

# The connecting link: Water security & the Adaptation Committee's Work Programme

*Side event on Monday, 16:45–18:15, 10 June 2013*

*UNFCCC Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Room Wind (Ministry of Environment, MoE)*

**In December 2012 during COP 18, the Parties adopted an ambitious three year work programme of the Adaptation Committee to provide advice and coherence on adaptation issues under the UNFCCC.**

Adaptation efforts are currently scattered among various negotiation streams, such as the Nairobi Work Programme, the Work Programme on Loss and Damage, the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, the Standing Committee on Climate Finance, the Technology Executive Committee, and others.

Ensuring coherence and linking the adaptation divides is urgently required. Water security is central to successful adaptation as climate impacts are largely felt through the medium of water. Water is to adaptation efforts what energy is for mitigation efforts – the connecting link.

Until the world puts water security at the centre of adaptation as part of national development, gains made in economic growth and development will continue to be undermined by water-related disasters such as droughts and floods, threatening food security, energy security, and livelihood security worldwide.

This side event will explore the work of the Adaptation Committee and help define how 'viewing' adaptation under the convention through a water security lens can support the work of the Adaptation Committee to connect efforts and enhance coherence on adaptation under the UNFCCC. The side event will also showcase how innovative approaches in water management by GWP and its partners in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Central & Eastern Europe contribute to enhancing climate resilience, and offer opportunities for accelerating implementation of the Adaptation Committee's work programme.

## Speakers and Panellists

*Chair and moderator:* Dr Ania Grobicki, GWP Executive Secretary

- 16.45: *Welcome and introduction*, Dr Ursula Schaefer-Preuss, GWP Chair
- 16:50 *How can a water perspective enhance adaptation under the UNFCCC?*  
Robert Van Lierop, UNFCCC Vice Chair of the SBI, former COP Vice President
- 17:05 *How adaptation has evolved under the UNFCCC*  
Fred Kossam, Head of Climate Change and Research, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Management in Malawi
- 17:20 *The Green Climate Fund and Africa position on adaptation finance*  
Richard Sherman, Representative of the Africa Working Group
- 17.35 *GWP's response to adaptation: Global Water and Climate Programme*  
Alex Simalabwi, Global Coordinator, Water and Climate Programme
- 17:45 *Moderated discussion*, Dr Ania Grobicki
- 18.25 *Wrap up and close*, Dr Ursula Schaefer-Preuss

