

Water Security and Climate Change Conference

—
Hanoi, Vietnam
01–03 March 2021

Call for Sessions



CNRD
Centers for Natural Resources
and Development



**Technology
Arts Sciences**
TH Köln

ITT
Institute for Technology and
Resources Management in
the Tropics and Subtropics

WSCC 2021 - a platform for exchange

The Vietnam Academy for Water Resources (VAWR), the Centers for Natural Resources and Development (CNRD), the International Network on Sustainable Water Management in Developing Countries (SWINDON), the Food Security Center (FSC) and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) are pleased to invite the community of renowned water and climate change experts to propose session outlines for the Water Security and Climate Change Conference (WSCC), 1-3 March 2021.

Achieving water security under climate change conditions is one of the major challenges faced by society today – both on a global and local level. Building bridges between disciplines, sectors and different stakeholders, the conference will serve as a platform for discussions focused on creating water secure societies by providing a stimulating environment with the intention of yielding innovative ideas and grounds for implementation.

Framework

The WSCC provides sufficient space for scientific and praxis-oriented exchange through short presentations, posters and discourse formats (round table, etc.). The conference consists primarily of thematic sessions involving different stakeholders, thus tying the scientific community to policy, industry and society. All sessions should provide enough space for discussion. The introduction of new dimensions and perspectives in the current discourse on water security and climate change is welcome, in particularly sessions which relate to case studies or combine academic and practical approaches.

By hosting a session you will have the chance to expand your network and to contribute to the development of a global partnership in accordance with SDG 17. Session chairs will be presented on the WSCC website.

<https://watersecurity.info/>

Topics

The challenges we face due to climate change and climate variability are well-known worldwide, as are their impacts on our living environments. Strategies to cope with climate change, risk assessment and willingness of states and societies to bear the risks and consequences are heterogeneous and divergent. However, these solutions and strategies are often not adapted to the respective political economic and social requirements and are more reactive than preventative. Ideally, all decisions and interventions should be based on an integrated, well-considered and rational way of acting, with the aim of sustainable protection of nature and its resources.

The WSCC strives to offer a platform for international exchange, to uncover interdisciplinary linkages and to release synergies between scientific evidence and both societal and political decision strategies. We seek to contribute to a significant social change, following the idea of the *Green Deal* - as currently discussed in Europe. For example, sessions that deal with transformation strategies in the sense of the ecological reconstruction of the economy are welcome. We kindly invite contributions of creative and practical approaches with relevance for water security and strategies to cope with climate change considering technical ecologic, economic, and societal dimensions. This may also include concrete examples dealing with hazards, risks, vulnerabilities, and disasters as well as decision making regarding the investment in infrastructure development to achieve water security, the delivery of relevant services and rateable cost analyses.

The WSCC focuses on internationally agreed upon themes that are reflected in international agendas.

Including:

(1) the sustainable management of water and the mitigation of climate change corresponding to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of *Agenda 2030*, taking into account (2) the *Paris Agreement* and to combat climate change and adapt to its effects, with enhanced support of countries of the Global South to do so; (3) strategies for water related Disaster Risk Reduction as outlined in the *Sendai Framework*; (4) the development, function and sustainable design of cities in terms of water as indicated in the *New Urban Agenda*; and (5) the water related benefits of ecosystems and biodiversity addressed in the *Convention on Biological Diversity*.

Key dates

April 2020

Call for session proposals opens

15 July 2020

Call for session proposals deadline

Agenda

Day 1 01 March 2021	Day 2 02 March 2021	Day 3 03 March 2021
Opening Plenary Keynote	Plenary Keynote	Plenary Keynote Round Table
3 Parallel Thematic Sessions	3 Parallel Thematic Sessions	3 Parallel Thematic Sessions
Keynote	Poster Sessions	Closing Session
3 Parallel Thematic Sessions	3 Parallel Thematic Sessions	Field Trip

Requirements

- We look forward to innovative, interdisciplinary, and currently relevant topics that fit into the 'Water Security and Climate Change' frame of themes.
- Your initiative in organizing your proposed session, including moderation and acquiring speakers/presenters.
- Your collaboration in evaluating submitted abstracts relevant to your theme as part of the conference committee.
- To promote the conference on your website and to invite guests from your network, moreover those potentially interested in your session.
- Your enthusiasm and participation throughout the conference.

Contact

APPLYING AND CONTACT

Please inform us about session proposals that are being prepared. Thereby, we will be able to gain an overview and possibly match and harmonize common interests.

Send your (1-2 page) proposal, and direct any questions you may have regarding WSCC sessions, to wsc2021@vawr.org.vn

WSCC 2021 ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

VAWR, Nguyen Tung Phong
VAWR, Tran Trinh
CNRD, Lars Ribbe
CNRD, Sven Tönsjost
AIT, Mukand Babel
SWINDON, Andreas Haarstrick
FSC, Heinrich Hagel

Guidelines

GUIDELINES FOR SESSIONS

- Each session is 120 minutes long.
- Each session should consist of 4-6 presentations (12-15 minutes each) and offer at least 30 minutes for discussion.
- Poster pitches or alternative formats can be integrated in the thematic sessions (a general poster session will be implemented).

CRITERIA FOR SESSION SELECTION

- Session proposals will be selected by a scientific committee based on the following criteria:
- Relevance of the session for the conference topic.
- Innovative character of session format and content (rather actively involved than passive audience).
- Benefit of the session to contribute to an integrated problem-solving strategy.
- Inclusion of stakeholders / practice orientation.

ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

- Funding for keynote speakers/experts (from DAC-list countries) is possible but limited. The sponsorship of mobility for experts / participants is therefore highly appreciated and welcome!
- Details about the registration fee for participants can be found on the website soon ([link](#)).

STRUCTURE FOR SESSION PROPOSALS

The proposal should be ca 1-2 A4 pages and include:

- Title of the session.
- A description of a coherent and focused session topic. It must clarify the goals and the relevance of the session, define a leading question, key issues, and the scientific relevance of the session in the context of the conference topic.
- Proposed session design/preliminary schedule for the session.
- Proposed list of possible panel members, facilitators and other key people (if applicable).
- Personal details of the chair and other session organizers (name, professional affiliation, telephone number, e-mail address).
- Outline your contribution to the conference (which networks are you planning to engage, who and how many participants will you invite).
- Please specify which participants from policy, industry and/or society will be involved (if applicable).