



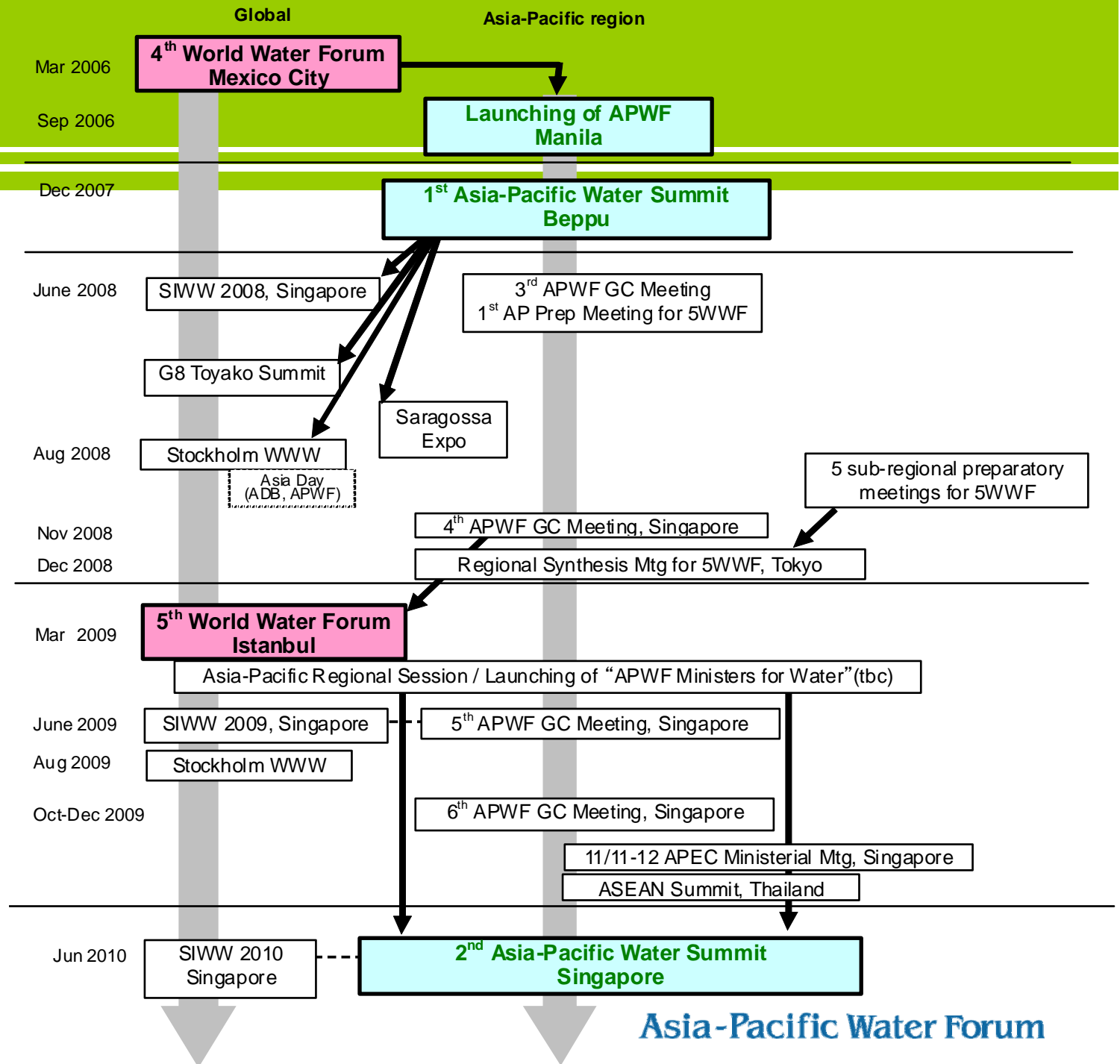
*Preliminary Draft Concept of
Asia-Pacific Regional Document*

Asia-Pacific Water Forum

**APWF Secretariat
15/12/2008
Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting for
the 5th World Water Forum**



Where
we are
now





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Asia-Pacific Regional Document : **-Progress Report of the Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF)-**

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Countries, Regions and Sub-regions

1. Afghanistan
2. Armenia
3. Australia
4. Azerbaijan
5. Bangladesh
6. Bhutan
7. Brunei
8. Cambodia
9. China
10. Cook Islands
11. DPR Korea
12. Fiji
13. Georgia
14. India
15. Indonesia
16. Iran
17. Israel
18. Japan
19. Kazakhstan
20. Kiribati
21. Republic of Korea
22. Kyrgyzstan
23. Laos
24. Malaysia
25. Maldives
26. Marshall Island
27. Micronesia
28. Mongolia
29. Myanmar
30. Nauru
31. Nepal
32. New Zealand
33. Niue
34. Pakistan
35. Palau
36. Papua New Guinea
37. Philippines
38. Samoa
39. Singapore
40. Solomon Islands
41. Sri Lanka
42. Tajikistan
43. Thailand
44. East Timor
45. Tonga
46. Turkmenistan
47. Tuvalu
48. Uzbekistan
49. Vanuatu
50. Vietnam



(alphabetic order)

Asia-Pacific Water Forum



Some Key Factors

- Water is intricately linked to humanity's critical challenges, namely, climate change, food security, health and economic growth.
- The Asian continent supports 60% of the world's population with only 36% of the world's water resources.^[1]
- 655 million people are still without safe drinking water and 1.9 billion without access to basic water sanitation in our region.^[2]
- Between 2001 and 2005, 62,000 people were killed annually by water related disasters in the Asia-Pacific region (compared to 13,000 people killed by such disasters in the rest of the world).^[3]

^[1] The United Nations World Development Report

^[2] Meeting the MDG Drinking Water and Sanitation Target: The Urban and Rural Challenge of the Decade

^[3] EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database – www.em-dat.net – Université Catholique de Louvain



Some Key Factors

- 524 million, or 61%, of the world's 854 million malnourished are in the region.^[4] Agriculture consumes over 80% of the region's renewable water resources and faces the challenge of doubling food production by 2050.
- Investing in water is to invest in poverty reduction: \$1 spent on improving water supplies and sanitation buys the poor at least \$6 in time and health savings.^[5]
- In some of the major breadbaskets of Asia, such as the Punjab in India and the North China Plain, water tables are falling 2 to 3 meters a year^[6], with serious consequences for agriculture and food security. Other critical systems, the tropical deltas, face degradation, sea level rise and water shortage. Water productivity of food production is low overall.

^[4] The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2006 <http://www.fao.org/docrep/009/a0750e/a0750e00.htm>

^[5] Asia Water Watch 2015

^[6] The United Nations World Water Development Report 2



Some Key Factors

- Glaciers in the Himalayas are receding faster than in any other part of the world.^[7]
- Asia's rivers average 20 times more lead than the rivers in the industrialized world, and average 50 times more bacteria from human feces than WHO guidelines allow.^[8]
- Tuvalu has become one of the first countries to relocate some of its citizens because of rising sea levels.

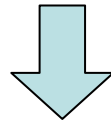
^[7] Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,
<http://www.realcities.com/mld/kwashington/17212911.htm>

^[8] Kristof, N.D. 1997. New York Times 11-28-97, "Across Asia, a Pollution Disaster Hovers," p. A1
<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/itgic/0399/ijge/gj-07b.htm>



Sub-regional Strategies

In consult with stakeholders through the sub-regional meeting and the Virtual Meeting Space (VMS) of the 5th World Water Forum



- Introduction
- Main Challenges and Actions
 - Water issues and actions to address them
 - Major changes after the 4th World Water Forum
 - Progress on political commitments
- Way Forward



Concrete Initiatives

PRIORITY THEME A	
Financing Water and Sanitation and Strengthening Capacity Development	ADB, JICA
PRIORITY THEME B	
Regional Knowledge Hub for Water-related Disaster Risk Reduction	ICHARM
Climate Change, Glaciers, and Water Resources in the Himalayan Region	ICIMOD
Pacific Water Knowledge Hub	SOPAC
PRIORITY THEME C	
Asia Pacific community practice on environmental flows for water resources management at policy, river basin and local levels	IUCN, NARBO, IWMI
Re-inventing irrigation and agricultural water governance in the Asia Pacific to reach the MDGs	FAO, IWMI



Concrete Initiatives

KEY RESULT AREA 1	
Initial Knowledge Hubs	Singapore PUB, UNESCO
Asia-Pacific Water Museum	NSM of Thailand, UNESCO, JWF
KEY RESULT AREA 2	
Capacity Building Hubs and Policy Support for Increased Local Capacities	UN-HABITAT in collaboration with STREAMS
KEY RESULT AREA 3	
Asian Water & Development Outlook	ADB
Asia-Pacific Water Documentary	ABU, ADB, JWF
KEY RESULT AREA 4	
Towards the Establishment of Ministers for Water Initiative	UNESCAP



Concrete Initiatives

OTHER INITIATIVES

International Year of Sanitation 2008 in Asia and the Pacific	UNDESA, UNESCAP, JBIC and ADB
Practical IWRM Guideline	JWA
World Sanitation Project Map: Sanimap	JWF
A Call to Action: Asia-Pacific Businesses to Address the Water Challenge	UN Global Compact
Aral Sea Basin Public Water Council	EC IFAS, ICWC, ICSD, GWP CACENA



Conclusion, Key Messages and Future Directions for Water Security

Water Financing and Capacity Development

- Define policies that target the specific needs and opportunities of the poor for enhancing human security through improved access to water supply and sanitation
- Broaden the range of technology and management choices to include the development of innovative, low-cost technical choices that can be implemented in poor communities
- Establish more effective and diverse credit and financial management systems that are accessible and affordable to the poor; and develop regulatory regimes that encourage investments by the private sector, and especially by local small-scale entrepreneurs
- Carry out reforms that include capacity building, introduction of more appropriate management systems, and more effective institutional coordination between all players



Conclusion, Key Messages and Future Directions for Water Security

Water-Related Disaster Management

- Integrate water-related Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into national development plans
- Recognize the importance of IWRM for water-related DRR
- Establish national and local goals/targets for water-related DRR
- Develop preparedness indices for water-related DRR
- Develop water-related disaster warning systems and human capacities



Conclusion, Key Messages and Future Directions for Water Security

Water for Development and Ecosystems

- Implement good governance at the basin scale
- Adopt practical tools to improve economic, social and environmental outcomes of water management
- Re-invent and invest in agricultural water management to raise the productivity of water and decrease the environmental footprint of agricultural production
- Protect and restore urban environments
- Prepare for climate change impacts on water availability and adopt mitigation and adaptation strategies that provide benefits now



Conclusion, Key Messages and Future Directions for Water Security

Recommended Guiding Principles to accelerate progress

- Decentralization with empowerment
- Partnership approach between local authorities, civil society (NGOs and community-based groups) and different service providers (public and private)
- Capacity development as an important area of investment
- Building knowledge platforms and supporting initiatives to accelerate progress



Further Schedule

Key Dates

- Informal Working Group Meeting, Dec 16, 2008
- Submission of the draft version of regional document to the Forum Secretariat, Dec 26, 2008
- Draft version to be reviewed by the Forum Secretariat and uploaded on VMS by Jan. 15, 2009
- Submission of the final version to the Forum Secretariat, Jan. 31, 2009