

Water Security and Climate Change Conference 2022

01-03 December 2022

Novotel Bangkok Future Park Rangsit, Bangkok, Thailand

Partner Session

Climate Risk, Water Management, and Sustainable Agriculture

Organiser: Council on Energy, Environment and Water, New Delhi, India

02 December 2022

1650 – 1810 ICT/UTC+07:00

Background

Existing evidence suggests that the impact of climate variability and human-induced climate change on hydrology will accentuate in near future, especially in the global south impacting water availability for different sectors. To better prepare and adapt to such impacts, the risk posed by the climate-induced extremes needs to be assessed, and subsequently, interventions should be planned to ensure water security for domestic, productive, and environmental purposes.

In this reference, the session ‘Climate Risk, Water Management and Sustainable Agriculture’ will open with a context-setting presentation that will provide an assessment of the climate extreme hotspots (including an example from the global south) with a focus on the complexities and non-linear trends and patterns, and the risk they pose to the communities in terms of water stress. Further, the potential of water accounts and scenario-based water balance analysis for identifying interventions to reduce water deficit at the river basin scale and adapt to climate-induced risk will be demonstrated through specific case studies.

Finally, the evidence on sustainable agricultural and water management practices that can prepare communities in building resilience to climate-induced risk will be presented. This will include conditions and the contextual factors that influence the adoption of climate-smart water management practices. The presentation will be followed by a panel discussion that will deliberate on the need for such integrated assessments and how mainstreaming climate risks consideration in efforts on providing water and food security can lead to a larger benefit to society, the economy, and the environment.

Agenda (Time in ICT or UTC+07:00)

1650-1700	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Opening address by Dr. Arunabha Ghosh, CEO, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)
1700-1715	<p>Context setting presentation by Mr. Nitin Bassi and Ms. Kangkanika Neog, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)</p> <p>The presentation will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight the importance of mapping climate extremes and vulnerability for assessing climate-induced risk. • Discuss the role of water accounts and scenario-based water balance analysis to identify interventions to reduce climate-induced water stress at the basin scale and adapt to climate-induced risk.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide evidence of the impact of climate-resilient agricultural practices.
1715-1755	<p>Panel discussion on Climate Risk, Water Management and Sustainable Agriculture</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Nitin Bassi, Programme Lead, CEEW</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Henriette Faergemann, First Counsellor, European Union Delegation to Indonesia 2. Dr. Anik Bhaduri, Executive Director, Sustainable Water Futures Program, and Professor, Australian Rivers Institute, Griffith University, Australia 3. Prof. Dr. Cecilia Tortajada, Professor in Practice, School of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Glasgow, UK 4. Prof. Dr. Mukand S. Babel, Professor, Water Engineering and Management (WEM), Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand 5. Dr. Somayeh Shadkam, Irrigation Specialist, FAO regional office for Asia and the Pacific 6. Ms. Kangkanika Neog, Consultant, CEEW
1755-1805	Q&A; Reflections from the audience
1805-1810	Closing remarks

About the speakers

Ms. Henriette Faergemann is First Counsellor for Environment, Climate Action and Digital cooperation at the European Union Delegation to Indonesia, based in Jakarta. From 2014-2020, she was working as First Counsellor and Head of Section in the European Union Delegation to India, responsible for cooperation between the EU and India in the areas of Environment, Mobility, Urbanisation and Smart Cities, Energy and Climate Change as well as the EU's Foreign Policy Instrument. Amongst others, Ms Faergemann has created the India-EU Partnerships on Water, Clean Energy and Climate, Smart and Sustainable Urbanisation and Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency.

Dr. Anik Bhaduri is the Director, Sustainable Water Future Programme, Future Earth and Professor at Griffith University, Australia. Anik is an accomplished leader in the field of water economics, global water policy and water governance with over 20 years of experience. With a background in environment and natural resource economics, Anik carried out extensive research in theoretical and applied water economics focusing on several topics and projects, ranging from transboundary water sharing to adaptive water management under climate change.

Prof. Dr. Cecilia Tortajada holds the Chair of Professor in Practice in Environmental Innovation, School of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Glasgow, UK., and Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. She has over 30 years of experience in water, environment and natural resources management in the context of development. She is working at present on the impacts of global changes on water resources, food, environment, and societies.

Prof. Mukand S. Babel is a Professor of Water Engineering and Management at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand. He is also the Director of the Center for Water and Climate Adaptation (CWCA) at AIT. He has been Visiting/Honorary Professor at universities/institutes in the UK, India, China, Japan, and Malaysia. Prof. Babel's professional experience in teaching, research, and consultancy spans over 38 years. He conducts research in hydrology and water resources including integrated approaches to water management, water security and climate change impact and adaptation. He has carried out 90+ research/sponsored projects in collaboration with several international organizations and governments.

Dr. Somayeh Shadkam is an irrigation specialist in FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Somayeh holds a PhD in Water System and Global Change from Wageningen University, an M.Sc. in Irrigation and Drainage Engineering and a Master of Engineering in Civil (Green infrastructure). She has more than 15 years of experience in conducting research and consultancy on global change impacts and adaptation in relation to water, food and natural ecosystems, in different research institutes and international organizations such as Goethe University Frankfurt, IIASA, IWMI and FAO. Somayeh is strongly driven by bringing science into practice.

Dr. Arunabha Ghosh is the founder-CEO of the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW). He is a public policy expert, author, columnist, and institution builder. With experience in 45 countries, he previously worked at Princeton, Oxford, UNDP-New York, and WTO-Geneva. He holds a doctorate from the University of Oxford.

Mr. Nitin Bassi is Programme Lead for the Water Team at the CEEW. He has over 16 years of research experience in the water sector. He played a key role in establishing the India-EU Water Partnership (IEWP). He holds an M. Phil in Natural Resource Management from the Indian Institute of Forest Management.

Ms. Kangkanika Neog is working as a consultant with CEEW on projects related to water and climate change governance. Currently, she is executing and managing a project to inform donors and impact investors on the impacts of climate adaptive water interventions. She holds a Master's degree in Environmental Studies and Resource Management from the TERI School of Advanced Studies.

About the partner

The Council is one of Asia's leading not-for-profit policy research institutions. The Council uses data, integrated analysis, and strategic outreach to explain – and change – the use, reuse, and misuse of resources. It prides itself on the independence of its high-quality research, develops partnerships with public and private institutions, and engages with the wider public. In 2021, CEEW once again featured extensively across ten categories in the '2020 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report'. The Council has also been consistently ranked among the world's top climate change think tanks. CEEW is certified as a Great Place To Work®. For the latest updates on our work, follow us on Twitter @CEEWIndia.