

THIRD WORLD WATER FORUM

Theme Preparation Summary – For Information and Discussion

Theme: Poverty and Water Security	ADB Theme Leader:	Wouter Lincklaen Arriens wlincklaenarriens@adb.org
	ADB Consultant:	Being selected
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	ADB Coordinator for 3WWF:	Wouter Lincklaen Arriens Wlincklaenarriens@adb.org

THEME OBJECTIVES

ADB has promoted that water and poverty, and more specifically Poverty and Water Security, should be a central theme of the Third World Water Forum (3WWF), which is to be held in Kyoto, Japan in March 2003, and for which sessions should be organized during several successive days of the Forum with the collaboration of many interested development partners.

The aim of organizing the theme at the 3WWF is to:

- Raise public awareness about poverty and its linkages to the management of water resources, the delivery of water services, and the overall water security of poor people, particularly from a local community perspective
- Exchange experience from case studies about successful and unsuccessful project approaches to meet the diverse needs for water security of the poor at community level
- Catalyze pro-poor financing and action at policy and project levels using new approaches and modalities.

THEME TOPICS

The report on poverty and water security is expected to focus global attention on the need for water investments that meet poor people's needs for water security. The focus will be on water needs from a community perspective, including

- water supply
- sanitation
- hygiene
- water quality
- water for domestic and agricultural uses
- other productive uses
- watersheds and other ecosystems
- risk protection such as against floods

Water rights of the poor will also be discussed. Lessons learned from successes and failures in project implementation at the local level will be presented, together with the complementary roles of water users, nongovernment organizations, the private sector, government, and external support agencies.

Emphasis will be given to equitable distribution of benefits for the poor, including women, and on resource mobilization for investments that have a direct poverty reduction impact.

The report will also promote excellence by focusing on incentives for people and systems to deliver better water services at the community level.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Recently, the Netherlands Water Week in The Hague in October 2001 focused on water and poverty.

Keynote introductions were given by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by the Global Water Partnership, and by the World Bank.

In his presentation, John Briscoe of the World Bank presented a framework for discussion of water and poverty interventions, in the form of a matrix categorizing "broad" and "targeted" interventions in the areas of "water resources management" and "water service delivery". The framework was well received by the participants, and lively discussion followed. The presentation can be downloaded from www.worldbank.org/water.

Sir Richard Jolly of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council emphasized the need for advocacy, action, knowledge, and networking, and recommended that participation, collaboration, and hygiene and sanitation should be taken much more seriously by the international water community. WSSCC advocates to put people at the center of all water activities, shift more resources towards hygiene and sanitation, support local-level participatory programs, take goals and development targets seriously, and monitor and evaluate regularly.

Wouter Lincklaen Arriens of ADB highlighted that ADB's water policy emphasized the need for

- a pro-poor focus in water service investment projects to ensure equitable access by the poor to water services
- participation of the poor in water resources management through the empowerment of local communities
- an enabling environment of pro-poor policies and strategies, supported by public awareness, transparent use of funds, and participation and accountability at the local level.

The discussion included questions on how we can trigger and catalyze the impact of pro-poor water investments. Two areas were mentioned as important:

- increasing public awareness
- targeting investments to meet poor people's water needs and put funds in their hands to empower them to develop and manage community water resources.

To increase public awareness for pro-poor water interventions, Wouter Lincklaen Arriens suggested that further work should involve

- the right people, including the general public, media, agency staff, politicians, understanding the need for champions to effect change, and for the right incentives to motivate people to design and implement pro-poor interventions
- the right instruments, including a pro-poor water policy, law, and political will
- the right knowledge, involving knowledge management through research, case studies, and feedback
- the right partnerships, involving the private sector, NGOs, media, and making optimal use of events such as the World Water Forum.

Interested collaborating partners for the water and poverty theme also had discussions in The Hague on further steps to be taken towards the third WWF, and recommended that the regional development banks take a leading role in each region for this theme, and that ADB would organize an inter-regional planning meeting to develop a list of topics and modalities for the regional consultation processes in 2002 and the preparation of the sessions in Kyoto.

ADB will form a small working group with WSSCC and others to organize the meeting. It was also agreed that the Global Water Partnership would commission a discussion paper on water and poverty to be prepared by Professor John Soussan in November 2001 with input from interested collaborating partners.

THEME COLLABORATORS

Collaborating partners are expected to include:

- Third World Water Forum Secretariat – Kenzo Hiroki (hiroki@water-forum3.com) and Lalith Dassenaik (dassenaik@water-forum3.com)
- Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council – Gouri Ghosh (goshg@who.ch) and Lilia Ramos (apttech@info.com.ph)
- Global Water Partnership (GWP) – Allan Hall (a.hall@hrwallingford.co.uk)
- Department for International Development of the United Kingdom – Ian Curtis (ian-curtis@dfid.gov.uk)
- Netherlands International Development Agency – Bert Diphorn (aj.diphorn@minbuza.nl)
- African Development Bank – Shehu Yahaya (s.yahaya@afdb.org)
- Inter-American Development Bank – Diego Rodriguez (diegor@iadb.org)
- World Bank – John Briscoe (jbriscoe@worldbank.org)
- Interested UN organizations, including UNICEF
- GWP's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for South Asia – Sadar M. Tariq (s.pwp@cgiar.org)
- GWP's TAC for the People's Republic of China (PRC) – Yang Xiaoliu (xlyang@public.bta.net.cn)
- South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Studies – Peter Mollinga (pmollinga@rediffmail.com)
- International Water Management Institute – Frank Rijsberman (f.rijsberman@cgiar.org) and Eric Biltonen (e.biltonen@cgiar.org)
- International Union for the Conservation of Nature – Ger Bergkamp (ger.bergkamp@iucn.org)
- Gender and Water Alliance – Jennifer Francis (francis@irc.nl)
- Other international and local NGOs (to be identified), including Water Aid, International Secretariat for Water
- Others to be identified, including private sector representatives.
- The host organization for the regional consultation (to be identified, candidates include BRAC in Dhaka) Salehuddin Ahmed (sahmed@bdmail.net).

THEME OUTPUTS

- Concept papers and case study reports prepared for the regional consultation workshop
- Proceedings of the regional consultation workshop
- Reports, video, and multimedia presentations at the Third WWF
- Proceedings of the Third WWF Theme Sessions, including recommendations for follow-up actions
- Consultants' final report, including a list of key indicators to benchmark status and monitor progress in achievements.
- Others to be identified

EXPECTED FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

- Water and Poverty Theme organized in multi-day sessions during the Third WWF
- Appropriate participation of stakeholders in the Third WWF Water and Poverty Theme sessions
- Appropriate presentation of Water and Poverty Theme findings and recommendations in the Water Action Report
- Summary findings and recommendations to be presented to the media, together with the video to be produced
- Action agenda for Water and Poverty to be presented to the Ministerial Conference, for follow-up at global, regional, and country levels
- Advance consultations on water investments for the poor with the Financing Panel of the Third WWF, to ensure water and poverty concerns are integrated into the Financing Panel's findings and recommendations
- Water and Poverty video and other awareness-raising modalities for widespread dissemination
- Other actions to be discussed among collaborating partners

IMPORTANT SOURCE MATERIAL

- Water and Poverty, a discussion paper under preparation by Professor John Soussan (November 2001)
- Presentation on water and poverty by John Briscoe, World Bank, at the Netherlands Water Week, and presentations on the same theme by other speakers. (October 2001)
- Others to be compiled, including important project reports, conceptual papers by experts, case study reports, useful web sites, etc.

POTENTIAL CASE STUDIES

- To be identified through the interested collaborating partners and contacts in countries.
- The Virtual Water Forum session on poverty and water security has invited case studies to be proposed. The case studies will help to understand and promote lessons learned and best practices.

REGIONAL CONSULTATION WORKSHOP IN ASIA-PACIFIC

- Tentative proposed dates on 20-24 May 2002
- Venue to be decided. BRAC in Bangladesh to be considered as candidate host organization
- Cost estimate to be finalized
- Tentative budget includes \$100,000 from Japan and \$50,000 from ADB, other contributors to be identified
- Implementation arrangements to be identified, including preparatory surveys, studies, and the logistics

CONSULTATIONS IN OTHER REGIONS

- Plans to be identified and worked out during the planning meeting in Manila 7-8 February 2002. Organization of American States and Inter-American Development Bank for Central and South America and the Caribbean? WSSCC and the African Development Bank in Africa?
- ADB's consultant is expected to assist the ADB theme leader(s) and the third WWF Secretariat in compiling the results of regional consultations in Africa and South America into the overall presentation and organization of the water and poverty theme during the third WWF sessions

RELATED EVENTS

- Conference on IWRM and Poverty Alleviation, GWP China TAC, Ningbo, September 2001
- Water and Poverty Workshop during Netherlands Water Week, October 2001
- Design meeting for the Poverty and Water Security Theme, ADB, 7-8 February 2002
- First South Asia Water Forum, Nepal, February 2002

VIRTUAL WATER FORUM

- A session on Poverty and Water Security has started by end October 2001, co-chaired by Wouter Lincklaen Arriens and John Soussan, in consultation with the Secretariat of Third WWF. Access the web site at: <http://www.worldwaterforum.org/eng/vwf.html>

WATER VOICES PROJECT

- The use of the Water Voices Project will be essential for the Poverty and Water Security Theme. ADB will help to mobilize water voice messengers and encourages all interested development partners to join in the Project. The use of water voices will need to be integrated into the design of the Theme, to ensure that the water voices contribute optimally to the theme outputs. To this end, messengers, expected inputs, and proposed questions to be asked need to be identified. Access the web site at:
<http://www.worldwaterforum.org/voice/en/>

This Theme Preparation Summary Note will be regularly updated. Comments and suggestions can be sent to Wouter Lincklaen Arriens, and Christina Duenas at ADB: wlincklaenarriens@adb.org, cduenas@adb.org

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The Third World Water Forum Web site is at: <http://www.worldwaterforum.org/eng/index.html>