



**Global Public Policy Network on water Management:
Findings from stakeholders inputs to the CSD 16
Water and Sanitation Review**

The role of Southern Civil Society in
implementing International Water and
Sanitation commitments

Nathalie Seguin, FAN Mexico coordinator

UN-CSD 16, May 8th, New York



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net



Freshwater Action Network

- A major network of civil society organisations implementing and influencing water and sanitation policy and practice.
- Our members, from around the world, are respected for their unique skill, experience and perspective.
- Our strategy is shaped by a consortium of CSO networks in Latin America, Africa and Asia.



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net



Our Vision

- A world where water is respected and protected as an essential resource for all forms of life and universal access to water and sanitation is achieved responsibly and inclusively.



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net



Our Mission

- FAN works to improve water governance by strengthening the role of civil society in decision-making, linking the environmental and developmental agenda, for the realisation of the right to water and sanitation for present and future generations.



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net



Freshwater Action Network

- A network of change-makers
- A link between local and global
- A platform for dialogue and influence
- A forum for sharing learning and experiences



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net



FAN inputs to the Global Public Policy Network

- FAN was identified as a key global stakeholder with experience and expertise in the water and sanitation sector
- FANMex :
 - Identify good practices, obstacles and challenges, lessons learned amongst general stakeholders, indigenous people and gender vision



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net

FANMex inputs to the GPPN

- FAN Mex was instrumental in contacting CSO's, translating inputs, explaining the CSD 16 objectives and importance, collecting inputs underlying the importance of their participation, and assuring that all inputs were returned to GPPN
 - "Participatory Democracy", Mexico City
 - Water Forum of Chilpancingo", State of Guerrero (highly indigenous and marginalized state)



FANMex inputs to the GPPN

- Main challenges of the process
 - Language and use of language



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net



Conclusions from the FAN-Mex findings that came out of the GPPN process.

Policy reform implications for Mexico still not met:

1. The right to water still not recognized in the constitution.
2. Sanitation is not being prioritized, there is no political benefit.
3. Local ways of managing water are not integrated into reform process or recognized by state or federal government
4. Review the systems of subsidized water, as it is still not assisting the poor communities



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net



Conclusions from the FAN-Mex findings that came out of the GPPN process.

Good practices detected among CSOs towards implementation of WatSan commitments:

- Strengthening of local capacities by local trained people (instead of "expert stranger")
- Water, sanitation and land management by indigenous farmers groups, Incorporating local knowledge and needs.
- Foster co-responsability between urban and non urban communities



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net



Conclusions from the FAN-Mex findings that came out of the GPPN process.

Difficulties to hold governments into account :

- intrinsically tied to political patronage (water per vote) and corruption
- Highly centralized: decentralization attempts have failed to incorporate all stakeholders in decision making processes.
- Lack of coordinated actions with the government institutions at three levels (municipal, state and federation).



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net



Conclusions from the FAN-Mex findings that came out of the GPPN process.

Mechanisms for holding governments to account:

- Institutionalization of accountability practices rooted on citizens (academia, civil society, private sector):
 - Create and facilitate **inter stakeholders dialogue** with authorities at all level to **promote co-responsability and partnerships**
 - **Citizen water observatories (CWO)** can be an example of adopting a culture of accountability that can be better institutionalized. CWO can monitor and evaluate water operators and foster **efficiency and transparency** in order to attain the right to water.
 - Strengthening local capacities (users and local authorities) and technology transfer to **foster sustainability and continuity**



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net



Thank you!

Contacts:

FAN International: fan@freshwateraction.net

FAN Mexico: fanmex@gmail.com



Freshwater Action Network
www.freshwateraction.net