

Brief Introduction of Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA)



WEPA Secretariat
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies



What is WEPA?

Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA)

- WEPA is an initiative proposed by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) in 2003 at the Third World Water Forum, and it became official in 2004;
- WEPA aims to improve water environmental governance in the region with full support of MOEJ. WEPA operates in a 5-year cycle and the fourth phase started in April 2019;
- WEPA currently consists of partners in 13 Asian countries.



Issues and Measures for Improving Water Governance in Asia

- There are two main reasons why water environment conservation in Asian region has not been achieved (i) Low compliance with effluent standards (ii) Effluent standard-based approach is not sufficient enough to improve water quality
- Measures need to be taken according to each factor.

Main issue

Water environment conservation in the Asian region has not been achieved.

(Env. water quality standards have not been achieved.)

Domestic and industrial effluent standards are not complied with.

Effluent standards are not appropriate.

Effluent standard-based approach is insufficient.

Measures

Measures to comply with standards

Review and improvement of effluent standards,
Application of temporary effluent standards

Introduction of a total pollutant load control system (TPLCS)

Key points for improving water governance

■ Cooperation among stakeholders:

WEPA is facilitating policy dialogues among different stakeholders in its Action Programs.

■ Monitoring and improvement efforts through PDCA:

WEPA, at its 4th Phase, is promoting capacity enhancement of government officials to ensure compliance with regulations to achieve water quality environmental standards.

■ Partnerships among countries:

WEPA has been facilitating knowledge exchange and dialogues among 13 member countries, thereby building capacity.

Priorities and Activities of the 3rd and 4th Phase (2014-)

Priority of the 3rd and

Framework of the Activi

Facilitating knowledge exchange dialogues, thereby building cap

Group workshops



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and addressing critical issues aring experiences and providing upport

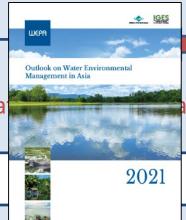
Annual Meetings

Bilateral Dialogues

Action Program



Webdatabase



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utreach

WEPA Outlook + Other Publications



Inputs to international conferences such as the World Water Forum

WEPA's Contributions to Improve Water Governance in Asia

- WEPA contributes to raise the awareness and build technical capacity to formulate appropriate policies/regulations
- WEPA supports the countries' compliance with their regulations
- WEPA encourages policy coherence through effective cross-sectoral coordination

Effectiveness of policies & regulations

Efficiency to maximize the benefits of water and sanitation services

- WEPA produces, regularly update and timely shares relevant data & information
- WEPA facilitates the implementation of innovative and good practices through WEPA Action Programs

Multi-stakeholder engagement

- WEPA adopts a multi-stakeholder approach to facilitate policy dialogues, networking, and capacity building for a variety of stakeholders.
- WEPA also facilitates the science-policy interface to contribute to better water governance
- Monitoring & Evaluation: Establishment of autonomous water environment administration through the PDCA cycle