**Water Security
and Climate Change**
Conference
—

Hanoi, Vietnam
01–03 March 2021

Call for
Abstracts

VAWR

CNRD
Centers for Natural Resources
and Development

International Network on
Sustainable Water Management
in Developing Countries
ex))ceed SWINDON

ex))ceed
EXCELLENCE CENTERS
FOR EXCHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

FSC
Food Security Center

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
1959

**Technology
Arts Sciences
TH Köln**

ITT
Institute for Technology and
Resources Management in
the Tropics and Subtropics

WSCC 2021 - a platform for exchange

The Vietnam Academy for Water Resources (VAWR), the Centers for Natural Resources and Development (CNRD), the International Network on Sustainable Water Management in Developing Countries (SWINDON), the Food Security Center (FSC) and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) are pleased to invite the community of renowned water and climate change experts to propose abstracts for the Water Security and Climate Change Conference (WSCC), 1-3 March 2021.

Achieving water security under climate change conditions is one of the major challenges faced by society today – both on a global and local level. Building bridges between disciplines, sectors and different stakeholders, the conference will serve as a platform for international exchange, to uncover interdisciplinary linkages and to release synergies between scientific evidence and both societal and political decision strategies.

The WSCC 2021 is supported by various partners of the Exceed program (Higher Education Excellence in Development Cooperation) and follows a successful series of conferences implemented between 2016 and 2020.

Topics

The challenges we face due to climate change and climate variability are well-known worldwide, as are their impacts on our living environments. Strategies to cope with climate change, risk assessment and willingness of states and societies to bear the risks and consequences are heterogeneous and divergent. However, these solutions and strategies are often not adapted to the respective political economic and social requirements and are more reactive than preventative. Ideally, all decisions and interventions should be based on an integrated, well-considered and rational way of acting, with the aim of sustainable protection of nature and its resources.

The WSCC strives to offer a platform for international exchange, to uncover interdisciplinary linkages and to release synergies between scientific evidence and both societal and political decision strategies. We seek to contribute to a significant social change, following the idea of the *Green Deal* - as currently discussed in Europe. For example, abstracts that deal with transformation strategies in the sense of the ecological reconstruction of the economy are welcome. We kindly invite contributions of creative and practical approaches with relevance for water security and strategies to cope with climate change considering technical ecologic, economic and societal dimensions. This may also include concrete examples dealing with hazards, risks, vulnerabilities and disasters as well as decision making regarding the investment in infrastructure development to achieve water security, the delivery of relevant services and rateable cost analyses.

The WSCC focuses on internationally agreed upon themes that are reflected in international agendas, including: (1) the sustainable management of water and the mitigation of climate change corresponding to the *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs) of Agenda 2030, taking into account (2) the *Paris Agreement* and to combat climate change and adapt to its effects, with enhanced support of countries of the Global South to do so; (3) strategies for Disaster Risk Reduction in terms of water as outlined in the *Sendai Framework*; (4) the development, function and sustainable design of cities in terms of water as indicated in the *New Urban Agenda*; and (5) the water-related benefits of ecosystems and biodiversity addressed in the *Convention on Biological Diversity*. This results in the following main topics:

Topics

1. Water and Land for Agriculture and Food
- Water Scarcity, Water Productivity and Food Security
- Sustainable Intensification of Rainfed and Irrigated Agriculture
- Water and Land Degradation / Desertification
- Socio-economic Aspects of Water and Food Security

2. Water Security and Climate Change Adaptation
- Nature-based Solutions and Ecosystem-based Adaptation
- Coping Mechanism, Resilience and Responses
- Adaptation Policies, Practices and Economics

3. Urban Water Management
- Water Sensitive Cities / Blue-Green Infrastructure
- Circular Design-built Strategies for Climate-friendly and Citizen-driven Urban Water and Food Systems
- Urban Water Security and Governance
- Sustainable Urban Water Management

4. Water Security Hazards and Risks
- Vulnerability and Risk Assessment and Disaster Risk Reduction
- Coping with Climate Extremes (Floods, Droughts, Storms, Coastal Resilience, Pollution Control)
- Water Risk Management and Policy
- Water and Health

5. Water Knowledge and the Data Revolution
- Novel Remote Sensing, Monitoring, Tracer and Model Techniques
- Generation, Access and Utilization of Big Data for Water Development
- Open Science and Open Innovation
- Novel Water Curricular and Educational Networks
- Capacity Development and Blended Learning for Water Security

6. International Water Management
- International Water Initiatives
- Water Footprint, Virtual Water and Transboundary Cooperation
- Transboundary Water Management
- Water Diplomacy

7. Connecting the Dots: Nexus Themes and Transformation Strategies
- Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus
- Water Decision Analysis, Cost Benefit Analysis, Multiple-criteria Decision-making
- Ecosystem Services for Nexus Solutions
- Integrating Nexus Policies for Sustainability
- Water in National Sustainable Development Strategies
- Water Innovation, Societal Challenges and Transformation

Generally, we ask authors to visit the WSCC website, as more and more sessions will be described in detail soon. Abstracts can thus be submitted according to the session information. Additional sessions may be created corresponding to the incoming contributions. Abstracts that correspond with the main topics (above) will be prioritized.

If you are interested in creating your own session, do not hesitate to contact us.

Please also note the call for sessions. For more information, please see: www.watersecurity.info

Framework

The WSCC 2021 conference planning committee welcomes your abstracts for oral presentations and scientific posters. The submission period is 25 June – 30 September 2020.

The WSCC aspires to offer abundant opportunities for exchange. The conference consists primarily of thematic sessions involving different stakeholders, thus tying the scientific community to policy, industry and society. The introduction of new dimensions and perspectives in the current discourse on water security and climate change is welcome, in particular presentations which combine academic and practical approaches.

Accepted contributions to the conference will be published in the WSCC book of abstracts. Each session will be hosted by prominent organizations, institutions or experts in relevant fields. The conference will be held in English.

Limited funding is available to support speakers from DAC list countries.

Submission

25 Jun 2020	Abstract submission portal opens
30 Sep 2020	Abstract submission deadline
15 Nov 2020	Notification of approved abstracts

Abstracts should be submitted online:
www.watersecurity.info

Registration Fee

	YOUNG SCIENTIST*	REDUCED**	STANDARD
Early bird until 31 Dec 2020	100 EUR	125 EUR	175 EUR
Regular from 01 Jan 2021	115 EUR	150 EUR	250 EUR

*   must prove student or PhD status
** limited to participants from DAC list countries
    (or working for institutions located in DAC list countries)

The registration fee includes a book of abstracts, conference material on USB, attendance at conference sessions, welcome reception, lunches, morning and afternoon tea/coffee break and one conference dinner.

Guidelines

DIGITAL FORMAT

Basically, the WSCC is planned and prepared as a regular conference, assuming that travel restrictions imposed by Covid 19 will be lifted in 2021. The WSCC organizing committee is also considering (additional) digital formats in order to enrich the conference in general and to be able to react on short notice. All presenters will be informed in time about alternative formats (e.g. pre-recorded presentations, digital posters, etc.).

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Oral presentations provide authors with the opportunity to present their work in the context of the conference sessions.

· Oral paper presentations are given around 15-minute time-slots: a five-minute pitch for the core message of the contribution, ten minutes for questions, answers and an in-depth discussion
· Accepted presenters are required to submit a pre-recorded summary of their contribution (talking over slides or other form of video), which will be available in advance on the WSCC website
· Oral presentations are assigned to thematic sessions

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

· A general 90-minute poster session provides an interactive forum for authors to discuss their work
· Presenters will be assigned pin boards to present their posters
· Presenters are encouraged to bring one-page handouts to accompany their posters
· Some selected posters might be included in thematic sessions (two-minute pitch)

PARTICIPATION

Please note:
If accepted, participation must be confirmed through registration by 30 November and conference fees paid by 31 December 2020.
A book of abstracts will be compiled and made available to the participants and through the WSCC website.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

· All abstracts must be submitted online between 25 June and 30 September 2020
· Abstracts can be submitted as 'Oral or Poster Presentation' or 'Poster Presentation Only'
· All abstracts must be submitted through our submission portal in text form
· The following information must be included in the submitted abstract: presentation title, all author(s)' identifying information (including names, degrees, and institutional affiliations), WSCC topics (see list of topics in the submission portal), three to five keywords and narrative text (limited to 300 words)
· The submission of an additional visual abstract is optional, but recommended
· The upload of necessary graphics, charts or mathematical formula is possible as PDF, should not exceed one page and have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi
· The conference organization committee may propose an alternative presentation format (open space sessions), based on the available times in the conference program

CRITERIA FOR ABSTRACT SELECTION

Abstracts will be selected by the WSCC scientific committee on the basis of the need to organize a well-balanced program and according to the following criteria:

· Relevance of the presentation for the conference topic
· Potential of the presentation to link evidence-based science, practice and political/societal decision-making
· Quality of abstract, in terms of content and language
· Originality and innovation

Contact

Please do not hesitate to direct any questions you may have regarding the conference to **wscc2021@vawr.org.vn**

WSCC 2021
ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

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