



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

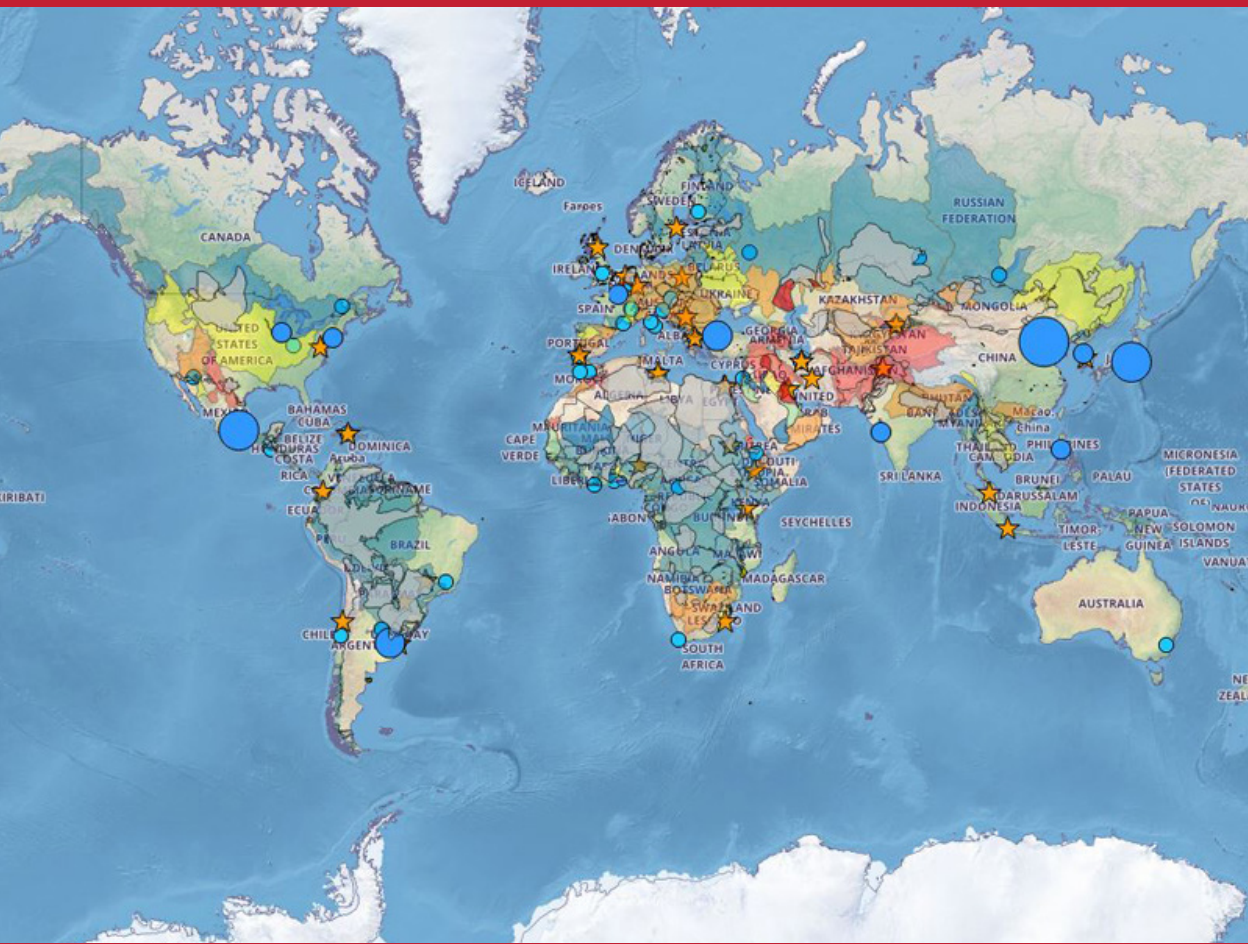


International  
Hydrological  
Programme

# International Hydrological Programme Water Information Network System

IHP-WINS





© UNESCO IHP-WINS

**“IHP-WINS will make water-related information available online, allowing countries and stakeholders to access reliable data on an open source platform”.**

Leticia Casati, Deputy Permanent Delegate of Paraguay to UNESCO

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# IHP-WINS: DATA ABOUT THE GLOBAL WATER CYCLE IS JUST A FEW CLICKS AWAY

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The International Hydrological Programme's Eighth Phase (IHP-VIII) helps Member States in their quest for Water Security. This objective entails a growing need for enhanced public awareness, improved standards and better coordination among water stakeholders and makes the use of advanced technologies indispensable. To address this challenge, UNESCO-IHP has developed the Water Information Network System, an interactive open-access database, launched in January 2017. (<http://ihp-wins.unesco.org>)

IHP-WINS is a global reference database covering the entire water cycle. It provides continuous updates and new data, allowing users to create tailor-made maps incorporating specific information (e.g. on arid zones, rainfall, transboundary water basins and irrigation).

IHP-WINS combines the largest available validated data on the water cycle. It draws on global information sources such as:

- The FAO AQUASTAT database
- The WHO/UNICEF joint monitoring programme
- The United Nations Statistics Division
- UNESCO's "Water Family" including water programmes and initiatives comprising over 3,000 water professionals worldwide.

IHP-WINS also incorporates key information on UNESCO networks relating to crosscutting water-related issues, such as the World Heritage List, Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks.

# IHP-WINS: AN INTERACTIVE AND USER-FRIENDLY PLATFORM DESIGNED FOR A WIDE AUDIENCE OF WATER STAKEHOLDERS

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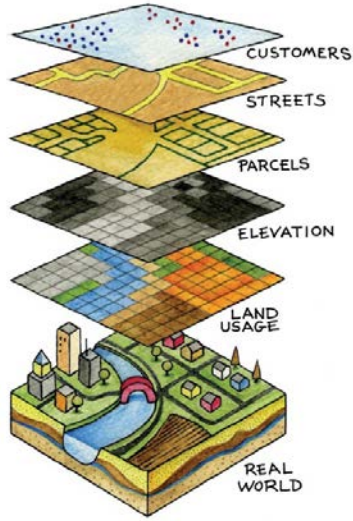
IHP-WINS is a user-friendly "one-stop shop", offering a wide-ranging set of data services:

- Access to large datasets on the water cycle at global, regional, national and local levels, both spatial and non-spatial, and supported by standardized metadata (i.e. "data about data").
- Data available for download by water-related stakeholders, country officials, civil society, international, regional and national institutions, public and private sectors, and academia.
- A dedicated networking platform also enables the exchange of knowledge and expertise among stakeholders.

# IHP-WINS:



A **geographical** information platform



A **knowledge** sharing platform



A **networking** platform



# WHY IHP-WINS? MOBILIZING A WATER- DATA REVOLUTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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In 2013, the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda called for a 'Data Revolution' for Sustainable Development to improve the quantity and quality of available information. The revolution strives for a new approach to open and free data exchange and collection, as well as the development of innovative methodologies and presentation of disaggregated data and geospatial information, to address cross-cutting issues.

As the only intergovernmental programme of the UN system devoted to scientific, educational and capacity development in hydrology, the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP) is contributing to this data revolution through its Water Information Network System (WINS), the first web-based platform providing information on the water cycle in its entirety. IHP-WINS was established as a tool for the implementation and monitoring of IHP-VIII; and to address the request of the IHP's 22nd Intergovernmental Council to "provide support to Member States to build their institutional capacities, human resources and a sound basis in science capacity for the monitoring and implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) targets, and those of other water-related goals" (Resolution XXII-7; June 2016).

It also contributes to the priority Water Action Plan for Climate Resilience, which includes the development of water knowledge, decision support and information systems (WIS).

## A KEY TOOL

# FOR MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTING SDG 6 ON WATER AND SANITATION

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Regular data updates are essential for monitoring the SDG 6 indicators on water and sanitation. IHP-WINS is a resource-efficient tool for water data collection that helps build a repository of knowledge for water security. It is easy to use and has reduced data entry and retrieval costs. IHP-WINS also supports policy processes among Member States that encourage access to open and free data, and the sharing of data between different communities, experts and countries.

## DEVELOPS

# CAPACITIES AND FACILITATES DIALOGUE AMONG WATER STAKEHOLDERS

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As a cooperative platform for water stakeholders, IHP-WINS helps to improve institutional and human capacities to ensure high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data. This enhances the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems, especially in developing countries, and provides a solid basis for scientific decision-making. Its interactive approach enables Member States to update and upload national and regional water-related data, facilitating their involvement in the data revolution.

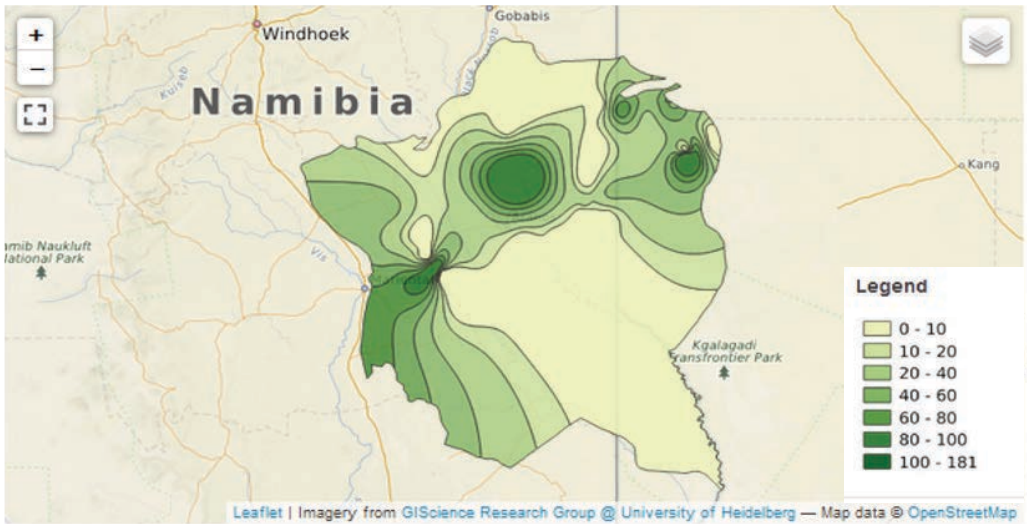
Water professionals are invited to use and promote IHP-WINS as a networking platform to share experiences and lessons learnt, mentor early career water professionals and strengthen partnerships within the water sector.

## IHP-WINS IN ACTION

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### Stampriet Transboundary Aquifer System (STAS)

IHP-WINS is currently being used in the assessment of the Stampriet Transboundary Aquifer System (STAS) shared by Botswana, Namibia and South Africa. IHP-WINS is playing a crucial role in strengthening water cooperation among the countries. Indeed, Botswana, Namibia and South Africa are using IHP-WINS to visualize and generate tailor-made products to meet their specific needs. IHP-WINS is also facilitating the exchange of data among national stakeholders, enhancing interdisciplinary cooperation and the creation of networks.



► Borehole yield in the Auob aquifer, Namibia © UNESCO IHP-WINS

### Ocotepeque-Citalá Transboundary Aquifer

IHP-WINS is also being used in the assessment of the Ocotepeque-Citalá Transboundary Aquifer shared by Honduras and El Salvador. Cutting across all the economic sectors, water is instrumental in the implementation of integrated solutions. In general, water resources are commonly developed and managed by different parts of governments and within different sectors, with little coordination among them and without an overall picture of the state of the resource. IHP-WINS allows the inclusive participation of a wide range of water stakeholders, i.e. institutions at various levels: national (ministries), regional (Plan Trifinio and Transboundary Lempa River Trinational Intermunicipal Board) and local (municipalities, local water management committees), as well as academia.



► Lempa River in the Trifinio region © UNESCO-IHP/IUCN

# HOW DOES IHP-WINS' INTERACTIVE PLATFORM WORK?

## System

IHP-WINS is an open source and open access database. It receives regular technical updates at a low cost, and is built on GeoNode, a web-based application and platform for developing Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) and deploying spatial data infrastructures (SDI).

The architecture is designed to be expandable and modifiable, easily integrating (and linking) with existing platforms. It is in line with international Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) standards that enable access and integration of other databases, and constitutes an example of UNESCO's policy to support open access to scientific information.

## User interface

IHP-WINS' users can visualize and generate tailor-made products meeting their specific needs. The system also facilitates the exchange of data and ideas among stakeholders, and fosters interdisciplinary cooperation and the creation of networks.

It consists of **three** main components:

- 1) Geospatial (GIS) data on the state of water resources at the global, regional, national and local level, allowing users to visualize and generate maps
- 2) A platform for inter-disciplinary collaboration and knowledge sharing among water stakeholders (i.e. databases, reports, graphs, tables, videos, webinars, etc.)
- 3) A platform for stakeholders to build networks (i.e. discussion groups).

IHP-WINS' geospatial data can be viewed across time and uses a powerful search engine. Data uploaded by users comply with copyrights, intellectual property rights and data agreements.

## Data security and reliability

IHP-WINS draws on officially validated data provided by Member States and UNESCO's water programmes and networks. IHP undertakes an overall data format quality check before data are released, which is further reinforced by a data rating and feedback system. Data are then uploaded in line with user-defined permissions. The IHP-WINS platform and data are safely stored on UNESCO's servers at its Headquarters in Paris.

## Explore Layers

Cart

Add resources through the "Add to cart" buttons.

Create a Map

Filters

Clear

> CATEGORIES

> TEXT

> KEYWORDS

> EXTENT

> TYPE

> OWNERS

> DATE

> REGIONS



# WHAT CAN USERS DO WITH IHP-WINS?

*Layers and Maps provide geospatial information*

GIS is an effective tool to store, manage and display spatial data for water resources management. IHP-WINS provides access to GIS data on the state of water resources at the global, regional, national and local level through its *Layers* function.



Upload Layers


Total: 3



WATER-RELATED DISASTERS +

### Types of large flood events (1985-2016)

The information presented highlights large flood events from 1985 to 2016 identified by the Dartmouth Flood Observatory. For more information, visit: [floodobservatory.colorado.edu/Archives/index.html](http://floodobservatory.colorado.edu/Archives/index.html) For mapping purposes, some types of flood events have been merged into one, under the "MAINCAUSEF..."



Chloe.Meyer 30 Jan 2017 111 0 0

Create a Map

WATER-RELATED DISASTERS +

### Global flood occurrence (1985-2011)

Flood occurrences is the number of flood recorded from 1985 to 2011. Flood counts were calculated by intersecting hydrological units with estimated flood extent polygons.

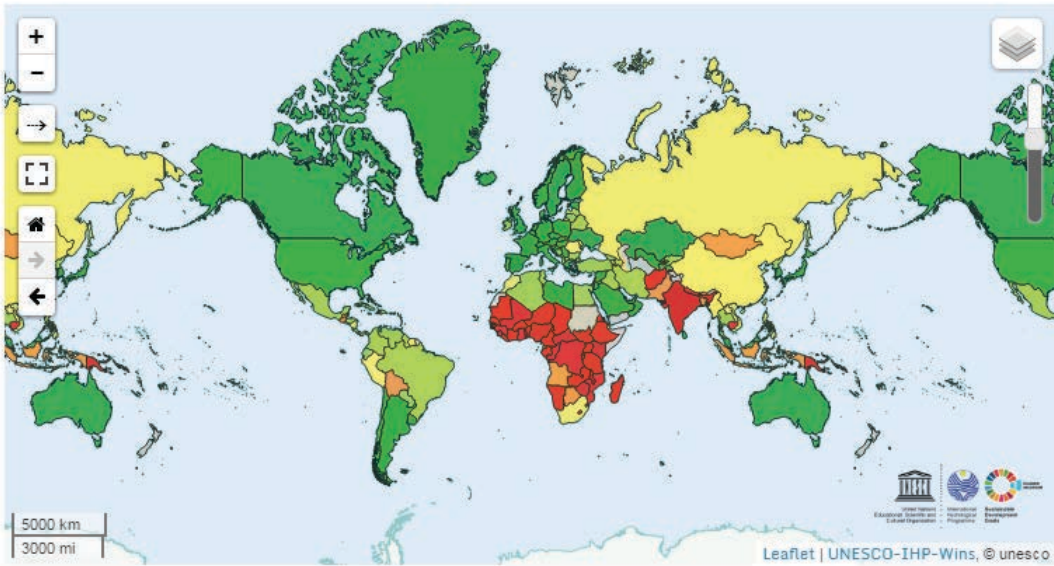


Chloe.Meyer 30 Jan 2017 79 0 0

Create a Map

*Layers* present a spatial data source, either in vector or raster representation. GIS vector data are uploaded in ESRI<sup>1</sup> Shapefile format, and satellite imagery and raster data are uploaded as GeoTIFFs. *Layers* can be uploaded, viewed and downloaded. Metadata provide information related to each layer (e.g. owner, author, date, source, abstract and contact person).

## SDG Indicator 6.2.1: Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (2015)



**Info**   **Attributes**   **Share**   **Ratings**   **Comments**

<b>Title</b>	SDG Indicator 6.2.1: Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation...
<b>Abstract</b>	Population using an improved sanitation facility at the household level that is not shared with other households and where excreta is safely disposed of in situ or treated off site, including a handwashing facility with soap and water in the household. Improved sanitation facilities include flush or pour flush toilets to sewerage systems, septic tanks or pit latrines, improved pit latrines (pit latrines with a slab or ventilated pit latrines) and composting toilets. A handwashing facility is a device to contain, transport or regulate the flow of water to facilitate handwashing.
<b>Publication Date</b>	Jan. 30, 2017, 2:47 p.m.
<b>Type</b>	Vector Data
<b>Keywords</b>	Hygiene , SDG , SDG6.2.1 , WASH , Water Quality , Water Use
<b>Category</b>	Cross-cutting
<b>Regions</b>	Global
<b>Owner</b>	Chloe.Meyer

By stacking *Layers*, users can generate new pieces of information and create tailored *Maps*. Users can also print the resulting *Maps*, save them on the IHP-WINS platform, export them in several formats (PDF, JPEG, etc.) and share them for public viewing.

<sup>1</sup> The Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) is an international supplier of geographic information system (GIS) software, web GIS and geodatabase management applications.



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Download Layer

Metadata Detail

Download Metadata

### Legend

- 95 - 100%
- 80 - 95%
- 65 - 80%
- 50 - 65%
- 6.72 - 50%
- No data

### Maps using this layer

This layer is not currently used in any maps.

### Create a map using this layer

Click the button below to generate a new map based on this layer.

Create a Map

### About

Owner, Point of Contact, Metadata Author



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© UNESCO / Stampriet

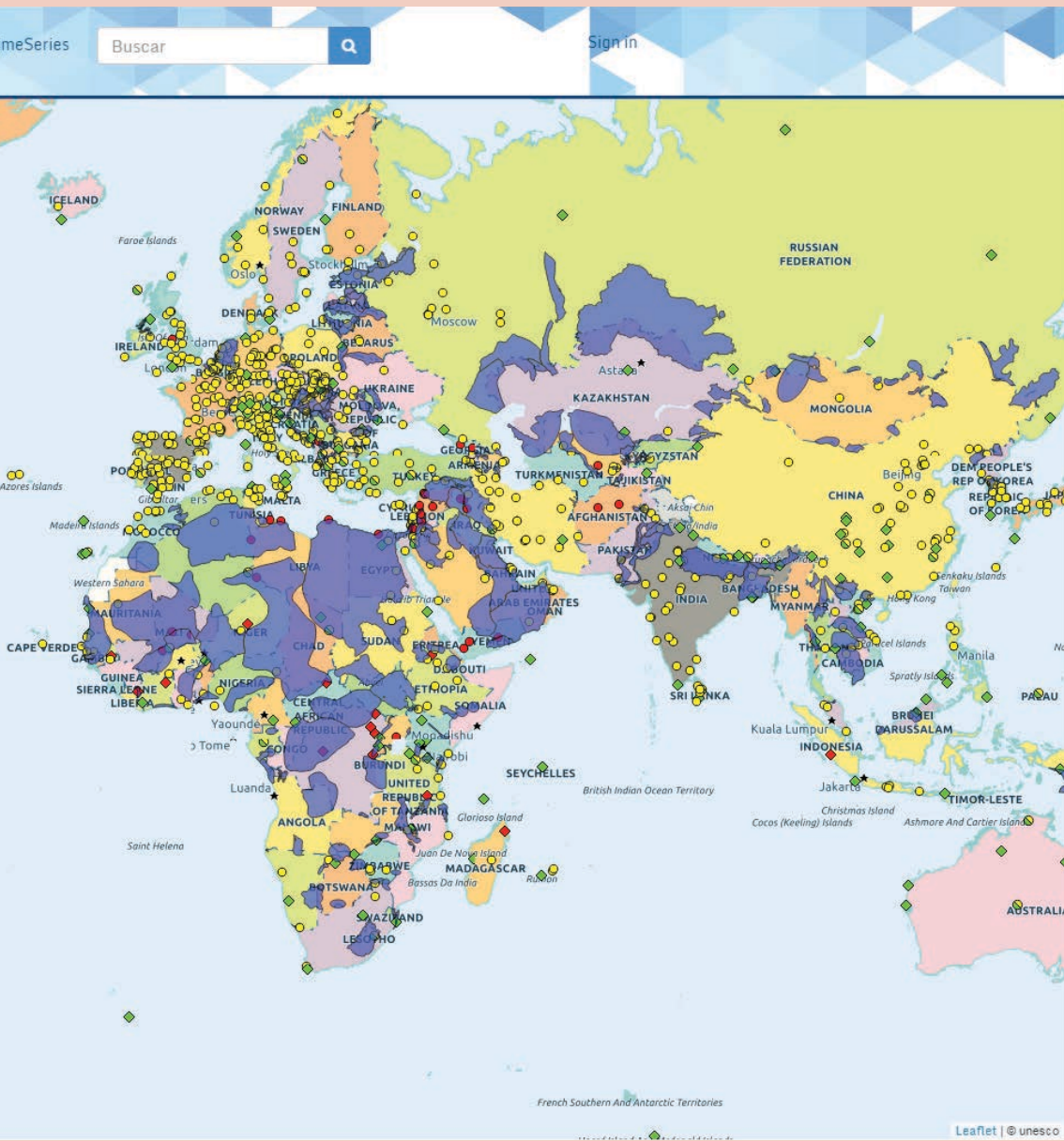
The screenshot displays the IHP-WINS web application interface. At the top, there are logos for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Hydrological Programme, and the Sustainable Development Goals. Navigation tabs for 'Layers', 'Maps', 'Documents', 'People', and 'Grupos' are visible. The main interface is divided into three sections on the left: 'Available layers' with a search box and an 'Add Layer' button; 'Map layers' with two checked items: 'UNESCO World Heritage Sites' and 'Transboundary Aquifers of the World (2015)'; and 'Background layers' with three radio button options: 'UNESCO' (selected), 'UNESCO GEODATA', and 'OpenStreetMap'. A 'Save' button is located below these sections. On the right, a map of the Americas is shown with various colored overlays representing the selected layers. Labels for countries and regions include CANADA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MEXICO, BAHAMAS, NICARAGUA, COSTA RICA, PANAMA, COLOMBIA, PERU, BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, and others. Specific cities like Washington, Ottawa, and Mexico City are also marked. A zoom control with '+' and '-' buttons is located at the top left of the map area.



# IHP-WINS STRENGTHENS KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL MEMORY

Knowledge management goes beyond the storage and sharing of data and information. A structured, systematic approach is required to share knowledge with decision-makers in a timely manner, and to ensure sustainable access to information (i.e. institutional memory).

IHP-WINS' *Documents* function allows users to store and access databases, reports, graphs, tables, videos, webinars and other formats. The documents can then be viewed, printed and/or downloaded.



Leaflet | © unesco

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## HOW TO CONTRIBUTE TO IHP-WINS

To contribute to IHP-WINS, Member States and Institutions could request user accounts at: [ihp-wins@unesco.org](mailto:ihp-wins@unesco.org)

IHP-WINS also welcomes questions, comments or suggestions from users. Please contact UNESCO's IHP-WINS team at: [ihp-wins@unesco.org](mailto:ihp-wins@unesco.org)

IHP-WINS is designed, implemented and maintained by the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO.

For more information on IHP initiatives contributing to IHP-WINS, please visit our website: <http://en.unesco.org/ihp-wins>



Watch the video here:

<http://en.unesco.org/news/wins-data-about-global-water-cycle-few-clicks-away>

**“IHP-WINS’ graphical representation of reliable data is one of the most powerful ways to raise understanding of one of the most complex problems – it will help decision makers”.**

Jack Moss, Executive Director,  
International Federation of Private Water Operators (AquaFed)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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