



# BRIDGING DIVIDES FOR WATER

Istanbul 2009

5th World Water Forum



## 5th World Water Forum:

# *“Bridging Divides for Water”*

16-22 March 2009

Istanbul, Turkey

Bled, Slovenia, 10-11 December 2007



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## TURKEY

- At the crossroads between East and West, North and South, Europe and Asia, rich and poor, developed and developing countries
- A history rich in water resources, culture and technology
- A region where the availability of water resources is essential to maintaining cooperation for peace and prosperity





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## When:

International Year of Sanitation,  
MDG mid-term evaluation,  
Regional events (APWS)  
to be incorporated into 5th  
Forum Preparatory Process

Results +  
emerging  
issues

Future  
Action



Bled, Slovenia, 10-11 December 2007



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# Our Ambition for the Istanbul Forum

## The 5<sup>th</sup> Forum in Istanbul:

1. Is uniquely a multi-stakeholder platform and dialog for water
2. Is focussed on the critical issues in water today
3. Is focussed on the political dimensions of these issues
4. Engages stakeholders in a facilitated and meaningful dialog
5. Results in policy and political changes leading to problem resolution and meaningful change



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## "Bridging Divides for Water"

Water users ↔ Politicians ↔ Practitioners

Local ↔ National ↔ Regional ↔ Global

Rich ↔ Poor, Present ↔ Future

Private ↔ Public, Women ↔ Men

inside ↔ outside water sector





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## Interlinking activities

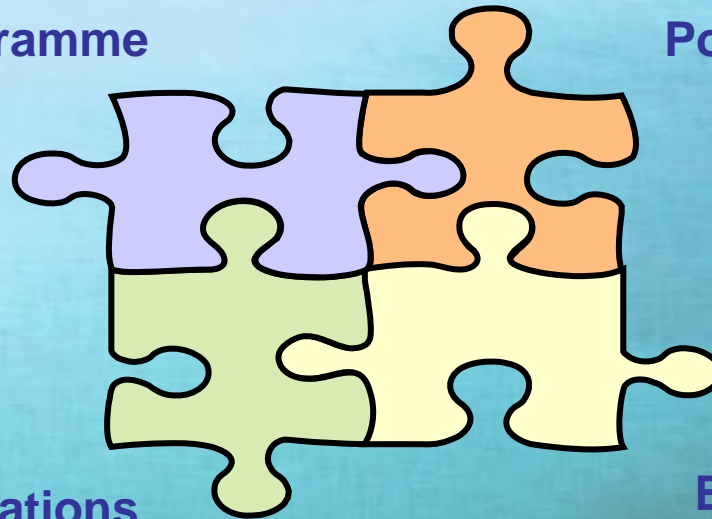


World Water Council  
World Water Forum



Thematic Programme

Political process



Communications

Basic organization:  
logistics &  
related events

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Bridging Divides for Water



aim

6 themes

25-30 topics

100 sessions

## Thematic framework

- Limited number of themes with quality inputs
- Enabling participation of a large diversity of stakeholders
- Each topic & session prepared using a short series of key questions

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## **Kick-off => 6 Themes**

### **Providing Water for Sustainable Development:**

- ◆ **Global Changes & Risk Management**
- ◆ **Advancing Human Development and the MDGs**
- ◆ **Managing and protecting water resources and their supply systems to meet human and environmental needs**

### **Enabling Mechanisms for Development**

- ◆ **Governance and management**
- ◆ **Finance**
- ◆ **Education, Knowledge and Capacity Building**





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## Forum Political Process

1. Involve decision-makers and trigger commitment
2. Bridge the thematic process and the political process of the Forum;
3. Do not duplicate UN processes but design a process based on a dialogue and interactions between three political groups:
  - **Governments**
  - **Parliamentarians**
  - **Local Authorities**





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## Forum Political Process

Preparatory

Work

- Involve representatives of the three groups
- Address themes from a political perspective in relation with the thematic framework
- Define and work on concrete objectives

Final

Results

- Define, design and implement Forum processes: Dialogues, preparation of final documents/resolutions





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## Forum Political Process

- Focus Group meetings to propose steps and objectives in November 2007 and January 2008
- Proposal to focus on one major theme: **Water Management Adaptation Strategies for global Changes, including Climate Variability/Change**





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## Other Forum Components:

- Panels
- Fair & Expo
- “Open” segment
- Social & Cultural Events
- Water Prizes (including Kyoto World Water Grand Prize)
- Side Events

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## Regional processes

- Build on existing processes in the regions to mobilize and commit stakeholders at all levels
- Identify priority issues for the regions and promote the action required to solve them
- Provide input to the political processes





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## Regional processes

- Africa
- Americas
- Asia-Pacific
- Europe
- Forum Focus Area:
  - Turkey and its surrounding region
  - Mediterranean
  - MENA/Arab countries



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## Interaction between APWS and the 5th Forum

- Integration of APWS Policy Recommendations into the 5th Forum's Political Process
- Participation of Asia-Pacific stakeholders in political process





#### About the Forum

[Bridging Divides for Water](#)

[5th Forum: Who's Who?](#)

[Previous Fora](#)

#### Preparatory Process

[Thematic Coordination](#)

[Political Process](#)

[Regional Process](#)

[Preparatory Meetings](#)

#### Forum Programme\*

[Sessions\\*](#)

[Side Events\\*](#)

#### Fair & Exhibition\*

#### Social Activities\*

[Social Programme\\*](#)

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[Turkey / Istanbul](#)

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#### Prizes

[Kyoto Prize](#)

[King Hassan Prize](#)

[Forum Registration](#)

[Sponsors](#)

### ► World Water Forum: the world's largest water event



The World Water Forum is the main water-related event in the world, aimed at putting water firmly on the international agenda. A stepping stone towards global collaboration on water problems, the Forum offers the water community and policy-and-decision-makers from all over the world the unique opportunity to come together to

create links, debate and attempts to find solutions to achieve water security.

The 5th World Water Forum will be held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 16 to 22 March 2009.

#### On the road to Istanbul...

► 27 November 2007

#### Political Process Brainstorming Session

In partnership with the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and 5th Forum Secretariat, the WWC recently hosted, at its headquarters in Marseilles, a brainstorming session for the Political Process of the 5th Forum. The purpose of this two-day-meeting was to gather representatives from local authorities, parliamentarians and members of national governments within a participatory framework to discuss the format, thematic focus and the development of products related to the Forum's Political Process. [Read More...](#)

#### What's New?

► 26 November 2007

#### Invitation to an Open Event at the Asia-Pacific Water Summit

"The 5th World Water Forum and the Asia-Pacific Region" Open Event will take place during the 1st Asia-Pacific Water Summit in Beppu, Japan, on 4 December. Building on the accumulated experience of four successive fora, this event, which is open to the public, will describe progress in the preparation of the 5th World Water Forum to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, in March of 2009, within the context of its overarching theme: "Bridging Divides for Water." As one of the major geographic regions defined in the preparatory process, special attention will be given to the

#### I am Water



Click on the image for more information...

#### 5th World Water Forum 1st ANNOUNCEMENT

[English \(.pdf 1.7 MB\)](#)

[Text only \(.doc 280KB\)](#)

[1 page Summary English](#)

[1 page Summary French](#)

[1 page Summary Spanish](#)

[1 page Summary Turkish](#)

[1 page Summary Arabic](#)

[1 page Summary Russian](#)

#### World Water Fora

[Mexico 2006](#)

[Kyoto 2003](#)

[The Hague 2000](#)





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International Congress River Basin  
Management  
22- 24 March 2007  
Antalya, Turkey

Preparatory Meetings



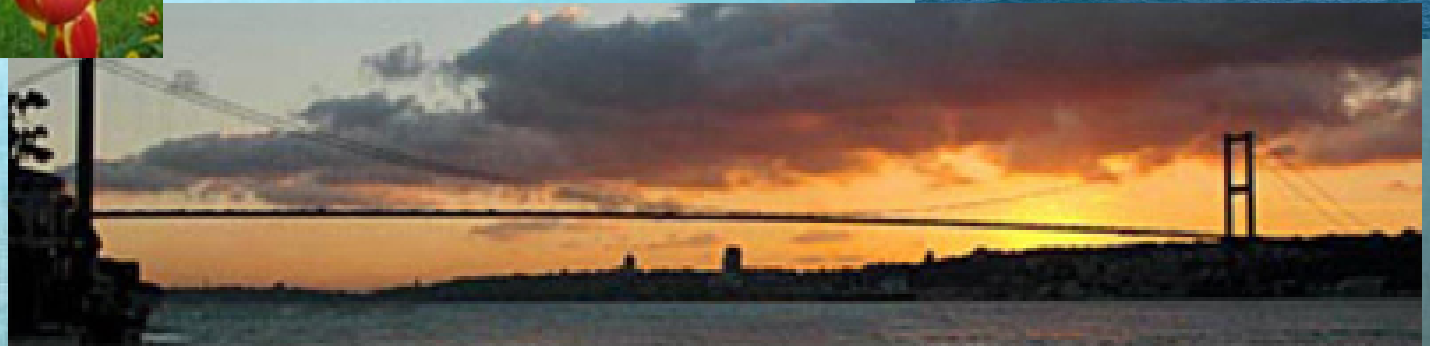
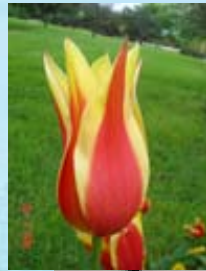
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Thank you &  
see you  
in Istanbul!



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