
First Regional Consultation:
Latin America and the Caribbean Region

18– 20 April 2012
Montevideo – Uruguay
MERCOSUR Building

FINAL AGENDA

Wednesday 18 April

9:00 – 10:00 Opening Ceremony
Chair: Jorge Rucks (Director, National Environmental Agency, DINAMA, Uruguay)

- Graciela Muslera (Minister, Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment, MVOTMA, Uruguay)
- Luis Almagro (Minister, Ministry of External Relations, MRREE)
- Gretchen Kalonji (Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO)

10:00 – 10:30 Plenary session 1 – Overview of the Groundwater Governance Project
Chair: Jorge Grandi (Director UNESCO Montevideo Office)
Co-Chair: Alfred Duda (former Global Environmental Facility, GEF)

- Introduction to the GEF Project on Groundwater Governance. Objectives, Concepts and Thematic Papers – Jacob Burke (Food and Agriculture Organization, FAO, Project Steering Committee) 15’
- Objective of the Regional Consultations Component / Project Permanent Consultation Mechanism (PCM), Link with GEF-IW:LEARN Groundwater Community of Practices – Alice Aureli (UNESCO International Hydrological Programme, UNESCO IHP, Project Steering Committee) 15’

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:00  **Plenary Session 2 – Groundwater Governance Overview and Contributions from the Region**

**Chair:** Andrea Merla (Senior Consultant UNESCO-IHP)

**Rapporteur:** Sharon Megdal (UNESCO Working Group on Groundwater Governance Policy)

- Presentation of the Synthesis Report – *Jacob Burke* 15’
- Questionnaire: Answers Received from the Participants and Synthesis – *Nelson da Franca* and *Zelmira May* (UNESCO IHP Latin America and Caribbean, UNESCO IHP-LAC) 15’
- Regional Perspective: Groundwater Resources and Environmental Sustainability in Latin America and the Caribbean – *Max Campos* (Organization of American States, OAS) 15’
- Challenges in Aquifers Management: Lessons Learnt – *Humberto Peña* (Senior Consultant, Chile) 15’

12:00 – 13:00  **Questions and Answers: Press and Audience**

**Facilitators:** Shammy Puri (International Association of Hydrogeologists, IAH, Project Steering Committee) and Luiz Amore (IAH-LAC)

13:00 – 14:00  **Lunch**

14:00 – 15:30  **Plenary Session 3 – Groundwater Governance and Sustainable Development: Urban and Rural Areas**

**Chair:** Antonio Morales (FAO)

**Facilitator:** Amelia Díaz Pablo (National Meteorological and Hydrological Service, SENAMHI, Peru)

**Rapporteur:** Lourdes Batista (Water National Directorate, DINAGUA, Uruguay)

**Keynote Speakers**
- Perspective for Governance on Groundwater in Urban Areas – *Ricardo Hirata* (Groundwater Assessment Center, University of Sao Paulo, CEPAS/USP, Brazil) 15’
- Groundwater Resources, Agriculture and Conflicting Uses – *Mario Alberto Hernández* (National University of La Plata, UNLP, Argentina) 15’

**Case Studies**
- Groundwater Governance in Brazil, Examples of Successful Cases – *Humberto Albuquerque* (Brazilian Association of Groundwater, ABAS) 10’
- Water Resources Management: Vulnerability of Coastal Aquifers to Climate Change & Human Effects (UNESCO-GRAPHIC Project, North Andros) – *Anthony Bostwick* (Water Resources Management Unit, Bahamas) 10’
- The Water Councils as Institutionalization Mechanisms for Governance of Water Resources in Paraguay; Experiences from the Water Council of the Arroyo Capilipar basin (CACHAC) 2008-2012 – *Alicia Eisenkolbl* (Catholic University of Paraguay) 10’
- Water Round Table, Pan de Azúcar Aquifer, La Serena, Chile – *Guido Soto* (Water Center for Arid and Semi-arid Zones, CAZALAC) 10’

Debate 20’
15:30 – 16:00  Coffee break

16:00 – 17:30  Plenary Session 4 – Groundwater Governance and Policy: Institutional Structure and Local Perspective

Chair: Daniel González (DINAGUA, Uruguay)
Facilitator: Alfred Duda
Rapporteur: Ana Vidal (National Hydrographic Directorate, DNH, Uruguay)

Keynote Speakers
- Groundwater Governance: Socio-Political Dimensions of Intensive Use Management – Héctor Garduño (Consultant Senior, Mexico) 15’
- Water Resources Governance in Brasil: The Contribution of the National Agenda of Groundwater – Paulo Varella (National Water Agency, ANA, Brasil) 15’

Case Studies
- Governance in the Management of a Transboundary Aquifer System – Case Study: the Guarani Aquifer System – Julio Kettelhut (Secretariat for Hydrological Resources, Brazil – Guarani Aquifer System, GAS Project) 10’
- Successful Case of Groundwater Governance: Aquifer Sardinal, Guanacaste, Costa Rica – José Chacón (Regional Committee for Groundwater Resources, CRRH, Costa Rica) 10’
- Lilíán del Castillo-Laborde (University of Buenos Aires, UBA, Argentina) 10’
- IWRM: a Tool for Groundwater Governance in Caribbean SIDS – Deborah Bushell (Caribbean Environmental Health Institute, CEHI) 10’

Debate 20’

17:30 – 18:00  First day Wrap Up and Closing
Jorge Rucks and Nelson da Franca (General Rapporteur)

20:30 – 22:30  Welcome dinner at the “El Milongón” restaurant (invitation by the Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment of Uruguay)

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Thursday 19 April

09:00 – 10:30  Plenary Session 5 – Groundwater Governance: Management and Research

Chair: Mario Arias Salguero (University of Costa Rica)
Facilitator: Vladimir Caramori (Brazilian Association for Water Resources, ABRH, Brazil)
Rapporteur: Alberto Manganelli (DINAMA, Uruguay)

Keynote Speaker
- How to Apply Policy to Reality – Luiz Amore 15’

Case Studies:
- Management and Research, International Shared Aquifers of the Americas – Alfonso Rivera (Geological Survey of Canada) 10’
• Decision-making Tools for Groundwater Governance in Haiti – Urbain Fifi (University of Quisqueya, Haiti) 10’
• Coordination of Actions for the Management and Protection of Groundwater – Case Area: Aquifer in the Center of the Santa Fe Province – Ofelia Tujchneider (National University of the Litoral, UNL, Argentina) 10’
• Meeting Water Demands at Agrarian Reform Settlements in South Brazil: the Groundwater Governance Concept Put into Practice – Roberto Kirchheim (Geological Survey Brazil) 10’
• Institutional and Social Participation in the Management of Groundwater in Venezuela – Fernando Decarli (National Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology, INAMEH, Venezuela) 10’
• The Integrated Management of Transboundary Aquifers in La Plata Basin – Silvia Rafaeli and Mónica Troadello (Coordination Unit, La Plata Basin Framework Programme and Intergovernmental Committee La Plata Basin countries, CIC) 10’

Debate 15’

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 13:00 Plenary Session 6 – Groundwater Governance and Economics: What investments can support groundwater resources assessment and protection?

Chair: Daniel García (Water Resources Authority, Paraguay)
Facilitator: Marcus Wijnen (World Bank)
Rapporteur: Humberto Peña

Keynote Speaker
• The UN ECLAC Experience – Caridad Canales (UN Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean, ECLAC) 15’

Case Studies
• The Montevideo Refrescos model for Water Management and the Protection of Water Sources – Rosalía Rodríguez (Coca-Cola Uruguay) 10’
• Water Supply Programme for Small Towns and Rural Schools – Pablo Decoud (National Sanitary Works Agency, OSE, Uruguay) 10’
• Relevant Factors in the Destruction of Aquifers and Possible Remedies – Miguel Solanes (Fundación IMDEA-Agua, Spain) 10’
• Drinking Water Monitoring Monitoreo by the Regulatory Unit – Daniel Greif (Regulatory Unit for Water and Sanitation Services, URSEA, Uruguay) 10’
• Prioritization of Groundwater Investment - A Caribbean Perspective – Karl Payne (Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology, Barbados) 10’

Debate 25’

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch
14:00 – 15:20  **Plenary Session 7 – Effective Participation of Stakeholders in Groundwater Governance**

*Chair:* **Mayra Montero** *(Ministry of Foreign Relations, Bolivia)*  
*Facilitator:* **José Luis Genta** *(Intergovernmental Committee of Coordination of La Plata Basin countries, CIC)*  
*Rapporteur:* **Gabriela Pignataro** *(Cultura Ambiental, Uruguay)*

**Keynote Speaker**
- **Francisco Sancén** *(Technical Committees for Groundwater in Mexico, COTAS, México) 15’*

**Case Studies**
- "The Essential is Invisible to the Eye": Story of the Project for the Sustainable Management of the Guarani Aquifer through the Dialogue of Knowledge and Valorization of Local Cultures – **Antonio Graziano** *(Casa Bertolt Brecht, Uruguay) 10’*
- Trinational Experience in Groundwater Governance – **Miguel Pineda** *(The Plan Trifinio) 10’*
- **Nelton Friedrich** *(Cultivando Agua Boa Itaipu Programme) 10’*
- Governance of Shared Waters: Towards an Effective Participation of Multiple Actors – **Rocio Córdoba** *(International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN) 10’*
- Use of Groundwater in the Coastal Aquifer on the East of the Dominican Republic- **Xiomara Lluberas** *(National Institute of Water Resources of the Dominican Republic, INDRHI) 10’*

Debate 15’

15:20 – 15:30  **Introduction to the Working Groups** – **Alice Aureli** and **Shammy Puri** 10’

15:30 – 16:00  **Coffee break**

16:00 – 18:00  **Working Groups**

Each Group will prepare two-pages document for the Global Diagnostic and the Framework of Action

**Group 1 – Groundwater Governance and Policy**

*Facilitator:* **María Concepción Donoso** *(Global Water for Sustainability Programme, GLOWS, USAID)*  
*Rapporteur:* **Alejandro Pastori** *(National University, UdelaR, Uruguay)*

**Group 2 – Groundwater Governance: Legal and Institutional Frameworks**

*Facilitator:* **Max Campos**  
*Rapporteur:* **Virginia Chiesa** *(Santa Fe Government, Argentina)*

**Group 3 – Development of Groundwater Governance Studies and Research**

*Facilitator:* **Nilda González** *(Latin American Association of Groundwater Hydrology for Development, ALHSUD)*  
*Rapporteur:* **Joram Gil** *(UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Management of Water Resources, Guatemala)*
Group 4 – How to Increase the Level of Investment for Groundwater Governance

Facilitator: Jorge Santa Cruz (University Buenos Aires, UBA, Argentina)
Rapporteur: Marcela Ruiz (DINAGUA)

Group 5 – Groundwater Governance and Stakeholders Participation

Facilitator: Carmen Curbelo (UNESCO Chair on Water and Culture, Uruguay)
Rapporteur: Milenka Sojachenski (Global Water Partnership, GWP, South America)

Friday 20 April

09:00 Rapporteurs of the Plenary Sessions: Provision of the Reports to the General Rapporteur, Mr Nelson da Franca (reports to be left at the Secretariat)

09:00 – 11:00 Working Groups (continued)

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee-break

11:30 – 12:30 Working Groups (continued)

12:30 – 14:30 Lunch and Working Session for the Preparation of the Recommendations by the Rapporteurs and Facilitators of the Working Groups

14:30 – 15:00 Plenary session 8 – Latin America and the Caribbean inputs to the Groundwater Governance Global Diagnostic Report and Recommendations for the Framework for Action

A. Plenary Sessions Reports
Chair: Andrea Merla

- Presentation of the Plenary Sessions Reports by Nelson da Franca 20’
Questions & Answers 10’

15:00 – 16:00 B. Working Groups Reports
Chairs: María Concepción Donoso and Alfred Duda

- Presentation of the Working Group Reports by the Rapporteurs 50’
Questions & Answers 10’

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break

16:30 – 17:00 Closing Session – Conclusions and the Way Forward
Chair: Daniel González
Facilitators: Nelson da Franca and Andrea Merla
Panelists: Alice Aureli, Jacob Burke, Alfred Duda, Shammy Puri and Marcus Wijnen