



WATER FOR LIFE
2005-2015

2015 UN-Water Annual International
Zaragoza Conference

Water and sustainable development: From vision to action

Zaragoza, Spain, 15-17 January 2015

"I urge people from all nations, faiths, cultures and traditions to work together in common cause to keep the promise made at the turn of the Millennium and leave a legacy of peace, prosperity and sustainable progress for generations to come."

**UN Secretary-General
Ban Ki-moon**

Organized by:

UN-Water Decade
Programme on Advocacy
and Communication
(UNW-DPAC)

In collaboration with:

United Nations Development
Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Department of
Economic and Social
Affairs (UNDESA)
Global Compact CEO Water
Mandate
United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural
Organization (UNESCO)
World Council of Civil
Engineers (WCCE)
Women for Water
Partnership
UN Regional Commissions
Other international
organizations

About the Zaragoza Conference

The post-2015 international agenda for water will be decided in 2015. The UN-Water International Zaragoza Conference will start the year focusing on how to bring the agenda into action. A practical event on tools for implementation.

The UN-Water Conferences serve to prepare for World Water Day, focusing in 2015 on "water and sustainable development". More than 300 participants from United Nations Agencies and programmes, experts, representatives of the business community, governmental and non-governmental organizations will meet from 15 to 17 January 2015 in Zaragoza, Spain, to discuss the tools for implementing the post-2015 agenda for water. This is also the last year of the International Water Decade so it is especially important for taking stock of and learning from achievements as well as planning the next steps.

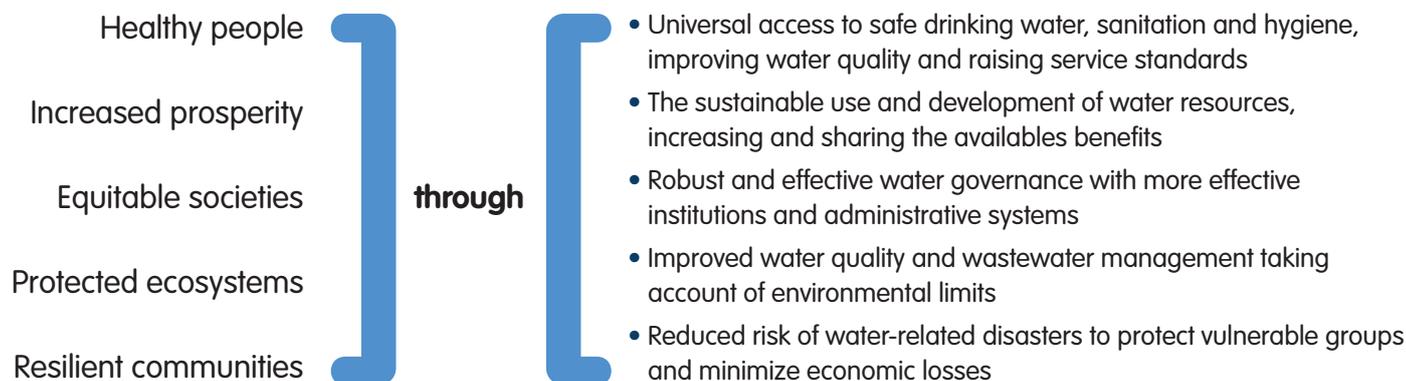
From Sustainable Development to a Sustainable Development Agenda for Water

The Conference will deal with some of the main implementation challenges related to the five main targets recommended by the UN-Water proposal on the global goal for water "**Securing Sustainable Water for All**". These are:

- A. Achieve universal access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene;
- B. Improve by (x%) the sustainable use and development of water resources in all countries;
- C. All countries strengthen equitable, participatory and accountable water governance;
- D. Reduce untreated wastewater by X%, nutrient pollution by Y% and increase wastewater reuse by Z%;
- E. Reduce mortality by (x%) and economic loss by (y%) from natural and human-induced water-related disasters.



The water goal and targets directly address the development aims of societies, promote human dignity and ensure achievements are sustainable over the long term leading to the following development outcomes, amongst others:



The Focus on action/implementation

The trademark of the Water for Life Decade has been the focus on "action/implementation". Technology, financing, capacity development, as well as institutional issues need to be considered taking into account regional resource endowments and economic development. Improving governance is key to achieving the post-2015 agenda in water. Improving stakeholder participation, transparency, water integrity, institutional and legal frameworks, effectiveness and efficiency and the ability to innovate and change in existing institutions and organizations will be the main focus of the conference.

How is the Zaragoza Conference being organized?

The conference will provide a space for dialogue around selected topics relevant to the implementation of the international agenda on water. It will draw from practical experience from Member States and stakeholder groups.

Day 1. Thursday, 15 January	Day 2. Friday, 16 January	Day 3. Saturday 17 January
<p>Official welcoming</p> <p>Plenary session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting the scene: Rio+20, 2015 World Water Day, 7th World Water Forum • Means of implementing the International Water Agenda: institutional, financial, technological, capacity development • Key Governance issues 	<p>Parallel dialogues in roundtables on specific topic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International organizations • Governments • Business • Academia • Civil society and NGOs 	<p>Plenary session:</p> <p>Multi-stakeholder thematic tables</p> <p>Table 1</p> <p>Table 2</p> <p>Table 3</p> <p>Table 4</p> <p>Lessons learnt and roadmap to 2015 World Water Day and 7th World Water Forum</p>