Water and climate pavilion Event:

"The Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus: A regional context"

Monday 14th of November, 3 pm - 4 pm

With simultaneous interpretation in English – French – Arabic

Organizers:

Partners

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

Government of Nepal

Context

Water is both the first victim of climate change and the first vector of its impacts on our societies. In some places, this means too much water which floods homes and neighborhoods, in others it shows up as droughts that devastate our ability to deliver food and drinking water. Both too much and too little water will affect water availability over space and time and can affect other water-dependent sectors such as agriculture, domestic water uses, energy, and ecosystems. Since climate change impacts are cross-sectoral, a holistic management approach is required to resolve the problems.

In the last decade, the water-energy-food-ecosystems (WEFE) nexus has emerged as a transformative and systematic approach to understanding and managing trade-offs and synergies across water, energy, food and ecosystems. It is an inclusive and polycentric approach that promotes equitable partnerships across sectors to solve complex problems. Water management at the basin level provides an effective adaptation solution, involving stakeholders from all sectors, reconciling their uses within the constraints of this new climatic context and using an intersectoral nexus approach to develop investment projects in territories where their benefits will be optimal.
One additional pathway to water is through our energy choices. As the world looks for alternatives to fossil fuels, hydropower, wind, and solar will be on the list. But those don't come without impacting natural ecosystems, which in turn, can reduce the resilience and increase vulnerability to Climate Change. Smart optimization of energy infrastructure that aims at providing low carbon and low conflict solutions by looking at the right mix of renewable energy options that reduce GHG emissions, siting them correctly to reduce unintended environmental and social harm, and building a resilient energy network in the face of climate change is the way of the future.

This event will present exemplary experiences of basin management for adaptation to climate change in a regional context and will point out the urgency of making this cross-sectoral approach at the scale of hydrographic basins a political priority at the United Nations Water Conference of March 2023. This session will also explore energy development opportunities that present the least long-term harm to our global freshwater systems and nature.

Case studies will focus on basins from several regions to show that WEFE nexus approach is a prerequisite for managing the interconnected challenges exacerbated by climate change.

Program

Welcoming remarks and Introduction (10 minutes) :

- **Mr. Nizar Baraka,** Minister of Equipment and Water of the Kingdom of Morocco - Adaptation of agricultural water uses under the pressure of climate change

Moderator:

- **Ms. Noor Yafai,** Europe Director Global Policy and Institutional Partnerships, The Nature Conservancy

Panel (30 minutes):

- **Mrs. Anne Pressurot**, Quantitative management and adaptation to climate change expert, Rhone Mediterranean Corsica Water Agency
- **Dr. Pem Narayan Kandel,** Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment (MOFE) Nepal.
- **Ms. Marie-Claire Paiz,** Country Director Gabon, The Nature Conservancy
- **Mr. Sardar Mohazzam,** Managing director of National Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority (NEECA), Ministry of Energy (Power Division), Pakistan

Questions and answers (15 minutes)

Concluding remarks (5 minutes)

- **Dr. Mark Smith**, Managing Director International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

Online Event : https://events.zoom.us/e/view/2OkXfbQXScWlVm0Z2jXh3g