Overview

Under the patronage of Cabo Verde and in collaboration with Italy and FAO, The Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) announces its 1st International Forum on Water Scarcity in Agriculture to be held in Praia, Cabo Verde from 19 to 22 March 2019, to coincide with the celebration of World Water Day 2019 which this year adopts the theme of 'Leaving no one behind'.

The forum aims at identifying concrete – practical, innovative and collaborative solutions to address water scarcity in agriculture in a changing climate. With a focus on Cabo Verde, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and West African countries, the forum is expected to illustrate how water scarcity in agriculture can be addressed and turned into an opportunity for sustainable development and food and nutrition security. The forum is open to partners, stakeholders, academics, practitioners, and policy makers from the public and private sectors and civil society.

Focus areas

1. Water and migration
2. Drought preparedness
3. Financing mechanisms for sustainable management of water resources
4. Water and nutrition
5. Sustainable agriculture water use
6. Saline agriculture

Organizers

Government of Cabo Verde
Ministry of Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies, Italy (MIPAAFT)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG)

Objectives of the forum

• Raise awareness about the impacts of climate change, the importance of sustainable management on water in agriculture and of healthy ecosystems and their services.
• Identify the specific needs and agree on priority actions to address water scarcity in agriculture, focusing on SIDS and West African countries.
• Share experiences in addressing water scarcity in agriculture in the context of climate change.
• Establish collaboration between partners and stakeholders to ensure their commitment to finance priority actions.
• Mobilize resources to address the growing issues of water scarcity in agriculture in SIDS and the West African countries.

Expected outcomes

• The sustainable and effective management of water for agriculture, as well as the importance of healthy ecosystems and their services for sustainable agricultural systems recognized as key points in achieving the Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement.
• Applicable solutions, including nature-based solutions, identified and tailored to the local contexts of SIDS and West African countries.
• New and strengthened collaborations between partners and stakeholders established, to address the complex and multi-pronged issue of water scarcity in a changing climate.
• Sustainable investments identified, to achieve positive results in the management of water scarcity.
This forum will specifically contribute to these Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

1. NO POVERTY
2. ZERO HUNGER
3. GENDER EQUALITY
4. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
5. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
6. CLIMATE ACTION
7. LIFE ON LAND
8. ZERO HUNGER
9. ZERO HUNGER
10. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
11. CLIMATE ACTION
12. LIFE ON LAND
13. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
14. CLIMATE ACTION
15. LIFE ON LAND
16. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Draft agenda

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<td>8.30–09.00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>Debrief of Day 2 (15 min)</td>
<td>Debrief of Day 3 (15 min)</td>
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<td>09.00–10.30</td>
<td>Field trip</td>
<td>Opening ceremony</td>
<td>Technical session - Sustainable agriculture water use / Side Event</td>
<td>World Water Day Celebration and launch of World Water Development Report 2019</td>
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<td>10.30–11.00</td>
<td>NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK - for new partnerships and project support mobilization</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK -</td>
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<td>11.00–12.30</td>
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<td>Technical session - Saline agriculture / Side Event</td>
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<td>12.30–14.00</td>
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<td>14.00–15.30</td>
<td>Technical session - Drought preparedness / Side Event</td>
<td>Technical session - Financing mechanisms for sustainable management of water resources / Side Event</td>
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<td>15.30–16.00</td>
<td>NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK / POSTER SESSION EXHIBITION</td>
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<td>16.00–17.30</td>
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<td>Technical session - Water and migration / Side Event</td>
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<td>17.30–18.30</td>
<td>Working Groups Meeting</td>
<td>WASAG Partners Meeting</td>
<td>Conclusions and synthesis</td>
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<td>RECEPTION</td>
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An exhibition area will be available during the whole forum where participants will be able to display or showcase technologies, products and innovations.

Call for technical contributions

Technical contributions (papers or posters) are invited for consideration to be submitted to WASAG-registration@fao.org. It should encompass one or more of the six focus areas of the forum. The deadline for submissions is 10 February 2019. A scientific committee will select the submissions based on whether they provide or propose practical, innovative and collaborative solutions to address water scarcity in agriculture. All partners and stakeholders of WASAG, regional organizations, including the private sector from different regions of the world with a keen interest in water scarcity in agriculture are encouraged to participate.

For more information, visit http://www.fao.org/land-water/events/ws-forum/en/
To register to the forum, send an email to WASAG-registration@fao.org