



OECD PRINCIPLES ON WATER GOVERNANCE

**Endorsed by OECD's 34 Members at the
OECD Ministerial Council Meeting
on 4 June 2015**

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CADWAGO Symposium on Water Governance, London, 16 September 2015



Outline

1. Why care about water governance?
2. Lessons from countries' experience
3. Guidance for policymakers
4. Next steps

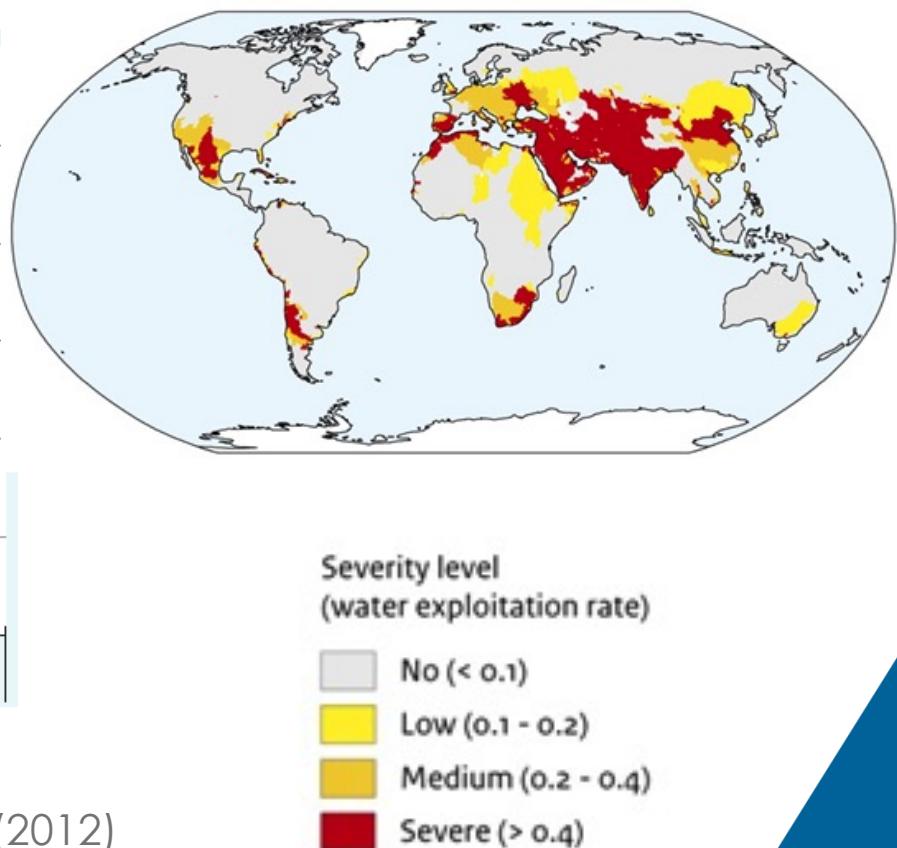


OECD Projections : A Gloomy Picture

Global water demand:
Baseline scenario, 2000 and 2050



Water stress by river basin:
Baseline, 2050



Source: OECD Environmental Outlook Baseline (2012)



Water crises are often governance crises

- ✓ Enough water for human and nature needs ... if managed wisely!
- ✓ Coping with future water challenges requires more than financing & hydrology
- ✓ Technical, financial & institutional solutions exist, but implementation is lagging behind
- ✓ How to manage water-related risks & trade-offs ? A need for good governance

Water, a fragmented sector that is sensitive to multilevel governance

- ✓ Local and global issue, with multiple actors at different levels
- ✓ Capital –intensive, monopolistic intensity, market failures
- ✓ Interdependencies across multiple stakeholders are poorly managed
- ✓ Many countries struggle to really understand (and map) who does what, at which level

No one-size-fits-all response but overarching Principles are needed

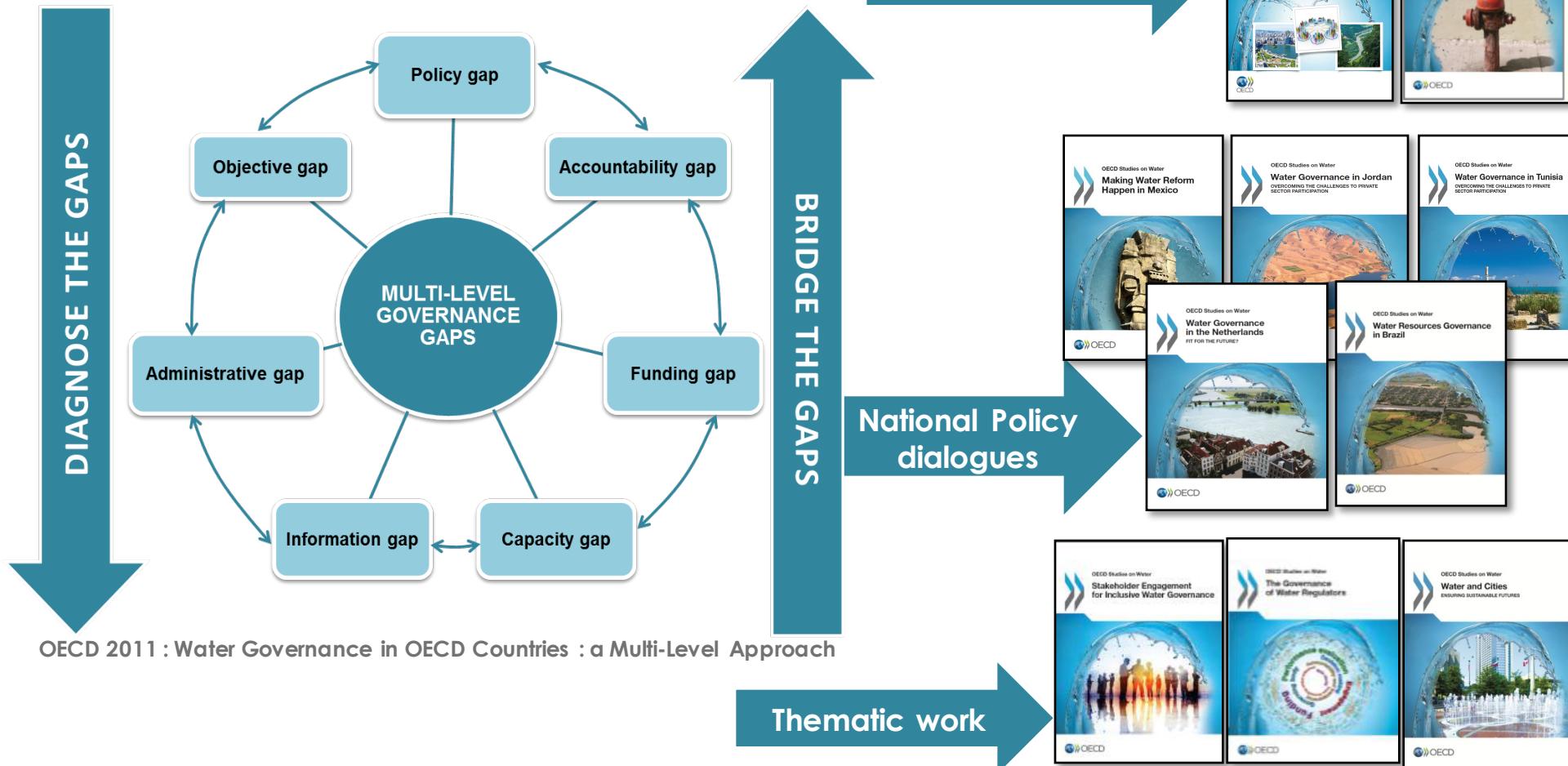
- ✓ Need for place-based policies & local-national framework, strategy and rules
- ✓ Governments should strive to develop better water policies for better lives
- ✓ Taking stock of what works well and what does not work is important

- Beyond the question of **WHAT** to do to meet the water challenge, there is a need to think about **WHO DOES WHAT, WHY, AT WHICH LEVEL and HOW**



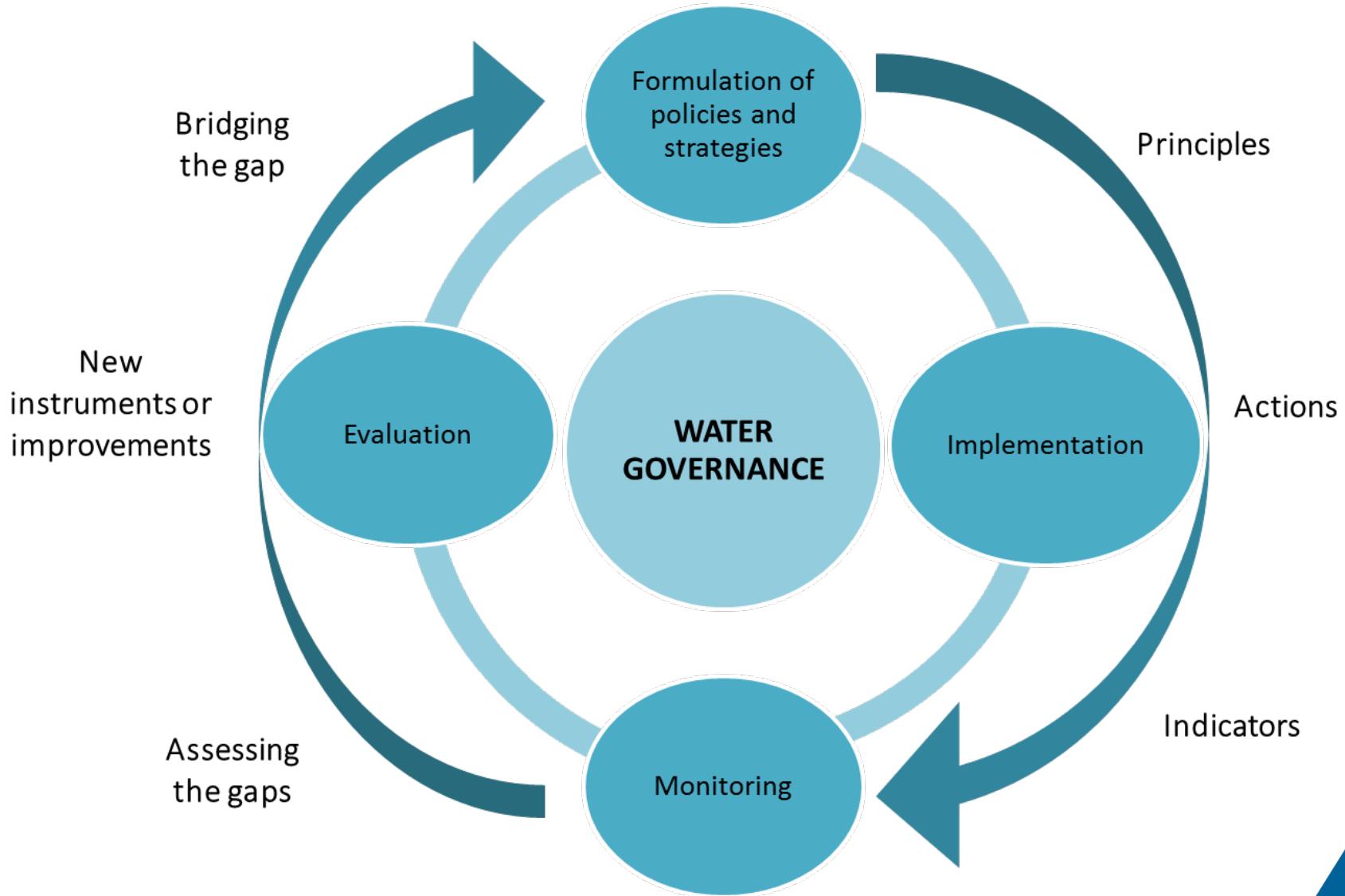
OECD's Evidence Base

**OECD Multi-level Governance Framework :
“Mind the Gaps, Bridge the Gaps”**





A Systemic Approach to the Water Governance Cycle





OECD Water Governance Initiative

A multi-stakeholder and bottom-up approach

Steering Committee

110+ Delegates gathering every 6 months in a Policy Forum

Wider beneficiaries

Regional partners
[Americas, Europe, Asia-Pacific, Middle East, Africa]

WG n°1
Stakeholder engagement

WG n°2
Governance & performance of water services

WG n°3
Basin governance

WG n°4
Integrity & Transparency

OECD Principles on water governance

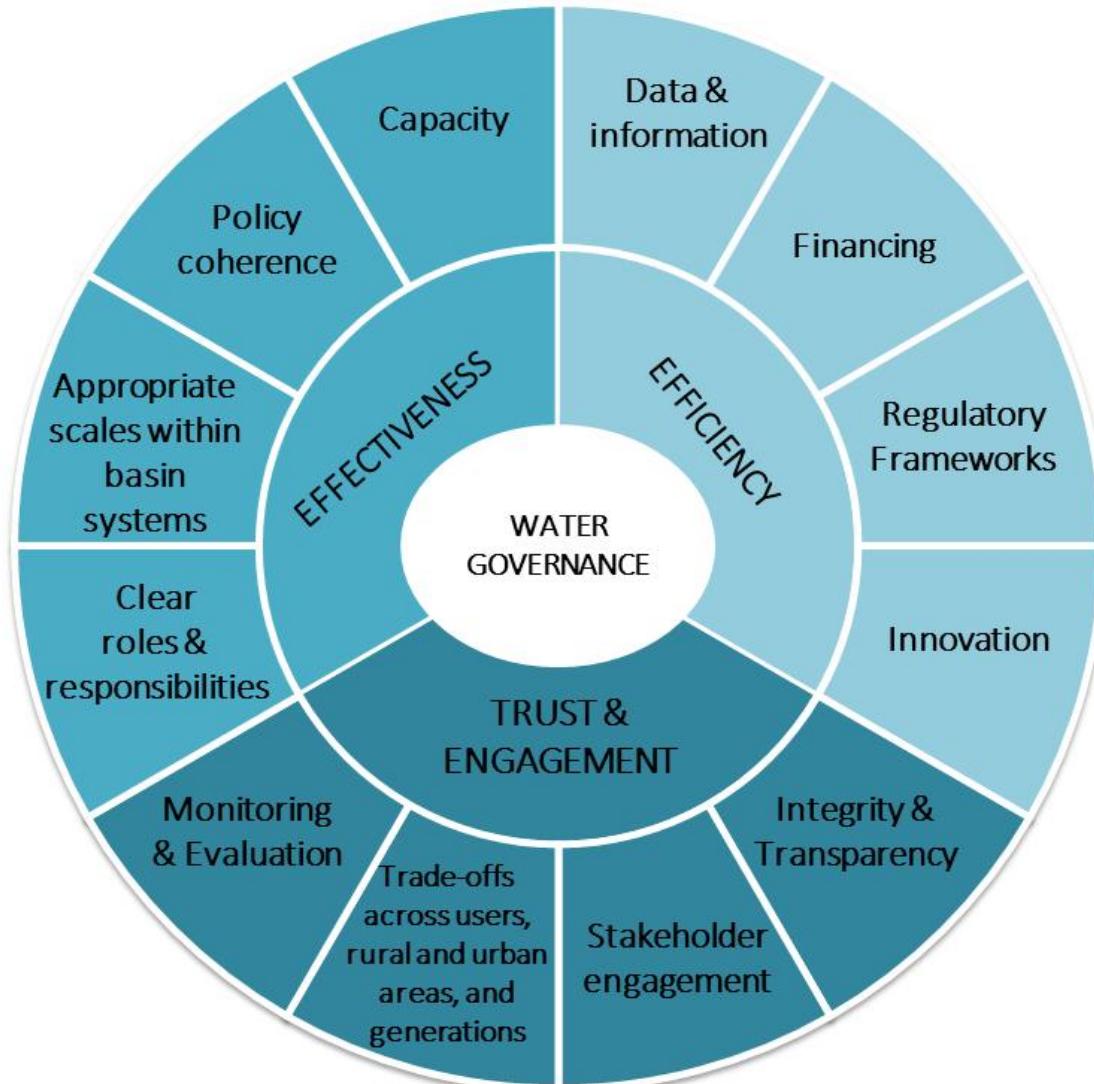
OECD Indicators on water governance

Global Water Agenda





OECD Principles on Water Governance





EFFECTIVENESS of Water Governance

- Principle 1. Clearly allocate and distinguish **roles and responsibilities** for water policymaking, policy implementation, operational management and regulation, and foster co-ordination across these responsible authorities.
- Principle 2. Manage water at the **appropriate scale(s)** within integrated basin governance systems to reflect local conditions, and foster co-ordination between the different scales.
- Principle 3. Encourage **policy coherence** through effective cross-sectoral co-ordination, especially between policies for water and the environment, health, energy, agriculture, industry, spatial planning and land use
- Principle 4. Adapt the level of **capacity** of responsible authorities to the complexity of water challenges to be met, and to the set of competencies required to carry out their duties



EFFICIENCY of Water Governance

- Principle 5. Produce, update, and share timely, consistent, comparable and policy-relevant **water and water-related data and information**, and use it to guide, assess and improve water policy
- Principle 6. Ensure that governance arrangements help **mobilise water finance** and allocate financial resources in an efficient, transparent and timely manner
- Principle 7. Ensure that sound water management **regulatory frameworks** are effectively implemented and enforced in pursuit of the public interest,
- Principle 8. Promote the adoption and implementation of **innovative water governance practices** across responsible authorities, levels of government and relevant stakeholders



TRUST & ENGAGEMENT in Water Governance

- Principle 9. Mainstream **integrity and transparency** practices across water policies, water institutions and water governance frameworks for greater accountability and trust in decision-making
- Principle 10. Promote **stakeholder engagement** for informed and outcome-oriented contributions to water policy design and implementation
- Principle 11. Encourage water governance frameworks that help manage **trade-offs** across water users, rural and urban areas, and generations
- Principle 12. Promote regular **monitoring and evaluation** of water policy and governance where appropriate, share the results with the public and make adjustments when needed



Multi-stakeholder Declaration on the Principles



Daegu's Multi-stakeholder Declaration on the OECD Principles on Water Governance

Handed to the OECD's Secretary-General Angel Gurria at the 7th WWF on 13 April 2015

**

We, organisations from the public, private and non-profit sectors, major groups and individuals, actively engaged in the OECD Water Governance Initiative (WGI), an innovative multi-stakeholder network of 120+ delegates gathering twice a year in a Policy Forum, strongly believe that water must be given governance status and :

1. Fully support the upcoming OECD Principles on Water Governance as a solid framework to help national and subnational governments design and implement better water policies for better lives, in cooperation with the broad range of stakeholders within and outside the water sector;
2. Applaud the bottom-up, multi-stakeholder and inclusive process behind the preparation of the OECD Principles on Water Governance since the creation of the Water Governance Initiative on 27 March 2013, as a follow-up to the OECD commitment made at the 6th World Water Forum (Marseille, 2012);
3. Call upon local and governments from OECD countries to approve the Principles at the 33rd meeting of the Regional Development Policy Committee, 29 April 2015 and to give them a strong and high-level political impetus at the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting, 3-4 June 2015;
4. Look forward to the integration of the Principles into an OECD Recommendation to give them a legal nature and strong moral force, and to provide a consensus baseline to identify and scale up best practices and trigger changes in governance and policy;
5. Invite developing and emerging countries to endorse the OECD Principles on Water Governance and to adhere to the subsequent Recommendation;
6. Pledge that all stakeholders use the Principles to guide their activities and practices in order to strengthen the effectiveness, efficiency, trust and engagement in water governance;
7. Commit to disseminate the Principles widely within our organisations, to our members, networks, partners and the public at large;
8. Invite the OECD to develop water governance indicators, with the same bottom-up and inclusive process, to monitor progress in the implementation of the Principles, especially in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals;
9. Expect the Water Governance Initiative to continue playing an important role in gathering international experience to facilitate benchmarking and peer-learning on each of the Principles;
10. Thank the OECD for its commitment and leadership and stand ready to contribute to future collective efforts in support of good governance in the water sector.

65 Major Groups committed to the Principles at the 7th World Water Forum (Daegu, Republic of South Korea, 13 April 2015)





Next steps for Implementation (2015-2017)

1. Water Governance Best Practice Database

- Success Stories & Pitfalls to avoid
- Online Platform

2. OECD Water Governance Indicators

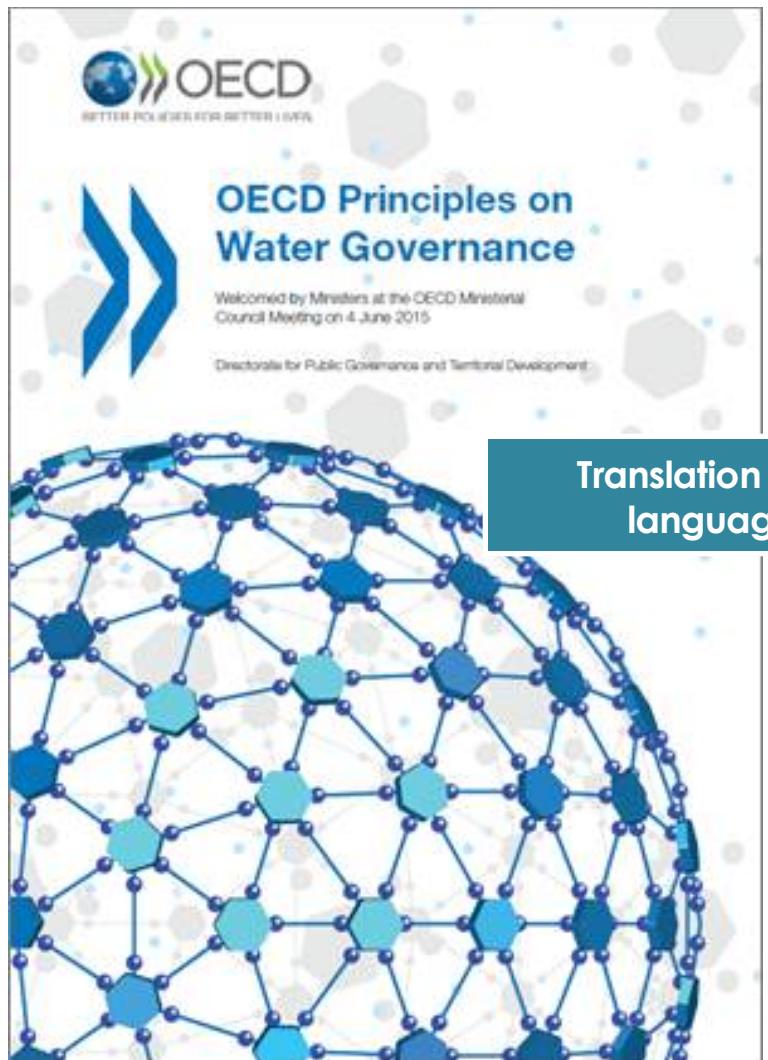
- Intergovernmental consensus on indicator framework
- *OECD Water Governance at a Glance* Publication

3. Outreach and Dissemination

- OECD Toolkit for the implementation of the Principles
 - Regional consultations
 - Stakeholder Seminars



Download the Principles!



The image shows the front cover of the 'OECD Principles on Water Governance' brochure. It features the OECD logo at the top left, followed by the title 'OECD Principles on Water Governance'. Below the title, it says 'Welcomed by Ministers at the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting on 4 June 2015' and 'Directorate for Public Governance and Territorial Development'. The background of the cover has a blue hexagonal network pattern.

Translation in 15 languages





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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