

# WLC16

November 7-11, 2016

## 1st Announcement

Lake Ecosystem Health and Its Resilience:  
Diversity and the Risks of Extinction



Organized by:

Ministry of Environment and Forestry Indonesia

Ministry of Public Works and Housing Indonesia

Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI)

In collaboration with

International Lake Environment Committee Foundation (ILEC)





## Background

Lakes, whether natural or artificial, fresh or saline, are an important and dramatic feature of our global landscape. They have been centers of human cultural development worldwide throughout the centuries. By providing their services in terms of increased food supply, safe drinking water and satisfying other water needs for human health and wellbeing, these ecosystems have become landscapes of inspiration, creativity and spiritual manifestations that constitute the 'heartware' that enriches and elevates human existence. Thus, lakes constitute a global heritage that must be restored and continuously protected to enhance their life-supporting ecosystem services, including those resulting from their linkages to other aquatic ecosystems. These linkages also have important scientific and governance implications.



It is pertinent that each and every lake has different characteristics; be in terms of its morphogenesis and morphology or in terms of social and economic condition of its surrounding community. Accordingly, they have certain specific problems and uniqueness from the socio-economic, cultural and ecological point of view. Lakes have numerous purposes related to human life. They are not only function as water resources, but also serves, among others, as an important element to balance ecosystem, control of flood, drought and climate change, and as a habitat for biodiversity. Along with their freshwater plants and animal's richness, lakes have advantages for developing ecotourism, research and development, as well as an energy sources. In addition, lakes have also important role in cultural preservation.



On the other hand, we are all aware that, as a result of increased population, intensified use of surface waters, exploitation of shoreline properties and other human pressures, lakes are increasingly being threatened. Declining water quality, nuisance algae blooms, excessive weed growths, deteriorating fisheries, sediment infilling, contamination, shoreline erosion and so forth are common problems being experienced due to human activities. Consequently, it may influence socio-economic condition of the lake's surrounding community, which in turn may impact economic and social development of the country and the world. It is no doubt that collaboration and coherence among relevant stakeholders, both governments and non-government actors, should be strengthened and further developed with the view to coping with the emerging challenges of lake management.

## About the World Lake Conference

The history of the World Lake Conference (WLC) dates back to the Shiga Conference on Conservation and Management of World Lake Environment of 1984, known as LECS'84, which was held on the shore of Lake Biwa, Japan. The aim of the LECS' 84, which was to contribute to promoting scientific approaches in the world lake basin management, has been inherited to the World Lake Conferences held in various parts of the world including USA, Hungary, China, Italy, Argentina, Denmark, Kenya, India and Japan. Today, the Conference is globally recognized as a place for multi-sectoral participants (i.e., academia, government, citizens, NGOs and enterprises) to exchange their views and experiences on the sustainable management for lakes and their basins.



## The Previous WLC: WLC15

With this perspective in mind, the 15th World Lake Conference (WLC 15) in Perugia, 1-5 September 2014 has manifested the Perugia Declaration. This declaration acknowledges that freshwater is fundamental for all life, being finite in quantity, extremely vulnerable to human activities, and irreplaceable in its many uses. We are conscious that, in spite of noteworthy progress made over recent decades in attempting to address human and

ecosystem water needs, achievement of effective governance, capacity and a financial base adequate to ensure sustainable ecosystem services of lakes and other standing water systems remains an elusive goal of civil societies and their governments.

WLC15 which was hosted by the Umbria Scientific Meeting Association (USMA) and co-hosted by International Lake Environment Committee Foundation (ILEC) was of utmost importance as provided opportunity to address many issues of our common concern on lake management and to strengthen cooperation among countries and stakeholders involved. Such cooperation has been undertaken through sharing of experience and best practices as well as transfer of knowledge, data and information. Through a fruitful and candid discussion among participants of the conference, WLC15 has defined appropriate policies, strategy, program and actions meaningfully to address our profound challenges in lake management.

## WLC16

It is our humble expectation that the Government of Indonesia would like to contribute to the international community via organizing the 16th World Lake Conference (WLC16) and, at the same time, gain more knowledge and understanding through *inter alia* sharing of experience and best practices from various stakeholders. Through the conference, we hope that we can reinvigorate and reignite the zeal and passion we have for the issue of lake management. Conservation of lake ecosystems is something that we cannot avoid to. It is a must. That said, we are of the view that there are a number of areas whereas international lake community might consider to pursuing collaborative global actions in order to save lake ecosystems.



Let us be firm in our conviction. Let us be bold to take action. Our support for the lake conservation and rehabilitation is imperative for the future of our ecosystem, our people, and for the destiny of the next generation. We should not stop here, but we need to continue our works and deliberation in years to come. Therefore, it is our great pleasure, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, to kindly invite all of stakeholders, governments and non-governments who are involving in lake management all over the world, to participate in WLC16, scheduled to be held in Indonesia in November, 2016.

**Venue**

- Udayana University, Jimbaran, Bali
- Garuda Wisnu Kencana Cultural Park

**Date**

From 7 to 11 November 2016

**Agenda**

## Main Events

- Plenary Sessions
- Scientific Sessions
- Thematic Fora

## Side events:

- International/Local Policy Dialogue
- Field trips
- Special Workshops for Indonesian and Asian Lakes Management
- Development of Regional Collaboration Framework for Lake Basin Management (especially targetting South-East Asia and South Asia)
- Other side events (targeting Students, Children and Journalists)
- Cultural Events
- Award Ceremonies
- Exhibitions

**Website**

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