WATER GOVERNANCE IN ASIA-PACIFIC
Lessons learnt from the AWDO 2020

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OECD Survey on Water Governance

• Governance data collected for a total of 48 countries

• 46 questions, distributed into 12 sections, were answered w/ secondary data & info

• (1) overview of water governance characteristics, (2) quantified evidence regarding governance gaps, and (3) diversity of governance situations across the Asia-Pacific region

www.oecd.org/governance/oecd-principles-on-water-governance.htm
Water governance characteristics and gaps

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<th>Principle</th>
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<th>PA</th>
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<td>1. Roles and responsibilities</td>
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<td>3. Policy coherence</td>
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<td>4. Capacity authorities</td>
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<td>5. Data and information</td>
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<td>6. Financial resources</td>
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<td>7. Regulatory frameworks</td>
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<td>8. Innovative practices</td>
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<td>10. Stakeholder engagement</td>
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<td>11. Trade-offs</td>
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<td>12. Monitoring and evaluation</td>
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Legend:
- **in place and functioning**
- **in place but only partly implemented, partly not in place**
- **not in place**
- **not sufficient data to justify average for the region**
Some key governance findings

Most countries have an overarching water policy framework and coordination mechanisms in place.

- 81% of countries in Asia – Pacific have set up River Basin Organisations.
- Transboundary agreement in place between riparian countries/territories in almost all transboundary basins.

Share of countries having adopted a dedicated water law per geographic area, Asia – Pacific region:

- Central & West Asia: 2 (20%), 1 (10%), 8 (60%)
- East Asia: 8 (20%), 2 (10%), 30 (70%)
- Pacific: 5 (10%), 5 (10%), 6 (80%)
- South Asia: 1 (10%), 2 (10%), 8 (80%)
- Southeast Asia: 1 (10%), 1 (10%), 8 (80%)
- Advanced Economies: No data available.
Some key governance findings

- Limited implementation of water-related policies due to human resources and funding gaps

Level of implementation of dedicated water-related disaster policy per geographic area, Asia – Pacific region

Level of implementation of dedicated WASH policy per geographic area, Asia – Pacific region

Level of implementation of dedicated water quality and preservation policy per geographic area, Asia – Pacific region
Some key governance findings

- Insufficient data & monitoring hampering water policies evaluation

Share of countries having set-up water-related information systems, Asia – Pacific region

Share of countries having set-up water-related monitoring practices, Asia – Pacific region
Some key governance findings

- Limited uptake of water policy instruments to manage trade-offs

Share of countries allocating and monitoring groundwater extractions per geographic area, Asia – Pacific region

Share of countries prioritising water uses in case of scarcity/emergency per geographic area, Asia – Pacific region
Some key governance findings

- Limited use of economic instrument to manage water resources

Share of countries having adopted abstraction and pollution charges, Asia – Pacific region

![Bar chart showing the share of countries with and without water abstraction charges and pollution charges.](chart.png)
Some key governance findings

- Limited uptake of integrity practices and tools
- Limited stakeholder engagement
Some key governance recommendations

- Strengthening the implementation and monitoring of water-related policies
- Adopting water policy instruments to manage trade-offs
- Adopting water economic instruments to manage water resources and generate sustainable funding
- Addressing capacity and data gaps
- Developing further stakeholder engagement in water decision making
- Mainstreaming integrity and transparency practices across water policies, institutions and governance frameworks
THANK YOU

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Linking water governance & water security

Share of countries allocating and monitoring groundwater extractions according to water-related disaster resilience (KD5) scores

Share of countries having adopted key performance indicators for water and sanitation services according to urban water security (KD3) scores