



## **Infrastructure for Growth and Climate Resilience Development**

Lead Conveners: UN Water Africa, UNECA -African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) & African Union Commission (AUC)

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Co Conveners: Global Water Partnership (GWP), African Development Bank (AfDB) Programme on Climate, Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA)

### **Background:**

The future impacts of climate change on the water resources of Africa remain uncertain and require consistent interaction and communication with policy makers at all levels, as well as a better understanding of the underlying science. An improved understanding of the range of climate impacts on water infrastructure development, and of the approach to deal with climate uncertainty, will help inform future investment decisions and avoid locking Africa in a pattern of climate-vulnerable infrastructure development that will be very costly, or in some cases impossible, to undo in the future.

### **Objectives:**

The sessions under the sub-theme “Infrastructure for Growth and Climate Resilient Development” reflect the conclusions of; the 6th World Water Forum; the African Water Vision 2025; African Ministerial Declarations focusing on water infrastructure development; and the AMCOW Framework for Water Security and Climate Resilient Development. The sub-theme will also draw on lessons learnt from recent water resources infrastructure investments for sustainable socio-economic development that take into account adaptation to both climate variability and climate change. This will be complemented by panel discussions drawing from policy, practice and the scientific community on the way forward for future water resources infrastructure development and management. The outcome of the sub-theme will also feed into the Rio+20 process.

### **Sessions include:**

1. Water Resources Infrastructure Development - Opportunities and Challenges in Africa
2. Climate Implications on Water Resources and Infrastructure in Africa
3. Sustainable Water Infrastructure Planning, Design and Management
4. Optimizing Water Infrastructure Investment in Africa

## Sessions Schedule:

Day Date	Session.	Session Title/Focus Areas	Lead Convenors	Co-organisers
Wed. 16 May	1 9.00-12.30	<b>Keynote: Water Resources Infrastructure Development - Opportunities and Challenges in Africa</b>	GWP and ACPC (ECA)	UNEP, UNESCO, AfDB, NBI
		Quantity and quality of water resources base in Africa including surface, ground and inland waters of Africa;		
		Inventory of infrastructure, status of existing infrastructure development and future plans;		
		Water use, lessons learnt from various initiatives including in transboundary management		
		Policies, institutions and strategies on water infrastructure development and water uses in Africa;		
Wed. 16 May	2 14.00-17.30	<b>Keynote: Key Note: A Strategic AMCOW framework for enhancing Africa's water security for green growth, climate resilience and low carbon development</b>	GWP and ACPC (ECA)	UNESCO, UN-HABITAT
		Climate variability and climate change effects on African water resources base and sectors including hydropower, irrigation, water supply and others;		
		Infrastructures development for water security and risk management including hydrological extremes (floods and droughts) and strategies to cope with related consequences;		
		The role of water infrastructure in water security, Green growth, climate resilience and low carbon development		

<b>Thur 17 May</b>	<b>Session 3 9.00-12.30</b>	<b>Sustainable Water Infrastructure Planning, Design and Management</b>	tbc	AfDB, ACPC (ECA), UNEP, NBA, JICA
		Sustainable development of water infrastructure in Africa, considering social, environmental and economic dimensions;		
		Lessons learnt from good and bad investments in water infrastructure in Africa for improving future infrastructure investments;		
		New techniques and tools for the design and management of hydraulic infrastructures within the context of climate change		
		Climate and water resources information, knowledge and capacity development in Africa		
<b>Thur. 17 May</b>	<b>Session 4 14.00-17.30</b>	<b>Optimizing Water Infrastructure Investment in Africa</b>	AfDB and ICA	WB, ACPC (ECA)
		Investment needs, financial flows and programmes of water infrastructure development in Africa;		
		Synergies and trade offs among competing uses such as agriculture, hydropower and other sectors;		
		Benefits and costs of water storage, hydropower generation and regional power pools, irrigation investments, virtual water trade, urban and coastal infrastructure development for climate resilience and IWRM including infrastructure value chain ;		
		Short term finance and green climate finance for water infrastructure in Africa;		
<b>Friday, 18 May</b>	Session 5 9.00-12.30	Presentation and discussion of Summary outcomes for Sub – Sessions 1 – 4	UN-Water Africa, ACPC (ECA), AUC	All Lead Convenors and Co-organisers
		Consolidated Key Messages to present to the plenary		
		End of theme session		