



13th WaterNet / WARFSA / GWP-SA

International Symposium on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)

In association with the International Commission on Water Resources Systems of the IAHS

FIRST CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

31 OCTOBER – 2 NOVEMBER 2012

Birchwood Hotel, Johannesburg, South Africa



BACKGROUND

The WaterNet/WARFSA/GWP-SA Symposia have been held annually in the Eastern and Southern African region for the past twelve years. This 13th symposium will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 31 October – 2 November 2012.

The Symposium promotes interaction among policymakers, academics, practitioners from water and related sectors, and key cooperating partners. Together they identify regional issues, gaps and priorities that require further research and support.

Great emphasis is placed on integration of knowledge, particularly involving scholars from the natural, medical and social sciences. The University of Johannesburg, Department of Chemical Technology is the lead host of the 13th Symposium.



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SUB-THEMES

The sub-themes listed below will be targeted as part of the 13th Symposium.

HYDROLOGY

It is important to improve understanding of different components of the hydrological cycle and the spatial and temporal distribution of water now and in the future so as to improve the planning, engineering, management and operation of natural water resources. However water balance dynamics are highly complex and require integration of information from multiple domains at different scales. Furthermore in Eastern and Southern Africa there is limited reliable data available for application of conventional prediction tools so as to manage water resources in a sustainable way. Hydrology is important in integration as major rivers cross national and sub-national boundaries. This sub-theme therefore focuses on enhancing not only our understanding of the water cycle's response to natural and man-made changes at different scales, but also how these changes can be managed in a sustainable manner.

WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

The natural environment is now well acknowledged as a legitimate and important user of water. It is increasingly realised that greater investment is needed to protect aquatic ecosystems from the impact of human developments. The challenge remains to strike the right balance between allocating water for direct human use (agriculture, power generation, domestic purposes and industry) and indirect use (sustenance of ecosystem goods and services) in view of global challenges like climate change. Downstream users are often affected by pollution upstream, and downstream ecosystems require sufficient upstream water released. These interactions frequently cross national boundaries.

This sub-theme serves to illustrate recent advances and best practices in environmental impact assessment, determining environmental water requirements, the inclusion of the environment in water resources development and river basin management, wise water use for sustenance of ecosystems and peoples livelihoods as well as studies of water quality in the IWRM framework.

WATER AND LAND

Agriculture is the major land use and livelihood strategy in East and Southern Africa. It is also the greatest user of water. Owing to a growing population, persistent droughts, erratic rainfall and extreme weather events, food production and the exploitation of forest products and biodiversity have been on the increase, thus risking the resilience and stability of the interaction between surface and

ground water resources including wetland ecosystems. This sub-theme serves to illustrate the impact of water management practices and policies on water, crop, livestock and land productivity, livelihood security, wetlands ecology and downstream water requirements.

WATER AND SOCIETY

When available water is limited in quantity or quality or its distribution is uneven, it can be a source of co-operation or of contestation among users. The situation is complicated by changes caused by climate change, droughts, floods and water borne diseases. Water access and benefit sharing, are a source of power. Any governance system should therefore tackle the issue of resource access and benefit sharing. The SADC protocol on shared water resources is a major step in the recognition of this principle and its integration into regional development. This sub-theme addresses human development and socio-political aspects of water.

WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION

Globally water-borne and related diseases kill an estimated 5 million people- mostly children. Recently, the situation has been worsened by climate change related impacts like floods especially in areas with poor sanitation. At the start of the water supply and sanitation decade an estimated 1 billion people lacked access to safe water while 2.2 billion lacked access to adequate sanitation. Lack of a sustainable approach to the provision of water and sanitation has resulted in decreased coverage in terms of percentage of the population with access to safe water and adequate sanitation, thus necessitating the need for appropriate and sustainable water and sanitation systems. This sub-theme seeks to address sustainable water supply and sanitation development and management and linkages to public health livelihoods and climate change.

WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Progress in developing and implementing Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Efficiency plans have so far been varied across countries in Eastern and Southern Africa. This sub-theme seeks to demonstrate practical experiences in the implementation of IWRM planning and modelling in countries at different stages in the process. Planning is carried out at sub-national, national and transboundary level, including innovations and experiences in water resources planning and management, as well as river basin management at different institutional and spatial scales and in view of global changes.

ABSTRACTS

Abstracts should be a maximum of 350 words. The format for all text should be font size 12, Times New Roman and single-spaced. The title should be no more than 16 words in title case. Author's names should be written in such a way that the initials appear first followed by the last name. The authors names should indicate one corresponding author* (with an asterisk) and the email of the corresponding author. The affiliations of authors should be shown through letter superscripts (such as a, b, c). Five keywords should be included in alphabetical order. Submissions should indicate the target sub-theme and also whether it is for poster or oral presentation. Authors should note that the method of presentation whether oral or poster, does not reflect the quality of the papers, and poster presentations are encouraged.

All abstracts should be sent as word documents to the WaterNet Secretariat at **symposium13@waternetonline.org**. The email should have the title: Abstract submission 2012 plus the surname of the corresponding author.

Guidelines for writing a good abstract are available at:

<http://www.waternetonline.org/Symposium/13/GuidelinesForWritingAGoodAbstract.pdf>

Guidelines for writing a good paper are available at:

<http://www.waternetonline.org/Symposium/13/GuidelinesForWritingAPaper.pdf>

JOURNAL PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY OF THE EARTH (JPCE)

After the Symposium, authors will also have the opportunity to submit their papers for review and publication in a special issue of the Journal of Physics and Chemistry of the Earth. It is a journal published by Elsevier and normal peer review processes will apply. Submissions will be online via Elsevier Editorial System (EES), <http://ees.elsevier.com/jpce>

DEADLINES FOR ABSTRACTS

Deadline for submission of abstracts

30 April 2012

Notification of acceptance of abstracts

31 May 2012

Last date for submission of extended abstracts

31 July 2012

Deadline for early registration and payment

31 July 2012

Final date for registration fees to be paid

30 September 2012

SPECIAL SESSIONS

All organisations interested in convening a special session should send in their abstract, giving the subject of the **workshop, objectives, expected results and expected outcomes** of the session. The abstract submission process is open to practitioners, researchers, policy makers and other stakeholders around the world. Each special session will be allocated approximately two hours. However, if more time is required, the organisers should state this in the abstract.

Abstracts will be evaluated and accepted on the basis of their relevance as well as their scientific quality.

The Scientific Programme Committee will review the abstracts against the following criteria:

- How the abstract advances knowledge of and/or innovation within the subject
- The scientific quality and originality of the subject
- The practical applications of the paper's content
- The capacity of the procedures or practices described to be replicated
- Relevance to Integrated Water Resources Management

For further information about Special Session abstract submission, please contact:

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DEADLINES FOR SPECIAL SESSIONS

Deadline for Submission of proposals

30 April 2012

Notification of Acceptance of proposals

31 May 2012

REGISTRATION FEES

Early Bird Registration 350 USD

(payable before 31 July 2012)

(R2750 equivalent)

Early Bird Student Registration 250 USD

(payable before 31 July 2012)

(R1970 equivalent)

Late Registration 400 USD

(payable before 30 September 2012)

(R3200 equivalent)

On-site Registration 500 USD (for registrations

after 30 October 2012) (R4000 equivalent)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Details on the Symposium will be uploaded and updated at the websites indicated as they become available.

<http://www.gwpsa.org>

<http://www.waternetonline.org>