networks
- Involving youth in the search for innovative solutions
- Designing awareness-raising and information campaigns that promote integrated water resource management according to hydrographical basin
- Communicating around events in the context of advocacy actions



**Act
Advocate
Support
Help**



The 6th World Water Forum and Beyond



The International Secretariat for Water (ISW) has actively participated in all the World Water Forums (Marrakech, The Hague, Kyoto, Mexico City and Istanbul) with the objective of building bridges between all water management stakeholders, among civil society representatives and their partners and, in a more general manner, between the water sector and the general public.

Since then, 15 years and 5 forums later, ISW and its partners have built up their collaboration with the Forum organisers and today our activities are integrated into the official programme. **At the 6th World Water Forum which was held in Marseille in 2012, ISW and its collaborators set themselves five specific objectives for their participation. These were:**

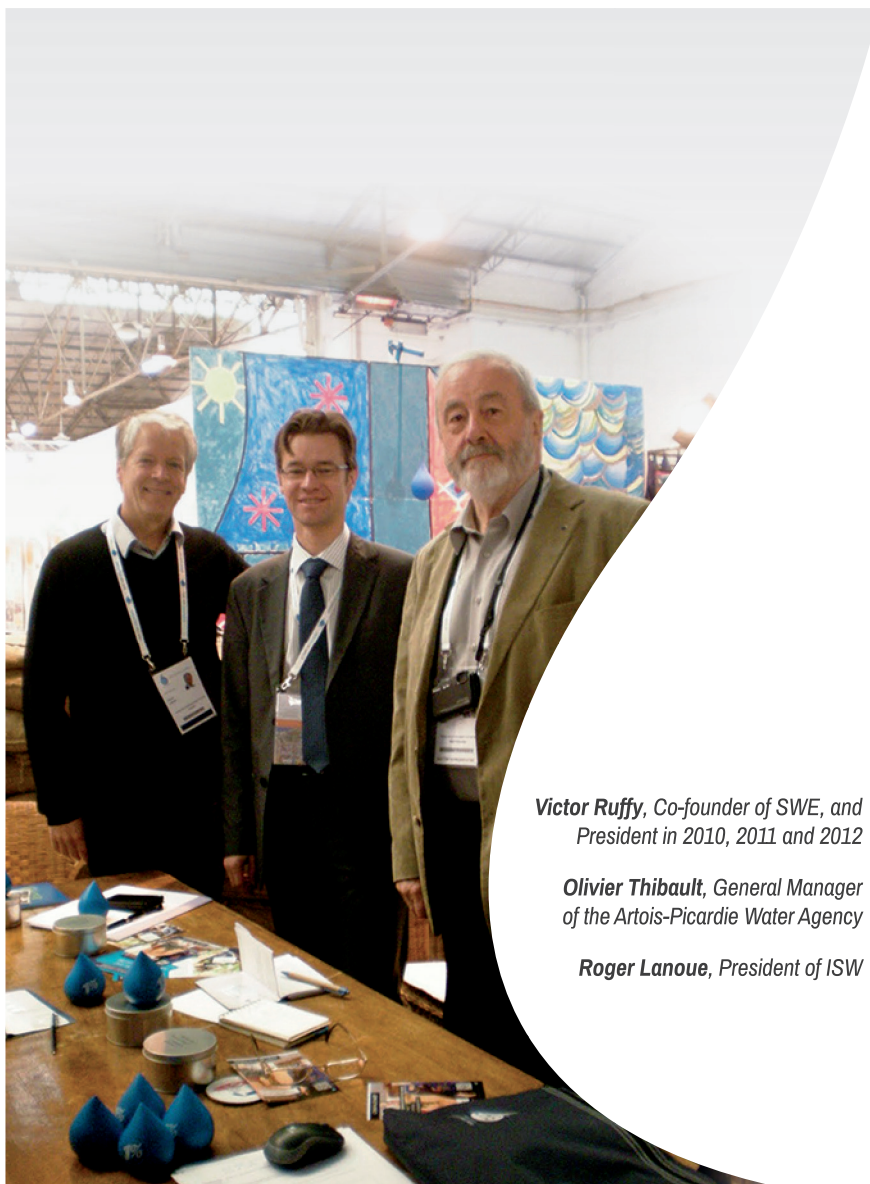
- 💧 **To offer** all sector stakeholders, including users, an arena for meetings and discussions within the Forum and outside it,
- 💧 **To continue and strengthen** the role of film in sharing knowledge on water and in cultural awareness-raising,
- 💧 **To build** and defend solidarity and the essential sharing of responsibility among all generations
- 💧 **To continue and strengthen** the role of youth in the future of water
- 💧 **To promote** cultural and artistic expression around the theme of water

In Marseille in March 2012, ISW and its partners:

1. Built the **Citizens' House for Water** with a rich and varied programme
2. Held the **3rd Edition of the International "Water and Film" Events**
3. Coordinated the **World Youth Parliament for Water** with the Artois-Picardie Water Agency to place youth centre stage during this 6th Forum
4. Organised a trip around the Mediterranean for the ship, "**Sails of Solidarity**" in order to share the solutions that exist around the basin and present them at the Forum
5. Initiated and coordinated the **international NGO Coalition the "Butterfly Effect"**
6. Prepared and coordinated **official sessions on financing mechanisms**
7. Carried out **many activities in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'azur region**



The Citizens' House for Water: "The Mediterranean"



Victor Ruffy, Co-founder of SWE, and President in 2010, 2011 and 2012

Olivier Thibault, General Manager of the Artois-Picardie Water Agency

Roger Lanoue, President of ISW

Present at all the World Water Forums, the Citizens' House for Water is first and foremost **a place for dialogue, advocacy and cultural expression** within the overall Forum programme. By offering opportunities for all stakeholders to meet together, it aims to tear down the barriers between approaches. The layout and **the atmosphere at the stand encourage discussion, debate and the formulation of innovative local solutions** that can be scaled up to regional level in line with national policy and international aid strategies.

The Citizens' House for Water at the 6th World Water Forum was designed by students from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Marseille (Luminy).

Constructed out of scaffolding and sandbags, the design of the Citizens' House for Water was a reminder of the links between climate change,

natural disasters, water and the dangers for people affected by these phenomena. The idea behind the concept was also to build a stand that drew on the 3 "R"s of sustainable architecture. Thus the materials were all reduced, reusable and recyclable, as well as being low cost.

The Citizens' House for Water was divided into eight thematic areas in which Forum participants could take part in the various knowledge and experience sharing activities, network, and hold formal and informal meetings. **As well as the Agora, the Elected Officials Lounge, the specific areas for the IWFE, for the Great Lakes-St Lawrence Symphony, for Haiti, for Moldova, for the "Sails of Solidarity" initiative and for Professor Hippopotamus,** all promoted various original solutions concerning the different issues relating to water.

From 12 to 17 March, many events were held in the Agora of the Citizens' House for Water, hosting almost 3,500 visitors and presenting innovative solutions for water management.

Film screenings and debates were also held in the context of the IWFE. The rich and varied programme of the Citizens' House for Water covered many themes such as **integrated water management by basin, the links between water and culture as well as cooperation and decentralised funding mechanisms.**



9-17 mars/marzo/march 2012

Aix-en-Provence – La Ciotat – Marseille – Montpellier



The 3rd International “Water and Film” Events (IWFE)

The IWFE are an opportunity to organise debates, meetings, awareness campaigns and to create films. This why, thanks to the IWFE, a local and international movement is rising up to create opportunities for sharing information and experiences and for raising awareness, which enable not only film directors but also the general public and all water sector stakeholders to assume shared responsibility for this precious resource.

The IWFE were proposed to the organisers of the 6th World Water Forum as a means of supporting the forum, adding value to debates within the official sessions and elsewhere. **The IWFE made it possible to spread out meetings with the general public in order to reach as many people as possible;** organising film-focused events throughout the region and in other towns in France and abroad in the lead up to and during the Forum.

In 2011, an international competition was opened and the word was spread by more than 800 organisations and individuals. More than 250 films were received in the 5 competition categories:

- 💧 Personal Stories
- 💧 Science-Education Documentary
- 💧 Professional Documentary
- 💧 VidéEau
- 💧 Soft Spot

The latter two categories were exclusively reserved for young people (17-30 year olds for the first and 11-16 year olds for the second). An international jury, made up of well-known figures from the worlds of film and of water, chaired by Mr Mario Vasconez, awarded **17 prizes and 3 special mentions.**

A public choice prize in the VidéEau category was attributed following voting on the Dailymotion site.

The prize-giving ceremony was held on 11 March, on the eve of the World Water Forum opening ceremony, at the Palais du Pharo. **Free and open to all, 450 people were in attendance.** A great number of the film directors and producers were present to receive their prizes, sponsored by the IWFE partners. Gaston Kaboré, a renowned director from Burkina Faso, was there as a special guest at this 3rd edition and the prize giving ceremony.

For the first time, the IWFE programme for the 6th World Water Forum covered various towns (Aix en Provence, Montpellier, La Ciotat, Marseille) thanks to many local partners, and attendance of the screenings was high. In total, 7,000 people participated in the various IWFE activities.

Between now and the next World Water Forum in 2015, **many events will be organised throughout the world in order to share the winning films** and to encourage all water stakeholders to use film more widely and more systematically as an awareness-raising tool.



Gaston Kaboré, special guest of the 3rd IWFE



The 2nd World Youth Parliament for Water (WYPW)

In the context of the 6th World Water Forum, and with the patronage of Letitia Obeng and Yann Arthus Bertrand, the ISW, SWE, Artois-Picardie Water Agency and their partners (Green Belgium, Protos, the Water Embassy, Canal Provence, the city of Aix en Provence, the House of Water) decided to capitalise on the various “Youth” projects of past years by organising the 2nd World Youth Parliament for Water (WYPW). Based on a regional participatory process, 80 young people from five continents were selected. They all came together in Marseille from 6 to 17 March 2012.

The Parliament was the culmination of over a year of busy preparation. During this period, national representatives were selected, surveys and research on water were organised in their countries and regions, a VidéEau Competition and a WYPW Logo Competition were launched and an initial international meeting was held in Douai (France) in November 2011. During this meeting, the young people worked with former youth parliamentarians, experts and elected officials to prepare both the thematic content for the WYPW as well as its legal framework (the Charter).

In March 2012, the WYPW reassembled at the Canal de Provence premises in Aix-en-Provence. The Parliamentarians worked on their legal framework, the WYPW Charter and the WYPW Declaration, which would carry their message for the 6th World Water Forum. Divided into working groups with various resource persons, they discussed and formulated proposals that were then debated and validated in plenary sessions. On 8 March, the parliamentarians organised elections to choose their elected representatives as well as a representative for each continent.

The WYPW parliamentarians participated actively in the Forum sessions, both as presenters and in the audience. They picked out the strategic sessions where the voice of youth needed to be heard and identified the key people they needed to meet. They also held their own session to make the official Declaration of the WYPW on Wednesday 14 March before well-known figures, the media and Forum participants.

The results of the WYPW are:

1. The drafting and adoption of a Charter that specifies the Parliament’s structure and objectives
2. The drafting and adoption of a joint youth declaration that presents their commitments for water in the form of specific actions in each basin to be carried out from 2012 to 2015
3. Official recognition of the WYPW by the 6th World Water Forum and by various international networks
4. Launch of the “Blue Passport”



WORLD YOUTH PARLIAMENT FOR WATER
PARLEMENT MONDIAL DE LA JEUNESSE POUR L'EAU
PARLAMENTO MUNDIAL DE LA JUVENTUD POR EL AGUA



The “Butterfly Effect”: an International Coalition of NGOs

The international coalition of NGOs for water and better living conditions for all came into being during an initial meeting organised in Paris on 8 November 2010 in which the ISW, Action against Hunger, End Water Poverty (EWP) and the Coalition Eau France all took part. This initiative, supported by the Forum’s International Committee and the “Roots and Citizenship” Commission enabled 90 NGOs from around the world to participate in the preparation process for the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille, and for some of them to come and present their projects. The end objective was to increase civil society representation within the various debates on fair and sustainable water resource management.

The themes covered included:

- ◆ Access to safe water and sanitation as a fundamental human right
- ◆ Water and food security
- ◆ Water, sanitation, hygiene and health
- ◆ Ethical, participatory and transparent governance that takes into account all local issues
- ◆ Water, natural resource management and climate change
- ◆ Sustainable and accessible financing mechanisms for water and sanitation and targeting the poorest in particular
- ◆ Capacity building programmes for stakeholders, in particular civil society and community organisations
- ◆ Peace and transboundary management
- ◆ Water and humanitarian response

Overall, the initial results from this emerging process seem to indicate that there is hope in the future for more dialogue which would increase all partners’ impact on the ground.

En route pour le 6^e Forum mondial de l’eau On the way to the 6th World Water Forum – Camino al 6^o Foro mundial del agua

PARTAGEONS NOS SOLUTIONS...
SHARING OUR SOLUTIONS – COMPARTIR NUESTRAS SOLUCIONES



من المحلي إلى الدولي
تأثير الفراشة¹⁹⁹⁷

Van lokaal naar internationaal
VLINDEREFFECT²⁰⁰⁰

はじめのほんのわずかな違いが後に大きな相違となる

初期値鋭敏性²⁰⁰³

De lo local al internacional
EL EFECTO MARIPOSA²⁰⁰⁶

uluslararası yerel YTI²⁰⁰⁹
KELEBEK ETKISI

Du local à l'international²⁰¹²
L'EFFET PAPILLON

Sails of Solidarity



For four months from December 2011 to March 2012, the ship “Sails of Solidarity” cruised around the Mediterranean, stopping at Tangiers, Oran, Bizerte, Palermo, Bonifacio, Ajaccio, La Seyne-sur-Mer, La Ciotat, Marseille and Barcelona, to talk about fresh water, oceans and participatory management according to hydrographical basin.

Through this project, ISW and SWE and their partners showed that **sharing knowledge encourages the taking of responsibility and solidarity** among all stakeholders in water management.

This Mediterranean voyage, punctuated with stop-overs, field visits, educational workshops and debates resulted in the development of solutions for scaling up initiatives.

The many locally-driven initiatives regarding management of freshwater and salt water that exist and that were identified during this trip around the Mediterranean basin concern coastal areas, irrigation, access to safe water and sanitation, cleaning up pollution, water resource preservation, navigation, species preservation, governance and more.

“Sails of Solidarity” was able to collect this Mediterranean expertise with a view to presenting it at the Quay of Solidarity at La Ciotat, at the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille and finally in Barcelona, at the headquarters of the Mediterranean Union.

It was the first time that participants in a World Water Forum arrived at the forum by sea, thus paying tribute to the Romans and Phoenicians who also arrived in Marseille from across the ocean.

The ketch, “Notre Dame des Flots”, which has circled the globe on several occasions, was the vessel for the stories and recommendations of the people who invest in their village, their region and their country every year.

To meet these objectives, many activities were organised at each stop-over, thanks to the mobilisation of local partners in each country. Meetings on shore with children, associations, academics, local politicians, institutions, public and private water management organisations and journalists reached almost 5000 people.



The Session on Decentralised Financing Mechanisms



The forum organisers entrusted ISW in collaboration with the French Development Agency (AFD) with the task of coordinating the preparation of Target 1.1.4 “**Financing mechanisms for local water and sanitation operators and authorities**”.

The session, which was held on 13 March 2012, sought to **facilitate experience sharing, highlight the diversity of existing mechanisms and the lessons learned and to encourage debate on the challenges**, factors for success and recommendations for all stakeholders. Experiences from Colombia, Nicaragua, Madagascar, Benin, Kenya, Ethiopia, India and Laos were presented.

To prepare the session, more than twenty experiences from around the world were analysed, enabling six recommendations to be identified, which were presented to participants at the Forum:

1. **Step up** political commitment to reinforcing decentralisation processes and give responsibility for planning, coordination and management to local stakeholders,
2. **Develop** mechanisms for aid to reach local levels and transfers of scale
3. **Improve** local stakeholders’ ability to prepare and run projects and programmes
4. **Improve** water governance at local level
5. **Provide** technical and financial assistance to gain access to capital markets
6. **Improve** knowledge management regarding financing mechanisms for local stakeholders

Following the Forum, **ISW and Solidarity Water Europe (SWE) continued to work on this issue in order to develop advocacy actions for interlinked and decen-**

tralised financing mechanisms based on solidarity, in particular through their involvement in Global Water Solidarity (GWS) piloted by UNDP. **The Secretary General of ISW participated in the Forum on “Solidarity Financing Mechanisms in the Mediterranean” held in Oujda, Morocco.** In December 2012, SWE and ISW organised in collaboration with pS-Eau, ONEMA, the Council of Europe and GWS, a **workshop on existing inter-linked and decentralised financing mechanisms that are based on solidarity and deserve to be shared more widely. The theme of the workshop was “Europe shares its solutions”.**





À l'eau l'Afrique, à l'eau le Monde !

In preparation for the 6th World Water Forum, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo mobilised in the context of “À l'Eau l'Afrique, À l'Eau le Monde!”, a project led by Eau Vive and Bafoul Production in partnership with ISW. Behind the slogan, the approach aimed to raise awareness and involve local, national and international communities in water and sanitation issues in order to carry the voices from the ground to Marseille.

From every-day citizens to political decision-makers, everyone took part in these national forums on water organised by the national authorities. The forums, which lasted 2 to 3 days, were organised by national steering committees and gathered almost 300 governmental and non-governmental, water sector and other sector, urban and rural stakeholders in each country.

All stakeholders, organised into seven representative groups, shared their experiences on their daily problems regarding water and sanitation, on good practice and the steps needed to provide sustainable improvement.

Following these national events, solutions were identified and commitments made jointly by all stakeholders, to be carried by the country delegations and shared with the international meeting in Marseille.

In order to inform and mobilise the general public on water and sanitation issues, cultural and artistic activities were organised alongside these national forums. In each of the six countries, “Water Festivals” consisting of concerts and other cultural events took place thanks to the support and participation of great African artists including Gaston Kaboré, Ousmane Sow, Touré Kunda, Baaba Maal, Irène Tassemedo, and international writers like Erik Orsenna.

During the Forum in Marseille, a session was organised in the Citizens' House for Water to share the results from all the national processes. Representatives from each of the participating countries were present

to share the solutions identified in each country. The end objective of À l'Eau l'Afrique, À l'Eau le Monde was not just to participate in the Forum in Marseille, but to constitute a step in making access to safe water and sanitation in Africa and around the world a reality for all.





Our Actions in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan

The Ferghana valley is one of the most densely populated regions of Central Asia, with around 11 million inhabitants. It is shared between Kirghizstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. A considerable proportion of its rural population do not have access to safe water.

Thanks to support from the Swiss Agency for International Development and Cooperation (SDC), the “**Ferghana Valley Rural Water Supply and Sanitation**” project has been improving living conditions for thousands of **Uzbeks and Tajiks** since 2003.

As well as work in the field, 2012 was a year of discussion, debate and future planning. **The ideal conditions were identified so that by 2020, most of the population in these two countries can have access to safe water.**

In 2012, some villages celebrated the 10th anniversary of their water system thanks to this project. Their ability to maintain, improve and manage their water supply system themselves shows the soundness of the approach proposed by ISW and set in place by the local communities.

To date, some of the most important results obtained include:

1. More than 100,000 people have access to safe water and manage their water supply systems themselves,
2. En 2011-2012, projects were underway in 8 villages, benefitting 30,000 people,
3. The incidence of water-borne diseases has been reduced by at least 30% in all the villages involved,
4. More than 3,000 teachers and nurses have been trained in the methodology known as PHAST (Participatory Hygiene And Sanitation Transformation),
5. An effective programme of capacity building for the financial, technical and social management of water systems by user associations has proven its worth,
6. A profitable model that can be replicated at scale to provide access to safe water for more people has been built





The Butterfly Effect and the links of solidarity between people in Quebec and around the World

The **Butterfly Effect** is a project for raising public awareness supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Government of Quebec and the Canadian Commission of UNESCO. By making people realise the importance of each individual gesture, the **Butterfly Effect** creates a chain reaction of solidarity that enables water projects in Quebec, Argentina, Burkina Faso, Moldova and Peru to be born.

For example, some projects that have been carried out thanks to the mobilisation of the general public:

1. Thanks to the Butterfly Effect, the village of Paraje Guerra in the north of Argentina has a basic water supply system and an awareness campaign has encouraged local inhabitants to take appropriate steps to purify their water before drinking it.
2. In Rivière-du-Loup, a river bank clean-up was organised at the mouth of the Loup River and the St Lawrence River. A video of the activity was made to raise public awareness of the importance of such initiatives.
3. In Moldova, a youth project along the Nirnova River was organised to raise awareness among the communities of the 9 riparian villages of the need to preserve the river, to identify the sources of pollution and to highlight the wealth generated by the river. 50 young people aged from 14 to 18 took part in this initiative.
4. In St-Félicien, the Butterfly Effect helped to withdraw the bottled water dispenser from the local college and to distribute re-usable water bottles to the students.
5. In Peru, a 10m³ tank was built to provide water to the 500 inhabitants of the village of San José de Tia, located in an isolated region of the Andes.

For the second edition of the project, in 2011-2012, many partners in the region of l'Abitibi-Jamésie, in the cities of Sherbrooke, St-Félicien and Rivière-du-Loup mobilised to propose a local project. Each region of Quebec was twinned with an international project, either access to drinking water in Peru and in Argentina, hygiene awareness-raising in Moldova or re-vegetation of the Sahel in Burkina Faso. Following awareness-raising activities, the general public in participating regions was invited to support these projects through the website: www.effetpapillon.org. For each contribution made, ISW contributed \$2 to the projects in Quebec and \$2 to their twinned projects.





The Great Lakes – St Lawrence Symphony

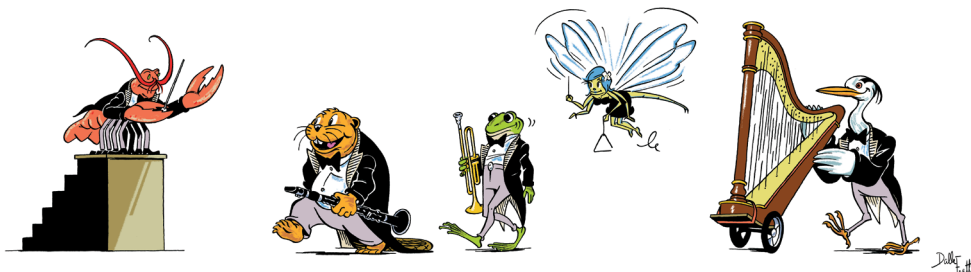
The Great Lakes-St Lawrence Symphony seeks to raise awareness that we are all dependent on each other within this one area: the Great Lakes-St Lawrence hydrographical basin.

From Duluth (Minnesota) to Corner Brook (Newfoundland) via Chicago, Toronto, Buffalo, Montreal, Uashat Mak Mani-Utenam, Gaspé, Halifax, and Shippagan, residents were invited to participate in a vision building exercise for the future of the hydrographical basin of the Great Lakes, the St Lawrence River and the Gulf of St Lawrence.

Researchers, First Nations people, youth, artists, economic players, community players, elected officials and elders had already taken part in the process through local consultation meetings held in 2011.

Since the “Quebec Rendez-Vous”, follow-up meetings have been held in Montreal, Chicago, Quebec and on the Madeleine Islands to develop an action plan for achieving the objectives of the public appeal. This plan was submitted to the Symphony partners at the end of 2012 and implementation will begin in 2013.

On 26 and 27 June 2012, the International Secretariat for Water (ISW) and its partners organised a public meeting in Quebec, which brought together around 40 participants from the four corners of the basin. This workshop was the culmination of an 18-month preparatory process. It enabled shared strategies to be developed, the conditions for enhanced public participation in integrated management to be identified and a public appeal to be launched, entitled “From Solitudes to Rallying”. On 28 June 2012, ISW and the International Network of Basin Organisations (INBO), alongside the North American Network of Basin Organisations (NANBO) were invited to present the results of this initiative to the Mayors of the Great Lakes and St Lawrence Cities Alliance at their Annual General Meeting.



Citizen Engagement “From Solitudes to Rallying”



Source: Environnement Canada





Projects in Peru with Wings of Hope

For more than 40 years, *Wings of Hope* has been offering basic services to the poorest and most isolated communities of Peru. With its single engine plane the NGO team continues to deliver medicines, food and basic materials into the remotest areas.

20 years ago, under the presidency of André Franche, a group of Canadians and Peruvians worked together to enable these poor and isolated communities to build a reliable and sustainable water supply system. Hygiene was also one of their concerns.

The projects supported by Wings of Hope are located in 3 regions:

- ◆ The district of Ayacucho in the Central Andes,
- ◆ The rural villages of the coastal province of Barranca,
- ◆ The Indigenous communities of the province of Atalaya and the district of Rio Tambo in Amazonia.

Today, the NGO *Wings of Hope* is convinced that **water management must be approached from a perspective of integrated management by hydrographical basin**, especially if the villages in question are located at the head of the basin. They see it as crucial to consider all the water needs of these villages including domestic needs and those for agriculture, basic power as well as sanitation and waste disposal.

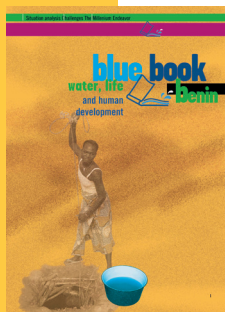
Over the past three years, ISW has been encouraging and supporting *Wings of Hope* in pursuing the challenge of local integrated water resource management. The Government of Quebec has become a financial partner, and the Peruvian authorities who have put water management at the top of the list of national priorities are also ready to invest.



Finally, 2012 has been a strategic year for showing the effectiveness and the added value of interlinked and decentralised financing mechanisms based on solidarity in terms of helping these communities.



The Blue Book: “Water, life and human development”



The Blue Book is a tool for civil society stakeholders, which aims to provide a critical analysis and independent monitoring of progress, or lack thereof, in the water and sanitation sector. This initiative, launched at the 3rd World Water Forum in Kyoto in 2003 by ISW and its partners, **measures the actions undertaken and initiates a truly multi-stakeholder discussion to support and influence decision making at all levels.**

The Blue Books have helped cast a critical and objective eye on the current situation, the main challenges to be met and the major projects to be undertaken to improve access to water and sanitation in a fair and sustainable manner.

Blue Books were published between 2003 and 2009 in five West African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali and Senegal), and in two of these countries the 2nd Edition has also been published.

The Blue Book initiative is led by national Blue Book committees made up of representatives of the various stakeholders in the water and sanitation sector of the country concerned.

An international steering committee oversees the methodological approach and ensures quality control. Its members also help to disseminate the information to decision-makers and international organisations involved in managing different water uses.

When needed, these members can also provide guidance and support to the national committee team.

The 6th World Water Forum provided the opportunity to bring the project partners together and to review the status of this important initiative. A new concept note was written to take into account on the one hand the latest results of the Millennium Development Goals and to think beyond 2015 and, on the other, a desire to continue publishing Blue Books, not only in Africa but also in Latin America and in Central Europe.

New partnerships will be developed in 2013.

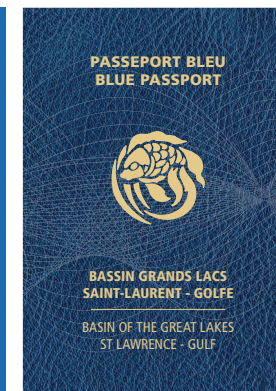


The Blue Passport

The Blue Passport is an official recognition of public participation in the protection, use, conservation and management of water. It promotes individual and collective local action for the benefit of water resources on a basin-wide scale.

The Passport was created:

1. **To confirm** your status as a citizen living in a hydrographical area and ecosystem called a catchment or basin.
2. **To remind** us that identity is not only defined by administrative maps and national borders.
3. **To have** the privilege of participating and getting involved in a network of public initiatives for water
4. **To increase** your legitimacy in influencing administrative and political decisions regarding the quality of your environment.
5. **To begin** the 21st Century with a new reference document that symbolises hydrographical borders one hundred years after the standardisation of national passports.



In March 2012, the concept of the Blue Passport was unveiled at the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille in the context of the signing of the Global Compact for Better Basin Management.

It was then officially launched in October 2012 at the United Nations in New York and in Istanbul. In New York, the President of the World Youth Parliament for Water (WYPW), alongside members of the WYPW and project coordinators, presented the Blue Passport during a parallel session to the UN General Assembly. This event was held in the presence of high authorities from UN-Water, the Global Water Partnership and the Women For Water Partnership. In Istanbul, the Blue Passport was launched at the Europe INBO 2012 international conference.

the team

In Montreal

Danielle Audet, *Administration Manager*
Alice De Swarte, *Project Manager*
Laurie Fourneaux, *Project Manager*
Mélissa Lebel, *Assistant to the Secretary General*
Raymond Jost, *Secretary General*
Marianne Strauss, *Programme Coordinator*

In Central Asia

Olivier Normand, *Associate Secretary General*
Ram Mani Sharma, *Engineer*
A team of 15 people based in Uzbekistan and in Tajikistan

In Africa

Bazié Jean Bosco, *Associate Secretary General*

In Marseille / La Ciotat

Sabrina André, *"Sails of Solidarity" Project Manager*
Cécile Gallet, *Activity Coordinator in La Ciotat*
So Gence, *Coordinator*
Mario Vasconez, *Architect*

In Paris

Maggie White, *Associate Secretary General*

The board

Jean-François Donzier – *Member – Paris*
Stella Goldenstein – *Secretary – Sao Paolo*
Raymond Jost – *Secretary General – Montreal*
Roger Lanoue – *President - Montreal*
Marc Lévy – *Member – Paris*
Patrick Muraguri – *Member – Nairobi*
Dominique Mostert – *Treasurer – Montréal*
Hideaki Oda – *Member – Tokyo*
Lilia Ramos – *Member – Makati City*
Dam Sall – *Member – Dakar*
Houria Tazi Sadeq – *Member – Casablanca*
Mario Vasconez – *Member – Quito*

Our Partners *(in alphabetical order)*

In Canada and Québec

- Government of Canada
- Government of Québec
- Wings of Hope
- L'institut Hydro-Québec environnement, développement et société, Université Laval

Around the World

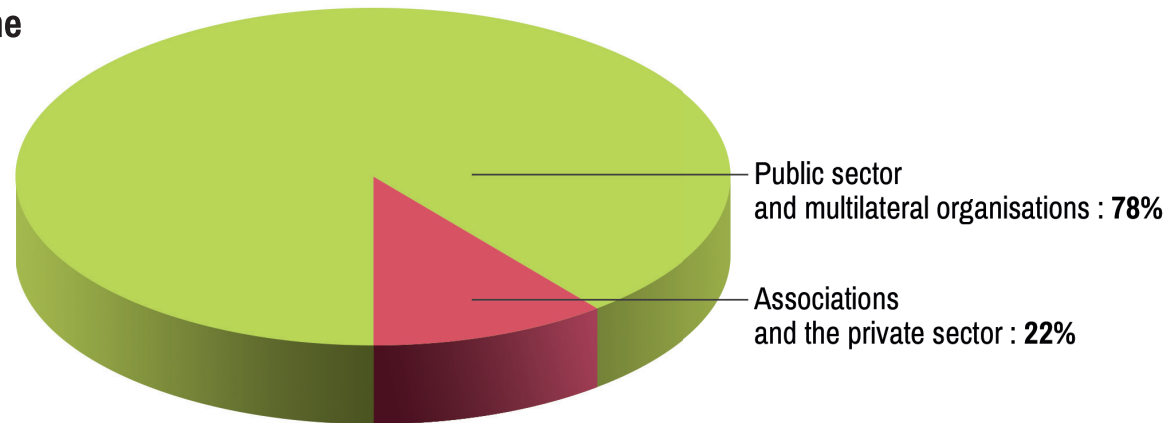
- 2iE
- 6th World Water Forum
- (Forum International Committee, Roots and Citizenship Commission)
- African Development Bank (AfDB)
- African Network for Integrated Development – ANID
- Agence de l'eau Artois-Picardie - AEAP
- Agence de l'eau Rhin-Meuse – AERM
- Agence de l'eau Rhône-Méditerranée Corse - AERMC
- Agence de l'eau Seine-Normandie - AESN
- Agence française de développement – AFD
- Alliance Maghreb Machrek pour l'eau – ALMAE
- Avina Foundation
- Barefoot College
- Both Ends
- Canadian Commission for Unesco
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- City of Marseille et sa communauté urbaine
- City of Aix-en-Provence
- City of La Ciotat
- CIUDAD
- Coalition Eau France
- Coalition pour la viabilité du sud du Golfe du Saint-Laurent
- Collectivités territoriales Corse
- Conseil General des Bouches du Rhône
- Council of Europe
- Eau de Paris
- Eau Vive
- Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture - Luminy
- Ecorem
- Enkiconsult
- Environment Network
- Esperanza Agua y Vida
- Festival du film court eau et environnement
- Festival International de Documentaire – FID Marseille
- Fresh Water Action Network – FAN
- Global Water Solidarity – GWS
- Governments of Canada, Uzbekistan, Quebec, Switzerland and Tajikistan
- Green Belgium
- Groupe Naiades en Environnement
- Hydro Conseil
- Image de Ville
- Institut de l'énergie et de l'environnement de la Francophonie - IEPF
- Institut du Développement Durable des Premières Nations du Québec et du Labrador
- Institut Hydro-Québec environnement, développement et société, Institut Méditerranéen pour l'eau - IME
- International Network of Basin Organisations (INBO)
- L'Ambassade de l'eau
- Les Amis de la Vallée du Saint-Laurent
- Let's Talk about Water
- Magnan Architecture
- National Blue Book Committees (Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger, Senegal)
- NGOs belonging to the Butterfly Effect international network
- Nile basin discourse
- Office international de l'eau
- Organisation internationale de la Francophonie - OIF
- Organisme de bassin versant Abitibi-Jamésie
- Organisme de bassins versants Kamouraska, l'Islet et Rivière du Loup
- Programme Solidarité Eau - pS-Eau
- Protos
- Réseau des organismes de bassin versant du Québec - ROVBQ
- Réseau Jeunesse Afrique
- SADE
- Schools and colleges from the participating regions in Quebec (Collège de St-Félicien, Collège de Sherbrooke, Cégep de Rivière du loup)
- SEMIDEP
- Sepia Conseils
- SIAAP
- Société du Canal de Provence
- Société Henry Blanc
- Solidarity Water Europe – SWE
- Solidarity Water Europe Moldova – SEAM
- Squidmore Owens & Merrill - SOM
- Stratégie Saint-Laurent
- Suez Environnement
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- UNESCO
- Union pour la Méditerranéen
- Union Saint Laurent /Grands Lacs
- United Nations Development Programme – PNUD
- Universities (Laval, Moncton, Québec à Rimouski, Lac Supérieur State, Wayne State)
- Veolia
- Water and Youth Movement, Argentina
- Wings of Hope
- Women for Water Partnership – WfWP
- World Water Council
- World Wide Fund – WWF

FINANCIAL REPORT

From the outset, ISW has developed many partnerships that have helped to access many different sources of funding, varied in both their nature and the institutions and regions they come from. Being open to working together with all stakeholders in the water, sanitation and environment sector has given ISW the opportunity over the past 24 years to participate in many debates and projects in the field that have contributed to improving access to safe water and basic sanitation services around the world.

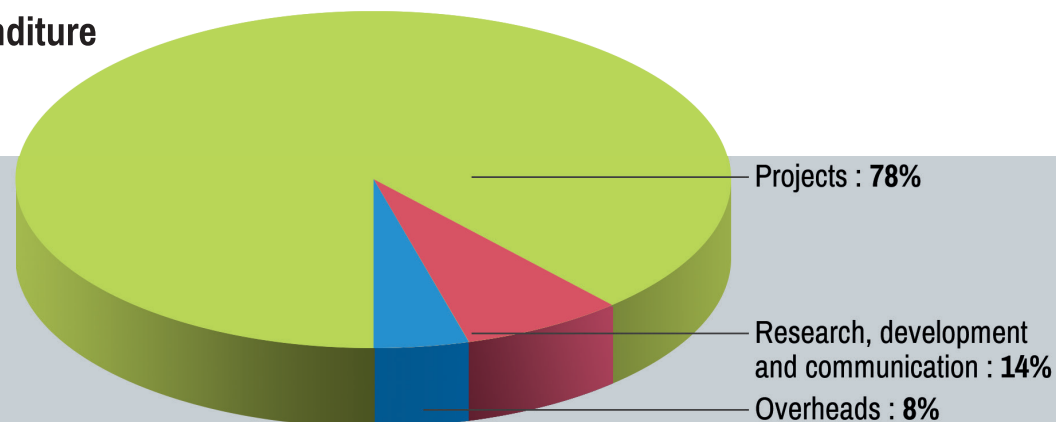
In 2012, as well as the funding for projects in Central Asia, Africa and the Americas, ISW worked with many organisations in preparation for the 6th World Water Forum. **ISW income was 2,150,000 Canadian Dollars. 78% of this funding came from the public sector and multilateral organisations and 22% from associations and the private sector.**

Income



Expenditure in 2012 can be broken down as follows: **78% for projects, 14% for research, development and communication and 8% for overheads.**

Expenditure





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The Water Sages
Los Sabios del Agua**



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