



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:

Session Code: **T1E1**

Session Title: **Creating water justice through fair allocation and water rights for sustainable development**

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

- 1) **You Jinjun**, Senior Engineer, Technical member, GWP China / IWHR
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Session Description including objectives and expected outcomes (500 words maximum):

Drought is emerging as a major global threat: in 2010 about 16% of the world population lived in river basins that are highly stressed; but by 2050 nearly 60% of the world population will be in such situation. The world is turning from an essentially wet place into one that is predominantly dry. This is caused by demographic and economic growth spurring rapidly growing demand, by the continuing deterioration of the watersheds and of water quality, and by climate change. Economic growth, social wellbeing and environmental sustainability in many countries are at deep risk; several projections forecast declining GDP in numerous regions of the world caused by structural water shortage.

The challenges and issues in water constraints on SDGs vary significantly across regions and countries, depending on natural, social and economic conditions. Water allocation continues to be a significant issue in many parts of the world due to various challenges and competing demands. Addressing these issues requires a combination of legal, institutional, economic and technological measures with the consideration of water rights. That's the targets to be discussed and summarized in the session.

This topic will delve into the critical role of fair water allocation and water rights determination in resolving water conflicts and fostering harmonious coexistence among stakeholders for sustainable development. Focusing on the problems among water exploitation and socio-economic development, the session is designed to inspire collaborative efforts among participants, to facilitate a deeper understanding of a roadmap to avoid water conflicts through better implementation on water allocation and water rights for sustainable development worldwide. Recognizing the complexities involved, participants will engage in comprehensive discussions to share the problems, concepts, methods and experiences. To illustrate practical applications, real-world examples and case studies from diverse countries and regions will be shared, highlighting successful strategies and invaluable lessons in achieving water justice. These examples will encompass a range of contexts, embracing countries and regions with different backgrounds.

This session will focus on the institutional, regulatory, economic instruments to manage water allocation and specifically the imbalance between demand for and supply of water which leads to 'relative water shortage'.

The objectives are :

- Raising awareness on the policy and the operational challenges to allocate water smartly, sustainably and fairly.
- Collecting and understanding experiences, and cases regarding water allocation from different countries, summarizing the in regulatory and institutional measures to solve the conflicts under water resources constraints and changing conditions, including climate change adaptation.
- Learning from each other how to best manage water allocation and rights in ways that balance (1) economic development and environmental sustainability, (2) security to water access, and adaptability, and (3) demand and supply management.
- Agreeing on next steps that are practical and realistic.

Expected Outcomes:

- Assessment of the Current Landscape and Identification of Key Challenges for the world and Countries,
- A Preliminary ‘Menu’ of Sustainable Solutions, e.g., define the limit of urban area, land occupation, population growth, and industrial development under water resources constraints,
- Commitment to Collaboration,
- Actionable Recommendations for Policies and for Operational Allocation Instruments,
- Recommendation to Continue Mutual Learning through a new Global ‘Network on Water Allocation and Rights and Regional Roundtables.

Detailed Session plan (TO BE DISCUSSED):

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
5 min.	Opening	Opening ceremony by Dr. You Jinjun Opening Speaker: Abou Amani, UNESCO-IHP	OK
50 min.	Keynote speaker (Moderator: You Jinjun) 1. TBC 2. Global Review of Current Legal Practices on Water Rights 3. TBC 4. Practice of Water Rights and water allocation in Yellow River 5. Reinforcing the Foundation of Water Scarcity Management in Indonesia: Water Accounting and Allocation	1. Eric Tardieu from International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) 2. Prof. Joyeeta Gupta & Dr. Andrea Müller from University of Amsterdam & Dr. Hilmer Bosch 3. Prof. Philippe, IAHR President 4. Prof. Jia Yangwe from IWHR 5. Fany Wedahuditama from GWP SEA (Indonesia)	1. OK 2. OK 3. OK 4. OK 5. OK
30 min.	Panelists (Moderator: Dr. Leon Hermans)	1. Prof. Guy Alaerts, IHE Delft 2. Handel Mux Roquel, World Youth Parliament for Water, Guatemala 3. YIN Chuming, UNICEF Youth Advocate on Environment and Water 4. Representative from GWP headquarters (GWPO) 5. Representative from MWR of China 6. Heliodoro Ochoa García, ITESO Jesuit University of Guadalajara, Mexico 7. Barbara Schreiner, CEO Water Integrity Network, and/or John Dini, Research Manager on Water Governance and Rights, Water Research Commission, South Africa.	1. OK 2. OK 3. OK 4. OK 5. OK 6. OK 7. OK (but pending schedule other sessions)



		8. other possible representatives	8. TBC
5min.	Wrap-up & Closing	Prof. Leon Hermans	(OK)
Total: 90 min.			