



PROGRAM

ORDINARY SESSIONS

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Uncertainty, vulnerabilities and resilience	Disaster risk reduction and building resilience are among the themes chosen by the Secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio + 20. On July 2014, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) released the Human Development Report 2014, the title of which is self-explanatory: "Sustaining Human Progress: Reducing Vulnerabilities and Reinforcing Resilience". This session aims to discuss adaptation to climate change in a context of uncertainty, as a strategy to reduce local vulnerability and to form processes of transition to more sustainable states of social and environmental resilience.	Global Water Partnership - GWP (Switzerland) Frederik Pischke frederik.pischke@gwp.org
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Hydro-climatic risk in land planning and management	Addressing hydro-climatic risks is unanimously recognized in international guidelines, and is based on the general principles of integrating public policies which impact water management across a region. The planning and management across a region can contribute to the prevention of hydro-climatic risks inherent in disaster situations and to the mitigation of their impacts effects, including management of water use in agriculture, urban and rural areas and industry. With this session, we intend to discuss different strategies and methodologies for resolving management problems such as the use of decision support systems and economic instruments for building resilience to floods and droughts.	Sustainable Water Future Programme - WATER FUTURE (USA) Alex Mayer asmayer@mtu.edu
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Addressing hydro-climatic risk of vulnerable communities on a sub-national level	Whilst impacts of climate change and its influence on increasing hydro-climatic risks are primarily experienced at local and regional levels, existing policies and disaster risk reduction implementation strategies are often created without the adequate involvement of local communities. Hence, this session aims to facilitate a dialogue between different stakeholders about the realities and challenges of hydro-climatic risk management models and a need for inclusive, 'bottom-up' participatory action with local communities at every step of the process. Through presenting successful community-based initiatives and innovative arrangements, this session will contribute to community resilience and demand-driven disaster risk reduction approaches that deliver sustainable solutions.	Sustainable Amazonas Foundation - FAS (Brazil) Nayandra Kellen Pereira nayandra.pereira@fas-amazonas.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	How climate change affects all the different water users: The need for cross-sectoral approaches for adaptation	The session aims to promote an integrated vision through the main actors affected by climate variability and its implications on water management. A cross-sectoral approach aims to bring together the many human demands and activities depending on the management of hydrological systems under a common adaptation strategy. The session will address different levels of actions, tackling the shortcomings towards an integrated distribution of surface and underground water resources and environment towards adaptive and resilient systems. Discussions may include speakers from different sectors (national and local authorities, water utilities, business, farmers, communities, NGOs...) presenting practices and challenges they have been making and facing to deal with this new integrated paradigm.	BAFWAC – Business Alliance of Water and Climate, World Business Council for Sustainable Development - WBCSD Abigail Warner or Tien Shiao awarner@pacinst.org; tshiao@pacinst.org
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Innovative financial mechanisms for adaptation to climate change	Countries worldwide have adopted INDCs and NAPs under the UNFCCC, with a strong focus on adaptation of water management, as many economic sectors highly depend on the availability and quality of this resource. A major financial effort is required for implementation of structural and non-structural measures for adaptation: basin management, monitoring, flood protection, drought forecasting, demand management, aquifers and wetlands protection and restoration, soil conservation, multipurpose storage reservoirs, resilient cities or efficient irrigation... This session will discuss the lessons-learned in planning and financing basin adaptation worldwide and in particular in Latin America and promote financing tools (incl. redistributive financial mechanisms, payment for ecosystems services, users/ polluters pay systems...) for the development and implementation of adaptation measures and projects.	GAFWaC - Global Alliances for Water and Climate Jean-François Donzier secretariat@amec-gafwac.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Do not reinvent the wheel: Making the most of no-regret adaptation measures	At UNFCCC COP21 (Paris) and COP22 (Marrakech), fresh water was recognized as a full priority of the Global Climate Action Agenda: 359 organizations in 94 Countries have signed the Paris Pact for water resources adaptation in basins and commit themselves to act quickly. They identified key issues for action from capacity building, stakeholder involvement, risk prevention, demand control to ecosystems services solutions...all are non-regret measures successfully implemented in different regions. This session will mobilize the Paris Pact signatories and organizations sharing the same approaches to show their initiatives and exchange best practices to facilitate their adoption by different actors and to mobilize energies to react quickly.	INBO - International Network of Basins Organizations Roberto Ramirez de la Parra inbo@inbo-news.org
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Water and land management contributing to Climate Mitigation targets	How can water resource and land management effectively contribute to climate mitigation and the uptake of measures be accelerated to achieve global targets by 2030? There are opportunities to reduce carbon emissions through different sectors and orders of magnitude within a watershed such as water reuse in agricultural production, using water quality fit-for-purpose for landscaping, green infrastructure and sustainable approaches to capture rainfall in aquifers, ponds and wetlands. Also, larger scale approaches using water in renewable energy production (e.g. hydropower, biofuel crops) exist, although these need to consider the value chain of energy production to account for a positive carbon balance.	AWC (Korea) Cho Yong Deok choyong@kwater.or.kr
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Low carbon water services to achieve climate mitigation	Population growth and urbanisation are estimated to increase the demand for water and sanitation services by 40% in only 15 years. Globally, approximately 80 percent of wastewater is discharged to the environment untreated, a crucial area of emissions reduction. Utilities can anticipate the need to expand service levels to ensure adequate water supply and sanitation services, while investing in low-carbon urban water services that include energy efficiency and GHG reduction technologies to prevent water insecurity. Those include the reduction of water losses, increased energy efficiency, improved wastewater treatment, conversion from waste to energy and the reuse of nutrients. What are the key challenges and how can these be overcome?	Ministry of Cities (Brazil) André Braga Galvão Silveira andre.silveira@cidades.gov.br

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Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Strengthening waterwise management and climate mitigation through integrated policies, regulation and financing	There are strong synergies between climate and water action. Emissions from the water sector (especially drinking water and wastewater services) present new opportunities to contribute to Nationally Determined Contributions limiting global temperature rise. Holistic water management approaches guided by good policies and governance require special emphasis, for example for using water to produce renewable energy. Integrating water and climate agendas, promoting coherence between adaptation and mitigation approaches, and sound accounting methods for GHG emissions will improve access to financial mechanisms and drive the so-needed upscale of mitigation measures. How to create an environment enabling the mitigation in the water sector?	CAF - Development Bank of Latin America Franz Rojas frojas@caf.com
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Science and Policy: Improving Collaboration at National and Project Scales for Climate-Informed Decision Making	The influence of science quantitative and qualitative data and tools are fundamental for integrated water resources management and to move towards climate informed decision and policy-making. Several challenges need to be addressed regarding current governance structures, which are often scattered by multi-sectoral approaches and with overlapping responsibilities, and with limited human and financial capacities. This session focuses on best practices and lessons learned regarding natural and social science integration with policy and decision making, and explores how changes in governance structures could allow for better science-based decision making in the water sector.	AGWA - Alliance for Global Water Adaptation - (USA) John Matthews or Alex Mauroner johoma@alliance4water.org; amauroner@alliance4water.org
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Citizen Science approach in Hydro-Climate Services for achieving the SDGs and global goals	The session will discuss the interaction between the decision-making process and the necessity of benefit-sharing partnerships that promote the convergence of decisions towards common goals. The role of citizen science is highlighted as an important driver in hydro-climatic data collection and validation. Water information network systems and accessible, innovative technologies have the potential to be developed further in support of SDG implementation. The session will present best practices to empower and inform the public as way to strengthen the triangular interface of academia, the public and government.	World Meteorological Organization (Switzerland) Sophia Sandström ssandstrom@wmo.int

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	CLIMATE	Uncertainty and limitation of Science and Science Communication	Climate science has made significant advances during the last two decades. However, this knowledge has not yet been implemented at the policy level for decision making in the medium and long term, due to a mismatch in spatial and temporal scales and the significant uncertainty in projections under climate change scenarios. Innovative approaches are needed to bridge the gap between climate science and policy making in order to better integrate climate risk informed decision-making, and to provide a framework to foster community-based adaptation strategies for improved water resources management, disaster prevention, and to reduce the impacts of global change.	Aguascepes, International Water Security Network - IWSN Alfredo Ribeiro Neto alfredoribeiro@ufpe.br
Thematic Process	PEOPLE	SDG6 - Source of Life!" Helping Governments to implement the Water Targets	Session will highlight the prioritization of the SDG6 implementation at national level, by showcasing (priority and beneficial) impacts on populations, nature and economy directly, and by highlighting interconnections with the achievement of other SDGs (not standalone from Topic Sanitation!). The SDG 6 implementation requires the Governments to move from MDG 'successes' of providing access to 'improved water source' and SDG 'gaps' to provide 'safe' water for all based on new indicators. As the Governments will report to the HLPF at the UN in 2018, the session will be right platform to build a political commitment to implement the SDG6 targets.	Pan American Health Organization/ World Health Organization PAHO/WHO Teofilo Monteiro monteteo@paho.org
Thematic Process	PEOPLE	Water as a human right: Implementing sustainable financing and institutional tools and strategies	This session will explore the institutional changes needed to achieve the human rights to water and sanitation, everywhere. How to mobilize sustainable financing and implement the 3T model while respecting all the dimensions of the human rights to water and sanitation? How to convince Governments and general public that for every €//\$ spent on water services, economic and social and health benefits yield multiples? What are the appropriate frameworks and best practices to be put in place at institutional and societal level to help achieve the goals of water and sanitation services for everyone, forever, everywhere; (and most disadvantaged/discriminated first)?	OHCHR - United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner Léo Heller heller@cpqrr.fiocruz.br

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	PEOPLE	The Invisible Realities: Safe Water in Slums, Post-Conflict and Post-Disaster Situations, and Other Communities	Vulnerable groups and settlements, such as slums, post-conflict and post-disaster camps, and rural and indigenous communities with specific characteristics and needs, require particular forms of intervention in WASH services, both for environmental, technological and educational issues as well as for management and sustainability. Investments in water and sanitation infrastructure historically have been concentrated on public policies aimed at urban areas at the expense of these communities. As a result, populations in remote, rural and indigenous communities; informal settlements; and post-conflict and post-disaster areas not have (proper) access to these services. Therefore, it is fundamental to provide them with equitable access to WASH services.	French Water Partnership (France) Solène Fabrèges solene.fabreges@partenariat-francais-eau.fr
Thematic Process	PEOPLE	Realizing the human right to sanitation	In 2010, there was consensus at the Human Rights Council recognizing the human right to sanitation. Now, with the 2015 agreement on the Sustainable Development, which also refers to the right to sanitation, governments are struggling with how to realize the right to sanitation. This session will examine how the human rights principles of access to information, participation, non-discrimination, accountability and sustainability can help governments to make the right decisions to make sanitation accessible to all, focusing on the needs of the most disadvantaged individuals and communities.	Sanitation and Water for All – SWA Alexandra Reis alexandra.reis@sanitationandwaterforall.org
Thematic Process	PEOPLE	Whole sanitation approach, sanitation chain, innovation	The indicator of success on reaching SDG target sanitation is the proportion of the population using safely managed sanitation services, which means “excreta are safely disposed in-situ or transported and treated off-site”. This session will provide an opportunity to discuss sanitation chain through the stages of collection, storage, transport, treatment and recycling/reuse of faecal matter. Participants will consider innovative technological, social and economic models that can accelerate progress towards achieving safely managed sanitation services. Participants will also examine ways of sustaining these services in a global context of rapid urbanization and high population growth, especially in developing countries with limited financial resources.	Brazilian Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering - ABES (Brazil) Ricardo Ribeiro Silva tec-inst@abes-sp.org.br

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Thematic Process	PEOPLE	Putting in place the necessary building blocks to reach Sanitation for All	Achieving sustainable access to sanitation for all, while prioritizing the needs of the most disadvantaged individuals and groups, will require realistic plans and strategies; adequate institutional and human resource capacity; robust institutional arrangements; adequate and efficiently-utilized financing, and strong accountability mechanisms. This session will focus on these essential building blocks for a well-functioning sector. Participants will discuss the gaps and challenges in the sanitation sector, the difficult decisions that face policy-makers and practitioners particularly in eliminating inequalities in access, and approaches to unblocking bottlenecks which impede progress.	Freshwater Action Network – FANSA (South Asia) thematic@worldwaterforum8.org support.thematic@worldwaterforum8.org
Thematic Process	PEOPLE	Safe Water: What still needs to be done for the prevention of WASH and waterborne diseases?	Nowadays, people still do not have adequate access to public health and WASH in terms of quantity and quality. Such issues are aggravated in humanitarian crisis, affecting populations as refugees and other displaced citizens as a result of conflicts, poverty or lack of opportunities – in rural areas and others vulnerable due to natural disasters. Such scenario may increase waterborne diseases outbreaks in these populations, demonstrating recurrent social and environmental inequities everywhere. This session aims, while discussing strategies for waterborne diseases outbreaks prevention, indicate and develop adequate and sustainable infrastructure, financing, integrated management, policy making and enforcement, considering cultural particularities.	CCHR - Center for Community Health Research (India) Roy Kunjappu roycchrindia@gmail.com
Thematic Process	PEOPLE	Synergies beyond SDG 6: access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene for improved nutrition and public health	The beginning of the SDG era calls for joint multi-sector action, collaboration, engagement; and is a right time to demonstrate, practically, how nutrition and WASH actions can be integrated for better health outcomes. The WHO estimates that 50% of cases of child undernutrition are the result of repeated diarrhoea and intestinal infections caused by poor sanitation and hygiene conditions or lack of safe water. This session will present experiences from countries advancing on WASH, nutrition and health linkages at research, policy and implementation levels, aiming to overspread feasible ways to improve the situation.	Action Against Hunger Natalia URIBE PANDO nuribepando@actioncontrelafaim.org

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Thematic Process	PEOPLE	Risk communication related to quality of water for human consumption: seeking population's empowerment and the minimization of health risks	Dialogue promotion incorporates community/s needs in policy making process. Integrating population in risk management and public health policies, through a confidence relationship is essential. A routine surveillance, mainly by drinking water monitoring, generates information that can become public, enabling community engagement and empowerment, especially young people, who can be agents for a better WASH practices. Such practices contribute to individual and collective behavior change. Hence, this session will debate the importance of empowering the people as well as the need for transparency of governmental and non-governmental actions, contributing for public health and related policies effectiveness.	Oswaldo Cruz Foundation - Fiocruz (Brazil) Guilherme Franco Netto guilherme.netto@fiocruz.br
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Soil and Water Conservation Practices for Improved Food Production	Soil conservation practices in agriculture are an effective way to promote a real increase in the availability of water in watersheds. Correct soil management, soil infiltration and porosity monitoring and improvement, new cropping technologies, and efficient irrigation management can help farmers to better understand water productivity and soil health conditions. However, without the direct involvement of the farmer, the information will not be put to effective use. This session will include case studies, as well as discussions on ways to successfully introduce and implement effective tools and techniques for disseminating information and technology on improving soil and water conservation practices and availability of water in river basins. SDG Goals: 6.3, 6.4, 6.6 and 2.4	Global Soils Partnership – GSP/FAO Ronald Vargas ronald.vargas@fao.org
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Water for food processing: waste reduction, optimization and reuse	One-third of all food is wasted as it moves from field to fork. Besides the economic costs, wasted food consumes a quarter of all water used by agriculture annually, while putting pressure on land and energy resources. Thus, cutting food waste could get us closer to feeding 9 billion people by 2050. This session will explore strategies for accounting and reducing food losses in the supply chain, while integrating opportunities for water optimization and reuse in the food-processing sector as an additional approach to reduce waste. These strategies will be analyzed using tools and comparison metrics for the decision making process. SDG Goals: 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5, 12.6	Safe Food Network Rosaida Dolce rosaida.dolce@fao.org

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Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Floods, Droughts, Wind, Fire: Building Resilient Agricultural Systems	Changing climate will pose additional challenges to agriculture, livestock and food production systems with more frequent climatic extremes. Building resilience to these events includes a number of conservation practices as well as the use of information resources and biotechnology. The introduction of better soil and water conservation practices, the development of crop varieties resistant to drought and other stresses, the introduction of sustainable irrigation systems and the implementation of climate monitoring and early warning systems are some of the ways we can ensure food security despite uncertain climatic conditions. This session will explore some of these techniques along with infrastructure needs and information systems to improve resilience in agricultural areas. SDG Goals: 13.1, 13.3, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 6.4	Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, University of Nebraska (USA) Christopher Neale cneale@nebraska.edu
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Optimizing the water-energy production value chain	There are numerous opportunities for achieving sustainable water use in the energy sector. This includes: improving water efficiency for energy production through water reuse, using water of a quality fit for purpose, reducing water loss in energy processes, producing more kWh per drop of water, applying the circular economy concept to water use in energy production and promoting conservation practices. These can be supported through approaches such as water footprint, water impact assessments and value chain analysis	Electricité de France - EDF (France) Laurent Bellet laurent.bellet@edf.fr
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Securing water for energy through resilience to global change	Water resources are under increasing pressure due to unprecedented population growth, a changing climate, rapid urbanization, expansion of infrastructure, migration, land conversion and pollution. These global changes are impacting the flows and stores of water – from rapidly melting glaciers to the decline of groundwater due to overexploitation. Despite the increasing threat to water resources and the resulting impact on energy production, there are innovative approaches to improve resilience including low energy systems, energy production from wastewater (biogas) and water distribution networks (microturbines), generating energy through decentralised systems including geothermal energy, as well as improving watershed management for energy generation.	SUEZ Group (France) Juan MATEOS IÑIGUEZ juan.mateos@suez.com

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Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Promoting good water governance for sustainable energy production	Choices and actions around water and energy will impact each other, therefore decisions on policies and investments need to sustain or improve benefits and minimize trade-offs. Unfortunately, in many regions, water use planning and energy production policies are not aligned so infrastructure development and shortage management plans are non-functional during extreme events (e.g. droughts). Current practices must make water provision as energy efficient as possible, and to ensure the impacts of energy production on water and their ecosystems are minimised. The establishment of a supportive enabling environment with financing, policy, planning and regulation is essential for sustainable energy production, and equitable distribution.	American Water Resources Association - AWRA Michael E. Campana aquadoc@awra.org
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	From water use efficiency to stewardship: Is industry aware of its water-related risks and opportunities?	This session will focus on the challenges and opportunities of engaging in water stewardship, including the presentation of successful initiatives from private and public sectors. Water stewardship is a simple concept but challenging to implement effectively. It goes beyond individual business efficiency, requiring a wider vision of the water resource. Stewardship requires an understanding of the resource's context, how it is shared, and how water users' activity is affected by and affects other water users and the environment in general. The engagement in water stewardships can contribute to business sustainability and water security, within an inclusive and sustainable growth pattern.	PWP – Portuguese Water Partnership (Portugal) Simone ferreira Pio simone.pio@adp.pt
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	International water stewardship standard	This session will examine the appeal of a common water stewardship framework as well as the institutional and other barriers to widespread adoption of the Alliance of Water Stewardship international standard and certification process. Financial support, appropriate regulatory frameworks, robust decision-making processes and community ownership are just some of the ingredients necessary for water stewardship to facilitate sustainable development. Barriers include education, capacity building and engagement for the sustainable use of water, relevance for industrial and agricultural sectors, making the business case, as well as the limitations of the international standard itself.	Australian Water Stewardship Council (Australia) Michael Spencer michael@waterstewardship.org.au

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Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Water allocation: demand management and water availability	This session will bring together shared experiences in systems and technologies to allocate, regulate and efficiently manage water use by all stakeholders including industry and the environment. Water markets, metering, licensing, centralized management, user pays and leveraging private investment are all being tried, in combination and alone, to achieve the rational and efficient sharing, management and use of water among competing stakeholders. Using a workshop format with three or four case studies, participants will debate the relative merits of different approaches in achieving genuine triple bottom line outcomes beyond narrow economic parameters.	National Water Agency - ANA (Brazil) Wesley Gabrieli de Souza or Andrea Pimenta Ambrozevicius wesley.souza@ana.gov.br; andrea.pimenta@ana.gov.br
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Efficient use of water through Governance	Proper management of surface and groundwater is a strategic mechanism to promote efficient water use. In many countries, surface and groundwater are managed separately due to political, social, geographical and historical precedents. This session will explore the existing and emerging opportunities for effectively engaging stakeholders in the planning and implementation of coordinated water management to promote efficiency use of water with social, environment and economic approaches.	Federal University of Pernambuco (Brazil) thematic@worldwaterforum8.org support.thematic@worldwaterforum8.org
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Efficient use of water as a development inductor	The waste of water in the productive processes, in the process of supplying water to the population, among other situations, increases the possibilities of water restriction for its various uses in the planet. Thus, there is a worldwide trend of supply constraints and cost increases, also influenced by climate change. Water efficiency is therefore one of the drivers of sustainable development that generates social, environmental and economic benefits. This session aims to bring experiences of water efficiency promoted by practices of management, use of technologies, reuse of water, and other examples that are being implemented by the private, social and government sectors to reduce the consumption of water and scale the sustainable development.	Inter-American Development Bank - IDB David Wilk davidw@iadb.org

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Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Water-use efficiency and sustainable withdrawals: coping with water scarcity	Continued economic development leads to growing water demand through all water users with direct impact on water security. Globally, urbanization is expanding, as it is the intensification of agriculture potentially triggering water use conflicts due to the paradigm of “demand vs supply” of water. Given the “business as usual” scenario, increased over-allocation of scarce resources combined with weak governance often results in long-term water security issues and looming water crises. This session will share experiences and examples of the challenges faced by water-scarce regions and of approaches to get ahead of the curve.	Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture – GFWSA / FAO Ruhiza Boroto Ruhiza.Boroto@fao.org
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Multipurpose Water Infrastructure Planning and with Multiple Objectives in Management Units	With the growing need for water resources in agricultural, industrial, environmental and service sectors, comprehensive and multipurpose planning, development and management of water infrastructure should be prioritized both in the UN’s SDG agenda and in finance. In this session, we will discuss proposals for planning, financing, maintenance, and management of water resources and water infrastructure, and the current trends and proposals for the conciliation of conflicts in management units. It is important to have multi-objective planning and management both in the physical and temporal sense, including at the level of river basins, counties and cities, in order to reconcile the conflicts among various sectors including human, environmental, economic, and others.	US Army Corps for Engineers (USA) Calvin Creech Calvin.T.Creech@usace.army.mil
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Improvement of Water Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability	As industrialization and urbanization development deepens, the comprehensive and sustainable management of water infrastructure to improve its resilience to global challenges becomes more important. This session will discuss the challenges faced by water infrastructure and share the experiences of different countries in balancing the demands for infrastructure development and sustainable water resources management. This includes the management of water diversion projects, water storage infrastructure, water supply projects, and irrigation and drainage facilities at both local area and river basin scales. Strategies for coping with these challenges and enhancement of related services will be discussed in this session.	International Economic & Technical Exchange and Cooperation Center, Ministry of Water Resources of China (China) Sun Yan shannon5135@126.com

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	DEVELOPMENT	Universalization of Environmental Sanitation and Urban Drainage Master Plans	This session addresses the issues involved in the universalization of environmental sanitation and urban drainage master plans as guiding factors for quality of life in large and small communities. It seeks to highlight the importance of basic infrastructure for urban populations. While there are many categories of basic infrastructure (water supply networks, sewage and rainwater networks, electricity networks, street lighting, earthworks, paving and garbage collection), this session will only address aspects related to water resources and their interference in the quality of life in cities, such as water and sewage supply and treatment, urban drainage master plans, and other aspects.	thematic@worldwaterforum8.org support.thematic@worldwaterforum8.org
Thematic Process	URBAN	Design for water - wise cities	Building up water-wise cities demands integrated planning design as tools for better management: cities that continue renovation, development and maintenance of territory by articulating urban design, infrastructure and community-based land management. A new vision requires a paradigm shift, considering water as a fundamental resource and favoring comprehensive vision of social responsibility, fostering participation of all. Sustainable financing models are just as crucial, especially in rapidly growing cities. Opportunities for low-impact urban development range from considering water as a major design element in urban interventions, to re-naturalization of water bodies, and new solutions, such as Blue Green - and nature-based solutions for urban drainage, aiming for livability, inclusiveness and resilience.	BORDA (Germany) supported by IWA Christine van Deuren vandeuren@borda.de
Thematic Process	URBAN	Connecting Cities with their Basins for a Water Secure Future	Water Security for Cities depends on their use of the river basin as a planning unit. This requires cooperation between stakeholders across the basin, implementing programs to reduce vulnerability and risks upstream and downstream. Cities can play a leadership role in driving investments in their watershed combined with urban projects that protect and recover water resources, through integrating urban drainage, sewage infrastructure, reestablishing vegetation coverage and water sensitive design in the urbanization of surrounding settlements. All these measures – adding up to progressive improvements – can increase water security and become key risk prevention strategies to address water quality, water scarcity and extreme events such as floods and droughts.	IWA - International Water Association Katharine Cross katharine.cross@iwahq.org

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Thematic Process	URBAN	Water Governance and communication in Cities	Water governance raises the question of city boundaries for water and the need for institutional coordination among key stakeholders. This requires an enabling environment that allows cross sectoral urban planning that promote water as a major asset and involving cross-scale partnerships between technical, legal, economic and social actors. Communication and awareness raising are central to transparent and cost-effective management, with the engagement of all stakeholders and the adoption of water integrity practices. Information systems designed with the perspective of integration enable participatory processes regarding the multiple uses of water as well as risk mitigation of water scarcity and the consequences of extreme events..	Global Water Partnership - GWP / Urban Waters Hub - UWH François Brikké francois.brikke@gwp.org
Thematic Process	URBAN	Reuse and recover resources in urban water management	Is reduction of water consumption, better reuse of water and other materials, improved recycling and recovery of resources possible? Modern wastewater treatment plants function as resource factories, being able to recover energy, phosphorus, and nitrate and produce biogas, bioplastic and fertilizers. This is just the beginning of a transition towards integrated management of wastewater, stormwater, solid waste and energy within urban water planning and management, where utilities and multi-stakeholder-partnerships engage in long-term planning and development of the sector. Therefore, the circular economy approach contributes to development of sustainable, water-wise cities where water and liveability go hand in hand.	Greater Paris Sanitation Authority - SIAAP (France) Pellisson-Demoulin laurence.pellisson-demoulin@siaap.fr
Thematic Process	URBAN	"Recycling" waters	Water recycling is an opportunity and challenge to advance research and dialogue around sustainable water management solutions. Thanks to technology resources it can be used for a variety of purposes inclusive potable water use and, in this context, must follow quality parameters that vary according to the applications that will be destined. In regions with high water scarcity, this solution becomes essential for social, economic and environmental sustainability because it reduces stress on the water resource. Recycling water promotes productive activities across sectors, and consequently reduces negative economic and environmental impacts and diminishing potential conflicts through a sustainable water cycle	World Business Council for Sustainable Development - WBCSD Anaïs Blasco blasco@wbcsd.org

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Thematic Process	URBAN	Promoting circular economy by building an enabling environment	Making circular economy a reality requires a conducive and enabling environment. It will require coordination mechanisms at all levels of government and the involvement of all stakeholders. The transition to a circular economy, which generates new sustainable social, economic and environmental benefits, implies social dialogue and communication and education strategies, which must be active, deliberate and tailored. It will also imply innovation, regarding innovative and sustainable technologies, new interrelationships, new business models, new funding policies and new forms of governance, which have to be inclusive, with the participation and commitment of all stakeholders, especially the civil society.	EurEau, European Federation of National Associations of Water Services Oliver Loebel thematic@worldwaterforum8.org support.thematic@worldwaterforum8.org
Thematic Process	URBAN	Reuse Technologies: Can We Handle Innovation?	Water reuse isn't the future – it is the present. But are we ready to unleash this innovation that promises to transform our relationship with water? This session presents the technologies that can be implemented for reuse, rainwater harvesting, and desalination. Case studies will show how these innovative technologies and approaches can diversify sources of water while at the same time decreasing costs, protecting human health, and increasing resilience of communities. The session will discuss the importance of investing in human capacity and the need to integrate systems for successful reuse.	JSC – Japan Sanitation Consortium, Tokyo (Japan) thematic@worldwaterforum8.org support.thematic@worldwaterforum8.org
Thematic Process	URBAN	Lemons to Lemonade: How Technology is Turning Sludge Management Into Opportunity!	Sludge was traditionally considered a waste in the water sector. But now technology has turned it into a valuable resource from wastewater that can be used to generate electricity, recover nutrients, and reduce landfill disposal. This session will present case studies where technology and innovation were used for sludge management in ways that lowered costs, built community resilience, and benefited human health and the environment. The session will explore how viewing sludge as a resource has led to more integrated approaches for water and waste management.	SUEZ Group International (France) thematic@worldwaterforum8.org support.thematic@worldwaterforum8.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	URBAN	One System Does Not Fit All! Navigating the Costs for Urban Water Management	There seem to be an endless – and often confusing – combination of challenges and solutions when it comes to urban water management, particularly when it comes to cost. What are the benefits and trade-offs of centralized, semi-centralized, and decentralized systems? What are the human health issues to address? How does affordability factor in? Through a series of case studies, this session will explore cost issues including capex, opex, and asset management, as well as operation and maintenance and distributing costs among stakeholders. ICT will be discussed as an enabling technology to increase safety, efficiency, and accountability.	WEF – World Economic Forum thematic@worldwaterforum8.org support.thematic@worldwaterforum8.org
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Balancing water needs for humans and nature	Balancing the water needs for humans and nature poses a major challenge for society, requiring improvements in water use efficiency, and the recognition that environment has its own legitimate water needs. Restoration of hydrological connectivity and the identification and provision of environmental flows for river and wetland systems are fundamentally important to protect aquatic biodiversity and to maintain healthy ecosystems capable of providing sustainable services. This session will examine how water needs for the environment are being recognized in water planning, and provide success case studies in this perspective, showing multiple benefits collected and the approach of Nature Based Solutions.	Australian Water Partnership (Australia) Ralph Ogden ralph.ogden@waterpartnership.org.au
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Water basin revitalization for supporting water quantity and quality and human well-being	Considering regional development and water security, restoring ecosystems for water services and biodiversity can be articulated in a series of revitalization actions in a basin scale perspective, such as soil conservation measures, prevention of sediments flows to the rivers, regeneration of the natural vegetation, sustainable ecological economics activities for the local population, ichthyofauna preservation and implementation of technics for recovering degraded areas. The use of new technologies, green and blue initiatives, sharing of information and fostering of funding for those activities can potentiate programs with these targets. The results converge to water quantity and quality, preserved ecosystems and human well-being.	United States Army Corps of Engineers - USACE (USA) thematic@worldwaterforum8.org support.thematic@worldwaterforum8.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Sharing information with transparency for better and more effective decisions on management and restoration of water ecosystems	Managing and restoring ecosystems for water services demands a whole preoccupation with the population to be served with the water, with the residents nearby or in the ecosystems as well as with ecosystems themselves. Legislation, funding, sharing information with transparency in an inclusive chamber, capable of unite and consider the opinions, sometimes conflicting, of all the stakeholders involved is a way of creating empathy and accelerating important decisions. This session will bring experiences of these chambers of discussion for effective decision to preserve ecosystems for water services and biodiversity, and show the importance of sharing information to produce better decisions.	Korea Environment Institute – KEI IKJAE KIM(KEI), Marcos Thadeu Abicalil(WB), KyeYoon Chung(MOE) ijkim@kei.re.kr
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Wastewater management and multiple benefits arising from nature-based solutions	The session will focus on the complimentary roles that nature-based and engineered solutions can play in reducing pollution, removing contaminants, re-using (waste) water and recovering useful by-products (nutrients, metals and energy), recognizing that the best blend of solutions depends on local conditions (bio-physical, social and economic). Tools and instruments supporting innovative approaches to wastewater management and multiple benefits arising from nature-based solutions will be discussed. As highlighted by the UN Word Water Development Report 2017 "In a world where demands for freshwater are ever growing, and where limited water resources are increasingly stressed by over-abstraction, pollution and climate change, neglecting the opportunities arising from improved wastewater management is nothing less than unthinkable in the context of a circular economy".	Inter-American Development Bank - IDB David Wilk davidw@iadb.org
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Implementing natural and engineered solutions – the need for innovative financing	Innovative financing based on integrated economic models is needed to implement the right mix of natural and engineering solutions to improve water availability, access and sustainability. One challenge is the appropriate consideration of all co-benefits and costs in economic models from the initial investment until long-term operation and maintenance, which is particularly challenging for (combined) nature-based solutions. It will also be discussed how legal and market based approaches and other enabling conditions make public-private partnership effective. Furthermore, ways to increase finance and scale up effective green and grey solutions for water will be deliberated using examples from around the world.	World Resources Institute (USA) Suzanne Ozment SOzment@wri.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Grey or/and green – Can integrated solutions help to avoid conflicts and facilitate cooperation among users?	Can integrated solutions to water management challenges that consider the right mix of natural and integrated systems help to avoid conflicts between users and facilitate cooperation in the long-term? Although primarily targeted at improving the economic, social and environmental benefits of water resources management, considering and understanding the multiple co-benefits (including building resilience) or threats in a holistic approach, remains a challenge. Traditional knowledge from indigenous peoples and local communities can also help support a cooperative long-term sustainable approach. Appropriate governance structures that foster stakeholder participation will be examined.	Forest Trends Jan Cassin jcassin@forest-trends.org
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Urban land and water use: can natural systems thrive in unnatural environments?	Water sensitive city design, incorporating blue and green infrastructure, can play a role in improving water quality and quantity in urban settings. The challenge is integrating biodiversity conservation and ecosystem functions as essential design components in retrofitting existing cities, a task that requires adequate institutional, regulatory and funding frameworks. This session will focus on devising and debating ways to promote ecosystems functions related to water, based on case studies from around the world consistent with SDGs 6 and 11.	Federal University of Minas Gerais (Brazil) Nilo de Oliveira Nascimento niloon@ehr.ufmg.br; niloon2012@gmail.com
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Farming for ecosystem services: can farmers save rivers and still make a profit?	Agriculture is a keystone activity, modifying and altering landscapes, habitats and ecosystem functions at a large scale. Historically, the spread and intensification of agricultural activities has had effects on native biodiversity, water availability and quality, and ecological system resilience. This session will focus on policy frameworks and management tools to integrate profitable small and large-scale farming practice with ecosystems functions related to water and improved catchment management consistent with SDGs 2, 6 and 15.	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations - FAO Marlos De Souza marlos.desouza@fao.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Integrated land and water management: focus on the big picture	Effective catchment/watershed management requires complex, multi-dimensional adaptive management. Actions delivering positive outcomes in one area or sector can have unintended environmental social and economic consequences at catchment level. Similarly, policy prescriptions with narrowly defined benefits can result in wasted time, money and resources, and heightened community frustration. This session will be a workshop on managing competing pressures to achieve SDGs 2, 6, 11 and 15, using catchment management case studies. Issues will include managing tensions between cities, agriculture, conservation and development; information, communication and funding for ecosystems and water conservation; and, economic incentives and legislation.	Secretariat of State for Territorial Management and Housing – SEGETH, Brasília Government (Brazil) Bruno Avila Eça de Matos bruno.matos@segeth.df.gov.br
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Understanding Water Quality from Ridge to Reef	Water of adequate quality is an increasingly scarce resource. Understanding the quality and use of water resources is essential for its better management. The complexity of assessing water quality is increasing with emerging pollutants and multiple diffuse sources that are difficult to identify/manage. Showcasing several case studies, including small island states, this session examines examples of how data can be used to build more robust integrated water resource management models, and the importance of sharing this information. This also includes understanding the competing uses of water, the dominant sources of pollution, and who pays and benefits from pollution abatement.	GEMS Water / UNEP Kaisa Uusimaa kaisa.uusimaa@unep.org
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Emerging Policy Solutions to Manage Water Quality from Ridge to Reef	Managing water quality is a complex task for policy makers. It is a challenge to know which policy tools would be most effective to meet water quality standards in different situations, locations or scales. Examples of innovative policy instruments are emerging, but have limitations. How to conceptualize and implement suitable governance arrangements to find the right incentives, funding sources, technologies and capacity to improve water quality is specific to each location, and must adjust to constant demographic and climatic changes. This session will examine examples and frameworks of how to replicate and scale up or scale down innovative policy solutions.	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (Sweden) Ulrika Siira ulrika.siira@havochvatten.se

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Implementing Technical Solutions to Improve Water Quality at Medium, Small and Micro-scales	Water managers have a variety of technical solutions they can adopt to ensure the quality of water necessary for its competing uses and reuses, including ecosystems. However, the challenges at the medium, small and micro-scale are often harder to overcome due to the lack of appropriate technology, availability of finance/investment and problems of scaling down from larger industrial water management/treatment processes, which are not always appropriate or affordable. This session will address the transfer and scaling of solutions not from small to large, but from large to medium, small and micro-scale, such as small island states and urban decentralised infrastructure.	K-water (Korea) Su Kuk YI ysk74@kwater.or.kr
Thematic Process	FINANCE	Financing the ecosystems services dynamics	Payment for Ecosystem Services mechanism is already included in several legislations with a variety of financial incentives combined with environmental regulation. On the other hand, collaborative multi-community actions for biophysical basin preservation is undergoing in some developing countries based on traditional knowledge. Both approaches offer complementarities to strengthen the biophysical dynamics of the basin and preserve volume and water resources quality under polluters pay principle and/or cooperative arrangements at river basin scale. In addition, green infrastructure needs metrics to quantify impacts to get increasing funds. The sessions aim to identify innovative financing mechanisms and approaches for green infrastructure (including river basin financing institutions) with support of national and local water and land management authorities.	Sustainable Water Future Programme Alex Mayer asmayer@mtu.edu
Thematic Process	FINANCE	Broadening the access to financial resources to periurban low-income areas and small scale water services	Peri-urban low-income areas and small scale services are often out of the market. In addition, in some cases governments cannot reach dispersed rural communities. Grouping or re-locating rural communities and adopting new institutional arrangements are WASH strategies often implemented in these contexts, along with adapted technology and the required investment. Microfinance through local and rural banks, lending associations or cooperatives and public revolving funds have gained experience in recent years. The Session aims to identify strategies to provide a sustainable access to financial resources to deliver water and sanitation services both in low-income peri-urban areas and in dispersed small scale communities.	Water.org Lesley Pories lpories@water.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	FINANCE	Sustainable market-based mechanisms and national-regional economics and financing	Market mechanisms are important to ensure financial sustainability but can exclude those that have less; tariffs need to be sustainable, affordable and also promote conservation of water resources as an economic and social good. It demands comprehensive understanding of national and regional economic and financial conditions to allow or discourage such mechanisms. At the country level, sustainable water-economic reforms need to be identified. This session aims to identify experiences and proposals to boost inclusive market-based mechanisms, as well as sustainable country level water-economic reforms, that could enable more access to water, for multiple purposes, and to sanitation.	National Water Agency - ANA (Brazil) Flavia Carneiro da Cunha Oliveira flavia.oliveira@ana.gov.br
Thematic Process	FINANCE	Financing Water Governance	Debates on water financing are mostly related to investments in infrastructure and services, demand management and on service provision. There is an increasing gap on financing water resource management and governance systems that are critical for all users, aggravated by climate change. IWRM needs a holistic and sustainable approach to overcome the fragmented decision focused mostly on the supply side which is close related to good water governance and financing. This session intends to discuss the needs and means to finance water governance in a coordinated and integrated approach necessary to ensure water security and sustainability, focusing on the demand side, and assessing what functions should be funded, how should they be financed and by whom	Sanergy David Auerbach david@saner.gy
Thematic Process	FINANCE	Optimizing existing financial resources to enhance Water Services Sustainability	In the next decade huge amounts of capital investments will be needed to develop urban water infrastructures, globally. In most regions, water systems are aging and becoming increasingly inefficient due to large backlog of rehabilitation investments. In others, recent water infrastructures are collapsing due to inadequate management practices. Climate change effects will also impose new investments. This session will discuss approaches for financing the infrastructure gap while enhancing water services sustainability, including new business models for wastewater recovery and reuse. Experiences from repayable financing, climate funds and blended finance and new requirements for engaging additional ODA will also be discussed.	French Agency for Development - AFD (France) Thibault Rannou or Olivier Crespi Reghizzi thibault.rannou@gmail.com; rannout@afd.fr; crespio@afd.fr

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	FINANCE	Exploring synergies between water-related SDGs and the UNFCC Adaptation Agenda.	The session covers the North-South dialogue on innovative financing arrangements for achieving water-related targets for both 2030 Agenda and the UNFCC Adaptation Agendas in developing and emerging countries. It also handles about climate change adaptation financing, resilience and Disaster-Risk Management as well as finance of hydrological and meteorological data collection for drought/flood management. The session also includes water security financing in semi-arid regions presenting case studies.	ICOLD Emmanuel Grenier emmanuel.grenier@icold-cigb.org
Thematic Process	FINANCE	Financing innovation for water technology and business	This session intends to bring together experts and leaders from various sectors to present cases of success and proposals to overcome challenges related to the development of public-private and private-private partnerships for water sector development, including mechanisms and metrics adopted by the financial markets. The engagement in water stewardships and new business can contribute to sustainability and water security. New opportunities linked to the circular economy also create new niches for development, as the approach on water-energy-food nexus.	OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Xavier Leflaive xavier.leflaive@oecd.org
Thematic Process	FINANCE	Financing multi-purpose infrastructure for sustainable growth	This session identifies and promotes new business models and new funding mechanisms to encourage the development of actions in the public and private sector with a focus on multi-purpose infrastructures and new technologies. Financial support, appropriate regulatory frameworks, robust decision-making processes and community ownership are some of the necessary ingredients for water stewardship towards sustainable development. Role played by regulation to create an enabling environment for financing and investments in water, both for structuring and non-structuring actions along with success stories will be also presented.	CAF - Development Bank of Latin America Franz Rojas frojas@caf.com

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	FINANCE	Financials cases for water security investments	This session intends to identify public and private cases in local, regional, national and international instances in cases of funding for water security with replication capacity in other regions of the world with a focus on technical, legal, institutional and financial aspects. Water and effluent treatment stations, reuse, metering, licensing, centralized management, leveraging private investment, to achieve rational and efficient sharing, management and use of water among stakeholders. In addition to the infrastructure financing mechanisms, linkages with water governance will be addressed to maintain sustainability of institutions and encourage investments and mobilization.	Confederação Nacional da Indústria Shelley Carneiro jneto@cni.org.br
Thematic Process	SHARING	Multi-stakeholder platforms and practices as a solution to SDG 6' shared challenges	The targets under SDG 6, whether WASH related or water resources management related, can only be achieved if stakeholders from different sectors – e.g. government, NGOs, communities, research, business, etc. – and different backgrounds – incl. women, youth, indigenous – come together in an inclusive way and find collective solutions to the challenges shared. This session is meant to present the most successful and inclusive multi-stakeholder platforms and best practices, covering the different aspects of SDG 6 and the six main themes of the World Water Forum.	IRC – International Water and Sanitation Centre for Community Water Supply (Netherlands) Ingeborg Krukkert krukkert@ircwash.org
Thematic Process	SHARING	Sharing technological, social and financial innovations	Innovations can be the future key to today's water challenges. This session is meant to highlight some of the most promising innovations in the area of water and to stimulate the exchange of good practices between peers. An important element of that session is that not only technological innovations will be discussed but also social and financial innovations in the area of water are equally important for truly sustainable solutions. How can small-scale innovations be brought to scale and how can innovations of a larger scale be further replicated in other geographies of the world?	World Meteorological Organization Sophia Sandström ssandstrom@wmo.int
Thematic Process	SHARING	Empowering people, developing capacities and sharing information	Solutions in response to many of the challenges in the area of water already exist, however they are not necessarily known or implemented by the people faced with those issues. For instance, the training of smallholder farmers on irrigation best practices can have a significant impact on the sustainable management of water resources. This session will therefore focus on ways to empower people, develop capacities and share information across the different sectors and segments in society.	Ministry of Cities (Brazil) / GIZ – German Society for International Cooperation (Germany) Maria Rita Cavaleiro de Ferreira MF cavaleiro@akut-umwelt.de

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	SHARING	Participatory Platforms during the Decision Making Process within the Water Sector	Stakeholders come together in an efficient way when platforms allow ideas and concerns to be converged and properly used. This session is meant to present lessons learnt in which decision making processes within the water sector have worked to involve all. Approaches and results will differ in time and space according to different opportunities and constraints provided by socio-ecological settings. Therefore, the idea is to learn from different regions how to bring greater involvement through increasing different people and organizations knowledge, attitude and skills and how this can end in successful outcomes for decision makers.	National Water Agency - ANA (Brazil) Alessandra Daibert Couri or Vinicius Roman aledaibert@ana.gov.br; vinicius.roman@ana.gov.br
Thematic Process	SHARING	Implementation of Inclusive Policies with the Participation of All Stakeholders	Implementation of inclusive policies (such as the freedom of information act, web-based platforms for retrieving public information) allows stakeholders to develop further analysis, to verify that their messages have been taken into consideration, and to rely on the system 's transparency. This session is meant to highlight the most promising inclusive policies in the water sector. The need for more government data available online will be highlighted.	Coalition Eau - French Water Coalition (France) Sandra Metayer sandra.metayer@coalition-eau.org
Thematic Process	SHARING	Involving All Through a Stakeholder Driven Process	The importance of having a stakeholder driven process as part of the development of plans, feasibility studies, and basin assessments is important to solve the issues around efficient water management. However, a key question is to what extent does involving all stakeholders potentially complicate development processes. This session is designed to answer that question via a discussion about the advantages of involving all (including the most vulnerable such as young and old citizens, indigenous people, and minorities) during the entire process and how to mitigate the challenges resulting from participatory approaches.	Japan Water Forum (Japan) Shigenori Asai asai@waterforum.jp

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	SHARING	Fostering new cultures of participation	The session aims at fostering the cultures and mechanisms of participation by involving and empowering women, youth, indigenous people, traditional and local communities, and civil society on an equal basis together with men, legislators and institutions for more efficient water management, and inclusive and fair water governance. It seeks to foster the development of the capacity and leadership of youth and women as a key component to equitable participation in decision-making at project, as well as at policy levels. The new culture of water governance should open space and modalities to utilize the limitless and untapped potential of youth, women and indigenous activists for user-driven design as agents of change in accordance with legislation, national and regional practice and human rights.	UNESCO / IHP - International Hydrological Programme Alexander Otte a.otte@unesco.org
Thematic Process	SHARING	Cultures of sharing and the rights of nature	Water brings all life together — human and non-human, individuals and communities, ecosystems and environments — creating a collective wealth, responsibility, and promise. In every environment on Earth, people have developed water practices sensitive to present and future needs, to inter-community equity, principles of reciprocity and the indubitable necessities of surrounding species and environment. Sustainable water cultures are still evident within innumerable living indigenous and local traditions. This session invites discussion and case studies of the practices and principles of water-sharing, as they can help us to understand the full significance of the local and global relationships between people and nature.	Research Institute for Humanity and Nature Daniel Niles dniles@chikyu.ac.jp
Thematic Process	SHARING	From water heritage and to water consciousness	Water heritage can connect us to traditional values and ethics, while also inspiring new technological and institutional innovations to address contemporary water challenges in ways that also enrich cultural and place-based identities. This session will highlight recent and ongoing best practices, such as integrating indigenous peoples' understandings of rivers into environmental flow policies; designing water-centric cityscapes inspired by nature that go beyond river restoration; using public art to raise awareness about water; and developing participatory water governance institutions linked to the past while aimed at future needs: of sustainability, inter-generational equity, biodiversity, and human well-being.	Water-Culture Institute David Groenfeldt DGroenfeldt@gmail.com

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	Information and training for decision makers	Decision makers and water related stakeholders need information and the development of knowledge skills and capabilities relative to socio-environmental processes and dimensions of water. Participatory processes imply different stakeholders should be empowered to enter into dialogue around water-related issues, and this is key for better integrated water resources management processes in emerging, developing and transitioning countries. Training case studies for specific decision makers or for new technologies can be used to facilitate problem-oriented dialogues and to improve interdisciplinary education processes. Gaps and best practices can be shared to bring lessons to suggest new pathways.	PCJ Consortium (Brazil) Andréa Borges andrea.borges@agua.org.br
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	Education and training on water are not costs but investments!	The lack of skilled professionals results in design faults or deficiencies in the way water infrastructures and collective services and utilities are managed, operated, maintained or renew. In every countries and sectors, such as basin management, drinking water and sanitation, energy, agriculture, inland navigation and others, thousands of employees or individuals are concerned, the majority of them being of low educational level. It is vital to optimize investments and ensure their smooth operation: this means increasing skills based on lasting and better founded training programmes and organizations. This session will present the best experiences within the DGIC that demonstrate the economic interest of training professionals.	Ministry of Energy and Water (Lebanon) Mr Fadi Comair comairfadi@hotmail.com
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	Wanted – skilled labour: The urgency to develop water training	Achieving SDG n°6 will require an intense infrastructure development effort in many water related sectors, such as basin management, drinking water and sanitation, energy, agriculture, inland navigation and others. Such effort cannot be made without an equally important improvement of vocational training for the staff entrusted with the design, operation and maintenance of these infrastructures. However, there is a lack of training facilities that need to be addressed with the creation, development and strengthening of specialized training centers and programmes. This session will showcase best practices on how to create and develop dedicated water training centers and toolkits.	Rand Water Academy (South Africa) thematic@worldwaterforum8.org support.thematic@worldwaterforum8.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	Enhanced capacity building to align Policy with up-to-date Science and Technology	Drafting and applying policies that make solutions available from lab to practice, requires policy and decision makers to be prepared to take advantage of S&T developments. Scientists and technology developers shall make these advancements “understandable” to “policy ears”. This session will explore the capacity needs in both sides to communicate and collaborate better. It builds on the conclusions of the 7th World Water Forum, highlighting the importance of policies enabling lab-to-practice solutions, using case studies to illustrate challenges and benefits of this approach and the way forward.	Asia Water Council (Korea) Lee Jinuk jinuk@kwater.or.kr
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	Preparing policies that release the S&T potential to (better) solve the water crisis	How can S&T find in policy the best ally for innovation? Solving water issues requires S&T to scale up solutions that address short and long-term needs. Policies that foster such solutions require better understanding of their impacts over S&T developments. This session explores capacity needs in the S&T and Policy communities to provide faster and innovative solutions suitable for applications from small to large corporates, and from pilot to full scale applications, while improving public and private sector collaboration. A presentation on how policies address S&T development opens the session, followed by case studies illustrating how policies can accelerate innovations.	Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications (Brazil) Johnny Ferreira dos Santos johnny.santos@mctic.gov.br
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	Adapting institutional policies to collaborative water governance: the path to enable S&T and policy dialogue	Failed investments to improve collaborations between policy makers, bureaucrats and S&T communities are not rare. Water solutions need a change of mindset, and institutions and governance need to provide the right environment for professionals to develop the necessary new skills. This session will explore the institutional, structural and governance needs to enable capacity building for S&T and policy makers to work together. Identify research gaps and needs, the business opportunities for the public and private sectors and the benefits to society in general. Case studies will illustrate successful and failed attempts leading to propose recommendations and a way forward.	Centro de Investigación en Recursos Hídricos para la Agricultura y Minería (Chile) Alex Oriel Godoy Faundez agodoyf@gmail.com

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	Use of mobile phone technology, sensor technology, remote sensing, drones and modelling in water monitoring and management	As the title of this session suggests there are many different ICT innovations which benefit the sector and increase the capacity of water managers. Therefore, this session aims to have a wide array of cases presented. It will be a "market type" event whereby as many participants as possible can make a pitch; to demonstrate and advocate for a specific ICT related innovation. These innovations should help different stakeholders in the water sector to reinforce their capacity to better manage the resource.	World Meteorological Organization (Switzerland) Sophia Sandström ssandstrom@wmo.int
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	Enhancing transparency, accountability and inclusiveness by stakeholders through ICT and capacity building	This session will focus on how the ICT revolution has helped the different stakeholders to have an impact on the governance of the resource. Civil society, research institutes and universities will be given the opportunity to show how ICT developments contribute to greater transparency and accountability in the sector. A few key note addresses and a panel of experts from civil society, government and private sector will further debate these opportunities and interact with the audience.	CAP-NET (Brazil) Kees Leendertse Kees.leendertse@cap-net.org
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	Open Source and big data for water use efficiency and sustainable management.	This session will not only try to have an overview of the recent developments in open source and big data science relevant to the water sector, but will also attempt to look into the future of ICT and do some "out of the water box" thinking. Water use efficiency is a key objective in an increasingly water scarce world and the potential of ICT in this field is great for reinforcing capacity. This session will encourage organizations from outside the water sector to give their reflections and future suggestions/predictions for capacity building.	U.S. Geological Survey (USA) Paul A. Conrads pconrads@usgs.gov
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	How to expand support to international cooperation and capacity building to achieve SDG 6?	The data on international funds for financial and technical assistance to LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS show that after an increase between 2005 and 2010, disbursements declined again between 2010 and 2014 (OECD). At the same time, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda calls for enhanced international support and establishment of multi stakeholder partnerships for implementing effective capacity-building in developing countries; the Doha declaration underscores the importance of capacity development and strengthening technical cooperation for developing countries to attain their development goals. How do we reconcile the strong international commitment to support international cooperation and capacity building with the declining financial assistance?	UNECE - United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Eva Barrenberg eva.barrenberg@unece.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	CAPACITY	International Cooperation as key factor to address the Water and Climate Relationship	Climate Change will have an important role in the overall sustainable development agenda in the year to come, and in particular SDG13. Water is a key element in order to address issues of adaptation and mitigation of climate change impacts. There are already important initiatives related to Water and Climate as a result of the COP process (Climate Adaptation Pacts, #ClimateIsWater initiative, etc.). This session will analyze the exiting initiatives, and discuss modalities with which such initiatives should be conducted, in particular how to make sure that there is a cohesive cross-sectoral approach to water and climate issues.	Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med), Greece Anthi Dionysia Brouma anthi@gwpmmed.org
Thematic Process	GOVERNANCE	Transformational IWRM for the 2030 Agenda	IWRM is pivotal to the 2030 Agenda actualization. Building on preceding decades of experiences, IWRM in the 2030 Agenda must become transformational and deliver results at a higher scale and speed. This session will use case studies and synthesis of learning from alternate models for integrating water resource management horizontally across sectors, stakeholders, states/provinces, legal institutions, and vertically across levels, to test the prevailing IWRM framework. Participants will identify how to revitalize IWRM principles and operational strategies to guide IWRM decision-makers, practitioners within/outside states/countries in the 2030 Agenda.	International Union for Conservation of Nature - IUCN Mark Smith mark.smith@iucn.org
Thematic Process	GOVERNANCE	Operationalising IWRM Adaptively Across the SDGs	The critical challenge for IWRM in the 2030 Agenda is to translate principles into change-actions that delivers benefits across the SDGs. This session will examine results from diverse models for IWRM currently used pragmatically to address problems like water allocation, corporate water risks, drought and flood management, ecosystem conservation, etc. Participants will develop recommendations from these experiences on how to maximize the effectiveness of operationalizing IWRM in the SDGs on: stakeholder participation and maximizing synergies across public policies and sectors (within states and across jurisdictions); bridging the gap between IWRM concepts/strategies and actions; and monitoring goals and its achievement.	UN-Water, represented by UNEP-DHI Centre Gareth James Lloyd gil@dhigroup.com

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	GOVERNANCE	The New Policy Agenda for IWRM	The SDGs demand that IWRM is implemented at all levels by 2030, including transboundary as appropriate. In just 12 years following the 8th World Water Forum, IWRM must deliver benefits for billions of people by seizing synergies across sectors and goals relating to, among others, food and energy systems (the “WEF Nexus”), climate change, sustainable cities, gender equity, clean seas, ecosystem conservation and peace and security. This session will build on conclusions about revitalization of IWRM practice, to raise questions of how policy and investment frameworks for IWRM need to change to increase the scale and speed of results from IWRM. Participants will identify key policy innovations for IWRM in the 2030 Agenda.	Water Governance Initiative / OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Delphine Clavreul delphine.clavreul@oecd.org
Thematic Process	GOVERNANCE	Managing water across sectors and borders: Institutional frameworks and approaches for efficient transboundary basin organizations	Creating and strengthening joint organizations in transboundary lakes, rivers or aquifers basins is key to ensure reasonable, equitable and sustainable management of water resources and aquatic ecosystems across sectors and borders. Effective basin organizations require a clear mandate, a robust structure and a set of permanent means (financing, staff, capacities etc.) in order for them to facilitate exchange of information, manage conflicts, develop a joint vision and sharing of benefits between riparian countries and all water users. Stakeholders, including local authorities, economic sectors and NGOs should also be involved. These requirements will be analysed during this session through case studies and exchange of good practices, in order to prepare recommendations on how to create well-functioning basin organizations.	INBO - International Network of Basins Organizations Roberto Ramirez de la Parra inbo@inbo-news.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	GOVERNANCE	Monitoring, assessment, data and knowledge sharing in transboundary basins	We cannot manage that we cannot measure! This is even more important in transboundary basins where information, data and knowledge exchanges must be organized and harmonized between the riparian countries in order to elaborate common diagnosis, take joint decisions and monitor their effects. Or in many situations, the knowledge available is insufficient, inadequate, partial, difficult to inter operate, poorly funded or even regressive.... The first step to achieve transboundary cooperation is to develop data and information sharing and better science policy interfaces which can facilitate dialogue and trust. This session will allow for a sharing of experiences from different continents on how to reinforce data, information and knowledge exchange between riparian countries, States and provinces, the scientific community and water stakeholders and how monitoring and assessment can support cooperation.	Euro-Mediterranean Water Information System - EMWIS Eric Mino e.mino@semide.org
Thematic Process	GOVERNANCE	Successful negotiation and implementation of global, regional and bilateral transboundary cooperation agreements	Legal frameworks and agreements on transboundary water cooperation at basin, regional and global level are paramount for the good governance of transboundary basins. Examples of these agreements include the UN Watercourses Convention, the UNECE Water Convention, the SADC Protocol on Shared Water Resources, the EU Water Framework Directive and basin-level agreements. However, negotiating successful agreements and ensuring their long-term effective implementation is challenging, for example due to lack of resources, lack of political will, increasing water stress and climate change, etc. This session seeks to share and discuss recent examples and lessons learned of global, regional, bi-and multilateral legal agreements on transboundary water cooperation, approaches to water diplomacy and success factors for negotiating and implementing effective agreements.	Ministry of Interior of Hungary Peter Kovacs peter.kovacs@bm.gov.hu

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Thematic Process	GOVERNANCE	How to Enhance Multi-Level Water Governance?	Water is a fragmented sector where co-ordination is essential to manage interdependencies across multiple scales, responsible authorities and policy domains. But in practice, role and responsibilities for the management of water resources, services, and water-related disasters are still highly fragmented; combining multiple scales is still a challenge, despite greater attention to the basin level; and the broad range of public, private and non-profit stakeholders affected by decisions on water still do not all have a say on how policies are designed or implemented. Is water governance well-equipped to handle these challenges? The session will explore what can be done at city, basin and country level to enhance co-ordination across policies, places and people.	OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Delphine Clavreul delphine.clavreul@oecd.org
Thematic Process	GOVERNANCE	How is Water Governance in Your Country? Indicators to Assess Institutional Performance	Indicators are means to an end. They provide evidence to governments and key stakeholders to identify challenges and tackle them. The session will introduce OECD water governance indicators and other assessment frameworks on water resources, services and water-related disasters that can be used to build consensus on what work, does not work and what can be improved; and discuss/draw lessons from experiences of "measuring" water governance in cities, basins and countries, including from Malaysia, Morocco, Colombia, Peru, Spain, UK, Cabo Verde, Austria, Democratic Republic of Congo and the Netherlands.	French Association of Scientific and Environmental Studies - ASTEE Pierre-Alain Roche pierre-alain.roche@developpement-durable.gouv.fr
Thematic Process	GOVERNANCE	What's Your Water Governance Story? Identifying and scaling-up best practice across cities, basins and countries	Implementing the water-related SDGs will require countries to translate global goals into concrete actions on a number of water topics. It will imply that countries address governance challenges related to water policy design, regulation and implementation in the management of water resources, services and water-related disasters. Sharing and learning from best practices and pitfalls to avoid can help overcome these "gaps"; by fostering peer-to-peer dialogue and bench-learning across cities, basins and countries facing similar types of governance challenges. The session will discuss "stories" of how good water governance can be put into practice to inspire decision makers and stakeholders to strive for more effective governance.	SUEZ Group Joannie Leclerc joannie.leclerc@suez.com

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Citizens' Forum	PEOPLE	Stories of success or failure considering minorities and indigenous considering their access and rights to water	To what extent do Indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities suffer disproportionately from economic, social and political marginalization and human rights violations, including poor access to water and sanitation services? This session will analyze some stories of failure and of success considering minorities and indigenous rights connected to water.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	DEVELOPMENT	Challenges facing family agriculture (small farmers) in water use	Diversity is a key issue considering family agriculture: technologies, knowledge, culture, products are essential for sustainable development. This session will explore the challenges facing smallholding farming, due to a number of uncertainties, contradictions and opportunities regarding policies, participation and impacts on water coming from big users. Do networks and policies form a powerful tool to achieve equity and development in rural areas, to meet the sustainable development agenda and be part of the achievement zero hunger?	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	URBAN	Urban Rivers: Citizen as transformers of this environment	Citizens of the cities should advocate for maintaining good water quality in their rivers but more than this, there are citizens working to restore urban rivers worldwide obtaining important results. Portugal, Holland, Japan, South Africa and Brazil are examples of relevant projects in course. This session will explore case studies on urban rivers restoration, considering the leadership of citizens, and will discuss actions and how policies can scale up these experiences.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	ECOSYSTEMS	Relations between nature and local people for water security	Nature-based solutions can improve natural life on earth. The panel will discuss how the needs of people and nature are inextricably linked, considering that all life on earth depends on functional and healthy natural systems. We will present some of the local nature-based solutions, accessible to all citizens, focusing on vulnerable, that has institutional recognition. The session will also explore existence of networks and policies that strengthen nature-based solutions, considering that the transformation of the relationship between people and nature can bring prosperity to both.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	SHARING	Liability, Justice, and Compensation for Crimes and Rights Violations on water	This session aims to bring together people impacted by various water related crimes to forge a clear path on the role that civil society can play in protecting communities, advocating their rights, bringing justice to those affected and identifying best practices in compensation.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Citizens' Forum	SHARING	Women: Perspectives and challenges regarding water	Transforming our World, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development proclaims an 'all-of-society engagement and partnership' to end poverty and hunger and to achieve sustainable and equitable development in harmony with nature. In the water domain, the participatory and multi-stakeholder approach at different levels is already anchored in the Rio/Dublin Principles for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), translation of these principles into practice however, is often still in its initial stages. This session zooms in on Rio/Dublin Principle 3 concerning the role of Women as one of nine identified segments of society (Major Groups of Agenda 21) that play different and complementary roles in achieving sustainable and equitable use and management of water resources.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	SHARING	Innovation of young Water Entrepreneurs	The session will select young water entrepreneurs and innovators from a wide pool of youth to present their innovations to the public and empower other youth to take action. The innovation can be social, technical and the session will focus on the process these change makers had to go through to bring about change.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	CAPACITY	Community based management for water and sanitation: how to ensure participatory approaches?	The session will discuss perspectives on how the right to participation is expressed in practice. The perspective of society representatives will be explored, as well as the dimension of governments and providers. Also the entitlement of the service's users will be highlighted by the speakers.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	CAPACITY	Citizenship Education for Water: worldwide experiences	In view of the water management challenges in the world and the perspective to achieve the sustainable development goals, focusing on SDG-6, the mobilization and participation of the world societies become essential. This session will explore different educational approaches that go beyond capacity building. An education that enables the active citizenship to be strengthened with social and political engagement of the basis of society in environmental and water management for the construction of societies based on democratic, social justice and environmental values, ensuring quality of life for all.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Citizens' Forum	GOVERNANCE	Scale Up and Impact for a Global Water Agreement	The global fresh water shortage is one of the world's most pressing challenges, yet the issue is not scheduled to be a Global Agreement about water as Climate Change with Paris Agreement. This panel has the objective to promote a discussion in high level about challenges and opportunities in addressing a civil society movement for a Global Water Agreement and potential steps for establish a binding commitment in global level.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	GOVERNANCE	Diversity and inclusion in power relations and decision-making processes in water management	The challenges of public engagement in decision-making processes in water management have to include opportunities of talking, being listened, and power for invisible groups. Vulnerable communities, refugees, indigenous groups and other are frequently neglected in participatory approaches and discussions. The session will explore new visions for participatory approaches, appointing its benefits, that works the inclusion of this groups in water management, converging sustainability with social justice.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	GOVERNANCE	Political Governance versus Sustainable Governance: financial resources, interests and power.	The session will explore how can the local communities address the political challenges limiting the implementation of sustainable and equitable WASH interventions and how does demotivating factors influence the ability of the poor people to participate in decision-making about WASH.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	GOVERNANCE	Public or private: values, rights and obligations in water services for the citizen	The session will explore how can we ensure that the economic incentives of private or public entities are aligned with the social goals and interests. How can contracts be designed that effectively lay out the responsibilities of all parties and that can be object of accountability and social participation?	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	GOVERNANCE	Monitoring and evaluating the social participation in water management	This session will explore indicators of monitoring and evaluation for social participation on water management. Institutional analyses, studies and models on social participation processes in local, regional and national scale will be considered in the basin territory and its revitalization. The session will discuss achievements and challenges concerning this issue.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Citizens' Forum	GOVERNANCE	Civil Society and Social Capital	Social capital is considered an important instrument to induce collective action in natural resource management. It can be defined as: the internal social and cultural coherence of society, the norms and values that govern interactions between people, and the institutions in which they are embedded. The social networks of civil society, notably of Women, Youth and Indigenous People, unite and represent large groups of citizens. They present a mechanism of horizontal integration: across professional backgrounds, political or religious affiliation, ethnicity or interest. They also integrate vertically: from local and national to international level, within their own peer group and across. As such, they provide an existing institutional framework that can be a valid partner of governments to reach down into the capillaries of society and mobilize its social capital. This session discusses the drivers, benefits and challenges of coordinated actions and engagement between water sector entities and social networks of civil society.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	GOVERNANCE	Low cost, environmentally based water purification technologies.	This session will look at experiments with low cost water purification technologies such as activated carbon filters, sand filters, reed bed filters, anaerobic digestion that use and existing, natural processes and have harnessed them for application in rural areas and informal settlements. Water treatment is often both a costly, energy consuming process and one that is centrally managed. What positive experiences exist with low cost technologies and how can these be scaled up?	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Citizens' Forum	GOVERNANCE	Youth participation in decision making processes.	The role of youth, as the main stakeholders that can influence changes in the process of water management. Youth vision to stimulate the breeding of a future generation of water stewards and innovators.	Citizen's Forum Process Commission citizens@worldwaterforum8.org
Regional Process	CLIMATE	Water Security and Climate Resilience for Africa's Sustainable Development	In light of climate change, African countries will demonstrate measures to increase resilience to the impacts caused by climate risks. The session will discuss alternatives to social vulnerabilities, especially women and youth, and environmental vulnerabilities in the search for resilient development to climate change. The session will focus on sharing experiences from some programs in Africa on climate-resolving investments.	African Ministerial Council on Water (AMCOW)/GWP CU Canisius Kanangire ckanangire@amcow-online.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	CAPACITY	Big Data for water management: up to date experiences in Americas and Asia	The speed of global change and the future uncertainties are examples of faced issues that demand a new and dynamic way to manage the water resources worldwide. The recent global agreements (2030 Agenda, Paris Agreement, and so) establish a path that demands the political, institutional and technical integration so that the integrated management of water resources can efficiently and rapidly inform with safe evidence the process of public policies. In this way, Big Data technology will be indispensable for a wiser and dynamic water resource management. Data collection, integrated geospatial archive, wise metrics and indexes will be more and more demanded to clearly inform policy makers with evidences. The session will debate the experiences and efforts of institutions in relation to adapt data bases and information to these new rules from the water resources management field.	Water Future Andras Szollosi-Nagy andras.szollosinagy@gmail.com
Regional Process	CLIMATE	Extreme Events: examples of connection between Science and Public Policies in Americas, Europe and Africa	Extreme weather events which cause floods, droughts, and other impacts have major implications on the performance of water infrastructure and services, and the availability of good quality water. The occurrence of extreme weather events is increasing, and providing adequate services has to address cross-cutting topics which include scientific solution and implementation through public policies. Climate-resilient planning for water supply and sanitation services have to combine political and scientific efforts to be correctly applied and guarantee proper water supplies in catastrophic scenarios.	FUNCEME - Ceará State's Foundation for Meteorology and Water Resources Eduardo Martins espr.martins@gmail.com
Regional Process	CLIMATE	Known initiatives and possible advances of countries to build resilience to climate change in a context of adaptation in Americas and Africa	This session will debate successful experiences addressing the challenges and effects of climate change on freshwater systems and the services they provide, encouraging the discussion with the general public to share new solutions and proposals. It will you answer questions such as: How can the countries build resilience to climate change? Which factors play a key role in increasing resilience in a context of adaptation? Water infrastructure, designed specifically for this purpose? Governance, to consider the multi-sectoral needs and multi-level stakeholders in the public policies? Increased interlinkage among the scientific and political fields? Legal frameworks, to prevent land use change aiming to sustainability?	IDB - Inter-American Development Bank / RTI, TNC , Aneas Sergio Campos (scampos@iadb.org) Celia Bedoya (celiab@IADB.ORG)

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Freshwater Availability in and Small Island Developing States-SIDS	This session will address the potential application of aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) to increase water supply, using subsurface reservoirs by presenting different strategies from diverse locations around the globe. The session will be divided in two parts. Part 1 will review the technical and socio-economic dimensions of ASR applications, including best technologies and methodologies, costs and benefits of ASR, local planning and management, requirements for technology application-adoption, economic and financial constraints, and social and environmental factors. Part 2 will present analytical evidence of concrete examples of ASR applications in SIDS.	CDB/Unesco, IDB - Inter-American Development Bank Shanta King kingsh@caribank.org; celiab@IADB.ORG

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Nexus: water - energy - food - ecosystems in the Mediterranean and Africa	<p>Water, food, energy and ecosystems are essential for human well-being, poverty reduction and sustainable development. They are interlinked through a nexus of natural, institutional, economic and social frameworks. The Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus approach aims to facilitate enhancement of water, energy and food security while preserving ecosystems and their functions and increasing climate resilience, by reducing trade-offs and shifting towards more sustainable consumption patterns while increasing efficiency, building synergies and improving governance cross sectors. The session "Nexus: water – energy – food – ecosystems" aims to get deeper into the Nexus knowledge into the specific Mediterranean context, where a number of regional characteristics makes the challenge especially relevant: water scarcity, irregular allocation of population and natural resources, rapid urbanization and population growing, etc. This complex context demands a holistic approach where all decisions makers should consider that their choices and decisions broader cross-sectoral consequences. Based on a representative sample of Mediterranean countries, case studies will be presented to define the state-of-art local Nexus applications facilitated through a regional knowledge sharing approach, as means for demonstrating technology transfer options e.g. for water pumping and irrigation with renewable energy sources, desalination with sustainable energy options, multi-purpose dams, etc. The session will also be an opportunity to identify Nexus-related challenges and solutions and to provide decision tools to prioritize solutions at different geographical scales based on Nexus analysis and assessments. The session will also be an opportunity to share experience in financing mechanisms and to provide tools for introducing and operationalising Nexus approach in governance systems.</p>	<p>GWP Med/ TYP SA Anthi Brouma/Juan Ojeda Couchoud anti@gwpmed.org; jojeda@typsa.es</p>

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Strategies to exploit and protect groundwater: regional case studies and challenges	Groundwater levels and quality are continuing to decline across the world due to droughts, chronic overuse, natural vulnerability to contamination and non-effective management. Examples of such aquifers can be found in the Americas, Asia, and Africa. In the Brazilian semi-arid region, 12% of Brazil's population suffers with devastating effects of droughts, impacting directly on the human and animal mortality, as well as local health and economy. Increasing water supply through recharge into aquifers, integrated management of superficial and underground water resources, as well as protection strategies at outcrop areas are actions to guarantee water supplies.	CPRM - Geological Survey of Brazil Thales Queiroz Sampaio thales.sampaio@cprm.gov.br
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	The industry's engagement on water resources management in different regions	This session will present and discuss good practices on how industries and their representatives have been participating in the sound management of water and how these practices could be scaled in a way to enhance the governance structures and to amplify efficiency and benefits of water use. Experiences from Brazil, USA and Europe are going to be presented.	CNI - Confederação Nacional da Indústria (National Industry Confederation of Brazil) Percy Neto psoares@cni.org.br
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Water-Food-Energy Nexus in large infrastructures	Large hydric infrastructures may involve complex institutional, legal and technological arrangements that can move the whole enterprise from a economic sustainable scenario to an unsustainable one. The equilibrium point may be found by coupling innovative energy production systems with hydraulic infrastructure in order to reduce costs and allow the agricultural sector to access water. This session will present and discuss the Energy-Water coupling that has been planned to the Water Transfer Project of the São Francisco River - PISF, as well as how it occurs in infrastructures of other countries as USA, China and Australia. It aims to identify similarities and convergences.	MI - Ministry of National Integration (Brazil) Jimmu de Azêvedo Ikeda jimmu.ikeda@integracao.gov.br
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Water & Energy in a crisis context: Brazil, Canada and China	This session will discuss how the Energy Sector is participating in water resources governance and how restrictions in water availability are amplifying conflicts with environmental, transportation, agriculture and sanitation stakeholders, as well as how Energy security and costs are being affected. The São Francisco river and the Amazon basin are been presented, as well as others like the Canadians and Chinese Systems.	MME - Ministry of Mines and Energy (Brazil) Domingos Romeu Andreatta domingos.andreatta@mme.gov.br

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Food security, irrigation and dilemmas in water restriction scenarios	Many sites in Brazil and in the whole world are facing water restrictions that amplify conflicts between users of different sectors. In the same time, pressure for more and better food production are increasing. Some times it is possible to find solutions that compatibilize enhancing water efficiency, innovative financing tools and negotiation of water allocation. This session will present and discuss some good practices implemented in Rio Grande do Sul and Bahia, facing them with experiences from Asia in order to amplify food production and reduce water conflicts.	MI - Ministry of National Integration (Brazil) Antonio Carvalho Feitosa antonio.feitosa@integracao.gov.br
Regional Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Source to Sea priorities in the different regions	This session will present experiences from different regions on how to instigate action amongst upstream actors to reduce land-based impacts on coastal and marine environments. Results of actions to improve the governance and management of territory and water to mitigate the impacts of this source to the sea will be demonstrated.	Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) Louise Whiting louise.whiting@fao.org (+1)66 6 3208 0334
Regional Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Wetlands - Sustainable Development and Conservation Plans	Wetlands are quintessential for terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. It's important to engage deeply in supporting the conservation of wetlands, as the pressures and impacts on these systems reflect directly on the sustainable development of local communities who interact closely with them and depend on their goods and services. The Brazilian Pantanal is the world's largest wetland area, promoting and strengthening the discussion on how wetlands need a specific conservation plan to maintain the balance between nature and mankind. Other wetlands such as the Bosque de Paz Transboundary Biosphere Reserve in Ecuador and Peru, The Sundarbans in Bangladesh and India could add to the debate as local case studies.	MMA - Ministry of the Environment (Brazil) Rodrigo Vieira rodrigo.vieira@mma.gov.br

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	GOVERNANCE	Crisis Management: strategies for River Basins in Americas and Asia-Pacific	The São Francisco river delivers 2.846 m ³ /s, is 2.800 km long and about 16 million people lives in the whole river basin that evolves 505 municipalities in 7 Brazilian states. The river has a major hole in Energy, Irrigation, and water supply in Brazil and in past was very important for navigation. From 2012 to now the river is facing a very long and severe period of reduction on its hydric availability and in its ability to provide hydric and environmental services. Actually, the River delivers 550 m ³ /s at its mouth and the flow reduction is impacting Sanitation, Irrigation and Energy sectors, besides environmental services. The session will present and discuss measures that were adopted, from new approaches in negotiating water allocation during crisis, to innovative technological solutions to amplify water efficiency and new efforts tried to promote the revitalization of the river. The cases presented will discuss crisis management in light of disasters, floods and droughts, including experiences from Australia and Asia.	ANA - National Water Agency (Brazil) Ney Maranhão ney.maranhao@ana.gov.br
Regional Process	ECOSYSTEMS	River Basin Recovery - Reference Cases in the regions	This session will show practical cases of water basin recovery in vulnerability situation and environmental degradation, as well its full magnitude and complexity. River basin recovery for water services and biodiversity can be articulated in a series of revitalizations actions in a basin scale perspective, executed in a integrated, articulated and permanent way. In Brazil, two main reference cases are suggested for the discussion: the São Francisco basin Revitalization Program and the Doce river basin and the Água Boa Program. Other regions will be included in the discussion with local cases.	Codevasf - Development Company of the São Francisco Valley. Sergio Henrique Alves sergio.henrique@codevasf.gov.br
Regional Process	GOVERNANCE	The new development agenda: the regional components for the preparation to implement SDG 6 to achieve the targets linked to this goal	To implement the Sustainable Development Goal on Water (SDG 6), countries must align the national planning frameworks with the SDG targets, they will also have to prepare in terms of financing, monitoring and strengthen the institutional capacities. The session will include experiences from countries in the regions, to show the steps they have implemented on this regard, as well as the bottle necks and lessons learned.	MI - Ministry of National Integration (Brazil) Irani Ramos Irani.ramos@integracao.gov.br lorena.penna@integracao.gov.br

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	GOVERNANCE	Interfederative relationship in the management of river basin water transfer projects in the regions	Management of river basin water transfer projects, by itself, presents peculiar challenges regarding priorities and competences of source and destination basins authorities. The Brazilian case Pisf - Integration Project of the São Francisco River, adds to this scenario, an interfederative relationship involving many state governments, multiple river basin committees and the Union. Its's suggested to discuss too the experiences from USA, Australia and China.	MI - Ministry of National Integration (Brazil) ANA - National Water Agency (Brazil) regional@worldwaterforum8.org Irani Ramos Irani.ramos@integracao.gov.br lorena.penna@integracao.gov.br
Regional Process	GOVERNANCE	Public Policies for Water in Arid and Semi-Arid Regions	This Session will present experiences facing public policies concerning the multiple purpose water supply in arid and semi-arid regions. Aspects related to water availability to rural people, promotion of high water efficiency for food security and innovative governance approaches are going to be discussed.	MI - Ministry of National Integration (Brazil) Irani Ramos Irani.ramos@integracao.gov.br lorena.penna@integracao.gov.br
Regional Process	PEOPLE	Water and migration: how to face the challenge?	The world is witnessing some of the largest refugee flows since the Second World War. Meanwhile, water crises are highlighted as one of the most pressing global challenges. In this context, migration and refugee flows are increasingly explained in terms of water scarcity – perpetuated by climate change. In this session the topics of water and migration in Europe, Mediterranean and Africa will be discussed. A comprehensive and multidisciplinary perspective of these topics will be provided, including public policy, technology, economic, environmental, and social components.	Women for Water Lesha Witmer bpwwater@gmail.com

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	PEOPLE	Integrated Sanitation for all - Whole sanitation approach, sanitation chain, innovation in MEDITERRANEAN and AFRICA	Located between the continents of Europe, Asia and Africa, the Mediterranean Sea offers the countries that surround it similarities but also diversity, in particular in terms of their population, natural resources, cultures and economic conditions. The session "Integrated Sanitation for all: Whole sanitation approach, sanitation chain, innovation" organised by the Mediterranean region aims to create a space to exchange and discuss between stakeholders in the sanitation sector from the region and those from other regions of the world around the modalities and innovative approaches adopted for the development and implementation of sanitation services. Based on a representative sample of Mediterranean countries (Egypt, Spain, Jordan, Morocco, Portugal and Tunisia), case studies will be presented with a view to proposing innovative technical solutions for the whole sanitation chain: wastewater collection, transportation and treatment as well as reuse of the treatment by-products. The session will also be an opportunity to exchange views on financial mechanisms and the means of generating sustainable sanitation services in a context of rapid urbanisation linked to population growth but also emigration. Partnership models between the countries in the Mediterranean region that facilitate the transfer of knowledge and best practices will be discussed. The session will also allow to tackle institutional mechanisms linked to sanitation such as governance, legal and regulatory instruments but also specific indicators and their follow up to accelerate the upscaling of access to safe sanitation services and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 6.2).	Office National de l'Electricité et de l'Eau (ONEE) Hajiba Bourziza hbourziza@onee.ma
Regional Process	PEOPLE	Sanitation and water supply in slums and the water-related SDGs	Brazil and most of the underdeveloped countries have lived with the existence of huge slums in their cities for decades. Water supply and sanitation have represented challenges in these areas and have mobilized innovative ideas from decision makers, researchers, civil society and service providers. This session will discuss water supply and sanitation in slums facing the perspective of a full implementation of the water-related SDGs in order to highlight problems and solutions that the overall society must build. Experience from different regions will be presented, aiming to identify similarities and applicable solutions.	ABES - Brazilian Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering Alceu Bittencourt alceubittencourt@cobrape.com.br; abes@abes-sp.org.br

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	PEOPLE	Sanitation at the rain forest: challenges and good practices	This session will bring together leaders and experts from different backgrounds to present and discuss challenges and good practices to provide access to water and sanitation to people living in the Amazon River basin. The paradoxical lack of access to water services in the world's largest river basin will be discussed to highlight constraints on traditional technologies and financing tools. Good water & sanitation practices will be presented in rural and peri-urban areas in the Amazon and other rainforest regions, such as South Asia, and it will be discussed how these solutions could be scaled up.	MI - Ministry of National Integration (Brazil) Irani Ramos lorena.penna@integracao.gov.br
Regional Process	PEOPLE	How regulatory South American and European authorities could promote the Human Rights to water and sanitation?	The objective of this session is to debate the role of the regulatory authorities in the implementation of Human Rights to water and sanitation, once they are essential actors to sustain sound public policies on water services to accomplish these Rights. Europe and South American practices will be presented, focusing in regulators' role in promoting and controlling the other components: strategic plans, legislative framework, institutional framework, governance models, quality of service goals, tariff and tax policy, financial resources, construction of infrastructures, operation and maintenance, human resources, research and innovation, entrepreneurship, competition, consumer's protection, social engagement, ethics, integrity, and information. Good results and learned lessons will be showed in a way to promote better awareness of the regulatory authorities to reach Human Rights to water and sanitation.	IWA ADERASA LIS-Water ABAR Jaime Melo Baptista jmbaptista@lnec.pt
Regional Process	SHARING	Transboundary Cooperation: sharing experiences in the different regions	In this session about transboundary watercourses, discussions between different stakeholders will take place to share experiences, examine good practices, lessons learned and face the challenges down the road. The benefits of transboundary water cooperation and water sharing, improved opportunities for economic development, as well as the development of a system to exchange quantity and quality information will be assessed. Around the world cases that can be discussed are the South-American Prata Basin and other water bodies in Europe or Africa.	MMA - Ministry of Environment (Brazil) ANA - National Water Agency (Brazil) regional@worldwaterforum8.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	URBAN	National Strategies for the promotion of waste water treatment and reuse and its link with water resources management	The commitment of the countries of the Americas to achieve objective 6 of the ODS sets very ambitious targets in a short time in terms of water treatment particularly addressing the low coverage, the lack of capacity of the sector in this area and the existence of very demanding regulations on the quality of treated effluents and strategies to promote water reuse as a tool for facilitating water resources management. Country sectoral planning faces a limitation in resources to achieve these goals as well as a less mature sector in order to ensure the provision of services linked to the required investments. In this context, it is key to discuss the development strategies of the sector and that these reflect a prioritization of investments considering the impacts on health and the environment, the selection of technologies taking into account both these impacts and existing capacities, the possibility of the progressivity of certain parameters in compliance with the regulations and the dedication of resources to ensure a correct operation of the systems and their regulation	Aecid and Aidis/IDB - Inter-American Development Bank, Unesco-IHP Carmen Jover carmen.jover@aecid.es; celiab@IADB.ORG
Regional Process	URBAN	REUSE in the "Africa - Mediterranean - Europe" axis: Territorial Impact and Search for a Common Strategy	Based on shared experience, this session wants to highlight the potentials of an enhanced cooperation between European, Arab and African countries; the Mediterranean region will serve as an interface between all these different regions given its strategic position. This session will be based on REUSE; main topic addressed by the last UN Water Report in 2017. It will involve some decision makers as well as elected representatives, researchers, and civil society.	IPEMED Kelly Robin kelly.robin@ipemed.coop
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Water-Energy-Food Security (WEF) Nexus: potential applications and lessons from Africa	The Water-Food-Energy (WEF) Nexus approach in Africa is facilitating better interactions and synergies between the water, food, and energy sectors in order to unlock and optimize development potential for economic growth and transformation in Africa. The session will focus on sharing experience and lessons from some of the WEF Nexus initiatives in the African continent, especially focusing on the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Niger Basin in West Africa sub-regions.	Southern African Development Community (SADC) Phera Ramoeli pramoeli@sadc.int
Regional Process	FINANCE	Enhancing Africa's Capacity for Financing water security in Africa	The session will emphasize on demonstrating how the capacity of Africa could be enhanced to leverage financial resources for investment in water security to meet SDG targets. It will also review the various financing mechanisms that Africa needs to tap and share some experiences and lessons to date.	African Development Bank (AfDB) Osward Chanda (tbc) O.CHANDA@AFDB.ORG

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	PEOPLE	Building Climate Resilient Water, Sanitation and Hygiene-WASH Services in Africa	The session will show some cases of climate resilient water supply, sanitation and hygiene projects in Africa and also provides the framework for building climate resilience in the WASH Sector	WaterAid Robert. L.J. Kampala RobertKampala@wateraid.org
Regional Process	CAPACITY	Hydrological monitoring network of Latin American & Caribbean countries	Through the International Hydrological Program (IHP), National Committees and Focal Points of each country (CONAPHIS) of the Latin America and Caribbean subregions are aiming to address a special session on their hydrological monitoring networks and exchange experiences through this cooperation network.	PHI-UNESCO Miguel Doria m.doria@unesco.org
Regional Process	CLIMATE	How to build resilience and risk reduction through green infrastructure in the Americas?	Integration of natural and grey infrastructure is key for addressing the challenges the Americas face, including flood control. Through drainage systems, restoration of rivers, mainstreaming hydro-environmental services into water infrastructure planning, and other issues, we can change the paradigm from grey to green infrastructure.	IDB - Inter-American Development Bank/Deltares, Aneas Sergio Campos celiab@IADB.ORG
Regional Process	CLIMATE	Experiences in facing droughts in the Americas	The objective of this session is to discuss what adaptation and co-existence strategies governments, and drinking water and sanitation service providers can develop and implement when dealing with drought extreme events. The discussion will present, in crisis management, how national policies can be shaped, the experiences of service providers, how to regulate the competition for resources between regions and sectors, or technology innovations including the use of more exact measurement.	Unesco-IHP/GWP, IDB - Inter-American Development Bank, ASCE Miguel Doria m.doria@unesco.org; celiab@IADB.ORG
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Water for food security and rural development in the Americas - current issues and opportunities	The main objective for this section is to discuss strategies to increase the water security in rural areas and food production system, as a prerequisite for sustainable human development.	IICA Gertjan Beekman gertjan.beekman@iica.int; celiab@IADB.ORG
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Food, Energy, and Water Conservation as a Strategy for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in the Americas: cases and experiences	This session will examine several important aspects of food-energy-water nexus-based conservation approaches, including human behavior and social challenges; systems thinking, life-cycle assessment, and coupled modeling approaches; and policy levers and implementation strategies. An integrated mitigation-adaptation approach is needed because land, energy, and water management strategies for climate change mitigation must account for changes that will be irreversible given current greenhouse gas levels.	ASCE Dale Jacobson djacobson@mac.com; celiab@IADB.ORG

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Lessons in Sustainable Groundwater Management from the Mid and West U.S.	Recognizing that there is no one-size-fits-all approach in water management, we offer lessons learned from nine case studies that span six western U.S. states, capturing the different physical, political, and socio-economic contexts that influence management strategies and tools. Each study offers fresh and unique insight for water managers—a sort of toolbox—on how they could adapt proven methodologies to best fit their own local context. Some key solutions explored in the report include scenarios from Colorado, Nebraska and Arizona, USA. Developing and implementing groundwater policy isn't easy. In fact, it took some of the places mentioned in the case studies decades and a lot of expertise and investment to get to where they are today. But the basins obligated to comply with water usage regulations—not to mention regions around the world struggling to meet water demands—have an advantage: they can learn from the experiences of water managers across the American West.	Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute Kate Gibson kgibson@nebraska.edu
Regional Process	FINANCE	The cost of no action in Climate Change in the Americas	The identification of the impacts of climate change and its inclusion in the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of infrastructure is a key element for resilience increase. Evidence indicates that the consideration of the impacts of climate change in the construction or reconstruction of infrastructure reduces its vulnerability and increases its useful life, with additional costs that are generally less than those of repairing or reconstructing. For instance, a global analysis on the economic costs associated with climate change impacts on transportation infrastructure shows the advantages of a strategy where resilience to climate change is considered from the initial phases of the design and construction.	CDB Convener: GWP Shanta King kingsh@caribank.org; celiab@IADB.ORG
Regional Process	FINANCE	Perspectives in financing water investments in America	America has a strategic global position in water resources and development banks have been supporting the governments and private sector along the last decades in a way that great results were obtained in agriculture, sanitation, industry and integrated water management. Nowadays, mankind is facing the challenges to turn make Sustainable Development Goals a reality and it is possible to enhance financing instruments and organize complementary efforts in a way to achieve results in the shortest time. This session will show examples of good practices, focusing in ways to identify new challenges and to propose innovative approaches to finance water sector.	IDB - Inter-American Development Bank / CAF - Development Bank of Latin America Sergio Campos / Maureen Balesteros celiab@IADB.ORG; tempis@racsa.co.cr

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	PEOPLE	Have the Americas reached the conditions to guarantee the implementation of the human rights to water and sanitation?	This session will assess the state of water and sanitation in the Americas and present the successful measures, initiatives taken and tools designed in some countries to deal with problems that comprises lack of access to water and sanitation for the most vulnerable population, low water quality and absence of monitoring systems to assess it, water networks and pipelines with expired useful life, deficient or not enforced legal frameworks, stakeholders overlapping attributions, lack of technical capacities, highly politicized water sector, among others.	GWP Conveners: Aneas, SDC, AECID, IWA Fabiola Tabora ftabora@gwpcentroamerica.org; celiab@IADB.ORG
Regional Process	PEOPLE	Progress in efficient Water and Sanitation Services in the Americas	This session will analyze how the agricultural, urban, and industrial sectors, can carry out actions to increase the efficiency of surface and ground water use at different operational and administrative levels, as well as the associated social, technical and institutional complexity to implement them.	Aneas / IDB - Inter-American Development Bank, SECO, IWA Roberto Olivares roberto.olivares@aneas.com.mx; celiab@IADB.ORG
Regional Process	URBAN	Urban water: Americas in the long road towards universal sanitation services	This session will discuss specific challenges to achieve universal coverage of quality water and sanitation services in formal and informal areas of cities in the Americas, from the use of condominium systems for sanitation to strategies for promoting connectivity in peri-urban areas to urban water planning in a context of uncertain water security.	IDB - Inter-American Development Bank / GWP Sergio Campos celiab@IADB.ORG
Regional Process	CLIMATE	Moving from climate vulnerability maps to policy action in adaptation to climate change in the Arab Region	Global and regional climate and hydrological models as well as vulnerability maps showing the likelihood of distribution of hotspots to be hit hard by climate change impact on water, livelihoods and nature show that the knowledge base for policy action is sufficient to start action in adaptation to climate change in the region. The session will provide a platform to share with the world the current flagship projects countries and organizations are already implementing in water, agriculture and territorial development planning. A question to be also debated is about other regions' experience in planning and acting in the realm of uncertainties of Climate change impacts and what experiences related to institutional innovations could be learned (worldwide) on proofing the water, cities and agriculture sectors through climate change adaptation mainstreaming in climate policies.	League Arab States, Egypt Hammou LAAMRANI hammou.laamrani@cimonline.de

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Sustainability challenges need integrated solutions in the Arab Region: Is Water, Energy Food the answer?	<p>Since 2014, A regional initiative by the League of Arab States, regional organizations and donors joined efforts to promote an integrated approach for efficient use of depleted resources that are a threat for sustainable and secure supply of water, energy and food. Several projects were conducted focussing on regional policies pinpoint the multiple challenges to be considered in palnning similar experiences in othe rregions worldwide, The silo approache is entrenched in the institutional landscape in countries. Despite the fact that SDGs narrative stresses the necessity of an integrated approach to achiever SDGs, the reality of sectoral policies and strategies in countries requires several framework conditions to operationalize the WEF nexus approach and ensure coherent and integrated planning mechanism. The central question to debate in the session is How nexus is helping to achieve the Sectoral SDGs and how countries could use the Agenda 2030 to promote an integrated approach to ensure sustainability through efficiency of use of water, energy and land.</p>	<p>League of Arab States (Egypt)/GIZ ACCWaM programme Hammou LAAMRANI hammou.laamrani@cimonline.de</p>
Regional Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Wetlands for mitigation, adaptation, nature and livelihoods in the Arab region	<p>Over years, several wetlands suffered the multiple anthropogenic and natural depletion. As a result, extreme events, the loss of ecosystem services and of biodiversity have raised awareness and engagement of countries in projects to protect wetlands. This is particularly relevant to the region where countries that experienced unrest where environment degradation was serious. This could be turned into a remarkable opportunity. Wetlands could provide a double dividend investment for sustainable development. The issue for debate in the session is How to make wetlands a buffer to weather extreme events (floods) that are likely to increase with Climate change, while preserving biodiversity and ecosystem services in reconstruction and rehabilitation endeavor. How to put wetlands at the heart of nature friendly reconstruction efforts in countries that went through conflicts over the last five years. What innovative partnerships under SDG 17 could support countries in making wetlands resilient to internal (conflicts) and external shocks like climate change.</p>	<p>RAED eadly@hotmail.com</p>

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	FINANCE	Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) dilemma in the Arab Region, what makes private sector operation optimal and cost effective in PPPs - Public Private Partnership	The results of recent experience in Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) and commercial contracts with private sector have had a mix of successful and failing experiences in countries in the region and worldwide. The central question to be debated in this session is about BOT and delegation/sub-contracting experiences. What's new and how the "truism" narrative and skepticism about the role of private sector in water supply and sanitation could be shared. The experience of Morocco, Gulf countries and Jordan (government and private sector) shed light on the frame conditions for working and sustainable PPPs to buffer the cost of universal access to water and sanitation as stipulated in SDG 6. A second layer of this question is about ways to make adaptation in the water sector a sustainable business case the way renewable energy has attracted huge investments.	ACWUA Khalidon Khashman khalidon.khashman@acwua.org
Regional Process	URBAN	Will the future wastewater treatment plant be water and energy suppliers to the Arab Region	Treated wastewater collaborates will multiple SDGs and support countries to achieve universal access to clean water and proper sanitation. Beyond the SDG 6, treated wastewater offers an opportunity for energy and food production and contributes to achieve the goal the targets for resilient cities. The general trend in wastewater treatment in the region has been consistently increasing. Yet, the environmental co-benefits of reducing the discharge of untreated wastewater remains unknown. Project scale wastewater plants are energy neutral and supply cities and dams with high quality water. The challenge of scaling up best practices and show cases in making treatment plants energy neutral and financially sustainable. A few flagship projects show that optimal performance of wastewater treatment plants requires a proactive policy, a conducive regulatory framework and a sound an efficient technical and financial management. The session will be a platform for Knowledge and experience exchange between countries, NGOs and private sector on ways to scale up best practices in turning the "orphan" sub-sector of wastewater treatment and reuse a performing enterprise that helps countries and regions to face water scarcity, protect the environment and create wealth and jobs in cities and suburbs.	ACWUA Khalidon Khashman khalidon.khashman@acwua.org

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	CLIMATE	Climate Change effects from perspective of the glaciers of the Hindu Kush Himalayas	This session will talk about the impact of climate change on water availability and then, present several case studies of water related adaptation from the region. Given the huge diversity in the region, case studies will be drawn from the different part of Asia Pacific that will take into account the perspective of source (himalayas) to sea (coastal areas and pacific islands) in terms of water related adaptation.	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) Aditi Mukherji aditi.mukherji@icimod.org 9771 500 3222 Ext (256)
Regional Process	DEVELOPMENT	Contributing to the development of the agricultural sector in the Asia-Pacific region, improving the efficiency of all water uses	The objective of this session is to contribute to development of agricultural sector in Asia and Pacific region through discussing measures to further promote efficient water use in agriculture, energy efficiency, the maintenance of ecosystems and increase sustainable productivity while considering the relationships between Water, Energy, Food and Ecosystems.	Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) Louise Whiting louise.whiting@fao.org (+66 6 3208 0334)
Regional Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Enhancing Freshwater Ecosystems for Integrated Water Resources Management: Mobilizing Ecohydrology Science for the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific	The session showcases how the water-related benefits of healthy ecosystems can be enhanced to improve ecosystem services, and takes note of the ecobiotechnologies we rely on using existing science networks for achieving the SDG 6 in Asia and the Pacific region.	UNESCO Office Jakarta Dr. Shahbaz Khan, Mr. Hans Thulstrup s.khan@unesco.org; h.thulstrup@unesco.org 62217399818
Regional Process	FINANCE	Financing implementation of water-related SDGs at the Asia-Pacific region	This session focuses on policy and actionable items for developing and implementing a workable strategy on financing of implementation of water-related SDGs. The strategies should include revisions and optimization of the budgetary resources from the public and private investors, incentivising collaborative frameworks at the decentralised water management financing systems.	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Asian Development Bank Dr. Stefanos Fotiou Mr. Tom Panella Fotiou@un.org contact: karazhanova@un.org tpanella@adb.org 66 2288-1115 63 2 632-4832
Regional Process	PEOPLE	Towards Improving Sanitation and Wastewater Management: Challenges and Good Practices in the Asia-Pacific Region	The session will review the current situation of sanitation and wastewater management in the Asia-Pacific region and highlight the challenges faced in both urban and rural contexts by introducing concrete examples of how administration, utilities and operators, civil society organizations are responding to the challenges in the following areas: 1. Overviews of wastewater management in the Asia-Pacific and its related problems; 2. Off-site sanitation; 3. On-site sanitation and septage management; 4. Securing human resources for sanitation and wastewater management; 5. Institutional and regulatory frameworks; 6. Sanitation issues in rural areas; 7. Circular economy (wastewater reuse and sludge recycling)	Japan Sanitation Consortium (JSC) Mr. Pierre Flamand pierre@jspanic.org 81 3 6803 2671

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	URBAN	Circular Economy, Reduce, Reuse, recycle: promising experiences in Asia	The main objective of the session is to make planners, decision makers, urban designers, engineers, academicians, and communities in Asia more aware that there are innovative solutions that are available and that can be applied now. It also wishes to address the development and donor communities on the fact that the circular economy concept can have major social, economic and environmental impacts. There are interesting experiences in Asia that could benefit cities in other regions of the world. The session will start with a keynote addressing what is understood by the concept of circular economy world wide, and will be followed by a series of short presentations made by panelists showing innovative Asian experiences on the circular economy. This will be followed by a discussion with the participants in a plenary agreeing on the key messages to address to the community.	Global Water Partnership Mr. Francois Brikke ravinarayanan1@gmail.com 46766778618
Regional Process	CLIMATE	Water and climate change in Europe: the tip of the iceberg?	Climate change impacts manifest first and more strongly through water. Changes in climate mean changes in the water cycle, in rainfall and runoff distribution patterns, in river water flows, and in the severity and magnitude of extreme hydrological events, such as drought, flooding, storms, ice melting, etc. The expected changes affect the water availability for human activities and increase exposure to more frequent water related critical events. Its cross sector nature make water the clear centre of adaptation – which requires articulated policy, planning and action, involving governments at all levels, sectors and society. Europe faces multiple challenges in adaptation to climate change. In this session the topics of water and adaptation to climate change and managing risk and uncertainty for resilience and disaster preparedness, besides climate science and water management priority: the communication between science and decision/policy making and water and climate change mitigation in Europe will be discussed. A comprehensive and multidisciplinary perspective of these topics will be provided, including public policy, technology, economic, environmental, and social components. The diagnosis reported in the Europe report will be discussed. Issues such as relevance, perception, level of engagement and performance and examples of good case studies will be addressed. The outcomes from the session will be key lessons, messages and recommendations to enrich the report and to disseminate around the world.	Instituto Superior Técnico Rodrigo Proença de Oliveira rpo@bluefocus.pt; rodrigopoliveira@tecnico.ulisboa.pt

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	ECOSYSTEMS	European Ecosystems: how to bridge systems and services?	Natural ecosystems are strongly dependent of the presence of adequate amounts of proper water quality. The ecological services that come from the natural dynamics of hydric systems promote the physical, biological and chemistry processes that generate sustain and guarantee most forms of life. Also human beings depend directly on these water ecological services. Due to its key role for biodiversity sustainability, it is of utmost importance to monitor, manage and restore aquatic ecosystems. It is crucial to increase the efforts to value the ecological role of aquatic ecosystems and environmental services as they are related to water. In this session the topics of managing and restoring ecosystems for water services and biodiversity, water and land use, ensuring water quality from ridge to reef, and natural and engineered hydrological systems in Europe will be discussed. A comprehensive and multidisciplinary perspective of these topics will be provided, including public policy, technology, economic, environmental, and social components. The diagnosis reported in the Europe report will be discussed. Issues such as relevance, perception, level of engagement and performance and examples of good case studies will be addressed. The outcomes from the session will be key lessons, messages and recommendations to enrich the report and to disseminate around the world.	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (tbc) Peter Gammeltof & Ivan Zavadsky peter@gammeltoft.be

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	FINANCE	Water services financing in Europe: how to bank it and blend it?	<p>All functions of water services, water resources management and water security require specific funds that go beyond the resources invested by sectors in their own activities. Proper financing policy is essential to effectively achieve its main social and economic objectives. New challenges related to climate change and the SDGs add to those objectives, and are unlikely to be achieved without sufficient funding. In such context, not only challenges, but also financial and social costs related to water services, water resources management tend to increase. Ensuring access to proper funding is key to face current problems, as is proposing innovative ways and new sources of funds that can meet the new agendas. In this session the topics of economics and financing for innovative investments, financing implementation of water-related SDGs & adaptation to climate change, finance for sustainable development - supporting water-friendly business in Europe will be discussed. A comprehensive and multidisciplinary perspective of these topics will be provided, including public policy, technology, economic, environmental, and social components. The diagnosis reported in the Europe report will be discussed. Issues such as relevance, perception, level of engagement and performance and examples of good case studies will be addressed. The outcomes from the session will be key lessons, messages and recommendations to enrich the report and to disseminate around the world.</p>	<p>LIS-Water José Veiga Frade jtfrade@gmail.com</p>

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	GOVERNANCE	Water governance in Europe: how to add value block by block?	<p>One of the factors that define the road to sustainable development is how water is used and managed. The development that meets the needs of the present and does not jeopardize those of future generations requires sharing water and its benefits in an inclusive manner, seeking for food security, clean energy, smart infrastructure, responsible consumption, efficient irrigation, competitive industry and economic growth. Implementing this development model requires participation of different sectors, political push, public and private investment, capacity building and, above all, effective and efficient water governance, largely based on the trust engagement of all relevant parties. In this session the topics of efficient use of surface water and groundwater, water-energy and water-food security nexus, inclusive and sustainable growth, water stewardship and industry, infrastructure for sustainable water resource management and services, SMART implementation of integrated water resources management, cooperation for reducing conflict and improving transboundary water management, and effective and efficient governance: enhanced political decisions, stakeholder participation and technical information in Europe will be discussed. A comprehensive and multidisciplinary perspective of these topics will be provided, including public policy, technology, economic, environmental, and social components, and governance reforms that help improving all these dimensions. The diagnosis reported in the Europe report will be discussed. Issues such as relevance, perception, level of engagement and performance and examples of good case studies will be addressed. The outcomes from the session will be key lessons, messages and recommendations to enrich the report and to disseminate around the world.</p>	<p>Instituto Superior Técnico Francisco Nunes Correia fnc@civil.ist.utl.pt</p>

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	PEOPLE	Water services in Europe: long-term sustainability at what price?	Public drinking water supply and waste water services are essential to the well-being of citizens, public health and economic activities. Governments shall be able to provide almost total universal access of citizens to these services, supplied with suitable quality by the utilities, at socially acceptable prices and with an acceptable level of risk. In this session the topics of water and public health, integrated sanitation for all, and enough safe water for all in Europe will be discussed. The level of development of water supply and waste water services in European countries is quite different. The concept of good quality of service has historically tended to pass through three stages, namely the quantity stage, in which the main task was to satisfy the basic quantitative needs of the population, the quality stage, where the water quality objectives were joined to the previous stage, and the excellence stage, which seeks to add the strand of good asset management and financial sustainability. A comprehensive and multidisciplinary perspective of these topics will be provided, including public policy, technology, economic, environmental, and social components. The diagnosis reported in the Europe report will be discussed. Issues such as relevance, perception, level of engagement and performance and examples of good case studies will be addressed. The outcomes from the session will be key lessons, messages and recommendations to enrich the report and to disseminate around the world.	LIS-Water Jaime Melo Baptista jmbaptista@lnec.pt

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	URBAN	European Cities: why waste water and energy?	<p>Cities require the adoption of sustainable and integrated processes for urban waste and water management. Water scarcity in drier times, as well as excess water in rainy periods, directly affect the dynamics of cities and people's lives, leading to diseconomies and major losses, which require urgent measures. Despite the increasing investments in promoting its rational use, the use of water in urban environments generates significant and increasing volumes of effluents, whose treatment and final destination is of paramount importance. In this scenario, methodologies for water treatment and reuse and waste recycling, associated with campaigns to reduce consumption are gaining importance to improve life conditions in cities. In this session the topics of circular economy - reduce, reuse, recycle, water and cities, and treatment and reuse technologies in Europe, including risk analysis, will be discussed. A comprehensive and multidisciplinary perspective of these topics will be provided, including public policy, technology, economic, environmental, and social components. The diagnosis reported in the Europe report will be discussed. Issues such as relevance, perception, level of engagement and performance and examples of good case studies will be addressed. The outcomes from the session will be key lessons, messages and recommendations to enrich the report and to disseminate around the world.</p>	<p>IWA + EUREAU Corinne Trommsdorff Corinne.Trommsdorff@iwahq.org</p>

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	CLIMATE	Water Security and Climate Change Adaptation at the Mediterranean	<p>The Mediterranean region faces many climate change challenges, with projected increase in temperature, decrease in precipitation, and more frequent extreme events (floods and droughts). These climate change effects will significantly impact the water sector and multiple economic sectors, including vulnerable people, assets and food security. There is a need to develop appropriate climate-smart water policies and practices to build climate resilience to lower the risks. Many Mediterranean countries have already or are in the process to develop adaptation plans and strategies. However, it remains challenging to include measures to climate-smart water security. Policymakers should be fully aware of the latest scientific knowledge in managing risk and uncertainty for climate resilience, and be capable of utilizing those scientific findings to make informed decisions to embrace sound policy instruments to support climate change adaptation. Technology transfer to make climate-related water information available is essential. Policy instruments for climate-smart adaptation in the water sectors should investigate various options including desalination, groundwater recharge, wastewater reuse, water demand management and planning for less future water and extreme events. Innovative financing mechanisms should also be sought.</p>	<p>CEDARE/PLAN BLEU Khaled Abuzeid/Celine Dubreuil kabuzeid@cedare.int; cdubreuil@planbleu.org</p>
Regional Process	ECOSYSTEMS	Managing and restoring Mediterranean ecosystems for water services and biodiversity	<p>Most wetlands in the Mediterranean basin are at low altitudes and are predominantly coastal. A number of large river deltas are well known in the Mediterranean. They include the Camargue at the mouth of the Rhone in France, the Po delta in Italy, the Ebro delta in Spain, the combined delta of the rivers Axios-Aliakmon-Loudias near Thessaloniki, the Nestos delta in Northwest Greece, the Evros delta on the border between Greece and Turkey, the Menderes delta in Western Turkey, the Medjerda delta in Tunisia and, of course, the enormous Nile delta in Egypt. These ecosystems provides a wide range of services (fresh water, food, recreational, flood protection, biodiversity) but are in great danger due to human activities as well as climate change. This session will present different cases where these ecosystems have been used as Nature Based Solutions for water resources management in Mediterranean countries, as well as an innovative monitoring tool (that can also support SDG6.6 reporting) and will feature a round-table on the governance structures to ensure the success of ecosystem restoration and Natural Based Solutions at river basin level.</p>	<p>SEMIDE/EMWIS Eric Mino e.mino@semide.org</p>

PROCESS	THEME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS
Regional Process	FINANCE	Finance for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean	This session will be based, among others, on the concepts presented in the report "WATER: FIT TO FINANCE?", discussing key issues regarding water finance set out in the Water Strategy in the Western Mediterranean (Dialogue 5+5), approved by Water Ministers in March 2015, and financial strategy to undertake the commitments of the recently adopted Mediterranean Water Agenda by the Union for the Mediterranean Ministers (Malta, April 2017). The session will be conducted by staff of the Permanent Technical Secretariat of MENBO and the participants will exploit synergies with the main Themes from the Thematic Framework of the World Water Forum, namely: Climate change mitigation; Integrated sanitation for all; Water for Energy; Treatment and reuse technologies and Managing and restoring ecosystems for water services and biodiversity.	Mediterranean Network of Basin Organisations (MENBO) Teodoro Estrela Monreal Teodoro.Estrela@chj.es; remoc@chj.es
Regional Process	URBAN	Circular Economy: Reuse in the Mediterranean and its impact on territories	Based on lessons learned and successful experiences, this participative session will highlight the potentials and the impacts of Reuse, Recycling and Reduction processes in the Mediterranean territories. It will involve some decision makers as well as elected representatives, researchers, and civil society.	MEDCITIES Oriol Barba obarba@amb.cat
Regional Process	URBAN	Urban Water Challenges in the Americas	Urbanization is a worldwide phenomenon. Since 2011, for the first time in human history human population lives preponderantly in cities. In the next 40 years, cities will receive 800,000 additional inhabitants per week. This scenario and the absolute or partial lack of services for people living in many cities worldwide, combined with population and economic growth, are factors that will demand improved and new approaches for management of urban water. Worldwide rapid urbanization demands innovative ways to conceive and operate water management. New approaches are required to optimize the joint management of water, land use and energy, as well as to decrease the water footprint of cities and to control the transportation of contaminants into water and the transfer of pollutants among water, soil and the urban air	Brazilian Academy of Sciences / InterAmerican Network of Academies of Sciences José Galizia Tundisi mcbs@abc.org.br; tundisi@iie.com.br