



Memorandum of Understanding

between

Global Water Partnership Organization,

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Postal address: PO Box 24177, SE-104 51 Stockholm (Sweden)

Visitor's address: Linnégatan 87D

and

European Water Partnership, Avenue de Tervuren 216, B-1150 Brussels (Belgium)





Having a common interest in improving water resources management for sustainable development;

Desiring to promote and enhance sustainable development by fostering the improvement of IWRM practices and contributing to reaching water security, to increase awareness of water-related issues and to promote, encourage and advance knowledge sharing;

Hereby simultaneously declare the following framework for partnership:

1. Parties

This document constitutes an agreement between:

Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO hereafter),

an intergovernmental organization created in 2002 to support the sustainable development and management of water resources at all levels while maximizing economic and social welfare, represented for the implementation of this agreement by GWP Central & Eastern Europe Regional Water Partnership and GWP Mediterranean Regional Water Partnership

and

European Water Partnership (EWP hereafter)

an independent, value based, non-profit organization helping to coordinate initiatives and activities in international water issues and undertaking worldwide promotion of European expertise related to water

Hereinafter jointly referred to as the signatories.

2. Purpose

Signatories have expressed a mutual interest in providing a cooperative framework in order to work together on joint activities under this MoU on the basis of equality, reciprocity, and mutual benefit.

Signatories defined, by mutual consent, the following areas of cooperation:

 implementation of IWRM; IWRM is a long-term process to optimize the development, management and use of water resources to advance sustainable development;





- supporting integration of water into with post-2015 development framework and SDGs to address water security, advocacy on the global level and coordination with the UN and other related processes;
- contributing to information and knowledge sharing; both institutions focus on developing the capacity to share knowledge and to promote a dynamic communications culture, so as to support better water management and empower stakeholders to take action towards IWRM implementation;
- contributing to addressing the challenges of climate change adaptation and water, climate change belongs to the most severe long-term threat to development facing this and future generations;
- involving different sectors (including private one) and other relevant stakeholders into water management to address the nexus dimension and ensure sufficient interaction among different parties and promote water stewardship approaches;
- promoting water innovations and implementing practical solutions to increase water security and overall sustainability;
- contributing to the EU water policies and initiatives, such as the EU Water Framework Directive, European Innovation Partnership on Water and the European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument and the EU Water Initiative.

3. Cooperation

The cooperation will be based on openness and transparency. The following *elements* create the basis for cooperation:

- **Experience:** whereas the GWP Network has long-standing experience in IWRM at different levels world-wide, the EWP focuses on linking the public and private sectors at the European level. Through this cooperation exchanges between bottom up and top down experiences will be facilitated.
- **Knowledge:** Among others the partners of the GWP Network have expertise and long term knowledge on promoting good policies and practices in IWRM as well as in developing and implementing regional actions. EWP has built up experience on creating events and projects at a high level in Europe. To realize the Water Vision for Europe practice needs to be linked to both policy and vision.
- Network: The GWP Network is active within in more than 86 countries and within 13 regions, including the regions of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the Mediterranean. EWP is active in the EU, and coordinates the network of National Water Partnerships that aims to function as an SME support system and a spinning wheel for cross national matchmaking. This will be done by creating more opportunities for SMEs to successfully bring innovative water technologies to the (international) markets. Connecting the organizations and thus their networks will enhance the reach of the multi-stakeholder approach that is envisioned by both parties.



Signatories are willing to cooperate on:

- organization of and participation in meetings, conferences, symposia, workshops, courses, and exhibitions on fields of interest to both signatories
- identification, development and implementation of joint research and projects, including the exchange of their results
- facilitation of implementation of the global and EU water policies and legislation. by bringing key stakeholders together for dialogues and other activities at all levels from regional to national and local levels in order to create public awareness and shared ownership
- coordination of strategic messaging and advancing water security agenda on different levels
- sharing experience in awareness-raising, capacity building, knowledge exchange and water governance
- sharing experience on addressing climate change issues and contributing to the European Dialogue on Climate Change Adaptation and Water
- promoting water stewardship approaches and European Water Stewardship Initiative

All collaboration between GWP and EWP, where inputs in the form of staff and/or financial resources are required, will be based upon specific separate agreements between the signatories. Such agreements will provide detailed information on tasks to be performed, outputs to be produced, exchange of information and financial conditions for the collaboration.

The points of contact from each side may meet whenever required to discuss the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

4. Accuracy of information

Signatories acknowledge that they cannot be held legally responsible as to the accuracy or completeness of the exchanged information. Signatories agree that they and their Representatives shall have no liability to the other signatory or to any of its Representatives as a result of the use of the information by the signatory receiving the information.

5. General provisions

This Memorandum of Understanding does not create any legally binding obligations, confer any rights, or supersede domestic laws. It is expressly declared that this Memorandum of Understanding and the relationships between the Signatories do not constitute a joint venture, agency, or contract of employment between them.





Any activity that implies a contractual relationship will be specified under a separate contract.

Each Signatory may disclose publicly the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Notwithstanding the above, both Signatories reserve the right to act independently where either institution believes it is within their best interest.

Both Signatories reserve the right to their own legal institutional dependence.

Any controversy arising as a result of or in connection with this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably between the Parties. In case an amicable settlement cannot be reached, this Memorandum of Understanding can be terminated by either signatory giving three months written notice to the other signatory of its intention to terminate.

6. Effective date, validity and termination

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect upon signature.

It shall remain in force for three years unless terminated earlier by a three months written notice from either party.

In the event of termination, the joint activities will be completed in accordance with the specific agreements concluded between GWP and EWP with regard to those activities.

7. Contact Persons

Contact person for the EWP: Mr. Friedrich Barth, Vice-Chairman, EWP Mr. Sergiy Moroz, Policy Director, EWP

Contact person for GWPO: Dr. Ania Grobicki Ms. Natalia Alexeeva

Contact persons for GWP:
Ms. Martina Zupan, GWP CEE Chair
Mr. Michael Scoullos, GWP Mediterranean Chair





8. Signatures

Signed:

Date:

Ania Grobicki Executive Secretary GWPO Signed:

Date:

Friedrich Barth Vice-Chairman

EWP