



SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

10TH 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:

CC15 The role of science for building capacity and dialogue across transboundary basins 24th May 2024 13.00-14.30

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

Palestinian Water Authority	State of Palestine	Beesan O.Shonnar	Head of Policies and Technical Support Department	Shonnarbes@gmail.com	+970595444054
Turkish Water Institute (SUEN)	Türkiye	Burcu Çallı	Expert	burcu.calli@suen.gov.tr	+902163254992
Turkish Water Institute (SUEN)	Türkiye	Tuğba Evrim Maden	Policy Development Coordinator	tugba.maden@suen.gov.tr	+902163254992
UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP)	International	Aurélien Dumont	Associate Project Officer	au.dumont@unesco.org	+33 (0)1 45 68 04 00
UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP)	International	Miguel Doria	Programme Specialist	m.doria@unesco.org	+598 2413 2075
UNESCO C2 Center on Integrated and Multi-Disciplinary Water Resources Management (CIMWRM) of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	Greece	Elpida Kolokytha	Director	lpcol@civil.auth.gr	+30 2310 994169

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

Approaching water as a resource that unites rather than divides the countries and nations, this session aims to initiate a vibrant discourse on cooperation and dialogue across transboundary basins. Science serves as a cornerstone for building capacity and fostering dialogue across transboundary basins by providing insights, solutions, and a common understanding of the complex interplay between water resources and societal needs. In this regard, the session will highlight the role of science for development of a shared understanding and commitment for transboundary collaboration among different actors.

Emphasizing the necessity for continuous science-policy interaction and technical partnerships between peer key actors based on a robust scientific basis, the session will elaborate on challenges and opportunities for technical cooperation, smart water management, the use of advanced technologies and methods, innovations, evaluation and exchanges of information and data. The role of science for building capacity and dialogue and the transformative potential of strengthening the science/policy/action interface, will also be explored.

The discussion will extend to the strategies and tools, including infrastructure investments, technology transfer, experience sharing and capacity building programmes that would strengthen expertise, develop capacity, and eventually ensure prosperity and sustainable development in transboundary basins.

The session aims to facilitate a constructive discussion among diverse actors, including distinguished experts, professionals, academics, policymakers, local communities, youth and the civil society for the development of a shared understanding, collaborative problem-solving and acceleration of cross-sectoral and cross-boundary cooperation. In this regard, panellists and participants will share their views and experiences, the results of research and practices as well as recommendations and suggestions for the future.

Detailed Session Plan :

ESTIMATED TIMING 90 min	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS
5 min	Moderation/Introduction	Moderators: Burcu Çallı, Turkish Water Institute (SUEN), Miguel F. Doria, UNESCO IHP Regional Hydrologist	OK
15 min	Key Note Speeches	Key Note Speaker 1: Mazen Ghuneimy, Head of the Palestinian Water Authority	OK
		Keynote Speaker 2: Prof. Elpida Kolokytha, UNESCO C2 Center on Integrated and Multi-Disciplinary Water Resources Management (CIMWRM) of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	OK
20 min	1st Round of Discussion	Panellists:	
		Dr. Pinida Leelapanang, Chief Environment Management Officer Mekong River Commission Secretariat	OK
		Dr. Sharon B. Megdal, University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center	OK
		Dr. Ana Mendes, University of Évora	OK
		Ricardo Burg, Coordinator UNESCO/CAF/GEF Guarani PEA Project Montevideo	OK
		Renata Rozendo Maranhão, Deputy Superintendent of support for the National Water Resources Management System and subnational sanitation agencies	OK
		Andres Rodriguez, Undersecretary of National Water Resources, Argentina	OK
20 min	2nd Round of Discussion	6 Panellists	
5 min	Youth Perspective	Mira Dzhakshylykova, The World Youth Parliament for Water (WYPW)	OK
10 min	Closing Round	Key Note Speakers	
10 min	Q&A	Audience	
5 min	Session Outcomes and Conclusion	Moderators	