



International  
Water Association

Co-Sponsored by:



World Health  
Organization

# Water Safety Plans: Global Experiences and Future Trends

Advance Programme and  
Invitation to Register

Co-Organised by:



associação portuguesa de engenharia sanitária e ambiental

Supported by:



INSTITUTO REGULADOR DE ÁGUAS E RESÍDUOS



AGÊNCIA PORTUGUESA DO AMBIENTE

Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional

Direcção-Geral  
da Saúde



Ministério da Saúde



12 – 14 May 2008  
Lisbon, Portugal

[www.iwa-wsp2008.org](http://www.iwa-wsp2008.org)

## A Message from the IWA President

The Framework for Safe Drinking-water, as presented in 3rd edition of WHO's Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality and the IWA Bonn Charter for Safe Drinking Water, introduces Water Safety Plans (WSPs) as an effective means to manage risks associated with drinking water supplies. IWA members played a prominent role in supporting the development of these two documents and continue to play a role in sharing experiences and knowledge in their implementation.

Both of these documents recognised the limiting factors associated with relying on so-called end of pipe monitoring to ensure drinking water quality. What the water community wanted, and moreover, what was needed to safeguard public health, was a more preventative based approach to managing water supplies. Such an approach requires close cooperation between all stakeholders involved in managing water supplies from catchment to consumer.

IWA provides a unique forum to connect key stakeholders in different regions of the world making IWA an important international partner in promoting WSP implementation. Through collaborating with institutions such as the WHO, IWA is able to focus on what it does best: nurturing the development of knowledge and facilitating networking opportunities; whilst at the same time bridging the gap between policy and practice.



**David Garman,**  
International  
Water  
Association  
(IWA)

Five years after the first international WSP meeting in Berlin, IWA, WHO and APESB are pleased to provide the international water community with an opportunity to come together and exchange knowledge and experiences of preventive risk based approaches to managing drinking water supplies.

This is an important event in the international water conference calendar and will help to prepare the water supply community for the challenges that lie ahead in ensuring the safe supply of drinking water.

## A Message from the Chair of the Organising Committee

On behalf of the Organising Committee and the co-organisers - Associação Portuguesa de Engenharia Sanitária e Ambiental (APESB) - I would like to invite you to Lisbon to attend this important global conference.

The recent years have seen many changes for the Portuguese water sector and great advancements specifically in the field of managing drinking water supplies. The Portuguese government are keen advocates of WSPs and the Portuguese regulator – IRAR – has been instrumental in promoting WSP implementation to water suppliers. Such support is demonstrated by their support for this conference.

The conference organisers are expecting 150 international delegates to attend the WSP Conference. Given the integrated nature of WSPs, the conference will attract a wide variety of water professionals: from operational staff of water suppliers to social scientists; from government administrators to source protection specialists. As well as providing opportunities for individuals in the same area of work to share their experiences and ideas, the conference provides a unique opportunity for delegates to interact with professionals across disciplines and regions to discuss common challenges and appropriate solutions.



**Jose Vieira,**  
Associação Portuguesa  
de Engenharia Sanitária  
e Ambiental, APESB

Lisbon in May is a beautiful setting for bringing together the international water community to exchange experiences, prepare for the future and enjoy the local surroundings. I look forward to welcoming you all.

## A Message from the Chair of the Programme Committee

Around 10% of the total global burden of disease could be prevented through achievable actions on water, sanitation and hygiene risk factors. Drinking-water quality continues to be the cause of significant preventable disease in both developing and developed nations.

Recognizing this, and responding to international guidance, including WHO's Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality, governments and water suppliers are moving towards an increasingly preventive management-oriented approach to drinking-water safety that is both cost-effective and applicable to diverse settings world-wide.

The objective of this conference will be to share experiences and exchange knowledge of WSP implementation including policy initiatives, research findings and best practice in implementing WSPs. The conference will also look ahead to future challenges in regards to regulatory trends, research priorities and the specific needs of water suppliers.



**Jamie Bartram,**  
World Health  
Organisation  
(WHO)

On behalf of the Programme Committee, I invite practitioners, researchers, regulators, public health officials and other professionals involved in the management of drinking water supplies to participate at the 2nd global conference on Water Safety Plans, a conference that I believe presents a unique opportunity to improve health.

## Advance Programme

MONDAY 12 MAY	
Registration	
Conference Opening	
Break	
Launch of WHO Water Safety Plan Manual	
Lunch	
Costs and Benefits of WSP Implementation	Private, Small and Dangerous: WSPs for Small and Community Supplies
Break	
Getting the most from your Assets: Operation and Maintenance	Private, Small and Dangerous: WSPs for Small and Community Supplies
TUESDAY 13 MAY	
Lessons From Responding to Water Scarcity and Climate Change	Safe Water in Buildings?
Break	
The Raw Material - High Quality at Source	Health Impacts of Water Safety Plans
Lunch	
Development and Implementation of Effective Regulations	Is My System Up to It?
Break	
Development and Implementation of Effective Regulations	Guidance for Water Treatment
WEDNESDAY 14 MAY	
Implementing WSPs: Knowledge, Skills and Tools	
Break	
Workshop: Shaping the Research Agenda for WSPs	
Conference Closing	

The full programme, including speakers and abstracts of their presentations are available on the conference website: [www.iwa-wsp2008.org](http://www.iwa-wsp2008.org)

## Programme Highlights

### Keynote Presentation



The keynote presentation will be given by **Dr. Steve E. Hrudey**, Professor Emeritus of Canada's first School of Public Health. He has over 35 years of research and professional experience in the environmental health and risk sciences including a focus on drinking water safety and quality. Steve has served on more than a dozen expert panels, including the Research Advisory Panel to the Walkerton Inquiry into a drinking water disaster in 2000.

### De-mystifying the Water Safety Plan: launch of a manual to facilitate the widespread application of WSPs

Following the introduction of WSP "principles" in the Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality and the Bonn Charter, and in response to requests from governments, water suppliers, and practitioners, WHO and IWA are pleased to launch the logical next piece in the WSP series - a much-anticipated workbook, offering practical guidance on how to develop Water Safety Plans, in a clear step-wise manner. The "WSP manual" features case studies and illustrative examples on how water suppliers can

deal with every step of WSP development, with special focus on challenging issues. The Conference launch will provide a forum to present the key features of the manual, with the focus being on the signature WSP case studies themselves. Case study contributors will highlight how they overcame challenges, how they addressed individual WSP steps through different approaches, and offer critical reflections on the WSP development process. As part of the delegate registration fee, attendees will receive a free copy of this publication.

### Workshop: Shaping the research agenda for WSPs

Moderated by Jamie Bartram of WHO, this will be an interactive session involving all participants that will pit researchers and academics, practitioners, and regulators to challenge each other to define where the real gaps are in WSP knowledge and to chart a way forward to address these gaps. Topics will be defined by the audience, but may include discussions on the need for more research on health impacts and cost-effectiveness of WSPs, research on the effectiveness of implementation approaches, and knowledge gaps related to specific technical issues, like water quality testing needs in the context of a WSP.

## Venue

The conference will take place at Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation conference centre which is located in the Avenida de Berna, a few kilometres from Lisbon Airport (Aeroporto da Portela), and five minutes walking from the closest subway station, Praça de Espanha

## Simultaneous Translation

The official language of the conference is English. However, simultaneous translation – from English to Portuguese – will be provided for the sessions.

## Registration

The conference fee covers attendance to the main sessions morning and afternoon teas/coffees, lunches, welcome reception, gala dinner, abstract book, programme and information pack. Registration forms can be found on the conference website and should be completed and returned by fax.

EARLY BIRD RATE (UNTIL MARCH 25TH)			
APESB/IWA HIC <sup>1</sup> MEMBER €400	NON-MEMBER: (HIC) €500	IWA LIC <sup>2</sup> & STUDENT MEMBER €200	NON-MEMBER: (LIC & STUDENT) €250
FULL REGISTRATION RATE (FROM MARCH 26TH)			
APESB/IWA HIC MEMBER €450	NON-MEMBER: €550	IWA LIC & STUDENT MEMBER €200	NON-MEMBER: (LIC & STUDENT) €250

<sup>1</sup> HIC = High Income Country, please ask if you are uncertain of the income level of your country

<sup>2</sup> LIC – Low Income Country, please ask if you are uncertain of the income level of your country

**Important:** APESB is managing the registration process for this conference, please direct all correspondence to:

Portuguese Association on Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (APESB)  
Av. do Brasil, N° 101 (LNEC-DHA-NES);  
1700-066 Lisboa – Portugal  
TELF: +351 21 844 38 49;  
FAX: +351 21 844 30 48  
E-mail: [wsp@apesb.pt](mailto:wsp@apesb.pt)

Cancellation policy: cancellation of registration must be confirmed in writing to the institution responsible for managing the registration process. Cancellation rules are the following:

Cancellation:	Refund value
prior to march 31st :	75 % of fees received
from April 1st to May 1st :	50 % of fees received
after May 1st :	No refund

## Accommodation

Reservations for accommodation will not be managed by the conference organisers. Instead, the organisers have negotiated special rates for accommodation with several local hotels. A complete list of recommended hotels can be seen on the conference website.

## Social Events

As part of the delegate fee, attendees will be invited to a welcome reception and conference dinner. For full information on these events, please visit the website.

## Contact

Programme: [wsp2008@iwahq.org](mailto:wsp2008@iwahq.org)  
Registration and Local Enquiries: [wsp@apesb.pt](mailto:wsp@apesb.pt)

## Organising Committee

Chair: José Vieira, APESB/University of Minho  
Luis Simas, IRAR  
Paulo Diegues, Portuguese Ministry of Health  
Regina Vilão, Portuguese Environment Agency  
Alexandra Serra, Águas de Portugal, S. A.  
José Tentúgal Valente, Águas do Minho e Lima, S. A.  
António Duarte, University of Minho  
Carla Morais, Águas do Cávado, S. A.  
Bruce Gordon, WHO  
Tom Williams, IWA

## Programme Committee

Chair: Jamie Bartram, WHO  
José Vieira, Portugal (APESB/University of Minho)  
Jaime Melo Baptista, Portugal (IRAR)  
Oliver Schmoll, Germany (Federal Environment Agency)  
Stephanie Adrian, United States (USEPA)  
Mirna Argueta, Honduras (AIDIS/SANAA)  
Hamanth Kasan, South Africa (Rand Water)  
Sarah Tibatemwa, Uganda (NWSC)  
Peng Kah Poh, Singapore (PUB)



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