



International Conference

“WATER PARTNERSHIPS TOWARDS MEETING THE CLIMATE CHALLENGE”

Date: January 6th and 7th 2011

Venue: Hotel Taj Connemara, Chennai, TN, India

Organized by



CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR CHANGE

Partner: 

Associates: TN-IAMWARM GoTN, GTZ and GoI

Knowledge Partners: IIT Madras, RPW Brussels, PSIRU London,
IWMI Sri Lanka and NUS Singapore.

**His Excellency Dr APJ Abdul Kalam
will deliver the inaugural address**

Water is the climate challenge and it poses a major risk for the water security of the citizens of India. The Challenge varies across States and is eliciting a wide range of responses from the stakeholders at different levels. Unfortunately there is no structural framework of sharing knowledge on the water challenges as well as the problem solving experiences of utilities across the country. In this context the UN General Assembly has mandated the UN agencies to form United Nations Global Water Operators Partnerships (UN-GWOPA). In the context of climate change and challenge to meet MDGs, it is intended to initiate a knowledgesharing and founding conference-cum-workshop on January 6th and 7th, 2011 at Chennai, India.

The conference aims to establish a Water Organizations Partnerships platform to help and share problem solving knowledge amongst the various Water organizations, utilities, departments and stakeholders of India.

Organizers

The conference is organized by the Centre of Excellence for Change (CEC) along with UNICEF India & support of the World Bank assisted TN-IAMWARM Project GoTN & GoI.

Themes

- Water Security - Convergence, Concerns and Challenges
- Partnerships & the WOPs platform -Knowledge sharing towards problem solving
- Water & Climate Change -Adaptation & Vulnerability to Climate change
- Water Governance & Management -Sustained Solutions with community collaboration
- International Experience Sharing

The Objectives

- To share best practices, concepts & international experiences, especially in the light of climate change.
- To create awareness about the Water Organizations Partnership (WOP) concept as an alternative collaborative approach for problem identification and resolution to achieve the MDGs.
- To initiate and establish an all India WOPs platform involving State Utilities, Academia and Civil Society for permanent match making exercise between the problem resolution seeker and the best practitioner. In the next level to extend this partnership across South Asia Region.
- To provide a platform for dialogue between International and Indian utilities creating opportunities of long term relationships and twinning at a macro level or in specific areas of interest.

Dignitaries

- Shri Arun Kumar Misra IAS., Secretary DDWS GoI
- Shri Dhruv Vijai Singh, IAS., Secretary, MoWR GoI*
- Ms Maude Barlow, Senior Advisor on Water to UN, Recipient of Right Livelihood Award.
- Shri Vijaya Bhaskar, IAS., Joint Secretary, DDWS, GoI
- Shri Sudhir Garg, IAS., Joint Secretary, MoWR, GoI
- Mr Pieter Bult, Deputy Country Director, UNDP.
- Ms Lizette Burgers, WES Chief, UNICEF India.
- Shri Mihir Shah, Member, Planning Commission*
- Mr David Boys, UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water*

**to be confirmed*

International Experts

- Dr David Hall, Director PSIRU, Greenwich University, London
- Dr David Barkin, Prof., Yale University. Connecticut, USA
- Ms K.Satoko, RPW Network, Brussels, Belgium
- Prof. Buboy, University of S.Vyasya, Philippines.
- Dr Kurt Fedra, Environment & Water Specialist, Gumpoldskirchen, Austria
- Prof. Asanga Gunawansa, National University of Singapore.
- Ms Mary Ann, Global South, Philippines.
- International Water Utilities

Expected Outcomes

- WoPs platform, partnerships and match-making process will be initiated amongst the stake-holders.
- Sharing problem solving knowledge across sectors, geographies and stake-holders
- Collaboration with International Institutions & Water Utilities.
- The conference will conclude with an operational plan for Water Organizations Partnership in India. The operational plan, apart from functional modalities, will have a shared vision, objectives and action plan.



Delegates

Secretaries of the States, Heads of Water Organizations and HODs of the State Departments.

We appreciate two participants from each State sector.

Accommodation, along with conference lunch and dinner, is provided for the invited delegates at Taj Connemara Hotel, Chennai.

Partnership Development Market Place

Match Making

The Conference cum Workshop design has “Development Market” (a place where one can exhibit their respective success stories through innovative methods). The participating delegates representing public organizations and civil society organizations can use the opportunity to show case their successes & share their problems so as to undertake a match making exercise linking the problem / challenges with the best practices in that area. Select Best Practices will be taken up for presentation in the Conference Sessions.

S.No	Areas of Expertise	Problem Areas
1.	Community Collaboration – WUAs, Participatory Irrigation Management, Village Water Security Plan Panchayats etc.	Community Collaboration
2.	Water Management & Governance – Regulation, Policy Reform, Institutional reform, Change Management.	Water Management & Governance
3.	Sustainability of Water – Revival of Water Bodies, Water Productivity & Efficiency, Recharge, Recycling waste water, Rain Water Harvesting.	Sustainability of Water
4.	Technical – Design, IT/GIS/SCADA*, Leaks & Non Revenue Water, Measurement, Decision Support System.	Technical
5.	Any other	Any other

*(SCADA - Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition)

The States are requested to send information pertaining to their successes & problems on the above areas so as to enable the conference secretariat to create a data base for match making the best practitioners with the challenges. The details may be furnished before 17-12-2010.

- To upload the above information directly please visit conference website www.waterpartnerasia.com/wops
- Send softcopy to waterandchange@gmail.com
- Send hardcopy to Centre of Excellence for Change MDPU, PWD Complex, Chepauk, Chennai – 5. TN

Important Dates

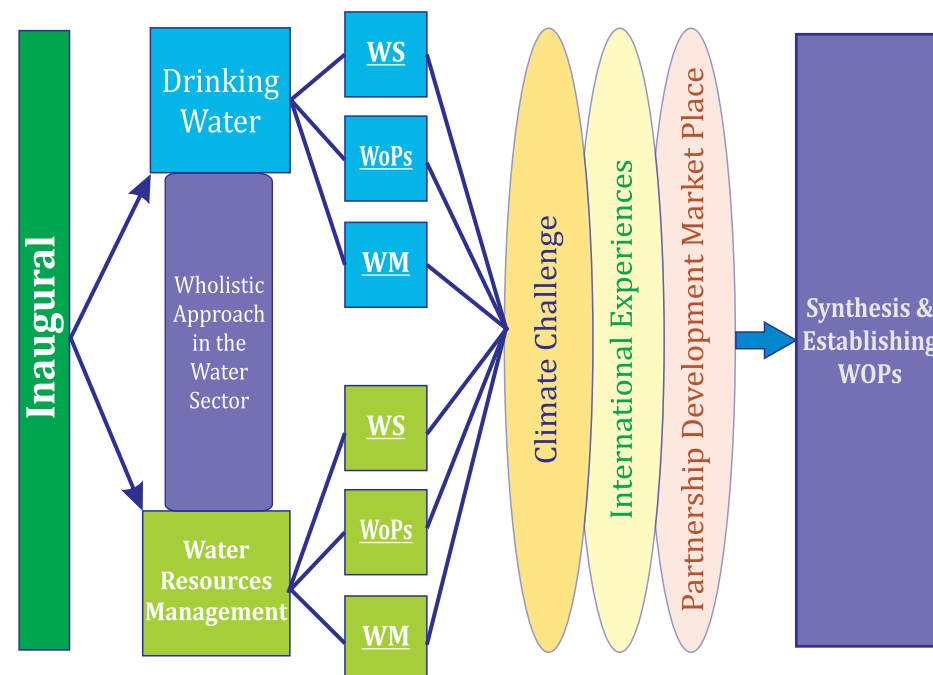
15th December, 2010 - Submission of Match Making Database

15th December, 2010- Submission of best practices for the Conference Compendium

17th December, 2010 - Intimation of Participation.

31st December, 2010 - Confirmation of travel plans

Conference Framework



WS: Water Security, WoPs: Water Operators Partnerships, WM: Water Management

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

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