5th WORLD WATER FORUM

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5TH WORLD WATER FORUM 16-22 MARCH 2009 • ISTANBUL, TURKEY

"BRIDGING DIVIDES FOR WATER"

Concept Note on the Partnership Bazaar

What?

In line with the theme of "Bridging Divides for Water", the main objective of the 5th World Water Forum's "Partnership Bazaar" is to provide the opportunity for organizations taking part in the Forum to initiate, expand or strengthen existing or new partnerships for water. The World Water Forum is increasingly becoming THE meeting place for vibrant water coalitions, and the co-organizers aim to facilitate this function of the Forum by making available appropriate space for these events.

A partnership or coalition is an initiative of one or more organizations willing to tackle a particular issue with other potential partners - this leads to natural alliances, and long-term working relationships on a wide range of water-related issues. Any organization or group of organisations can establish a partnership. The format of the Partnership Bazaar is comparable to that of a Side Event. However, the objective is not to showcase the results of one organisation, but to propose a concrete plan to establish or strengthen a partnership or coalition.

Conveners of partnership events must commit to provide a short report after the meeting to the Forum co-organizers, so that progress can afterward be tracked, and results used to demonstrate progress towards "Bridging Divides for Water." This report will mention whether the objectives have been reached, how the Themes and Topics of the Forum were supported, and, if so, will indicate the (new) organizations which agreed to join the initiative or activity, as well as the specific objectives on which agreement was reached.

How?

The application form is available on the <u>Virtual Meeting Space</u> (VMS), and linked directly from the Forum website. The VMS also will be used to invite participation to the partnership events, both beforehand and during the Forum.

When?

A first series of partnership events is proposed for March 16th (in the afternoon), the opening day. Other meetings will be scheduled throughout the week. The afternoon of March 22nd, the closing day, will also be used. The rooms used on March 16th and 22nd will be identified as Partnership Bazaar session rooms in the Forum programme.

Where?

For more information and emerging details, please visit <u>http://www.worldwaterforum5.org/index.php?id=partnerships</u> or write to <u>partnerships@worldwaterforum5.org</u>.









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