

3rd Global WOPs Congress Summary Presentation

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Evolution of Congress Participation

Congress	Number	Countries
Cape Town, 2011	150	Appx 40
Barcelona, 2013	270	80
Barcelona, 2015	450	85+

3rd Global WOPs Congress

Pre-events

1. OFID Final Workshop
2. WOP Intro Course for Spanish & Portuguese Operators



Opening

- City of Barcelona
- AECID
- UN-Habitat

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SDG Panel

- Dedicated Water Goal (6)
- Focus on implementation/indicators
- Linkage to other SDGs (oceans, cities, etc.)
- Climate Change/COP

Operators in an Urban Era

- Dimension of urbanization
- Operators in urban planning
- New thinking – circular/ decentralized
- Equity and Inclusion
- Involvement of all stakeholders

Sustainable Finance

- Domestic Finance
- ODA as leverage
- Creditworthiness of Utilities
- Governance

Regional Sessions Africa – LAC - Asia

- Friendship/commitment
- Involvement of management/leadership
- Low-hanging fruits
- Follow-up Finance

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Thematic Sessions

- Sanitation, Wastewater and SWOPs
- Financing WOPs
- Ingredients in Effective WOPs
- Cutting Losses (Energy and Water)
- Water Resources Protection and Resilience
- Local Authorities, Operators and WOPs
- Operators Integrity and Governance
- Measuring Performance in Utilities and WOPs
- Beyond Drinking Water: IUWM
- Utilities Working Towards More Equitable Service Provision

Thematic Sessions: A Flavor of Recommendations

- Integrate urban management with innovative urban planning
- Support leaders from innovative cities with inspiring stories of IUWM to support operators to transition to integrated systems

Thematic Sessions: A Flavor of Recommendations

- Allow flexibility in WOP agreements to enable changes in focus as WOPs progress
- Explore diverse sources and modalities of funding
- Balance financial sustainability and social acceptability in financing utilities
- Rethink benchmarking and indicators
- Focus on a limited set of themes

Thematic Sessions: A Flavor of Recommendations

- Foster South-to-South and North-South-South cooperation.
- Anticipate follow up finance and exit strategy for PIPs
- Implement two-step approach to WOPs (short term quick wins, followed by long-term with more money)

Thematic Sessions: A Flavor of Recommendations

- Consider all sanitation services, including piped and non piped
- Integrate sanitation in planning and urban development
- Promote WOPs on Water Safety Plans (WSP), climate change adaption and resiliency

Revisiting Congress Objectives

1. Raise Awareness about Utilities & WOPs
2. Advance Knowledge on Operators' & WOPs Practice
3. Enable Networking & Partnership Brokering

Your Conclusions ?

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The Ingredients in Effective WOPs: Lessons from BEWOP

Key Issues: Tools to support 1) knowledge transfer 2) compatibility of Partners 3) funding of WOPs 4) Ensuring results and 5) Creating ownership

Discussion Highlights: Focus on management level for change in protocols. UNESCO-IHE working on systematizing process including also results measurement approach – huge task.

Recommendations: Need for flexibility while designing WOPs agreements to allow for incorporating changes in focus as WOPs progress or mature. (Donors increasingly becoming aware of the need for flexibility in methodologies to track improvements).

Beyond drinking Water: How WOPs can

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help utilities contribute to IUWM

Key Issues : Need for a perspective change and integrated approach to water and wastewater management

Discussion Highlights:

- Waste is a resource (nutrients, energy)
- Limitations of the linear system approach, opportunities for decentralized and semi-decentralized approach
- Productive use of the water cycle
- Need for stakeholder engagement

Recommendations:

- Need to integrate urban management with innovative urban planning
- Need for leadership from innovative cities with inspiring stories of IUWM, capacity building and support to operators to transition to integrated systems



Utilities Moving Towards More Equitable Service Provision

Key Issues :

- Define and document inequity
- Understand how best to engage stakeholders

Discussion Highlights:

- Poores pay more for water
- Focus of utility on social sustainability and gender disparity
- Role of NGOs and CSOs in WOPs in creating dialogue

Recommendations:

- Expand description of inequities to account for quality of service
- Utilities: Improve outreach to poorest customers
- Address 'everyday' politics of water operators decisions

Finance and WOPs

Key Issues

- Appropriate financial sources to achieve the SDGs are unclear
- How can WOPs overcome financial insecurity

Discussion Highlights

- Innovative mechanisms exist (e.g. decentralized, reverse linkage, water facility)
- WOPs can serve as a financial leverage tool and can trigger domestic government support

- Funding must be targeted to sanitation

Recommendations

- Explore diverse sources and modalities of funding
- Balance financial sustainability and social acceptability



Water Resources and Resilience

Key Issues :

Climate change exacerbates already existing challenges for water utilities

Expanding objectives : 'from source to tap'

Discussion Highlights:

Little (disaggregated) information/data available

Experience with CC adaptation does exist and can be shared through WOPs

Interconnectedness – water as part of a city system

Recommendations:

At the verge of change: repair structures or rethink processes?

Cutting Losses: WOPs in support of Energy Efficiency & Water Loss Reduction

Key Issues : (10 words max)

Efficiency, Non-Revenue Water (NRW) reduction, infrastructure and management issues, water-food-energy nexus.

Discussion Highlights: (20 words max)

Relevance of policy-making, WEF nexus approach, short-, medium- and long-term action plans, technological upgrading, commitment from both WOP partners.

Recommendations: (15 words max)

Extension of twinning agreements South-to-South cooperation, and importance of North-South-South cooperation.

Sanitation, Wastewater Services and SWOPs

Key Issues:

- Political will
- Legal issues
- Financing mechanisms
- Technologies

Discussion Highlights:

- Linking national monitoring systems to global monitoring standards.
- Role of water operators and WOPs in monitoring the water SDG.
- Health risk-based approach to sanitation planning.
- Tri-partite arrangements (North/South/South) for SWOPs.

Recommendations:

- Consider all sanitation services, including collective and non-collective services.
- Adopt a progressive implementation approach with realistic and achievable short-term goals.
- Integrate sanitation in planning and urban development.

LAC Regional WOPs Session

Key Issues : (10 words max)

Efficiency and sustainability of water and sanitation services, capacity building and training, importance and benefits of WOP facilitation and partnerships.

Discussion Highlights: (20 words max)

Challenges in LAC (low coverage, NRW, governance), sustainability of WOPs, knowledge-transfer as base for universal access to water.

Recommendations: (15 words max)

Importance of Water Safety Plans (WSP), importance of developing trust between utilities and between platforms (paradigm shift), and importance of pushing benchmarking and revising indicators.

Asia and The Pacific Regional WOPs

Key Issues :

- Pace of urbanization and demographic growth
- Water regimes shifts affected by climate change

Discussion Highlights:

- WOP is a good tool for managing changes
- Benefits of regional and national WOPs, and potential to scale-up
- The role of facilitator and the reliance on individuals

Recommendations:

- Adjust knowledge to local needs and focus on few thematic
- Focus on daily operation and applicable knowledge changes
- Two-step approach: short term quick wins, long-term (more costly)

“It's global challenge, with local solutions”

Africa Regional WOPs Session

Key Issues :

- Challenges, success factors, implementation, capacity building, priorities, sustainability, monitoring, evaluation, results, finance MT PIPs

Discussion Highlights:

- Operators do want to develop WOPs and implement PIPs
- Clarity of objectives, indicators and improvements is key
- Wide variety of WOPs (size, duration, themes)
- Self funding WOPs
- How to implement MT PIPs ?

Recommendations:

- Better advanced planning, commitment and follow-up from all
- PIPs finance and exit strategy to be anticipated

2 WOPs Initiated

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