

# Keynote Speech

**Mr. Howard Bamsey** CHAIRMAN Global Water Partnership

"Advancing water governance through Integrated Water Resources Management as a cornerstone to achieving the water-related SDGs by 2030" Over the last few decades, the Asia-Pacific region has undergone rapid and dynamic economic and social transformation. As a consequence of this growth, the region faces various challenges in terms of water quantity and quality.



The Asia-Pacific is the most disaster-prone region in the world. Its monsoon areas account for two-thirds of the global deaths and victims of water-related disasters each year. In addition, COVID-19 has spread globally, highlighting the need for clean water as a basic hygiene measure.

# the water crisis is often a crisis of governance

1.5 billion people in rural areas and 600 million people in urban areas in the Asia-Pacific still lack access to safely managed drinking water and sanitation (Asian Development Bank, 2020).



people in Asia alone live in areas currently experiencing severe water stress and, unless significant action is taken, the number of affected population is expected to increase by more than **40%** by 2050.



Water governance refers to the range of political, social, economic and administrative systems that are in place to develop and manage water resources, and the delivery of water services, at different levels of society

(Global Water Partnership, 2002)

set of rules, practices, and processes (both formal and informal) through which decisions for the management of water resources and services are taken and implemented, stakeholders articulate their interest and decision-makers are held accountable (OECD, 2015)



Water governance needs cross-sectoral and multi-level coordination to ensure that water is managed in an integrated manner.... Water governance needs a "systems approach".

### <u>All</u> SDGs are related to water



### The Sustainable Development Goal 6 Global Acceleration Framework



Achieving an integrated approach to SDG 6 is essential for progress on all other SDGs



### SDG 6 & IWRM



**Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)** is central to achieving SDG 6, to ensure the availability of sustainable management of water and sanitation for all which is essential for achieving virtually all other SDG targets.

IWRM provides a holistic framework to ensure that water resources are developed, managed, and used in an equitable, sustainable, and efficient manner.



### 2020 Asia-Pacific: Country scores range from Low (12) to Very High (100)



## Highlights of 2020 IWRM status in Asia-Pacific



GWP and UNEP-DHI. (2021). Progress on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the Asia-Pacific Region 2021: Learning exchange on monitoring and implementation towards SDG 6.5.1

### AWDO 2020 and OECD Survey on Water Governance



Region		Priority actions	
CWA	Integrity	Trade-offs	Stakeholder engagement
EA	Policy coherence	Trade-offs	Stakeholder engagement
PA	Financing	Trade-offs	Monitoring & evaluation
SA	Policy coherence	Trade-offs	Monitoring & evaluation
SEA	Policy coherence	Integrity	Stakeholder engagement
AE	Policy coherence	Monitoring & evaluation	Stakeholder engagement



Asian Development Bank. (2020). Asian Water Development Outlook 2020: Advancing Water Security Across Asia and the Pacific. Manila.



#### WATER SUPPLY

mainstreaming water integrity and transparency practices

## WATER & ENVIRONMENT

promoting multi-level governance for integrated water resources management of all water bodies through a source to sea approach

#### WATER & POVERTY

science and policy need to collaborate together to advance on gender equality and reduce poverty related to the water sector



#### WATER & DISASTER

end-to-end efforts for shifting to a sustainable and resilient path under climate change by

all



### YOUTH, **LEADERSHIP &** INNOVATION

achieving meaningful youth engagement for water security and resilience in Asia and the Pacific



#### WATER, CULTURE & PEACE

building peace and regional stability

through water



### WATER AND SANITATION

realizing appropriate wastewater management toward sustainable development



WATER & FOOD

promoting sustainable water management in agriculture in the region



SOUND WATER CYCLE working together in an integrated manner to promote multisectoral cooperation on water and whole-ofbasin management

### YANGON DECLARATION, ASIA PACIFIC WATER SUMMIT 2017

### Buidling on from the Yangon declaration we need to **end**:

the lack of institutional capacity

siloed approaches

fragmented thinking

bureaucratic competition

#### Third Asia-Pacific Water Summit

Yangon - Myanmar, December 2017

The leaders of the Asia-Pacific region declared their determination to achieve water security for sustainable development including facilitating the implementation of IWRM towards meeting the 2030 Agenda.







"Efficient and accelerated action on SDG 6 requires all relevant actors to clarify and take ownership of their context specific roles, recognize interlinkages, forge cooperation, build on complementarities and ensure effective institutions, policy frameworks and enabling environments, including promotion of integrated water and sanitation solutions". SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework



- With only 8 years left to achieve the SDGs
- If a business-as-usual approach continues, most countries are unlikely to reach the SDGs by 2030
- Which constitutes an urgent call to action for all relevant stakeholders at all levels to advance water governance in the Asia-Pacific region

