

Technical Committee Meeting Brief

August 27-28, 2015, Stockholm, Sweden

The purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on TEC Annual workplan for 2015, provide strategic positioning of GWP in a summit of adoption of the SDGs, and to summarize the achievements of the 6-year term of TEC Chair Dr. Mohamed Ait-Kadi. The TEC meeting was followed by a TEC+ meeting and launch of GWP publications developed in 2015.

Below is a brief summary of progress and next steps.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION REVIEW

A report commissioned by DANIDA and undertaken by a consultant (PEM report) on knowledge management and organization review was presented by TEC Chair. He emphasized that the GWP TEC was established to promote better understanding of IWRM within the GWP Network and beyond. This role should continue. The review noted that there are limitations in engagement of regional and country GWPs in the Knowledge Chain. This was partially addressed through developments in the Knowledge Chain over the past 3-4 years and will need to be assessed. A management response to the draft PEM report will be prepared by the GWPO Management Team with a contribution from TEC Chair.

GWP Chair, Ursula Schaefer-Preuss used this opportunity to thank the outgoing TEC Chair for his work. She summarised many events, conferences, and scientific workshops to which Mohamed provided keynote speeches and panel discussions. Mohamed was also instrumental in supporting GWP Chair and GWP Network in formulating messages and presenting GWP at global fora. TEC is now in a transition period awaiting the appointment of a new TEC Chair. TEC members agreed that Eelco van Beek (TEC member) will act as the interim TEC Chair during this period.

IWRM IN CONTEXT OF SDG

The SDG 6, initially limited to water and sanitation, was extended to cover the entire water cycle. It is clear that after a UN Summit in September 2015, important tasks will include work on indicators and monitoring. GWP, including TEC, is active in the SDG process by providing inputs into positioning documents. One of them is the WWC paper on IWRM presented at 7th WWF. Also, TEC Chair presented the keynote paper at the World Water Week in Stockholm on Water for Development and Development for Water. His presentation built on the report of GWP/OECD that was developed with an involvement of TEC members. A discussion followed on the need to develop GWP's value proposition (4-pages) to clearly describe GWP's role in the implementation of the SDGs and more specifically target 6.5. This work will be driven by GWPO supported by TEC.

Tushaar Shah presented a draft Background Paper on "Contextualising IWRM for water economies at different stages of evolution". The paper argues a need to move from applying a standard IWRM template, which may be used to satisfy loan agencies, and as such may not achieve the expected results, towards a more detailed and nuanced approach that demonstrated how to proceed with putting IWRM into practice.

Wouter Lincklaen Arriens presented a draft Perspectives Paper on Leadership for Water Security. This paper is designed to strengthen leadership capabilities of GWP Network in the SDG implementation – goal 6.

Actions:

- TEC to contribute to developing a position paper on role of GWP in implementing SDGs;
- To complete the Background Paper on Contextualising IWRM by end 2015;
- To complete the Perspectives Paper on Leadership for Water Security by end 2015.

THEMATIC AREAS

Workshop on Responding to the Global Food Security Challenge through Coordinated Land and Water Governance

Madiodio Niasse reported on the TEC 2-day workshop hosted by GWP SAF jointly with IWMI and co-organised with ILC. The workshop brought together a small group of people (25-30) with a broad mix of expertise, interest, gender, country, and regional diversity. The workshop presentations and discussions provided ample endorsement and illustration of the need for coordinated land and water governance especially in achieving food security as a priority. The proceedings will be published by end 2015.

Integrated Urban Water Management

GWPO is progressing the development of training modules in cooperation with several universities and the World Bank. The module was already discussed with several GWP Africa partners and will be tested with GWP Mongolia in the autumn 2015. It was suggested to develop a Background Paper on sustainable cities that will complement the training modules.

Water financing/pricing

Mike Young presented a draft of perspectives paper on the role and efficiency of water in delivering equity objectives. Many pricing and charging regimes are used to balance budgets and give insufficient emphasis to equity objectives. The proposed Perspectives Paper discusses water policy instruments to achieve equity objectives. A draft of the paper will be further discussed at the next TEC meeting in spring 2016.

Water and ecosystem services

Nicole Bernex presented a draft Perspectives Paper which discusses the links between ecosystem services and water security. Ecosystem sustainability represents a major issue for water security strategies. But one of the main constraints is the limited recognition of the key role that ecosystems play within IWRM and sustainable development. The paper attempts to address this issue by explaining the symbiotic relationships between ecosystem services and IWRM and how to practice ecosystem based management. A final paper will be discussed at the next TEC meeting in spring 2016.

LAUNCH OF GWP PUBLICATIONS

The following GWP knowledge products were launched during the online seminar. The Technical Focus Papers presented included:

- China's water resources management challenge – 'The tree red lines'
- Integrated water resources management in Eastern Africa – Coping with 'complex' hydrology'

- Integrated water resources management in Central and Eastern Europe – IWRM vs EU Water Framework Directive.

The Background Paper: 'Promoting effective trans-basin water use and management cooperation among riparian nations – from Principle to practice' was presented by Dan Tarlock. The paper is in print and will be published September 2015.

The launch of the publication was transmitted online in a form of webinar.

NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed for spring 2016.