

# GPA Outreach



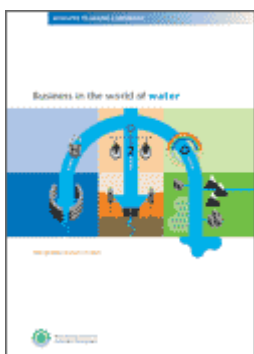
18 October 2006

GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE  
ENVIRONMENT FROM LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES

IGR-2 Special Series  
Issue 2

## BUSINESS IN THE WORLD OF WATER

### Business in the World of Water: WBCSD Water Scenarios to 2025



The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) has been documenting successful business experience in water management, partnerships, and provision of water services to the poor since it formed its first water working group in 1997. In 2004, the group of WBCSD member companies that WBCSD represents decided to reinforce their collective effort to help

businesses understand why they should be thinking about water and what they can do about it.

It is recognized that the world of water is changing and complex, and that our best hope for new insights and strategies for action lies in pooling our individual perspectives and experience. Because water is everybody's business, business needs the help of other actors in society to get to the issues that really matter.

WBCSD built scenarios because scenarios provide a platform for coming to a more systemic and shared view of the bigger and deeper picture. Furthermore, building and using scenarios can help forge shared commitment, as well as shared understanding, by acknowledging uncertainties, by respecting differences in perspectives,

and by pointing beyond the problem to explore what solutions might unfold and to what effect.

Everyone understands the importance of water to life, but many are only just now beginning to understand how essential it is to *everything* in life – food, energy, transportation, nature, leisure, identity, culture, social norms, and virtually all the products used on a daily basis. With population growth and economic development driving accelerating demand for everything, the full value of water is becoming increasingly apparent to all.

The H2O scenarios offer three stories about the role of business in relation to the growing issue of water in the world. These stories do not try to cover everything but attempt to bring to life a limited number of alternative future environments that will challenge our economic viability, social legitimacy, and global fitness in the marketplace.

Taken from the WBCSD website, from which the report may be downloaded at: [www.wbcd.ch](http://www.wbcd.ch)

#### Messages from the Scenarios

- Business cannot survive in a society that thirsts
- You don't have to be in the water business to have a water crisis.
- Business is part of the solution, and its potential is driven by its engagement.
- Growing water issues and complexity will drive up costs.

## GPA PARTNERSHIP REPORT BACK

### Advancing the WSSD 2010 Target on Ecosystem Management and on Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management

Day 2 of the IGR-2 was Partnership Day, which is intended to provide a forum where existing partnerships that implementing the GPA can meet, chart a course of action or the coming five years, and interact with the

government representatives and other stakeholders participating at IGR-2. At Partnership Day, the "Advancing the WSSD 2010 Target on Ecosystem Management and on Integrated Coastal And Ocean Management" partnership was presented.

This partnership, coordinated by the Global Forum, will mobilize a broad array of partners at global, regional and national levels to further advance the WSSD goals of

*Continued on page 2*

GPA Outreach supports the preparatory work for the Second Intergovernmental Review Meeting (IGR-2) of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA)

This IGR-2 Series of GPA Outreach is produced by Stakeholder Forum and the Global Forum on Oceans Coasts and Islands, in collaboration with the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office





18 October 2006

GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE  
ENVIRONMENT FROM LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES

IGR-2 Special Series  
Issue 2

*Continued from page 1*

ecosystem management and integrated coastal and ocean management by 2010, including through the preparation of a global report to be featured at the 4<sup>th</sup> Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, April 7-11, 2008, and at a high-level Oceans Summit in 2009. The Partnership will assess tangible progress, problems, needs for redirection, success of existing capacity building efforts, and needs for further capacity development.



Created in 2001 and formalized at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg), the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands brings together ocean leaders from governments, UN agencies, NGOs, private sector, donors, academia to advance the global oceans agenda. The Global Forum contributes to the accomplishment of the global oceans agenda by undertaking policy analyses of implementation of global commitments on oceans, and on

emerging issues (e.g., high seas governance); organizes multi-stakeholder policy dialogues; promotes oceans at the highest political levels; and promotes strategic capacity building and public engagement.

#### Salient points from the session:

- National progress in implementing the WSSD/MDG goals on ecosystem management, and integrated coastal and ocean management is not being tracked systematically by any international entity. Such information is essential to assist nations in achieving the WSSD targets of applying ecosystem management by 2010 and in achieving integrated coastal and ocean management, which will be considered by the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2014-2015.
- With the WSSD and MDG mandates, nations are being asked to implement a variety of programs related to the ocean, coastal, and freshwater environments—integrated coastal and ocean management, ecosystem management, integrated water resources assessment, GPA and control of



land-based activities, biodiversity protection and networks of marine protected areas. On the ground, these efforts address similar issues and cover, to some extent, similar areas. An important challenge is to assist nations in making explicit linkages among these often separate efforts to achieve ecosystem management “from hilltops to oceans.”

Financial targets in order to support the implementation of the WSSD 2010 target in ecosystem management and on integrated ocean and coastal management are lacking.

- Advancing freshwater to ocean management in small island developing States is particularly challenging because capacity building to meet many of the commitments under the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy is inadequate. Improved coordination and resource mobilization among the various agencies with responsibility for land, integrated watershed and coastal and ocean management are vital to effective environment and resource management.





18 October 2006

GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE  
ENVIRONMENT FROM LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES

IGR-2 Special Series  
Issue 2

## STAKEHOLDERS AND THE IGR-2

### Engaging Stakeholders in the Preparatory Process of the IGR-2

Throughout the preparatory process of the IGR-2, a series of consultations have been organised by the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office to gather feedback on various agenda items of IGR-2. A number of partners and organisations have offered their support to this process. To this end, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future has been partnering with the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office to conduct stakeholder consultations in preparation for the IGR-2. The purpose of these dialogues is to enable a broad range of local, national, and regional stakeholders (including those who are unable to attend the IGR-2 in China) to share their positions and experiences on protection of the marine environment in advance of the IGR-2.

In preparation for the IGR-2, an Informal Preparatory Meeting was held on 27-28 June 2006 in Paris, France. Some 50 representatives from 23 countries attended the meeting to advance the preparation of the draft official documents for IGR-2 and to seek guidance on some of the issues to be addressed during the Ministerial Segment of IGR-2. During the middle of June, Stakeholder Forum convened consultations in London and New York with representatives from Major Groups and other stakeholders. Non-governmental organizations, trade unions, women, and youth were among the Major Groups represented. The purpose of the meetings was to develop stakeholder inputs to the IGR-2 Preparatory Meeting, including specific amendments to the draft Beijing Declaration. Felix Dodds, Executive Director of the Stakeholder Forum, attended the Preparatory Meeting to represent these stakeholder inputs. A summary of this position is available at [www.stakeholderforum.org/gpa.html](http://www.stakeholderforum.org/gpa.html)

Stakeholder Forum is also hosting regional stakeholder consultations on the GPA in collaboration with the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office. In March at the World Water Forum, it organised an event for



stakeholders from the Latin American and Caribbean Region. Workshop participants identified problems, challenges, and constraints to protecting the marine environment from land-based activities and developed recommendations for furthering the implementation of the GPA.

Further consultation meetings were held at World Water Week in Stockholm and in Beijing. Participants in Stockholm highlighted the need to strengthen the inclusion and integration of cross cutting issues within the document. Emphasis was placed on the importance of marine resources for food security and human health, and that marine resources need to be better valued and understood. The need to establish quantifiable benchmarks for marine pollution was called for, as was the need for a universal set of indicators to assess marine pollution. Gender, and the diversity of people was highlighted as a critical element missing from the draft Beijing Declaration. The role of various Major Groups including local authorities and environmental NGOs in furthering the implementation of the GPA was discussed, and the need to reinforce multi-stakeholder participation at the national level was noted.

To support the preparatory work for the IGR-2, Stakeholder Forum has developed a dedicated website to provide stakeholders with easy access to background information and official documents ([www.stakeholderforum.org/gpa.html](http://www.stakeholderforum.org/gpa.html)). Stakeholder Forum also publishes a monthly online newsletter in collaboration with the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office, *GPA Outreach*, to inform stakeholders of the latest developments in the preparatory process for the IGR-2 and provide background information on GPA related issues.

From 19-30 June, Stakeholder Forum, in collaboration with the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office, also hosted an online dialogue on the theme of *Our Expanding Urban Coast: A Threat to the Marine Environment and Human Health*. The purpose of the online dialogue was to raise awareness of the GPA and to collect stakeholder experiences, lessons learned and best practices. Over 120 people from more than 40 countries signed up to the online dialogue to explore the links between the marine environment, coastal urbanization and Integrated Management Approaches, Physical Alteration and Destruction of Habitat, and Nutrients.

At the IGR-2, Stakeholder Forum is working to promote the views of stakeholders collected during the preparatory process of the IGR-2.



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IGR-2 Special Series  
Issue 2

## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Eco-effectiveness: A Framework

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Connecting what we learn to where we live is an essential component of furthering the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based activities. How do we create means to sustain our well being, ensuring healthy communities, economies, and ecosystems?

The current phase we have entered is characterized by an incomplete understanding of how we will cope with both the increasing complexity and interrelatedness of sustainable development issues, where attempts to ameliorate one can alter or even exacerbate the impacts of another. Building a future based on interests that go beyond short-term success and self interest is fundamental to sustainable systems. The interface between environment and education for sustainable development requires establishing a connection between diverse cultures and diverse knowledge systems to understand the implications of environmental, social, economic and cultural decision making within the local context. Three areas of strategic importance to moving beyond eco-efficiency to eco-effectiveness are: learning processes, environmental stewardship, and innovative solutions based on principles of sustainability.



We have reached a stage of conscious evolution in which we recognize ourselves as co-creators of our collective future. As awareness and experience increase, people strengthen their capacity to make sustainable development part of their everyday life. The development

of a sustainable society can now be described as a continuous learning process engaging people as new opportunities arise.

With an ever-growing list of critical global, regional, national and local issues we are facing regarding oceans and land-based activities, we are struggling at all levels within society to understand that sustainability and the protection of marine environments needs to be linked to scientific information and a knowledge base of backyard biodiversity in every country, particularly in developing and underdeveloped regions of the world. Worldwide, every country is in a transition period where intellectual capital is a strategic resource necessary for sustainable development.

### Linking Knowledge with Action

The driving force for sustainability is education in all its forms. At the centre is the environment. In principle, the environment, learning, and sustainable development are so familiar that people are not always aware of their strategic impact. This provides both a challenge and an opportunity: A challenge to engage people at all levels in sustainability within the framework of eco-effectiveness and an opportunity within the framework of a learning society to strengthen the implementation process.

On the one hand, we are learning to be. On the other, we are not particularly good at channelling practice and innovative solutions. As a result, we need to understand where we are especially in relationship to the biosphere. Indicators are needed that are based upon principles of sustainability that create informed political entities and an informed civil society that can act on those principles to improve our overall well being. In particular, strategic indicators focused on education and sustainable development are necessary to help us monitor our progress towards furthering the implementation of the GPA and the protection of our marine environment. More importantly, strategic indicators are vital to the further development of our understanding on how to create a learning society that exists along side learning organizations. Momentum to bring environment, education and sustainable development together at the international policy level from the WSSD, Agenda 21 and other international commitments, brought about the proposed UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

*Continued on page 5*





18 October 2006

GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE  
ENVIRONMENT FROM LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES

IGR-2 Special Series  
Issue 2

*Continued from page 4*

With environment, education, and sustainability so strategically placed, the following are suggestions for the framing of the Beijing Declaration:

*Page 2, Para 2*

Noting the continuing need for improved monitoring to identify threats at regional, national and local levels, to assess the impact and effectiveness of measures [that link knowledge with action] to address such problems.

*Page 2, after Para 3*

[Noting the emphasis within international sustainable development commitments on the role of education for sustainable development and the fact that its implementation is highly dependent upon an exponential increase in access to knowledge, based on accurate judgement and assessment of concrete actions and measures]

11. To work through the UNEP regional seas programmes and other regional and interregional bodies and processes to apply ecosystem approaches, including the large marine ecosystem approach, to watershed, coast, ocean, and island management, and to develop and strengthen strategic partnerships and improve [strategic implementation of environmental education initiatives through] interregional action, cooperation,

exchange and sharing of knowledge, technology and experience;

13. To call upon international and regional financial institutions and donor countries to continue to support the implementation of the Global Programme of Action at the appropriate levels and to increase their contribution to ensuring its long-term sustainability through financial and technical support and by building the capacity of developing countries, particularly small island developing States, to develop and implement their national programmes of action, [ensuring a GPA fund earmarked to support civil society initiatives for the protection of the marine environment];

15. To mainstream the Global Programme of Action into the major fields of global development activity [including education for sustainable development] and promote it as a means to create the integrated processes, intellectual leadership and partnerships that are necessary to achieve global goals and strategies in linked watershed, coastal and ocean areas through ecosystem-based approaches;

17. To welcome the "Guidance to the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for 2007–2011" produced by the United Nations Environment Programme's Global Programme of Action Coordination Office, as a tool aimed at supporting implementation of the Global Programme of Action in a manner consistent with emerging issues in the international environment [, education] and sustainable development context;

## IGR-2 SIDE EVENT

### Advancing the Oceans, Coasts, Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and Freshwater/Oceans Agenda in the Next Decade: Key Issues and Opportunities

Thursday, October 19, 2006, 13:15 to 14:45,  
Room 10 Level 3

The event will focus on key challenges and opportunities for the integrated implementation of the oceans, coasts, SIDS, and the freshwater/oceans agenda in the next decade, 2006-2016, paying particular attention to the forthcoming review of the oceans agenda by the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in 2014-2015.

#### INVITED SPEAKERS

**Chair:** Ms. Lori Ridgeway, Director-General, International Coordination and Policy Analysis, Fisheries and Oceans, Canada, and Co-Chair, United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea

#### Presentations:

- ***A Strategy for Advancing the Oceans, Coasts, SIDS, and Freshwater/Oceans Agenda, 2006 to 2016***  
Dr. Biliiana Cicin-Sain, Co-Chair and Head of Secretariat, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

- ***Thinking Ahead: What We Need to Do on Freshwater and on Connecting Freshwater to Oceans***

Prof. Torkil Jönch-Clausen, Director, Danish Hydrological Institute, Water and Environment, and Senior Adviser, UNEP

- ***Perspectives on Key Issues and Opportunities for Advancing the Oceans, Coasts, SIDS, and Freshwater/Oceans Agenda in the Next Decade***

Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director, UNEP

#### Roundtable Discussion:

- Ambassador Enele Sopoaga, Permanent Mission of Tuvalu to the United Nations, Vice-Chair, Alliance of Small Island States
- Dr. Vladimir Golitsyn, Director, UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea
- Dr. Magnus Ngoile, EEZ Governance Team Leader, GEF Project on Marine and Coastal Environment Program, Tanzania
- Dr. Al Duda, Senior Adviser, International Waters, Global Environment Facility
- Mr. Felix Dodds, Executive Director, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

**Sponsor:** Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands

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IGR-2 Special Series  
Issue 2

## IGR-2 SIDE EVENT

### Developing Stakeholder input to the Beijing Declaration

Wednesday 18 October  
11:00 - 13:00, Room 11

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China) to share their positions and experiences on protection of the marine environment in advance of the IGR-2.

Stakeholder Forum has been actively working with Major Groups and other stakeholders to ensure that a strong stakeholder input is reflected in the *Beijing Declaration on furthering the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities*.

This working meeting will bring together Major Groups, including NGOs, academics, and other stakeholders at the IGR-2 to finalise this preparatory process. All are welcome.

For more information, please visit  
[www.stakeholderforum.org/gpa.html](http://www.stakeholderforum.org/gpa.html)

### About Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future



Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future's mission is to inform, influence, promote, and advance the implementation of sustainable development. Stakeholder Forum fulfils this mission by developing and facilitating multi-stakeholder processes that engage stakeholders in the development and implementation of sustainable development policy. To support multi-stakeholder processes, Stakeholder Forum also undertakes activities related to capacity building, training, and policy development.

Stakeholder Forum is delighted to continue our partnership with UNEP GPA as we build toward the IGR-2. Stakeholder Forum is working with UNEP GPA to undertake outreach and conduct dialogue with stakeholders to ensure that the IGR-2 will gain from the experience and expertise of a broad range of stakeholders.

For more information visit [www.stakeholderforum.org](http://www.stakeholderforum.org)

### About Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands



The Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, organized informally in 2001 and formalized at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, serves as a multi-stakeholder forum for cross-sectoral discussion, policy analyses, and mobilization of knowledge and other resources to achieve the full implementation of international agreements related to oceans, coasts, and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The Global Forum brings together leading ocean, coastal, and SIDS experts from governments, intergovernmental and international organizations (including all the relevant UN agencies), nongovernmental organizations, private sector, and academic and scientific institutions.

For more information visit [www.globaloceans.org](http://www.globaloceans.org)

## CONTACTS

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- To submit an article to *GPA Outreach*, please contact Jennifer Peer at [jpeer@stakeholderforum.org](mailto:jpeer@stakeholderforum.org)