The International “Water and Film” Events

After Mexico City (2006), Istanbul (2009) and Marseille (2012)

on our way to South Korea (2015)
Water has always been celebrated in some way or another by film makers. Today, mobilization around this theme is increasing because we are coming to realize that the situation is urgent. It is no longer about observing but starting to take action.

Artists, such as film directors who took part in the 3rd Edition of the International “Water and Film” Events, are part of society, to a certain extent they are a mirror of that society. Their work reflects what is happening and carries the message that we cannot ignore such a vital issue as that of water.

The issue of water concerns both quantity and quality, we need to ensure its availability and accessibility, and a fairer distribution, not just for drinking water but also water for agriculture, for development…

The stakes are enormous and we all bear a heavy responsibility, and artists cannot just stand by. As a film maker, I hope I can make a contribution.

Gaston Kabore
Film director,
Grand temoin of IWFE
**IWFE Objectives**

1. To promote film production as means of creating “educational” tools to share knowledge and experiences in order to achieve access for all to safe water, sanitation and water for production.

2. To use images to initiate dialogues among stakeholders on the implementation of solutions for cross-cutting, appropriate and fair management of water resources.

3. To use films as a means of expression for people, as citizens, as water users and as consumers, to pass messages to elected representatives, water managers and decision-makers.

4. Broadcast films from IWFE’s catalog and reach new audiences by organizing large public events and partnering with various festivals and various organizations in order to create space to showcase and produce film dedicated to the theme of water and sanitation.

5. To organize, with local and regional partners, contests in which the winners will go to the world final of the International “Water and Film” Events, which will take place in Daegu and Gyongbuk in April 2015, during the 7th World Water Forum.

Through these actions, the IWFE contribute to the more general objectives of the International Secretariat for Water (ISW), Solidarity Water Europe (SWE) and their partners by giving the floor to local water management stakeholders, to users and the general public. They promote the different cultural means of populations’ water management.

**Support**

Since they were launched in Mexico City in 2006, many stakeholders have given their support to the IWFE initiative. Well-known figures, public institutions, international organizations and research institutes have all contributed.

**Public institutions:** the Canadian International Development Agency, the Swiss Cooperation, the French Development Agency, government ministries (the French ministries of foreign affairs and the environment, the Quebec ministry of international affairs), the Seine-Normandy Water Agency, Quebec City Council, Montreal City Council, Paris City Council and its water utility operator Eau de Paris, etc.

**International organizations and research institutes:** World Water Council, INBO, UNESCO/PHI, WASH/WSSCC, 2iE, IRD, Suez, International Office of Water, French Water Academy, CONAGUA, CIUDAD, Ouranos etc.

**Public figures:** Denys Arcand (film director), Luc Jacquet (film director), Jane Campion (film director), Erick Orsenna (member of the French Academy), Hulya Uçansu (International Film Festival of Istanbul), André Pâquet (Montreal International Documentary Festival), Gaetano Capizzi (Festival CinemAmbiente), the Mexican and Turkish ambassadors to UNESCO, Gaston Kaboré (Filmmaker from Burkina Faso), Jean Pierre Rehms, Director of the International Documentary Festival (FID-Marseille)

Many film festivals from around the world in particular those from the Green Film Network support are partners of IWFE.
**Our next event: Daegu and Gyongbuk 2015**

Since the last edition of the IWFE, which was held in 2012 during the World Water Forum in Marseille, many events and occasions, led by the ISW-IWFE and its partners, have provided the backdrop for the organization of debates, meetings, awareness-raising campaigns and film making.

Following on from these activities, the IWFE will be launching their 4th international competition in July 2014.

The fourth edition of the IWFE is thus underway and four film categories are open in the international competition:

1. **The VidéEau category** for clips of less than 60 seconds
2. **Short cuts** (maximum of 26 minutes) showing personal stories produced by civil society organisations and local stakeholders or scientific and educational films
3. **Documentaries** produced by professionals for screening in cinemas or on television. This can include fictional films, documentary series and reports.
4. **A Youth category**, open to film-makers under 18 years of age.

In all, 14 prizes will be awarded to highlight the quality of the films produced since 2012, including special jury prizes and the special “Forum soft spot” prize via online voting.

Information on how to enter the competition will be disseminated through existing institutions and networks in the environmental management, cinematography, education and international solidarity sectors as well as directly to the general public. Films produced between January 2012 and December 2014 are eligible for entry.

**Selection of winning films in December 2014.**

The IWFE preparatory process leading up to South Korea 2015 is supervised by an international steering committee and coordinated by the International Secretariat for Water. The President of this comitee is Pierre-Alain Roche, governor of the World Water Council and President of ASTEE. An international jury made up of figures from the worlds of cinema, culture, academia and water management will select the winning films from among the finalists.
**IWFE at the 7th World Water Forum**

The IWFE offers the organizers of the next World Water Forum in South Korea in 2015 a means of adding value to debates within the forum and in other locations through this process. As well as an international film competition, the IWFE at the 7th World Water Forum consists of:

**Within the Forum itself:**
- An official prize-giving ceremony in the context of the Forum,
- Screenings and debates within the Forum among film-makers and producers as well as water managers, users and consumers,
- Screening opportunities so participants can vote for the “Forum soft spot” prize.

**In the region and in different towns around South Korea**
- Screenings and debates with the Korean public,
- Local competitions in the Provinces of Daegu and Gyeongbuk and around South Korea to help spread word of the 7th World Water Forum across the country.

**Spreading the word of the 7th World Water Forum beyond national borders for years to come**

Although the closing of the 4th edition and the prize-giving ceremony are held during the Forum, the influence of the IWFE spreads well beyond this specific event. Circulating the films, sharing the results, organizing screenings and promoting films on water are at the heart of the IWFE’s mission. This includes in particular:
- Including a “WATER” theme, screenings and debates, and local competitions in other events and film festivals around the world as a means of communicating on the 4th IWFE and the 7th World Water Forum.
- Producing box sets of the best films.
- Organising events in collaboration with different partners.
Historical Highlights

- **The first edition:** at the 4th World Water Forum in March 2006, in Mexico City, Coordinated by International Secretariat for Water (ISW) and co-organised with the French Water Academy and the Mexican National Water Commission (CONAGUA).

  **In total:** more than 150 films, from around 50 countries.

  **Dissemination and events:** within the Forum and in public locations around Mexico City: cinemas, gardens, etc. Screenings were also subsequently organised around the country by CONAGUA and with the support of the French ministries a high-level round table on the theme “Water, Film and Cultural Diversity” have been organized.

  **Members of the jury:** Mr. Spyros Kouvelis (Greece), Mrs. Guadalupe Miranda (Mexico), Mr. Hidéo Onchi (Japan), Mrs. Régina Ouattara (Burkina Faso), Mr. André Pâquet (Canada), president Mr. Pierre-Alain Roche (France), Mr. Pradip Saha (India).

- **The second edition:** “Water, People and Sustainable Development” at the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul.

  **In total:** more than 400 films were received. 110 films were selected for the Forum of which 56, from 23 countries, entered in the official competition.

  **Dissemination and events:** Screening and debates within the Forum and in Istanbul: the French Institute, the Cervantes Institute and Bilgi University.

  **Members of the jury:** Mr. Cristian Calonico (Mexico), Mr. Gaetano Capizzi (Italy), Mr. Abibou Ciss (Burkina Faso), Mrs. Pascale Ferland (Canada), Mr. Robert Kalman (Hungary), Mrs. Thai Thi Ngoc Du (Vietnam), president Mrs. Hülya Uçansu (Turkey), Mrs. Maggie White (France).

- **Third edition:** at the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille.

  **In total:** More than 350 films were received from 41 different countries.

  **Dissemination and events:** Meetings and debates among film directors, producers, water managers and consumers, were organized in the Citizens’ House for Water. The IWFE prize-giving ceremony organized the day before the official opening day of the World Water Forum at the Palais du Pharo. Screenings and debate in many towns around Marseille (Aix en Provence, Montpellier, La Ciotat, Marseille).

  **Members of the jury:** Mrs Sandra Dalhie-Goyer (Canada), Mr Jean-Pierre Rehm (France), Mrs Meenakshi Shedde (India), M. Antoniy Valchev (Bulgaria) and the president of the jury, Mr Mario Vasconez (Equateur).
Outside the World Water Forums, the ISW contributes or co-organizes events, making the catalogue of IWFE films available to promote water as a source of artistic and cultural expression and a vector for exchanges: Zaragoza, San José in Costa Rica, Quito, Copenhagen, Dakar, Quebec, Ouagadougou, Paris, Colombia, Palestine, Cambodia, Vietnam, Mexico, French Polynesia, etc.

Prices ceremony, Palais du Pharo (Marseille, March 2012).

Gold drop
The Big Fix
Josh & Rebecca Tickell
USA, 2011, 90 min.

Silver drop
The damned rain
Atish Manwar
India, 2009, 93 min.

Bronze drop
Climate chaos in the South. The victim’s story
Wereldmediatheek, Belgium, 2009, 53 min.

Jury award
American Dust
Arnaud des Pallières
France, 2011, 100 min.

Special Jury Mention
Our water, their water
Félix Vigné, France, 2011, 52 min.

Special Jury Mention
« Yakuaya »
Marcello Castillo
Ecuador, 2011, 52 min.
IWFE’s partners since 2005

Bangalore Belen Hanoi Istanbul Marseille Mexico Montpellier Montreal Niamey Ouagadougou Paris Québec Quito Rodes San José Sao Paolo Stockholm Turin Verviers Saragosse

The International Secretariat for Water

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