



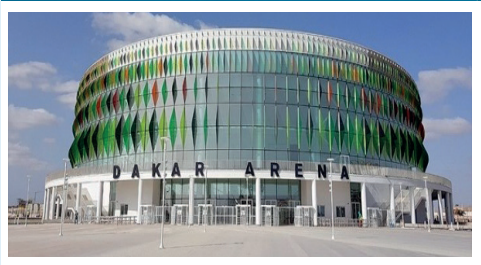
République du Sénégal  
Un Peuple - Un But - Une Foi



WORLD  
WATER  
COUNCIL



9<sup>TH</sup> WORLD WATER FORUM  
DAKAR 2021



THEME :  
WATER SECURITY FOR PEACE  
AND DEVELOPMENT

# Forum objectives

March 2021 all roads will lead to Dakar, Senegal's capital city often referred to as the country of Teranga (hospitality in Wolof language), host of the 9th World Water Forum. The first time the World Water Forum is held in Africa South of the Sahara. The 1st World Water Forum was held in Marrakesh in 1993 with few hundred participants. The World Water Forum has grown to be one of the most attended world events, with the number of participants ranging from a few hundred at its start to tens of thousands participants in recent editions. One of the objectives of the forum is to engage governments, the private sector and civil society to catalyze action on the implementation of SDG 6 and related Sustainable Development Goals.

Senegal has shown leadership on water issues both in Africa and on the global stage e.g.

- Senegal was a founding member of AMCOW (African Ministers Council on Water) in 2002 by HE President Mack Sall then Water Minister;
- Senegal chaired AMCOW from 2014 – 2016;
- Senegal chairs the African Water Facility (AWF) 2016 – 2018
- Senegal is a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council and placed its mandate under the theme «Water, Peace and Security».
- His Excellency, President Macky SALL is a member of the High Level Panel on Water (HLPW) whose objective was to seek ways and means to conserve and protect water resources as well as the mobilization of financial resources necessary to achieve the targeted international objectives concerning water;
- Senegal is vice president of the High Level Panel on «Water and Peace» whose mission was to provide a global architecture to make water not a source of conflicts, but an instrument of cooperation and peace;
- Senegal is among the African countries that met the MDG targets on water.
- The NGOR Declaration (municipality of the city of Dakar) is Africa's roadmap for the realization of the African Vision 2025, agenda 2063 and the SDG6 on Water and Sanitation.
- Senegal, through the implementation of the SDGs and Senegal Emergent Plan (PSE), will ensure water security, promote peace, guarantee universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation and attain sustainable development.

Senegal's leadership on water resources as central in sustainable development was recognized by the World Water Council in Senegal's successful bid to host the 9th World Water Forum in Dakar in 2021.

## A place of international events

Senegal is a place of exchange where major international events are regularly organized. Senegal offers high quality visitor facilities to host major international meetings with participants from all continents, thanks to the great attention to foreigners and their cordial reception by the local population for an unforgettable stay in the country. With this value deep-rooted in them, the population takes particular care of the well-being of their guests.

Senegal, which is a genuine crossroads for West Africa, is characterized by multiple influences combining modernity and traditions. Dakar is a modern and dynamic capital city opened to the world. Thanks to its privileged geographic location, on



the African Atlantic coast, Dakar is a gateway to Africa. The 9th World Water Forum will provide an international platform, while also showcasing Africa's water issues, challenges, solutions, through the lens of Senegal's hydrodiplomacy and cooperation for regional integration. Senegal will also showcase water security in Africa for peace and sustainable development. Emphasis will be placed on a water-secure world to attain Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG6) and related goals, among other things.

While there are 63 transboundary river basins in Africa, Senegal shares two basins, Senegal River Basin (OMVS) and Gambia River Basin (OMVG). It is therefore evident that Senegal cherishes transboundary water COOPERATION for socio-economic development.

It is against this background that Senegal chose the theme WATER SECURITY FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT for the 9th World Water Forum. COOPERATION as an overarching theme. A recent assessment carried out by the Strategic Foresight Group (SFG) ranks the Senegal River Basin as the best example of transboundary basin cooperation for benefit sharing, poverty alleviation and socio-economic development. Senegal will bring non-traditional stakeholders, women's groups, farmers, herdsman and fisher-folk to the dialogue. In Africa, particularly Senegal, the development agenda is rural-based, thus WATER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT will be a priority in the World Water Forum. Thus farmers, herdsman and fisher-folk who usually clash with one another will be given a platform for the first time in the forum series to discuss their differences and seek solutions and cooperation in land use management.

Traditional stakeholders, political leaders, policy and decision makers, business, media, CSOs, citizens both in the water and non-water sector will continue the unfinished business of past forums.

It's an honour for Africa and in particular Senegal for the World Water Forum to be hosted in Africa, to provide a platform for all stakeholders in Senegal, Africa and the world to express themselves.



# specialized working groups

Four Specialized Working Groups will be established to prepare the content of a successful Forum, addressing each of the four priorities: Water Security; Rural Development; Cooperation; Means and Tools.

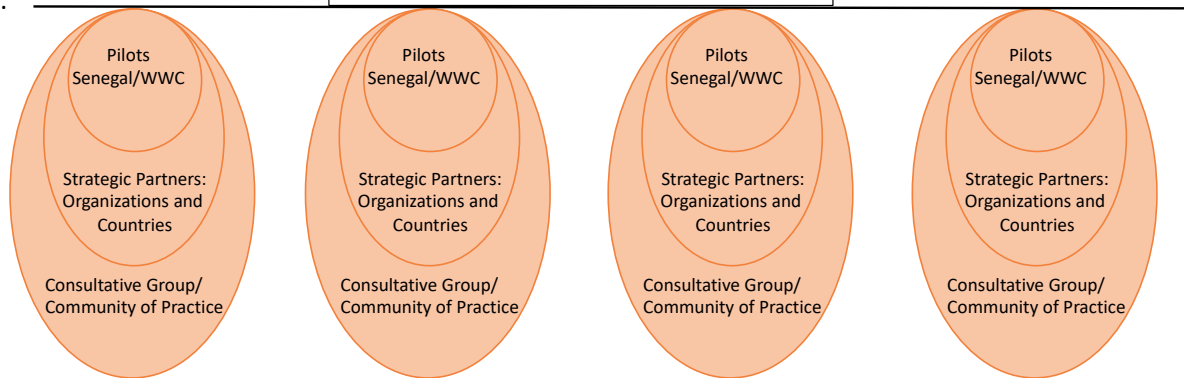
The Specialized Working Groups are advisory bodies that report to the ISC, which makes all final decisions. Each Specialized Working Group will be supported by the 9th World Water Forum Secretariat.

Each working group will be led by a small pilot group of coorganizers, with three representatives named by Senegal and three named by the WWC, with two co-chairs, each nominated by the WWC and Senegal respectively. The co-chairs can invite additional experts to participate in discussions, if necessary. The co-chairs are members of the ISC, which remains the ultimate decision-making body but endows each pilot group with some flexibility to execute its activities.

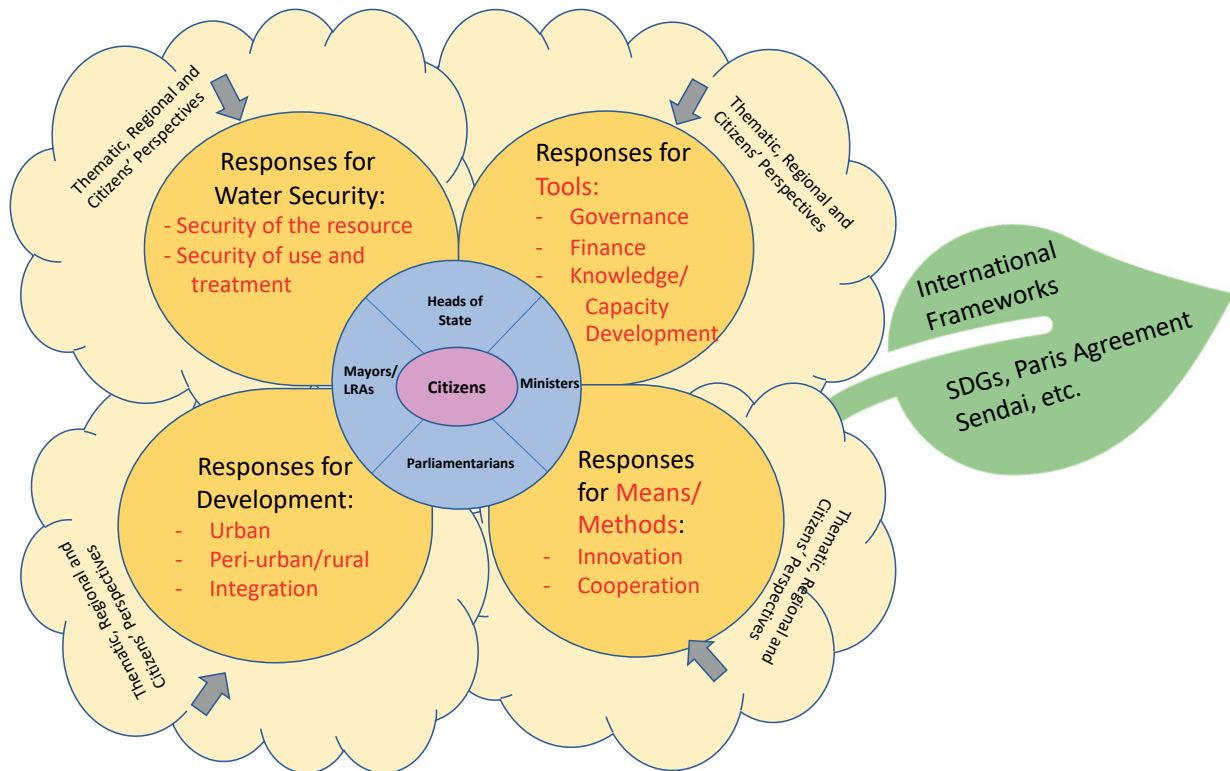
This pilot group is supported by a wider circle of strategic partners, organizations and countries, to be identified through an open and transparent process. Co-organizers may require a certain composition of stakeholders within the working groups to ensure gender-balance, youth representation, regional diversity, political mobilization or other important criteria.

Finally, each group will draw from a wider consultative group encompassing a variety of stakeholders, open to all those who would like to contribute to the reflection. Each group must involve political, regional and citizen representatives, ensuring diversity and inclusiveness while reaching beyond the usual stakeholders. Special invitations to contribute to the consultative group should be extended to 7th Forum and 8th Forum process contributors

## Working Groups for the 4 priority Areas



# The forum process



Given the flexibility of the World Water Forum as a non Governmental process, the themes should provide the starting point for reflection but should cut across political, regional and citizen boundaries as a means to assemble all actors around the same table as per the schematic diagram. The development process could also be staggered over time rather than the processes advancing in parallel. The concept and architecture for the 9th World Water Forum preparation is a work in progress. The Dakar 2021 World Water Forum has chosen, water security, cooperation, rural development and tools and means as the main thematic focus. These four themes are central to Africa and Senegal in particular on water issues.

## ACCOMPANYING PROGRAMMES FOR THE WORLD WATER FORUM

The most important component of the World Water Forum will be the accompanying programs leading to the main event. Senegal will introduce and champion an initiative with tangible results to showcase during the event. The Initiative to be called "DAKAR 2021 INITIATIVE". What does this mean? The 9th World Water Forum takes place in 2021, thus 2021 Initiative.

The Dakar 2021 Initiative, as it is known, could be manifested by the following examples of concrete action :

- a) By 2021 at least two thousand and twenty one communities in each region of the world, where applicable, will have access to potable water and decent sanitation (SDG 6.1 6.2);
- b) By 2021 at least two thousand and twenty one schools in each region of the world will have water and decent sanitation;
- c) By 2021 at least two thousand and twenty one water professionals will be trained to close the capacity gap;

- d) By 2021, Transboundary River Basins organizations will adopt at least twenty one communities to provide them with portable water and sanitation;
- e) By 2021, at least 5 River Basins per region will have legal protocols;
- f) By 2021, an international water fund (Blue Fund) is established. All programmes and projects under this initiative shall have the Dakar 2021 Initiative label. It will be one out of many initiatives that will contribute to achieving the SDGs.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR DAKAR 2021

The World Water Forum will trigger investment to the country's water needs. Such outside funding will reduce government spending in the water and sanitation sectors and the savings made can be used in other sectors of the economy.

- An opportunity to reinvent the World Water Forum to be more responsive to the needs of the poor, marginalized and underserved groups
- Contribute to catalyze action on achieving past and present commitments e.g. Paris Accord, SDGs, Africa Water Vision 2025 and Agenda 2063 of Africa (other regions can bring in their regional commitments). Year 2021 will be an opportunity to assess and evaluate performances on the implementation of these commitments. The Paris commitment will be assessed in 2020, one year before Dakar 2021 World Water Forum. Dakar forum will be at a time that SDG is 6yrs old. SDG+5 will also be assessed in 2020. Africa Water Vision 2025 will be at its final lap. Dakar 2021 forum will provide a platform for commitments review, catalyze and fast track more action to achieve the targets.

A NEW GLOBAL or REGIONAL INITIATIVE THAT WILL DEFINE THE ROAD TO 2030 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA BE LAUNCHED AT THE 9TH WORLD WATER FORUM, 'DAKAR 2021'.