



Issue 114 August 30, 2013 | Focus on Water Cooperation

This issue highlights the upcoming World Water Week 2013 Conference in Stockholm and also includes recent studies, reports, and blog posts on the conference theme, Water Cooperation.

EVENTS

- **Sept 1-6, 2013: World Water Week 2013: Water Cooperation – Building Partnerships.** ([Conference link](#))

Each year World Water Week addresses a particular theme to enable a deeper examination of a specific water-related topic. The 2013 theme is Water Cooperation – Building Partnerships. Links to selected sessions at the conference: | [Health](#) | [Innovation](#) | [Sanitation](#) | [Urban](#) | [Water Quality](#) | [Water Supply](#) |

REPORTS/BLOG POSTS

- **USAID: Water and International Cooperation.** *IMPACT Blog, Mar 2013.* C Holmes, USAID. ([Blog post](#))
In this blog posting that appeared on World Water Day in March, USAID's Global Water Coordinator Christian Holmes highlights USAID water and sanitation activities around the globe.
- **USAID & Rotary International Sustainability Index of WASH Interventions: Global Findings and Lessons Learned, 2013.** International H2O Collaboration. ([Link, pdf](#))
The Sustainability Index Tool focuses on four critical areas important to the long-term sustainability of WASH interventions: institutional, management, financial, and technical factors.
- **Cooperation for a Water Wise World – Partnerships for Sustainable Development, 2013.** Stockholm International Water Institute. ([Link, pdf](#))
Prepared to provide input to the 2013 World Water Week, this report explores emerging issues related to its special focus on Water Cooperation – Building Partnerships. These include: the role of information and communications technology in advancing water cooperation; the importance of climate mitigation and adaptation coherence; and the interplay between actors in the water, food, and energy nexus.
- **Financing Water: How Public-Private Partnerships Can Solve Challenges.** *The*

Guardian, July 2013. G Boccaletti. ([Blog post](#))

Investing in nature is a smart development strategy, but as public funding dries up more sophisticated solutions are needed.

- **Innovation and Partnership Lie at the Heart of Cooperation in Water.** *The Water Blog*, Apr 2013. N Constantinou. ([Blog post](#))
This World Water Day posting discusses the cross-cutting theme of strengthening partnerships to leverage knowledge and facilitate innovative solutions. One example given is the Alliance for Global Water Adaptation, a group of regional and global development banks, aid agencies, governments, and a diverse set of NGOs that was formed to help countries manage water resources in a changing climate.
- **International Law – Facilitating Transboundary Water Cooperation**, 2013. P Wouters, Global Water Partnership. ([Link, pdf](#))
This paper explores how international law facilitates transboundary cooperation in a manner that is accessible to the wider transboundary water community. It discusses the norms and principles contained in treaties and rules of customary law and examines how these work in selected case studies.
- **Partnership Series – Defining the Term Partnership**, *BPD Blog*, June 2013. K Caplan. ([Blog post](#))
Because terminology shapes expectations that then shape behavior, over the last several years, BPD and others have grappled with the need to find some kind of definition for the term “partnership.”
- **Politics Matter: Jordan’s Path to Water Security Lies through Political Reforms and Regional Cooperation**, 2013. V Yorke. ([Link, pdf](#))
Jordan’s political transition now provides unprecedented opportunity for the country to prioritize strategically important water issues. If a path to water sustainability is to be found, a nationwide, coordinated approach to parallel political and water reforms must be combined with imaginative regional diplomacy over shared and new supplies. This study offers policy recommendations.
- **Southern Africa Shows the Way with Water.** *IPS News*, Aug 2013. J Fraser. ([Blog post](#))
Anthony Turton told IPS in an interview that the SADC (Southern African Development Community) Water Protocol, which outlines the practical implementation of management, protection, and use of the shared watercourses in the region, is regarded globally as a model example of regional water integration. Currently, about 70 percent of the region’s water is shared between two or more countries.
- **Uncertain Frontiers: Mapping New Corporate Engagement in Water Security**, 2013. N Mason, Overseas Development Institute. ([Link, pdf](#))
An increasing number of multinational corporations (MNCs) are recognizing water as a central business concern, a vital input for production processes, and potential point of contention in relations with government, investors, and society at large. But many MNCs are also realizing that the characteristics of the resource mean that many water risks cannot be tackled unilaterally. Rather, they require engaging with other stakeholders, in catchments and river basins up- or downstream of their operations, and through the links in their extensive supply chains.

- **Water Cooperation in Action: Approaches, Tools and Processes**, 2013. United Nations. ([Link](#))

This report summarizes main concepts, challenges, tools, and experiences related to water cooperation and highlights key lessons learned on promoting water cooperation.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- **Funding Models for Financing Water Infrastructure in South Africa: Framework and Critical Analysis of Alternatives**. *Water SA*, April 2013. C Ruiters. ([Link](#))

The backlog of water infrastructure provision and poor access to service delivery for poor communities have forced a new approach for governments, industries, financiers, and other role players. Delays escalate the eventual cost of infrastructure even more. Countries like South Africa have no choice but to look at innovative approaches to ensure that they eliminate their water infrastructure backlogs.

- **How to Get Real Innovation Flowing in the Water Industry**. *Jnl Amer Water Works Assoc*, May 2013. J Matheson. ([Link](#), [pdf](#))

The importance of the public/private interface is particularly important and yet is often the most challenging. The magnitude of today's most vexing problems requires a deliberate and nuanced dialogue among legislators, regulators, companies, and researchers.

- **Tapped Out: How Can Cities Secure Their Water Future?** *Water Policy*, 15 2013. B Richtera. ([Link](#), [pdf](#))

This article highlights case examples and opportunities to invest in water conservation measures, particularly through urban–rural partnerships under which cities work with farmers to implement irrigation conservation measures, thereby freeing up water for ecological restoration and use by cities.

WASHplus Weeklies will highlight topics such as Urban WASH, Indoor Air Pollution, Innovation, Household Water Treatment and Storage, Hand Washing, Integration, and more. If you would like to feature your organization's materials in upcoming issues, please send them to Dan Campbell, WASHplus Knowledge Resources Specialist, at dacampbell@fhi360.org.



About WASHplus - WASHplus, a five-year project funded through USAID's Bureau for Global Health, supports healthy households and communities by creating and delivering interventions that lead to improvements in access, practice and health outcomes related to water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH) and indoor air pollution (IAP). WASHplus uses at-scale, targeted as well as integrated approaches to reduce diarrheal diseases and acute respiratory infections, the two top killers of children under five years of age globally. For information, visit www.washplus.org or email: contact@washplus.org.