



# IWRA *Update*

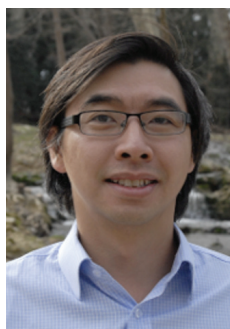
**Newsletter of the International Water Resources Association**

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR p.1 | NEWS p.2

LATEST ACTIVITIES p.3 | UPCOMING EVENTS p.5 | PUBLICATIONS p.6

JOINT INTERVIEW p.9

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear members and colleagues,

The period since the last newsletter in March has been a busy one for IWRA with numerous activities being initiated and events where IWRA participated.

Last month, IWRA for the first time held a virtual board meeting through new video-conferencing technology. It was very successful with 18 participants and represents an excellent way for our geographically dispersed Executive Board to meet on a more regular basis.

During May, IWRA President Dogan Altinbilek and Past President Jun Xia attended the kick off meeting of the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum held in Daegu as well as the meeting of the Board of Governors of the World Water Council. Being involved in these important events will ensure IWRA's continued close involvement in the Forum processes as we move between the previous one in Marseille in 2012 to the 7<sup>th</sup> Forum to be held in Daegu, South Korea in 2015. IWRA members and partners organised equally important events around the world including (amongst others): the German Development Institute which held a session on the energy-water-environment nexus at the international conference of the Global Water Systems Project in Bonn, Germany; and the ICIMOD workshop on integrated modeling framework for the Koshi River Basin in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Regarding specific thematic projects, I am pleased to announce that IWRA has recently signed a three year agreement with the National Office for Water and Aquatic Environments to work on projects that focus on improving the Science-Policy Interface in the field of water and to develop a framework for an international reference on water quality guidelines for different uses.

I'd also like to warmly welcome Mr. Toshiro Suzuki as the new Secretary of IWRA's Japan Committee; as well as Dr. Majid Labbaf Khaneiki from Iran and Prof. Cyriaque-Rufin Nguimalet from the Central African Republic who join IWRA as awardees of the Toyoko and Hiroshi Hori Education Fund. I do look forward to fruitful exchanges with you as the year moves on.

Over the last few months, the organisation of the XV<sup>th</sup> World Water Congress has been gathering momentum. A kick-off meeting was held with the Scottish Government in April, the theme of the Congress has been defined: "Global Water: a Resource for Development", the Congress website has been launched and brochures and other communications material have been disseminated. I encourage all of you to help make our next Congress our most successful ever.

With best wishes,

**Tom Soo**  
IWRA Executive Director

World Water Day 2013  
International Year of Water Cooperation

## NEWS news news news news news news news news news news



### MR. TOSHIRO SUZUKI AS BECOME THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE JAPAN COMMITTEE:

We are pleased to welcome Mr. Toshiro Suzuki as the new Secretary of the Japan Committee. He is replacing Mr. Tetsuya Ikeda who has moved to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. We wish both of them the best in their new roles.



### HORI FUND GRANTS FOR SCHOLARS FROM LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES - FIRST APPLICATION:

The Toyoko and Hiroshi Hori Education Fund provides support for IWRA memberships for promising scholars from developing economies, especially those designated by the OECD as least developed. The first two 2013 applications have been accepted by the Hori Fund Task Force and were awarded to Majid Labbaf Khaneiki (Iran) & Prof. Cyriaque-Rufin Nguimalet (Central African Republic). IWRA wishes both of them a very warm welcome to the association!

More information at: [www.iwra.org/index.php?mainpage=164&page=230&subpage=](http://www.iwra.org/index.php?mainpage=164&page=230&subpage=)

Current members of the IWRA are invited and encouraged to recommend candidates, using the form available on the IWRA website.

### UN-WATER - THE REPORT OF THE HIGH-LEVEL PANEL OF EMINENT PERSONS ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY RELEASED:

The High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda released "A New Global Partnership: eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development," a report which sets out a universal agenda to eradicate extreme poverty from earth by 2030, and deliver on the promise of sustainable development. The report calls upon the world to rally around a new Global Partnership that offers hope and a role to every person in the world. [www.post2015hlp.org](http://www.post2015hlp.org)

### DUNDEE UNESCO CENTRE LAUNCHES UN WATERCOURSES CONVENTION INTERACTIVE LEARNING WEBSITE:

The Dundee Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science (under the auspices of UNESCO) is delighted to announce the launch of a new interactive learning website for the UN Watercourses Convention.

The UN Watercourses Convention User's Guide was published in 2012 as a comprehensive guide to aid interpretation and implementation for water practitioners and decision-makers at all levels. Based on this Guide, an interactive website on the Convention has been developed to cater for the multi-faceted ways in which people learn, as well as functioning as a central information portal and advocacy platform for promoting the Convention. **The new website can be accessed here:** [www.unwatercoursesconvention.org](http://www.unwatercoursesconvention.org)

### SINGAPORE'S RAPID RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE BY UPGRADING OF ITS EXISTING "CODE OF PRACTICE ON SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE":

In the Republic of Singapore, as in many other countries in the region, recent climatic changes have resulted in more frequent floods leading to large commercial losses, particularly in urban areas. In order to curb such floods, the Government has decided to be more proactive and, as such, the existing Code of Practice on Surface Water Drainage is being revised. The changes being incorporated take a holistic approach to the problem of flooding. To increase resilience to such floods, the Government is adopting a holistic 'source-pathway-receptor' approach. Developers are to implement in-situ measures to reduce the velocity of surface runoff and to have detention systems that will lead to reduced peak flows in the island-wide drainage systems. These revisions are expected to be effective from 1 June 2013 with a 6 month grace period being allocated for the reduction of peak flows from 1 January 2014. **More information at:** [www.pub.gov.sg/](http://www.pub.gov.sg/)

### NEW PROJECTS STARTING AT IWRA!

IWRA has started two 3 year projects financed by the French National Office for Water and Aquatic Environments (ONEMA).

- The first project is to develop a framework for an international reference on Water Quality Guidelines. Within a context of global changes (anthropogenic, climate and natural) and limited water resources, the project aims to contribute to ensuring water resource availability in accordance with different water uses and their associated water quality needs.
- The second project «SCIENCE-POLICY INTERFACE», aims to improve and strengthen the international interface between science and policy in the field of water.

**Interested in following or participating in these projects? Please contact the IWRA Executive Office at:** [office@iwra.org](mailto:office@iwra.org)



### NEW INTERNS AT THE IWRA EXECUTIVE OFFICE:

IWRA is very pleased to welcome **Maelis Monnier** and **Phoenix McLaughlin** this summer!

**Maelis** is currently studying international relations, with a special interest for the management of water resources, at the Political Science Institute in Lyon, France. She is working on a project regarding to the Science-Policy Interface.

**Phoenix** comes from the United States and is studying international political economy at Colorado College. He is mainly working on project concerning the implementation of a Global Compendium on Water Quality Guidelines.

**To contact Maelis & Phoenix:** [office@iwra.org](mailto:office@iwra.org)

## LATEST ACTIVITIES

### 7<sup>TH</sup> WORLD WATER FORUM KICK-OFF MEETING:

DAEGU-GYEONGBUK, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, 14-15 MAY 2013



IWRA President, Dogan Altinbilek and IWRA Past President, Jun Xia, attended the Kick-off meeting in Daegu, on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of 2013.

Following the extraordinary growth of the World Water Forums since the World Water Council held the 1<sup>st</sup> World Water Forum in Morocco in 1997, Korea is now preparing to hold the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Daegu-Gyeongbuk in 2015.

The results of the Kick-off Meeting will provide valuable input to the design of the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum and the coming two-year preparatory process.

**More information at:** <http://worldwaterforum7.org>

### WORLD WATER COUNCIL BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING:

SEOUL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, 10-13 MAY 2013

The Council's Board members gathered in Seoul, Republic of Korea, for their second meeting of the year, welcomed by Korean Prime Minister Hongwon Chung. IWRA President, Dogan Altinbilek and IWRA Past President, Jun Xia, attended the meeting in Seoul. The next Board meeting is planned for October in conjunction with the Budapest Water Summit.

**More information at:** [www.worldwatercouncil.org](http://www.worldwatercouncil.org)



### IWRA SECOND EXECUTIVE BOARD-MEETING (22 MAY 2013):

For the first time, an Executive Board-meeting was organised using a video-conferencing system (GoToMeeting). The meeting was held on May the 22<sup>th</sup> for almost three hours. The video-conference, presided over by Prof. Dogan Altinbilek, was a real success: 18 participants attended the meeting including 16 board members (on a total of 20). Many points were presented and discussed.

### GOVERNING THE ENERGY-WATER- ENVIRONMENT NEXUS RELATED TO HYDRO-POWER PROJECTS:



The German Development Institute/ Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE) organised the special session on governing the energy-water-environment nexus related to hydro-power projects at the international conference «Water in the Anthropocene» of the Global Water Systems Project held in Bonn, Germany, on May 21-24, 2013.

The four presenters of the session critically discussed challenges and opportunities of hydropower projects for energy production in terms of their social and environmental impact. Oliver Hensengerth (University of Northumbria) focused on integrating environmental and social issues into dam planning in China and Waltina Scheumann's intervention (German Development Institute) assessed the governance of the energy, water and environment nexus in Turkish dam planning. Peter Newborne from the Overseas Development Institute and Ines Dombrowsky (German Development Institute) evaluated concepts and perspectives for transboundary benefit sharing while focusing on local communities in Asia, Africa and the Americas as well as on the case of the Ruzizi and Rusumu Falls projects in Africa's Great Lake Region.

**More information on the conference is available here:**

<http://conference2013.gwsp.org/home.html>

**More detailed information on water research at DIE here:**  
[www.die-gdi.de](http://www.die-gdi.de)



## LATEST ACTIVITIES

### 4<sup>TH</sup> GLOBAL FORUM ON URBAN RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION (ICLEI RESILIENT CITIES):

BONN GERMANY, 31 MAY - 2 JUNE 2013



Mark Redwood, Programme Leader of the Climate Change and Water initiative at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and IWRA Director, participated at the 4<sup>th</sup> Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation in Bonn, Germany, 31 May-2 June 2013. One of the most problematic issues presumed with climate change and rapid urbanisation is ensuring water quality and adequate water supply in urban areas. This panel discussion introduced the audience to some of the ongoing research supported by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada, which address urban water management in cities located in semi-arid and arid regions - making adaptation planning all the more important as temperatures rise.

For more information please see: <http://www.iclei.org/details/article/keeping-water-running-in-the-city.html>

### ICIMOD - WORKSHOP ON THE INTEGRATED MODELLING FRAMEWORK FOR THE KOSHI RIVER BASIN:

A three-day workshop has been organised during 18-20 June 2013 by ICIMOD and CSIRO-eWater consortium at ICIMOD headquarter in Kathmandu, Nepal. The workshop intended to bring together stakeholders from the region to discuss the challenges and opportunities of an integrated modelling framework for the Koshi River basin. The modelling system is expected to allow for the integration of several major elements of the Koshi Basin Programme (KBP), such as research on cryosphere, hydrology, climate change, agriculture and hydropower, livelihood and hazard risk reduction. By integrating the various components of KBP, this modelling framework will lead to a better understanding of hydrological system dynamics and multiple responses to the change drivers. [www.icimod.org/?q=10171](http://www.icimod.org/?q=10171) & [www.ewater.com.au](http://www.ewater.com.au)

### SAVE THE DATE: 25-29 MAY 2015 XV<sup>TH</sup> WORLD WATER CONGRESS!

«GLOBAL WATER, A RESOURCE FOR DEVELOPMENT:  
 OPPORTUNITIES, CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS»



Let's get started! We are pleased to present the announcement brochure of the next World Water Congress and also the launch of the official website. The first step has been taken and we are now working on mobilising all stakeholders and developing the best partnerships possible to make our Congress a success.

To kick-off this process, Tom Soo, Executive Director of IWRA, spent a few days in Edinburgh at the beginning of May to meet with the Scottish Government and key partners.

#### *Interested in playing a role at the Congress?*

The IWRA World Water Congress is very interested in your participation either through the organisation of special sessions, participation through scientific presentations, posters and articles, exhibition spaces, sponsoring and promotion, or side events.

We encourage you to register your interest to participate in the Congress and/or the preparatory process by getting in contact the IWRA Executive Office – [office@iwra.org](mailto:office@iwra.org)

#### *Download the announcement:*

[www.iwra.org/doc/IWRA\\_WWC-Save-The-Date3.pdf](http://www.iwra.org/doc/IWRA_WWC-Save-The-Date3.pdf)  
[www.worldwatercongress.com](http://www.worldwatercongress.com)

### IWRA MEMBERS:

#### PROFESSOR VIJAY P. SINGH AWARDED:

Professor Vijay P. Singh, who is currently Professor of Biological & Agricultural Engineering and Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering and the inaugural holder of Caroline and William N. Lehrer Distinguished Chair in Water Engineering at Texas A&M University, has been appointed Distinguished Professor which is the highest honour the university bestows on its faculty. He has received the Lifetime Achievement Award this year from the American Society of Civil Engineers for his seminal contributions in hydrology and water resources. He has also received the 2013 Hydrology Days Award given by Colorado State University.

#### PROFESSOR SLOBODAN SIMONOVIC INDUCTED:

Slobodan Simonovic has been inducted into Canadian Academy of Engineering. The induction ceremony took place on June 20, 2013 in Montreal.

More information at: [www.slobodansimonovic.com](http://www.slobodansimonovic.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ICIMOD - Field Excursion of Upper Indus Basin Monitoring Working Group:

FROM 17 TO 27 JULY 2013

Members of the Upper Indus Basin (UIB) Monitoring Working Group will attend a joint field visit to sites in Gilgit and Baltistan, Pakistan. The main objectives of the field visit are to strengthen collaboration between various actors working in the Upper Indus basin, and to select at least ten glaciers for initial field work to improve knowledge on the 'Karakoram Anomaly'. [www.icimod.org/?q=10250](http://www.icimod.org/?q=10250)  
 More ICIMOD news available at: [www.icimod.org](http://www.icimod.org)



### High Level International Conference on Water Cooperation:

DUSHANBE, TAJIKISTAN, AUGUST 20-21, 2013

The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan convenes the Conference according to the General Assembly Resolution A/67/204 «Implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013», adopted on 21 December 2012. The main purpose of the Conference, as the title implies, is to promote dialogue and mutual understanding and to strengthen the partnership and cooperation on water issues among all stakeholders at all levels.

More information at: [www.hlicwc.org](http://www.hlicwc.org)



### 2013 World Water Week:

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN, 1-6 SEPTEMBER

The World Water Week in Stockholm is the annual meeting place for the planet's most urgent water-related issues. The Week brings together 2,500 experts, practitioners, decision-makers and business innovators from around the globe to exchange ideas, foster new thinking and develop solutions. The theme for the 2013 World Water Week is Water Cooperation - Building Partnerships and it will take place from 1 to 6 September, 2013.

Register now: [www.worldwaterweek.org](http://www.worldwaterweek.org)

### 2013 International Water Associations Forum on Global Water Security:

CHENGDU, CHINA - SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2013

This International Water Associations Forum on Global Water Security will take place in Chengdu on September 9<sup>th</sup> during the forthcoming IAHR World Congress.

For more information, visit: [www.iahr2013.org](http://www.iahr2013.org)



### 16<sup>th</sup> International River Symposium:

BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA, 23-26 SEPTEMBER 2013

Rivers and other freshwater systems are central in the production of food and many forms of energy. As a result of population growth and climate change, the finite freshwater supplies are becoming scarcer; hence the holistic and sustainable management of water resources is essential.

The 16<sup>th</sup> International River Symposium provides an opportunity to look at the linkages that rivers provide to water-energy-food. It will also allow dialogue to continue and build the knowledge base and capacity to inform policy decisions that must include trade-offs between river basin protection and sustainable water, energy and food security.

More information at: <http://riversymposium.com>



### 2013 Budapest Water Summit:

BUDAPEST, HUNGARY,

FROM 8 TO 13 OCTOBER 2013

Hungary played an active role in the elaboration of water-related issues in the run-up to the Rio+20 Conference. As a Steering Committee member of the Friends of Water group at the UN in New York it co-organised, sponsored and hosted a number of events that proved to be pivotal contributions to the final outcome document. Hungary continues to work with Member States and assists in shaping a common understanding of current water-related challenges as well as the ways and forms of responses, including the formulation of appropriate SDGs.

To move forward the post-Rio water agenda, Mr János Áder, the President of Hungary, announced in Rio de Janeiro Hungary's intention to organise an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations in 2013 in Budapest, the capital city of Hungary. This conference, the 2013 Budapest Water Summit, forms part of the events of the UN International Year of Water Cooperation led by UNESCO.

More information at: <http://budapestwatersummit.hu>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### International Symposium of Ecohydrology and Water Security:

WUHAN AND YICHANG, HUBEI, CHINA - OCTOBER 18-22, 2013

The objectives of the symposium are based around: global and regional water security guarantees for major needs; basin water cycles and ecological hydrological processes; flood and drought disasters and ecological response systems; governance of water environments and water pollution; science for improving water security policy; exchanging research and experience; water security in the context of China's social and economic development; technology and construction methods; eco-hydrology and water resource management; environmental strategies and global water security research.

The event is sponsored by Wuhan University, the International Water Resources Association (IWRA), and the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS).



### Singapore International Water Week 2014:

SINGAPORE, REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, FROM 1-5 JUNE 2014

In its sixth year in 2014, Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) gathers global water leaders and practitioners from both public and private sectors to engage in discussion and debate, presenting valuable opportunities for participants to network and showcase leading-edge technologies and best practices, along with co-creating innovative water solutions by identifying practical methodologies to address the world's most pressing water issues. The Singapore International Water Week will be held in Singapore from 1-5 June 2014.

For more information, visit: [www.siww.com.sg](http://www.siww.com.sg)



### 22<sup>nd</sup> ICID Congress and the 65<sup>th</sup> IEC Meeting:

GWANGJU, KOREA, FROM 14 TO 20 SEPTEMBER 2014

The 22<sup>nd</sup> ICID Congress and the 65<sup>th</sup> IEC Meeting will be convened from 14 to 20 September 2014 at Kimdaejung Convention Center, Gwangju, Korea.

[www.icid2014.org](http://www.icid2014.org)

Water  
INTERNATIONAL



## PUBLICATIONS

### WATER INTERNATIONAL VOLUME 38, ISSUE 2, MARCH 2013

**SPECIAL ISSUE: THE 1997 UN WATERCOURSES CONVENTION – WHAT RELEVANCE IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY?**

#### Guest editorial:

*Alistair Rieu-Clarke, Remy Kinna & Flavia Loures*

PAGES 109-111

#### Articles:

- Utilization of shared international freshwater resources – the meaning and role of “equity” in international water law.  
*Owen McIntyre* - PAGES 112-129

- Does Article 6 (Factors Relevant to Equitable and Reasonable Utilization) in the UN Watercourses Convention misdirect riparian countries?  
*Bruce Lankford* - PAGES 130-145

- The UN Watercourses Convention: the éminence grise behind cooperation on transboundary water resources.  
*Christina Leb* - PAGES 146-155

- The preservation of freshwater ecosystems of international watercourses and the integration of rules – an interpretative mechanism.  
*Jing Lee* - PAGES 156-165

- Article 33 of the UN Watercourses Convention: a step forward for dispute settlement?  
*Attila Tanzi & Enrico Milano* - PAGES 166-179

- A new human rights-based approach to the UN Watercourses Convention.  
*Claudia Cinelli* - PAGES 180-191

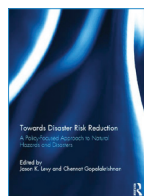
- The influence of the UN Watercourses Convention on the development of a treaty regime in the Nile River basin.  
*Musa M. Abseno* - PAGES 192-203

- Revisiting the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty  
*Hamid Sarfraz* - PAGES 204-216

- Exploring China's transboundary water treaty practice through the prism of the UN Watercourses Convention.  
*Huiping Chen, Alistair Rieu-Clarke & Patricia Wouters*  
PAGES 217-230



## OTHER PUBLICATIONS



**Professor Emeritus Chennat Gopalakrishnan** has published a new book titled *Towards Disaster Risk Reduction: A Policy-Focused Approach to Natural Hazards and Disasters* (Routledge 2013), co-written with Jason Levy (see link below). The publisher describes the book as “a landmark attempt to address, comprehensively and in-depth, a policy-focused approach to the many timely and important issues associated with building a culture of disaster prevention and disaster risk reduction.”

<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415826785/>



*The Singapore Water Story - Sustainable Development in an Urban City-State*

By **Cecilia Tortajada, Yugal Kishore Joshi, Asit K. Biswas**

Published 5<sup>th</sup> April 2013 by Routledge  
 288 pages

Singapore’s journey during the past 45 years is an outstanding example that, in spite of multiple hardships, pragmatic policies, clear visions, long-term planning, forward-looking strategies and political will, as well as a relentless urge to improve, can result in strong foundations for sustainable development.

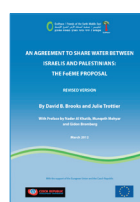
This book describes the journey of Singapore’s development and the fundamental role that water has had in shaping it. What makes this case so unique is that the quest for self-sufficiency in terms of water availability in a fast-changing urban context has been crucial to the way development policies and agendas have been planned throughout the years. The authors analyse plans, policies, institutions, laws and regulations, water demand and water supply strategies, water quality and water conservation considerations, partnerships and importance of the media. They assess overall how all these issues have evolved in response to the dynamic needs of the city-state.

The study of Singapore shows how a dynamic society can address development without losing its focus on the environment. In the city-state, environmental concerns in general, and water concerns in particular, have played a major role in its transformation from a third world to a first world country. How and why this transformation took place is the main focus of this authoritative book.

<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415657839/>

*Special issue of Water Resources Management on Water Engineering and Management in a Changing Environment.*

**Giuseppe Rossi**, chair of the IWRA Award Committee and formerly professor of Hydrology at Catania University (Italy), with **Antonino Cancelliere**, professor at the same University, are guest editors of a special issue of Water Resources Management, vol.27,n°6, April 2013. The special issue, titled “*Water Engineering and Management in a Changing Environment*”, aims at disseminating a set of innovative contributions presented at the EWRA Symposium held in Catania, Italy in 2011, whose selection has been carried out within the paradigm that “it is necessary to look out from water box to solve the water problems complexity within economic, environmental and social frameworks”. The issue collects 18 papers, covering a large spectrum of topics, including the assessment of climate change impacts on water management (3 papers), the analysis and mitigation of droughts (4 papers), the modeling of flood events and dam failure impacts (4 papers), the economic analysis of water uses, including non conventional resources (3 papers), and some successful experiences of application of new indicators of reliability, water pollution and sustainability (4 papers).

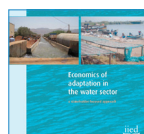


*An agreement to share water between Israelis and Palestinians.*

By **David B. Brooks and Julie Trottier**, with Preface by **Nader Al Khatib, Munqeth Mehyar and Gidon Bromberg**. March 2012.

Transboundary water agreements are usually conceived as allocation agreements. In other words, water is treated as if it were a pie to be divided among the riparian states. This approach works for land, which is stable, but not for water, which not only moves along, across and under political boundaries but can be used over and over from the time it originates as precipitation until it eventually finds its way back to the sea, evaporates, or seeps into a deep aquifer. Though a fixed allocation — that is, specific amounts or percentage shares to each of the parties — is sometimes useful to avoid conflict and solve short-term problems, it is not appropriate as a way to ensure efficient, equitable, and sustainable management of shared water over the long term. Older legal regimes for allocating water, such as First-in-Time/First-in-Right, are gradually being replaced, even in western North America where they were once common. Newer approaches emphasise the duties to use shared water in ways that are reasonable and equitable, and to avoid harm to neighbouring states. The trick, of course, is to define those terms in ways that are acceptable and applicable in specific circumstances, which brings us to the focus of this report by EcoPeace / Friends of the Earth Middle East (FoEME). The FoEME Proposal adopts a joint management structure for Israel and the future State of Palestine that allows for ongoing

resolution of issues concerning fresh water, and does so in a way that effectively de-nationalises and de-securitises water uses. That is, water is shared by rules that are designed to protect the ecosystem for everyone's benefit, and then deliver water to different parties in ways that meet their needs and allow for their development without resorting to arguments of national security or beggar-thy-neighbour development. Though looking toward a Final Status Agreement, the FoEME Proposal is designed in a way that allows it to be adopted and implemented in the near term, prior to that agreement.



**IIED Project «Economics of adaptation in the water sector - a stakeholder-focused approach».**

IIED's approach: The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) is working with country-based research teams in case study countries to pursue economic analysis using participatory methods. These will bring representatives of major stakeholder groups together and provide a forum for different interests to be considered and balanced. This approach is being termed stakeholder-based Cost Benefit Analysis.

It is hoped that such an approach will support the creation of relevant data sets and allow analysis that takes into account the distribution of costs and benefits in a variety of climate change affected water systems. This should result in better and more equitable adaptation planning with widespread acceptance by affected communities and other stakeholders.

**For further general information about this project please email [Muyeye Chambwera](mailto:muyeye.chambwera@iied.org) at:**

[muyeye.chambwera@iied.org](mailto:muyeye.chambwera@iied.org)

[www.iied.org/economics-climate-change-adaptation-water-sector](http://www.iied.org/economics-climate-change-adaptation-water-sector)

## RECENT ARTICLES BY MEMBERS:

**Gabriel Eckstein**, "Rethinking Transboundary Ground Water Resources Management: A Local Approach along the Mexico-U.S. Border", Georgetown International Environmental Law Review, Vol. 25, N°1, 2013.

Available for download at:

<http://ssrn.com/abstract=2254081>

and also a companion piece by the same title available on the IWLP Blog at:

<http://www.internationalwaterlaw.org/blog/?p=1248>

**Gopalakrishnan, C.** (2013), "Water and disasters: a review and analysis of policy aspects", International Journal of Water Resources Development (In press).

Available at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07900627.2012.756133#.UbWpqZwUTZY>

**Bonaccorso, B., D.J.Peres, A. Cancelliere, and G.Rossi** (2013), *Large scale probabilistic drought characterization over Europe*. Water Resources Management, 27(6), April 2013, 1675-1692.

**Rossi, G. and A. Cancelliere** (2012), *Managing drought risk in water supply systems in Europe: a review*. International Journal of Water Resources Development, 1-18

**Bonaccorso, B., A.Cancelliere and G.Rossi**, (2012), *Methods for drought analysis and forecasting*, Chapter 18 of "Methods and Applications of Statistics in the Atmospheric and Earth Science (ed. N. Balakrishnan), John Wiley and Sons, Hoboken, 150-184.

**Rossi, G.** (2012) *Una politica dell'acqua in Italia: quali priorità?*, L'Acqua, 5, 49-50.

**Sciuto, G., B.Bonaccorso, A.Cancelliere and G.Rossi** (2012) *Probabilistic quality control of daily temperature data*, International Journal of Climatology, 33 (5), 1211-1227, DOI:1.10002/joc3506.

**Cecilia Tortajada and Asit K. Biswas**, "Singapore's growth story holds lessons for water-scarce China", China Dialogue, 16 may 2013.

**Cecilia Tortajada and Asit K. Biswas**, "Prelude to a water and economic crisis?", China Daily, 14 may 2013.



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# 15<sup>th</sup> WORLD WATER CONGRESS

## JOINT INTERVIEW WITH CECILIA TORTAJADA & JONATHAN RATHEN

In the context of the organisation of the next IWRA World Water Congress to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, from 25 to 29 May 2015, we are pleased to take a few moments with two of the main organisers of this international event: Cecilia Tortajada, Chair of the International Scientific Committee and Jonathan Rathjen from the Scottish Government.

*The main theme of the next congress is «Global Water, a resource for development: opportunities, challenges and constraints»: why have you chosen this theme? could you explain what «resource for development» means? what the challenges are?*

**CECILIA TORTAJADA:** The reason for choosing this topic is because of the increasing importance of water to sustain and promote overall development, further economic growth, improve quality of life of billions of people and conserve the natural environments in an increasingly complex global environment. Water is a multidimensional, cross-sectoral and time-bound resource that changes with time. Additionally, there are a growing number of external factors to the water sector that are driving how decisions are being taken and to which the sector seems to be mostly reacting. The end result has been that management of water resources, related policies, development and governance depend increasingly on other sectors in terms of policies, performance and prospects, but this has not been explicitly recognised by decision-makers.

A further complexity is that the multiple global drivers of change are adding to the many old and unresolved issues that have plagued the water sector and impacted development for too long: water institutions that do not function properly, many of them with overlapping and/or conflicting decision-making structures; legal and regulatory frameworks that are outdated and unresponsive to needs; policies that do not consider the requirements of other sectors; increasing and unregulated withdrawals for cities, industry, agriculture and energy uses; prevailing focus on water supply rather than on demand management (shift from increasing quantity of water available to reduce consumptive demand) resulting on larger numbers of basin closure; water prices and tariffs structures that do not consider socially desirable outcomes, etc.

In spite of numerous challenges, the water profession does not seem to have realised that **a change of paradigm is needed where water policies –and politics– are within a framework of overall development rather than merely a sectoral one.** Global changes, driving forces

and water-based expectations for multiple uses and users present a very difficult scenario, but it seems that the water sector has not prepared itself to respond to these new conditions.

*How can IWRA members contribute to the next world water congress?*

**CECILIA TORTAJADA:** Conventional wisdom as it relates to the policy, management and governance of water resources needs to be challenged and reconsidered so that it is able to address current and future development. Looking forward, the water sector will have to become more innovative and develop more effective ways to become part of the development landscape, not as a bit player, but as an active participant.

In order to achieve progress, policy-makers and also academics need to focus on first order questions, and not protect past paradigms that have proved to be inadequate. The changing world order and its associated impacts require a more proactive attitude that does not accept old thoughts and concepts which implementation has been a serious problem in the past. If they could not be used under the known environment, they are unlikely to be useful in an environment where the only certainty is change. In this sense, IWRA members can significantly contribute to the next world water congress by further question, debate and challenge prevailing wisdom and propose alternative solutions as the only way to promote the advancement of knowledge.

*The next World Water Congress will be held in Edinburgh Scotland: what are you expecting from this Congress? Why Edinburgh Scotland?*

**JONATAN RATHJEN:** We are delighted that the 2015 World Water Congress will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland. The theme of the Congress is “Global Water, a resource for development” and with its beautiful environment and abundant but carefully managed water resources, Scotland is an ideal location for the event. **The Scottish Government has set out its vision for Scotland to be the world’s first Hydro Nation.** A Hydro Nation is one which uses its water resources to the best advantage for gain in both in both monetary and non-monetary terms. A Hydro Nation deploys its knowledge and expertise effectively at home and internationally. The Scottish Government is developing a wide ranging programme of work to achieve this vision – the Hydro Nation agenda.

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Scotland is a nation which manages its water in a distinct manner compared to the rest of the United Kingdom with Scottish Water (the single provider of water and waste water services) in public ownership with Scottish Ministers setting their objectives. We have many scattered rural communities as well as our main cities of Glasgow and Edinburgh, and there is a challenge in providing water and wastewater services to those who are remote from the mains network. Supporting sustainable rural communities is a key challenge for the Scottish water industry as it is for the Global water industry and we believe we have lots to offer and lots to learn from others. Visitors to the 2015 Congress will receive a warm welcome and the opportunity to participate in workshops, to network and visit sites that demonstrate how Scotland's water is managed.

*We understand that Scotland has placed a particular focus on the value of water, what do you mean by this and how can research and policy contribute in the context of the Congress?*

**JONATHAN RATHJEN:** The Scottish Parliament has recently passed the Water Resources (Scotland) Act 2013. This Act provides the legislative basis for the Scottish Government's Hydro Nation programme. The Act places a duty on Scottish Ministers to take steps to develop the value of Scotland's water resources, and "value" is defined as both monetary and non-monetary worth. We wanted to be clear that water has more than an economic value, it has social and environmental value too, and one should not be driven at the expense of the others. Ministers will be required to report back to the Parliament on how they have developed the value of Scotland's water resources, so there is a clear impetus for action to be taken.

As part of the Hydro Nation agenda, there is a clear remit for research and policy to be developed to ensure that cutting edge solutions are developed and that they are applied with our scientific and social understanding of their impacts. We wish to maximise their positive impact and deliver benefits to customers and the environment alike. We look forward to seeing high quality abstracts and papers in advance of the Congress and inviting delegates to hear from the very best speakers on a diverse range of critical water topics.



### ABOUT **CECILIA TORTAJADA**

Dr. Cecilia Tortajada is the President of the Third World Centre for Water Management, Mexico. Her work focuses on inter-disciplinary research on public policy aspects of natural resources management, especially water, in developed and developing countries.

She has been an advisor to major international institutions like FAO, UNDP, JICA, ADB, OECD and GIZ, and has worked in countries in Africa, Asia, North and South America and Europe on natural resources and environment-related policy, management and governance aspects. She is past President of the International Water Resources Association (2007-2009).

[www.thirdworldcentre.org](http://www.thirdworldcentre.org)



### ABOUT **JONATHAN RATHJEN**

Jon Rathjen is the team leader of the Water Industry Team in the Scottish Government with policy responsibility for the Scottish Water Industry including

sponsorship of the public corporation Scottish Water and the new Hydro Nation agenda. Scotland the Hydro Nation focuses on the economic, social and environmental development of the value of water resources in Scotland and the raising of Scotland's international profile through its performance on global water issues.

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