



17 October 2022

5th India-EU Water Forum on Water Cooperation

Draft Tentative Concept and Programme

27 October 2022: Water Forum from 9.15 am IST – 6 pm IST

28 October 2022: Site Visit at Barapullah drain site from 9:00 am IST to 12:00pm IST

Venue: Hotel The Lalit, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi 110001

Mode: in person, with possibility to join virtually for speakers from outside India

Introduction/Background

The 5th India - EU Water Forum on *Water Cooperation* aims to bring together a wide range of stakeholders from both India and the EU and its EU Member States with the objective to exchange views on good practices, regulatory approaches, business solutions and research and innovation opportunities in the water field in India and the EU.

The 5th India – EU Water Forum aims to contribute to the shared vision by India and the EU for a more sustainable management of water resources and tackling the challenges posed by water management in the context of growing population, competing water demands and climate change.

The India-EU Water Partnership (IEWP) is an outcome of the ‘Joint Declaration on an India – EU Water Partnership (IEWP)’ adopted by the EU and Government of India during the 13th EU-India Summit in Brussels in March 2016 and Memorandum of Understanding on Water Cooperation between the EU and Government of India signed in October 2016. The 5th India – EU Water Forum is held within the framework of the India - EU Water Partnership.

The EU and India agreed in the EU – India Leaders Meeting in May 2021 to scale up cooperation on water management in the framework of the EU - India Water Partnership, notably to tackle water pollution, in line with the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and underlined the importance to address water challenges in the context of climate change.

The ‘Joint Declaration on an India – EU Water Partnership (IEWP)’ includes a Joint Working Group comprising of technical experts to discuss, finalise, implement, and monitor the activities on IEWP. Progress on the implementation of the Partnership is regularly being assessed by both sides by representatives from the Indian Ministry, the EU Delegation to India, and the Environment Directorate-General of the European Commission. The holding of the 5th India – EU Water Forum was agreed by the Joint Working Group in its meeting in March 2021.

The Action on *Development and Implementation Support to the India-EU Water Partnership* (IEWP Action) is implemented since 2017. The EU and the German Ministry for Economic Development (BMZ) have commissioned GIZ with its implementation through co-financing to make best use of numerous synergies. Hence and until September 2023, the IEWP Action Phase 2 is being implemented in conjunction with the Indo-German Technical Cooperation Project *Support to Ganga Rejuvenation (SGR)*.

The IEWP Action Phase 2 (1 November 2020 – 31 October 2023) is building upon the learnings and achievements of its Phase I (1 July 2017 – 30 September 2020) and aims to expand as well as deepen



these through four joint working areas with a focus on river basin management in India. In addition, the IEWP Action stands for flagging business opportunities for EU companies linked to research and innovative technologies.

The 5th India – EU Water Forum will serve to unfold the spectrum of key achievements and findings of the previous IEWP activities as well as to put light on ongoing and future IEWP developments to which the governmental representatives, experts, researchers, businesses, and other stakeholders can contribute and benefit from.

Overall, four sessions are envisaged which will be held on **Thursday 27 October 2022:**

Time IST	Programme
9.15 am – 9.45 am	Registration
10.00 am – 11.10 am	Session 1: IN-EU Water Cooperation. Opening Session
11.10 am– 11.30 am	High Tea
11.30 am – 13.40 pm	Session 2: India – EU Water Partnership Action – Technical Sessions on 4 Key Areas: River Basin Management, Irrigation and Efficient Water Use, Environmental Flows Assessment and Safe Reuse of Treated Water (SRTW)
13.40 pm - 14.30 pm	Lunch break
14.30 pm – 16.00 pm	Session 3: Thematic Session - How to address future Water challenges? perspectives from EU and India
16:00 pm - 16:15 pm	Tea break
16.15 pm – 17.45 pm	Session 4: Session on Research and Innovation, progress and barriers to the uptake of the EU and India Water research and innovation solutions
17.45 pm – 18.00 pm	Vote of Thanks and Closing

On Friday 28 October 2022 Site Visit at Barapullah drain, New Delhi - A site of PAVITRA GANGA, EU India- Horizon 2020 Water Cooperation project, from 9.00 am – 12 noon. A maximum of 30 participants may attend on a first come first basis and upon prior registration by 20 October 2022 to email: vandana.yadav@giz.de - Meeting point for transport by bus: India Habitat Centre, Gate 3.



Thursday 27 October 2022

9.15 am – 9.45 am: Registration

The following outlines the four sessions in more detail and will be further elaborated jointly:

Session 1: India-EU Water Cooperation. Opening Session

10.00 am – 11.10 am

A joint High Level plenary session will be held as a starting point for the 5th India-EU Water Forum. The session will highlight the cooperation between the EU and Government of India on water management in the framework of the EU - India Water Partnership.

Moderator for Session 1: Ms. Pragya Taneja, independent moderator

10:00 to 11:10	1. Welcome Address by H.E. Ugo Astuto, Ambassador of the European Union to India
	2. Address by Astrid Schomaker, Director Green Diplomacy and Multilateralism, DG Environment, EU Commission
	3. Address by German Embassy as co-funder of the IEWP Action
	4. Address by Mr. Ashok Kumar, Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga
	5. Address by Mr. A. K. Gupta, Chairman (WP&P), CWC
	6. Address by Ms. Debashree Mukherjee, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti
	7. Address by the Secretary, DoWR, RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti (tbc)
	8. Keynote address by the Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti (tbc)
	9. Vote of thanks by Mr. R. Giridhar, Convener, IEWP
11:10 to 11:30	High Tea

Session 2: India – EU Water Partnership Action – Technical Sessions on 4 Key Areas (150 min.)

11.30 am – 13.40 pm

Building upon the success stories of IEWP Action Phase 1, the current Phase 2 aims at deepening the cooperation towards a strengthened knowledge base and effective water resources and river basin management in India.

The objectives of this session are to: present the results achieved through the IEWP action so far and exchange on joint EU-Indian experience and challenges.

In Phase 2, the IEWP Action is being implemented through **four thematic areas** that will be presented and discussed in this session:

1) River Basin Management (fostering the holistic management of river basins in India based on EU good practices merged with Indian approaches). In this work area, the Tapi RBM Plan is being detailed and a mechanism for the gradual implementation of its Programme of Measures will be developed. In cooperation with the Indo-German Cooperation, the RBM approach used in the Tapi Basin is being replicated in the Ramganga River Basin together with the National Mission for Clean Ganga. The Tapi and Ramganga approach will be transferred into an IEWP RBM Toolbox to enable RBM implementation in the Ganga and other Indian River Basins.



2) Environmental Flows Assessment. Work in the Ramganga Basin focuses on assessing the ecological needs of the basin and contributes to a stakeholders' consultation process towards identification of E-Flows measures under the Indo-German Support to Ganga Rejuvenation Project.

3) Irrigation and Efficient Water Use. Activities are being pursued to develop a protocol on assessment of irrigation efficiency and performance to support efficient use of water in the irrigation sector and, hence, to counteract water scarcity.

4) Safe Reuse of Treated Water (SRTW). Work in this area aims for the implementing the related National Framework on SRTW (developed under the IEWP Phase 1) and to develop related business models.

Cross-cutting topics include the facilitation of piloting of EU technologies, flagging opportunities for EU businesses and research in the Indian water sector and hands-on training of approaches and methods. In addition, EU Member States and the Indian partners will be further involved towards an improved EU-India Water Policy dialogue. These aspects will be covered under session 4 and 3 respectively.

Moderator (Session 2a, and 2b): Mr. Steven Visser, Senior Water Management Expert, VISSER Waterbeheer Ltd. and RBM Expert, IEWP Action, GIZ

Session 2a: River Basin Management (RBM)	
11:30 to 11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint presentation on Development of Tapi RBM Plan under the framework of IEWP Action (By Mr. Rishi Srivastava, Chief Engineer, BPMO, Central Water Commission (CWC) and Solution Forum to facilitate the implementation of priority program of measures in the Tapi Basin (by Ms. Laura Sustersic, Project Manager, IEWP Action, GIZ)
11.45 to 12.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderated Panel Session "India and Europe Jointly Managing the Rivers" Participants: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. D. Ranga Reddy, Chief Engineer, Tungabhadra River Board, Central Water Commission, Hyderabad Jean-Noel Pansera, Secretary General, International Meuse Commission Organization Mr. Hans Stielstra, Deputy Head of Unit, ENV C1, Sustainable Fresh Management, European Commission
12.15 to 12.25	Question and Answer

Session 2b: Environmental Flows, Irrigation and Efficient Water Use and Safe Reuse of Treated Water	
12:30 to 12:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint presentation on the E-Flows Assessment in India and development of a guidance document (By Mr. N N Rai, South Hydrology, Central Water Commission and Dr. Jyoti Nale, IEWP Action, GIZ)
12:40 to 12:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-Flows implementation: challenges and path covered so far (By Mr. D P Mathuria, Executive Director, Technical, National Mission for Clean Ganga and IEWP Action, GIZ)



12:50 to 13:00	Question and Answer
13:00 to 13:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on development of a Protocol on Irrigation Efficiency in India (By Mr. Dorje Gyamba, Chief Engineer, Performance Overview and Management Improvement Organization, Central Water Commission and IEWP Action, GIZ)
13:10 to 13:20	Question and Answer
13:20 to 13:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of National Framework on Safe Reuse of Treated Water and development of business models to foster the implementation of reuse (By Dr. Girija Bharat, Water Supply & Sanitation Expert, IEWP Action, GIZ and by representative from National Mission of Clean Ganga and IEWP Action, GIZ)
13:30 to 13:40	Question and Answer

13:40 to 14:30 Lunch break

Session 3: Thematic Session - How to address future Water challenges? Perspectives from EU and India' (90 min.)

14.30 pm IST – 16.00 pm

India and several EU Member States have collaborated extensively to enhance and enrich each other's technological and scientific knowledge and management capacities to cope with increasing stress on water resources in the recent years. Many challenges such as uneven distribution of water resources, extreme water-related events (floods and droughts) and increasing demand due to population growth and economic development are common to India and some of the EU Member States. In past few years water related challenges are further triggered by climate change adding additional stress to water, environment, and food security and to the national economy. Therefore, there is a need for a concerted effort of India and EU MS to address these growing water challenges.

EU Member States are important strategic partners of Government of India in the water sector. The EU Delegation has launched an EU Team Focus Group on Water and Air Pollution with the participation of EU Member States engaged in the water sector in India in 2022.

In the 4th India-EU Water Forum, the EU Delegation entered into Expressions of Intent or Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Germany, the Netherlands and Hungary in 2019 to formalize the cooperation activities under the framework of the IEWP.

Moderator: Ms. Kamilla Kristensen Rai, Counsellor, Delegation of the European Union to India

Moderated Panel Session (based on a set of questions to speakers)

14:30 to 16:00	<p>Climate change and water</p> <p>Speaker 1: Climate change adaptation of water management, by EU: Dagmar Behrendt-Kaljarikova (ENV C.1) or Andrea Toreti (JRC-EDO) (tbc)</p> <p>Speaker 2: Past and planned actions related to climate change adaptation of water management in India by Mr. Ashok K. Kharya, Chief Engineer, EMO, Central Water Commission</p> <p>Speaker 3: Indian state state-level action and workplan by an Indian representative from National water Mission (NWM)</p>
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	<p>Water Resources Management including groundwater and drought aspects Speaker 1: A representative from Central Ground Water Board Speaker 2: Philip Grinder Pedersen, Chief advisor, Ph.D., Ministry of Environment of Denmark, Agency for Environmental Protection, Specific action at the EU MS national level Speaker 3: by The Netherlands</p> <p>Drinking water and sanitation Speaker 1: Mr. Jukka Ilomäki, Counsellor Trade and Investment Embassy of Finland Speaker 2: Belgium: Dr Benoît Moreau (PhD), Lecturer-Researcher at HEPH-Condorcet (Be) & Scientific Council and Steering Committee of the SFR-Condorcet (Fr) on "Water, blue gold" Speaker 3: A representative from Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti</p>
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16:00 to 16:15 Tea break

Session 4: Session on Research and Innovation, progress, and barriers to the uptake of the EU and India Water research and innovation solutions (90 min.)

16.15 pm IST – 17.45 pm

The joint EU - India water Horizon 2020 call cover Seven research and innovation projects (India-H2O, LOTUS, PANI WATER, PAVITR, PAVITRA GANGA, SARASWATI 2.0 and SPRING) bring together 743 participants, with an overall joint funding of € 37.4 million funding (EU €23.4 M + India ~€14 M). From the EU, the funding was provided through the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme. From the Indian side by the Department of Science and Technology and Department of Biotechnology. The water projects under Horizon 2020 focus on drinking water purification, wastewater treatment and real-time monitoring & control systems.

The IEWP Action’s Phase 2 keeps fostering the integration of EU research and innovation for improved water and river basin management in India. It is envisaged that the Horizon 2020 water projects will develop and demonstrate energy efficient and cost-effective technologies relevant for the Indian water sector. The EWP Action will serve as a platform to support the dissemination of the relevant technical recommendations from the Horizon 2020 and also flag these within the planned *Solution Forum*. The IEWP Action aims to flag the learnings from Horizon 2020 Projects to the Indian partners and EU businesses for a possible market uptake.

Under the framework of the IEWP Action business opportunities will be flagged to EU businesses in the Indian water sector. It is envisaged that the IEWP Action will support the facilitated implementation of key measures in the Tapi Basin (Programme of Measures- PoM) through development of up to 15 problem statements, which will then be transferred into business cases. The related stakeholder discussions will be done through a *Solution Forum*. These business cases will be presented to relevant clusters of the EU small-medium enterprises, Indian water authorities and financing organisations to possibly develop mutually profitable business collaborations between EU and India.



Moderator: Mr. Guido Schmidt, Senior Policy Expert Water, Fresh Thoughts Consulting GmbH

Moderated Panel Session (based on a set of questions to speakers)

<p>16:15 to 17:05</p> <p><i>Mentimeter question to audience</i></p>	<p>Title of the Session: Moderator: Mr. Guido Schmidt, Senior Policy Expert Water, Fresh Thoughts Consulting GmbH (a set of questions will be given to the speakers in advance)</p> <p>State and outlook for EU-India cooperation on research and innovation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Panagiotis Balabanis, Head of sector, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (Healthy Planet), European Commission, Brussels • Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Chairman of Monitoring Committee of the EU Horizon 2020 India - EU Water Projects <p>Presentation of the projects' progress and main barriers faced for the uptake of solutions in the Indian water market</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Anshuman, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), Horizon 2020 & Mr. Paul Campling, VITO , Horizon 2020 PAVITRA – GANGA project • Dr. Carlos Arias (Aarhus University, Denmark) & Prof. Nadeem Khalil (AMU), Horizon 2020 PAVITR project • Prof. Kevin McGuigan (RCSI), Horizon 2020 PANI-WATER project
<p>17:05 to 17:15</p>	<p>Incubation facility to promote business ideas in Indian water sector By Mr. Ashok K. Kharya, Chief Engineer, Central Water Commission</p>
<p>17:15 to 17:25</p>	<p>Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) By Mr. Sanmit Ahuja, Expert Member, cGanga</p>
<p>17:25 to 17:35</p> <p><i>Mentimeter question to audience</i></p>	<p>Ms. Giuseppina Monacelli, Chair, EU Water Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) "Water Challenges for a Changing World", EU Commission</p>
<p>17:35 to 17:45</p>	<p>Discussion on potential next steps on Research, Innovation and business uptake Ms Kamilla Kristensen Rai, Counsellor (Sustainable Urbanisation, Water & Air), Delegation of the European Union to India and Ms. Martina Burkard, Head of Program, GIZ/ Laura Sustersic, Project Manager, IEWP Action, GIZ</p>

Closing	
<p>17:45 to 18.00</p>	<p>Summary of conclusions and Vote of Thanks by the EU, Ms. Martina Burkard, Head of Program, GIZ and</p> <p>Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks by Mr. Kushvinder Vohra, Member (WP&P), Central Water Commission</p>

Friday 28 October 2022

Site Visit at Barapullah drain site upon advance registration from 9:00 am IST to 12:00 pm

Meeting point for transport by bus: India Habitat Centre, Gate 3



India - EU Water Fora (IEWF) so far

Following the **1st Indo-European Water Forum** organised in 2015 (Delhi/India), the IEWP held three more India-EU Water Fora over the last 6 years to bring together several hundred Indian and European actors to discuss India's water challenges and possible solutions.

The **2nd India-EU Water Forum** was jointly organised in the frame of the World Sustainable Development Summit in Delhi (October 2016).

The **3rd India-EU Water Forum** under the theme *"Jointly Adapting European Lessons for Indian rivers"* took place in October 2017 holding two specific technical sessions on *"Technology solutions for the Water-Energy Nexus"* and *"Cleaning the river Ganga: From Data to Action"*.

The **4th India-EU Water Forum** was also organised in Delhi in February 2019. It held three sessions: i) a high-level plenary, ii) a technical session on River Basin Management and iii) a business session exploring opportunities for EU companies in the Indian water sector. It was attended by about 200 participants including high level officials from India, the European Union, EU Member States, water experts, researchers, and representatives from the EU and Indian businesses as well as civil society. During the Forum, two Expressions of Intent (EoI) and one Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between EU Member States and the EU Delegation in India on cooperation under the India – EU Water Partnership was signed as well as four Expressions of Intent (EoI) and Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) between several organisations and the IEWP Action implemented by GIZ were signed and exchanged. Further, the IEWP website was formally launched as part of the high-level session (www.iewp.eu).