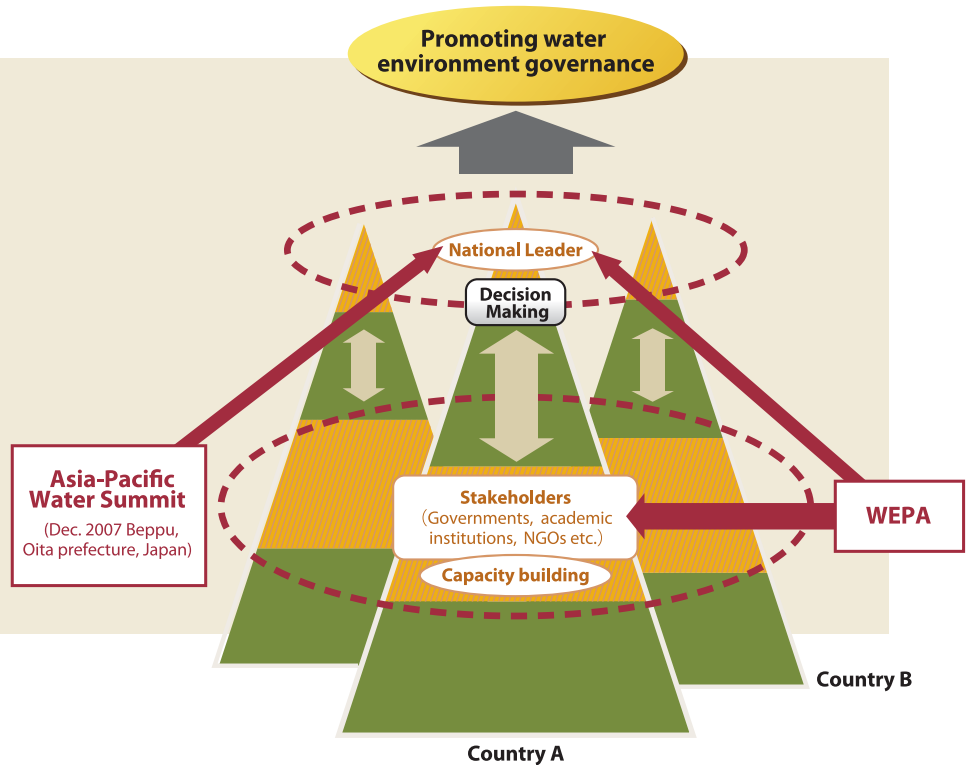


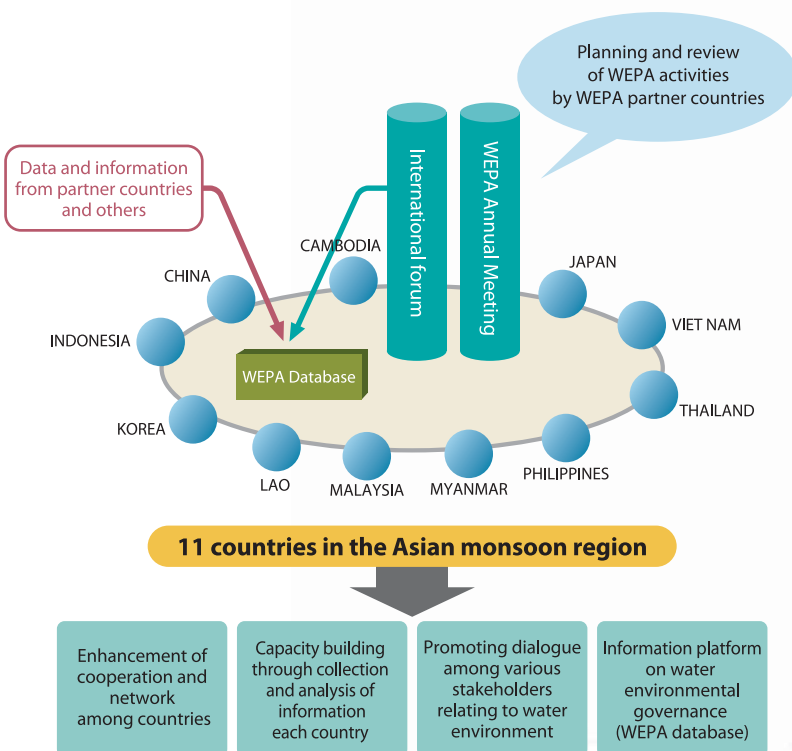
Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA)

Sound water environment is needed to ensure safe water access and sound environment. However, many Asian countries are faced with serious water pollution problems, which become a barrier to sustainable development in those countries.

Recognizing that effective water environmental governance is essential to solve such problems, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan launched the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA) in 2004.



To promote effective environmental governance, WEPA activities are implemented under the partnership of 11 Asian countries, aiming to:



- enhance information exchange and cooperation on water environmental management among WEPA partner countries;
- promote dialogue and explore networks among governmental officials, researchers, NGOs and CBOs, and other relevant stakeholders;
- develop capacity of relevant stakeholders working for water environmental conservation through data collection and analysis, and
- provide a platform of information and knowledge on water environmental governance in the region as a form of WEPA database.

