Dear colleagues and friends,

Everyone agrees today that active participation of all the public and private, collective or individual partners involved, at the side of Administrations and Government Agencies, is a condition for effective water resources management in the basins and sub-basins of coastal, national or transboundary rivers, lakes and aquifers.

Indeed, apart from very large structuring infrastructure, that usually depend on national or even international decisions, on the field, local authorities, regions or provinces, municipalities and communities, the economic stakeholders, such as farmers, industrialists, inland waterways shipping companies, electricians, fishermen and fish farmers, tourism professionals, etc., as well as representatives of the civil society, play a key role in regional planning, in the construction and management of local infrastructure, the preservation and restoration of ecosystems and soils.

For over 50 years, many experiences, in making this participation becoming effective, have been successfully implemented and resulted in a better involvement and empowerment of stakeholders.

Due to the many pressures on water resources and ecosystems and in order to adapt to the effects of climate change, it is now a strategic necessity to optimally organize this participation by drawing lessons from all ongoing or planned experiments.

As part of the Citizen Process of the next World Water Forum of Brasilia, the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), the Latin-American (LANBO) and Brazilian (REBOB) Networks of Basin Organizations, as well as the Global Alliances for Water and Climate and “Aqua Madre” invite you to participate in the Special Session on:

"Strengthening citizens’ participation in Basin management"

that they organize on Wednesday 21st March 2018 - from 09:00 to 12:30
Centro de Convenções Ulisses Guimarães – Brasilia - Brazil

This Special Session will be an opportunity to present successful experiences in participation carried out on all continents and to start a dynamic and cross-sectoral dialogue with all participants in order to propose the best ways to progress.

Please come and express yourself in this session and see you soon in Brasilia on Next March!

Jean-François DONZIER
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