



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:

T3E2: Accelerating Innovation in Early Warning Systems: A Call to Action across All Pillars

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

Giriraj Amarnath, Principal Researcher - Disaster Risk Management and Climate Resilience, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Sri Lanka; A.Giriraj@cgiar.org; +94767770046

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

Early Warning Systems (EWS) offer a vital line of defense against natural disasters, but current gaps in coverage and effectiveness leave many communities vulnerable. Fostering innovation across all four EW4All pillars is crucial to achieving the "Early Warnings for All" goal. This discussion explores promising social and technological innovations and the role of science-based policies in accelerating EWS advancement. By harnessing the power of social and technological innovations, guided by science-based policies, we can build more effective and inclusive EWS for all. This requires a multi-pronged approach, focusing on community engagement, advanced technologies, and data-driven decision-making. The session will demonstrate the country's experience across the EWS pillars and highlight the need to accelerate innovation in saving lives, reducing losses, and building a more resilient future in the face of increasing disaster risks.

The session objective is to i) Explore cutting-edge social and technological innovations for strengthening Early Warning Systems (EWS) across all four pillars; ii) Foster dialogue and collaboration between stakeholders, including scientists, policymakers, practitioners, community leaders, and private sector representatives. iii) Identify key challenges and opportunities for accelerating innovation in EWS, particularly in developing countries and marginalized communities and iv) Develop recommendations for science-based policies and strategies to support the implementation of innovative EWS solutions.

The takeaway message from the session is to i) Enhance understanding of the latest social and technological innovations for EWS across all four pillars. ii) Collaborative development of innovative solutions to address key challenges in EWS implementation iii) Identification of best practices and case studies for successful EWS innovation iv) Recommendations for policy changes and funding mechanisms to support the development and deployment of innovative EWS solutions and v) Increased awareness and commitment among stakeholders to invest in and accelerate innovation in EWS for a safer and more resilient future.

Detailed Session plan (90 mins) :

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
5 mins	Welcome remarks	Mark Smith, Director General, IWMI	OK

20 mins	<p>Technical Presentation (2)</p> <p>EWS Technological Innovation</p> <p>EWS Social Innovation</p>	<p>Giriraj Amarnath, IWMI</p> <p>ADPC</p>	<p>OK</p>
60 mins	<p>Moderator (TBC)</p> <p>Panel Discussion (two session)</p> <p>Cutting edge technological Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMO • CLS • RAMBOLL <p>Collaborative advancement in EWS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNCCD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNESCO? • China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR) +International Conferences on Flood Management (ICFM) • UNICEF 	<p>Stefan Uhlenbrook Alice Andral Stine Dykjaer</p> <p>Birguy Lamizana Diallo (PhD), Chief, Global Policy, Advocacy & Regional Cooperation</p> <p>Koen Verbist Cheng Zhang</p> <p>Brooke Yamakoshi</p>	<p>OK OK TBC but should attend</p> <p>Ok</p> <p>TBC but should attend TBC but should attend</p> <p>TBC but should attend</p>
5 mins	Closing remarks		