



# OECD PRINCIPLES ON WATER GOVERNANCE

**Endorsed by OECD's 34 Members at the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting on 4 June 2015**

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OCSE Economic & Environmental Forum, Prague – 14 September 2015

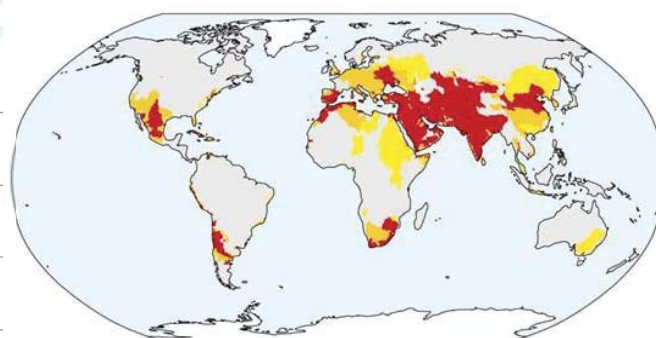


## OECD Projections : A Gloomy Picture

**Global water demand:  
Baseline scenario, 2000 and 2050**



**Water stress by river basin:  
Baseline, 2050**



**Severity level  
(water exploitation rate)**



Source: OECD Environmental Outlook Baseline (2012)

# Water crises : governance crises

- ✓ **Enough water** for human and nature needs ... if managed wisely!
- ✓ Coping with **future water challenges** requires more than financing & hydrology
- ✓ Technical, financial & institutional **solutions exist**, but **implementation** is lagging behind
- ✓ How to manage water-related risks & trade-offs ? A need for **good governance**

## Water, a fragmented sector that is sensitive to multilevel governance

- ✓ Local and global issue, with **multiple actors** at different levels
- ✓ Capital -intensive, monopolistic intensity, **market failures**
- ✓ **Interdependencies** across multiple stakeholders are poorly managed
- ✓ Many countries struggle to really understand (and map) **who does what, at which level**

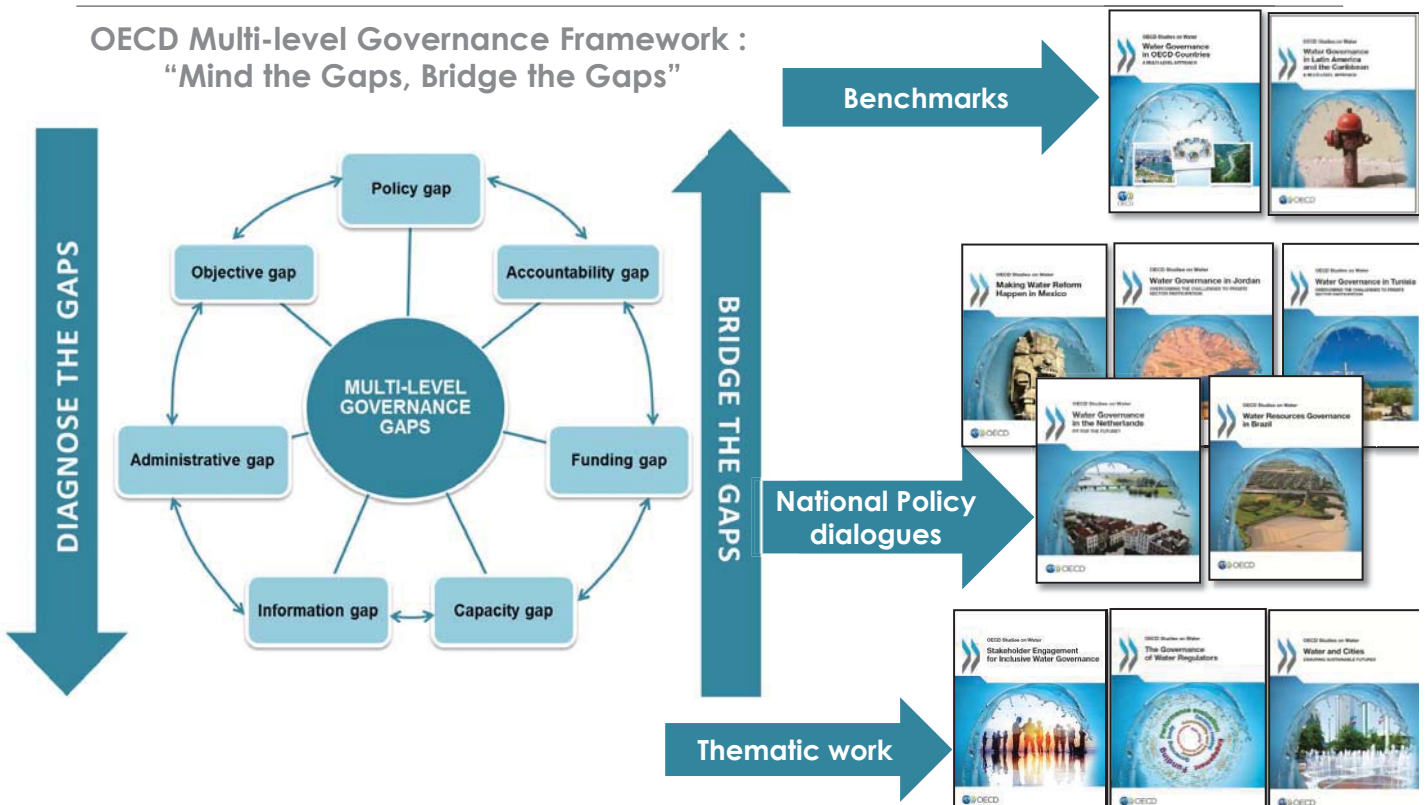
## No one-size-fits-all response but overarching Principles are needed

- ✓ Need for **place-based policies** & **local-national** framework, strategy and rules
- ✓ Governments should strive to develop **better water policies** for better lives
- ✓ **Taking stock** of what works well and what does *not* work is important

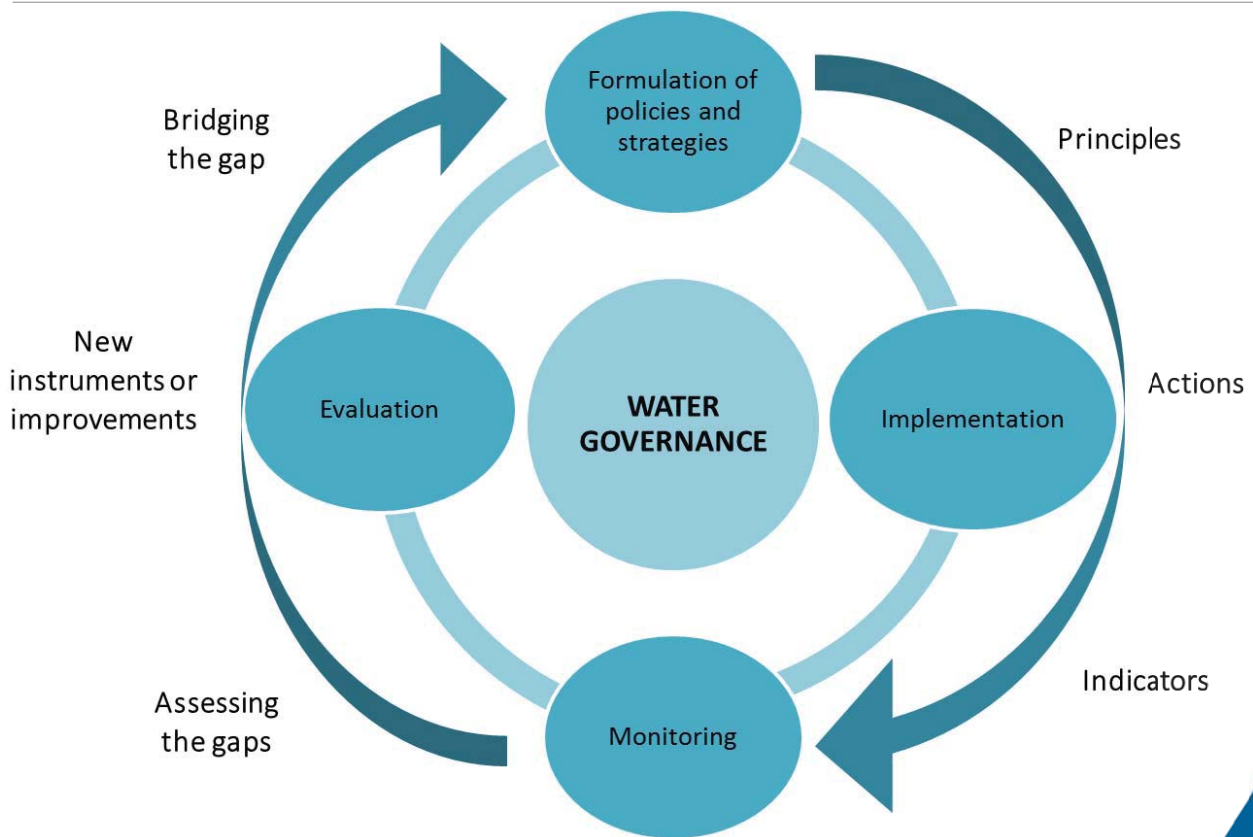
- Beyond the question of **WHAT** to do to meet the water challenge, there is a need to think about **WHO DOES WHAT, WHY, AT WHICH LEVEL** and **HOW**

# OECD's Evidence Base

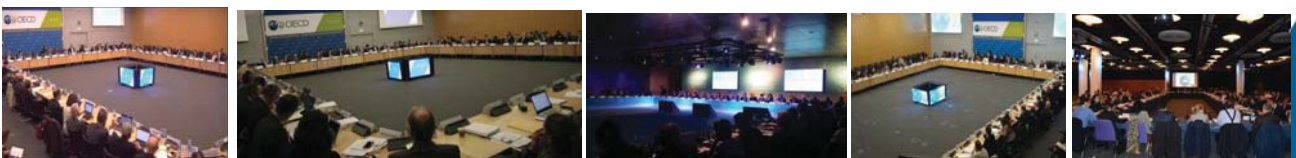
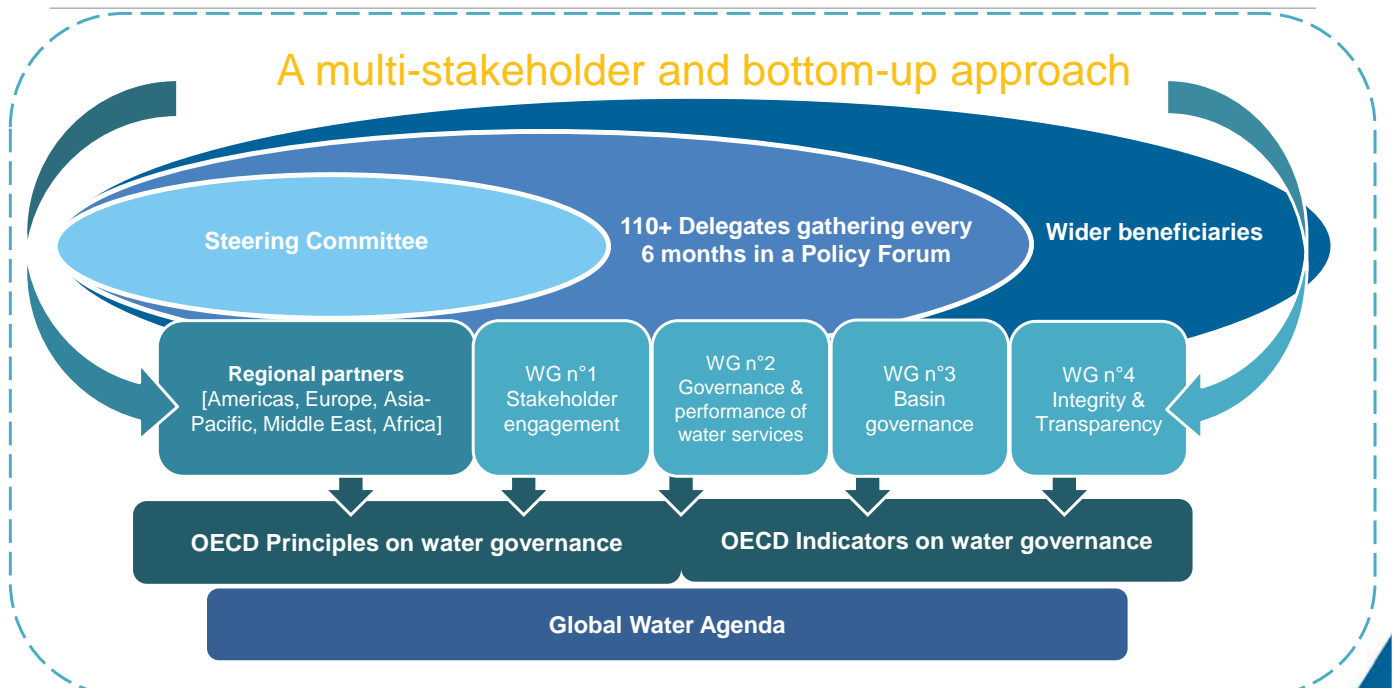
OECD Multi-level Governance Framework :  
"Mind the Gaps, Bridge the Gaps"



# The Water Governance Cycle

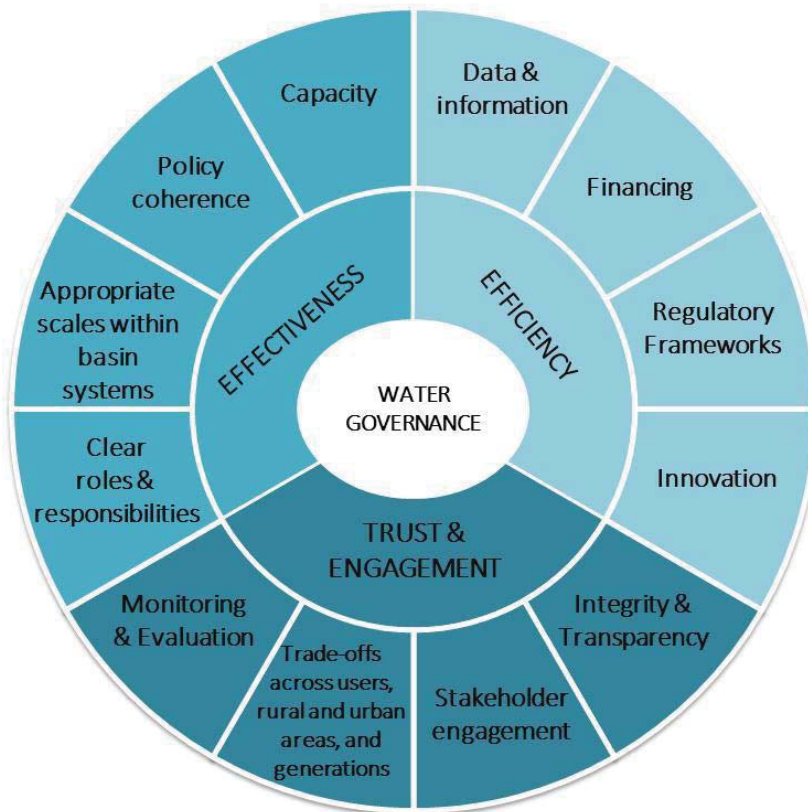


# OECD Water Governance Initiative





# OECD Principles on Water Governance



## A Multi-stakeholder Declaration on OECD Principles on Water Governance



**Daegu's Multi-stakeholder Declaration on the OECD Principles on Water Governance**  
 Handed to the OECD's Secretary-General Angel Gurría at the 7th WWF on 13 April 2015

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We, organizations from the public, private and non-profit sectors, major groups and individuals, actively engaged in the OECD Water Governance Initiative (WGI), an innovative multi-stakeholder network of 120+ delegates gathering twice a year in a Policy Forum, sincerely believe that water enters our lives in governance areas and:

1. Fully support the upcoming OECD Principles on Water Governance as a solid framework to help national and subnational governments design and implement better water policies for better lives, in compliance with the broad range of stakeholders' wishes and outside the water sector;
2. Applied the bottom-up, multi-stakeholder and inclusive process behind the preparation of the OECD Principles on Water Governance since the occasion of the Water Governance Initiative on 27 March 2012, as a follow-up to the OECD commitment made at the 6th World Water Forum (Buenos Aires, 2012);
3. Call upon local and governments from OECD countries to approve the Principles at the 33rd meeting of the Regional Development Policy Committee, 19 April 2015 and to give them a strong and high-level political impetus at the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting, 2-4 June 2015;
4. Look forward to the integration of the Principles into an OECD Recommendation to give them a legal nature and strong moral force, and to provide a common baseline to identify and scale up best practices and suggest changes in governance and policy;
5. Invite developing and emerging countries to endorse the OECD Principles on Water Governance and to adhere to the subsequent Recommendation;
6. Pledge that all stakeholders use the Principles to guide their activities and practices in order to strengthen the effectiveness, efficiency, trust and engagement in water governance;
7. Commit to disseminate the Principles widely within our organizations, to our members, networks, partners and the public at large;
8. Invite the OECD to develop water governance indicators, with the same bottom-up and inclusive process, to monitor progress in the implementation of the Principles, especially in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals;
9. Expect the Water Governance Initiative to continue playing an important role in gathering international expertise to facilitate benchmarking and peer-learning on each of the Principles;
10. Thank the OECD for its commitment and leadership and stand ready to contribute to future collective efforts in support of good governance in the water sector.

65 Major Groups committed to the Principles at the 7th World Water Forum (Daegu, Republic of South Korea, 13 April 2015)





## Next steps for Implementation (2015-2017)

### 1. Water Governance Best Practice Database

- Success Stories & Pitfalls to avoid
- Online

### 2. OECD Water Governance Indicators

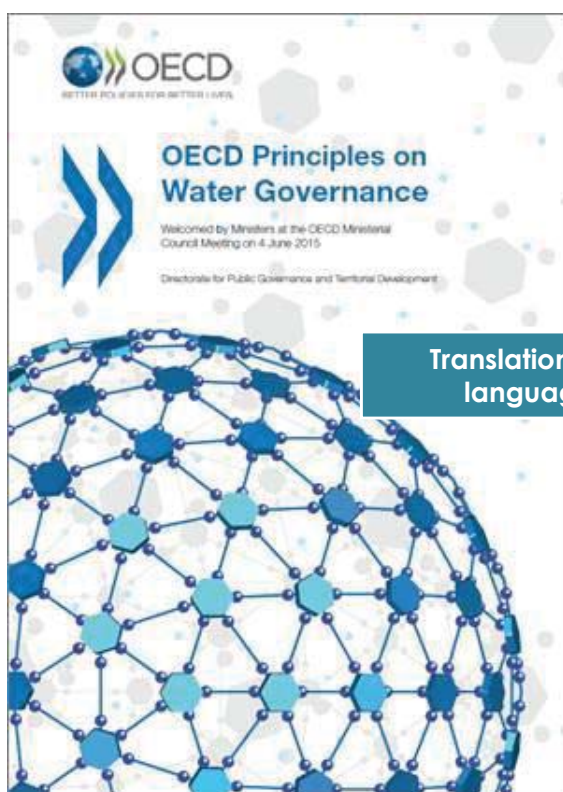
- Intergovernmental consensus on indicator framework
- OECD Water Governance at a Glance Publication

### 3. Outreach and Dissemination

- Regional consultations
- Stakeholder Seminars



## Download the Principles!



Translation in 15 languages



English



French



German



Spanish



Portuguese



Italian



Dutch



Greek



Korean



Turkish



Hebrew



Japanese



Chinese  
(Mandarin)



Russian



Hindi

+ Arabic



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**

**[www.oecd.org/gov/water](http://www.oecd.org/gov/water)  
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