

Groundwater Governance Project

A Global Framework for Action

The project

The Groundwater Governance project is a 3-year initiative (2011-2014) designed to address emerging global concerns on groundwater resources management.

It is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and is jointly executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Bank and the International Hydrological Association (IAH).



Objectives



The project is designed to increase awareness of the paramount importance of sound groundwater resources management to tackle the global water crisis. It intends to identify and promote best practices in groundwater governance as a way to achieve the sustainable management of groundwater resources.

Expected outputs

The project will develop a Global Framework for Action consisting of a set of general principles and guidelines for policy-makers and stakeholders, including policy options, laws, regulations and customary practices.

A Shared Vision on Groundwater Governance based on case studies, thematic papers and a Global Groundwater Diagnostic integrating experiences and information collected from a series of regional consultations around the world, will inform the design of the Global Framework for Action.

Targeted outreach events will be organized to promote the results of the Project and the Global Framework for Action.



Regional consultations



The Regional Consultations are a fundamental component of the project. They provide the indispensable technical basis for the visioning process by compiling the best available and up-to-date scientific knowledge on groundwater resources and their governance. They also offer an opportunity for an unprecedented interdisciplinary dialogue among local policy-makers and stakeholders to share regional priorities for groundwater governance.

In 2012 and 2013 the UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme and its networks will organize five regional consultations to solicit regional perspectives on the practical application of groundwater governance.

The aims of the regional consultations are to:

- acquire first-hand knowledge of regional issues from local groundwater experts;
- build partnerships amongst collaborating project agencies, stakeholders, decision-makers and specialists across sectors; and
- raise awareness and promote a global groundwater agenda.

Date	Region	Place
18-20 April 2012	Latin America and the Caribbean	Montevideo, Uruguay
29-31 May 2012	Sub-Saharan Africa	Nairobi, Kenya
8-10 October 2012	Arab States	Amman, Jordan
3-5 December 2012	Asia (East and South) and the Pacific	Shijiazhuang City, China
18-21 March 2013	Europe (including SEE Central Asia) and North America	Amsterdam, The Netherlands

