

Stakeholder Intervention – Interactive Dialogue 3 - Water for Climate, Resilience and Environment: Source to Sea, Biodiversity, Climate, Resilience and DRR – 23 March, 10AM – 1PM – Conference Room 4. – International Association of Hydrological Sciences

Ms Berit Arheimer, on behalf of IAHS:

The International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS) has 10,000 members from 150 countries worldwide and runs under the global umbrella of the International Science Council (ISC). Being the only global hydrological association, we strive for inclusive scientific knowledge exchange in hydrology for sustainable development in a changing world.

We strive to consolidate and boost this scientific community to advance scientific challenges and to engage with society to underpin the decision-making with evidence-based results for efficient and sustainable water management.

Hydrological knowledge is needed now more than ever, but so far, water issues are spread over many actors and organisations. Likewise, scientific knowledge on resilience and water security is fragmented. There is a substantial lack of synthesis and easily digestible scientific messages across disciplines and from scientists to practitioners. Hence, there is a need for concerted actions from member states to invent a mechanism for regular global water assessments and knowledge sharing (see IPCC). Likewise, the hydrological research community must provide water-centric decision support.

IAHS therefore commits to lead and coordinate a Science for Solutions Decade (2023-2033) called HELPING– Hydrology Engaging Local People IN one Global world. The aim is underpinned solutions for the water crisis, leaving no catchment or hydrologist behind, in search for scientific evidence to:

- Accelerate hydrological understanding of hydrological processes at local and global scales, how they interact and affect water resources.
- Manage current crises and find holistic solutions to avoid future crises or at the least reduce their impacts.
- Build capacity and engage with local scientists and societies to share local experience for solutions globally.

Moreover, IAHS acknowledge and endorse the idea of regular Global water assessments underpinned by scientific evidence as game changer in realising the SDGs, as well as a game changing mechanism on early warning for all.