



Global Institute for Water
Environment and Health

Leadership For Positive Change

Annual
Report
2015

Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health

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Abbreviations

COP	Conference of the Parties
CMP	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
ETH Zürich	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIWEH	Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health
ICWRE	International Conference on Water Resources and Environmental Management
IHEID	Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MENA NWC	Middle East North Africa Network for Water Centers of Excellence
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SWP	Swiss Water Partnership
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UTAP	Union Tunisienne De l'Agriculture et de la Pêche
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization
WWC	World Water Council

General Director's Message

2015 is a transition year for the water agenda, as water became a major goal in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. Water, compounded with food, energy, health, and climate change, creates major challenges—asking us to meet and put efforts together to accomplish good governance and implementation. Managing the finite water resources is a major goal for all stakeholders. It is a cross-cutting issue. It considers the three bottom lines of sustainability (social, environmental, and economic conditions), and the principles established by the main international agreements, including the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.



Dr. Nidal Salim, General Director

Cooperation and collaboration involving commitments of local, national, and international governments, industries, and other stakeholders are needed for successful active water management. Population growth and climate change are putting increasing pressure on natural resources; action is needed now.

This year, GIWEH launched its Flagship Project, “Support Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda – Goal 6.” The project focuses on the interactions between this Agenda's Goal 6, socio-economic conditions, and the links with other goals in the Agenda in order to achieve a sustainable environment and inclusive growth, supporting human security, justice, and equity.

GIWEH's approach is mainly oriented towards the technical aspects of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and the institutional framework. It developed a thematic structure focusing on Sustainable Development Goals' targets 6.5 and 6.6:

- 6.5: “By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including transboundary cooperation as appropriate.”
- 6.6: “By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.”

Its main activities include researching, capacity building, and developing a monitoring framework at the local and regional scale, with in-depth focus on IWRM and Water Governance. GIWEH also aims to support 6.a and 6.b targets: community-based approaches and capacity building.

GIWEH's plan for the next five years includes integrating water as a tool for inclusive growth and a sustainable environment, creating ‘green’ jobs for the youth while facilitating increased awareness of water management, investing in innovative technologies for agriculture and irrigation, and stimulating inclusive growth and sustainable development.

Dr. Nidal Salim
General Director
Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health

Summary

The Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health (GIWEH) is a Swiss non-profit policy research institute. It is a dynamic think-tank fostering local and regional cooperation, enhancing technology transfer and capacity building of different stakeholders, and working closely with the most vulnerable groups of society to target the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our strategic goal is to effectively contribute to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Agenda, and strengthen our partners' ability to contribute as well. Specifically, we focus on water, Integrated Water Resources Management, interactions with other Sustainable Development Goals, and governance—especially in water scarce regions and vulnerable countries.

GIWEH's core mission is to provide **a platform for capacity building and training, technology transfer, research, and knowledge translation** in order to implement strategies related to environmental issues. GIWEH's capacity building programs target stakeholders at different levels within governments, the corporate sector, civil society, agriculture, and academia. To achieve its goals, GIWEH is working and collaborating with local, national, and international organizations.

GIWEH has built a network of international partners and will continue working with other key organizations from around the world. GIWEH held and ran different thematically oriented programs in 2015. GIWEH organizes activities within the international community, committing to key partnerships such as the Swiss Water Partnership, the OECD Water Governance Initiative, the World Water Council, and the Asia Water Council. Other important events to which GIWEH contributed in 2015 were the 7th World Water Forum in Korea, COP 21, and the International Show of Agriculture, Machinery, and Fishing, which was organized by the Tunisian Union of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health is not limited to water related-development issues, but includes other cross-cutting areas such as environmental sustainability, women and youth empowerment, food and health, peacemaking, and capacity building. Moving forward, GIWEH will focus on public-private partnerships, capacity building, and training of women and youth in 2016.

Introduction



The Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health was **founded in 2007**. Having identified the maintenance of reliable water supplies and a healthy environment as some of the greatest challenges the planet faces, founder, Dr. Nidal Salim, saw the need for **a new broad-based, research-centered, interdisciplinary initiative** to respond more effectively to this challenge. The organization was founded by a group of scientists and academics from Swiss universities (such as Geneva University, EPFL Lausanne, and Neuchatel) and other professors from the Arab region. The goals were to highlight the water sector, enhance efficiency, and improve effective water resources management programs between the North and South.

GIWEH is guided by an international Steering Board. Its Scientific Professionals Network of academics, scientists, and decision-makers from the North and the South enable the development of interactive, creative, and innovative ways of supporting the MDGs and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda (which include the SDGs that replaced the MDGs in 2015).

2015 was a significant year for GIWEH, with a large emphasis on restructuring the organization. GIWEH evaluated its five year goals and restructured to optimize the allocation of human and financial resources in order to meet these goals. A large focus was placed on identifying the gaps in the organization's structure and repairing them.

GIWEH has also been **an active stakeholder and event organizer for specific themes within several international conferences and international events throughout the year.**

The most important and influential are:

- The **7th World Water Forum in Daegu, Korea.** Within this Forum, GIWEH partnered with the Swiss Water Partnership to organize the GRIPP (Getting Research into Policy and Practice) session as a tool to learn from failure and support decision-makers. GIWEH exchanged information and feedback with different civil society actors, academics, and other organizations for their Flagship Project, “Support the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda,” which was presented within the Swiss Water Partnership booth. GIWEH also managed to build a solid network and cooperate with many countries and civil society entities to move toward implementation and action for the Sustainable Development Agenda.

In 2015, **GIWEH became the vice chairperson of the Knowledge Base and Dissemination Committee of the Asia Water Council, a partner in the Water Governance program and signed the Protocol of the OECD Water Governance Initiative,** built strategic cooperation and collaboration programs with civil society (mainly in Africa and Asia, to support the citizen's voices), **became a member of the Middle East North Africa Network for Water Centers of Excellence (MENA NWC), and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Tunisian Union for Agriculture and Fisheries** to support the farmers and the water-agriculture policy under a water and rural development framework.

- GIWEH was also present at **the Stockholm World Water Week** to discuss the important water issues of today and tomorrow and introduce the organization and its activities to those who were not familiar with it, in order to

broaden the scope of its network and open up new opportunities for cooperation .

- During **COP21,** GIWEH participated within the World Water Council and with the French organization, International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO / RIOB), to support the water agenda and highlight the citizen concern of climate change with more focus on rural areas and farmers.

Due to its involvement and capacity building programs at the international level (located in Africa, Asia, Middle East, Caucasian Region, Central and South America), and its wide network, GIWEH became **a hub for effective networking for its international partners.**

GIWEH's Values



Vision

"To empower the most vulnerable societies to be able to live in a healthy environment with sustainable quantities of high-quality water."

Mission

"To provide societies, individuals, and institutions with educational, research, technical, and scientific support to realize the effective and sustainable use and management of water."

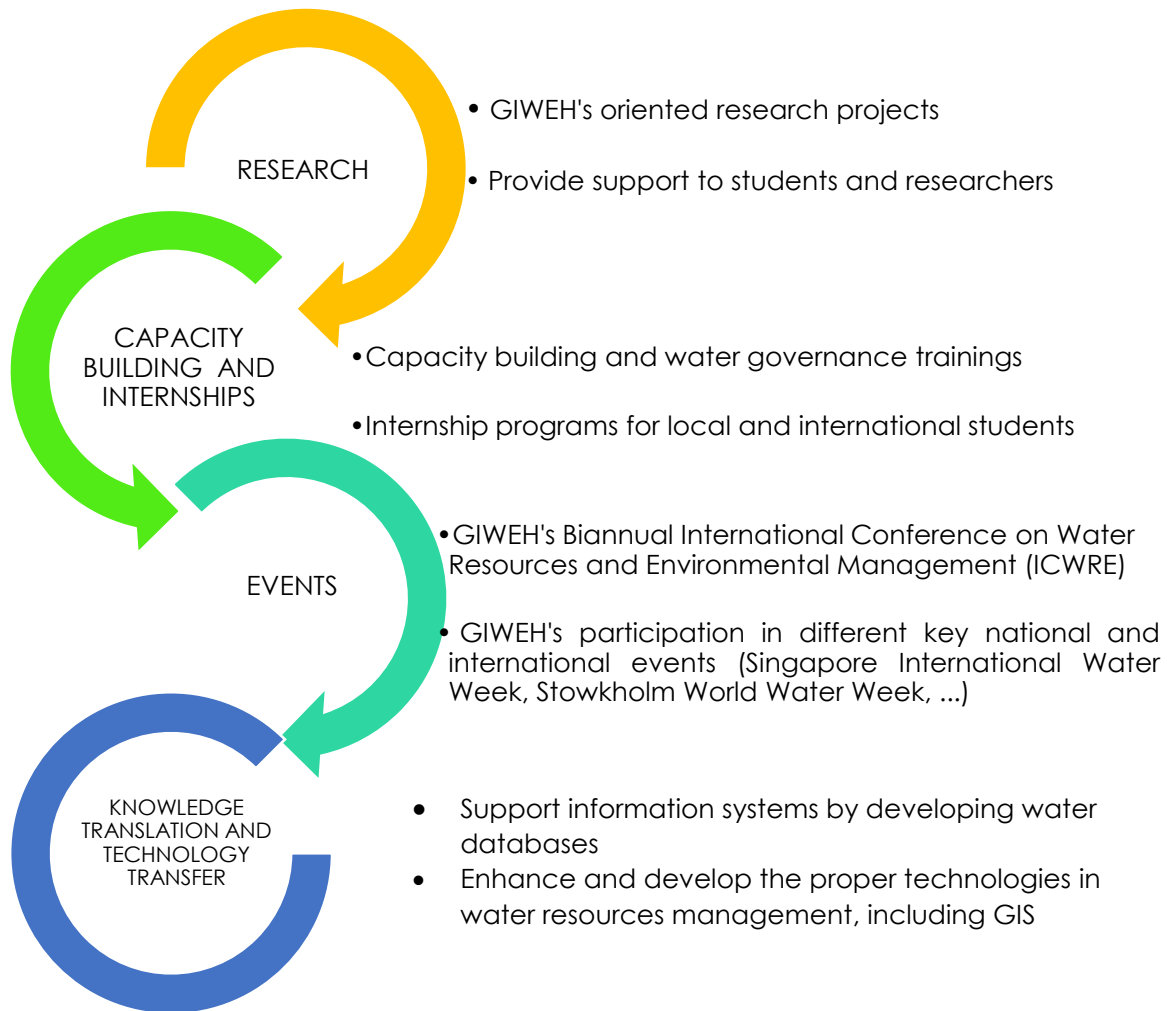
Strategic Plan

The Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health (GIWEH) is committed to sustainable water development and addressing its implications on daily life and interactions with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. GIWEH started 2015 with a comprehensive retreat for the organization to identify its priorities, evaluate its administrative and financial position, and approve the strategic plan for 2016-2019. Our strategic goal is **to effectively contribute to the Sustainable Development Agenda**, in particular focusing on Integrated Water Resources Management and water governance. GIWEH will increase focus on **community participation, international cooperation, and capacity building**, highlighting GIWEH's **2030 Monitoring Framework** at the local and regional scale.

Areas of Focus



Expertise



GIWEH Integrates Water into the Sustainable Development Goals

Water is a key resource, if not the most important. According to the World Economic Forum (2015 & 2016), water is identified as one of the top risks in terms of potential economic losses. Therefore, to achieve sustainable development, it is essential to take into account all aspects of water, from governance to resource management.



2030 Sustainable Development Goals

The Water, Food, and Energy Nexus exemplifies how inextricably linked water is with other sectors, and that sustainable development can only be achieved by cooperation across all fields. To reduce the risk and impact of water issues, a multidisciplinary approach should address the relationship between climate change and good health and well-being, under a framework of sustainable development and inclusive growth. In relation to the SDGs, progress on equitable access to Water and Sanitation (Goal 6) is a crucial step toward Gender Equality (Goals 4 & 5). In turn, such progress contributes to Decent Work and Economic Growth (Goal 8), as women can focus time and efforts on employment, rather than water collection. These examples show the necessity of including significant consideration of water within every development goal, in order to be achieved in a sustainable way.

To summarize, water issues are strongly linked to other sectors and cross-cutting issues, but water cannot be seen merely as a transversal topic¹. It is necessary to adopt an integrated approach. It is also essential to have a goal specifically addressing water—as does Goal 6, in the new Agenda. However, having a separate goal on water does not nullify linkage between targets under Goal 6 and water-related targets under other SDGs.

GIWEH programs link various sectors around water issues and aim to work towards sustainable development at all times. GIWEH identifies itself as an important facilitator and mediator between different key stakeholders, thanks to the network and partnerships it has established. Through these means, GIWEH is an agent of capacity building and raising awareness among the civil society, always working towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

¹ Swiss Water Partnership, *A post-2015 Global Goal for Water, A Water-Secure World for All*, 2015.

GIWEH Activities in 2015

GIWEH is committed to supporting the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, targeting the most vulnerable regions and populations in remote areas, with an in-depth focus on equity and affordability. In this regard, our main targets within Goal 6 are 6.5, 6.6, 6.a, and 6.b:

6.5: “By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate.”

6.6 “By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lake.”

6.a “By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programs, including groundwater, water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies”

6.b: “Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.”

Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation



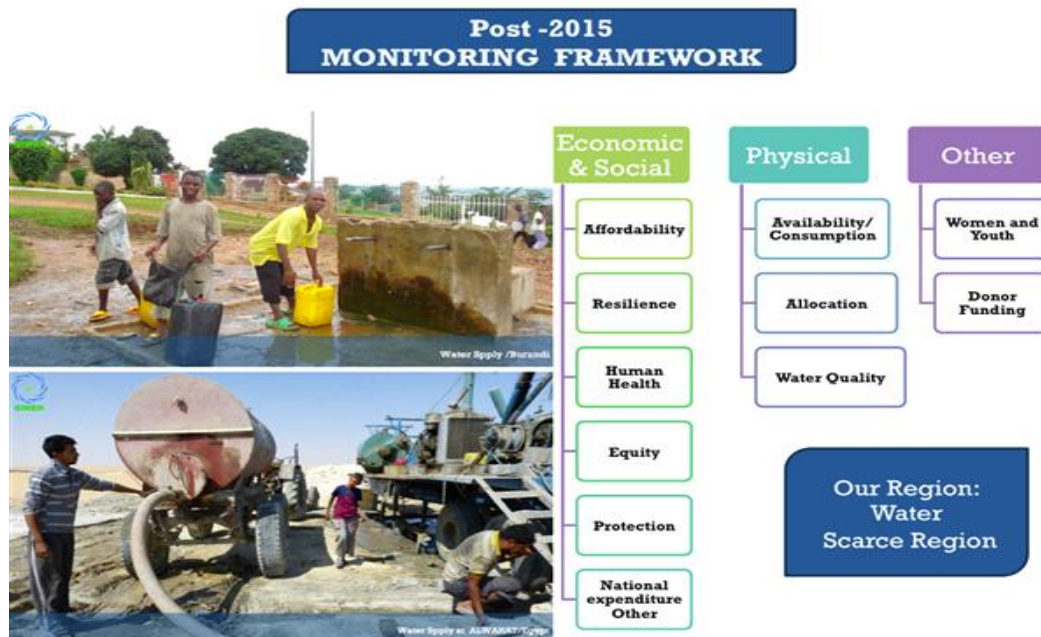
In 2015, GIWEH worked toward this with the following activities: the “Flagship Project,” capacity building and education, and involvement with the Climate-KIC partnership. Our work is described in the following sections.

1. GIWEH’s “Flagship Project” to Support the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

GIWEH’s Flagship Project is an umbrella project enhancing water sustainability by offering both a management tool (proper guidelines and a platform for research, knowledge exchange, and capacity building) as well as a framework for monitoring. While UN-Water’s work focuses at the global scale, our Flagship Project fills the gaps to address regional and local conditions. The Flagship Project was developed from GIWEH’s vision for the future.

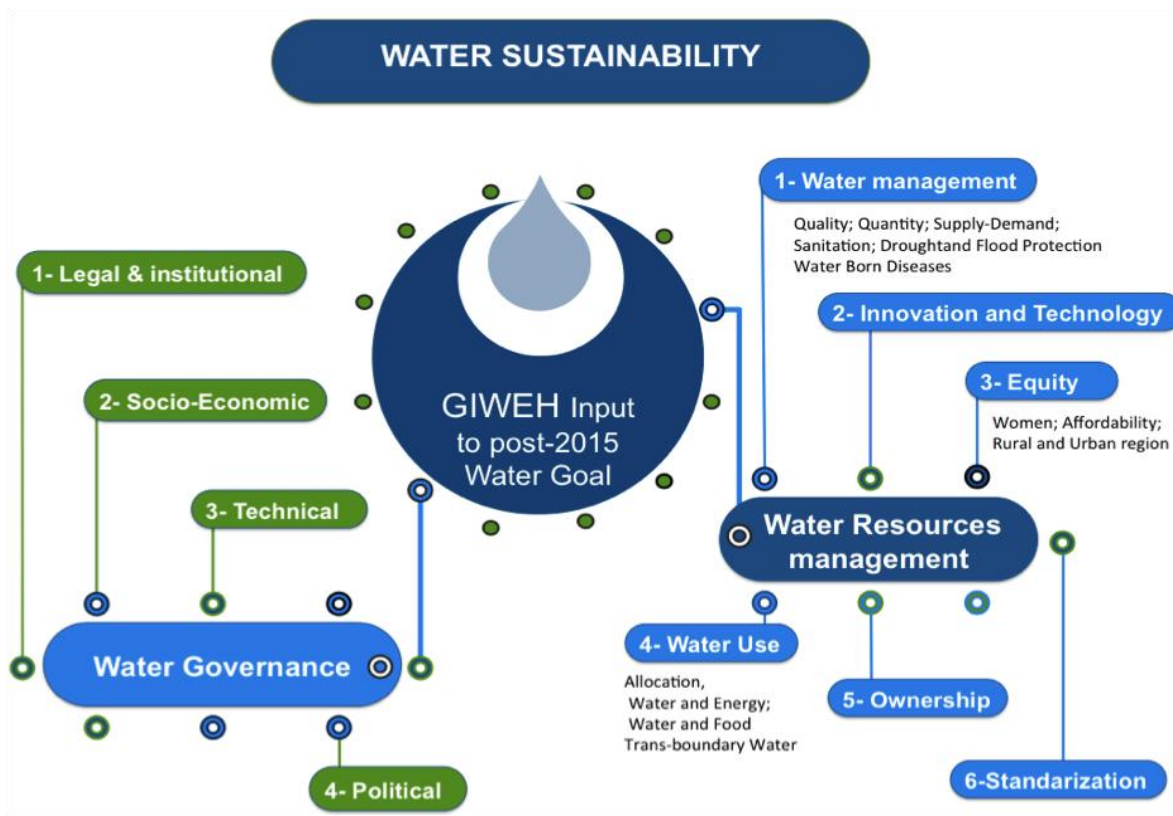
Vision for the Future: the Beginning

Before the SDGs were announced, GIWEH created its vision for the future, as depicted in the “Post-2015 Monitoring Framework” figure below. The vision denoted important aspects within three categories: economic and social components, physical components, and other considerations.



This project symbolizes GIWEH’s vision for the future

After the SDGs were solidified and adopted, GIWEH reflected upon its 2030 vision and made slight modifications to improve the flagship project. The vision was adapted to embody Water Sustainability, and was divided into two main subheadings: Water Resources Management and Water Governance. Under each subheading, the specific aspects of the vision are identified. A visual representation can be seen on the following page.



Why adopt this 2030 vision?

- To move from the Global Agenda to Regional and National Agendas
- To target the most vulnerable areas, in terms of socio-political and economic sensitivity and disaster risks—especially flash floods, droughts, and humanitarian crises
- To build water stewardship through the integration of the private sector and civil society in the monitoring process, in order to promote and support the SDG 6.a and 6.b
- To train the local staff to adopt the different protocols of monitoring
- To present good practices for good water governance

GIWEH's "Flagship Project" supports the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda: specifically addressing Goal 6, the Flagship Project also accounts for related goals (2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 13, 16, and 17, as seen below).



2030 Sustainable Development Goals related to water

The project is developed on three levels (research, capacity building, and monitoring) to be used as a tool in the elaboration of local water databases and information beyond the data to support the water policy and strategy with more focus on citizens, civil society, and academia.

The three levels—capacity building, research, and a monitoring framework—involve:

- Wide water networking
- Extensive capacity building and training
- Cooperation with various key water actors in academia and civil society
- Research and data exchange

During this project, GIWEH will:

- Encourage academics, civil society, and other community leaders to play a leading role in monitoring the development process, and support public-private partnerships to create economic and social prosperity
- Support data visualization and interactive discussions with different actors

GIWEH's 2030 vision will be part of the Water Industry's Overseas Future Plan; developed during the 7th World Water Forum in Korea, this plan supports science and technology in water management. Currently, water scarcity affects more than 40 percent of the people in the world, a proportion set to reach over 66 percent by 2050. Sustainable management cannot be achieved without a comprehensive approach, which relies on high quality data and information. Thus, this Monitoring Program will be a good tool to support and enhance decision-making at every scale.

GIWEH is building partnerships with different key organizations for the successful execution of this project. GIWEH will also develop a GIS system to analyze and present the data on Goal 6 and open online dialogue and feedback. To achieve this goal, GIWEH promotes and facilitates collaborative interagency efforts, information exchange, and key stakeholders' guidance in the water sector. Ultimately, the use of GIS tools will aid in the development and implementation of strategic plans. The development in Geomatics (remote sensing and GIS) will enable users of the 2030 Water Monitoring Framework to consider the available information and their spatial distribution at different levels. The new Geomatics-based water monitoring (water resources management and water governance) will be developed by areas of interest and focus on different zones. GIWEH's Flagship Project was introduced in Korea at the 7th World Water Forum, the Asia Water Council, and at the 2015 Stockholm Water Week.

2. Capacity Building and Education

Initiated in 2009, capacity building and education is one of the core missions of GIWEH's Framework. GIWEH runs trainings for government officials, corporate sector employees, UN staff, farmers, and students at different levels. In 2015, GIWEH organized and held five capacity building courses.

GIWEH's Water Governance Module at the Graduate Institute



GIWEH presented two Water Governance modules within the Executive Master in Development Policies and Practices (DPP) program, at the Graduate Institute in Geneva. The two modules cover five different regions: South America, Central America, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, and Africa.

January/ February 2015: The target audience for this program was civil servants, young professionals, youth leaders, and/or civil society actors. The Water Governance modules covered a range of political, social, economic, and administrative issues that influence water governance, affect the development and management of water resources, and affect the delivery of water services at different levels of society. Participants discussed how to diagnose and bridge major "gaps" in water governance, achieve greater policy coherence and capacity building, and turn failures into successes.

March 2015: A third module focused on Environmental Governance. The target audience for this program was professionals at UN organizations, private organizations, NGOs, academics, and/or civil servants. This module explored the current state of water resources, how the water cycle influences the management of resources, and the interactions between the environment and health. Participants identified common gaps in water governance and explored the best practices used to mitigate such gaps. Ultimately, participants learned concrete solutions to bridge governance challenges that affect water management.



GIWEH at the Climate-KIC – Budapest, Hungary

GIWEH was invited to speak at the [Climate-KIC](#) course on Spatial Planning in Urban Water Management, in Budapest on November 26th-27th, 2015. This two-day program was organized for professionals, aiming to promote sustainable growth and to implement spatial policies at national and international level.



Climate-KIC is Europe's largest public-private partnership, working together to address the challenge of climate change through implementation of spatial policies to promote sustainable water management. They drive climate change innovation through creating partnerships between large and small, local and global, and private, public, and academic sectors.



Participants at the Climate-KIC course on Spatial Planning in Urban Water Management

GIWEH at the International Scale

GIWEH has been actively involved in different key international events and has built strong partnerships with international organizations, in order to contribute to the 2030 Agenda on Water Development. In 2015, GIWEH participated in the 7th World Water Forum (WWF) in Korea, World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden, the OECD Water Governance Initiative, the Asia Water Council, the 7th World Water Council in Marseille, France, the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) in Paris, France, and the International Show of Agriculture, Machinery, and Fishing with the Tunisian Union of Agriculture and Fisheries (UTAP).



(from left to right) Dr. Nidal Salim with figureheads from the Swiss Water Partnership, the Green Party, the Swiss Embassy in Korea, and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

1. GIWEH at the 7th World Water Forum (WWF) in Korea

GIWEH participated in **the World Water Forum 2015** that took place on April 12th-17th, 2015 in Daegu & Gyeongbuk, South Korea. During this international event, GIWEH made contributions to the following events:

- the Swiss booth, which was organized jointly by the Swiss Development Cooperation Agency and the Swiss Water Partnership
- the Swiss Water Partnership's *Getting Research Into Policy and Practice* (GRIPP) session
- the OECD's Water Governance Initiative, and their 12 Principles on Water Governance
- the Water Business Forum

GIWEH's Participation at the Swiss Booth

The Swiss booth was themed “High Quality Swiss Solutions.” Participants were GIWEH, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, CSD Engineers, Helvetas, CEWAS, ETH Zürich, Antenna, Clean Alps, Nestlé, WaterLex, Eawag, Switzerland Global Enterprise, and the Water Network. GIWEH presented its **Flagship Project, “2030: A Monitoring Framework in Water Scarce Regions,”** after the initial two-hour seminar. It was an interactive session and resulted in Dr. Nidal Salim having discussions on possible cooperation with various stakeholders at local, national, and regional scales, such as AMCO, the Japan Water Forum, and the Ministers of Water from Kenya, Morocco, Palestine, Senegal, and the United Arab Emirates.



Model of the Swiss booth

GIWEH's Contribution to the GRIPP Session

GIWEH was involved in organizing the Swiss Water Partnership's session on *Getting Research into Policy and Practice* (GRIPP), along with Eawag and CEWAS. Dr. Nidal Salim presented a case study entitled, **“Bridging the Gap Between Researchers and Policymakers,” with a focus on the Middle East.** The session examined case studies from Australia, Senegal, and the Middle East (Nidal Salim's case study) to discuss ways of designing research initiatives to respond to policy demands and to engage policymakers. Research can be a powerful development tool, but generating new evidence is not enough. Careful and timely involvement of policymakers is crucial to contribute to effective uptake of research



Dr. Nidal Salim presenting his case study

findings and the scaling up of technologies. This conference drew up numerous gaps—such as those within policy, capacity, and information—between researchers and stakeholders. Conclusions were that a bimodal method should be used (diagnosis and bridging), in order to initiate a dialogue among the concerned parties. Therefore, a virtuous circle between scientific communication, risk communication, and decision analysis is needed.

GIWEH's Partnership with the OECD

GIWEH has been a member of the OECD Governance Initiative since its inception in 2013. The OECD created 12 Principles on Water Governance, which were cultivated by the Ministers at the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting on June 4th, 2015. The OECD Principles of Water Governance provide a framework to understand whether water governance systems are performing optimally and help to adjust them where necessary. GIWEH continued its support by becoming **a signatory to the 12 Principles of Water Governance of the OECD's Water Governance Initiative**. The 12 principles are based on multi-level governance, managing water at the right scale, policy coherence, capacity, data and information, governance-financing nexus, regulatory frameworks, governance and innovation, integrity and transparency, stakeholder engagement, equity across users, people and places, monitoring and evaluation.

Coping with current and future water challenges requires robust public policies, targeting measurable objectives, in pre-determined time-schedules, at the appropriate scale, with clear assignment of duties across responsible authorities, and regular monitoring and evaluation. This is why the OECD has developed the 12 Principles on Water Governance as a tangible means to guide public action towards better water policies for better lives. This undertaking was based on a bottom-up, multi-stakeholder and inclusive approach, since the creation of the Water Governance Initiative in 2013.

GIWEH's Participation in the Water Business Forum

GIWEH was invited to the **Water Business Forum**. During this forum, water companies, civil society, and academics from diverse regions shared their technology, experience, and needs. Business seminars, business-to-business (B2B) sharing, government-to-government (G2G) sharing, and podium sessions were facilitated in order to enhance mutual cooperation, promotion and discovery of new water projects. From this forum, GIWEH's 2030 vision was included to be part of the Water Industry's Overseas Future Plan, which enables the building of public-private partnerships for the Monitoring Framework. Ultimately, GIWEH became **a signatory to the Declaration of the World Water Business Partnership**.



Opening ceremonies at the Water Business Forum

GIWEH held several meetings to discuss future cooperation with different stakeholders such as representatives from the private sector, government ministers, and civil society actors. The subjects of these meetings included making information available, using the media, informing and educating stakeholders, the role of fundraising agencies, and learning from good practices.

2. GIWEH at the World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden

GIWEH continues its commitment and active participation in the [World Water Week](#) in Stockholm, Sweden, which was held on August 23rd -28th, 2015. GIWEH, other Swiss members, and international partners (such as SIWI and Aqua for All) organized presentations at the Swiss booth during the Stockholm Water Week.



GIWEH at the Swiss booth at World Water Week in Stockholm

On August 28th, GIWEH launched its Flagship Project, “Support the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda – Goal 6,” for the 2030 Agenda. Here, GIWEH collected many reviews and feedback from organizations such as UN-Water, OECD, the Asia Water Council, and the University of Geneva. The feedback was used to modify and improve the project. For more information on the Flagship Project, refer to pages 14-16.

3. GIWEH and the Asia Water Council

The [Asia Water Council \(AWC\)](#) is a global water organization focused on developing a consensus and sustainable network in order to find solutions to Asia's water problems. Officially launched in April 2015 in Gyeongju, Korea, the AWC is made up of 31 organizations including international organizations, multilateral development banks, Asian governments, public organizations, and research institutes. The Asia Water Council aims to facilitate mutual cooperation between its members and partners, create opportunities for joint research projects by sharing information and networks, enhance better understanding of Smart Water Management to tackle water issues in Asia and beyond, and build strong networks for tangible outcomes for new initiatives. The AWC's main strategies are to: connect with the SDGs, build a solid network, and enhance water technology.

The AWC is divided between seven Special Committees including: Strategy and Policy, Standardization, Smart Water Management Initiative, Water-Energy-Food Nexus, Water-Aid Program, Water Education, and Knowledge Base and Dissemination. GIWEH became a member of the Asia Water Council in August 2015 and holds the position of **Vice Chairperson of the “Knowledge Base and Dissemination Special Committee”** (KB&D). Aiming to reduce the information gap on water-related issues, the Knowledge Base and Dissemination Committee has planned to create a dynamic database entitled, **“Asia Dynamic Hub For Water: the Power of Information.”** The database will



provide useful information on free, open-source software for all Asian member states, since the collection of data (both quantity and quality) is one of the main challenges faced for the implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management. The dissemination of reliable and transparent information aims to provide feasible water management solutions for leaders.

As part of the KB&D Special Committee, GIWEH will contribute and work on the implementation of four projects in Mongolia and Indonesia (2016), as well as in Vietnam and Thailand (2017). Specifically, the KB&D Committee is the leading Special Committee for the Water Project, “Comprehensive Study for Additional Water Supply from Nearby Basins to Chao Phraya River Basin” in Thailand, to be approved and implemented starting at the end of 2016.

4. GIWEH at the 7th General Assembly of the World Water Council in Marseille, France

As a member of **the World Water Council (WWC)**, GIWEH participated in the **7th General Assembly**, in Marseille, France, held on November 13th -14th, 2015. GIWEH was represented by Dr. Dietrich Bartelt, a member of our Advisory Board, Dr. Nidal Salim, the General Director, and Mr. Adrian Oleszkiewicz, a member of our Steering Committee. The Swiss Water Partnership (SWP) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) also represented Switzerland at the Assembly. Currently, the vast majority of



(from left to right) Mr. Adrian Oleszkiewicz, Dr. Nidal Salim, and Dr. Dietrich Bartelt at the 7th General Assembly of the World Water Council

the Assembly is made up of Northern countries, so the SWP, SDC, and GIWEH continue to actively encourage stronger participation of Southern representatives in the Council.

The 7th General Assembly of the World Water Council elected the Board of Governors, which will serve for a three-year tenure (2016-2018). The Board of Governors is made up of 35 members representing the five Council colleges: intergovernmental institutions, governments and governmental authorities, enterprises and facilities, civil society and water user associations, and professional associations and academics. Benedito Braga was elected President for this term, to oversee the implementation of the approved strategy on water security, adaptation, and sustainability. The election took place during this triennial General Assembly, with participation from over 250 delegates from almost 40 countries.

5. GIWEH as a Member of the OECD Water Governance Initiative

As **a member of OECD Water Governance Initiative** since its inception in March 2013, GIWEH continues to participate in this Forum with many other organizations. This network consists of 120+ delegates who gather twice a year and are committed to integrating OECD's Principles² into their activities. The member organizations were also involved in the establishment of the indicators and are continuously consulted as indicators are developed. GIWEH holds an important place among these organizations, supporting the voice of civil society.



GIWEH's seat at the OECD Water Governance Initiative

² Following links can be visited for more information related to OECD Water governance Initiative and OECD Principles on Water Governance: <http://www.oecd.org/gov/regional-policy/water-governance-initiative.htm>; <http://www.oecd.org/gov/regional-policy/OECD-Principles-on-Water-Governance-brochure.pdf>

6. GIWEH at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) in Paris, France

The 21st session of the [Conference of the Parties](#) (COP21) took place from November 30th - December 11th, 2015, in Paris, France. Mr. Adrien Oleszkiewicz represented GIWEH at COP21, attending as an observer, from December 7th -13th, 2015. GIWEH had four main objectives for attending this event: networking, supporting the water agenda within the climate change discussion, enhancing the role of civil society, and exchanging ideas with civil society organizations and other delegations about the future challenges and possible solutions to global environmental problems. COP21 was successful in reaching a consensus, as the participating 195 countries agreed to the final global pact, the Paris Agreement. Key conclusions include holding climate change



Mr. Adrien Oleszkiewicz at COP21

to below two degrees Celsius, and reducing emissions as part of the method for reducing greenhouse gases. The agreement does not explicitly mention a plan for the role of water, but acknowledges the relationship between water and climate change by referencing the SDGs and recognizing water and sanitation as a human right. GIWEH will join the preparation meetings for COP22 in 2016, working on behalf of the connection between climate change and water.

7. GIWEH at the International Show of Agriculture, Machinery, and Fishing, Organized by UTAP

The International Show of Agriculture, Machinery, and Fishing was held on October 28th - November 1st, 2015. As a partner of l'Union Tunisienne de l'Agriculture et de la Pêche (UTAP), GIWEH attended the event on October 30th, 2015. This event was organized in order to provide a platform for international organizations to exchange experiences and create partnerships. GIWEH attended with the main purpose of exchanging ideas with farmers and discussing their basic needs and problems, in order to better understand how to create adequate solutions.



Mr. Adrien Oleszkiewicz at the International Show of Agriculture, Machinery, and Fishing

8. GIWEH — Tunisia Cooperation

GIWEH visited Tunisia to begin discussions on future cooperation with civil society and academic actors, and was happy to initiate a partnership with UTAP (Tunisian Union for Agriculture and Fisheries). During the visit, GIWEH highlighted the Sustainable Development Goals and their potential for implementation within UTAP programs (especially the Water-Food-Energy Nexus), placing more focus on agriculture and climate change.

The visit consisted of two parts: a field visit and consultation. GIWEH was represented by three delegates, and visited the Northwest, Northeast, and Central regions of Tunisia over the course of three days, to better understand the water and agriculture situation in the areas. Discussions were held with farmers, land owners, UTAP representatives, and later, with the Ministry of Agriculture to congeal the different perspectives together and create a whole profile of water and agriculture policy—including the legal, institutional, and technical aspects. Then, GIWEH provided guidance, recommendations, and support to help UTAP work toward integration of water and agriculture policy, with the help of the Ministry of Agriculture. Both sides agreed to draft a Memorandum of



Understanding (MOU) and specify the different topics of cooperation; GIWEH is committed to bringing their expertise, and will invite Swiss and European organizations to contribute expertise as well, to help develop water and agriculture policy in Tunisia. The ultimate goal is to help Tunisia adapt their agriculture to climate change.

Mr. Adrien Oleszkiewicz meeting with Tunisian representatives

GIWEH at the National Scale

GIWEH's Participation in a High-Level Panel

GIWEH's General Director, Nidal Salim, participated in a **High-Level Panel at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies**, in Geneva, on Wednesday, January 28th, 2015. The roundtable focused on “**Local vs. Global Approaches to Security Threats;**” experts discussed different threat dimensions and various contexts of fragility, looking at their impact on stability and development. The exchange included issues such as radicalism and terrorism in the Sahel region, the Ebola health security crisis, and environmental security—particularly looking at Central Asia, Africa, and Latin America. High level participants included Prof. Dr. Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Mohamedou, Deputy Director and Academic Dean (GCSP), Dr. Sylvie Briand, Director of Pandemic and Epidemic Diseases Department (WHO), and Mr. Markus Heiniger, Focal Point Conflict and Human Rights (SDC).

GIWEH as a Steering Board Member for SWP

During the 4th General Assembly of **the Swiss Water Partnership** in Bern in May 2015, GIWEH was reelected as a Steering Board Member. This will be GIWEH's second term, lasting until 2018. The Steering Board includes: SDC (Christian Eggs), SANDEC (Chris Zurbrügg), CSD Engineers (Olga Darazs), GIWEH (Nidal Salim), SECO (Edi Medilanski), Holinger AG (Ulrich Steiner), Cewas (Johannes Heeb), Cleantech Alps (Eric Plan), and WaterLex (Jean-Benoît Charrin).

GIWEH Partners with the World Bank

The Swiss Water Partnership initiated a partnership with the World Bank, in which GIWEH will be included. This partnership will produce two programs: the Sustainable Development Program and the Groundwater Program. The Sustainable Development program aims to improve monitoring through technological advancements, GIS visualization, and database formation. The Groundwater program aims to improve governance of groundwater resources in the MENA region through consultation and research.

The Sustainable Development Goals – how can Swiss partners contribute?



GIWEH took part in an Eawag meeting for sustainable development. Eawag, in collaboration with the Swiss Water Partnership, organized an inspiring debate around the implementation and monitoring of the Water Goal on December 1st, 2015, at the Eawag headquarters. It followed the UN's adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals. The panel included speakers from Eawag, SDC, WHO,

GEMI, GIWEH, and WaterLex. This event was organized to inform participants about the ongoing development of monitoring infrastructure, the newly adopted 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, address key challenges towards implementation, and present selected initiatives. Dr. Nidal Salim gave a presentation about GIWEH's support for the 2030 Agenda, while other presentations covered topics such as the architecture of monitoring framework, Switzerland's prior and potential future contributions, and the role of human rights institutions.

GIWEH in Geneva

The Alternatiba Festival

GIWEH contributed to the **Alternatiba Festival** in Plainpalais. This event includes conferences, exhibitions, booths, workshops, and practical demonstrations. The aim is to show that actual solutions can be found in response to climate change, enabling us to build a more equal and fair society. At the event, GIWEH provided concrete alternatives and win-win solutions to civil society, acting in favor of climate change mitigation.



GIWEH's booth at the Alternatiba Festival

GIWEH Partners with the University of Geneva

GIWEH began a partnership with the University of Geneva on a cooperative program for the development of a GIS manual to monitor progress on the Water Goal for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. GIWEH is responsible for developing the concept, structure of the research, and indicators to be used. The University of Geneva is responsible for the GIS mapping expertise: a Master's student began the GIS development in October 2015. This project will result in a written publication in 2016.

GIWEH's Local Capacity Building

GIWEH hosts a capacity building program in the Canton of Geneva's public schools, for students ages 13 to 17. The program teaches **awareness sessions about the Sustainable Development Agenda**, using cartography as a means to raise environmental consciousness. GIWEH creates various maps to represent aspects of water, the environment, and health that best relate to the current topic. Examples include: flora and fauna, soil types, water availability and flow, availability of renewable resources, infrastructure, transportation, and economic development. The program is run in conjunction with the Department of Public Instruction (DIP), with which GIWEH has been partners since 2011. Additionally, through this partnership, GIWEH has received many students to fulfill internships and practice on-hand training on water issues and sustainable development.

GIWEH at the Graduate Institute of Geneva

In 2015, GIWEH continued cooperation and partnership with the Graduate Institute of Geneva, through the Water and Environmental Governance program as a part of the Global Governance and Human Security program held within the Graduate Institute. GIWEH held three trainings: please see pages 17 and 18 for further detail. Additionally, GIWEH received an intern, Barzin Aryan, from the Graduate Institute in 2015.

GIWEH's Internship Program

GIWEH has been running an international internship program since its inception. Each year, young specialists with diverse backgrounds from all over the world benefit from this program. The program offers its participants broad opportunities to learn about water, environmental, and health issues by visiting different international organizations, and to get involved in scientific work by conducting and reviewing research and participating in international conferences.

TRAINING STUDENTS FROM DIFFERENT UNIVERSITIES ABOUT WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT

GIWEH is committed to providing a platform for research to scientists and students from around the world to work on GIWEH's core topic areas. GIWEH has supported several researchers and produced research projects along with other publications.

ABEL GELMAN - SWITZERLAND

"I spent late 2015 interning at GIWEH, collaborating on work for their "2030 Water Monitoring Framework Flagship Project." My time here allowed me to closely follow up the deployment process of such a project, and comprehend the many facets of the work of an international NGO. I mostly worked developing a Spatial Data Infrastructure, which I didn't have much experience with. I always felt that everyone trusted me, and I particularly appreciated the leeway I was given to work at my own pace. As a result, I have gained valuable knowledge, training and confidence. Besides the professional aspect of the internship, it was a pleasure to collaborate with the other interns and the whole GIWEH team."

- **Laura KIRKVOLD**, American intern, obtained her degree in Environmental Management & Policy from Lund University in Sweden. She helped GIWEH to develop the concept of the 2030 Agenda.
- **Aurélia PASSASEO**, Master candidate in Geography-Environment, and Sciences de la société, in UNIGE, Switzerland. She worked on a report on the International Conference Water Resources and Environmental Management (ICWRE), the annual conference of GIWEH. She also classified and followed-up on multiple reports.
- **Abel GELMAN**, a Swiss-Argentinian UNIGE student, did a project at Geneva University making a tutorial for GIS monitoring for the Post-2015 Agenda.
- **Pauline FAITG**, from University Pierre Mendès France, Grenoble, France. Student in a Law degree, she worked on documentation and preparation of training material for GIWEH.
- **Mr. Barzin ARYAN** studied Development Studies at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) in Switzerland. He researched "trans-boundary water resource management."

- **Elodie ZAMBON**, student in Sciences Po Bordeaux, Bordeaux, France, did a three month internship and worked on GIWEH's indicators for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
- **Karim BEGUELIN** prepared, under the guidance of Dr. Salim, a proposal and research study to support the 2030 Water Monitoring Framework on water and sanitation in Asia, with a focus on Thailand and Indonesia.

ELODIE ZAMBON – FRANCE

“I had the opportunity to work as an intern with GIWEH for three months. Interested in global environmental issues and in international cooperation, I naturally turned to the work performed by an NGO, in order to extend my knowledge and skills on this topic. Working for GIWEH is a great experience since the organization is young and small. Everyone works together and knows each other in a stimulating environment. By helping GIWEH to develop its goals for the 2030 strategy, I could strengthen my knowledge on water issues around the world, such as water scarcity in vulnerable regions. In addition, I realized how crucial it is for an NGO to spend time on its fundraising activities: it is actually the most important part since without funds and partners a small NGO is hardly able to subsist.

This internship gave me the occasion to be more familiar with the realities that a small international organization has to face in daily life, while being at the heart of a key international center—Geneva. I thank Dr. Salim for giving me the chance to be part of GIWEH team and for having fulfilled its mentor's role.”

Research

The Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health carried out **seven research projects in 2015**. These papers mainly focused on the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. The topics of the Research Projects are as follows:

- A research project on [“Deployment of a geospatial data platform for the monitoring of water management indicators,”](#) in collaboration with the University of Geneva
- A preliminary analysis for [the development of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in Asia](#), in cooperation with Asia Water Council, including case studies of Thailand and Indonesia
- A proposal and research study to support [the 2030 Water Monitoring Framework on water and sanitation in Kenya](#), with support of the Ministry of Water Resources
- A research report, published in 2015, on [“Managing the Water Food Nexus: the importance of the integration of different forms of knowledge and expertise”](#)
- A research report on [“Farmers’ perceptions of Scotland’s diffuse water pollution regulations in the Eye Water and Pease Bay priority catchment”](#)
- A report on [“Keep Your Head above Water: Management and Water Literacy in Italy”](#)



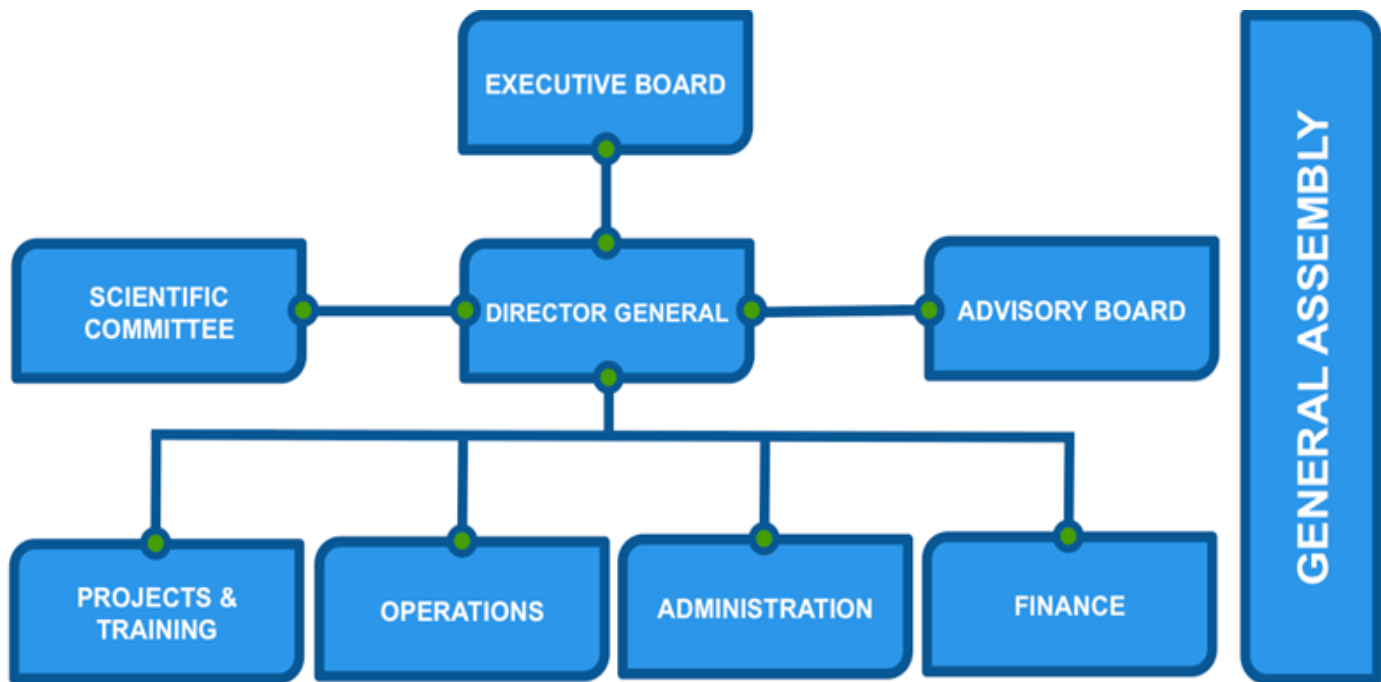
Upcoming Events

GIWEH will continue its support for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and will be undertaking international projects in the coming years. Below are the highlights of upcoming activities in 2016.



- Memorandum of Understanding with UTAP: understanding the concept of rural development based on water and agriculture, including different goals of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda (i.e., women and youth empowerment, green economy, food and water, peacemaking, and capacity building)
- Three Training Courses from January to March 2016, on Capacity Building within the Executive Master in Development Policies and Practices (DPP) Program of the Graduate Institute in Geneva
- The 1st General Assembly of the Asia Water Council will be held in March (24th-26th) 2015, in Bali, Indonesia
- Citizen's Forum Commission: continued work and the implementation of Water Projects in Asia, and preparation for the 8th Water Forum in Brazil
- Renewal of GIWEH's OECD membership, a key priority
- Attend the annual Stockholm World Water Week, a standard event on GIWEH's calendar
- GIWEH's 4th International Conference on Water Resources and Environment (ICWRE), to be held in Tunisia in November 2016
- Present a paper on "Water and Climate Change" at COP22, to be held in Morocco
- Participate in Singapore's International World Water Week 2016
- Develop new public-private partnerships and deepen existing ones

Organizational Structure



STEERING COMMITTEE

- Mr. Didier Barthe, President
- Ms. Karima Pirini, Treasurer
- Mr. Adian Oleszkiewicz,
Secretary
- Ms. Nino Abuldaze,
Academy

ADVISORY BOARD

- Prof. Jean-Pierre Lehmann
- Prof. Mohamed Jamil Abdulraz
- Dr. Kamal Mustapha Gueze
- Dr. Deitrich Bartelt
- Mr. Mbaruku Vyakweli
- Dr. Khaled Qahman
- Dr. Senthil Kumar

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| – Dr. Maher Abu-Madi | — Dr. Alan Fryar | — Prof. Larry A. Roesner |
| – Dr. Saleh Bajabaa | — Dr. Johannes Heeb | — Prof. Salman Salman |
| – Prof. Lahcen Benaabidate | — Prof. A. Ahmed Kettaba | — Dr. Johannes Van Der Kwast |
| – Dr. Mahmoud Bouzelboudjen | — Prof. Abdelkader Larabi | — Prof. Walter Wildi |
| – Dr. W.R. Erdelen | — Prof. Kamal Mohammedi | — Prof. Chris William |
| | — Dr. Khaled Rashed | |

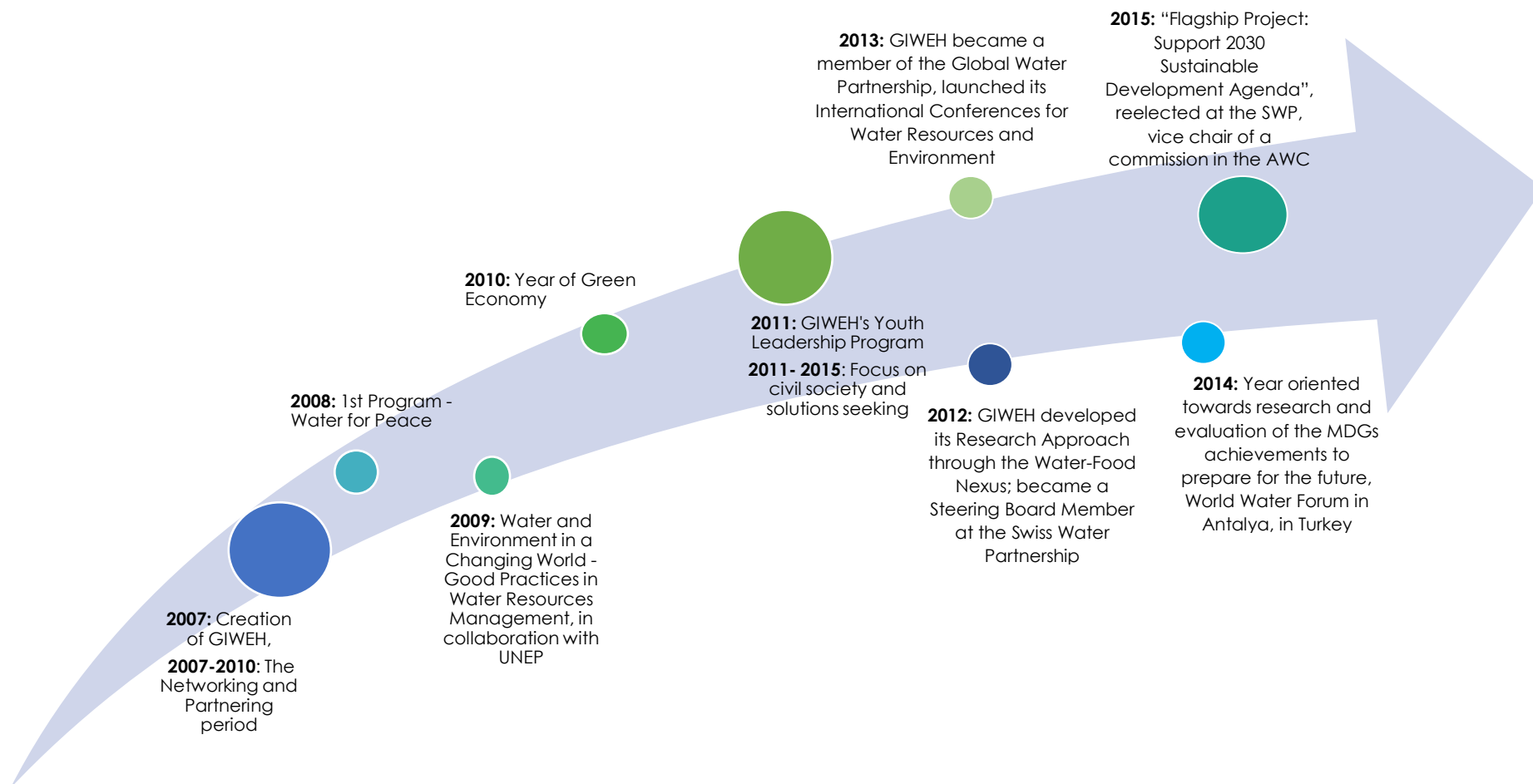
Collaboration and Cooperation

- **United Nations Environment Program** –Geneva, Switzerland
- **UNESCO-IHE** – Delft, the Netherlands
- **World Health Organization** –Geneva, Switzerland
- **World Meteorological Organization**–Geneva, Switzerland
- **Green Cross International** –Geneva, Switzerland
- **École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne**– Lausanne, Switzerland
- **King Abdul-Aziz University** – Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- **Birmingham University** – Birmingham, United Kingdom
- **Evian Group, IMD** – Lausanne, Switzerland
- **Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies** – Geneva, Switzerland
- **University of Geneva** – Geneva, Switzerland
- **University Sidi Mohamad Ben Abdallah** – Fez, Morocco
- **School for International Training (SIT) Graduate Institute** – Brattleboro, Vermont, USA
- **University Badji Mokhtar** – Annaba, Algeria
- **Al-Qods University** – Palestinian University in East Jerusalem, Palestine
- **Cadi Ayyad University** – Marrakech, Morocco
- **Akdeniz University** – Antalya, Turkey
- **Palestinian Hydrology Group** –Ramallah, Palestine

Memberships



Looking Back at GIWEH's History



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