

OECD Water Governance Initiative

<https://oe.cd/watergovprogramme>

Water Governance Initiative
Brochure (2019 – 2021)



Centre for Entrepreneurship,
SMEs, Regions and Cities



OECD

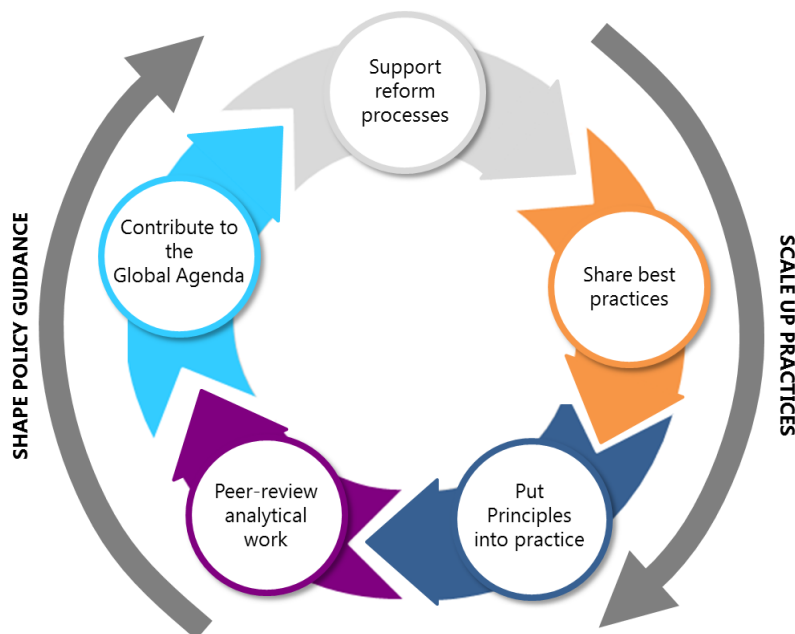
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A Global Policy Forum in Support of Better Water Governance

The **OECD Water Governance Initiative** was created on 27-28 March 2013 as an international multi-stakeholder network of 130+ members from the public, private and non-for-profit sectors gathering twice a year to share best knowledge and experience on water reforms, projects and policy. It has several 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 (Sustainable Development Goals, World Water Forum, Habitat III, COP etc.);
- Support the **implementation** of the [OECD Principles on Water Governance](#) in interested member and non-member countries, basins and cities by i) promoting the uptake of **the indicator framework**, and ii) encouraging capacity development and peer learning; and
- **Foster continuity** on governance discussions at global level, between two World Water Forums (every 3 years) by leading governance thematic sessions and events.



Key milestones

The OECD Water Governance Initiative was created out of the community of practice gathered within the OECD-led Good Governance Core Group throughout the preparatory process of the 6th World Water Forum, 2012.

The WGI co-produced the **OECD Principles on Water Governance** in 2015. The Principles have been endorsed by 170+ stakeholder groups gathered within the [Global Coalition for Good Water Governance](#).

The WGI developed an **indicator framework** to support multi-stakeholder dialogues and self-assessment of water governance in interested cities, basins and countries, and facilitated the peer-review of over 50 concrete **water governance stories** from across the world.

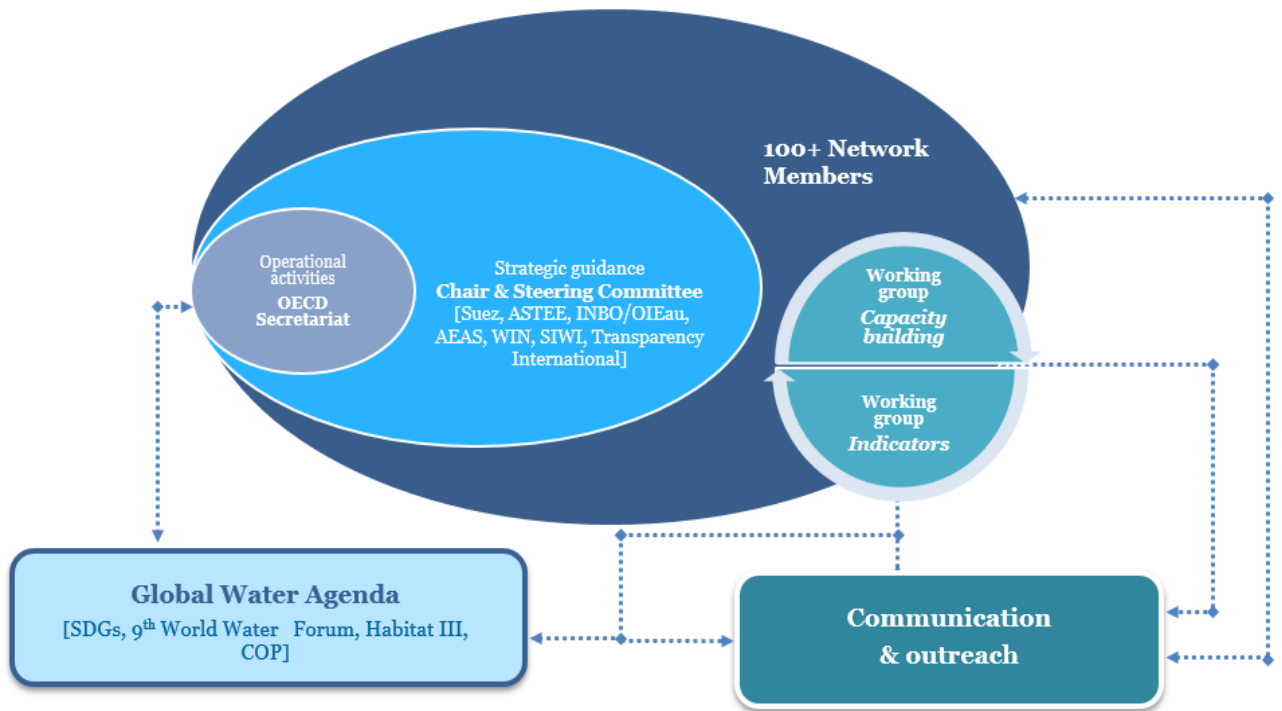
Structure and members

The **OECD Water Governance Initiative** has an open membership and large geographic, economic and institutional representation at local, national and global levels.

The **100+ members** include national governments, basin and local authorities (and their networks), regulators (and their networks), donors and international financial institutions, NGOs, international organisations and institutions, service providers (both public and private, and their networks), as well as academics and independent experts.

WGI members gather in a **Policy Forum** twice a year and contribute to the **Working Groups'** activities (Indicators and Capacity) at and in between meetings.

WGI Composition 2019-21



Leadership: Chair, OECD Secretariat and Steering Committee

The Water Governance Initiative is hosted by the **OECD** and chaired by **Peter Glas**, Delta Programme Commissioner and former President of the Dutch Water Authorities.

It is led by a **Steering Committee** composed of partner institutions providing strategic orientations and operational support : **ASTEE** (Association Scientifique et Technique pour l'Eau et l'Environnement), **Suez**, **INBO** (International Network of Basin Organisations), **OIEau** (International Office for Water), **SIWI** (Stockholm International Water Institute), **WIN** (Water Integrity Network), **Transparency International** and **AEAS** (Spanish Association of Water Supply and Sanitation).

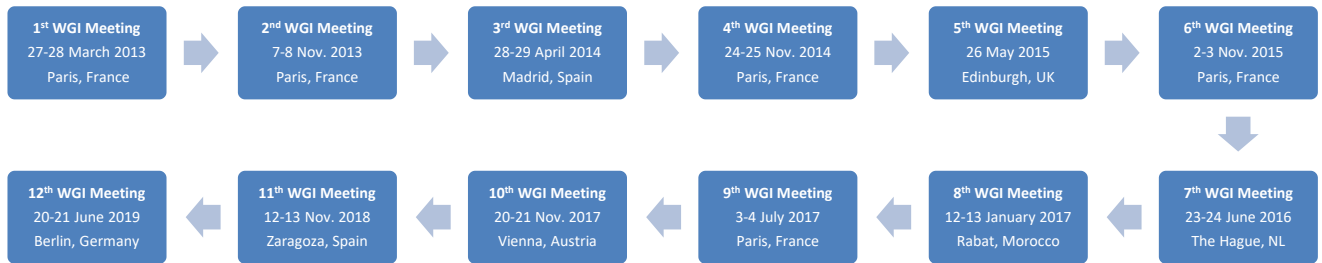


WGI Achievements over 2013-2018 and its next phase

1. National Water Policy Dialogues and Thematic Reports



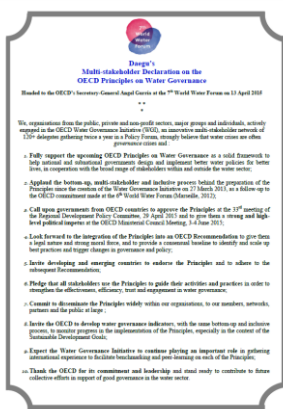
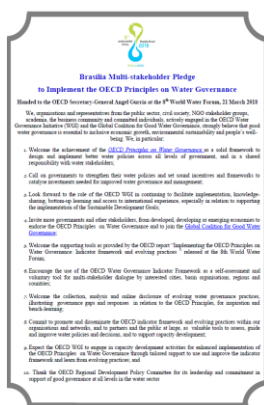
2. Several (12) Plenary Meetings of the WGI Multi-stakeholder Policy Forum



3. Coordination of the Governance theme for the World Water Forum

[Brasilia Multi-Stakeholder Pledge](#) to Implement the OECD Principles

[Daegu's Multi-stakeholder Declaration](#) on the OECD Principles



4. Contribution to Global Agendas : COP 21, 22 and 24, Habitat III and SDGs



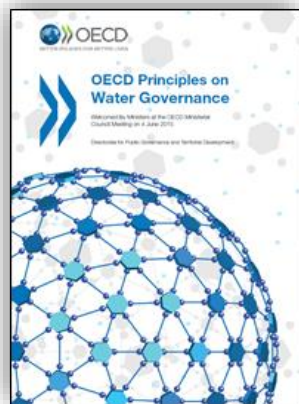
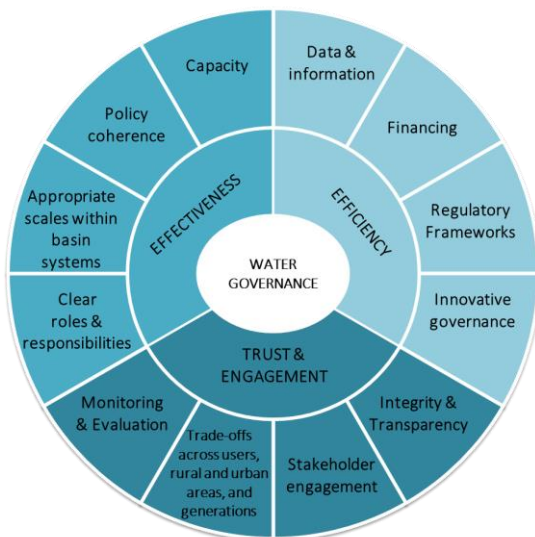
WGI Achievements over 2013-2018 and its next phase

4. Co-production of the OECD Principles on Water Governance.

- The **OECD Water Governance Principles** provide the 12 must-do for governments to design and implement effective, efficient, and inclusive water policies.
- Multi-stakeholder process**: the Principles were developed and discussed through a bottom-up and multi-stakeholder process within the WGI.

OECD Principles on Water Governance

Source: OECD (2015a)



Endorsed by:

35 OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES

7 NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES

140 STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Available in 18 languages:



To download the Principles:

<http://www.oecd.org/governance/oecd-principles-on-water-governance.htm>

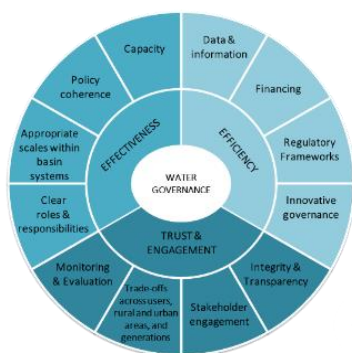
5. Implementation of the OECD Principles on Water Governance.

2013-2015 Vision

2016-2018 Action

2019-2021 Implementation

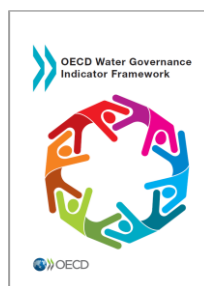
OECD Principles on Water Governance



Indicator Framework



50+ Water Stories



Indicators

- Applying 2016-2018 input and process indicators
- Identifying methodologies for data production and collection
- Developing impact indicators and finalising framework

Capacity Development

- Taking stock of capacity development initiatives and frameworks
- Defining scope and target(s)
- Creating modules and testing them in workshops

Access the water governance practices and indicator pilot tests on the map below, available at:

<http://www.oecd.org/environment/implementing-the-oecd-principles-on-water-governance-9789264292659-en.htm>

Water Governance Initiative plenary meetings



12-13 November 2018, Zaragoza, Spain

The 11th meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the 2019-2021 WGI Programme of Work and the objectives, content and outputs of the Working Groups; share knowledge and experience on recent water governance reforms, research and events; learn from Spain's water governance and discuss the role of water governance in circular economy. It was organized by Spanish authorities.

[Read the meeting highlights](#)



20-21 November 2017, Vienna, Austria

The 10th meeting was held at the City Hall of Vienna, Austria. The report "Water Charges in Brazil: The Ways Forward" was launched by Brazilian Authorities. Results of the 2nd phase of the pilot-tests of the water governance were discussed, as well as Austria's water governance system.

[Read the meeting highlights](#)



3-4 July 2017, Paris, France

The 9th meeting achieved progress on water governance indicators and best practices. Pilot-testers from Spain, the Netherlands, Morocco, Spain, Peru, RD Congo, Austria, Cabo Verde, Colombia and Malaysia provided insights on their experience. Delegates shared knowledge and information from recent research, reforms, projects on water charges in Brazil.

[Read the meeting highlights](#)



12-13 January 2017, Rabat, Morocco

The 8th meeting was organised under the patronage of the Delegated Ministry in charge of Water. Participants discussed first draft of water governance indicators and collection of water governance practices. Knowledge was shared on water governance in Morocco.

[Read the meeting highlights](#)



23-24 June 2016, The Hague, Netherlands

The 7th meeting discussed progress in the implementation of the OECD Principles on Water Governance through taking stock of various initiatives from members. It also discussed linkages with COP, Habitat III and SDGs.

[Read the meeting highlights](#)



2-3 November 2015, Paris, France

The 6th meeting shared knowledge on recent water governance projects and research. Participants discussed expectations and needs to follow-up on the OECD Principles on Water Governance. In-depth brainstorming was carried out in smaller workshop groups.

[Read the meeting highlights](#)

Water Governance Initiative plenary meetings



WGI 5

26 May 2015, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

The 5th meeting was hosted by the Scottish Government as part of the XV World Water Congress of the IWRA. It discussed the results of the first two years of activity of WGI, reported on their contributions to the Global Water Agenda and shared experience on recent water governance reforms and initiatives. The meeting also exchanged on the ways forward for the WGI in 2016-2018, especially milestones to support the implementation of the OECD Principles on Water Governance.

[Read the meeting highlights](#)



WGI 4

24-25 November 2014, Paris, France

The 4th meeting was opened by OECD Secretary General, Angel Gurría, and World Water Council President, Benedito Braga. It discussed contributions to the Global Water Agenda and peer-reviewed analytical work on water governance. The meeting also discussed the first draft of OECD Principles on Water Governance and working group sessions allowed to brainstorm on water governance indicators. A tour de table provided experience-sharing on recent water governance reforms, initiatives and events.

[Read the meeting highlights](#)



WGI 3

28-29 April 2014, Madrid, Spain

The 3rd Meeting provided a platform to peer-review OECD water governance reports in Jordan and Tunisia, it discussed post-2015 water related targets and the milestones to the 7th WWF. The meeting also commented on draft principles and indicators on water governance, and exchanged lessons from water reforms in Spain, Peru, France, Ethiopia, Mozambique, and El Salvador.

[Read the meeting highlights.](#)



WGI 2

7-8 November 2013, Paris, France

The 2nd Meeting received high-level political buy-in with the participation of the Spanish Secretary General for International Cooperation and Development, and the Ambassadors to the OECD of Korea, France and the Netherlands. The event kicked-off the activities of the 4 Thematic Working Groups, peer-reviewed the OECD report on water governance in the Netherlands, and discussed the rationale for the development of Principles and Indicators on water governance.

[Read the meeting highlights.](#)



WGI 1

27-28 March 2013, Paris, France

The 1st Meeting defined the scope, mandate and activities of the Initiative, as well as its strategic and operational organisation. The meeting took stock of the progress achieved since the 6th WWF and discussed recent water governance reforms in OECD and non OECD countries.

[Read the meeting highlights.](#)

Water Governance Initiative plenary meetings

WGI Family Picture in Vienna (Austria), November 2017



Indicator Working Group in Zaragoza (Spain), November 2018



Sharing water events through speed-dating! Rabat (Morocco), January 2017



Working Group Session in The Hague (Netherlands), June 2016



WGI Steering Committee and OECD Secretary General with the Brasilia Pledge, 8th World Water Forum (Brazil), March 2018



Official member institutions of the Water Governance Initiative

- Action Against Hunger
- African Ministers' Council on Water
- AgroParisTech
- Aqua Publica Europea
- AquaFed
- Association of public services and enterprises - Austria
- Association of Water Supply and Sanitation - Spain
- Austrian Association of Cities and Towns
- Butterfly Effect
- Cap-Net
- Centre International de recherche sur l'environnement et le développement-Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique
- Conagua - Mexico
- Deltares - Netherlands
- Dommel River Basin Authority - Netherlands
- Dutch Water Authorities
- Eau de Paris
- ENGIE
- EurEau
- Eurocities
- European Centre of Employers and Enterprises providing Public Services / German association of Energy and Water Industries
- Expert - GAMMELTOFT Peter
- Expert - HORNE James
- Expert - BARKER Ian (Water Policy International)
- Flanders Knowledge Center Water
- FP2E - France
- French Development Agency
- Fundación Aquae
- Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance
- Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean
- Global Water Partnership
- HochWasserKompetenzCentrum – Germany
- Hungarian Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority
- Icatelist
- IHE Delft Institute for Water Education
- International Association for Water Law
- International Network of Basin Organisations
- International Office for Water
- International Union for Conservation of Nature
- International Water Association
- International Water Management Institute
- International Water Resources Association
- Japan Water Agency
- Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
- Madrid Institute of Advanced Studies
- Mediterranean Institute for Water
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries - Japan
- Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development - Germany
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Hungary
- Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management - Netherlands
- Ministry of Interior, Public Works and Housing (Secretariat for Infrastructure and Water Policy) - Argentina
- Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure - Luxembourg
- Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism - Austria
- Ministry of the Environment - Korea
- Ministry of Water Resources - Development Research Centre - China
- National Association of Water and Sanitation Utilities - Mexico
- National Water Agency - Brazil
- National Water Authority - Peru
- Network of Asian River Basin Organizations
- New University of Lisbon
- Norwegian Environment Agency
- Open University
- Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
- Portuguese Association of Water and Wastewater Services
- Portuguese Water Partnership
- Regulatory Authority of Water and Waste Services – Portugal
- River Basin Authority of the Júcar - Spain
- River Basin Authority of the Segura - Spain
- Royal HaskoningDHV - Netherlands
- Sanitation and Water for All
- Scientific and Technical Association for Water and the Environment - France
- Stockholm International Water Institute
- Slovenian Water Agency
- Sorbonne Business School
- Suez, France
- The Nature Conservancy
- Transparency International
- Turkish Water Institute
- UNESCO - International Hydrology Programme
- Union for the Mediterranean
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
- University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center
- University of Dundee, Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science
- University of New South Wales
- University of Utrecht
- UN-Water (*observer*)
- Véolia
- Water Authority - Israel
- Water Industry Commission for Scotland
- Water Industry Team, Scottish Government
- Water Integrity Network
- Water Research Commission
- Water Solidarity Programme
- Water Youth Network
- Waterpreneurs
- Women for Water Partnership
- World Business Council for Sustainable Development
- World Commission on Environmental Law
- World Water Council
- World Wide Fund for Nature

For further information, please :

Contact: water.governance@oecd.org

Visit: <http://www.oecd.org/cfe/regional-policy/water-governance-initiative.htm>

Explore OECD work on water governance at:

<https://oe.cd/watergovprogramme>

Twitter: [@OECD_local](https://twitter.com/OECD_local)

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