


# Water Monitoring Alliance




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## Welcome to the Water Monitoring Alliance Website!



The Water Monitoring Alliance is made up of organisations involved in the collection, analysis, reporting and dissemination of information on water in all its uses. Its objectives are to enhance a greater exchange and sharing of information amongst the organisations and programmes involved in the collection and dissemination of water data and to provide a better access to the information for the decision makers, the media and the public at large. The Alliance is a cooperative partnership among organisations working at the international, regional, national and local levels.

The Water Monitoring Alliance is currently under development. Information on this website will be improved in the coming months. Please feel free to contact us if you have comments to make or if you would like to join the Alliance.

### In Focus

#### The Millennium Development Goals

At the United Nations Millennium Summit in September 2000, world leaders placed development at the heart of the global agenda by adopting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

[Read more about how the MDGs are monitored](#)

### In Focus

#### The 4th World Water Forum

Targeting, monitoring and implementation assessment is one of the important subjects to be discussed at the next World Water Forum in Mexico in 2006.

[Read more](#)

### How to find water-related information

Water data in different regions and for different themes can be searched for within a list of monitoring programmes and related activities. A database will soon be developed to enable multiple criteria searches. In the meantime, you can consult the activities sorted by geographical scope, type of activity, or keyword.

[Search monitoring and related activities](#)

### Invitation to Participate in the side event: «Monitoring: a booster to achieve the Millennium and Johannesburg goals on water and sanitation»

France, the Luxembourg Presidency of the European Council, the African Ministers' Council on Water, Japan, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Italy, the African Development Bank, the World Water Council and the International Secretary for Water invite you to participate in a side event on the theme of monitoring, to be held in the context of the CSD-13 in New-York on 20 April 2005 from 1:15 to 2:45 pm in room n°2.



# Alliance pour un mécanisme mondial d'observation sur l'eau



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## Bienvenue sur le site de l'Alliance pour un mécanisme mondial d'observation sur l'eau !



L'alliance pour un mécanisme mondial d'observation sur l'eau regroupe des organisations impliquées dans la collecte, l'analyse, la publication et la diffusion d'informations sur l'eau et toutes ses utilisations. Son objectif est de renforcer et d'améliorer les échanges et le partage d'informations entre les organisations et les programmes de collecte et de diffusion de données sur l'eau, et de permettre aux décideurs, aux médias et au grand public d'accéder plus facilement à l'information. L'Alliance est un partenariat entre des organisations agissant aussi bien au niveau international que régional, national ou local.

### Comment trouver des informations sur l'eau?

Diverses données sur l'eau dans les différentes régions du monde sont disponibles sur une liste répertoriant les programmes de suivi et d'évaluation des ressources en eau et les activités connexes. Une base de données sera bientôt développée, afin de permettre une recherche multi-critères. En attendant, vous pouvez déjà consulter les activités en effectuant votre recherche par zone géographique, par type d'activité ou par un mot-clé.

[Recherches d'activités liées à l'observation des ressources en eau](#)

### Invitation à participer à l'évènement parallèle: «Suivi et évaluation: un levier pour atteindre les objectifs du Millénaire et de Johannesburg pour l'eau et l'assainissement»

La France, la Présidence luxembourgeoise du Conseil de l'Union européenne, Le Conseil des ministres africains chargés de l'eau, le Japon, le Royaume-Uni, le Danemark, l'Italie, la Banque africaine de développement, le Conseil mondial de l'eau et le Secrétariat international de l'eau vous invitent à prendre part à un événement parallèle sur le thème du suivi et de l'évaluation lors de la 13ème session de la Commission du

### Zoom...

#### Les objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement

Lors du Sommet du Millénaire de septembre 2000, les dirigeants des 191 Etats membres de l'ONU ont placé le Développement au sommet de l'agenda politique mondial en adoptant les objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement (OMD).



[En savoir plus sur le suivi des OMD](#)

### Zoom...

#### Le 4ème Forum mondial de l'eau

Le ciblage, le suivi et l'évaluation d'actions est l'un des thèmes majeurs qui sera traité lors du prochain Forum mondial de l'eau à Mexico en mars 2006.

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### What is the Water Monitoring Alliance?

The objectives of the Water Monitoring Alliance are to promote a greater exchange and sharing of information amongst organisations and programmes involved in water monitoring and to provide better access to water information for decision-makers, the media and the general public.

The Alliance is a cooperative partnership amongst organisations working at the international, regional, national and local levels. It is made up of organisations involved in the collection, analysis, reporting and dissemination of information on water in all its uses. Partners feed the WMA with information on their monitoring programmes and provide direct access to their databases and/or published documents. In return, they can exchange information about tools and methods with others and distribute their data and analyses.



The WMA promotes better decision-making through protocol development, definition of clear targets, cultivation of multi-disciplinary collaboration and dissemination of reliable and accessible information on water.

### Why was the Water Monitoring Alliance created?

Many organisations conduct monitoring activities at various levels and for many different purposes: United Nations organisations, ministries and departments of different countries, non-governmental organisations, universities and research centres, etc. These actors invest great effort and time in monitoring water in its various aspects and at various levels. Due to different priorities and monitoring protocols, comparison and aggregation is very difficult. Unfortunately, basic information concerning the water sector remains confidential, and experts question the reliability of current statistics. Moreover, it is difficult to have a general picture of the situation because many of these organisations don't even know what others are doing.

### Session on Monitoring Access to Water Supply and Sanitation at the 3rd World Water Forum, Kyoto, March 2003

During the 3rd World Water Forum organised in Japan in 2003, the importance of monitoring was acknowledged. The participants identified the need for identifying the missing links of the global monitoring chain and for making relevant proposals to establish and integrate solutions.

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### Key Concepts

The monitoring world is full of jargon and expressions, which may need some explanation in order to be understood by a majority of the population. For this purpose, we are proposing the following list of terms along with a short presentation.

If you would like to add terms or correct some of the definitions, you may contact us by clicking [here](#).

**Monitoring:**

- Monitoring refers to the continuous or frequent standardized measurement and observation of the environment (air, water, land/soil, biota), often used for warning and control.

Source: *UN Statistics Division - Glossary of Environment Statistics*  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/environmental/default.asp?letter=O>

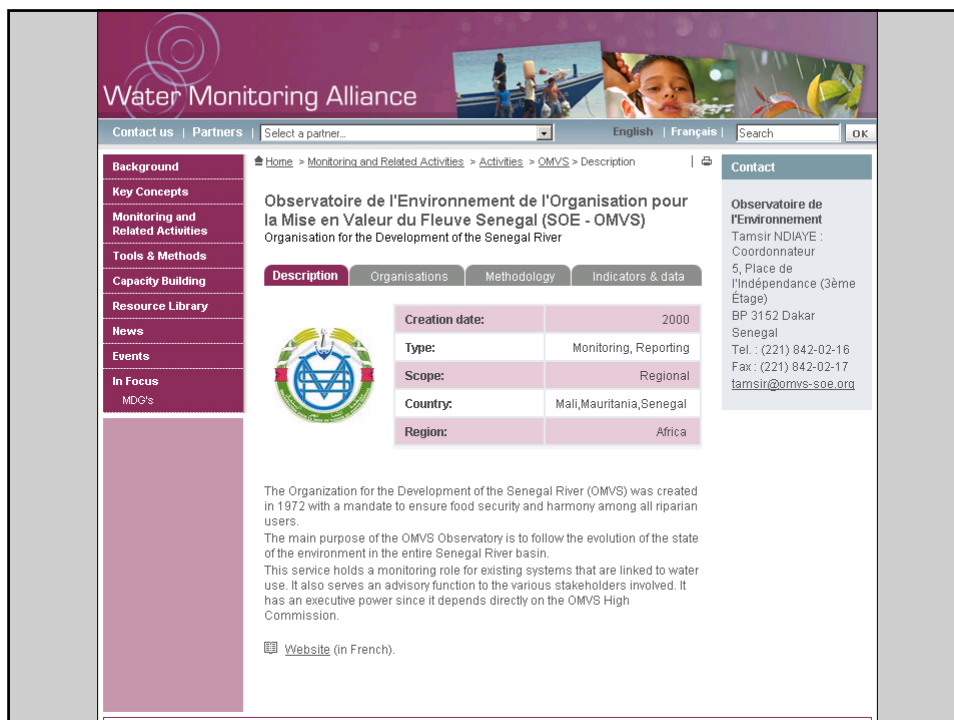
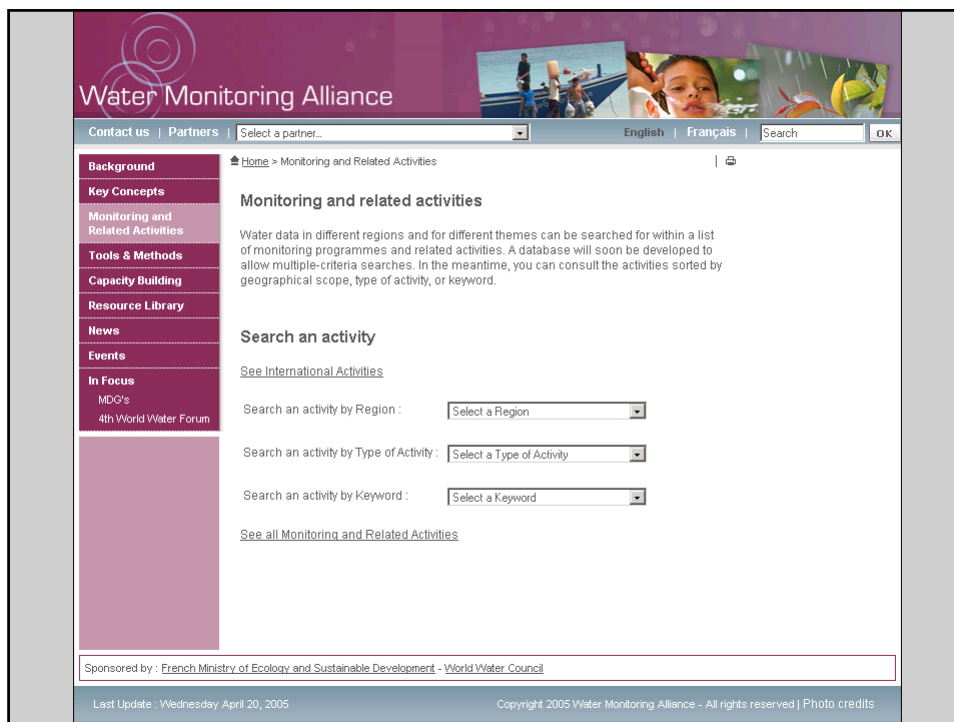
- (1) A combination of observation and measurement for the performance of a plan, programme or measure, and its compliance with environmental policy and legislation.
- (2) The provision of the necessary information about progress of implementation of a project, plan, etc. in order to ensure that project management and cooperation partners are able to follow the implementation of the projects and if necessary adjust activities, inputs and budgets, in order to obtain the objectives laid down for the project.

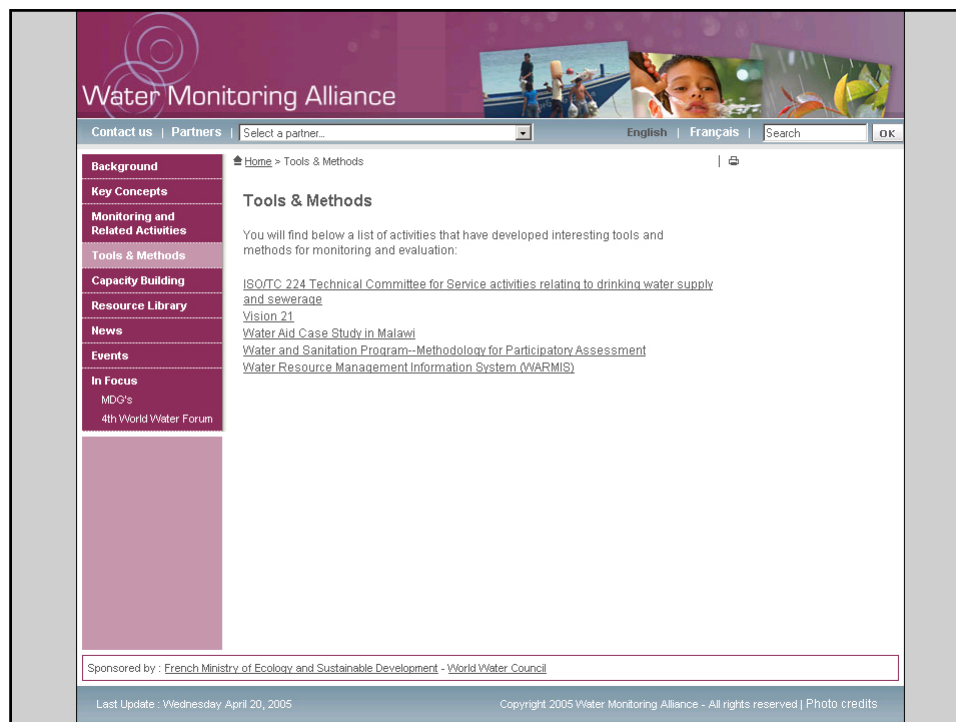
Source: *the European Environment Agency*  
[http://themes.eea.eu.int/Specific\\_media/water](http://themes.eea.eu.int/Specific_media/water)

- The repeated measurement of some parameters to assess the current status and changes over time of those parameters.

Source: *US Fish and Wild Life Service*

**Observation:**





Visit the website and send us your  
comments and contributions!

[www.watermonitoringalliance.net](http://www.watermonitoringalliance.net)