

Mobilizing Finance and Investments for Water Security and Climate Resilience

Organized by the Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO) and International Hydropower Association (IHA)

Baimass Taal, Executive Secretary of the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), presented the framework for water security and the climate resilient development tool that will serve as reference document for developing countries in Africa. He described the deliverables of the framework: technical background document which includes methodologies, protocols and decision support tools; strategic framework and policy briefs that will provide strategic guidance to policymakers; and the Capacity Building Strategy.

Pervaiz Amir, Global Water Partnership (GWP) South Asia, noted Pakistan's costly floods in 2010 and 2011, which were a wake-up call for his country, setting priorities for investments for water security. He said the Pakistan case demonstrates both a challenge as well as an opportunity towards developing strategies and priorities for climate change adaptations and mitigations. He pointed out challenges that can be warning signals, *inter alia*: donor fatigue when his country needed funding the most; weak infrastructure can disguise political corruption and weak governance; and conflict around the issue of water insecurity.

Cameron Ironside, IHA, urged for prioritization of low-carbon investments in sustainable water infrastructure and explained the application of the Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol provides a framework to assess the sustainability of hydropower projects. He warned of the: risk of not combining adaptation and mitigation strategies; need for development of infrastructure, which fall exactly within the world's most water-stressed areas; and the move from agrarian societies to urban societies, which will require large-scale solutions.

Diana McQueen, Minister of Environment and Water, Government of Alberta, Canada, spoke about the challenges her province faces in protecting the quality of water, particularly in the area of the Athabasca oil sands. She stressed the need for a robust monitoring system that would inform the decision-making knowledge base and talked of Alberta's Water for Life-strategies that focus on: education of users; attraction of funding; understanding of groundwater systems; and mapping of groundwater systems.

Ania Grobicki, GWP, called for a focus on the side benefits to ensure that hydropower is realized as a cross-cutting issue in mitigation and adaptation.

Anders Benrntell, Stockholm International Water Institute, emphasized the: need for a comprehensive assessment of the portfolio of options; potential to use scenarios to predict future outcomes; and assessment of impacts for sustainable programs. He spoke about the components for collaboration in existing water resource management.

Stef Raubenheimer, SouthSouthNorth, mentioned mitigation as a co-benefit in the adaptation process, and warned of the potential for conflict in water scarce regions.



Diana McQueen, Minister of Environment and Water, Government of Alberta, Canada, urged for a stepping-up of monitoring actions.



Ania Grobicki, GWP, said intelligent water management is fundamental to adapt to the changes in water availability.

More information:

<http://www.gwp.org/>
<http://www.hydropower.org/>

Contacts:

Steven Downey
[<steven.downey@gwpforum.org>](mailto:steven.downey@gwpforum.org)
 Cameron Ironside [<ci@hydropower.org>](mailto:ci@hydropower.org)



L-R: Bai Mass Taal, AMCOW; Ania Grobicki, GWP; Diana McQueen, Minister of Environment and Water, Government of Alberta, Canada; Anders Benrntell, Stockholm International Water Institute; and Stef Raubenheimer, SouthSouthNorth; reflected on ways to mobilize finance and investments for water security and climate resilience.