

7TH WORLD WATER FORUM
Daegu Gyeongbuk 2015

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7TH WORLD WATER FORUM

12-17 April 2015, Daegu Gyeongbuk,
Republic of Korea

1ST ANNOUNCEMENT



7TH
WORLD WATER
FORUM

12-17 April 2015,
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Republic of Korea

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This year the Republic of Korea experienced sizzling summer days along with much rain. Many countries around the world experienced tough summers due to unusual weather phenomena. While severe flooding occurred during the long monsoon season in some parts of the world, extreme heat and drought plagued other parts of the world. Water shortages, water pollution, water-related disasters and changing climate are creating growing challenges for water management.

Water is the most valuable resource for the survival of the human race. Sound management of water has become the key to the welfare and economic well-being of the nation.

Water has no boundaries. Cooperation on water between nations is required since water is not confined by political borders. That is one reason why the UN General Assembly declared 2013 as the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation.

The World Water Forum is the world's largest event to strengthen international cooperation in the field of water. It is the place of communication for the world to gather to discuss, to advance the water sector for our survival and prosperity and to promote awareness of the importance of water.

The Republic of Korea will contribute to opening new waterways for people suffering from water challenges as a host country of the 7th World Water Forum. As well, the Republic of Korea will join the rest of the world to strive to suggest solutions for global water challenges and will spare no effort to translate the solutions into actions.

I hope that the various water-related issues gather like tributaries of a river to gain force for solutions at the 7th World Water Forum.

Daegu Gyeongbuk, the host location of the 7th World Water Forum, has developed its own traditional culture and industries around the Nakdong River and has accumulated abundant knowledge and experience in water quality management and environmental protection. It is an excellent place to unite around the cause of water as an essential requirement of life and human dignity, to secure practical and tangible results while talking over water cooperation.

Buoyed by the strength of the knowledge and passion of the participants at the 7th World Water Forum to end conflicts over water, pain, and suffering, we hope that peace, coexistence and prosperity will flow from the 7th World Water Forum, like rivers finding the sea.

Park Geun-hye

Park Geun-hye
President of the Republic of Korea

WELCOMING ADDRESSES

Suh Seoung-hwan



Minister of Land,
Infrastructure and Transport

We cannot imagine a day without water, and we are very well aware that without this resource, no civilization could have existed. The world's first civilizations were built near rivers and great cities thrived thanks to them. This shows that water management represents a critical factor in establishing the foundation of a nation. The importance of water management must not only refer to the past because today, an increasing number of people are suffering from natural disasters such as large-scale floods and extreme droughts caused by unusual weather conditions due to climate change. This change will progress, and we must endeavor to manage water in a more sustainable manner so that we can reduce water-related risks.

As we all know, water is a renewable resource that cannot always be easily obtained. Where it is considered as a limited resource, water has now become a commodity, but it remains a necessary basis for industry. This is because the available amount of water is decreasing due to continued environmental destruction, water pollution, and reckless waste of water. So far, water management has remained at a passive level in dealing with water-related crises; we now need to strive to make water a driving force for sustainable development through better use.

However, we should keep in mind that water is not only to be used and mastered. Water is an essential part of our life and a foundation on which we rely. Therefore, we should build a friendly relationship with water through constant interaction. We need to pay special attention so that this interaction can further enrich the future of mankind through a virtuous cycle.

The Republic of Korea has prioritized 'sustainable water management' and 'sound water environment building' in its national agenda and has been exerting its efforts to become an exemplary country in all areas of water management, such as water flows, better use of water, and friendly relations with water. We therefore expect to make contributions to tackle various water challenges with our experiences and technologies. In particular, the Republic of Korea will support developing countries that suffer from water shortages so that their people can use and drink safe and clean water.

We believe that such hopes and efforts can be shared with all of you at the 7th World Water Forum in 2015. It will be an important year during which the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will expire and a new global agenda called the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be launched. I believe that the 7th World Water Forum can lay a meaningful foundation with attainable objectives and achievable measures to realize the new SDGs.

I hope that the 7th World Water Forum will provide an opportunity to muster passions and efforts of all concerned parties in solving global water issues. Also, I sincerely hope that it will significantly help solve water-related conflicts and challenges and serve as a starting point to pave the way for peaceful coexistence and a prosperous future.

Lee Jung-moo



Chairman of the
National Committee

I am pleased to share the 1st Announcement and be able to effectively with all. The National Committee for the 7th World Water Forum is proud to present a formidable opportunity for the cause of water by hosting the 7th World Water Forum in 2015.

One of the global issues on water is 'Safe and Sustainable Water Supply.' The demand for water is increasing significantly due to population growth, economic development, the use of alternative energy, etc, while the world's freshwater for human uses is decreasing. Many places in the world are on the verge of "water bankruptcy" following a series of regional water "bubbles" over the past 50 years that fuelled economic growth (World Economic Forum Water Initiative paper for Davos, 2009).

Our collective efforts are required to meet the challenges, risks and uncertainties blocking the road to sustainable development, since it is getting to the point where the prosperity of humankind cannot be imaged without considering the world's water problems seriously. In addition, we are standing at a crossroads concerning the future of water and the fate of future generations.

The National Committee will do its best for the 7th World Water Forum to provide the experience of the Republic of Korea (to share the experiences and know-how of the Republic of Korea) with in the water domain and pave the way to create new leadership on water today. The 7th World Water Forum will be a water festival for delegates and stakeholders from all over the world to put their heads together in order to identify and implement solutions for solving water problems, along with various water events.

In particular, science and technology in addressing water issues will be highlighted at the 7th World Water Forum to secure implementation and concrete actions beyond mere conversations during the Forum. The joint effort by government, companies, academia, etc., is necessary for the scientific and technological progress, research results and the sharing of technologies. The Korean innovation story in the water sector will be shared from the perspective of science and technology, along with other cases.

The 7th World Water Forum will play the role of gathering everyone together. Although we have different nationalities and cultures, or belong to different institutions, I sincerely hope that we will cooperate together with an open mind since water scarcity is becoming a reality in many parts of the world, and we need joint efforts to handle water issues.

WELCOMING ADDRESSES

Benedito Braga



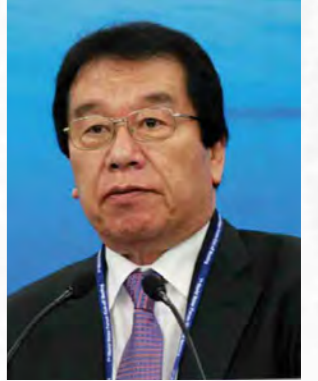
President of World Water Council
and Co-chair of the International
Steering Committee

In 2015, the 7th World Water Forum will serve as a pivotal moment in history to generate further action for the cause of water, with the Millennium Development Goals coming to a close and the Sustainable Development Goals carrying on their ambitions. In the coming decades, our ability to build a watersecure future will depend upon our capacity to turn these future challenges into opportunities. As inscribed in the World Water Council's triennial strategy, we must together strive towards ensuring water security for human needs, for economic development and environmental sustainability, while generating the political will to make those ambitions a reality.

By guaranteeing water security, we will guarantee security in many other domains as well. Indeed, access to water and sanitation is not only an end in itself, but a tool for improving livelihoods, for empowering women and girls and giving them access to education and for preventing disease. Water security also means using water wisely for providing food and energy, for generating green growth and economic sustainability, for increasing resilience to global changes, and for safeguarding the environment. Moreover, good governance, sufficient capacities, and adequate financial flows are all necessary for the implementation of so many solutions identified during the previous edition of the World Water Forum. The 7th World Water Forum will, therefore, serve to resolve these challenges and many others. It will continue, first and foremost, to create greater awareness for the importance of water at the highest possible political levels, an objective toward which the Council has strived since its creation in 1996.

This Forum belongs to all of us. It will be what we endeavor to make it. The extensive network of World Water Council members stands ready to support the preparation of the 7th World Water Forum by mobilizing all its areas of expertise and by working together with all stakeholders to make the next World Water Forum a great success, in cooperation with our Korean friends and colleagues, to whom we express our deepest gratitude for their hospitality and commitment. As is its responsibility, the World Water Council will ensure that Forum legacy is preserved from one edition to the next and ultimately for the continued prosperity of future generations.

Lee Soontak



Co-chair of the International
Steering Committee

The largest international event in the field of water, the World Water Forum, has progressed through 6 editions to contribute to solving water problems and to improve of cooperation among nations.

The torch of the next World Water Forum, the 7th edition, is presented to Daegu Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea.

Many people like the number 7 in both Western and Eastern societies. In the Eastern world, the number seven is a lucky number which represents the combination of yin, yang and the five elements (Gold, Wood, Water, Fire, and Earth), with a meaning of completion. On the other hand, in the West, 7 is a perfect number which indicates creation. Like the symbolic meanings of the number seven, the 7th World Water Forum will provide opportunities to complete discussions and to contribute to real life.

The year 2015 is not only the scheduled date of the 7th World Water Forum, but also the target year for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) suggested by the UN to encourage development and realize human dignity by improving social and economic conditions including water and sanitation. The 7th World Water Forum will be an opportunity to take stock of the past achievements and collectively take a giant step forward for the future by holding further discussions on post-2015 MDGs.

The 7th World Water Forum is an open platform to bring and discuss all problems linked to water which the world faces and any issue related to water from fields such as agriculture, urban planning, energy, etc.

As a co-chair of the International Steering Committee (ISC), I share that the ISC will do its best for the 7th edition, to be a crucial stepping stone towards global collaboration on water problems and to be one of the most prosperous Forums.

The door to the 7th World Water Forum is always open to anyone with devoted interest in people suffering from water challenges, practical expertise and a strong will to solve water problems. I promise that the door will never be closed in order for the 7th World Water Forum to be Our Forum in perfection.

I look forward to interacting and sharing experience and knowledge with you in our beautiful Daegu Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea.

7TH
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INTRODUCTION

World Water Forum

In every corner of the globe, shortages of water and sanitation persist. Consequently, nations throughout the world have started to secure clean and safe water resources while protecting their citizens against water-related disasters. Many international organizations are also dedicated to furthering water-related issues and discussions. Now, water issues are not matters of a single region or nation, but matters that require global solidarity and joint counter-measures.

Tackling water challenges has become a global topic for the 21st century. Water issues have been political issues in many nations, while interested parties (governments, the academic world, private organizations and interest groups) have strived to find solutions to address global water challenges. Indeed, the World Water Council (WWC), an international multi-stakeholder organization was founded in 1996 to provide a forum for global water issues. The year following its foundation, the WWC created the World Water Forum so that groups from all over the world may gather together and jointly discuss water issues. It has taken place in a different country every three years since 1997.

The World Water Forum is the world's largest event on water, necessitating two years of collaborative preparation with stakeholders from around the world. The World Water Forum consists of at least three processes: the Political Process, the Thematic Process and the Regional Process, while gathering participants from more than 150 nations. Each topic is developed in cooperation with the private sector, governments, industry, IGOs, NGOs, professional networks and academic groups into a common framework of goals and concrete targets, so as to catalyze collective action and positive change.

Forum Overview

- Organizers: World Water Council together with the host country and host city, elected by the Board of Governors
- Participants: international organizations, governments, public and private companies, professional networks and academia, NGOs (More than 35 thousand participants are expected)
- Period: one week close to World Water Day
- First edition: 1997
- Preparatory Process: approximately 2 years (Regular meetings and reports are made during the preparation starting with a Kick-off Meeting)

Programs

- Thematic Process - Consists of fundamental discussions and exchanges on how to progress on the world's water challenges
- Regional Process - Draws from experiences in every corner of the world
- Political Process - Provides opportunities for discussion and commitments among and between political representatives
- Science & Technology Process - Shares experience and know-how and demonstrates new technologies

* The Fair & Expo also provide various opportunities for engagement



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World Water Council



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- A think-tank providing an institutional response to the need for integrated action among the many agencies and organizations involved in water management
- Date of establishment: 1996
- Board of Governors: Consists of elected representatives from 36 organizations, the Board provides guidance on the World Water Council operations and budget
- Founder and co-organizer of the World Water Forum, the world's largest water event

Key Activities

- Co-organizing the World Water Forum every three years to catalyze change and collective action and ensuring continuity throughout its editions;
- Creating and maintaining links between stakeholders and political decision makers by conducting programs on specific areas of interest and participating in and organizing major international events;
- Working towards including water on the sustainable development agenda by cooperating closely with the UN system and national governments;
- Providing water legislation and cooperation tools to Parliamentarians;
- Mobilizing local and regional authorities to develop water management strategies for integrated urban water management;
- Studying, exploring, understanding and catalyzing emerging issues by establishing extensive partnerships and working groups.

Mission and Vision

The World Water Council's mission is to promote awareness, build political commitment and trigger action on critical water issues at all levels, including the highest decision-making level, to facilitate the efficient conservation, protection, development, planning, management and use of water in all its dimensions on an environmentally sustainable basis for the benefit of all life on earth.

By providing a platform to encourage debates and exchanges of experience, the Council aims to reach a common strategic vision on water resources and water services management amongst all stakeholders in the water community. In the process, the Council also catalyzes initiatives and activities, whose results converge toward its flagship product, the World Water Forum.

Overview

- An international non-profit umbrella organization with more than 300 members including intergovernmental organizations, governments and governmental authorities, enterprises and facilities, civil society organizations and water user associations, professional associations and academic institutions from more than 50 countries, based in the City of Marseille, France

INTRODUCTION

A New Approach by Korea

During the last 16 years, the World Water Forum has developed as a huge platform where all of the global water issues can be discussed. In the previous six editions of the World Water Forum, we have discussed common goals for solving the world's water-related challenges, while improving people's well-being. At the same time, every World Water Forum has had its own focus (such as "Vision" in the 1st Forum, "Action" in the 2nd Forum, etc.), with each World Water Forum succeeding its predecessor.

We've carried out many discussions so far to find solutions for water challenges all over the world. However, the world is still suffering from water-related problems. "Every 20 seconds, a child dies as a result of poor sanitation. That's 1.5 million preventable deaths each year." (Source: UN World Water Development Report, 2012) Some are frustrated by un-resolved water issues and the redundancy of the same discussions. Why is that?

As the Korean proverb says, a bunch of beads cannot be a treasure until it is strung. That means nothing is complete unless you put it into its final shape. There are many valuable ideas in front of us, the "solutions" from the previous editions of the World Water Forum. Only if the many beads are strung will it finally become a treasure, in other words the ideas need to be implemented. When we take an action using these solutions, they will help us to change the world. That is the first core value and key feature of the 7th World Water Forum.

We would like the 7th World Water Forum to become a mechanism for implementation. To implement the solutions derived from the 6th World Water Forum, to implement discussed results on the basis of the mechanisms established by the 7th World Water Forum in future editions of the World Water Forum, and to implement or re-implement new or improved ideas, we hope to transform frustration into action and progress. This is the vision of the 7th World Water Forum.

"A bunch of beads cannot be a treasure until it is strung"



Valuable ideas including solutions from the 6th World Water Forum



Implementation



The future we desire

7TH WORLD WATER FORUM

Kick-off Meeting Result Summary

Overview

Around 500 water experts and high-level representatives, including about 150 international participants from 41 countries, participated in the 7th World Water Forum Welcoming Ceremony and the Kick-off Meeting in Seoul and Daegu, Republic of Korea on 13-15 May, 2013.

The meeting proposed a roadmap for the preparation of the 7th World Water Forum and gathered input from a wide range of stakeholders through facilitated discussions. During the first day, the participants were given an introduction to the World Water Forum, the characteristics and the core values of the 7th edition before being invited to participate in break-out sessions to discuss issues related to the Thematic Process. During the second day, the discussions focused on the Political, Regional, and Science and Technology Processes, as well as on the organization of a Citizen's Forum with the active participation of youth and civil society, implementation and design of the Forum, and effective communications.



The Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea, addressing participants at the 7th World Water Forum Kick-off Meeting Welcoming Ceremony, Seoul, May 13, 2013 ©MOLIT Republic of Korea

Result Summary

"Implementation" is a forward-looking concept. For its successful integration within the 7th World Water Forum, it will be necessary to aim for tangible results and to establish a system for continuous feedback.

In all areas of discussion, science & technology, information sharing, mass education, wide stakeholder participation, political will and adequate finances were mainly identified as the core factors for successful implementation. The discussions focused on analyzing current situations and practices in terms of their recipes for successful implementation rather than entering into detailed discussions of issues within each topic.

Participants also repeatedly stressed the need to reinforce connections between the processes and to expand targeted participants to include a wider range of decision and policy makers, and stakeholders both inside and outside the water sector.

In addition, participants suggested reclassifying the regions in the Regional Process, linking with MDGs and SDGs in the Political Process, and exploring and utilizing appropriate technologies to create orders of magnitude of change in the Science & Technology Process.

Finally, introducing an action monitoring system to the Forum, considering youth and citizens' participation at the planning stages, launching a youth task force, and establishing a media network were also suggested.

Forum Framework

The Thematic Framework of the 7th World Water Forum aims to address which sectors are crucial in a view of implementation and what action tools are most available in various subjects. Not only drawing the future we want, but also identifying engines for change and sharing all the wisdom to use those are our main goal to step further towards implementation.

The framework consists of 'action goals' and 'action tools'. To achieve sustainable development through water in accordance with SDGs, 'action goals' will range various subjects socially, economically and ecologically. In the 'action tools', we can find concrete and tangible ideas reaching to real implementation that can be applied in a broad scope. Under this frame, the key implementation roadmaps would be induced.

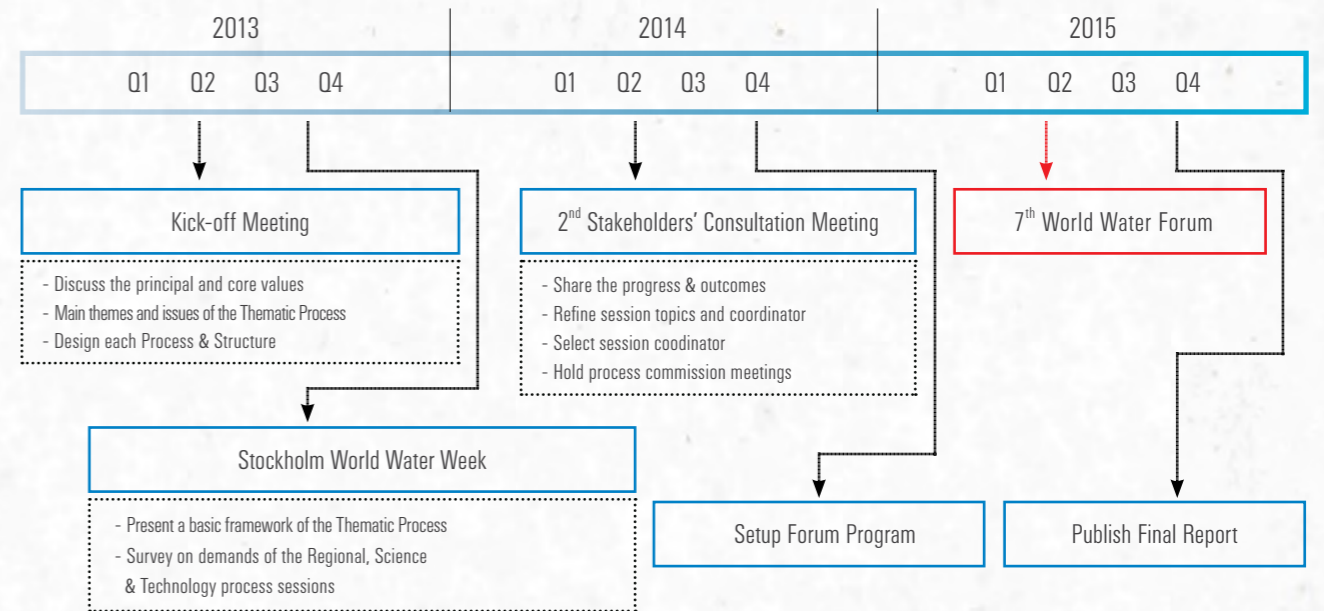
Tentative Framework

Over-arching Theme	Action Goal & Tool	Theme (18 + α)
Future Water Together or Feasible Action Together (tentative)	ACTION GOALS	Water Security for All
		Managing Risk and Uncertainty of extreme water related events under changing climate and social trends
		Access to Safe Water for All
		Improving Access to Integrated Sanitation Services
		Water for Energy*
	The Future we want	Water for Food*
		Water for Sustainability
		Smart Implementation of IWRM: integrating multiple uses of water to achieve socio-economic prosperity
		Building Sustainable Cities
	ACTION TOOLS	Water for Harmony between Humans and Ecosystems
		Water and Green Growth while Achieving Social Stability
		Increasing socio-economic and ecological resilience through Water Infrastructure to face Global Changes
		Restoring and Designing Ecological Life Support Systems
		Managing Healthy Water Resources & Ecosystems
	Engines for change	Community Responsibility and Solidarity
		Building partnerships among Industry, Economy, Nature: Business Risks and Opportunities
		Methods for integrating technical and political decisions for effective water governance
		Improving Water Governance Through Stakeholder and Public Participation in Water Decisions
Strengthening Water Cooperation for Building Peace, Managing Conflicts and Improving Transboundary Management of Water Resources		
A Humanistic and Sociological Approach to Water and Civilization for Greater Equity		
Constructing Feasible Implementation Mechanisms		
Financing		
Engines for change	Providing the Right Technology: Sharing Information and Implementing New Technological Solutions	
	Enhancing Education and Capacity Building	
	Benefit – cost and risk-benefit analysis of socio-economic-ecologic trade-offs	

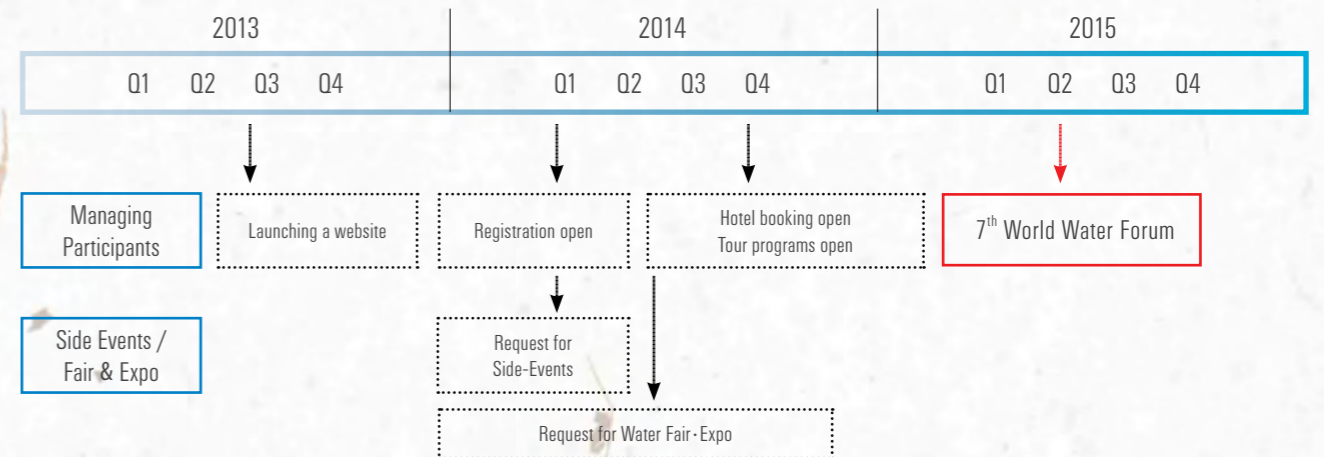
* The over-arching theme for the 7th World Water Forum and the final version of this Framework will be approved at the International Steering Committee meeting in October 2013.
 * WORDING for themes may be modified.
 * + Special concluding session/event on water in the SDGs

Key Milestones

Milestone of the 7th World Water Forum



Preparation of the Forum Operation



PREPARATORY PROCESSES



Official Opening Ceremony of the 7th World Water Forum Kick-off Meeting, Daegu EXCO, May 14, 2013 ©MOLIT Republic of Korea



5th World Water Forum, High Level Thematic Panel, Istanbul, 2009 ©WWC



7th World Water Forum Seminar at 2013 World Water Week ©MOLIT Republic of Korea

Thematic Process

The Thematic Process is the backbone of the World Water Forum, addressing various water-related topics of political, social, economic, environmental and scientific significance. Not only water experts, but also politicians, government officials, NGOs, enterprises, international organizations, associations, the media, consumers, and citizens can participate and realize their innovative ideas. For each selected subject, a series of in-depth discussions will be conducted to develop the theme's contents for the Forum program until the World Water Forum takes place in 2015.

Implementation, the core value of the 7th World Water Forum, will be materialized through the Thematic Process. Using the various solutions from the 6th World Water Forum as a point of departure, we will discuss the world's major water issues and continue to develop action road-maps based on these discussions. The social, environmental, and economic issues before us will be oriented in a feasible direction through the utilization of various action tools. In combination with the Science and Technology Process, concrete tools and technologies will particularly demonstrate the way forward.

The action road-map of the 7th World Water Forum will bring a change that all of us can witness through the realization of the most suitable policies and systems, in conjunction with the Political and Regional Processes. The creation of an Implementation/Action Monitoring System will enable us to continuously monitor progress, in order to maintain momentum for implementation. This system will secure continuity between editions of the World Water Forum. Outcomes of road-maps and core commitments announced in the 7th World Water Forum in 2015 will be recorded through the monitoring system, for presentation in the 8th World Water Forum and beyond.

The 7th World Water Forum will provide an active and plentiful discussion platform to you. In addition, it will provide the most useful knowledge, tools, and case studies in order to realize implementation from the discussion results, based on your ideas. Please join us in this amazing journey.



7th World Water Forum Seminar at 2013 World Water Week ©MOLIT Republic of Korea

PREPARATORY PROCESSES

Regional Process

The Regional Process provides opportunities to discuss shared challenges and how to facilitate cooperation in a specific regional context.

A rich diversity of experiences from all over the world can be shared through the Regional Processes. In the past, coordinators have been designated for continents and sub-continents to enable a coherent regional conversation around the Forum's water issues and generate action at the regional level.

Issues addressed by the Regional Processes are linked to the Forum Framework and themes. Likewise, linkages to regional and

global political processes are essential for generating political commitment and action at the regional level.

The Regional Process Commission is responsible for designing the Process and integrating regional contributions into the 7th Forum's final program. It is expected that the Regional Coordinators will actively prepare their collective contributions following the 2nd Stakeholder Consultation Meeting to be held in early 2014.

Political Process

The 7th World Water Forum is marching towards practical and concrete actions for solving water challenges, and the Forum's core value of 'Implementation' is showing the way. In this context, the Political Process aims to raise water issues higher on the political agenda and intensify political will.

Political processes provide opportunities for ministers, parliamentarians and local and regional authorities to actively communicate amongst and between themselves and with stakeholders for increased political will and global awareness for water. The ministerial process will create agreement for a political statement based on input provided by the other processes, aiming to increase political awareness for water issues and to support action towards more effective water-related policies.

The Political Process of the 7th World Water Forum will give witness to the active participation and the will to solve water challenges by Heads of State, Ministers, Parliamentarians, Local and Regional Authorities, Mayors, etc., from all over the world. While the other three processes (Thematic, Regional, and Science & Technology) will be closely connected to the Political

Process by sharing the progress of each process, their outcomes will also be reflected in the Forum's political statements, such as the Ministerial Declaration or the Parliamentarians' Declaration. Furthermore, the Political process will contribute to solving the world's emerging water problems through legislation and institutionalization in each country even after the event.

In 2015, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will expire and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an integral part of the post-2015 development agenda, will be established during the same year as the 7th World Water Forum. The 7th World Water Forum should not only be a milestone in monitoring the water-related MDGs, but also serve in the definition and the elaboration of water in the post-2015 development agenda. In particular, the 7th World Water Forum's political process will aim to build cooperation with the UN system to create linkages to the post-2015 process and to secure broad stakeholder participation to generate further action for the goals at the 7th World Water Forum.

Science and Technology Process

A new emphasis has been placed on science & technology in the 7th World Water Forum by creating the Science & Technology Process as one of four major pillars of the Forum. The Science & Technology process is a new process that was included in Korea's 7th World Water Forum bid document. Focusing on the importance of science and technology in addressing water issues, this process aims to encourage the exchange of water-related cutting-edge technologies and information, and thus close the technological gaps between developed and developing countries.

In order to solve existing or impending global water challenges facing the world, the process will be a place to discuss science & technology, policy and institutions all together by providing an

interface where scientists and engineers can interact with politicians and policy-makers.

The Science & Technology Process will actively discover and introduce scientific and technological solutions to various multi-dimensional water challenges in progress, along with the presentation of advanced technology for the future and appropriate technology for practical uses.



Kick-off meeting of the 7th World Water Forum ©MOLIT Republic of Korea

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OTHER COMPONENTS

Citizens & Youth Forum

The legitimacy of the World Water Forum can be found in the democratic participation of all water-related stakeholders. The 7th World Water Forum will also succeed in this excellent tradition. By encouraging the participation of not only water-related decision makers and experts, but also various levels of citizens, we would like to encourage action-oriented solutions to address water-related problems.

In addition, we would foresee that the 7th World Water Forum is a place where people from all around the world will gather together to discuss and share their experiences, not just attend a simple conference and exhibition. Various cultural programs such as film festivals, music concerts, etc., will also be part of the World Water Forum activities, so that the 7th World Water Forum itself may be the most celebratory and diverse of festivals.

In addition, we are also well aware of the fact that sustainable water education is very important for future generations to solve global water challenges. Therefore, we will open a Youth Forum and a Children's Forum to cultivate the younger generations to continuously take care of the future global environment.



7th World Water Forum Kick-off Meeting Youth Supporters, Daegu EXCO, May 14, 2013 ©MOLIT Republic of Korea

Expo & Fair

The Expo and Fair consist of booth exhibitions and activities for countries, organizations and enterprises to demonstrate their technologies, products, reports and services. They provide visibility to and information on all the activities that have been and will be undertaken by the participating organizations, including governments, international bodies, water related organizations, NGOs, universities and laboratories from all over the world. It is the perfect place for informal networking.

Water Prizes

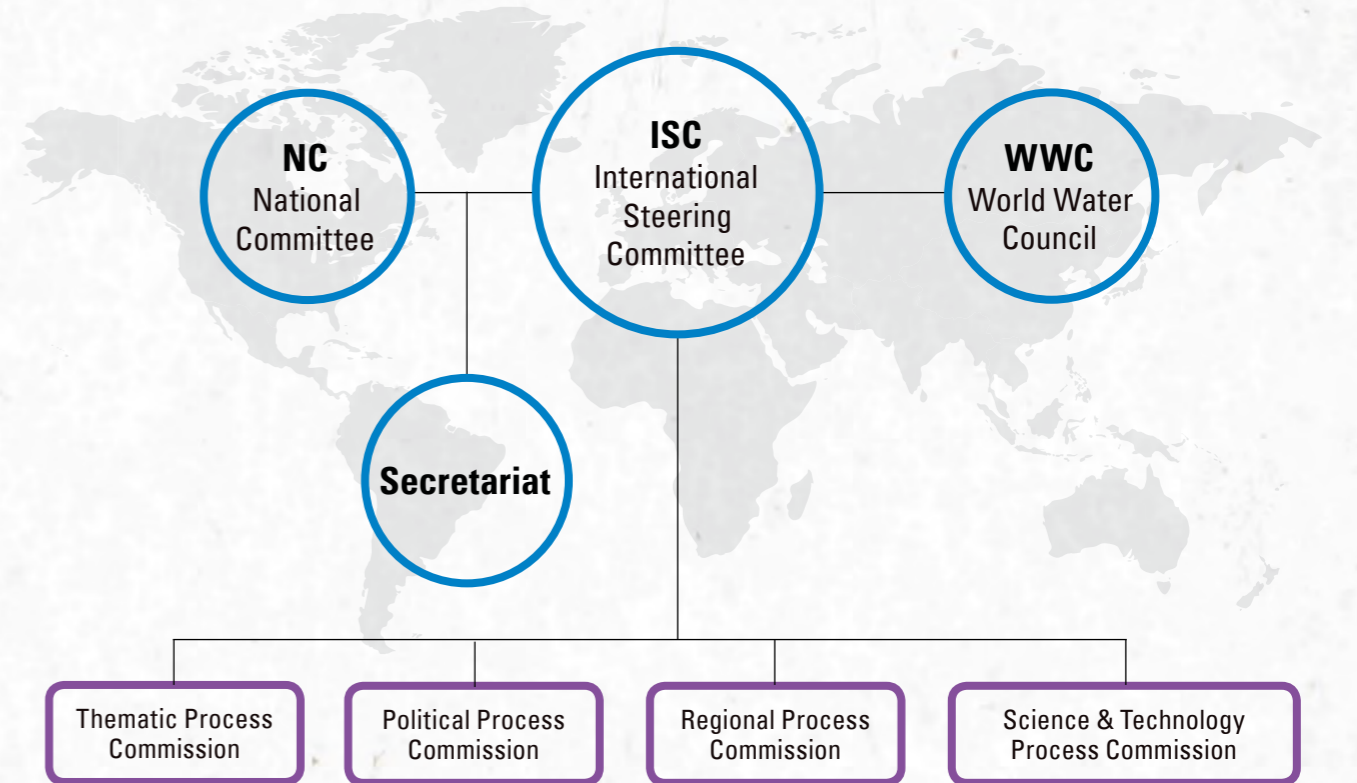
In the 7th World Water Forum, a place will be given not only to traditional awards such as "The King Hassan II Great World Water Prize" and "The Kyoto World Water Grand Prize", but also to new and innovative award programs. More information on these prizes will be made available as we approach the 7th World Water Forum.



Junior Water Prize at 2013 World Water Week ©MOLIT Republic of Korea

ORGANIZATION

Organization



The International Steering Committee is the ultimate decision-making body of the 7th World Water Forum. It is composed of 16 members. The ISC supervises all activities of the advisory working bodies. It is co-chaired by Mr. Lee Soontak of the Republic of Korea and Mr. Benedito Braga of the WWC. The ISC addresses overall strategic orientations and determines the themes for the 7th World Water Forum.

The National Committee is established by a special act to support the 2015 World Water Forum in its successful preparation. It is chaired by Mr. Lee Jungmoo and composed of 22 governmental and 39 public committee members.

The secretariat supports overall works of ISC and the National Committee. Mr. Lee Sungjung is appointed as an Executive Director of the 7th World Water Forum. The secretariat composed of a

planning & operation team, an international cooperation team, a communication & PR team.

The 7th World Water Forum has four commissions (Thematic, Political, Regional, and Science & Technology processes). The commissions are advisory bodies that report to the ISC, which makes all final strategic decisions. Each commission is co-chaired by one representative of the Korean side and one representative of the WWC. The Thematic Process Commission is co-chaired by Mr. Woo Hyo-seop and Mr. Mark Smith; the Political Process Commission is cochaired by Mr. Yun Kang-hyeon and Mr. András Szöllösi-Nag; the Regional Process Commission is co-chaired by Mr. Koh Deuk-koo and Mr. Torkil Jonch-Clausen; the Science & Technology Processes Commission is co-chaired by Mr. Jeong Sang-man and Mr. Glen Daigger.

Republic of Korea



Night view of Seoul ©Vividmarket

Facts and Figures

Name: Republic of Korea
 Capital: Seoul (10.2 million People)
 Area: 100,210 km²
 Population: 51 million People (2013)
 Currency: Won (KRW)
 GDP: 1,259 Trillion USD (2015)

The Republic of Korea, situated in the North Eastern Part of the Asian Continent - a region full of exquisite mountains - is surrounded by three different seas and boasts four distinct seasons. Thanks to a long and rich history that spans over 5,000 years, Korea today holds a colorful range of historical and cultural relics. As rivers and coasts served as founding elements to the development of the country's culture and civilization, water has a historical significance in Korea. With its dynamic contemporary city life, Korea has become one of the most popular tourist spots in Asia.

As a wonderful mosaic of tradition, culture, scenic beauty and dynamism, Korea offers a variety of exciting experience and entertainment. Its unique tradition is represented in historical and cultural relics, architecture and food. A number of Korean monuments have been registered as UNESCO World Heritage sites. Furthermore, the exceptional artistic beauty and wisdom of its ancestors can be witnessed in Buddhist temples, old Confucian school houses and royal palaces.

Traditional Korean cuisine is internationally acclaimed for its healthy and rich selection of vegetable dishes and fermented food. Following its ancestors' efforts to preserve their country's culture, Korea has now gone a step further by bringing on a global fever for Korean culture, commonly referred to as Hallyu or Korean Wave, via music, dramas and movies.

Republic of Korea



Korean traditional culture ©Vividmarket

The innate diligence, patriotism and relentless sweat and toil of the Korean people have significantly contributed to the country's rapid economic growth. Along with its heightened economic influence around the world, Korea's political status has also been strengthened. The hosting of various international conferences - including the G20 summit in 2010, the 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2011, the Incheon Asian Games in 2014 and the Winter Olympics in 2018 - is sheer proof of it. Korea is rapidly accumulating experience and expertise in economic development and international events.

Korea is also a pioneer in global efforts for green growth since the country ambitiously seeks to contribute to the peace and prosperity of mankind. It not only leads global discussions in solving issues and conflicts wrought by intensifying global warming and climate change, but its implementation and action-oriented mindset has also inspired international organizations such as the Green Climate Fund to set up base in Korea. Such a beautiful mix of cultural, economic and environmental aspects makes Korea a most suitable venue for the upcoming 7th World Water Forum.

VENUE

Daegu



Beautiful Daegu ©Daegu Metropolitan City



The Arc

The three rivers – Nakdong, Geumho, and Shincheon – that flow through Daegu have well-preserved ecosystems which are vital for sustainable development.

Selected as a Solar City by the IEA (International Energy Agency), Daegu has world-class solar energy systems which help promote the development of renewable energy sources in order to achieve a green lifestyle. Like running rivers breathe life into the city, Daegu's well-connected express and national highways provide easy access to all the country's major cities, making it the transportation hub of Korea. Thanks to these modern conveniences and its strategic location, Daegu has attracted many national and international visitors and has been a proud host to some of the world's major events such as the IAAF World Championships in 2011.

Recently, Daegu has also emerged as the cultural Mecca of Korea, for example by promoting musicals and operas created by homegrown artists through many international awards and festivals. As host city to the 7th World Water Forum, Daegu will welcome you with a vibrant mix of nature, economy, and culture.

Gyeongbuk



Night view of Gyeongju ©Province of Gyeongsangbuk-do



Seokkuram Grotto



Bulguksa Temple

Gyeongbuk, where the ancient Silla Dynasty (57BC – 935 AD) began and flourished, houses many of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites that are regarded as the most famous tourist destinations in Korea: the Seokuram Grotto, the Bulguksa Temple, the Gyeongju Historic Areas, and the Yangdong Folk Village.

It is therefore no wonder that Gyeongju City, the major city in the Gyeongbuk province, is often called "the museum without walls". Its 31 National Treasures and 16,333 artifacts attract millions of visitors each year. Gyeongbuk province is not only a major tourist attraction with thousands of years of enchanting history; it has also developed into a modern and dynamic region, successfully hosting many domestic and international conventions and exhibitions. Gyeongju's superb hotels are perfectly suited to receive conventioners from all over the world, and a new convention center, Gyeongju Hico, scheduled to be completed in 2014, will surely impress the world with its top-notch facilities.