

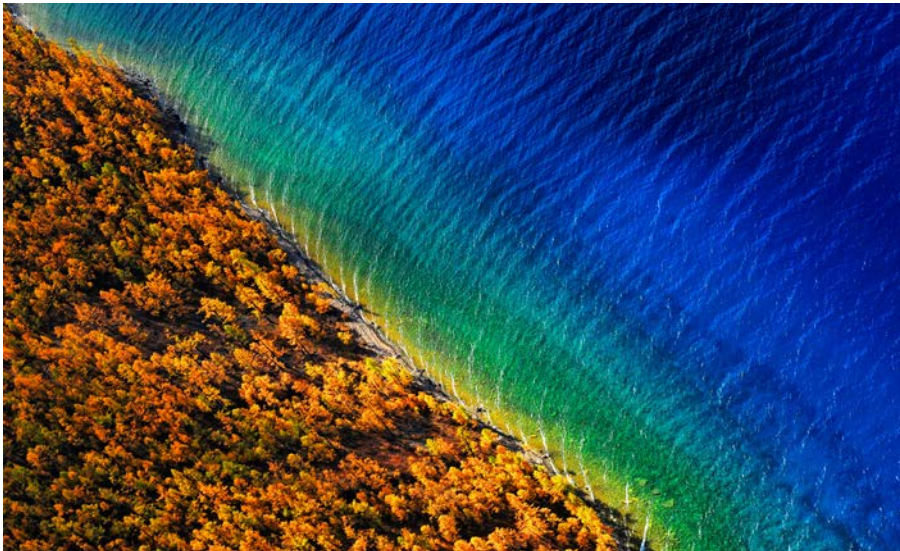
COP22 Side-event

Climate Change and Water Quality

Connecting the science-policy interface



MARRAKECH COP22|CMP12
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2016



Wednesday
09 November 2016
14:00-14:40

UNESCO Pavilion
Green Zone - C103



Objective

The event aims to promote more attention on water quality in the climate agenda by providing a platform for science-policy discussions on climate change impacts on water quality and the policy responses needed.

Focus

Climate change effects on water quality are likely to be significant. The IPCC predicts that climate change will exacerbate water quality degradation globally. Changes in precipitation patterns and flow regimes and altered thermal regimes due to global warming are likely to result in higher pollutant and pathogens levels in water bodies, as well as in salt-water intrusion in coastal areas. This will have negative impacts not only on freshwater ecosystems and human health, but also on the treatment reliability and operating costs of drinking water and wastewater. Hence, policy responses are needed to manage water quality under climate change to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Background

The event is a follow up to science-policy discussions on water quality and climate change, led by the **UNESCO-IHP International Initiative on Water Quality (IIWQ)** at COP21 in Paris, 2016 Stockholm World Water Week and UNESCO-IAHS Symposium on Water Quality – Current Trends and Expected Climate Change Impacts (Melbourne, 2011).

Programme

Moderator

Sarantuyaa Zandaryaa,
UNESCO

Opening remarks & Keynote

Blanca Jimenez-Cisneros,
Director/Secretary, UNESCO-IHP

Panel discussion

Boubkek El Houadi, Director-General, Moulouya Basin Agency, Morocco

Hussein Ihssan El-Atfy, Secretary-General, Arab Water Council / representing UNESCO water centre CLEQM, Egypt

Jordi Morato, UNESCO Chair on Sustainability, Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Spain

Maggie White, Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA)/Eau Vive, France

Conclusions

Sarantuyaa Zandaryaa,
UNESCO

Contact and more information

UNESCO-IHP International Initiative on Water Quality (IIWQ): <http://en.unesco.org/waterquality-iiwq>
Sarantuyaa Zandaryaa, UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (s.zandaryaa@unesco.org)