

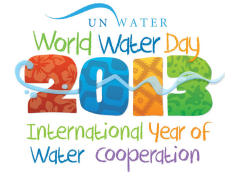


The Hague
Institute for Global Justice



Groundwater
Governance

A Global Framework for Action



Enhancing Cooperation
for Good Groundwater Governance

Fifth Regional Consultation: UNECE Region *

*The Hague Institute for Global Justice
The Hague, Netherlands
19-21 March 2013*

**Organized by the UNESCO
International Hydrological Programme (IHP)**
in cooperation with
the **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)**
under the patronage of the
**National Commission of Netherlands for UNESCO
National Committee of Netherlands for the UNESCO-IHP
Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment of the Netherlands**

with the support of
UNESCO-WMO International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC)

DRAFT AGENDA

TUESDAY 19 MARCH

09:00-10:00 Opening Ceremony

Master of Ceremony:

Michael van der Valk, Netherlands UNESCO-IHP National Committee
and International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) Netherlands Chapter

Opening address

- **H.E. Mr Rob Zeldenrust**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Permanent Delegate to UNESCO

Welcome addresses

- **Elaine Alwayn** – Chair IGRAC Board (Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment of the Netherlands)
- **Abiodun Williams** – The Hague Institute for Global Justice
- **Mohamed Bazza** – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, (FAO, Project Implementing Agency)
- **Francesca Bernardini** – United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- **Robert Quarles van Ufford** – Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO
- **Pieter van der Zaag** – Netherlands IHP National Committee

Video message: “From Shijiazhuang to The Hague”

* List of UNECE countries: http://www.unece.org/oes/nutshell/member_states_representatives.html



10:00–10:30 Coffee Break

10:30–12:30 Plenary Session 1 – Setting the Scene

10:30–11:35 1A. Presentation of the Groundwater Governance Project

Chair: **Shammy Puri** (IAH)

Rapporteurs: **Vanessa Vaessen** (German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources - BGR)

- Introduction to the GEF Project on Groundwater Governance: Presentation of the Objectives of the Project /Presentation of the Objectives of the Regional Consultations – **Mohammed Bazza** (FAO) and **Alice Aureli** (UNESCO-IHP) 30'
- Permanent Consultation Mechanism, Communication and Project Visibility – **Stéfanie Neno** (FAO) 10'
- GEF IW:LEARN Project: Groundwater Community of Practice (CoP), 'Groundwater Talks' Initiative – **Lucilla Minelli** (UNESCO-IHP) 10'

Debate 15'

11:35–12:35 1B. Groundwater Governance: Definition, Concept, Methodology

- OECD Water Governance Programme – Short Overview – **Alice Aureli** (UNESCO-IHP) 5'
- Groundwater Policy and Governance (Project Thematic Paper No. 5) – **Robert Varady** (University of Arizona, USA) 15'
- Strengthening Groundwater Governance – A Pragmatic and Proactive Framework for Action – **Stephen Foster** (Global Water Partnership - GWP) 15'
- Groundwater Governance: New Instruments and Niche-Diplomacy – **Todd Jarvis** (Oregon State University) 15'
- Groundwater Governance and Societal Change: Experiences and Initiatives from the Netherlands – **Ebel Smidt** (Water Governance Centre, Netherlands) 15'

12:35–13:00 Debate 25'

13:00–14:00 Lunch Break

14:00–15:15 Plenary Session 2 – Regional and International Instruments

Chair: **Mohamed Bazza** (FAO)

Rapporteur: **Jacques Ganoulis** (University of Thessaloniki, Greece)

- UNECE Water Convention: On the Way of Improving Groundwater Governance – **Francesca Bernardini** (UNECE) 15’
- The European Water Framework Directive (EU WFD): Contribution to the Groundwater Governance in the Region – **Johannes Grath** ((EU Water Framework Directive Common Implementation Strategy Working Group C on Groundwater, Austrian Environment Agency) 15’
- “Blueprint to Safeguard Europe's Water”: Groundwater-Related Findings– **Balázs Horváth** (European Commission DG Environment) 15’
- The 97 Convention and the UNGA Draft Articles on the Law of Transboundary Aquifers – **Flavia Loures** (World Wildlife Fund -WWF) 10’

14:55–15:15 Debate 20’

15:15–16:30 Plenary Session 3 –Legal and Institutional Aspects

Chair: **Marcus Wijnen** (World Bank)

Rapporteur: **Sharon Megdal** (University of Arizona, USA)

- Legal and Institutional Frameworks (Project Thematic Paper No. 6) – **Kerstin Mechlem** (University of Ulster, United Kingdom) 15’
- Groundwater Resources Governance within a Federal System (including the example of US's EPA Superfund) – **Gabriel Eckstein** (Texas Wesleyan University School of Law, USA) 15’
- Groundwater Legislation in the UNECE region – **Stefano Burchi** (International Association for Water Law - AIDA) 15’
- Governance in the Context of Transboundary Waters – **Attila Tanzi** (University of Bologna, Italy) 15’

16:15 –16:30 Debate 15’

16:30–16:45 Coffee Break

16:45–18:30 Plenary Session 4 – Groundwater Governance: Regional and National Experiences in Europe and Central Asia

Chair: **Pieter van der Zaag** (Netherlands’ IHP National Committee)

Rapporteur: **Robert Varady** (University of Arizona, USA)

- Groundwater Governance in the Aral Sea Basin of Central Asia – **Akmal Karimov** (International Water Management Institute -IWMI) 15’

- Status of Groundwater Governance in the Caucasus Region – **Adishirin Alakbarov** (*AZERSU Joint Stock Company, Azerbaijan*) 15'
- Issues on the Adoption and Implementation of the EU WFD: Fostering Better Governance – **Hana Prchalova** (*T.G. Masaryk Water Research Institute, Czech Republic*) 15'
- Governance of Groundwater in Romania and the Context of the Danube Basin IWRM – **Ruxandra Balaet** (*Ministry of Environment and Forests, Romania*) 15'
- Groundwater Governance in Hungary and Regional Overview – **Teodora Szocs** (*IAH Vice President for Europe, Hungary/Geological and Geophysical Institute of Hungary - MFGI*) 15'

18:00–18:30 Debate 15'

18:30 **Welcome Cocktail** (Participants are invited by the Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO)

WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH

09:00–11:00 **Plenary Session 5 – Groundwater Governance: Regional and National Experiences**

Chair: **Ivan Zavadsky** (*GEF*)

Rapporteur: **Geert-Jan Nijsten** (*IGRAC*)

09:00–09:30 **5A. Focus on Canada and USA**

- Groundwater Governance in a Federal Framework: Results of a Survey of the 50 States of the USA – **Sharon Megdal** (*University of Arizona, USA*) 15'
- Groundwater Governance in Canada considering the North-American Context – **Alfonso Rivera** (*Geological Survey of Canada*) 15'

09:30–09:45 Debate 15'

09:45–11:00 **5B. Groundwater Governance: How to Overcome Competition in Water Scarce Regions and in International River Basins**

- Building Groundwater Governance in a Changing Environment: What Approaches to Adopt – **Müfit Şefik Doğdu** (*State Hydraulic Works, Turkey*) 15'
- Groundwater Governance in Spain and the Role of the Water Users Associations: Lessons Learnt – **Emilio Custodio** (*Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain*) 15'
- The Reason for Unreasonableness in Groundwater Quality Governance – **Daniel Ronen** (*Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel*) 15'

- Fostering Groundwater Governance in the Context of International Danube River Basin – **Andreas Scheidleder** (*International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River – ICPDR*) 15’

Questions and Answers 15’

11:00-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-12:15 **Plenary Session 6 – Groundwater Governance: Regional and National Experiences (contd.)**

Chair: **Marc Bierkens** (*Utrecht University and Netherlands Hydrologic Society*)

Rapporteur: **Jean Fried** (*University of California, Irvine, USA*)

- Groundwater Governance in the Urban Context – **Ken Howard** (*IAH and University of Toronto, Canada*) 15’
- Groundwater Governance in the United Kingdom – **Rob Ward** (*British Geological Survey*) and **John Chilton** (*IAH*) 15’
- Management of Aquifer Recharge for Water Buffering: Experiences and the Role in Groundwater Governance – **Albert Tuinhof** (*Acacia Water, Netherlands*) 15’

Debate 15’

- Groundwater Governance: how patents can help – **Irene Kitsara** (*WIPO*) 10’

12:25-13:15 Lunch Break

13:15-15:30 **Break-out Sessions**

Two successive rounds of Break Out sessions are foreseen; they have a duration of 2 hours each.

The working group reports will be presented during the Closing Session. ***PPT presentations and written reports should be provided to the UNESCO Secretariat by Thursday 21, 16:00.***

13:15-15:30 **First Round of Working Groups**

- **Working Group 1**
Analysis and Assessment of the Major Legislative Instruments in the Region

Facilitators: **Stefano Burchi** (*International Association for Water Law – AIDA*) and **Johannes Grath** (*Working Group C on Groundwater, Austrian Environment Agency*)

Rapporteur: **Francesco Sindico** (*University of Strathclyde, Glasgow*)

Setting the scene: **Stefano Burchi**

■ **Working Group 2**
Urban –Rural Groundwater: How to Address the Tensions

Facilitator: **Ken Howard** (IAH and University of Toronto, Canada)
Rapporteur: **Albert Tuinhof** (Acacia Water, Netherlands)

Setting the scene: **Ken Howard**

■ **Working Group 3**
River Basins Management and Groundwater Governance

Facilitator: **Teodora Szocs** (IAH Vice President for Europe, Hungary)
Rapporteur: **Ruxandra Balaet** (Ministry of Environment and Climate Changes, Romania)

Setting the scene: **Teodora Szocs**

Special presentation: UNECE Summary of Transboundary Groundwaters in the EECCA region – **Francesca Bernardini** (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe - UNECE) 10'

15:30–16:00 Coffee Break

**16:00-17:30 Plenary Session 7 – Groundwater Data and Information:
A Crucial Tool for Groundwater Governance**

Chair: **Blanca Jiménez-Cisneros** (UNESCO Dir. Division of Water Sciences and Secretary of IHP) and **Alfred Duda** (International Expert)

Rapporteurs: **Geert-Jan Nijsten** (IGRAC) and **Jean Fried** (University of California, Irvine, USA)

- Groundwater Information Availability and Reliability in the Context of International Cooperation – **Neno Kukuric** (IGRAC) 15'
- Hydrogeological Maps as Tools for Groundwater Governance. Examples from Europe and WHYMAP – **Willi Struckmeier** (German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources - BGR) 15'
- Feeding Area-Specific Information into the Governance Process: 'Groundwater around the World' as an Example – **Jac van der Gun** (International Expert) 15'
- How New Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) Can Enhance Collaboration in Sharing Groundwaters. Examples from the Balkans and the Mediterranean Region – **Jacques Ganoulis** (UNESCO Chair INWEB, University of Thessaloniki, Greece) 15'

Debate 30'

17:30–18:30 *All participants are invited at the meeting of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH)*

18:45–20:15 **Escher Museum** (Refreshment and guided visit offered to all participants by the Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO)

THURSDAY 21 MARCH

09:00–10:15 **Plenary Session 8 – Groundwater Governance: Regional and National Experiences (contd.)**

Chair: **Josee van Eijndhoven** (Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO)

Rapporteur: **John Chilton** (IAH)

- Groundwater Governance in Serbia – **Miodrag Milovanovic** (Institute Jaroslav Cerni, Serbia) 15'
- Groundwater Governance and River Basins Institutions: the French Experience – **Didier Pennequin** (French Geological Survey - BRGM) 15'
- Groundwater Governance: The Road from Theory to Failure – **David Zetland** (University of Wageningen, Netherlands) 15'
- Experiences with Groundwater Governance in Denmark – **Lisbeth Jørgensen** (Danish Water Forum) 15'

Debate 15'

10:15–10:30 Coffee Break

10:30–12:30 **II. Second Round of Working Groups**

- **Working Group 4**
Private and Public Sectors Interaction: How to Act Together for Groundwater Governance?

Facilitators: **Andrea Merla** (International Expert) and **Alfred Duda** (International Expert)

Rapporteur: **Anthony Turton** (Water Stewardship Council of Southern Africa)

Setting the scene: **Andrea Merla**

- **Working Group 5**
Capacity on Monitoring and Management of Groundwater Data: A Key Target for Institutions

Facilitator: **Neno Kukuric** (IGRAC)

Rapporteurs: **Zelimir Pekas** (Croatian Waters) and **Ebel Smidt** (Water Governance Centre, Netherlands)

Setting the scene: **Neno Kukuric**

- **Working Group 6**
Groundwater Governance: Public Participation and Conflicts Prevention

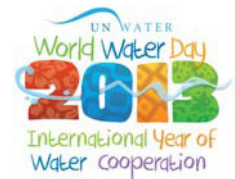
Facilitator: **Erik Mostert** (Delft University of Technology)

Rapporteur: **Todd Jarvis** (Oregon State University)

Setting the scene: **Erik Mostert**

12:30–13:30 Lunch Break

13:30–16:00 Roundtable
“Working Hand in Hand for Groundwater Governance”
Private and Public Sectors Cooperation



The panel is a contribution to the “2013 - United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation”. The consultation is organized back to back with the 22nd March official celebration of the World Water Day on Water Cooperation in The Hague.

Chair: **András Szöllösi-Nagy** (Rector, UNESCO Institute of Water Education - IHE)

Rapporteur: **Alfonso Rivera** (Geological Survey of Canada)

Facilitator and Wrap-up: **Alfred Duda** (UNESCO-IHP)

Presentation

- Groundwater Governance: The Socio-economic Benefit of Cooperation
Anthony Turton (Water Stewardship Council of Southern Africa) 10'

- **Panel**

(More details in the annexed document “Working Hand in Hand for Groundwater Governance”)

16:00–16:30 Coffee Break

16:30–18:00 Plenary Session 9 - Closing Session

Chair: **Mohamed Bazza** (FAO)

Facilitator: **Shammy Puri** (IAH)

Rapporteur: **Jacques Ganoulis** (INWEB)

16:30–16:45 Synthesis of the Questionnaires – **Jac van der Gun** (General Rapporteur) 15'

16:45–17:25 **Recommendations: Setting up the Framework for Action (FA)**
Reports of the Breakout Sessions: Presentation on the Outcomes of the Working Groups Sessions (10' each)

General Debate and Recommendations 30'

18:00–18:15 **Closing Messages**

Chair: **Al Duda** (*International Expert*)

Rapporteurs: **Marcus Wijnen** (*World Bank*) and **Andrea Merla** (*International Expert*)

Messages from:

- **Mohamed Bazza** (*FAO*)
- **Ivan Zavadsky** (*GEF*)
- **Shammy Puri** (*IAH*)
- **Greetje van den Bergh** (*Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO*)
- **Alice Aureli** (*UNESCO-IHP*)