



**I S T A N B U L**  
INTERNATIONAL  
**WATER FORUM**

# **CONCLUSIONS**

## **OF THE**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Istanbul International**  
**Water Forum**

# Overview

- Over 4,500 participants from 100 countries
- Most from the Eastern Europe, Middle East and Central Asia
- Main theme: «***An Istanbul Perspective on Regional Water Problems and Search for Solutions***»



# Overview

- 26 Thematic Sessions
- 4 Regional Focus Meetings
- 3 High Level Panels
- Ministerial Meeting
- 17 Side Events



- **6 Themes | 26 Thematic Sessions**
  - Regional Technical Cooperation on Water
  - Water for Energy
  - Agricultural Water Management
  - Global Climate Change and Water
  - Urban Water Management
  - Water Resources Management & Water Culture



- **4 Regional Focus Meetings**
  - Eastern Europe RFM
    - Integrated Water Resources Management
  - Middle East RFM
    - Water and Food Security and Regional Technical Cooperation on Water
  - Central Asia RFM
    - Agricultural Challenges Focusing on Food Security – Regional & National Perspectives
  - Turkey Focus Meeting
    - Agricultural Water Management and Food Security
- A series of preparatory regional meetings were held prior to the Forum



- **3 High-Level Panels**
  - **Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)**
    - IWRM within the Context of Regional Cooperation
    - IWRM in the face of Climate Change
  - **Water-Food-Energy**
    - Food Security
    - Water-Food-Energy Nexus
  - **Urban Water Services**



- **Ministerial Meeting**

- Ministers and high-level representatives from 15 countries and international organizations (FAO, OIC ,WWC)
- Dedicated to enhance regional cooperation and stimulate political will



# Outcomes

- **Water-Food-Energy Relationship**
  - Water is indispensable for food and energy security
  - Cross-sectoral approach
  - Sustainable development → optimum water allocation among sectors





- **Water Security**

- IWRM

- Steps for better water management:

- institutional reform

- change in behaviour of water users

- technological improvements

- Water re-use and use-oriented treatment

- Transboundary cooperation



# Outcomes

- **Transboundary cooperation**
  - Lack of mutual trust
  - More focus on low-politics rather than chaotic high politics for confidence building
  - Capacity building, transfer of technology and know-how



- **Food Security**

- Self-capacity instead of self-sufficiency
- Economic diversification
- Food trade
- Use of water in areas of high economic return
- Increased water efficiency in agriculture



# Outcomes

- **Energy Security**

- water supply and energy production are mutually dependent
- WSS and agricultural production efficiency are subject to availability of and access to energy
- diminishment and degradation of water resources creates more demand for energy



# Outcomes

- **Dams**
  - vital in the management of water supply (allocation and regulation)
  - multi-purpose
  - trade-off optimization according the needs and negative impacts
  - not leading but supportive to other renewable energy resources in the long term



# Outcomes

- **Access to Water**
  - Water Fund
    - Capacity building, transfer of technology and know-how



The **FINAL REPORT** of the  
2<sup>nd</sup> Istanbul International Water Forum is  
available online at:

[www.iusf.org.tr](http://www.iusf.org.tr)





# **3<sup>rd</sup> Istanbul International Water Forum in 2014**





Thank you for your attention

