Role of IWA in supporting WOPs

Keith Robertson, Manager
International Programmes and Support
International Water Association (IWA)

Overview

• History of IWA involvement
• IWA approach and guiding principles
• Examples of how IWA can help
• Next steps
IWA and its involvement

• Our history:
  • IWSA – 1947; IAWQ – 1965; IWA – 1999

• Role of Professional Associations
  • Contacts with colleagues
  • Field visits
  • Training courses

• IWA has always supported WOPs

IWA approach & guiding principles

• Not seek to duplicate work of others, but complement

• Support, facilitate – not institutionalize

• Maximize diversity of experience and perspectives

• Focus on process learning & international experience exchange

• Alignment of initiatives
Examples of IWA support

- Membership
- Brokering
- Events
- Groups
- Publishing
- Specific Projects

Examples: Membership

- The global network of water professionals – 10,000 individuals in 110 countries
- Diverse group of members – ‘mosaic’ is a strength
- Over 100 corporate members who are utilities
- 1200 utility members as individuals
- Governed by national associations
- Regional Groupings - ESAR, ASPIRE
Examples: Brokering

- Convening opportunity is part of our wider role
- Seek to network experience from local process to wider arena
- Collate, synthesize and network learning from context to context
- Partner with SEAWUN, AIDIS, EUREAU

Examples: Events

- IWA hosts a technical specialist event every 12 days
- Congresses – over 3,000 people
- Specialist group events
- IWA Utilities fora
  - Dedicated meetings under IWA Utilities initiative
  - 2006 – 3 meetings Berlin, Singapore and Beijing
  - 2007 – 2 planned for Perth and Lisbon
Examples: specialist groups

- Specialist groups the research arm of IWA; ~45 in total

- Relevant groups to WOPs:
  - Institutional Governance and Regulation
  - Strategic Asset Management
  - Statistics and Economics
  - Efficient Operation & Management of Urban Water Supply
  - Design, Operation & Maintenance of Drinking Water Treatment
  - Design, Operation and Costs of Large Wastewater Treatment Plants

Examples: publications

- IWA has wholly owned subsidiary company, IWA Publishing

- Publish:
  - Water Utility Management International
    - Focused on needs of senior utility managers
    - International reference point on strategic issues affecting utilities. News, interviews and executive briefings
  - Water Asset Management International
    - Focused on asset management
    - International perspective on infrastructure, planning and maintenance
Examples: Performance

- IWA Performance Indicators of Water Supply Services
  - 166 indicators and definitions
  - Free Software
  - Instructions – how to use

- Process Benchmarking Project
  - Partnership with WSAA
  - Series of benchmarking projects
  - 2007 - Customer Service
  - 2008 – Asset Management
  - 2009 – Civil Maintenance

Examples: Drinking Water

- Bonn Charter for Safe Drinking Water
  - A high-level framework
  - Operational and institutional arrangements
  - Managing water supplies from catchment to consumer.

- Water Safety Plans (WSPs)
  - With WHO and others
  - Scale up the implementation of WSPs
  - Creation of International Support Facility for Water Safety Plans (ISF-WSP)
  - Development and implementation of WSPs in six satellite regions over a three year period
Next steps

• Hope to partner in development of WOPs database

• Mobilise the IWA network

• ESAR as a partner in Africa

• Coordinate action and interest in the North?
  • WOPs workshop in Europe?

• IWA can support where we can be best deployed:
  • Brokering
  • Learning
  • Membership
  • Aligning our own initiatives
More information
http://www.iwahq.org

Thank you