The Third International Forum on Water and Food
To be held in Johannesburg, South Africa
November 14 – 17, 2011

Shair Fair Concept for the IFWF

Purpose of the IFWF Share Fair Lunches
Each of the previous CPWF Forums has considered having a long lunch break. However, these have been squeezed out! IFWF3 was decided to stand firm with a Share Fair Lunch. We see this as a great opportunity to present the CPWF work and partnerships as a continuum from Phase 1 to Phase 2. We want to capitalize on the buzzing over coffee and lunch breaks, the engaged, enthusiastic informal exchanging of ideas and knowledge – triggered by the conference sessions, discussions on exploring partnerships and collaboration and many more.

The main objectives of the Lunch Share Fairs are to:
• demonstrate how formal and informal knowledge sharing improves the effectiveness and impact of working activities
• encourage sharing and learning from each others’ good practices
• provide staff from different organizations with the opportunity to maintain former partnerships and encourage younger networks to flourish
• develop further initiatives to enhance knowledge sharing within and across partners, networks and basins and experiment with new tools and methodologies

When it will be held?
The Share Fair Lunches will be embedded in the program of the IFWF3 and take place on Day 2 (14.11.) and 3 (15.11.) from 12-15:00.

Types of areas for the Share Fair Lunches
There will be three types of areas within the share fair

1) Exhibition / market place
People submit their ideas through the 2-pagers about what and how they want to share:
   - Results and work from Phase 1 and Phase 2
   - Bottlenecks encountered and where they want to get some peer assist on
   - Any Lessons learnt

This can be in the form of a poster, a booth, any other print materials, video, a model, photo stories, any other work, shown and discussed on a screen. Can be organized in a discussion round or any form the presenters wish …

⇒ Might need projectors, bistro high tables, poster stands
We will map out what is presented for discussion and sharing over lunch so that people can chose where to go, with a possibly five minute introduction every 30-45 minutes to invite people to join their sharing “booth”.

Presenters/“booth” owners are responsible to attract people to their lunch sharing space, can advertise by handing out flyers

2) Picnic area

Here people are talking about topics/ issues that were triggered and come out of the topic and basin sessions, where there was not enough time nor the critical mass within the group to take the discussion into a further level of depth. People invite others interested to join them for their pick nick. You can have a pick nick if you find three (I am making this one up, can be any number, let me know what you think) more people interested.

Need to have a set area and think of how we can announce the discussions to people who were not in the session, but still be interested in participating in the discussion.

3) “Just Lunch”

Just Lunch, free informal, sitting with whomever talking about whatever, joining one or two other people, … if it turned into more of a pick nick … it can be shared on the white space and others can contribute or comment and ask also e.g. for materials.

Principles

A) Participation is voluntary and strongly encouraged.

B) We want to capture at least one thing that people are taking away from their lunch session/ future initiative, plan of action. It can be a new contact or that they want to follow-up with somebody want to send some info through to somebody or have shared something with somebody

We will need a big space where we want to capture this, so that it is presented and out for others to see and join or ask questions and to make it more committal.

Possibly if we have the resources we can send a friendly follow-up e-mail reminder to people about what they wanted to do after they have left the Forum.

C) Should encourage people to enjoy the group of people coming together from all the six basins, international exposure of like-minded, …. 

How to participate?

We encourage you to think about presenting and discussing your Phase 1 work, successes or failures as much as your work now being undertaken in Phase 2 or even beyond the CPWF to enrich participants. To contribute to the Share Fair Lunches to the Exhibition and Market Place area as described above under types of areas, we would like you to send us your ideas through in a brief 2-page abstract template. As for the picnic area – these we expect to emerge from the sessions and will be collected and set up when we are there.

Who to contact for more information?

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