



10th World Water Forum

18 – 25 May, 2024 – Bali, Indonesia

Technical Session

“A Workable Framework to Address Social and Economic Vulnerability Under Water-Related Disasters”

22 May 2024 (16:40 – 18:10 hrs.)

Concept Note & Session Agenda

Type of session: Technical Session

Session Code: T1E3

Lead Convener: AWC

Co-Convener: LAS, CIHEAM

Date: 22 May, 2024

Time: 16:40 – 18:10 hrs.

Venue: TBC

Session Coordinators

<p>1) H.E. Prof. Mahmoud Abu-Zeid President, Arab Water Council (AWC) Email: president@arabwatercouncil.org Mobile: +2 01006766600</p>	<p>2) Prof. Hussein El-Atfy Secretary-General, AWC Email: hieatfy@arabwatercouncil.org Mobile: +2 01006856855</p>
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Background and Context:

The far-reaching consequences of climate change and water-related disasters are affecting almost every region around the globe. Extreme weather events are becoming more frequent and severe, and many regions around the world are facing serious problems as a result of warming temperatures and shifting rainfall patterns, leading to extreme events and disasters of floods and droughts. Therefore, to successfully adapt and remain resilient in the face of these changes, it is critical to strengthen climate resilience and adaptation measures. Developing and implementing strong adaptation measures is crucial for climate security in light of the many challenges facing the prone regions. Strategies should aim to strengthen and secure sustainability of many different areas to ensure climate security, such as food production, water



supply, transportation, healthcare, and social stability and safety. Water-related disasters pose multiple dangers to the social cohesion and economic stability of communities all over the world. These threats transcend geographical boundaries and have an influence on a variety of regions that are vulnerable to varied degrees. When we are confronted with the growing frequency and severity of these disasters, it is necessary for us to draw upon the collective wisdom and experiences of nations and people located in every region of the world. More than 90 percent of "natural" disasters are directly tied to weather and water, such as drought, aridification, wildfires, pollution, and floods. They result in mortality, harm, economic deprivation, and forced migration, imposing significant burdens on society, economies, and the environment.

During the last UN 2023 Water Conference, Member States made significant progress in recognizing the connections between climate, resilience, water, and the environment. But to unleash synergies and enhance the work related to climate security in the many affected regions, and in order to cope with water-related disasters, and climate-induced migration, it is vital to promote regional and international cooperation, in addition to adopting multidisciplinary approaches to achieve solutions. This session is intended to provide a platform for experts, practitioners, and policymakers from different regions to share knowledge, experiences, and best practices related to addressing social and economic vulnerability and migration in the context of water-related disasters under climate extreme events. This would involve showcasing successful case studies on adaptation and resilience, and innovative approaches from various regions. The session will also present and highlight different regional initiatives from partners to address these alarming issues. Our objective is to create a dialogue on the comprehensive recommendations for setting workable frameworks that effectively address the social and economic vulnerability under water-related disasters. This session will provide an opportunity for engaging in lively discussions, exchanging information, and regional experiences and paving the way towards outlining the possible comprehensive actions that focus on adaptation and resilience, ensuring solutions for communities who face social and economic challenges, and who are vulnerable to climate impacts and water-related disasters.

Detailed Agenda:

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS
15 min.	Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- H.E. Prof. Mahmoud Abu-Zeid President, AWC - H.E. Ambassador Shahira Wahby Chief of Sustainable Development and International Cooperation, LAS



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Eng. Essa bin Hilal Al-Kuwari President of Qatar General Electricity & Water Corporation "KAHRAMAA". - Dr. Roula Khadra Senior Researcher/ Int. Officer/ WRM, CIHEAM Representative
5 min.	Session Moderator & Introductory Remarks	Prof. Hussein El-Atfy Secretary-General, AWC
10 min.	Keynote speaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prof. Walid Abderrahman Vice President, AWC Chairman, International Advisory Board, ACWA Holding, Riyadh, KSA Title of Speech : “Strategic Action Priorities for Climate Security, Social and Economic Resilience in the Fragile Arab Region”
30 min.	Panelists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amb. Almotaz Abadi Deputy Secretary-General for Water, Environment and Blue Economy at the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Title of Speech: “The Climate, Migration, and Security Nexus in the Mediterranean Region – How to support a Sustainable Socio-Economic Framework in the Era of the Triple Crisis” - Prof. Khaled Abu Zeid Senior Regional Water Resources Director, CEDARE Title of Speech: Water-Related Disasters : Causes & Risk Reduction Strategies - Saudi Irrigation Organization SIO-KSA Representative - Dr. Giriraj Amarnath Principal Researcher in Disaster Risk Management and Climate Resilience, IWMI Representative Title of Speech: Building Resilience: A Framework for Tackling Vulnerability in Water-related Disasters - Dr. Vinay Nangia Research Team Leader Soils, Waters & Agronomy (ICARDA) - Representative of IOM Regional Headquarters - Bangkok, Thailand



10 min.	Presenter & Rapporteur	Dr. Amel Azab Water Resources Management & Capacity Development Expert, Technical Deputy Director, AWC. and Dr. Jean D'Couhna, Former Senior Global Advisor on International Migration and Decent Work UN Women Regional Office of Arab States Title of Presentation: The Need for a Regional Framework: "Addressing Social Vulnerability and Climate-Induced Gender Migration Nexus in the Arab Region"
15 min.	Open Discussion	
5 min.	Wrap-up & Closing	Prof. Hussein El-Atfy Secretary-General, AWC (Moderator)
Total: 90 min.		

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