

WASH Thematic Group Meeting

MES, Yangon, Myanmar

Friday, 10 May 2013

Grassroots Policy Advocacy

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- 2. Water Policies**
- 3. Green Growth Policies**
- 4. Recommendations for Myanmar Policies**

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The First Day: Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Water, 21 Mar 2013

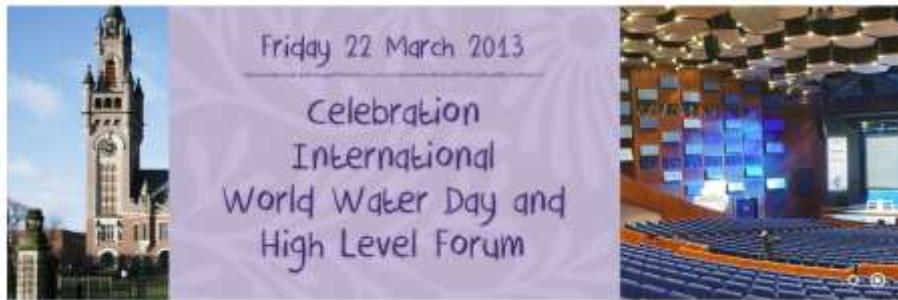


Thursday 21 March 2013
Multi-stakeholder
Dialogue on Water

Peace Palace in The Hague

- Over 250 water leaders
- Multi-stakeholders dialogue
- NGOs, Business and Religious groups
- Discussed on the outcome of UN's public consultation on water for the Post-2015 targets.

UN's Change of Heart



Difference between MDGs of 2000 and Post-2015 SDGs

- MDGs were defined in 2000 – that was top-down “2000-2015”
- Post-2015 Agenda - the UN wanted this time a bottom-up process to come to new global poverty reduction and sustainability goals - SDGs
- For this the UN started a public consultation earlier this year ⁵

Part 1

Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Three main streams:

1. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (**WASH**)
2. Integrated Water Resources Management (**IWRM**), and
3. Wastewater Management and Water Quality (**WMWQ**)

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Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda (1)

Based on participants' contributions to the Thematic Consultation on Water:

1. Water is a key determinant in all aspects of social, economic and environmental development and **must therefore be a central focus of any post-2015 framework for poverty eradication and global sustainable development.**

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Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda (2)

2. **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Water Resources Management and Wastewater Management and Water Quality are all indispensable elements for building a water-secure world.**
3. **If water issues are not addressed adequately in the Post-2015 Development Agenda this would not only mean a water crisis, but several other crises in water-dependent sectors. Water security will be of growing importance on the political agenda.**

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Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda (3)

4. **Governments play a key role in securing water for competing demands; however the quest for a water-secure world is a joint responsibility and can only be achieved through water cooperation at local, national, regional and global level and through partnerships with a multitude of stakeholders ranging from the citizens to policy makers to the private sector.**
5. **Building water-related capacity development, both at the individual and institutional levels, will be fundamental in the realization and implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.**

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Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda (4)

6. The Post-2015 Development Agenda, the world must first achieve and then build on and go beyond the MDGs and existing commitments.
7. The new agenda needs to encourage an integrated approach expressed in universally agreed goals which are **simple, measurable and able to focus policies, resources and all partners** on delivering concrete outcomes that improve people's lives and protect their future and environment.
8. The world must aim for universal access to safe and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services.

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Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda (5)

9. Based on the overwhelming participation of stakeholders during the Thematic Consultation on Water, and our own deliberations, **we, the High Level Forum, welcome the advance summary of the consultation's synthesis report and recognise that water is a prerequisite in the future development framework** in order to attain vital economic, equity, employment, health, educational, agriculture/food and energy benefits and for maintaining ecosystems services and supporting resilience to Climate Change.

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Water, Energy, and Food Nexus

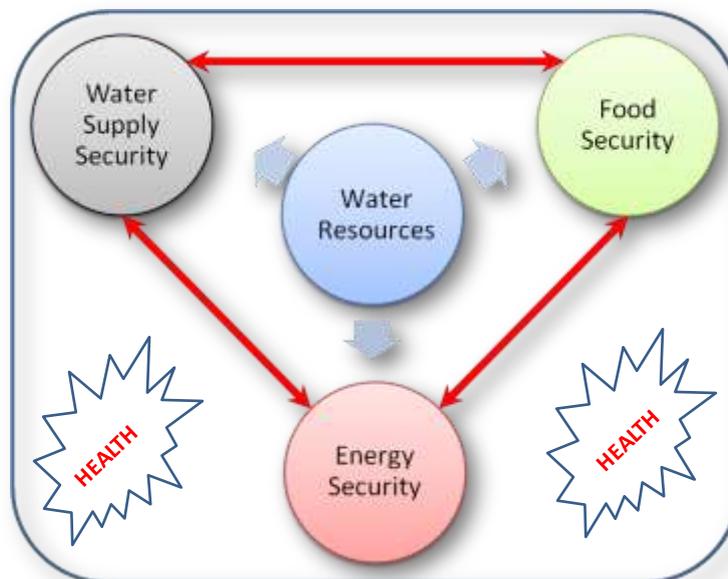
Bonn2011 Conference
 The Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus
 Solutions for the Green Economy
 16–18 November 2011



- The conference was one of the official preparation conferences of the Rio2012 Conference
- Bonn2011 brought together leaders from governments, businesses, NGOs, donors, and UN agencies to discuss the Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus

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THE WATER-ENERGY-FOOD SECURITY NEXUS



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Counteracting Climate Change Impacts

1. Climate change mitigation
2. Climate change adaptation

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“If our global **energy** habits are the focus for **mitigation**, the way we use and manage our **water** must become the focus for **adaptation**”

(Global Water Partnership, 2007)

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## Part 2 Water Policies

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## **Issues related to Environmental Sustainability**

- **Environmental flow assessments**
- **Water quality management**
- **Water quality monitoring**
- **Rivers and lakes management**
- **Groundwater Aquifers management**
- **Coastal zone management**

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## **Issues related to managing water resources**

- Watershed management
- Groundwater
- Demand management / water use efficiency
- River and lake basin organizations
- Hydrological and meteorological monitoring
- Floods and intense rains, Droughts
- Dams and reservoirs
- Peoples voluntary participation
- Free, prior and informed consent

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## Issues related to water use and service delivery

- Dedicated and non-dedicated water supply and sanitation projects
- External funds for water users associations (WUAs)
- Urban water
- Wastewater treatment and sewerage
- Subsidies for basic sanitation
- Cost recovery and water pricing in water supply and sanitation
- Impact evaluation of water supply and sanitation projects
- The health benefits of water supply and sanitation projects
- Hygiene education
- Hydropower
- Irrigation water
- Water losses

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## Issues related to Water Management Institutions

- Challenges of water policy
- Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)
- Global Program Review of the Global Water Partnership
- Private sector participation in urban WSS
- Private sector participation in rural WSS
- Decentralization in the Water Sector
- International/transboundary water institutions
- Inland water transport
- Conflict and water: Water for Peace

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## Water Policies

### General principles are:

- The principle of equity and social justice must inform the use and allocation of water.
- A common integrated perspective that include local, regional and national contexts, should govern the planning and management of water resources. It should have an environmentally sound basis.
- Water needs to be managed as a common pool community resource that is held by the state under the public trust doctrine to ensure equitable and sustainable development for all.
- Water may be treated as an economic good to promote its conservation and efficient use after basic needs such as those of drinking water and sanitation are met.
- The river basin should be considered as the basic hydrological unit.

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## Highlighted points on Water Policies

**Under the national policy framework in several countries, water needs to be managed as a community resource by states under the public trust doctrine to achieve food security, livelihood, and equitable and sustainable development for all.**

**Even the existing Act or Law may have to be amended accordingly if they give proprietary rights to a land owner on groundwater under his/her land rather than treated as a community resource.**

**WASH THEMATIC GROUP PLAYS A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN DOCUMENTING EVIDENCES THAT SUPPORT THE PUBLIC TRUST DOCTRINE**

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## Highlighted points on Water Policies (Contd.)

**At present, the national water policies make recommendations on several issues such as adapting the availability of water to climate change, water pricing, and conservation of river corridors, water bodies and infrastructure.**

### **Adaptation to Climate Change is the most important policy**

Most of the policies highlight the need to enhance capabilities of Local communities so they can adopt climate resilient technological options to increase the availability of water.

Adaptation strategies include, among others:

1. Increasing water storage in the forms of soil moisture, ponds, ground water, small and large reservoirs.
2. Enhancing the efficiency of water use
3. Stakeholder participation in land-soil-water management
4. **Incorporating coping strategies for possible Climate Changes**

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## Highlighted points on Water Policies (Contd.)

**The national water policies generally include the following points:**

- Project appraisals and environment impact assessment for water uses, particularly for industrial projects, should include analyses of **water footprints**.
- Water needs to be saved during irrigation. Methods to encourage water saving include, aligning cropping pattern with natural resource endowments, micro irrigation (drip, sprinkler, etc.), automated irrigation operation, and evaporation-transpiration reduction. Canal seepage water can also be recycled through conjunctive ground water use.

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## Highlighted points on Water Policies (Contd.)

The national water policies generally formulated in such a way that address the following key functions.

- Background
- Basic Principles
- Water Framework Law
- Adaptation to Climate Change
- Enhancing water available for use
- Demand management and water use efficiency
- Water Pricing
- Conservation of water corridors, water bodies and infrastructure
- Project planning and Implementation

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## Highlighted points on Water Policies (Contd.)

- Water supply and Sanitation
- Management of Flood and Drought
- Institutional Arrangements
- Transboundary Rivers
- Data base and Information System
- Research and Training Needs
- Implementation of National Water Policy
- The “Plan of Action” based on the National Water Policy should be prepared.

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## Part 3



# Green Growth Policies

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## Green Growth and Sustainable Development Green Growth and Water

### OECD Environmental Outlook to 2050: The Consequences of Inaction:

1. Global water demand is projected to increase by 55% between 2000 and 2050
2. Tensions could increase as domestic users, manufacturing, electricity generation and other economic sectors compete with agriculture and ecosystems for access to resources.
3. By 2050, over 40% of the global population are likely to be living in river basins under severe water stress.

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## **Green Growth policies – Green Policies**

**Also commonly known as Environmental Policy... Sustainability Policy...**

**A Green Policy is a written statement that clearly indicates the position and values of an organisation/ nation/ institute on environmental and sustainability issues.**

- 1. Measurable objectives to achieve**
- 2. Action Points - the practical steps to meet the objectives**
- 3. Identified Indicators that will be used to measure the success of the policy**
- 4. A time-table for monitoring and review.**
- 5. Being sustainable involves a commitment to balance the economic, social and environmental impact of whatever we do.**

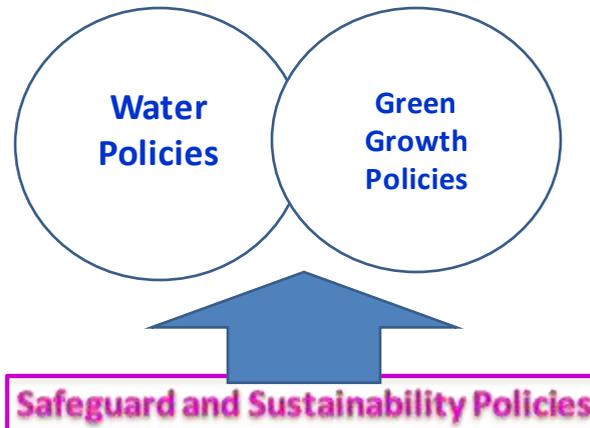
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## **Expected Outcome (direct and indirect)**

- Ecological Sustainability**
- Economic Justice**
- Democracy**
- Peace and Non-violence**
- Social Justice**
- Low carbon society**
- Low water footprint**

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## Example Practices



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## Example Practices

### A Green Building



1. Efficient Use of Water
2. Efficient use of Energy
3. Efficient use of Natural Resources
4. Good System of solid waste management
5. Rain water harvesting
6. Good drainage system
7. Good ventilation
8. Reduce pollution
9. Use healthy materials

## Part 4

# Recommendations for Myanmar Policies

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## Our Activity: Advocacy, Awareness and Implementation of IWRM

**Ayeyarwady River Basin Research Organisation  
ARBRO was established in Mid 2012**



## Policy Advocacy for a new approach in Myanmar

Alleviating water scarcity for vulnerable people requires changes in:

1. Policies
2. Laws and institutions
3. Sustainable Water Management - IWRM
4. Water control technologies
5. Good Water Governance
6. Gender Equity
7. Social Inclusiveness

*Accelerating the sustainable development and green economy people requires changes in: policies, laws and institutions, sustainable water management, water control technologies, gender equity, social inclusiveness, and good water governance.*

## Recommendations

- Seek ways and improve performance to gain financial support for new projects.
- Suggest a way to package tailored measures to show the World Bank Group (WB, IFC, etc.) and other financiers to be able to support Myanmar's urgent needs.
- Ensure that projects pay adequate attention to conserving groundwater and ensuring that the quantity extracted is sustainable.
- Address properly the coastal zone management, water related disasters and sanitation issues.
- Strengthen the supply and use of data on water to better understand the linkages among water, economic development, and project achievement.

## Recommendations

- In water resources management projects that support hydrological and meteorological monitoring systems, pay close attention to stakeholders participation, maintenance, and the appropriate choice of monitoring equipment and facilities.
- Promote innovation in use of alternative water resources and innovative technology
- Understand and abide by “Safeguards and Sustainable Policies” in the changing world.

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## Recommendations

- Work with grassroots peoples to ensure that critical water issues are adequately addressed. (WASH GROUP)
- Try to get public support for water related Research and Development (WASH GROUP)
- Building the capacity of water users. (WASH GROUP)
- improve and increase the use of appropriate waste water equipment and technologies, efficient management of nutrients and agriculture run-off. (WASH GROUP)
- Uphold the principle of “triple bottom line” for each and every project: 1. Economically Viable, 2. Environmentally Sustainable and 3. Socially Inclusive!

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## Conclusions: **Cooperation is essential**

WASH GROUP

SUMMIT CONCEPT NOTES

CASE STUDIES AND EVIDENCES

*SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES  
DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE  
(Chairperson, Vice President Two)*

Climate change, growing population, the declining quality of the water resources, groundwater depletion, and less available water to most major cities and special economic zones for industrial use are the major challenges.

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## Water is a medium for Peace

**Thank You for your time and attention!**

### Contacts

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