

18th OECD WGI meeting

5-6 July 2023 | Paris | Hybrid

18th meeting of the OECD Water Governance Initiative (WGI)

Conference Room 6, OECD Headquarters, Paris, France



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■ About the OECD Water Governance Initiative (WGI)

The [OECD Water Governance Initiative \(WGI\)](#) is an **international multi-stakeholder network** of 100+ delegates from public, private and not-for-profit sectors gathering twice a year in a **Policy Forum** to share experience on reforms, projects, lessons and good practices in support of better governance in the water sector.

The WGI, which was created in March 2013, has the following objectives:

- Provide a **multi-stakeholder technical platform** to share knowledge, experience and best practices on water governance across levels of government;
- **Advise governments** in taking the needed steps for effective water reforms through peer-to-peer dialogue and stakeholder engagement across public, private and non-profit sectors;
- Provide a **consultation mechanism** to raise the profile of governance in the Global Water Agenda;
- Support the **implementation of the OECD Principles on Water Governance** in interested member and non-member countries by scaling up best practices and using the indicator framework for self-assessment;
- **Foster continuity on governance** between World Water Fora.

■ Objectives of the 18th meeting of the WGI

- Present and discuss key messages from ongoing work on the blue economy in cities, water governance and circular economy in Latin America, and water governance in Africa;
- Share knowledge and experience on the latest water governance research and policy reforms;
- Update delegates on the WGI's contribution to global agendas (UN 2023 Water Conference, COP28, etc.);
- Prepare the WGI's deliverables for the 10th World Water Forum (18-24 May, Bali, Indonesia) notably the Toolkit for the local implementation of OECD Principles on Water Governance.

■ Meeting format and working languages

- Delegates are welcome to join the meeting in presence or online.
- Interpretation in English and French will be available on day 1.

■ Previous meetings of the WGI

[17th Meeting](#): 19-20 September 2022 – The Hague, Netherlands (hybrid)

[16th Meeting](#): 20 January 2022 – Online

[15th Meeting](#): 27 -28 September 2021 – Online

[14th Meeting](#): 2-3 November 2020 – Online

[13th Meeting](#): 9-10 January 2020 – Paris, France

[12th Meeting](#): 20-21 June 2019 – Berlin, Germany

[11th Meeting](#): 12-13 November 2018 – Zaragoza, Spain

[10th Meeting](#): 20-21 November 2017 – Vienna, Austria

[9th Meeting](#): 3-4 July 2017 – Paris, France

[8th Meeting](#): 12-13 January 2017 – Rabat, Morocco

[7th Meeting](#): 23-24 June 2016 – The Hague, Netherlands

[6th Meeting](#): 2-3 November 2015 – Paris, France

[5th Meeting](#): 26 May 2015 – Edinburgh, United Kingdom

[4th Meeting](#): 24-25 November 2014 – Paris, France

[3rd Meeting](#): 28-29 April 2014 – Madrid, Spain

[2nd Meeting](#): 7-8 November 2013 – Paris, France

[1st Meeting](#): 27-28 March 2013 – Paris, France

Agenda

Wednesday 5 July 2023

9.30-10.00 Welcome and opening remarks

- Barbara Pompili, Chair, OECD Water Governance Initiative (WGI)
- Aziza Akhmouch, Head of the Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development Division, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE), OECD
- Introduction to the 10th World Water Forum – Loïc Fauchon, President, World Water Council

10.00-11.00 WGI contributions to the 10th World Water Forum

Representatives of the World Water Council and the Government of Indonesia will introduce the key objectives, thematic areas and preparatory process milestones of the 10th Forum, following which the OECD will take stock of past WGI contributions to World Water Fora.

- On the road to the 10th World Water Forum
 - YoonJin Kim, Director, 10th World Water Forum
 - Endra S. Atmawidjaja, Senior Advisor to the Minister of Public Works and Housing, Indonesia
- From Marseille to Bali: WGI contributions to World Water Fora – Aziza Akhmouch, Head of the Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development Division, CFE, OECD
- Open discussion with WGI members

11.00-11.30 Update on the Global Commission on the Economics of Water

This session will introduce to the WGI members the latest work of the Global Commission on the Economics of Water (GCEW), convened by the Government of the Netherlands. Members will be invited to react to the Commission's findings and share their relevant work.

- Presentation of the GCEW – Henk Ovink, Special Envoy for Water, the Netherlands
- Open discussion with WGI members

11.30-12.00 Coffee break

12.00-13.00 A systems approach to a sustainable blue economy in cities, regions and basins

This session will share preliminary findings of the OECD Global Survey on Localising the Blue Economy, highlighting the link between ocean and freshwater management and the role of basins. WGI members will be invited to react to the findings, share suggestions, and mention their latest research or ongoing activities linked to the blue economy.

- Presentation of preliminary findings – Juliette Lassman, Policy Analyst, Water Governance and Circular Economy, OECD CFE
- Open discussion with WGI members
- Presentation of the OECD Sustainable Ocean for All Initiative – Piera Tortora, Head of Programme, Sustainable Ocean Economy, Development Cooperation Directorate (DCD), OECD

13.00-14.30 Family photo and lunch

14.30-15.30 WGI contributions to global agendas and water-related research

In this session, WGI members will be invited to share past or forthcoming water governance events, projects, initiatives or research.

- UN 2023 Water Conference (22-24 March, New York, United States)
- World Water Week (20-24 August 2023, Stockholm, Sweden)
- COP 28 (30 November-12 December, Dubai, United Arab Emirates)
- SUEZ Sustainability Development Roadmap
- Tour de table on WGI members' latest and forthcoming events

15.30-16.30 Water reuse and circular economy in Latin America

This session will introduce the rationale, scope and deliverables from a joint OECD-IDB policy dialogue on "Water reuse and circular economy in Latin America". WGI members will be invited to share experience from their countries or institutions, and possible synergies with their respective work.

- Water governance and circular economy in Latin America – Sergio Campos, Chief, Water and Sanitation Division, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- Open discussion with WGI members
- Enhancing the green and just transition in Latin America and the Caribbean – Jorge Carbonell, Deputy Head of the LAC Division, Global Relations and Cooperation Directorate (GRC), OECD

16.30-17.00 Coffee break**17.00-18.00 Water governance in Africa**

This session will present the latest activities carried out in support of the OECD/UCLG-Africa Roundtable of African Mayors for Water Security since the 9th World Water Forum. Members and city representatives will report back on the implementation of the Action Plan of Mayors, Local and Regional Governments for Water Security adopted at the 9th World Water Forum, Dakar (21-25 March 2022).

- Updates on water governance in Africa
 - Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi, Secretary-General, UCLG-Africa
 - Aziza Akhmouch, Head of the Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development Division, CFE, OECD
- Implementing the Action Plan of Mayors, Local and Regional Governments for Water Security on the ground: testimonials from Mayors
 - Rohey Malick Lowe, Mayor of Banjul, Gambia; President, Network for Locally Elected Women in Africa (REFELA)
 - Dieudonné Bantsimba, Mayor of Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo; President, Association of Mayors of Congo
- Open discussion with WGI members
- Updates on OECD work on urbanisation in Africa – Philipp Heinrigs, Senior Economist and Team Leader, Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC), OECD

18.00 Cocktail in the OECD Chateau (Roger Ockrent Room)

Thursday 6 July 2023

9.30-9.45 Welcome and takeaways from day 1

9.45-10.45 **Improving integrity practices for water management**

This session organised by the Water Integrity Network (WIN) will discuss the role of utilities and regulators in improving integrity practices and resulting impacts to support effective investment and improved service delivery.

- Introduction and integrity work with small water supply systems – Barbara Schreiner, Executive Director, WIN
- The case of Albania – Hannah Wuzel, Project Manager, Seecon
- Spotlight on the role of regulators – Alejandro Jiménez, Director, Water and Sanitation, SIWI
- Tour de table of WGI members' work on integrity and transparency

10.45-11.30 **Toolkit for the local implementation of the OECD Principles on Water Governance**

This session will set the scene for the WGI's co-produced deliverable for the 10th World Water Forum, a Toolkit for the local implementation of the OECD Principles on Water Governance. WGI member will be invited to share their suggestions on the content and methodology, and link to relevant work in their respective institutions.

- Scope and objectives of the Toolkit – Oriana Romano, Head of Unit, Water Governance and Circular Economy, CFE, OECD
- Insights from the WGI Steering Committee
- Open discussion with WGI members

11.30-12.00 Coffee break

12.00-12.30 **Breakout group discussions**

The groups will brainstorm on the types of practices to be included in the Toolkit for the local implementation of OECD Principles on Water Governance, based on a template that will be shared ahead of the meeting.

12.30-12.45 **Reporting back to plenary and discussion**

12.45-13.00 Closing and next steps

About the OECD Water Governance Programme

The OECD Water Governance Programme advises governments at all levels on how to design and implement water reforms. It relies on multi-stakeholder engagement and bottom-up processes through the OECD Water Governance Initiative, a global policy forum in support of good water governance. Since its creation in 2009, the Programme has delivered policy standards and evidence-based analyses including benchmarks, country dialogues and policy recommendations.

For more information, visit our website: oecd.org/water/regional

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