



## SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

### 10<sup>TH</sup> WORLD WATER FORUM

**This Session Description Form 2 is for the specified program of the session. Please complete this form no later than 28th of February 2024.**

*\*The session description 1 (online form) is separately requested for the session coordinators to deliver a concise session outline with the contact info and the logistical requests.*

**Session Code and Title:**

3E3: Improving emergency response in water related disasters.

**Session Coordinators (Name, Position, Organization, email, mobile number):**

Baptiste LECUYOT, Solidarites, France, [blecuyot@solidarites.org](mailto:blecuyot@solidarites.org)  
Dwikorita Karnawati, Agency for Meteorology Climatology and Geophysics (BMKG), Indonesia, [dwiko@bmg.go.id](mailto:dwiko@bmg.go.id)  
Brooke Yamakoshi, Regional WASH Manager, UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office, Thailand, [byamakoshi@unicef.org](mailto:byamakoshi@unicef.org) +18473705446

**Session Description including objectives and expected outcomes (500 words maximum):**

Water-related disasters have dominated the list of disasters over the past 50 years and account for 70% of all deaths related to natural disasters ([World Bank, 2022](#)). Water-related disasters have also increased in frequency, driven by climate change; since 2000, flood-related disasters have increased by 134%, and the number and duration of droughts increased by 29% ([WMO, 2021](#)). This shows that the need for robust preparedness and early warning systems is more crucial than ever to save lives and reduce economic losses.

Water-related disasters may trigger large-scale public health emergencies, with devastating effects for the most affected and vulnerable people, particularly in contexts of crisis and fragility. These situations, combined with complex and protracted conflicts, are key factors leading to increased population displacement, requiring conflict-sensitive and peace-building approaches.

Under the theme "Early warning systems for all and emergency response mechanisms", our session will focus on the preparedness and response pillar, emphasising the importance of emergency preparedness and response plans (EPRPs) and anticipatory actions that take into account the specific needs of women, young people and socially excluded groups, and prepare them to play a leading role in disaster risk management.

The session will aim to identify the challenges and obstacles to the proper development and implementation of EPRPs in various contexts. It will look at the roles and responsibilities of the different actors involved in the emergency response to water-related disasters - local civil society, civil protection and Red Cross/Red Crescent organisations, NGOs, authorities, etc. - in the context of disaster risk management.

In particular, the session will attempt to detail the importance of:

- A robust emergency preparedness and response plan, developed on the basis of a **comprehensive risk analysis**, regularly updated, inclusive, disseminated to all stakeholders, explained and tested wherever possible.
- Coordinated responses with clear leadership and clear roles and responsibilities. This also includes the application of standard operating procedures and response monitoring capabilities. This is particularly true when different sectors are involved (water, health, etc.), for example during water-related epidemics such as cholera.

- Active participation, meaningful representation and decisive leadership from local and national stakeholders, including civil society organizations and institutions and ministries.
- Adequate funding, not only to develop EPRPs, but also to implement them, including at local level.

Although emergency responses tend to focus more on rapid onset events, the session will also address slow onset interventions, such as droughts, given the increased impact of these types of water-related disasters.

The session will identify the main challenges and bottlenecks and make recommendations to address them. In particular, it will examine how to improve the effectiveness of emergency responses through the lenses of different stakeholders and taking into account the contribution of the other two sessions which will focus on improving early warning systems.

Pre-identified speakers: IFRC / UNICEF / IOM / Deltares (or Miyamoto Relief) / Agency for Meteorology Climatology and Geophysics of Indonesia (BMKG) / DG-ECHO

#### Detailed Session plan :

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
5 min	Introduction: Setting the scene	Baptiste Lecuyot (M)- Senior WASH Adviser, Solidarites International, Europe	OK
20 min	Case study presentation TBD	IOM - Antonio Torres (M), Europe	OK (speaker TBC)
	The Children's Climate Risk Index: Informing better preparedness and response	UNICEF - Silvia Gaya (F), Regional Adviser, WASH, Climate and Environment for East Asia and Pacific	OK
1 hour	Panel Discussion Q&A	BMKG - Dwikorita Karnawati, Indonesia	TBC
		IFRC - Ewinur C. Machdar (F) - Asia Pacific Regional WASH Coordinator	OK
		DG-ECHO - Damien Blanc (M) - Thematic Expert Water, Sanitation, Shelter and Settlement - Regional Office for Asia and Pacific	OK
		Deltares	TBC
		CSO	TBC
		UNICEF regional office for Eastern and Southern Africa	TBC
5 min	Conclusion	Baptiste Lecuyot (M)- Senior WASH Adviser, Solidarites International, Europe	OK