

CSIS-SNL Global Water Futures Workshops Format Proposal

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Exec. Summary

- CSIS/SNL develop White Paper 1:
 - Part 1 -- Historic and current U.S. foreign policy (funding mechanisms, projects, etc.) in global water science and management issues where U.S. policy has played a role;
 - Part 2 -- A single case study of some particular global region (or two?) where water management is critical and where the U.S. has played a role, and the impact of that role. Technology and governance are focal points.
- **Workshop 1** – Facilitated discussion of White Paper 1.
- CSIS/SNL develop White Paper 2 by integrating comments, suggestions, new information, (new authors?) etc., into White Paper 1.
- CSIS/SNL take White Paper 2 one step further by adding Part 3
 - Part 3 -- Specific policy recommendations describing future U.S. involvement in the region(s) of the case study (Part 2), with focus on specific issues such as municipal drinking water, ag, energy, etc., and projected outcomes.
- **Workshop 2** – Facilitated discussion of White Paper 2
- CSIS/SNL revise White Paper 2. Revised paper is the deliverable. We move on to other case studies . . .

Expanded Thinking

Overall GWF Goal: Identify the major near-term and longer-term developments in U.S. policy that can help to mitigate future regional pressures and conflicts over increasing scarcity and access to water. These policy actions will be focused around two specific areas: (1) the development and application of new technologies; and (2) models of governance that facilitate technology adoption and effective resource management.

Longer-term goal (context): Through these activities, the CSIS/SNL team will identify specific programmatic activities to undertake, leveraging the strengths of each organization, allowing us to increase and hone our expertise through direct applications. Through practical applications of policy, governance, and technology-related developments, we will not only be developing a set of solid policy recommendations for U.S. government institutions, but we'll be testing and improving them through direct implementation. If we are successful with our approach in this effort then we can continue with work on other regions/problems.

Outcome: Documents that describe policy recommendations for the U.S. government and selected U.S. government agencies to support development of technology and governance solutions to growing water stresses, thereby enhancing regional and national security.

Method: This process will entail two workshops, each 1.5 days in length, bringing together experts in technology and governance fields related to the delivery and conservation of water for human and non-human uses. Prior to first workshop **White Paper 1** will be produced aimed at describing historic and

current U.S. policy in global water issues and one or more case studies of specific regions. This whitepaper will contain a draft or outline of the GWF project's final deliverable, with supporting materials included, and will be supplied to participants beforehand. In this way, workshop participants will be challenged to provide specific input towards the recommendation documents, in terms of corrections, additions, or other modifications.

Composition of **White Paper 1** will allow focus on:

- Institutional issues: Summarize U.S. interest in global water (security, stability, economics, public health, soft power vs. hard power . . .). Where has U.S. policy on water played the largest roles? Where does it now? Define U.S. government (and global NGOs under U.S. influence?) that are most active in terms of water related policy to reduce conflict. Suggestions: U.S. Dept. of State; USAID; World Bank.
- Geographic issues: Define the present and near-term areas where water issues will be most relevant to U.S. policy, either directly or indirectly (e.g., helping to reduce water conflict to increase stability and U.S. access to other resources in the region). Suggestions: Tigris/Euphrates River Basins; Rio Grande Basin, Aral Sea Basin; Jordan Basin.

This focus will serve several purposes:

- Narrow the scope of a background study and develop white papers that adequately describe the state of the art.
- Provide direction in determining which experts should be invited to participate in the workshops.
- Facilitate the identification of relevant case studies around which to orient the workshops, to maintain a focus on practical issues and resolutions.
- Prepare us to recommend specific policies that address specific problems. Although perhaps not as relevant in the technology area, the growing consensus is that governance issues are often quite geographically-specific.
- Prepare us to recommend specific actions and to lay out an action plan within the policy recommendations.

Workshop 1 will convene CSIS/SNL and invited experts to discuss White Paper 1, and to solicit new information, data and insight. Following Workshop 1, CSIS/SNL rewrite White Paper 1 and add a new section with pointed policy recommendations for the region of the case study. That becomes White Paper 2.

Composition of **White Paper 2** will include:

A compilation of the refinements to White Paper 1 based on the feedback from Workshop 1, with new sections related to specific water use sectors and applications, possible technology solutions, and the policy methods needed to apply these solutions, including:

- o Key sectors of importance, and the policy implications (e.g., municipal, agriculture, health, etc.)
- o Specific recommended policy interventions, based on assessment of all interrelated social, economic, political, climatological/geophysical, and other factors.

Workshop 2 will convene CSIS/SNL and invited experts to discuss White Paper 2, solicit new information, data and insight. Following Workshop 2 CSIS/SNL rewrite White Paper 2 and finalize it as the GWF deliverable.