

# Water operators and their associations supporting WOPs

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**1st International Conference of the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance**  
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# Knowledge management on WOPs

- Water operators being interested in entering into a WOP – whether *mentoring* or *receiving* part – should benefit from past experiences and lessons learned
- IWA and the Global WOPs Alliance Secretariat are therefore developing an Internet based
  - *knowledge database* and a
  - *brokering mechanism*

# IWA is partnering with the Global WOPs Alliance, Finance Institutions and Regional Networks in:

- Asia (WOP-Asia: WaterLinks)
- Oceania (WOP-Pacific)
- Africa (WOP-Africa)
- Europe (WOP-SEE)
- Middle East and Northern Africa
- Latin America and the Caribbean (WOP-LAC)





# Networks in Europe

- South East Europe WOPs platform (WOP-SEE)
- National Committees (IWA) of National Associations
- Association of Dutch Water Companies (VEWIN)
- Key players, e.g.
  - Vitens-Evides International (VEI)
  - World Waternet Amsterdam
- The European Water Association (EWA)
- The German Water Association (DWA)
- The Bonn Network (Water Safety Plans)
- EUREAU
- etc



## Example: WOPs in Asia

- WOP-Asia Secretariat:  
IWA's East Asia & Pacific office in Singapore  
[ryan.yuen@iwahq.org](mailto:ryan.yuen@iwahq.org)

A fully developed match-making WOPs webpage:  
[www.waterlinks.org](http://www.waterlinks.org)

with

- Partnerships and operator profiles
- Capacity building training and toolkits
- Best practices, etc.



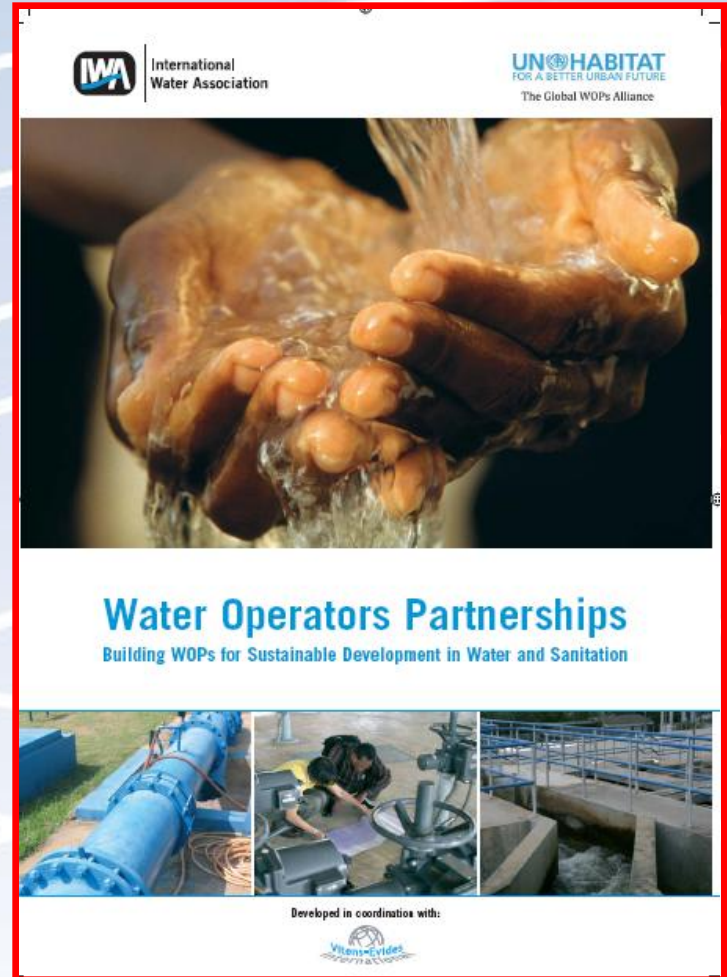
# The WOPs Review

The publication is produced by:

- IWA and
- the Global WOPs Alliance Secretariat

in collaboration with

- Vitens-Evides International, NL and with information from Regional Development Banks, Water Associations and contact persons



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# Water Operators Partnerships

Building WOPs for Sustainable Development in Water and Sanitation

Contents:

The Challenge

Executive Summary

1. Why use partnership approaches for capacity building of public water operators?
2. Characteristics of WOPs
3. The Way forward

Annex 1: WOPs worldwide

Annex 2: Abbreviations and acronyms

Annex 3: Useful links



# Advantages of WOPs

1. WOPs are the right fit
2. WOPs give value for money
3. WOPs provide inspirational support
4. WOPs focus on public utilities and are pro-poor
5. WOPs offer anchoring capacity
6. WOPs help catalyse reform



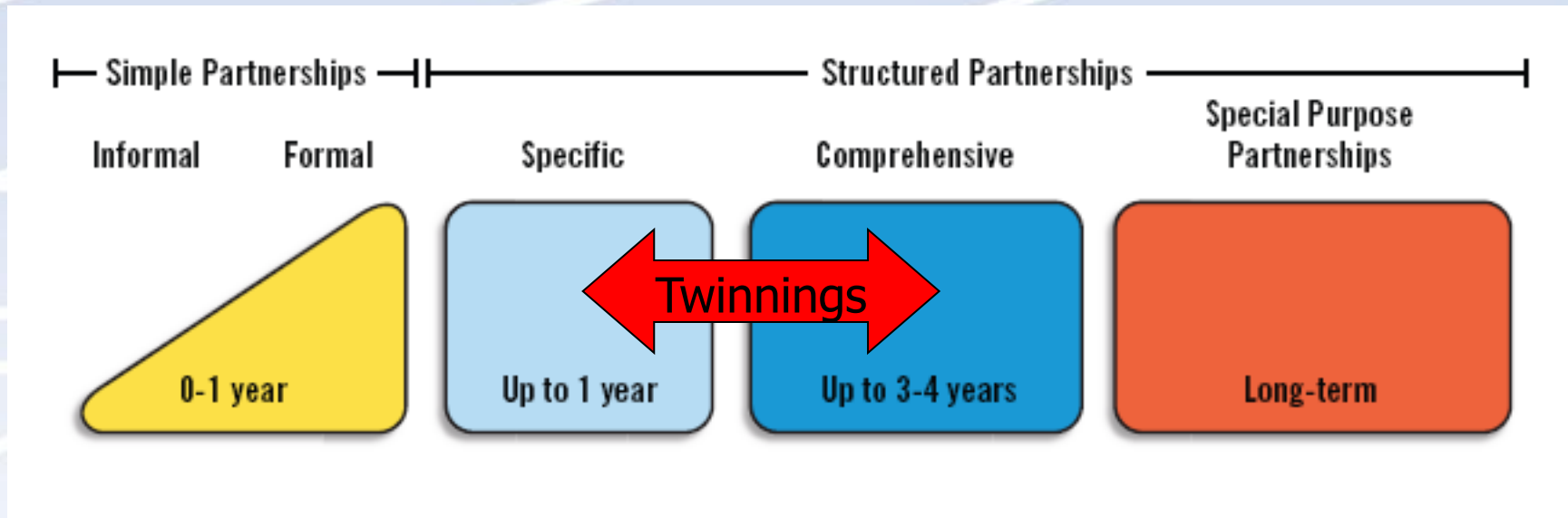


# The definition of WOPs

- A WOP can be defined as any form of
- informal or formal collaboration or
  - **structured partnership**
- between two (or more) water operators that:
- provides **capacity building**
  - is based on **not-for-profit principles**
  - is **results-oriented** and
  - follows **good governance principles**



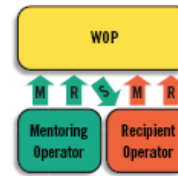
# Classification of WOPs



# Relationships of the Parties and Financial Flows

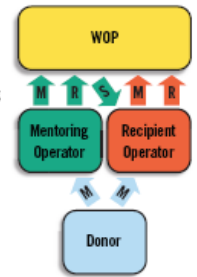
## No financial transfer

- Commonly used in the introductory phase for simple partnerships
- Both operators contribute financially or in kind covering their own cost



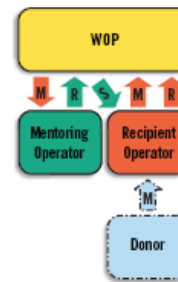
## Donor tied support to both operators

- Donor funding dependent
- Commonly used in structured partnerships
- Both the mentoring operator and the recipient operator is compensated by a donor; fully or in part
- Some cost of the two operators may be covered by themselves



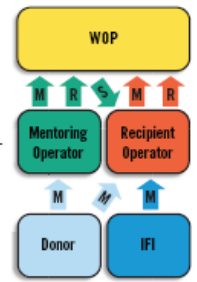
## Recipient operator paying for support

- Commonly used in simple or specific partnerships
- The recipient operator is ideally bearing the cost of the mentoring operator's support; fully or in part
- Some cost of the two operators may be covered by themselves
- In some cases the recipient operator may get some donor support as well.



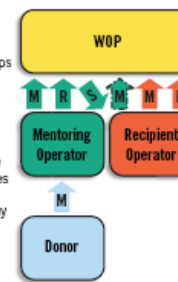
## Multiple source of funding

- Donor funding dependent
- Commonly used in structured partnerships and comprehensive partnerships
- Additional funding available for investment in infrastructure (IFI)
- Both operators contribute financially or in kind
- Donor support to one or both of the operators; fully or in part



## Donor tied support to mentoring operator

- Donor funding dependent
- Commonly used in structured partnerships
- The mentoring operator is compensated by a donor; fully or in part
- Some cost of the two operators may be covered by themselves
- Some cost of the recipient operator may be covered by the mentoring operator



NB. These illustrated models are only indicative and other financial arrangements may be established.



# Lessons learned from Simple partnerships

- Trust is build during an introductory phase
- Starting simple may lead into long-lasting partnerships
- Partnerships are best developed between water operators



# Lessons learned from structured partnerships

- It's important to define objectives, inputs and outputs in an agreed action plan
- Partnerships should be demand driven
- Good partnerships take time
- Comprehensive WOPs create sustainable results



# The Way forward

- Support to WOPs worldwide
- Knowledge development and dissemination
- Connecting mentors and recipients (match-making)
- Capacity building
- Funding arrangements





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