



# 2023 Progress Report

**ACTION PLATFORM FOR SOURCE-TO-SEA MANAGEMENT** 

## **Table of Contents**

| ntroduc | ction   | 2  |
|---------|---|----|
|         | hievements  |    |
| I. :    | Strategic Aim 1: Strengthening Partnership Across Actors and Initiatives  | 4  |
|         | 25 Goal: The S2S Platform will have active, engaged partners representing the diversity of a caded to fulfil our vision.            |    |
| II.     | Strategic Aim 2: Growing Understanding  | 7  |
| 202     | 25 Goal: The S2S Platform establishes a global source-to-sea knowledge hub  | 7  |
| III.    | Strategic Aim 3: Building Commitment for Source-to-Sea Action   | 11 |
|         | 25 Goal: Source-to-sea perspectives hold a permanent place in the global agenda as a soluting and persistent development challenges |    |
| IV.     | Strategic Aim 4: Taking Action on the Ground  | 13 |
| 202     | 25 Goal: Expertise is built, and source-to-sea management is applied in six continents  | 13 |
| Annex   | xes   | 15 |
| Anı     | nex 1: 2023 Strategic international events and conferences  | 15 |
|         | nex 2: Source-to-sea engagement at the 2023 UN Water Conference and New York Water  |    |
|         |   |    |

## Introduction

The 2023 Progress Report for the Action Platform for Source-to-Sea Management (S2S Platform) presents the activities undertaken in delivery of the 2023 Work Plan. This was the 9th annual work plan for the Secretariat and is based on the Strategy 2021-2025, and its four strategic aims:

- Strengthening partnership across actors and initiatives to build understanding, commitment, and action to address source-to-sea challenges.
- 2. Growing understanding of the need for and benefits of source-to-sea management.
- 3. Building commitment in governments, financiers, private sector, and civil society for taking source-to-sea action on the ground.
- 4. Taking action on the ground to demonstrate the benefits of addressing development challenges through the source-to-sea approach.

The Work Plan was designed to make maximal use of the limited resources available to the Platform Secretariat through a strategic selection of activities and through active engagement of the S2S Platform partners.

The Progress Report conveys a growing momentum for the interest in and adoption of source-to-sea management, supported through key advances in the engagement of new partners in the delivery of the 2021-2025 Strategic Aims and the recognition of the need for and benefits of source-to-sea management in important global fora. As the impact and influence of the S2S Platform is the full combination of efforts by the Secretariat, the Steering Committee, and S2S Platform partners, the results reported here should be seen as a collection of highlights where the Secretariat has been involved or informed. The report does not include all the source-to-sea related activities and outcomes collectively achieved by the S2S Platform partners.

## 2023 Achievements

Highlights of 2023 include:

- The UN Water Conference showcased an enhanced understanding of the necessity for holistic
  collaborative management approaches, such as source-to-sea. Source-to-sea featured prominently
  in the official program and in various side events; further demonstrating greater acceptance of the
  need for the holistic source-to-sea management approach to achieve the 2030 Agenda.
- The 22nd Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) Consultative Meeting, which for the first time included the participation of river basin organizations along with their associated LMEs, facilitated dialogue and led to the strengthening of involved parties. Among the outcomes was the establishment of a trilateral cooperation mechanism for the Danube River, the Mediterranean, and the Black Sea. This mechanism was incorporated into the Portorož Ministerial Declaration adopted at the 23rd Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.
- The renewal of the Steering Committee of the S2S Platform through a competitive voting process
  that resulted in the election of the 2023-2026 members which includes two primarily ocean
  focused organizations for the first time.
- The strengthening of the relationship between the ocean and freshwater communities, resulting in a first ever cross-pavilion event being held between the Water for Climate Pavilion and Ocean

- Pavilion at the UNFCCC COP28, bringing together the water and ocean communities to unite around climate action.
- Continued engagement of S2S Platform partners and supporters through hosting four Partners in the Round calls, publishing three newsletters and hosting four Steering Committee meetings.



Image 1: Speakers of the first cross pavilion session between the Water 4 Climate and Ocean pavilions at COP 28. From left to right: Basile van Havre, Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Susan Gardner, Ruth Mathews, Viviana Franco, and Steve Widicombe. The event was attended by Franz Tattenbach, Minister of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica (second from the left). Photo by Theela Keizer, Plymouth Marine Laboratory.

## I. Strategic Aim 1: Strengthening Partnership Across Actors and Initiatives

## 2025 Goal: The S2S Platform will have active, engaged partners representing the diversity of actors needed to fulfil our vision.

## 2023 targets

- Steering Committee members provide strategic guidance and enhance the influence and impact of the S2S Platform.
- Regular exchange between partners and interested parties develops and strengthens the S2S community of practice, which is informed of and actively contributing to S2S Platform activities.
- S2S Platform newsletters serve as a source of information for S2S partners and supporters and document contributions of the S2S community of practice in accelerating S2S action.
- Partners are engaged, well informed and active in Platform activities.
- Increased knowledge exchange and cooperation between S2S Platform partners and relevant initiatives/issues expands the global source-to-sea community of practice.
- Multi-year and annual funding secured for S2S Platform Secretariat and opportunities for partners to co-fundraise for S2S activities are pursued.

### **Summary Assessment**

Strategic Aim 1 comprises the activities that the Secretariat undertakes to maintain connections between S2S Platform partners and strengthen partnerships within the community of practice. Success in 2023 was marked by active engagement from partners in the Partners in the Round calls, numerous contributions to the newsletters and participation in the Partners meeting during World Water Week. The response to a call for nominations for the Steering Committee resulted in an election process as more interest was shown than seats available. The diversity of organizations on the Steering Committee indicates the broadening interest in the S2S Platform and its mission. With a new Chair at the helm, the Platform is well positioned to expand its influence and reach in 2024.

## Main activities

During 2023, the Secretariat maintained continuous engagement with Platform partners and beyond, facilitated by a diverse array of activities. Four Partners in the Round calls were organized. The calls facilitated the exchange of information between partners and supporters of the Platform and included presentations with topics ranging from studies addressing plastic pollution, UN Decade of Ocean Science programmes, sharing experiences of taking source-to-sea action, and discussions to coordinate efforts towards key global processes and events.

A S2S Platform Partners Meeting was held at World Water Week. During the meeting the partners shared their current and planned source-to-sea activities to identify potential synergies. The session also included a workshop to brainstorm in small groups how to accelerate progress on the Strategy and the overall adoption of source-to-sea management.



Image 2: S2S Platform Partners meeting at World Water Week 2023. Photos by José Pablo Murillo

Three newsletters containing information about source-to-sea activities undertaken by partners and resources of interest for the source-to-sea community were sent and the Secretariat also sent e-mailer updates regarding activities at international conferences. An active presence was maintained on social media through Twitter and LinkedIn that has served as another channel to share information with partners and reach new audiences who can engage with the S2S Platform and source-to-sea work. Table 1 provides an overview of the metrics of the S2S Platform's social media channels.

Table 1: Metrics for 2023 vs 2022 of social media accounts of the S2S Platform

| Social<br>Media     | Audience | Audience<br>Growth | Published<br>Posts | Impressions | Engagements | Engagement<br>Rate |
|---------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| LinkedIn<br>2023    | 471      | 208                | 64                 | 14542       | 960         | 6.6%               |
| X (Twitter)<br>2023 | 350      | 56                 | 58                 | 16484       | 545         | 3.3%               |
| LinkedIn<br>2022    | 263      | 263                | 69                 | 15591       | 937         | 6%                 |
| X (Twitter)<br>2022 | 294      | 63                 | 90                 | 37984       | 1119        | 2.9%               |

Source: Own elaboration with data obtained from social media by the communications team of SIWI.

The Secretariat organized four Steering Committee meetings, which included highly engaged discussions with the Steering Committee members. The Steering Committee of the S2S Platform was renewed for the 2023-2026 period through a competitive election. The 2023-2026 Steering Committee is formed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO), International Water Resources Association (IWRA), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Plymouth Marine Laboratory, Deltares, International Capacity Development Network for Sustainable Water Management (Cap-Net), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), Global Water Partnership (GWP).

Torkil J. Clausen stepped down as Chair of the S2S Platform after 10 years of dedicated service and expressions of interest were sought for a new Chair. The Steering Committee elected Thomas Panella to a 3-year term.

#### Main outcomes

The value of the S2S Platform as a space for sharing knowledge and exchanging ideas to drive forward source-to-sea management has grown significantly, thanks to the continuous engagement of the partners and their increased leadership in various initiatives. There is an expanding interest in source-to-sea management and the S2S Platform has solidified its role as the leading space for organizations who recognize the value of this holistic approach. Examples of this include active participation in the Partners in the Round calls, which saw a total of 75 attendees over the year, facilitating peer-to-peer learning and a growing number of contributions to the newsletters, totalling 38 stories and 10 shared resources from our partners. Additionally, the well-attended Partners Meeting at World Water Week boasted a participation of 16 partners, and there was sustained interest in joining the Platform with two new partners in 2023: NatureScot and Democracy Green.

The election of the new Steering Committee in a competitive process reflects the continued support for the Platform among its partners. The composition of the new Steering Committee includes organizations such as the Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML) and IOC-UNESCO both of which are dedicated to ocean issues. This reflects the success in creating stronger connections between the freshwater and ocean communities and the increasing recognition of the need for greater collaboration between the two communities. To ensure strategic guidance and collaboration among S2S Platform partners, quarterly Steering Committee meetings were held, contributing to the development of a shared global source-to-sea community of practice.

The social media presence of the S2S Platform expanded during 2023, as indicated by the data collected in Table 1. On "X" (formerly known as Twitter) and LinkedIn, the Platform witnessed an increase in followers compared to 2022. On "X", followers grew by 19%, but impressions decreased by 58%, engagements decreased by 51.29%, and the engagement rate increased by 0.4%. Conversely, more positive results were observed on LinkedIn, with an overall increase of 79% in total followers. While impressions decreased by 6.7%, engagements experienced an overall increase of 2.5%. Similarly, the engagement rate increased by 0.6%.

The continued usage of both social media platforms as a communication and knowledge sharing tools lead to increased or mostly stable engagement rates. This serves as evidence that they are effective channels for engaging with partners and individuals interested in source-to-sea management or related topics. It is important to note that the change in ownership of Twitter, its rebranding as "X", and the change in the overall direction of the social media platform led to a decrease in use by the Secretariat from 90 posts in 2022 to 58 in 2023 which also affected impressions and engagements. The Secretariat will evaluate if it continues to use "X" or if there are better alternatives to achieve its aims.

## II. Strategic Aim 2: Growing Understanding

## 2025 Goal: The S2S Platform establishes a global source-to-sea knowledge hub

### 2023 targets

- Methods, guidance, and case studies that inform policy recommendations and support the uptake
  of source-to-sea management and materials that highlight the need for and benefits of source-tosea management in addressing critical global challenges are developed.
- S2S Platform Partners contribute to the Decade of Ocean Science, bringing together freshwater, coastal, and ocean expertise.

## **Summary Assessment**

World Water Week presented an excellent opportunity for the S2S Platform and its partners to share learning from on-the-ground projects that showcase the value of source-to-sea action. A Working Group on Source-to-Sea and Climate Action was established to delve more deeply into how the source-to-sea approach can contribute to climate action. The ongoing analysis of case studies is providing further evidence of the benefits of source-to-sea management that will lead to concrete recommendations for accelerating its adoption. Engagement with the Water Convention, GEF IWLEARN, and the UN Decade of Ocean Science all provided opportunities to incorporate source-to-sea management into global initiatives. Invitations to present source-to-sea management in regional events deepened the connections with those who can mobilize action in their locations.

#### Main activities

To advance knowledge on the practical implementation of source-to-sea management, the World Water Week 2023 session "Voices from the Field: Source-to-Sea Stories from around the World" was co-convened by the S2S Platform, Deltares, French Water Partnership, Global Environment Facility (GEF), IW:LEARN, Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar), SIWI, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM), UNDP-SIWI Water Governance Facility, UNDP, UNEP and One Water (formerly Water Science Policy). The event shared experiences of implementing source-to-sea management from around the world in a variety of contexts, highlighted key lessons learned from these leading-edge applications, and explored the next steps in developing source-to-sea management. Other source-to-sea events at World Water Week included a SIWI Corner with Ruth Mathews, Coordinator of the S2S Platform Secretariat, Karina Barquet of SEI and the Stockholm Water Prize Laureate Andrea Rinaldo, and the screening of the source-to-sea film the "Journey of Water" which was co-produced by SIWI and WWF.

The Secretariat participated in the 18th meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM Working Group) of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention), where it was decided to develop a "Practical Note for the Implementation of the Source-to-Sea Approach in Transboundary Basins" in the framework of the Water Convention. Following this development the Secretariat has remained engaged with the lead parties in the process leading up to the drafting of this document.

During 2023, a Working Group on Source-to-Sea and Climate Action was formed. This initiative was suggested by the Steering Committee and after an open call, 80 candidates expressed their interest. A core group was formed out of those interested and a kick-off meeting was organized during World Water Week where the aims and activities of the group were discussed. The Working Group is led by Clive Mitchell of NatureScot and includes scientists and practitioners from different organizations including partners and friends of the S2S Platform. The aim of the group is to define and demonstrate how source-to-sea

management can contribute to decisive climate action through expanded benefits and greater long-term impacts. The emergent results seek to contribute to raising awareness in global policy processes for climate action and solutions.

Case studies of source-to-sea projects conducted by partners and friends of the S2S Platform that exemplify the benefits of including source-to-sea perspectives in projects and programmes are being collected and analyzed. Two case study briefs that include recommendations for accelerating the adoption of source-to-sea management and lessons learned were published in 2023. Additional case studies will be developed in 2024.



Image 3: Case study briefs published in 2023.

Additionally, the Secretariat was invited to contribute to several events that were not considered in the workplan such as the 22<sup>nd</sup> Large Marine Ecosystem Consultation Meeting, Meeting of the Heads of the Secretariats of the European Regional Seas Conventions and the European Water Commissions, and the Source-to-sea regional dialogue: managing water resources from mountains to the ocean in South East Europe and the Mediterranean.

To encourage engagement with the UN Ocean Science Decade, the Secretariat coordinated with partners IOC-UNESCO, SIWI, Plymouth Marine Laboratory and GWP to submit a satellite event proposal for the UN Ocean Science Decade Conference taking place in 2024. Additionally, GWP, SIWI and IOC-UNESCO, all partners of the S2S Platform, opened a call for actions for the Ocean Science Decade programme Healthy Rivers Healthy Ocean (HRHO).

### Main outcomes

The World Water Week hybrid session "Voices from the Field: Source-to-Sea Stories from around the World" co-convened by the S2S Platform and eight partner organizations was a successful collaboration that resulted in a lively and enlightening discussion. As source-to-sea management continues to gain momentum in international discussions, there is an increasing need for guidance on how to implement this approach. During the session, the practical experiences of Wetlands International, Asian Development Bank, DHI, SEI, and SwAM served as the basis to identify key lessons learned. These key

lessons encompassed the necessity to increase understanding among stakeholders of the need for collective action to mobilize engagement. Additional lessons included the importance of data sharing, brokering communications between sectoral and governance silos, ensuring political buy-in, securing stable funding for long-term changes, and conducting capacity development that is tailored to specific needs which may include skills around collaboration and coordination. The learning from on-the-ground applications is being further complemented through the case studies of source-to-sea action that are being analysed to strengthen the evidence base for the adoption of the approach at national, regional, and subnational levels.

The development of the "Practical Note for the Implementation of the Source-to-Sea Approach in Transboundary Basins" requested by the IWRM Working Group of the Water Convention is an outcome of the continued relationship between the Secretariat of the Water Convention and the S2S Platform. Initial discussions on inclusion of source-to-sea activities in the Programme of Work began at the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Parties. This resulted in the 2022 Global Source-to-Sea Workshop organized by the UNECE Secretariat of the Water Convention, SIWI and S2S Platform partners for signatories and interested parties to the Convention. The interest in and success of this workshop led to the decision to prepare this Practical Note, which will support the adoption of source-to-sea management in the countries in transboundary cooperation under the Water Convention and beyond. This work will continue in 2024 with the creation of an annotated outline for discussion at the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Parties and the aim is to finalize the Note in 2025.

The emergent results of the Working Group on Climate Action are contributing to raising awareness in global policy processes on source-to-sea management for climate action and solutions. The involvement from a diverse set of stakeholders enriches conversations and speaks to the growing interest in source-to-sea management in different contexts. The working group has been identifying and collecting cases of holistic source-to-sea management having positive impacts on climate action or governance fragmentation having negative consequences on climate actions.



Image 4: World Café discussion on Orange-Senqu River Basin and Benguela Current linkages during the source-to-sea session at the LME22 Consultative Workshop. Source: IW:LEARN

Following consistent engagement between the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the S2S Platform, the 22nd Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) Consultative Meeting for the first time invited river basin organizations to participate with their related LME's in a world café style dialogue. One major outcome of this engagement was the strengthened relationship between the International Commission for the

Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR), Mediterranean Action Plan Secretariat (UNEP/MAP) and the Black Sea Commission for the restoration and protection of these crucial water bodies. These three entities continued the discussion after the world café to explore the possibility of establishing a trilateral cooperation mechanism for the Danube River, Mediterranean and Black Sea which resulted in its inclusion in the Portorož Ministerial Declaration adopted at 23rd Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention which states that countries "17. Commit to strengthen cooperation with other relevant Regional Seas Conventions and their Action Plans..., and to enhance interregional cooperation between the Mediterranean, the Danube and the Black Sea, through a 'Source to Sea' approach''. The engagement with GEF has further led to the inclusion of the development of guidance on incorporating source-to-sea in GEF projects as part of the IW:LEARN project and collaborations are projected to continue in 2024.

The Secretariat published several news items focusing on key issues and events throughout the year:

- Big win for the ocean UN high Seas Treaty finally agreed
- Tides are changing: Source-to-sea science for a healthy ocean
- <u>5 challenges that need a source-to-sea approach</u>
- Collaborative climate action from the water and ocean communities

## III. Strategic Aim 3: Building Commitment for Source-to-Sea Action

## 2025 Goal: Source-to-sea perspectives hold a permanent place in the global agenda as a solution to rising and persistent development challenges

## 2023 targets

Benefits of the source-to-sea approach to management are raised through different platforms and
forum, increasing awareness of the importance of the source-to-sea approach to management in
addressing development challenges and influencing policy outcomes.

## **Summary Assessment**

In 2023, there was a significant rise in source-to-sea engagements. Source-to-sea management was prominently showcased in global forums like the UN 2023 Water Conference, where it was integrated into the theme of the Interactive Dialogue 3 and presented in 9 events. Moreover, these perspectives were also present in numerous regional and national gatherings. The year concluded with a collaborative Water for Climate and Ocean Pavilion event at UNFCCC COP28, facilitating the development of stronger connections between communities dedicated to water and ocean affairs.

### Main activities



Image 4: The S2S Platform side event at the UN Water Conference in the UN Headquarters. Photo by Maria Papaioannou.

### Main outcomes

2023 was a watershed year for the inclusion of source-to-sea perspectives in international processes where the efforts from previous years came to fruition and set the stage for further progress. The UN Water Conference was a special highlight of 2023. Due to the broad representation of source-to-sea perspectives across the official programme, side events, and external events, there is increased awareness of the need for, and benefits of source-to-sea management. It was particularly notable that member states and organizations that in the past had not engaged with the S2S Platform promoted source-to-sea. The dedication and consistency of the S2S Platform and its partners in engaging are bearing fruit and are supporting a move toward more source-to-sea action on the ground.

The side event at the High-Level Political Forum provided an opportunity to enhance understanding of the need to adopt holistic source-to-sea management and its important contributions to accelerating progress towards achieving the SDGs. An exchange of knowledge between member states was facilitated with Sweden, Greece, Finland, the Netherlands, Bangladesh and Portugal sharing their experiences. UNEP provided an expert response identifying concrete transformative actions that can lead to more holistic management of land, freshwater, coasts, and the ocean.

Participation at COP28 was a step forward in engaging with the climate community by contributing to discussions about incorporating water into the NDCs and NAPs, locally led adaptation, and upscaling and financing climate action. It is also important to highlight that COP28 served as a space to strengthen collaborations with the ocean community as the Secretariat co-organized the first ever cross-pavilion event between the Water for Climate Pavilion and Ocean Pavilion. The session brought together the water and ocean communities to identify potential collaborations and progress climate action. This further strengthened the role and convening power of the S2S Platform to bring together both communities, which builds on the engagement at the UN Ocean Conference. Details of engagements at COP28 included in Annex 1.

Furthermore, the participation in the events throughout 2023 established or solidified relationships with high level stakeholders such as:

- Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Director of Marine Policy Center, Wood Hole Oceanographic Institute, and Senior Advisor to the United States President on Ocean and Climate Policy.
- Susan Gardner, Director of the Ecosystems Division, UNEP.
- Henk Ovink, Former Special Envoy for International Waters for the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
- Meike van Ginneken, Special Envoy for International Waters for the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
- Steve Widdicombe, Director of Science and Deputy Chief Executive, Plymouth Marine Laboratory.
- Rüdiger Strempel, Executive Secretary of HELCOM Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission.

## IV. Strategic Aim 4: Taking Action on the Ground

## 2025 Goal: Expertise is built, and source-to-sea management is applied in six continents

## 2023 targets

- Sharing/transfer of knowledge, experiences, and lessons from on-the-ground demonstrations.
- Awareness raised on source-to-sea management.

## Summary Assessment Summary Assessment

To support the growing interest in source-to-sea management and as a means to reach more people, the translation of the guidance document *Implementing the source-to-sea approach: A guide for practitioners* into Spanish, French, and Arabic and an introductory course to source-to-sea management for the Cap-Net Virtual Campus were initiated. Both will be completed in 2024.

### Main activities

The translation *Implementing the source-to-sea approach: A guide for practitioners* into Spanish, French, and Arabic began in 2023 and will be completed in 2024. Once completed, the translations will be made available on the S2S Platform website.



Image 8: Spanish, French and Arabic translations of Implementing the source-to-sea approach: A guide for practitioners.

The S2S Platform has partnered with Cap-Net and SIWI to develop an online course on source-to-sea management to be available on their Virtual Campus. Initial development of the course outline was undertaken in 2023 and course materials will be finalized in 2024.

## Main outcomes

To support the increased use of the source-to-sea approach by practitioners worldwide, the translation of the guidance document *Implementing the source-to-sea approach: A guide for practitioners* the Platform commenced

the translation of the document into three languages. The finalization and following distribution of the translations are anticipated to be carried out in 2024.

## Annexes

## Annex 1: 2023 Strategic international events and conferences

| Date         | Conference/event/News item  | Organizer/author   | Location                                    | Communications of activities related to each event  |
|--------------|---|--|---|---|
| 22 — 24 Mar  | UN 2023 Water Conference  | The Kingdom of<br>the Netherlands<br>and the Republic<br>of Tajikistan | New York,<br>United<br>States of<br>America | <ul> <li><u>UN 2023 Water Conference</u></li> <li><u>Source-to-sea management high on the agenda at UN meeting</u></li> </ul>   |
| 18-24 March  | New York Water Week   | The Kingdom of<br>the Netherlands<br>and the Republic<br>of Tajikistan | New York,<br>United<br>States of<br>America | • See Annex 2   |
| 19-22 June   | UNECE Working Group on<br>Integrated Water Resources<br>Management  | The United<br>Nations Economic<br>Commission for<br>Europe (UNECE)     | Geneva,<br>Switzerland                      | Conference information: 18th meeting of the Working Group<br>on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) under<br>the Water Convention  |
| 10-14 July   | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Large Marine Environment<br>Consultation Meeting for the<br>Global Environment Portfolio | IW:LEARN   | Paris,<br>France                            | 22nd Large Marine Environment Consultation Meeting for the<br>Global Environment Portfolio  |
| 10-19 July   | High Level Political Forum on<br>Sustainable Development  | Economic and<br>Social Council   | New York,<br>United<br>States of<br>America | High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development   |
| 20-24 August | World Water Week  | SIWI   | Stockholm,<br>Sweden                        | <ul> <li>Conference information: World Water Week</li> <li>Film: Voices from the Field: Source-to-Sea Stories from Around the World - Recording</li> <li>Event recording: Film Screening and discussion: Journey of Water - Recording</li> <li>Event recording: SIWI Corner introducing source-to-sea management - Recording</li> </ul> |

| 28-30 August                               | 2023 Meeting of the Heads of<br>the Secretariats of the<br>European Regional Seas<br>Conventions and the European<br>Water Commissions       | Baltic Marine<br>Environment<br>Commission<br>(HELCOM)            | Helsinki,<br>Finland                 | News item: The People's Choice Award 2023 winners unpack the source-to-sea approach     Newsletter: Source-to-Sea at World Water Week - Newsletter item      Event recording: Summary record of meeting   |
|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| 2-3 October                                | Source-to-sea regional dialogue:<br>managing water resources from<br>mountains to the ocean in<br>South East Europe and the<br>Mediterranean | UNESCO<br>Regional Bureau<br>for Science and<br>Culture in Europe | Venice,<br>Italy                     | Conference information: <u>Source-to-sea Regional Dialogue:</u> managing water resources from mountains to the ocean in <u>South-East Europe and the Mediterranean</u>  |
| 30 November<br>– 13<br>December            | UNFCCC COP28   | United Arab<br>Emirates   | Dubai,<br>United<br>Arab<br>Emirates | <ul> <li>Conference information: <u>UNFCCC COP28</u></li> <li>Event recording: <u>Journey of Water Film Screening and Discussion - Recording</u></li> <li>Event description: <u>Confluence: Bridging the Ocean and Freshwater for Collective Science and Solutions - Water for Climate Pavilion</u></li> <li>Event recording: <u>Confluence: Bridging the Ocean and Freshwater for Collective Science and Solutions - Recording</u></li> <li>News item: <u>Collaborative climate action from the water and ocean communities - News item</u></li> <li>News item: <u>Source-to-Sea at COP28 - Newsletter item</u></li> </ul> |
| Preparations in 2023 for events in 2024/25 |  |   |                                      |   |
| 10-12 April<br>2024                        | Ocean Decade Conference  | Spain, IOC -<br>UNESCO  | Barcelona,<br>Spain                  | <ul> <li>Conference information: Ocean Decade – The Science We Need For The Ocean We Want</li> <li>Event description: Catalyzing Source-to-Sea Synergies towards Healthy Rivers and a Healthy Ocean</li> <li>News item: Join us for Source-to-Sea synergies at the Ocean Decade Conference</li> </ul>   |

|                     |                          |  |                    | Event recording: <u>Catalyzing Source-to-Sea Synergies towards</u> Healthy Rivers and a Healthy Ocean                                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| 15-17 2024          | Our Ocean Conference     | Greece   | Athens,<br>Greece  | <ul> <li>Conference information: <u>Our Ocean Conference</u></li> <li>News item: <u>Caring for our ocean from source to sea</u></li> </ul> |
| 18-25 May<br>2024   | World Water Forum 10     | World Water<br>Council, Republic<br>of Indonesia | Bali,<br>Indonesia | Conference information: 10th World Water Forum 2024  |
| 9 – 13 June<br>2025 | UN Ocean Conference 2025 | Governments of<br>the France and<br>Costa Rica   | Nice,<br>France    | Conference information: <u>UN 2025 Ocean Conference</u>  |

## Annex 2: Source-to-sea engagement at the 2023 UN Water Conference and New York Water Week

| Date        | Event title   | More details  |  |  |
|-------------|---|---|--|--|
| 22<br>March | Source-to-sea approach: from methodology to practice  | Event information: Source-to-Sea approach: from methodology to practice   |  |  |
|             | Source-to-Sea Talk show at UN Web TV  | Event recording: Source-to-Sea Talk show at UN Web TV   |  |  |
| 23<br>March | Source-to-sea collaboration: A game changer for the whole water cycle   | Event information: Source-to-sea collaboration: A game changer for the whole water cycle Event Summary: Summary of Side Event Event recording: Source-to-sea collaboration: A game changer for the whole water sector.  |  |  |
|             | Stronger together: Building resilience and prosperity through integrated and evidence-based management of the ocean-water continuum | Event information: Stronger together building resilience and prosperity through integrated and evidence-based management of the ocean-water continuum. Event recording: Stronger together: Building resilience and prosperity through integrated and evidence-based management of the ocean-water continuum |  |  |
|             | Water for Peace: From Source to Sea   | Event recording: Water for Peace From Source to Sea   |  |  |
|             | Film screening: Journey of Water from Source to Sea. New York Water Week event organized by SIWI and WWF                            | Film recording: <u>Journey of Water from Source to Sea</u>  |  |  |
| 24<br>March | Promoting Private-Public Partnerships - a vehicle towards fulfilling SDG 6 and climate Actions                                      | Event information: <u>Promoting Private-Public Partnerships - a vehicle towards fulfilling SDG 6 and climate Actions</u>  |  |  |
|             | Localising the Blue Economy: A City-Basin Approach  | Event summary: Localising the Blue Economy: A City-Basin Approach   |  |  |
|             | Accelerating Blue financing of Nature-based Solutions for water security and disaster risk reduction                                | Event information: Accelerating Blue Financing of Nature-based Solutions for water security and disaster risk reduction   |  |  |