

*BEYOND*
*REPORTING IMPACTS*

WATER AND DEVELOPMENT

# SYMPOSIUM

## PROGRAMME

WATER AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

IHE DELFT
Institute for Water Education
under the auspices of UNESCO

# DAY 1

14 NOV 2023

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

14:00 – 14:10 CET

**Jeltsje Kemerink-Seyoum**
Associate Professor and Programme Coordinator, Water and Development Partnership Programme

**Ain Contractor**
Master of Ceremonies and Programme Officer, Water and Development Partnership Programme

## SESSION 1: 14:10 – 15:25 CET
## ADVOCACY FOR IMPACT

### SESSION INTRODUCTION

Moderator: **Paige Shipman**
Independent Consultant, Facilitator and Environment Justice Advocate, The Netherlands

### PRESENTATION 1

**Florence Tanui and Bessy Kathambi**
University of Nairobi, Kenya

Groundwater sustainable and equitable development under constraints of ecosystem conservation and saltwater intrusion prevention in large deltas

### PRESENTATION 2

**Annika McGinnis and Leonard Namukasa**
InfoNile, Uganda

The gate for transboundary water research and communication in the Nile Basin

### PRESENTATION 3

**Emmanuel Akpabio**
University of Uyo, Nigeria

Environmental and socio-cultural factors of gender-based differences in access to water, sanitation and hygiene in south Nigeria

### SESSION INSIGHTS

Rapporteur: **Murtah Shannon**
Sustainable & inclusive water management, Climate adaptation & Human Rights, BothENDS, The Netherlands

BREAK

## SESSION 2 15:35 – 17:00 CET
## TECHNOLOGY FOR IMPACT

### SESSION INTRODUCTION

Moderator: **Graham Jewitt**
Professor of Hydrology, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, The Netherlands

### PRESENTATION 1

**Marloes Mul**
IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, The Netherlands

Water Productivity in Practice (WaterPIP) Knowledge & Action Network

### PRESENTATION 2

**Violet Matiru**
Millenium Community Development Initiatives, Kenya

Remote Sensing for Community-driven applications: from WA+ to co-learning

### PRESENTATION 3

**Claire Furlong**
IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, The Netherlands

Risk-based decision-making frameworks for humanitarian WASH

### SESSION INSIGHTS

Rapporteur: **Farhana Rashid**
Co-founder - Bhumijo, Bangladesh

# DAY 2

15 NOV 2023

## OPENING REMARKS
14:00 – 14:10 CET

**Nadine Sander**
Master of Ceremonies and Policy Officer,
Water and Development Partnership Programme

**Ain Contractor**
Master of Ceremonies and Programme Officer,
Water and Development Partnership Programme

**SESSION 1: 14:10 – 15:25 CET**
## DIVERSITY FOR IMPACT

### SESSION INTRODUCTION

Moderator: **Maitrayee Mukhopadhyay**
Associate KIT - Royal Tropical Institute
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

### PRESENTATION 1

**Irene Leonardelli**
IHE Delft, The Netherlands

Farming in times of crises: experiences, responses and needs of smallholder farmers during the COVID-19 pandemic

### PRESENTATION 2

**Parisa Rinaldi**
St. Mary's College of Maryland, USA

The Amphibious Project: Water-based livelihoods, urban development and climate change in two port cities of Colombia

### PRESENTATION 3

**Msamba Chacha Machura**
Mara Women Empowerment Assistance, Tanzania

**Ellen Pfeiffer**
Independent Consultant, Managing for Sustainability

Sustainable Water Pans: Building, managing and monitoring water pans with local communities in sustainable and inclusive ways

### SESSION INSIGHTS

Rapporteur: **Maitrayee Mukhopadhyay**
Associate KIT - Royal Tropical Institute
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

BREAK

**SESSION 2: 15:35 – 17:00 CET**
## SUSTAINABILITY OF IMPACT

### SESSION INTRODUCTION

Moderator: **Micha Werner**
Associate Professor in Flood Risk Management and River Basin Development, IHE Delft, The Netherlands

### PRESENTATION 1

**Klaas Schwartz**
IHE Delft, The Netherlands

Boosting Effectiveness of Water Operators' Partnerships: Knowledge Management and Exchange for the EU-WOP Programme

### PRESENTATION 2

**Pieter van der Zaag**
IHE Delft, Netherlands

Smallholder farming families adapt African alluvial aquifers to strengthen their own resilience

### PRESENTATION 3

**Claire Furlong**
IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, The Netherlands

### SESSION INSIGHTS

Rapporteur: **Lapologang Magole**
Senior Lecturer - Department of Architecture and Planning, University of Botswana

# DAY 3

16 NOV 2023

## OPENING REMARKS

14:00 – 14:10 CET

**Nadine Sander**
Master of Ceremonies and Policy Officer,
Water and Development Partnership Programme

**Ain Contractor**
Master of Ceremonies and Programme Officer,
Water and Development Partnership Programme

**SESSION 1: 14:10 – 15:25 CET**

## FANEL—A PANEL ON SHARING FAILURES TO LEARN FROM

## SESSION INTRODUCTION

Moderator: **Margreet Zwarteveen**
Professor of Water Governance,
IHE Delft, The Netherlands

## PRESENTATION 1

**Jeltsje Kemerink-Seyoum**
IHE Delft, The Netherlands

**Wim Douven**
IHE Delft, The Netherlands

## PRESENTATION 2

**Nadia Fawzi**
Marine Science Centre, University of Basrah, Iraq

Water resource development projects in post-war Iraq

## PRESENTATION 3

**Adel Yasin**
Palestinian Water Authority, Palestine

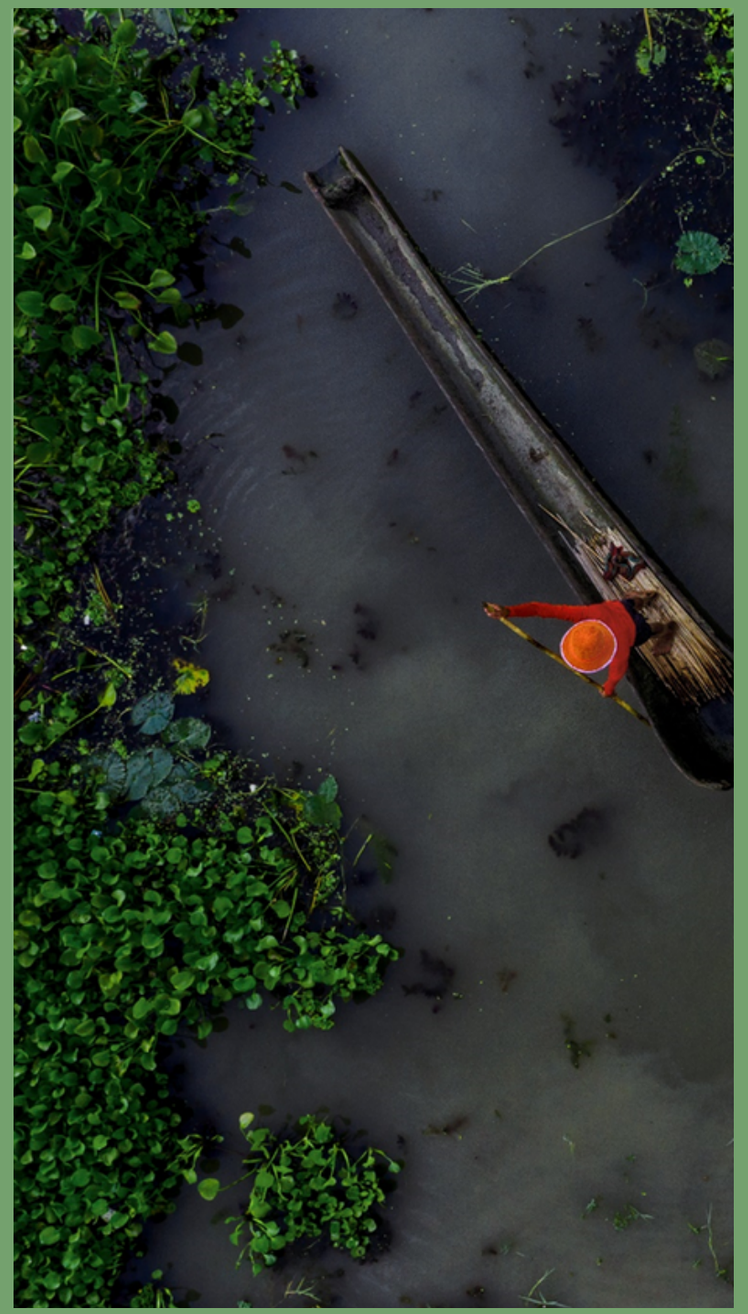
Masterplan development for industrial wastewater management in Wadi Zomer catchment in Palestine for environmental protection and addressing transboundary inequalities.

## BREAK

## CLOSING PLENARY

15:35 – 17:00 CET

**Moderator: Ain Contractor & Nadine Sander**
Water and Development Partnership Programme, IHE Delft, The Netherlands



# DAY 1 | About the sessions

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## ADVOCACY FOR IMPACT

14:10 – 15:25 CET

In this session, we explore the contradictions and challenges faced by water professionals when navigating the complex world of advocacy. As researchers, even as we push for evidence-based policy design in water governance, we are confronted with increasing questions regarding the assumed "neutrality" of the data on which we base our science. Increasing participation of marginalised voices, both human and non-human, in decision-making processes requires platforms to bring their perspectives to the centre-stage. Presenters will share how community engagement in data collection and analysis can shape discourse on water issues, building ground to foster alliances toward environmental justice and sustainability.

## TECHNOLOGY FOR IMPACT

15:35 – 17:00 CET

While technology-based interventions are often presented as solutions to water issues, they have also been critiqued for being insensitive to the complex socio-economic realities of local, especially marginalised communities, thereby exacerbating existing inequalities in society. In this session, we will explore how project teams sensitively use technology by actively collaborating with local communities, who have an intimate understanding of the water and sanitation challenges they face. Together, we will discuss how technological support can be offered while also honouring the agency of communities in the design and inception of project strategies.



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# About the presentations

## ADVOCACY FOR IMPACT

**Science — Policy Advocacy's Impact on Water Security and Sustainability in Arid Regions** - shares insights from the REACH Programme – improving water security in Turkana county following its multidisciplinary research since 2015. The session aims to answer the questions: Can scarce and vulnerable freshwater resources in arid regions be protected? What is the role of research in engaging in collaborative efforts that involve marginalised communities, government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders to develop and implement strategies for improving groundwater security?

**NileWell: The gate for transboundary water research and communication in the Nile Basin—** InfoNile developed the NileWell online platform in a bid to increase trust, connection and collaboration between water scientists and journalists in the Nile Basin. Since the platform's launch in April 2022, more than 600 users have registered for accounts. Along with the platform's connection features, InfoNile works to increase collaboration between journalists and scientists, and promote science communication. This includes monthly events where scientists share their research with journalists, and a 9-month co-production fellowship program. This session will share learnings about increasing awareness and action around water science.

**GenderWASH: Environmental and socio-cultural factors of gender-based differences in access to water, sanitation and hygiene in south Nigeria—** In some parts of Nigeria, cultural traditions restrict women who are menstruating, within three months of childbirth and mothers of twin children from accessing certain water sources. This project used public meetings, focus group discussion, and in-depth interviews to capture and probe the depth of these cultural norms and related challenges. Findings were disseminated through local media channels, generating public dialogue on the issue. The outcome was the setting up of a new local-level Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation. In this presentation, Emmanuel Akpabio will reflect on the challenges of navigating power relationships in advocacy, and the opportunities created by communicating science to government.

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# About the presentations

## TECHNOLOGY FOR IMPACT

**RS-4C: Remote Sensing for Community-driven applications: from WA+ to co-learning** — The Athi River Community Network (ARCN) in Kenya will present some ideas on how remote-sensing experts can ensure that the maps they produce are useful to communities. Co-designing the research agenda, demystifying technology, and assisting communities to work collaboratively with governments to hold each other accountable are some of the ways remote sensing experts can facilitate the co-development of solutions to the challenges plaguing basins around the world.

**Water Productivity in Practice (WaterPIP) Knowledge & Action Network** — Over the last 6 years, the WaterPIP project focused on developing and testing the usefulness of the remote sensing derived database WaPOR for practical applications for improving water productivity in agriculture. Through this project extensive knowledge and understanding was gained, that not all relevant information can be obtained through remote sensing, and specifically for marginalised (smallholder) farmers. The current phase of the WaterPIP project therefore focuses on empowering these farmers with making data and information available through the establishment of digital observatories combining field-level and remote sensing techniques to monitor crop land and water use.

**Risk-WASH: Emending our work within the humanitarian sector —** This presentation will describe and reflect upon the co-creation and ongoing development of the Risk-WASH proposal and project within the humanitarian sector. It will explain why this was essential and how we aim for it to result in co-ownership and adoption of the tools and processes developed. Additionally, we will reflect on how we hope this approach could lead to meaningful impact over time.

# DAY 2 | About the sessions

15 NOV 2023

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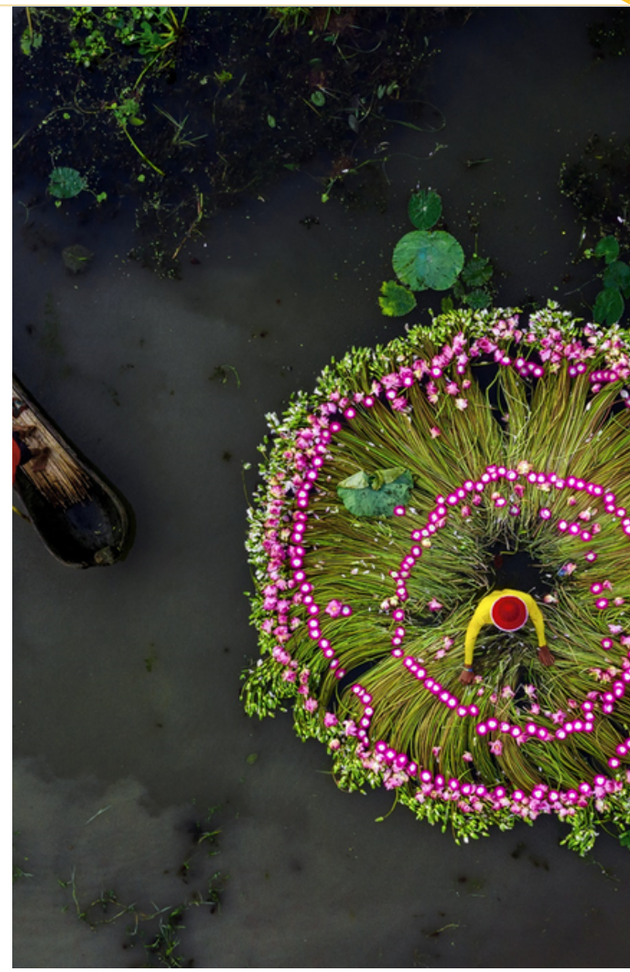

## DIVERSITY FOR IMPACT

14:10 – 15:25 CET

Diversity and inclusion are increasingly emphasised as important values in water development projects. However, interpretations of these terms remain contested. In this session, we delve into the experiences of project teams that highlight the diversity of their partners, and the wisdom they draw on, as crucial for the success of their work. Presenters will reflect on the politics of diversity and inclusion, including who is considered marginalised, in which ways they prefer to be included, and how paying attention to diverse marginalised perspectives shapes goals and outcomes of their project.

## SUSTAINABILITY OF IMPACT

15:35 – 17:00 CET

Even though development projects have a limited scope and duration, many water professionals are highly committed to contributing to meaningful and lasting impacts. Yet, they often struggle to bridge gaps between project goals, which are largely shaped by donor perspectives and requirements, and the concerns and challenges of the communities they work with in their projects. Realities on the ground are shifting, and development interventions face not only financial but also environmental, social and political consequences and limitations. In this session, we will hear from the experiences of project teams that are employing different approaches to sustain the impact of their efforts beyond their project timelines.

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# About the presentations

## DIVERSITY FOR IMPACT

**Farming in times of crises: experiences, responses and needs of smallholder farmers during the COVID19 pandemic** — This project aimed to ensure that the voices of marginalized smallholder farmers in Morocco, Algeria and India were considered in policy and aid interventions during the COVID19 crisis and its aftermath by collecting and disseminating scientific evidence of the experiences, responses and needs of these farmers. Gender and inclusiveness were some of the pillars of the project: engaging particularly with women smallholder farmers and agricultural laborers, especially single women and those belonging to lower classes and castes, as their marginalization was exacerbated by the pandemic.

**The Amphibious Project: Water-based livelihoods, urban development and climate change in two port cities of Colombia** — The project aims to highlight the adaptability and resilience of coastal communities whose livelihoods and wellbeing rely on a fluid relationship with both land and water. The project involves accompanying diverse action-research communities composed of community leaders, fisherfolk, women involved in various aspects of the processing and commercialization of fish, as well as NGO and academic partners. In this presentation, Parisa Rinaldi aims to address the conceptual framework, preliminary research, and the challenges and opportunities afforded by this transdisciplinary project.

**Sustainable Water Pans: Building, managing and monitoring water pans with local communities in sustainable and inclusive ways —** Increased global awareness for diversity challenges has led many development programmes to enforce the participation of marginalized individuals in donor-funded projects, and target them with training. Especially in marginalized rural communities, such attempts are likely to fail. Achieving impacts requires local grassroots partners with long term presence, able to help question the status quo and mentor individuals after projects end, and sometimes reminding development professionals that ‘beneficiaries’ are actually human beings with names, ambitions and passions.

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## SUSTAINABILITY OF IMPACT

**Boosting Effectiveness of Water Operators' Partnerships: Knowledge Management and Exchange for the EU-WOP Programme** — Active since 2013, this project has been working to strengthen knowledge transfer and change processes in Water Operator Partnerships in order to maximise the potential for operational improvements of water operators. In 2015, the project began encouraging peer-support Online Communities of Practice with the goal of knowledge sharing across Water Operators in the hope of improving their performance. Klaas Schwartz of IHE Delft will share the experience of developing and facilitating such Communities of Practice across divides of Global North and South.

**A4Store: Smallholder farming families adapt African alluvial aquifers to strengthen their own resilience** — A4Store takes forward the work of its predecessor, A4Labs (2016-2022), a project that aimed to enhance resilience of smallholder farmers by promoting the use of water stored in sand rivers (also known as ephemeral, seasonal or intermittent rivers) in Ethiopia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, where the use of this water for irrigation was not common. Project proponents believed that sand rivers could be a viable source of water for resource-poor smallholders who currently did not have access to irrigation water with which they could drought-proof their crops. This presentation will share learnings gained by observing the intended and unintended impacts of the project.

**International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC): —** Facilitating and promoting international sharing of information and knowledge required for sustainable groundwater resources development and management worldwide.

# DAY 3 | About the sessions

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## FANEL - A PANEL FOR SHARING 'FAILURES' TO LEARN FROM

14:10 – 15:25 CET

As critical water professionals, we believe that important learnings can be gained not only from success stories, but also from stories of failures, uncertainties and of what we do not know yet. In this spirit, we offer a *fanel*—a panel to share failures—or things that did not go as we imagined - and learnings from these experiences for the future. Confronting messy and challenging water realities can allow us to learn and grow by re-evaluating our problem statements and assumptions, as well as the approaches on which we base our interventions. In this reflective session, we offer space to be vulnerable and share difficult stories of the complex problems faced by water professionals.

## CLOSING PLENARY

15:35 – 17:00 CET

We close with sharing key insights from each themed session, reflecting on our intention as a programme for organising a symposium around these themes, and jointly identifying ways forward for us—*as human beings, projects, programme, water sector*—while we navigate increasingly complex realities to make meaningful change *beyond reporting impacts*.



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## FANEL - A PANEL FOR SHARING 'FAILURES' TO LEARN FROM

**Water and Development Partnership Programme** — In this presentation, Jeltsje Kemerink-Seyoum and Wim Douven of IHE Delft reflect as programme coordinators on the reasons for changing the structure and approach of the programme in response to the experiences in the different phases of the programme. The changes are motivated by a collective ambition to achieve more meaningful and lasting impacts, yet also bring new challenges and dilemmas for which we do not have clear answers or responses.

**Water resource development projects in post-war Iraq** — Following 2003, numerous international organisations and foreign governments have contributed material and technical support to Iraq to help rebuild the environment and infrastructure after a long period of conflicts and worldwide boycotts. However, the effectiveness of these initiatives remains in question. Nadia Fawzi of the University of Basrah will share her experience and insights from working in Iraq's post-war water sector.

**Masterplan Wadi Zomer:** Masterplan development for industrial wastewater management in Wadi Zomer catchment in Palestine for environmental protection and addressing transboundary inequalities — Through the masterplan, the team envisioned strengthening the governance and capacity of regional Palestinian authorities to control pollution, protect shared transboundary water resources and to build trust in managing transboundary wastewater between the Palestinian and Israeli Authorities. The presentation will focus on how this plan was adopted, and not adopted by different stakeholders involved.

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Join the conversation! We invite you to use our official event hashtags: #WaterandDevelopmentSymposium, #BeyondReportingImpacts, #WaterCare, and #IHEDelft. Share your experience, connect with fellow participants, and stay updated with the latest information about the symposium.

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