

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

World Water Forum:

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT RELEASED BY THE ORGANIZERS

Quebec City, April 15, 2015 – Today, in the context of the 7th World Water Forum currently taking place in Daegu-Gyeongbuk in South Korea, the North American Network of Basin Organizations (NANBO), the *Conseil de gouvernance de l'eau des bassins versants de la rivière Saint-François* (COGESAF) and the *Regroupement des organismes de bassins versants du Québec* (ROBVQ) presented the proceedings of the 3rd International Forum on Integrated Water Management: Tools for Action which was held on May 7-9, 2014.

The aim of these proceedings is to give an overview of the event and extend discussions on transboundary water management challenges in the context of climate change – a theme which inspired the 71 speakers at the 3rd International Forum and more than 300 participants from 12 countries and 7 Canadian provinces.

The document highlights the fact that watersheds and aquifers are natural territories in which water flows regardless of national or administrative boundaries. True watershed-based integrated management often involves a transboundary approach. “This is particularly important in the backdrop of climate change where there is increasing pressure on water resources,” said Normand Cazalais, NANBO Executive Director.

Transboundary management mitigates the negative impacts associated with the implementation of unilateral adaptation measures and those of possible conflicts. Collaboration facilitates the implementation of more effective and efficient adaptation measures due to the exchange of quality information, watershed-level planning and the possibility of fairly sharing the costs and benefits of the initiatives. “The International Forum has achieved its goals in this regard by contributing to the development of international partnerships, by strengthening mechanisms for sharing information and experience, and by creating awareness about governance and integrated water

management structures and tools used around the world,” indicated Normand Cazalais.

The proceedings of the 3rd International Forum on Integrated Water Management: Tools for Action are available at <http://rv-eau.ca/en/proceedings>.

The International Forum on Integrated Water Management: Tools for Action was launched in 2009 as an initiative of the COGESAF. This biennial gathering of integrated water management professionals aims at promoting the exchange of knowledge and best practices of watershed-based integrated management. The 3rd edition of this international event was organized by NANBO, ROBVQ and COGESAF in collaboration with the Quebec Metropolitan Community and *Université Laval*.

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Source:

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