



International Hydrological Programme

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IMPLEMENTATION OF IHP-VII : FOCUS FOR 2008-2009

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

SUMMARY

This document includes an outline of the proposed Implementation Plan for the IHP-VII. It gives an overview of the inputs and indications of interest related to the themes and focal areas received from the IHP National Committees. It sets out the methods in which the National Committees commitments to the implementation of the Themes and Focal areas will be collected and recorded.

The Bureau may wish to comment on the approach being adopted by the Secretariat and to provide recommendations to foster the participation of IHP National Committees.

INTRODUCTION

1. This document contains the outline for the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Phase VII of the IHP with a focus for 2008-2009. The Strategic Plan was endorsed, in principle, by the 17th session of the of the IHP Intergovernmental Council. The Council authorized the Bureau of the IHP to consolidate the draft with the comments made in the course of the Council debate and with the later consultations with Member States, and to commence the implementation arrangements for the period 2008 – 2013 with a focus on the 2008-2009 biennium.

2. The 40th session of the IHP Bureau (June 2007) approved the Strategic Plan and requested the Secretariat to circulate the endorsed Strategic Plan to the members of the IHP Council to receive an out-of-session approval by 1st September 2007. The Strategic Plan was approved by the majority of the Members of the IHP Council (IHP/Bur-XL/11).

3. After the approval of the Strategic Plan aiming at starting the preparation of the Implementation Plan for 2008-2009, the Secretariat prepared a standard proforma table that was circulated (letter SC/HYD/456 of 12 December) to the IHP National Committees for their contribution.

4. In light of the above, and taking into account the developments within UNESCO, the Secretariat has started the definition of the arrangement for the Implementation Plan for 2008-2009, as noted above, and set out in the following sections.

5. The information provided in this document is complemented by those included in several other Bureau documents, *inter alia*, IHP/Bur-XLI/6 (Report on the 34th session of the General Conference), IHP/Bur-XLI/12 (implementation of the strategy of category 1 and 2 water-related institutes and centres), IHP/Bur-XLI/14 (IHP-related extrabudgetary activities), and IHP/ Bur-XLI/20 (IHP's involvement in the 5th World Water Forum).

PREPARATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

6. The regular budget allocated for execution of the 2008-2009 biennium of the IHP-VII Phase was approved at the 34th session of the General Conference (October 2007). Following the General Conference decision (Major Programme II – Natural Sciences 34 C/5), the programme is structured under Main Lines of Action, Actions and Activities. The IHP-VII represents the freshwater component of the Main Line of Action 1: Fostering policies, technical capacity-building, research, networking, education and international cooperation in the fields of water, ecological and earth sciences for enhancing societal responses; and of the Main Line of Action 3: Promoting science, knowledge and education for disaster preparedness and mitigation, and enhancing national and regional coping capacities, including through support for the development of risk reduction networks and monitoring and assessment measures, such as tsunami early warning systems. The IHP-VII Themes and Focal Areas correspond respectively to the Actions and Activities of the UNESCO Programme (34 C/5).

7. Given the constraints imposed on the number of activities to be adopted in the workplan, and the need to phase out the start of some IHP-VII activities, the IHP-VII workplan for 2008-2009 was consolidated into 16 activities plus one devoted to the institutional activities, such as the IHP Council (Activity 125) (Annex 1) instead of the 23 Focal Areas that are considered in the IHP-VII Strategic Plan (Annex 2). These include on-going activities, such as the cross-cutting projects and the international initiatives (HELP, FRIEND, ISI, PCCP, ISARM, WHYMAP, JIHP). Each activity represents one IHP-VII Focal Area (FA), except in the case of FA 3.1 and 3.2 which have been merged into one activity and of FA 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 which have also been merged into one activity. Three Focal

Areas, FA 2.3 “Governance strategies that enhance affordability and assure financing”, FA 3.3 “Risk-based environmental management and accounting” and FA 4.4 “Achieving sustainable rural water management” have not been included yet in the workplans for 2008-2009 as it was judged more appropriate to start their implementation in 2010-2011.

8. Proposals, priorities and offers of contribution already received from some of the IHP National Committees are listed in the Annexes. The formulation of the IHP-VII Implementation Plan for 2008-2013 should allow some flexibility such as the possibility to include new partners, introduce new elements in the activities, address newly selected situations and emerging issues, and to take into account the evolving water sector framework. The IHP National Committees could then provide more detailed indications and proposals, establish focal points for the themes and the focal areas and provide indications for experts that could provide guidance at the technical level if they wish to take the responsibility for the execution of activities related to the themes and focal areas. They should also confirm in which activities they wish to participate and when they are ready to offer to take a lead position or to coordinate the activity and the methodology to implement the activities.

9. UNESCO water-related chairs and category 1 and 2 institute and centres were involved in the IHP-VII preparation and will take part in the execution of the Implementation Plan (IHP/Bur-XLI/12).

10. Consideration should be given to leverage support from cooperating agencies and other intergovernmental entities. For example it would be beneficial to strengthen the partnership established with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) that could provide real benefits to the Member States. The GEF, being one of the most relevant multilateral donors in the field of global environmental gains, is an important partner for the IHP. Other examples of extrabudgetary support, including bilateral cooperation, are provided in the document IHP/Bur-XLI/14.

PROFORMA'S FOR THE RESPONSES FROM MEMBER STATES

11. The Secretariat will compile future contributions; inclusive of all Member State actions as well of those of the UNESCO's water-related Chairs and category 1 and 2 Institutes and Centres, UNESCO HQ and Field Offices. Proforma tables have been circulated (Letter SC/HYD/456 of 12 December 2007) to the IHP National Committees, UNESCO's Chairs, category 1 and 2 Institutes and Centres, the UN system, IGOs and NGOs partners for confirmation, completion and return to the Secretariat. The output of these consultations will be consolidated and reported on at the 18th session of the IHP Council.

MONITORING, TRACKING AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TOOL

12. The IHP-VII strategic plan is reflected in the workplan for 2008-2009 following UNESCO's norms. The house-wide management software SISTER will be used to monitor the implementation of the programme, define results and outcomes. The Secretariat is also currently redesigning the IHP web portal and its layout. This is expected to reflect more clearly the themes, focal areas, and activities of the IHP-VII. The Secretariat will also prepare a simple tool that will complement the web based presentation of the achievements and products of IHP-VII as a complement to the SISTER system and to provide initial means for information processing.

ANNEX I

UNESCO- 34 C/5

**Division of Water Sciences (HYD) Actions and Activities for Workplan 2008-2009
Based on the Core Programme Themes of the Seventh Phase of the IHP (2008-2013):
WATER DEPENDENCIES: SYSTEMS UNDER STRESS AND SOCIETAL RESPONSES**

MLA1 – Freshwater Component

**ACTION 11: ADAPTING TO THE IMPACTS OF GLOBAL CHANGES ON RIVER BASINS AND
AQUIFER SYSTEMS**

Activity 111 - Global changes and feedback mechanisms of hydrological processes in stressed systems

Activity 112 - Climate change impacts on the hydrological cycle, and consequent impact on water resources

Activity 113 - Managing groundwater systems' response to global changes

Activity 114 - Global change and climate variability in arid and semi-arid regions

ACTION 12: STRENGTHENING WATER GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Activity 121 - Cultural, societal and scientific responses to the crises in water governance

Activity 122 - Capacity development for improved governance; enhanced legislation for wise stewardship of water resources

Activity 123 - Managing water as a shared responsibility across geographical and social boundaries

Activity 124 - Addressing the water energy nexus in basin-wide water resources

Activity 125 - Institutional Capacity Building and Interagency and Partnership Cooperation

ACTION 13: ECOHYDROLOGY FOR ECOSYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY

Activity 31-32 - Promoting ecohydrology as a transdisciplinary approach for the sustainable management of water resources

Activity 133 - Groundwater dependent ecosystems identification, inventory and assessment

ACTION 14: WATER AND LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Activity 141 - Protecting water quality for sustainable livelihoods and poverty alleviation

Activity 142 - Augmenting scarce water resources especially in SIDS

Activity 143 - Achieving sustainable urban water management

ACTION 15: WATER EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Activity 151 – 152-153 - Water education for sustainable development

Activity 154 - Water education for communities, stakeholders and mass-media professionals

MLA3 – Freshwater Component

**ACTION 11: HYDRO-HAZARDS, HYDROLOGICAL EXTREMES AND WATER-RELATED
DISASTERS**

Activity 111 - Hydro-hazards, hydrological extremes and water-related disasters

IHP PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES WITHIN THE 2008-2009 WORKPLAN ACTIVITIES

MLA 1:

**ACTION 11: ADAPTING TO THE IMPACTS OF GLOBAL CHANGES
ON RIVER BASINS AND AQUIFER SYSTEMS**

- Activity 111 - (including **ISI**)
- Activity 112 - (including **HELP, FRIEND**)
- Activity 114 - (including **WHYMAP, JIIHP**)
- Activity 115 - (including **GWADI**)

**ACTION 12: STRENGTHENING WATER GOVERNANCE FOR
SUSTAINABILITY**

- Activity 123 (including **PCCP, ISARM**)

ACTION 14: WATER AND LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS

- Activity 143 (including **UWM**)

ANNEX II

Overview of the Core Programme Themes of the Seventh Phase of the IHP (2008-2013)

WATER DEPENDENCIES: SYSTEMS UNDER STRESS AND SOCIETAL RESPONSES

Theme 1: ADAPTING TO THE IMPACTS OF GLOBAL CHANGES ON RIVER BASINS AND AQUIFER SYSTEMS

Focal area 1.1: Global changes and feedback mechanisms of hydrological processes in stressed systems

Focal area 1.2: Climate change impacts on the hydrological cycle and consequent impact on water resources

Focal area 1.3: Hydro-hazards, hydrological extremes and water-related disasters

Focal area 1.4: Managing groundwater systems' response to global changes

Focal area 1.5: Global change and climate variability in arid and semi-arid regions

Theme 2: STRENGTHENING WATER GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Focal area 2.1: Cultural, societal and scientific responses to the crises in water governance

Focal area 2.2: Capacity development for improved governance; enhanced legislation for wise stewardship of water resources

Focal area 2.3: Governance strategies that enhance affordability and assure financing

Focal area 2.4: Managing water as a shared responsibility across geographical and social boundaries

Focal area 2.5: Addressing the water-energy nexus in basin-wide water resources

Theme 3: ECOHYDROLOGY FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Focal area 3.1: Ecological measures to protect and remediate catchments process

Focal area 3.2: Improving ecosystem quality and services by combining structural solutions with ecological biotechnologies

Focal area 3.3: Risk-based environmental management and accounting

Focal area 3.4: Groundwater-dependent ecosystems identification, inventory and assessment

Theme 4: WATER AND LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Focal area 4.1: Protecting water quality for sustainable livelihoods and poverty alleviation

Focal area 4.2: Augmenting scarce water resources especially in SIDS

Focal area 4.3: Achieving sustainable urban water management

Focal area 4.4: Achieving sustainable rural water management

Theme 5: WATER EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Focal area 5.1: Tertiary water education and professional development

Focal area 5.2: Vocational education and training of water technicians

Focal area 5.3: Water education in schools

Focal area 5.4: Water education for communities, stakeholders and mass-media professionals

Cross-cutting programmes: HELP, FRIEND

Associated programmes: International Flood Initiative (IFI) - International Sediment Initiative (ISI) - From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential (PCCP) - Joint International Isotope Hydrology Programme (JIHP) - Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management (ISARM) - Global Network on Water and Development Information in Arid Lands (G-WADI) - Urban Water Management Programme (UWMP) - World Hydrogeological Map (WHYMAP)-
Education, Training and Capacity Building across all the themes

ANNEX III

IHP National Committees Inputs and indications of interest related to Themes and Focal Areas

IHP-VII Themes and Focal areas	Inputs and indications of interest related to Themes and Focal Areas, received from the IHP National Committees as a result of the consultations that have been undertaken in: February and June 2004, April 2005, April 2006, July 2006, September 2006 and 2007
Theme 1: ADAPTING TO THE IMPACTS OF GLOBAL CHANGES ON RIVER BASINS AND AQUIFER SYSTEMS	
Focal area 1.1	<p>Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, Iceland, Germany, Finland and other Nordic countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperation is envisaged to further the necessary and fundamental research for adapting to global changes impacts on the Arctic Hydrological Cycle. Develop activities in the framework of the Arctic-Hydra programme within the framework of the International Polar Year 2007-2008 (IPY). On the basis of this programme cooperation on this field of research will be continued under the IHP-VII period. <p>Iceland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of the impacts of global changes on coastal zones, small islands, present permafrost zones and glaciated areas, and megacities. - Evaluation of possible influences of global change on their temporal and regional occurrences and magnitude include e.g. changes in the position and movement of major weather systems as well as changes in snow melt. <p>Canada and Nordic Countries, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Eastern Africa sub-region, Egypt, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Germany, Finland, Sweden, Iceland, Ireland , Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Madagascar, Nepal, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Spain, Sudan.</p>
Focal area 1.2	Eastern Africa sub-region, Australia, Bulgaria, Congo, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland and a group of Nordic countries, Jordan, Namibia, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Thailand.
Focal area 1.3	Egypt, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Spain, Sudan.
Focal area 1.4	Australia, Canada, Egypt, Haiti, Hungary, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyz Republic, Kuwait, Mauritius, Mexico, Norway, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia .
Focal area 1.5	Egypt , India, Italy, Israel, Jordan, Namibia, Pakistan, Spain.
Theme 2: STRENGTHENING WATER GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY	
Focal area 2.1	Australia, Bulgaria, Dominican Republic, Eastern Africa sub-region, Hungary, Mauritius, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Spain.
Focal area 2.2	Brazil, Bulgaria, El Salvador, Egypt, Haiti, Kuwait, Ireland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, Tunisia.
Focal area 2.3	Australia, Chile, Finland, Eastern Africa sub-region, Haiti, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia.
Focal area 2.4	Australia, Eastern Africa sub-region, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, Hungary, Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, Latin American Countries (ISARM of the Americas), Lesotho, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Romania , Russia, Tunisia.

Focal area 2.5	Italy, Nepal.
Theme 3: ECOHYDROLOGY FOR SUSTAINABILITY	
Focal area 3.1	Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Eastern Africa sub-region, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, México, Kuwait, Thailand.
Focal area 3.2	Australia, Eastern Africa sub-region , Korea, Lesotho.
Focal area 3.3	Australia, Jordan, Ireland, Malaysia, Norway.
Focal area 3.4	Australia, El Salvador, Italy, Saudi Arabia.
Theme 4: WATER AND LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS	
Focal area 4.1	Australia, Canada, Chile, El Salvador, Eastern Africa sub-region, Haiti, Jordan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mauritius, México, Moldova, Pakistan, Peru, Thailand.
Focal area 4.2	Australia, El Salvador, Egypt, Haiti, India, Jordan, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Tunisia.
Focal area 4.3	Australia, Eastern Africa sub-region, Japan, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia.
Focal area 4.4	El Salvador.
Theme 5: WATER EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	
	Australia, Bolivia, Chile, Dominican republic, Eastern Africa sub-region, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Haiti, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sudan.