The Next Chapter for IWRA
I am very honoured to be taking over at the helm and I would like to take this opportunity to thank members for placing in me the vote of confidence to server as President of IWRA. In particular I would like to commend the former IWRA President Dogan Altinbilek and the previous Board for their excellent work over the past three years. I thank them for handing over a strengthened and revitalised organisation for the new Executive Board and myself, allowing us to focus on delivering impactful projects in the coming years. IWRA will be 45 years old this year and I am excited about what we can achieve together before our half century.

It is also time to thank the tireless work of the former Executive Director Tom Soo and his team in Montpellier who have been the bedrock of the IWRA for the past six years. Tom is moving on to new pastures and is replaced by Callum Clench who is in the process of setting up the new Executive Office in the Paris area with our new host, the Seine-Normandy Water Agency. I am confident that the synergies with other associations (French Water Partnership, Scientific and Technical Water and Environment Association) made available by this new co-location will benefit us all.

This is the first update since the new Executive Board has taken up duties at the beginning of this year. We have already held our inaugural face-to-face Board meeting in Paris in February at which we also conducted a workshop to develop our action plan for the coming three years, including setting up a number of new working groups. You can read more about this workshop in this newsletter. I want to thank all the Board members who were able to participate either directly or indirectly in that meeting and workshop. I would also like to thank Jean Launay, Member of the French Parliament, for hosting us for a convivial dinner at the Assemblée Nationale.

It is indeed an exciting time to be part of this organisation, as we see water being increasingly recognised as a critical part of the Climate COP process and also the UN’s new Sustainable Development Goals. But challenges lie ahead as we seek ways to ensure the best possible implementation of these goals – something that requires a solid interface between science and policy – fitting neatly with IWRA’s core mission. I enthusiastically take on these challenges in my role as the new IWRA President.

It is my goal that we empower our membership to be more involved in IWRA activities than ever. Of course, we have the 16th World Water Congress in Cancun, Mexico (May 29 – June 2, 2017) to look forward to, hosted by ANEAS and CONAGUA. The International Scientific Committee led by Gabriel Eckstein and the Congress Steering Committee have already made excellent progress and I am confident that next year’s Congress will be an excellent one. We invite you to submit your papers or session proposals for the Congress through the dedicated website.

In addition to the Congress, I also want to offer additional opportunities for members to get involved, either through national/regional chapters of IWRA, or through the working groups we are setting up. Please keep an eye on the forthcoming newsletter for more information on how you can get involved. And I must not forget your contributions made through our publications including Water International which is still in the excellent hands of editor-in-chief James Nickum, supported by Philippus Wester. IWRA is nothing without its membership, and your knowledge and networks are invaluable to the work we wish to undertake. I want us to strengthen and build on these relationships to ensure that science and policy share a platform with equal footing.

Finally, I have asked us to make a special outreach to new student members, who represent the water experts of the future. Students get free membership to the IWRA and I ask you to extend this invitation through your networks to get as many of your students as you can to join IWRA with a view to getting more involved in the work we do.

I look forward to working with you all as we face the ongoing challenges of the water sector in balancing and meeting all of our social, environmental, climatic and economic goals.

Patrick Lavarde
IWRA President
IWRA EXECUTIVE BOARD STARTED ITS NEW MANDATE 2016-2018

Since 1st January, the new Executive Board started its new mandate for three years.

You can find the name and photos of the Board members on the website to this link: www.iwra.org/index.php?mainpage=58&page=182&subpage=

IWRA NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICE AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The IWRA Executive Office moved from Montpellier to Nanterre (located next to La Défense in Paris) at the beginning of March 2016, and is now hosted by the Agence de l’Eau Seine-Normandie (the Seine-Normandy Water Agency).

In addition, the IWRA welcomes its new Executive Director Callum Clench who is replacing Tom Soo who held this position for the last 6 years. He took over as head of the IWRA secretariat effective 1 March 2016.

In this short section, we ask Callum Clench about the new Executive Office in Nanterre and his new position.

What is your background?
C.C.: I am a New Zealander and hold Australian and British citizenship as well. I studied an unusual mix of Environmental Sciences and Asian Studies at the Australian National University and upon graduation I headed to Japan where I spent nearly four years after graduation. I then moved to London and took up a job in environmental consultancy, ultimately completing an MSc in Business Strategy, Politics and the Environment at the University of London. Then, after a stint with a major bank, I worked for the UK government’s Sustainable Development Commission. From there I moved to Marseille to work at the World Water Council before returning to London to work at Imperial College on an EU climate change innovation and entrepreneurship programme. Apart from Korean and Japanese, I speak French and am learning Spanish - just in time for our 2017 congress in Cancun!

How did you first become aware of IWRA?
C.C.: I first got to know the organisation from my work at the World Water Council, which was created as a result of an IWRA initiative at the 8th World Water Congress in Cairo in 1996. I have always been impressed by its pedigree and history - being the first organisation of its type.

Why were you interested in becoming Executive Director of this association?
C.C.: It has a great history and a really important role going forward. In particular I like the focus of the work undertaken by IWRA. Having worked in policy based organisations, I see the need for stronger scientific foundations for many water based policy decisions. This is all the more important in an era where climate change, conflict and poor governance are presenting profound challenges to water resilience and water resource management.

What is the role of the Executive Office?
C.C.: Under the stewardship of the Board of Governors, the EO facilitates the delivery of the mission and vision of IWRA, with a particular focus on the science-policy interface, especially in areas of water quality from source to sea, and climate change adaptation, as well as the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals. We focus on managing our membership applications, communication to members and wider stakeholder groups, as well as undertaking bespoke projects with international partners. We also support the publication of Water International, policy reviews and other publications. And of course we act as the liaison between the IWRA Board and the hosts of each Congress.

Will this recent relocation of the Executive Office to Paris have an impact on IWRA members?
C.C.: I hope that yes it will, in a positive way. We are now based in a more accessible location and can access more easily resources to support the work we undertake. We want to ensure that we are not seen as a purely French or European organisation. Our focus is absolutely international, and it is also our aim to encourage the development of more national or regional chapters of IWRA, and to expand our membership to include more young people as well as companies and institutions. If any of our members are passing through Paris, please do pay us a visit.

How do you see IWRA evolving in the future?
C.C.: I would like to facilitate more participation and knowledge-sharing among our membership; especially young talent coming in to the water resources sector as well as corporate, public and institutional organisations. Our strength lies in our networks, and we want to see more happening between congresses. It is up to us, in large part, to enable this to take place, but it is also up to our members to seize the opportunities that the IWRA presents. I am very excited about being at the IWRA and really look forward to working with as many of our members and partners as I can, and am very excited about what the future holds.
LATEST ACTIVITIES

Water and Climate seminars: 
2nd seminar “The political dimension: the transboundary level”
PARIS, FRANCE, 20 NOVEMBER 2015

A series of three seminars related to water and climate has been organized under the scientific responsibility of Raya Marina Stephan (IWRA member), Alexandre Taithe (FRS,) and Stéphanie Leyronas (AFD). Their objective is to highlight the reasons behind the consideration or its absence of water and climate interactions in the climate negotiations and in regional transboundary cooperation. The debates also focus on transposing concepts and tools adopted by the water and climate sectors in various geographical and social situations.

The first seminar, held on 10 November at AFD, was dedicated to “The processes: what is behind the negotiations framework”. The long process that led to the adoption in September 2015 of the Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 illustrates the influence of negotiation framework on the contents of these objectives. The convergence of the view of numerous actors from the water sector for an integration of the water and climate issues was not enough for its effective consideration. How did the interface between science, the water sector and politics begin in the previous Conferences of the Parties (COP)? How could we better enhance the overlap between water and climate in the documents that will be issued by the COP 21 in Paris? A panel composed of Mr Nicolas Bériot (ONERC), Ms Amy Dahan (CNRS), Mr Gaël Giraud (AFD), and Mr Gérard Payen (Special adviser on water and sanitation at the UN), moderated by Mr Philippe Orliange (AFD) discussed the following two questions:
- How a sectorial position is built during international negotiations processes (COP/SDG)?
- How the processes and mechanisms of negotiations affect the content by over-evaluating or reducing positions?

The members of the panel highlighted the innovative approach, and the awareness of the importance of reaching a result, in the negotiation process at the UN that led to the adoption of the SDGs, and the one that is leading to the COP 21 (i.e. a bottom up approach, acknowledging the growing role of the civil society when consideration of solutions).

The second seminar, held on 20 November at the FRS, was dedicated to “The political dimension: the transboundary level”. Transboundary waters stimulate various opportunities for cooperation between States. Examples of technical and institutional partnerships are numerous: the Aral Sea; the Senegal, Nile and Mekong rivers; the Guarani, Nubian Sandstone and North Western Sahara aquifer systems; and others. The recognition of the impacts of climate change and of the needs of adaption measures creates new initiatives of bilateral or multilateral cooperation. Despite the willingness of the stakeholders and recognized scientific experience, it has to be noted that it has been difficult to develop a joint vision of water and climate issues in a transboundary context that works in practice in numerous regions. Even if the tremendous potential of the economic, social and environmental benefits of transboundary cooperation exist, the political dimension of water management and climate issues at various scales often represents a blockage.

The panel composed of Mr Michel Pré (MFA), Mr Martin Léménager (AFD), Ms Raya Marina Stephan (PFE, IWRA) and Mr Alexandre Taithe (FRS) and moderated by Mr Edouard Boinet (OIEau) discussed the following questions:
- What are the determinants of success for transboundary cooperation mechanisms integrating water and climate?
- Does the recognition of the climate change issues create new opportunities for regional cooperation?
- What political and diplomatic constraints hamper the consideration of water and climate issues at the transboundary level?

The panel highlighted the importance of developing knowledge on transboundary waters, rivers or aquifers, including the impact of climate change, and how to share it between the riparian States. It also stressed the importance of ensuring a lasting financial solution. The political will remains the most important factor in establishing transboundary cooperation. It was recognized by the panel that the climate change issue creates new opportunities for regional cooperation. The main obstacle remains the sovereign attitude of states and the lack of political will.

The last seminar on “Concepts and instruments: the influence of thinking and action framework” will be held on 11 April 2016.
The IWRA Executive Board held a strategic workshop and their first face to face Board meeting to define the actions and activities of the association during their mandate (2016-2018). Fifteen out of the twenty Board members were able to come to France for the event. This workshop and Board meeting were kindly hosted by ONEMA (the French National Agency for Water and Aquatic Environments) in Vincennes, Paris.

**IWRA visit to Mexico**

**MEXICO, 21-24 FEBRUARY 2016**

IWRA President, Patrick Lavarde, made a formal visit to Mexico in February 2016, accompanied by the head of the International Scientific Committee, Gabriel Eckstein, as well as the outgoing IWRA Executive Director, Tom Soo, and the incoming IWRA Executive Director, Callum Clench.

The purpose of the visit was to meet with the national organisers of the 16th World Water Congress, scheduled to take place in Cancun from 29th May until 2nd June 2017. Meetings took place with the Mexican National Water Commission (Comisión del Nacional del Agua - CONAGUA) and the Mexican National Association of Water and Sanitation (Asociación Nacional de Empresas de Agua y Saneamiento - ANEAS) in both Mexico City and Cancun.

Mr Lavarde and the IWRA delegation met with Mr. Roberto Ramírez de la Parra, Director General of CONAGUA at their headquarters in Mexico City to discuss the high-level plans for the Congress, and the progress made on the thematic process. It has been agreed that the Congress will focus on the science-policy interface for water.

More detailed discussions were then held regarding the launch for the call for papers, as well as the logistics of the Congress and basic structure of the programme in relation to the developing thematic framework. This is expected to include a number of high-level panels involving key scientists and policy makers in addition to a series of parallel sessions. Progress is well under way and the spirit of cooperation is very strong between IWRA and our Mexican partners. We are therefore certain that this Congress will be one of the best we have ever had.

**IWRA webinar: Sustainability in the Water-Energy-Food Nexus**

**24-25 FEBRUARY 2016**

In February, IWRA and the Water Futures Program hosted 2 successful webinars about the Water-Energy-Food Nexus. A record breaking audience engaged with our panellists who discussed implementing the WEF Nexus at scales such as regional river basin planning and state water management plans. Our panellists also compared their experiences doing WEF Nexus work in different contexts.
including irrigation in Pakistan and the Duero river in Spain. This webinar was based on the work that appeared in the Special Issue of *Water International*, Sustainability in the water–energy–food nexus. We hope you can join us for our upcoming webinars. The panellists presentations will be published on the IWRA Website soon.

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**UN World Water Day 2016 on Water and jobs**

*22 March 2016*

World Water Day is an international event and an opportunity to learn more about water related issues, be inspired to tell others, and take action to make a difference. World Water Day dates back to the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development where an international observance for water was recommended. Today, almost half of the world’s workers — 1.5 billion people — work in water related sectors, while nearly all jobs depend on water and those who ensure its safe delivery. Yet the millions of people who work in water are often not recognized or protected by basic labour rights. The theme in 2016 — water and jobs — is focusing on how having enough quantity and quality of water can change workers’ lives and livelihoods, and even transform societies and economies.

More information about this special day and related activities can be found on the official website at: [www.unwater.org/worldwaterday](http://www.unwater.org/worldwaterday)


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**Water and Sustainability: A Hydro-Nation Approach**

*Dundee, Scotland, 22 March 2016*

The University of Dundee, Scotland, organised an event entitled “Water and Sustainability: A Hydro Nation Approach” to coincide with World Water Day, on 22 March 2016. IWRA was a sponsor of this cross-disciplinary event. Experts from a wide range of water-focused institutions in Scotland will exchanged perspectives and predictions regarding the impact of the UN’s new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on the water sector.

More information can be found at: [www.iwra.org/doc/World_Water_Day_Hydro_Nation.pdf](http://www.iwra.org/doc/World_Water_Day_Hydro_Nation.pdf)

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**Seminar “ Concepts and instruments: the influence of thinking and action framework ”**

*Paris, France, 11 April 2016*

This seminar is the last of the series of three seminars related to water and climate is organized under the scientific responsibility of Raya Marina Stephan (IWRA Board Director).

More information on this serie of seminars can be found in the Latest activities column.

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**10th World General Assembly of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)**

*1-4 June 2016, Merida, Mexico*

The tenth edition of this Assembly will be organized by the Mexican Government, through the National Water Commission (Conagua). Its work will be around major strategic issues to ensure the necessary implementation of programmes of adaptation to great global challenges such as population growth, food and energy demand, or adaptation to the effects of climate change, in the basins of local, national and transboundary rivers, lakes and aquifers, which will be addressed in plenary sessions, roundtables and side events.

More information at: [www.rioc.org/inbo/agenda/article/10th-general-assembly](http://www.rioc.org/inbo/agenda/article/10th-general-assembly)
UPCOMING EVENTS

7th ICWRER
5-9 JUNE 2016, KYOTO, JAPAN
The main theme of this Symposium is “Water Security in Geo, Eco and Socio-Systems”. The objective of the ICWRER conference is to bring together physical, biological, chemical, statistical and technical expertise in order to better understand natural systems related to water resources from all around the world. IWRA is an official sponsor of this event and Prof. Kaoru Takara is a member of the steering committee.
You can consult the event website at: wrrc.dpri.kyoto-u.ac.jp/icwrer2016

Singapore Water Week
10-14 JULY 2016, SINGAPORE
The Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) is the global platform to share and co-create innovative water solutions. The biennial event gathers stakeholders from the global water industry to share best practices, showcase the latest technologies and tap business opportunities. SIWW is part of the strategic programme of the Singapore Government to grow the water industry and develop water technologies.
The 7th Singapore International Water Week will be held in conjunction with the 5th World Cities Summit and the 3rd CleanEnviro Summit Singapore
More information can be found: www.siww.com.sg

Stockholm World Water Week
28 AUGUST - 2 SEPTEMBER 2016, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
The World Water Week in Stockholm is the annual focal point for the globe’s water issues. It is organized by SIWI (Stockholm International Water Institute). This year, the theme is Water and Sustainable Growth. It is also the 20th jubilee of the Stockholm Junior Water Prize.
More information at: www.worldwaterweek.org

IWA World Water Congress 2016
9-14 OCTOBER 2016, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA
The IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition is the global event for water professionals. It offers new insights into how pioneering science, technological innovation and leading practices shape the major transformation in water management that is underway.

UNFCCC COP22
7-18 NOVEMBER 2016, MARRAKESH, MOROCCO
The 22nd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 22) and the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 12) will be held in Marrakech, Morocco
More information at: newsroom.unfccc.int

XVIth World Water Congress
CANCUN, MEXICO, 29 MAY TO 2 JUNE 2017
The IWRA Major event will be held in Cancun, Mexico in 2017.
More information about the congress preparation can be read in the ”IWRA visit to Mexico” article, under Latest Activities column.

XVIth World Water Congress Call For Papers
The XVIth World Water Congress International Scientific Committee (ISC) welcomes papers for oral and posters sessions that aim to incorporate science and policy for the water challenges facing our world. Experts, academics, water professionals, and stakeholders from all disciplines – including science, policy, economics, management, and governance – who wish to present their work and research during the Congress must submit their abstracts by September 1st 2016.
You can submit your article online at: www.wwc2017.iwra.org
Hydrosocial territories: a political ecology perspective. Rutgerd Boelens, Jaime Hoogesteger, Erik Swyngedouw, Jeroen Vos & Philippus Wester - PAGES 1-14


- Virtual water trade and the contestation of hydrosocial territories. Jeroen Vos & Leonith Hinojosa - PAGES 37-53

- From Spain’s hydro-deadlock to the desalination fix. Erik Swyngedouw & Joe Williams - PAGES 54-73

- Democratizing discourses: conceptions of ownership, autonomy and ‘the state’ in Nicaragua’s rural water governance. Sarah T. Romano - PAGES 74-90

- Territorial pluralism: water users’ multi-scalar struggles against state ordering in Ecuador’s highlands. Jaime Hoogesteger, Rutgerd Boelens & Michiel Baud PAGES 91-106

- Diverging realities: how framing, values and water management are interwoven in the Albufera de Valencia wetland in Spain. Mieke Hulshof & Jeroen Vos PAGES 107-124

- Water scarcity and the exclusionary city: the struggle for water justice in Lima, Peru. Antonio A. R. Ioris PAGES 125-139

- PES hydrosocial territories: de-territorialization and re-patterning of water control arenas in the Andean highlands. Jean Carlo Rodríguez-de-Francisco & Rutgerd Boelens PAGES 140-156

- Inclusive recognition politics and the struggle over hydrosocial territories in two Bolivian highland communities. Miriam Seemann - PAGES 157-172

- Adjudicating hydrosocial territory in New Mexico. Eric P. Perramond - PAGES 173-188

IWRA Executive Board Election Results PAGE 189
Publications by members

This article is available online at: www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0022169416300105

Book «Water, people and cooperation. 50 years of Water programmes for sustainable development at UNESCO». As part of the celebrations of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO's water programmes, the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) produced the book entitled “Water, People and Cooperation: 50 Years of Water Programmes for Sustainable Development at UNESCO”, released on 2 December 2015 during Water and Climate Day at the 2015 Paris Climate Conference (COP21). This book summarises the past achievements, current activities as well as present options for the desired future of IHP in an illustrated full-colour publication in English, French and Spanish. It constitutes the reference document on the historical jubilee of UNESCO and its water programmes, thanks to a generous donation from the National Commission of Water of Mexico (CONAGUA), who sponsored its production.

The book "Water, People and Cooperation: 50 Years of Water Programmes for Sustainable Development at UNESCO" provides an insightful overview of the work that has been carried out in the field of water all throughout the past fifty years, thanks to the contributions of key actors in the history of UNESCO's water programmes, notably past chairpersons of the IHP Intergovernmental Council, senior staff and members of UNESCO's Water Family. It is a precious recompilation of the Organization's efforts in the field of water that aims at providing the necessary ground to reflect on the progress achieved since 1965, and guide the way forward to achieve the post-2015 sustainable development goals and water security for all.
You can read the full publication at: unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002350/235002e.pdf

Book “Water is for Fighting Over” a compilation of articles on Water Resource Management in Texas by Chris O'Shea Roper and Tom Linton
Today, water resource management in Texas is a large and complex set of rules, regulations, requirements, demands, plans and systems. It is managed by water conservation districts, subsidence districts, river authorities, environmental agencies, and others.
The authors of “Water is for Fighting Over” have worked to clarify this complexity and influence water legislation and planning for the last three years. This book is a compilation of the articles they have written and which have been published in newspapers reaching over 100,000 readers a week.
The book is informative and easy to read. It will provide you with the information (and a sense of urgency) to help you take a stand in support of water resource management in Texas.
For more information or to order copies, please contact the authors at waterforfighting2015@gmail.com
OECD Report Water Governance in Cities

The OECD report Water Governance in Cities was launched at the Cities & Water Conference, Leeuwarden, Netherlands on 11 February 2016. The report argues that current levels of service delivery and water security should not be taken for granted in cities in developed and industrialised economies, since urban, demographic and climate trends are increasingly putting pressures on water resources. Technical solutions to manage supply and demand exist and are generally well-known. Today, the key challenge is to align incentives and choose the relevant policy instruments to move from crisis to risk management.

Building on a survey of 48 cities in OECD countries and emerging economies, the report analyses key factors affecting urban water governance, discusses trends in allocating roles and responsibilities across levels of government, and assesses multi-level governance gaps in urban water management. This report suggests a framework for co-ordinating water management across multiple scales, authorities, and policy domains. It showcases best practices to promote a strategic vision across sectors, to engage with stakeholders and to foster integrated urban water management in cities and their hinterlands, through rural-urban partnerships and metropolitan governance.

Read the report on line: bit.ly/1o8yHmT

Bruce Hooper Blog article:
The Art of Natural Resources Governance
IWRA member Bruce Hooper publishes a blog on natural resource which provides high level strategic analysis and advice in water resources governance.
You can read its articles at: brucehooper.com