

INCREASING LOCAL MOBILIZATION ON WATER



International Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of the 8th World Water Forum

Organized in the framework of the 8th World Water Forum and held under the title of “Sharing Water”, the **International Conference of Local and Regional Authorities on water** is dedicated to water management issues and challenges faced by local and regional governments.

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18-23 March 2018
Brasília, Brazil

OBJECTIVES

1. **Increase international mobilization** of local and regional authorities for water and sanitation while advocating for more subsidiarity, with means and tools, to achieve their missions.
2. **Provide local and regional authorities opportunities to exchange** with each other, with other political actors, such as Ministers, Parliamentarians, Judges, water experts and other stakeholders to identify and develop concrete solutions to address their challenges.
3. **Help cities and regions understand and contribute** to the implementation of the water aspects of numerous international agendas, such as the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

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Water is a vital resource for which there is no substitute

Its availability varies in time and space, while moving around our planet constantly with no regard for man-made borders. This unique and irreplaceable resource must be shared between many uses and users, each of whom wants security today. At the same time, it must be managed sustainably, within its finite limits, to ensure water security tomorrow.

Local and regional authorities are on the frontline in dealing with water issues

Rapid urbanization, climate change, landscape development, ageing infrastructure, increasing population, rising living standards and recurrent pollution, all these challenges are exerting more and more pressure on water resources. As a consequence, global water security is threatened, social well-being is affected, economic growth is hampered and the safety of our environment is at risk. In this context, nurturing political will for sustainable urban water management is as important as getting the hardware right.

Many international frameworks for many challenges

In recent years, numerous global agreements have been elaborated: the Sendai Framework, the New Urban Agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement... Cities and regions often lack guidance on how to achieve them locally, contribute to nationally set targets and implement concrete solutions. Mayors will need to develop new strategies to deliver on all agreements while adopting an integrated approach to overcome political, financial, technological and behavioral barriers.

MORE INFORMATION

For questions and further information on the 5th International Conference of Local and Regional Authorities, please contact c.giscard@worldwatercouncil.org
www.worldwaterforum8.org

WHY PARTICÍPATE?

The Conference is specially designed for **mayors, governors, city officials, urban planners, operators and international organizations** who are committed to sustainable water management:

- Share your experience and gain high visibility through the 5th International Conference of Local and Regional Authorities organized during the Forum Week
- Deliver a clear and common message from local and regional authorities from around the world on today's water challenges
- Be the first to receive the practical Guide to implement water action that will contribute to the New Urban Agenda and other international frameworks

Water is a solution with multiple benefits

Often overlooked on the political agenda, water has the potential to cope simultaneously with various pressing challenges. Investing in city resilience to tackle water scarcity, access to safe drinking water and sanitation, water-related disasters, and effects of climate change in the context of rapid urbanization, will lead to tradeoffs for healthier and more prosperous communities.

The Conference reinforces decision makers' capacities to deal with local water challenges

The 5th edition of the International Conference of Local and Regional Authorities on water will be pivotal in giving local and regional leaders a unique and comprehensive framework for contributing to these global agreements through their water actions.

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