

# GIWEH2016

Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health

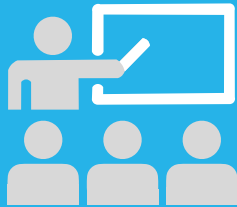
Biannual magazine

## 8th World Water Forum

Member of Citizen's Committee



## Capacity Building



## GIWEH International



## New Partners



## Water and Human Rights

WATER  
is a  
**HUMAN RIGHT**



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## Sharing Water

The 8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum is set to take place in Brasilia, Brazil, in 2018. The World Water Forum (WWF) is the world's largest water-related event, held every three years and organized by the World Water Council and the host country. GIWEH is taking a proactive, dynamic role in the planning and organization for the upcoming Citizen's Process within the 8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum; as a **member of the Citizen's Process International Committee**, GIWEH is formulating an action plan and coordinating forum events. Already, **GIWEH participated in the first kick-off meeting** in Brasilia, which was held on June 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Within the World Water Forum, the Citizen's Process is held to facilitate communication and idea exchange between actors of civil society at the local level, with particular attention on women, youth, indigenous groups, vulnerable and isolated communities and displaced people. Holding interactive activities such as discussions, side-events, exhibitions, performances, and various forms of idea exchange, the Citizen's Process works to raise public awareness, disseminate local solutions (particularly, low-cost, innovative and nature-based) to water issues and share best practices. In doing so, the Citizen's Process aims to extend the role of civil society and represent the voices of the general population.

## Capacity Building



GIWEH holds three professional development courses at the Graduate Institute of Geneva, within the Executive Master in Development Policies and Practices (DPP) program. These programs are a continuation of the capacity building program, "Leadership for Positive Change," which began in 2009. The first two programs, held in January and February, focused around Water Governance and Water Security in Southeast Asia, Africa, Central America, and South America. The third program, held in March, focused on Environmental Governance, and the interactions between water and human security.



On Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, GIWEH hosted a group of Ukrainian students as part of its mission toward knowledge dissemination and capacity building. Dr. Nidal Salim and Ms. Jeanne Cottenceau presented GIWEH's vision and activities, highlighting the Flagship Project, "Support the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, Goal 6." From this, the group discussed possible areas of collaboration and potential methods to raise awareness around environmental management within civil society. This event intended to initiate further cooperation between Ukraine and GIWEH.

## Asia Water Council: First General Assembly

The First General Assembly of the Asia Water Council (AWC) took place on March 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, in Bali, Indonesia. The AWC is a global water organization focused on developing a consensus and sustainable network in order to find solutions to Asia's water problems. GIWEH became a member of the AWC in August 2015 and holds the position of **Vice Chairperson of the "Knowledge Base and Dissemination Special Committee"** (KB&D).

The KB&D Special Committee will continue its work on the creation of a dynamic database titled, **"Asia Dynamic Hub for Water: the Power of Information,"** to provide reliable, transparent information on free, open-source software for all Asian member states. As part of the KB&D Special Committee, GIWEH will also contribute and work on the implementation of projects in Indonesia and Mongolia with AWC and UNESCO; the projects have been approved to implement IWRM strategy in Jabodetabek, Indonesia, and update Mongolia policy to align with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement, respectively.

## European Development Days

GIWEH was represented by Dr. Tobias Schmitz at the European Development Days from June 15<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>, in Brussels, Belgium. Organized by the European Commission, this event brought European development experts together to interact, share experiences, and create partnerships to solve urgent problems. Dr. Tobias Schmitz presented a forthcoming GIWEH project intended on aiding refugees in Turkey through linking water and labor, and received positive feedback from various organizations whom expressed interest in the project. GIWEH has remained in contact with them since the conference.

## Partnerships

**MENA NWC:** GIWEH attended the Middle East and North Africa Network of Water Centers of Excellence (MENA NWC), during a three-day workshop from May 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, in Aqaba, Jordan. The workshop was specifically organized to design interventions for Jordan's water sector in response to the Sustainable Development Agenda. GIWEH's Director General (Dr. Nidal Salim) presented the Flagship Program, "Support 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda." This event provided an opportunity for GIWEH to meet representatives from specialized excellence centers and donor organizations and strengthen its network in the region.



**International Forum on African Development:** GIWEH co-sponsored the Tabarka International Forum on African Development (TIFAD), from April 28<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>, in Tabarka, Tunisia.

The vision for the event was to promote optimism, research, and investments between international and inter-African partners. Additionally, the conference allowed African decision-makers to learn about major recent events within African development, and help to prepare them for similar events in the future. GIWEH was represented by Dr. Nidal Salim, Mr. Adrien Oleszkiewicz, and Dr. Tobias Schmitz, who networked with various African stakeholders, and presented their upcoming project with UTAP (Tunisian Union for Agriculture and Fisheries).



**European Commission:** The European Commission invited GIWEH to two conferences, which both took place from February 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, in Leeuwarden, the Netherlands. The first conference, titled, "EIP (European Innovation Partnership) Water," focused on water innovation in Europe. The second, titled, "Mayors & Water," was divided into four sessions: water scarcity and reuse, drought and flood management, water quality, and water infrastructure. GIWEH representatives gave a presentation on water scarcity in semi-arid regions during the first session, and were able to network throughout both conferences.

**Swiss Water Partnership:** Mr. Adrian Oleszkiewicz, Mr. Moez Allaoui, and Ms. Marguerite Lançon attended the annual General Assembly of the Swiss Water Partnership on May 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Federal Polytechnic School of Lausanne (EPFL). GIWEH is an active member of the SWP, and was **re-elected last year to its second term on the Steering Board**, to run through 2018. During the General Assembly, GIWEH presented its contribution to the World Water Forum and participated in conversation on, "Possible Outcomes and Modalities of a Working Group on Wastewater—" discussed in preparation for an event in Geneva on World Water Day 2017.

**UTAP:** GIWEH visited Tunisia in May to build upon its partnership with the Tunisian Union of Agriculture and Fisheries (UTAP). GIWEH and UTAP are currently collaborating on two projects: GIWEH's next **International Conference on Water Resources and Environment (ICWRE)**, and the **revision of Tunisia's water and agriculture policy**.



# Water and Human Rights

## Human Rights Council

GIWEH was represented by Ms. Shahneela Tariq at the UN Human Rights Council, **“Panel Discussion on Climate Change and Right to Health,”** on Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. GIWEH collaborated with the Arab Commission for Human Rights (ACHR) and the Centre Indépendant de Recherche et d’Initiatives pour le Dialogue (CIRID) to deliver a statement to the panel about waterborne diseases.

## ESCWA

Mr. Moez Allaoui, GIWEH’s Senior Legal Advisor, presented, **“Measuring the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation Realization,”** at the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Expert Group Meeting on the water-related Sustainable Development Goals, held in Beirut, Lebanon, on April 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>. This conference aimed to formulate recommendations for how the Arab region should pursue monitoring and reporting on the water-related SDGs.

## Additional Events

GIWEH attended...

- “Water Growth and Sustainability: Transboundary Water Cooperation for Sustainable Growth and Stability in MENA” Conference, hosted by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC), on April 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>, in Szentendre, Hungary; **GIWEH presented, “How to Measure the Indicator on Transboundary Cooperation within the SGD Goal 6”**
- International Labor Organization (ILO)’s conference, “Climate Change and Labor: Impacts of Heat in the Workplace,” on Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>—the annual day for Safety and Health at Work
- Inter-parliamentary Union Discussions from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the headquarters of the Inter-parliamentary Union (IPU) in Geneva, Switzerland
- OECD’s 7<sup>th</sup> Water Governance Initiative (WGI) meeting, in The Hague, the Netherlands, on June 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, to formulate indicators and best practices for a framework on water governance
- World Water Day and World Meteorological Day



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