



## **ASEMWATERNet Project Summary**

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**FP6**  
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## **ASEMWATERNET**

**“Multi-Stakeholder Platform for  
ASEM S&T Cooperation on  
Sustainable Water Use”**

### **ASEMWATERNet Project Summary**

Water is a driving force for sustainable development. The main objective of the Coordination Action ASEMWaterNet is to contribute to the commitments of the EU Water Initiative and the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), mainly concerning the sustainable access to safe drinking water, global partnerships and development, the environmental sustainability, by building and promoting a multi-stakeholder and scientific platform on water resources management. The platform will mobilise the individual strengths of 18 ASEM (Asia Europe Meeting) partner countries, interact with existing networks, and promote interdisciplinary activities between public authorities, scientific community, private sector and civil society. Through several types of coordinating activities, the 34 participating organisations, from 15 European and Asian countries, will gather their experiences on five priority areas, defined during 1<sup>st</sup> ASEM Workshop on Water Management Issue, held in Changsha, Hunan Province, China, June 10-13, 2002, namely 1) river basin approach, 2) water use efficiency in agriculture, 3) erosion, flash floods and floods, 4) pollution and water quality and 5) water governance. The Workshop was organized by BRGM (France); Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (MOST); Department of Science and Technology of the Government of Hunan, Province of the People's Republic of China (HNDST); and LNEC (Portugal). The results achieved in the Changsha Workshop have been published by the European Commission in a document entitled “Water Management in Asia: How to identify opportunities, set and support priorities, for S&T cooperation”, and are available in <http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/global.pdf>. ASEMWaterNet joint activities will lead to identify new solutions for improved water use, protection and reduction of risks (pollution, depletion, erosion, floods). Through the organisation of workshops, and conferences, they will furthermore boost and promote exchanges between the scientific community and the industrial and political representatives. The spirit of ASEM process, built on a framework of respectful and open cooperation between equal partners, will therefore be promoted on water management issues.

### **Objectives of the ASEMWaterNet Platform**

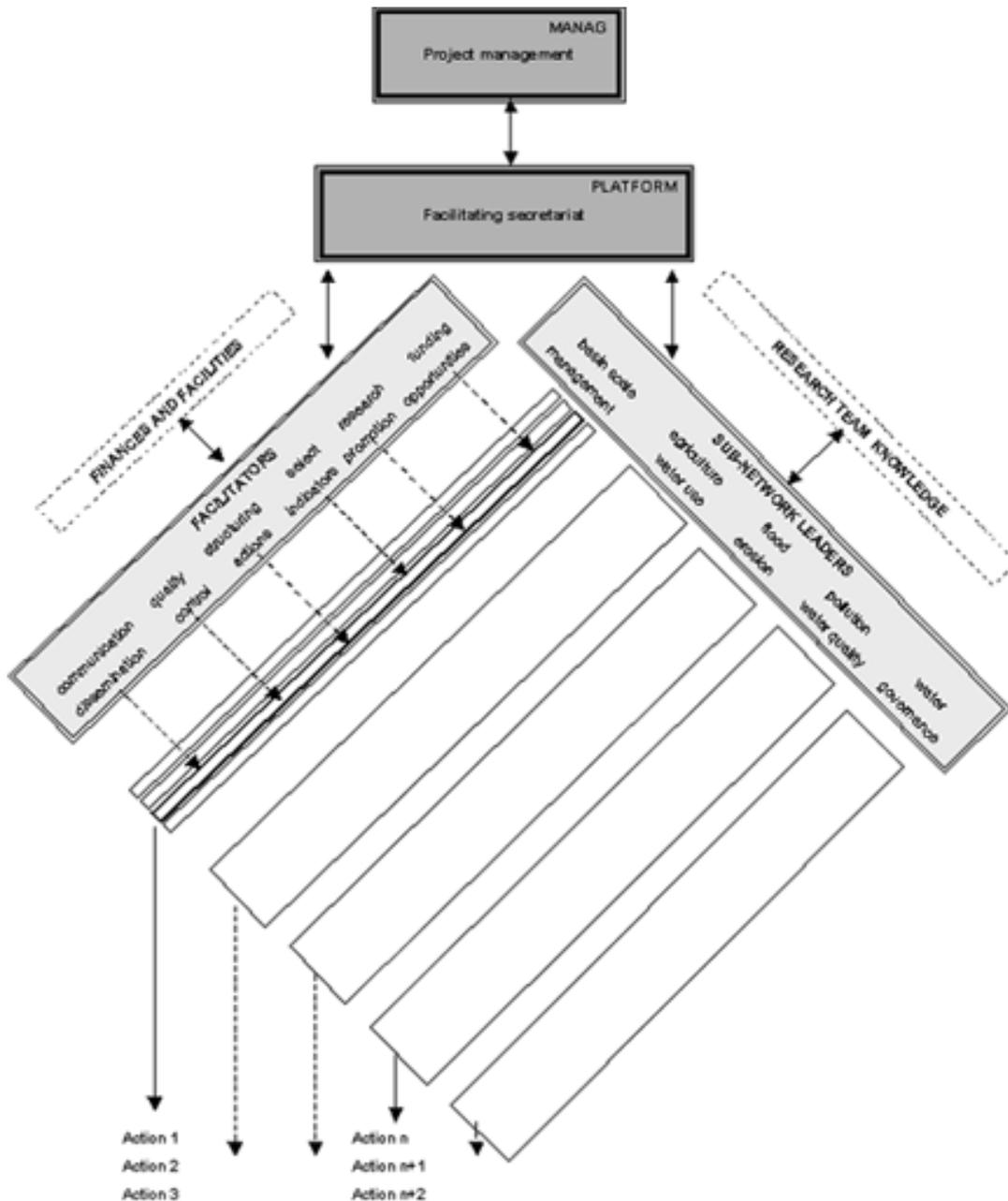
The overall goal of the Coordination Action ASEM WaterNet is to promote science and technology co-operation between Europe and Asia on water resources management by focussing on the five main issues: River Basin Management, Water use efficiency in agriculture, Floods, Pollution, Governance.

Considering these main areas of water research, the sub-objectives of the Platform will be:

- to promote water management at the basin scale seeking for transparency and equitable and sustainable benefits;
- to improve efficiency in agriculture in order to increase conditions of life and insure a sustainable use of water resources;
- to develop prevention of floods, as well as mitigation of their effects, and preparedness;
- to increase knowledge on soil and aquifer pollution, in order to propose prevention and remediation strategies;
- to explore and promote best practices in water governance, including human dimension and participatory approaches.

Our aim is to create a dynamic and, all together by joining efforts and innovation, to have an impact on improving the quality and sustainability of our water resources. To be attractive to the large partnership and to outside, the network will need to propose information and activities with added-value compared to individual efforts of partner countries.

**Graphical Representation of the five Workpackages:**

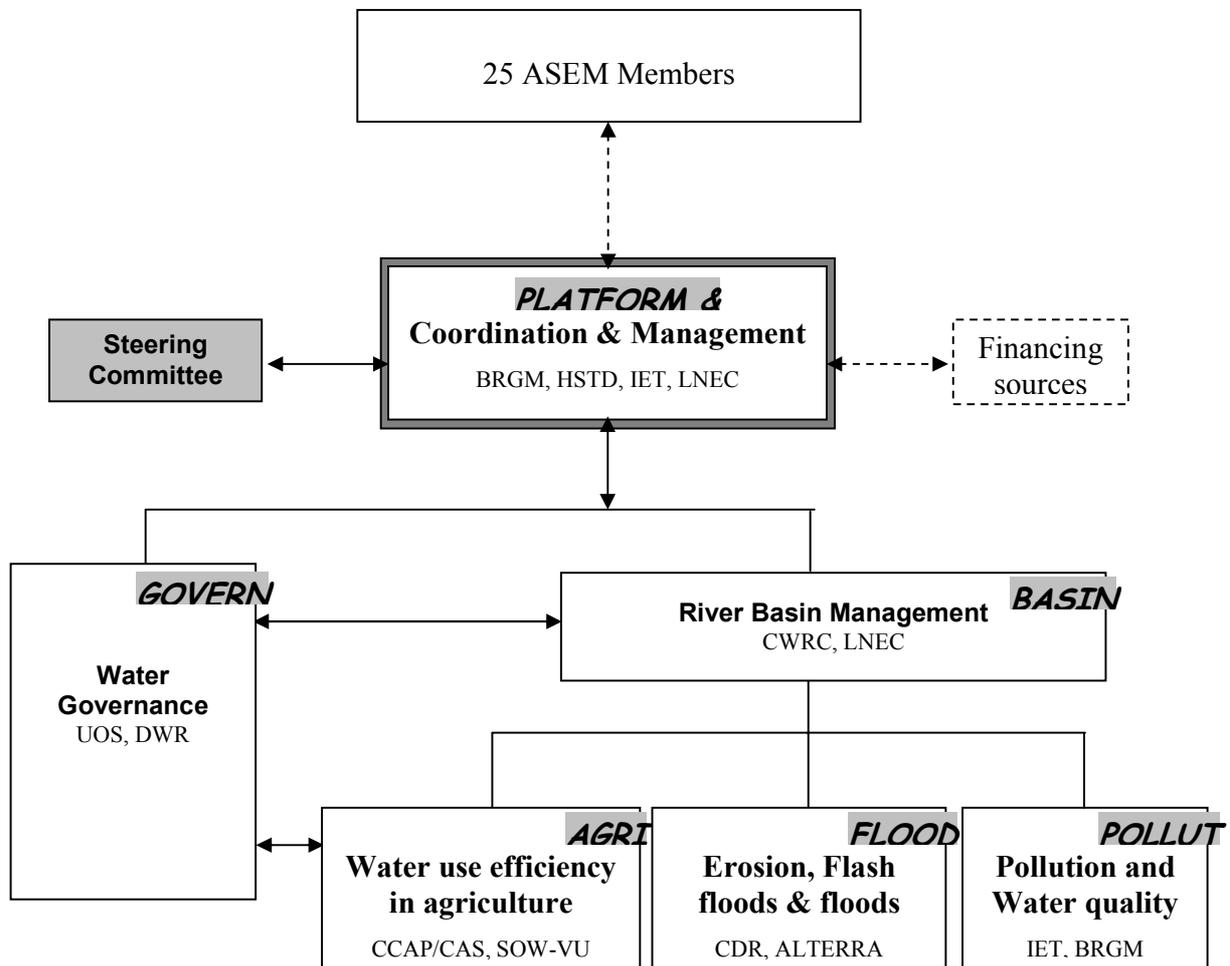


ASEMWATERNet is a network divided into 2 large regions of the Euroasiatic continent, it is proposed to organise the leadership around a small team of partners, who will be able to share the large efforts necessary

to animate such a large community. Therefore, the project management is structured around 3 complementary entities:

- A core Team, called facilitators, made of the 4 leading partners (BRGM (France, the general coordinator of the Action, Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil (LNEC), Portugal, coordinating the activities related to the Workpackage Basin, Hunan Provincial Science and Technology Department, from China and The Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology Institute of Environmental Technology (IOM),
- A sub-network leader team made of several partners,
- A Steering Committee composed of eminent personalities from Asia and Europe with a deep understanding of water issues and who act in their personal capacity.

**Thematic structure of the ASEM WaterNet organisation with the name of organisations co-leading each workpackage, and showing the linkage between AGRI, FLOOD, POLLUT and BASIN, GOVERN**



**Results**

Workpackage Basin Deliverable, i.e. the First Annual Activity Report of the Sub-Network BASIN, coordinated by LNEC, is available in LNEC home page <http://www.dha.lnec.pt/nas/> / <http://www.lnec.pt>.