



**Innovative Urban Water Management in Asia**

**GWP PANASIA Workshop**

14 – 15 July 2016



Singapore PUB Water Hub

Singapore

**Draft Concept Note and Agenda**

(Version 5 July 2016)

**1. Background**

***Major Urban Challenges in Asia***

*As the main economic engines of growth*, Asian cities are increasingly challenged to ensure sustainability while reaping the benefits of urbanization. Population growth and increasing demand arising from higher standards of living could worsen water security in many parts in Asia and affect many people in the future.

*In 2014, 48 % of the Asian population was living in urban areas* and the urban population is expected to rise to 64% by 2050 (WUP 2014). Asia has 13 of world’s 22 megacities and the number is expected to go up to 20 megacities by 2025 (UNESCAP). As the world continues to urbanize, sustainable development challenges will be increasingly concentrated in cities, particularly in the lower-middle-income countries where the pace of urbanization is fastest.

*Water bodies are being overexploited*, as both sources of water and also as means of wastewater disposal. Rivers have been degraded by over-extraction and pollution, and entire ecosystems have been damaged, with negative impacts on biodiversity and the lifestyle of people in the area. The water supply can potentially be increased if the current resources if the non-revenue water can be reduced. In the face of growing concern over climate change, energy and food security, and the sustainability of development advances, managing these issues in the search for livable cities has become more urgent and compelling (Asia Water Outlook 2013).

*Most Asian cities do not have effective wastewater treatment systems.* In the Philippines, for example, only 10% of wastewater is treated while in Indonesia the figure is 14%, in Viet Nam, 4%, and in India, 9%.[[1]](#footnote-1)

*Poverty reduction in the region is significant but heterogeneous*. The number of poor living on less than $1.25 per day decreased by 150 million in 1990—from 903.4 million in 2005 to 753.5 million in 2008, but the share of urban poor increased from 15.7% to 21.9%. This has led to the proposition that as Asian economies become more urbanized, they may face increasing urban poverty with some urban scholars labeling it as “urbanization of poverty”[[2]](#footnote-2).

***Crucial need to consider a wider diversity of approaches[[3]](#footnote-3)***

For many cities, rapid urban population growth has outpaced the investment capacity of the urban administrations. Moreover, with some cities now reaching the limits of economic exploitation of sustainable water resources, it is becoming crucial to consider a wider diversity of approaches in order to reach water-sensitive cities.

Emerging approaches being adopted include integrated management, multi-sectoral governance, stakeholder’s stronger engagement, demand management and development of alternative and novel sources of water, such as recycled water for use as drinking water and increased recycling of water for industrial and agricultural applications. These approaches will require new infrastructure, including both centralized and decentralized systems, that promotes a fit-for-purpose approach to matching water usage with water quality standards. Moreover, new approaches will have to be in line with the framework proposed by the Sustainable Development Goals.

**2. Objectives of the Workshop**

This Workshop is organized further to a decision that was taken by the GWP PAN ASIA event that was held in Guangzhou, China, in December 2015, and that dealt about Flood Management. It was suggested to organize when possible a yearly Workshop that would be hosted by one of the GWP Asia Region and that would deal about a critical water issue of the Asia region.

The main objective of the workshop is to promote the exchange of experience and knowledge on innovative urban water management approaches in Asia, among the four GWP Regional Water Partnerships and key Asian Regional Organizations.

The specific objectives are:

* To take stock of innovative approaches on urban water management that exist in each of the four Asian Regions (Central Asia, China, South Asia and South East Asia), with a special attention on four areas: water governance, equitable water supply and sanitation systems, effective wastewater management, storm water and flood management.
* To introduce the concept of Integrated Urban Water Management with case studies coming from various cities in the world and a special emphasis on the case of Singapore.
* To highlight potential areas of collaboration and interests of project proposal development.
* To review on-going and other potential Pan Asian key activities and events.

**3. Tentative Agenda**

**Thursday 14 July**

**08:30** Departure participants from Hotel One Farrer with PUB bus

**09:00** Arrival at PUB Water Hub

**Opening Session**

**Moderator: GWP SAS**

**09h15** Introduction by Moderator and quick round of introduction of the participants

**09h30** Welcoming Words by H.E. Watt Botkosal, Chair of GWP South East Asia

**09h35** Opening Remarks by M. Rudolph Cleveringa, Executive Secretary GWPO

**09h40** Opening Statements by Chairs of GWP China, GWP CACENA and GWP SAS

**09h45** Highlights of the 2015 GWP PANASIA Workshop by Ms Angela Klauschen, Senior Network Officer GWPO

**09h50** Workshop Objectives and Agenda by Mr. Francois Brikké, Senior Network Officer GWPO

**10h00** **Key Note Address** on Urban Water Security Challenges in Asia by Dr. Ravi Narayanan, Chair of the Asia Pacific Water Forum

**Technical session 1: Urban Water Governance**

**Moderator: GWP SAS**

**10h15** **Introductory Note**: Urban Water Governance issues in Asia, by Dr. Ousmane Dione, Practice Manager, the World Bank

**10h25** **Panel Presentations** (5 min each):

* **A:** Green City Policy in Ulaan Baatar, by Prof Basandorj GWP Mongolia Coordinator
* **B:** Management and efficient use of water resources in China, by Ms Xiong Ying, Technical Director China Union Engineer
* **C:** Tokyo Water Cycle Management Policy, by Yumiko Asayama, Coordinator Japan Water Forum
* **D:** Urban Water Governance and Capacity Building in Asia, by Mr Tadashige Kawasaki, Executive Secretary, NARBO

**10h45** **Buzz Session** around each Table, highlighting what are the key lessons learnt on Urban Water Governance in Asia

**11h00** **Plenary Feedback** from the Round Tables (3 minutes each)

**11h15** Comments from the Panelists

**11h30 *Coffee / Tea Break***

**Technical Session 2: Effective Water Supply and Wastewater Systems**

**Moderator: GWP CACENA**

**11h45** **Introductory Note:** Regional innovations on Urban Water in Water Supply and Sanitation, by Professor Shahbaz Khan, Director UNESCO Regional Office in Jakarta

**11h55** **Panel Presentations** (5 min each):

* **A:** The case of Phnom Penh by H.E. Watt Botkosal, Chair GWP SEA
* **B:** City wide Sanitation Program in Indonesia by Dr Sutardi, Member of the SC of the Indonesia Water Partnership
* **C:** ‘Self-sustainable Supply and Distribution System’ in South East countries- Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and Thailand", by Ms Pooja Kapoor, RC Member SAS

**12h10 Buzz Session** around Round Tables (5), highlighting what are the key lessons learnt on Equitable Water Supply and Sanitation Systems in Asia

**12h30** **Plenary Feedback** from the Round Tables (3 minutes each)

**12h40** Comments from the Panelists

**12h50 *Lunch***

**Technical Session 3: Storm Water and Urban Floods Management**

**Moderator: GWP CACENA**

**14h00** **Introductory Note:** Climate change and Flood Management in Asia, by Dr Changhua, Vice Chair of the Asia Pacific Water Forum

**14h10** **Panel Presentations** (5 min each):

* **A**: " Urban Storm and Sponge Cities in China”, by Mr. Zheng Rugang, GWP China Regional Coordinator
* **B:** "Storm Water and Urban Flood Management in Dhaka City", Dr. K.A. Haq, Chair Bangladesh Water Partnership
* **C:** ”Knowledge Management for Urban Flood Management”, by Hina Lotia, Director of Programs, LEAD Pakistan and CDKN Asia.
* **D:** ” Shifting towards Water Resilient Sustainable Cities”, by Dr. Aida Karazhanova, Economic Affairs officer of the Sustainable Urban Development Section, Environment and Development Division of the UNESCAP

**14h30** **Buzz Session** around Round Tables (5), highlighting key challenges and perspectives of Storm Water and Urban Floods Management

**14h45** **Plenary Feedback** from the Round Tables (3 minutes each)

**15h00** Comments from the Panelists

**15h15** ***Short Break***

**Technical Session 4: Integrated Urban Water Management Principles**

**Moderator: GWP CHINA**

**15h30** **Key Note** on IUWM Principles by Dr Seneshaw Tsegaye, Assistant Professor at the Patel College for Global Solutions of the University of Florida

**16h00** **Presentation** of IUWM Modules by Francois Brikké, SNO GWPO

**16h15**  **Buzz Session** on the Relevance of the IUWM approach

**16h30 Plenary Feedback** from the Round Tables

**16h45** Comments from the Presenters

**17h00** Conclusions of the day and announcements

**17h30** ***Mingle*** with drinks and snacks at PUB Singapore

**19h30** Return by Bus to the Hotel One Farrer

**Friday 15 July**

**Field visit of PUB Singapore Integrated Water and Wastewater System**

**Moderator: PUB Singapore**

**08h30** Departure from Hotel One Farrer to Marina Barrage (MB)

**09h00** Presentation by PUB on Integrated Water Management in Singapore

**09h20** Q&A

**09h30** Guided tour in the Sustainability Gallery

**10h20** Group Photo at the Green Roof

**10h30** Departure from MB to Water Hub

**11h00** Presentation by PUB on Water Quality Management

**11h20** Tour at PUB Water Quality Office & Laboratory (Designated WHO Collaborating Centre for Safe Management of Drinking-Water and Integrated Urban Water Management)

**12h30 *Lunch at PUB Water Hub***

**GWP PAN ASIA Planning Meeting**

**Moderator: GWP SEA**

*Follow up on China Workshop and identification of activities from Singapore Workshop*

**13h30**  Update on follow-up 2015 activities Flood Management Workshop of Guangzhou, China, by Angela Klauschen and GWP China

**13h45** Presentation of the DRAFT Panafrican Urban Water Management Program, by Francois Brikké, GWPO

**14h00** Discussion in round tables on follow up activities of China’s Workshop and potential activities related to urban activities in Asia

**14h30** Feedback in plenary and discussion

**15h00** ***Coffee / Tea Break***

*Other Panasian Thematic and Operational issues*

**15h15** Presentation on Water Security and the SDGs, by Angela Klauschen, SNO GWPO

**15h30** Presentation on key Asian coming activities (2016-2017-2018), by GWP CACENA)

**15h40** **Group discussions:**

Common question to all groups:

What are the key PANASIAN issues of interest?

Specific questions:

1) What are the key needs for creating an enabling conditions at Country and Regional levels?

2) How can the PANASIA team best operate and cooperate at Country and Regional levels?

**16h40** Restitution of Working Groups in Plenary and discussion

**17h00 Agreement on next steps and closing**

**17h15** Return by bus to hotel One Farrer

1. (<http://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/Urbanization-fast-facts.pdf>). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. ( <http://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/project-document/81002/urban-poverty-asia.pdf>). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Asia Water Outlook 2013 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)