

THE WEC INITIATIVE

What is it?

The Water Ethics Charter Initiative

- * Provides a moral basis for water management decisions
- * Reflects a common determination to promote water ethics and bring it into the public sphere and political agenda
- * Acknowledges the plurality of values, visions and opinions related to ethics of water in the name of a common challenge: defining our relation to water in the Anthropocene
- * Is the result of a recommendation of the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille, France, March 2012

The Water Ethics Charter Initiative is an ongoing process

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Who are we?

- * **The Steering Committee:** Currently composed of 9 international organizations: *Alliance for Water Stewardship, Botin Foundation, Centre for Research on Water Use Ethics, Club of Rome, French Water Academy, Indigenous Environmental Network, UNESCO, Water-Culture Institute, and Water Youth Network.* The Committee leads the implementation of the initiative and gives technical guidance.
- * **The Advisory Board:** An open body that gathers members and partners and whose role is to provide technical and operational advice on the process and progress of the Initiative.

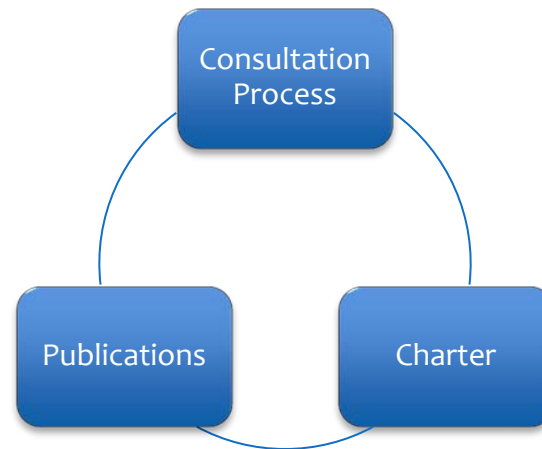
What do we want to do?

- * Develop consensus around a clear set of ethical principles for the management of freshwater, which will form the content of the Water Ethics Charter.
- * Trigger an actual shift in the minds of people as to the values of water as a precious resource through the exchange of values, principles, and action
- * Bring water ethics into the public sphere and political agenda

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How does it work?

- Based on multiple phases of wide consultations among a variety of stakeholders from various geographical and sectorial backgrounds.
- Invites parties to contribute to the Charter with their own perspective on water ethics.



- The Charter, along with supporting publications, will be the tangible outcome of the process.
- The Charter will reflect the shared values of the diverse parties involved in the consultation process

- Based on the work that UNESCO conducted ten years ago through the COMEST and IHP, a scientific committee will launch a new series of studies on water ethics.

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What can you do?

All contributions are welcome both on the content and the structure of the Charter (see Word doc. attached).

The legitimacy of a WEC Initiative can only be built through a genuine consultation process. Help us reach out to, and collect feedback from, as many stakeholders as possible, around the world.

- * **Content building:** Your input is critical. It will enrich the content of the Charter in a document that not only recognizes and accepts the diversity of opinions, but promotes it
- * **Endorsing:** Institutions from around the world are invited to help disseminate the Initiative, and endorse the Charter
- * **Funding:** If you recognize your own principles or those of your institution in the WEC Initiative, you can also decide to support it financially.

Content
Building

Endorsing

Funding