

Eye on Asia at the Stockholm World Water Week 2010

Wednesday 8 September

Conveners: Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Pacific Water Forum (APWF), Global Water Partnership (GWP), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Japan Water Association (JWA), Korea Water (K-Water), Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO), National University of Singapore (NUS), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)

Asia is increasingly a continent in the grip of a water crisis. With falling per capita water endowments, exacerbated by climate change impacts, the burdens on farm and industrial communities, and town and country dwellers are increasingly severe. With six-tenths of the world's population, Asia is at the forefront of water problems and solutions. **Eye on Asia** sessions will discuss water quality issues that pose substantial threats to secure water supplies for food, energy, economic growth, and human health. It will also focus on innovative solutions that meet water and sanitation challenges in local communities, cities, river basins, and at national level.

Morning Session

Title: Water Sufficiency Through Improved Water Quality

Asian Development Bank (ADB), Korea Water (K-Water), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)

Water quality is central to Asia's sustainable socioeconomic growth. Widespread water pollution is impacting agriculture, human health, and national budgets. Clean up costs are high, law enforcement is weak, and wastewater management is severely neglected. The session will focus on current and emerging solutions to rapidly scaling up water quality enhancements in communities, cities, and basins.

Lunch time Side Event

Title: Managing Asia's River Basins – Book Launch

Asian Development Bank (ADB), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Improving governance and performance in the changing situations of the regions' river basins is a major challenge. This new book highlights examples of new approaches and practices that basin managers are now applying. ADB and IUCN will launch *Managing Asia's River Basins* as a reference book promoting knowledge-based investments in river basin management.

Afternoon Session

Title: Regulating Asia's Water Quality Management

Global Water Partnership (GWP)

Deteriorating water quality is leading many Asian governments to review surface and groundwater management approaches to ensure better water quality. New laws to control contamination of public waters are being enacted, and measures to implement them are being updated. This session discusses improved legal and administrative frameworks, and the roles of governments and civil society.

Title: Leader's Dialogue on Water Security in the Asia-Pacific region

Conveners: Asia Pacific Water Forum (APWF), National University of Singapore (NUS)

The International Year of Sanitation concluded that institutional change is required for effective coordination among relevant ministries and agencies for planning and implementation of sanitation; and that sanitation must be included in development plans. The panel and participants will discuss the role of leadership in controlling pollution and achieving universal access to water and sanitation.