

GENEVA

WATER HUB

**HYDROPOLITICS TOWARDS
PEACE AND SECURITY**

www.genevawaterhub.org

Vision and Mission

Sustainable water resources management is a major global challenge of the 21st century. Water is essential for public health, food security, energy, and ecosystem services. Growing tensions around large dams, mining operations and various disputes over land and water illustrate how water is linked to insecurity at local, regional and global scale.

Water can however become a theme for collaboration and an instrument of peace. It is with this positive vision that the Geneva Water Hub was established, with the support of the Swiss Agency for development and cooperation (SDC) and several global actors from civil society, academia, river basin organisations and the private sector. The Geneva Water Hub aims at developing the hydropolitics agenda to help prevent water-related conflicts at intersectoral and transboundary levels at an early stage and to promote water as an instrument of peace and cooperation.

The Geneva Water Hub has three main Functions interacting to support seven Global Strategic Platforms.

Research and Education

Science at the intersection of research and political action, for the prevention and management of water-related conflicts, and strategic analysis for evidence-based decision-making. It contributes to a better understanding of the challenges of water governance. This Function is carried out by the Institute for Environmental Sciences (ISE) which collaborates with the UNESCO Chaire in hydropolitics (ISE, UNESCO), and by the Platform for International Water Law of Faculty of Law of the University of Geneva.

Think Tank

This Function acts as a hub of competence in hydropolitics, bringing together the academia, public and private sector, civil society, and global Think Tanks. Based in international Geneva, its work is policy-oriented and supports the Global Strategic Platforms with a view to have a global influence.

Networking

Connects and brings together organisations and actors of international Geneva and beyond, to focus on the global theme of water, security and peace, thus shaping the hydropolitics global agenda.

Functioning

Global Strategic Platforms

Universities
Partnership for
Water Cooperation
and Diplomacy

Global High-
Level Panel on
Water and Peace
and follow-up

Group of
Friends on
Water and
Peace

Art for
Water
and Peace

Facilitation
(intersectoral and
transboundary)

Research
and
Education

Think
Tank

Networking

Geneva Water Hub Functions

Youth
for Water
and Peace
Platform

Global
Hydrometry
Support Facility
with WMO

OUTCOMES

IMPACTS

Secretariat of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace and of the Group of Friends on Water and Peace

The Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace was launched in November 2015 in Geneva by 15 co-convening countries* with the mandate to develop recommendations aimed at preventing and resolving water-related conflicts, and at making water an instrument of peace. In September 2017, “A Matter of Survival”, the final Report of the Panel was launched in Geneva and in New York. It concludes, among others, that the global water challenge needs to be addressed urgently in an integrated and comprehensive way at all levels, ranging from the United Nations Security Council and other multilateral organisations to grass-root level institutions. The Geneva Water Hub will now play a key role in the dissemination of the Report and in supporting the implementation of its recommendations.

A Group of Friends on Water and Peace was created early 2016. It provides a Group of countries with a platform for regular dialogue on this crucial issue.

The Geneva Water Hub is the Secretariat of both the Panel and the Group of Friends.



4th meeting of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace, Amman, Jordan, May 2017.

* Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Estonia, France, Ghana, Hungary, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Oman, Senegal, Slovenia, Spain, and Switzerland.

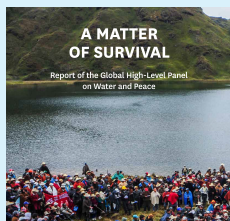
Evidence-based policy and decision-making in water resources management

Reliable hydro-meteorological observations and forecasts are critical to implement better water resources management practices and policies, and reduce water insecurity. However, data on water remain scarce, fragmented and difficult to access and interpret, particularly in regions affected by water scarcity and conflict.

In June 2016, the Global Hydrometry Support Facility (GHSF) was launched by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to help develop an efficient, innovative and sustainable framework for operational hydrometry, to foster evidence-based policy and decision-making.

The Geneva Water Hub has been instrumental in the establishment of the GHSF and will contribute to its development, by focusing on improving the analytical basis to forecast and manage water-related disputes and conflicts, especially in global hotspots and river basins at risk.





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