

Terms of Reference [DRAFT]

IWRA Task Force on Climate Change

1. Background

The importance of climate change and its effects on water resources all around the world are both evident and challenging today. From severe droughts and floods, to water quality degradation and polar and mountain ice melting, for instance, climate change constitutes a particular threat to the sustainable management and use of the water resources. There is an urgent need, therefore, to address this growing issue, globally. Awareness, research and knowledge on the impacts of climate change on water resources focusing on mitigation and adaptation measures must be emphasized and urged for.

In 2020, UN Water's theme will be focusing on climate change. As every year, this is a unique opportunity to reflect and focus on key water topics through dedicated UN campaigns (World Water Day and World Toilet Day) and the World Water Development Report (WWDR). International water and sustainable development agendas will be looking to this theme with closed attention next year too.

IWRA in collaboration with WaterLex will be co-organising the 2nd World Summit on Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) in the context of Climate Change to take place in February 2020 in Geneva. This summit is, typically, the first important event in the year dedicated to UN Water's theme being held before World Water Day (22 March). It will provide the Association with an exceptional occasion to contribute to this topic and address related challenges and priorities to work on during the rest of the year.

The Task Force will work closely with the IWRA Executive Office and Board. Task Force members will also have the opportunity to interact and create meaningful networks and relationships among IWRA members within their professional discipline, as well as to contribute to projects and initiatives that otherwise would be inaccessible for individual professionals in the field.

The IWRA website will feature a short personal profile of each selected, active panellist.

2. IWRA Task Forces

The Task Force for Climate Change will be a working group of the IWRA. IWRA members taking part of this task force will include knowledgeable, experience members that can help further the Association's work on this important topic bridging science and policy.

Please refer to Appendix A, attached, for the terms and conditions for participation in IWRA task forces.



IWRA

International Water Resources Association

Proper recognition will be provided to task force panellists on publications, events and projects provided all their help and assistance.

3. Tasks

Climate Change Task Force members will be responsible to:

- Develop dedicated topics to be addressed by IWRA, policy briefs, webinars and both 2nd World Summit on LNOB in the context of Climate Change and IWRA's XVII World Water Congress sessions emphasizing the science policy interface of water and climate change.
- Respond in a timely manner with comments the revision of documents, draft research papers, reports or any special requests.
- Participate in regular teleconference meetings of the Task Force to discuss the potential projects and activities based on ongoing or new initiatives on climate change and water.
- Task Force members may be requested, from time to time, to respond to occasional questions or to provide short written responses for IWRA media communications.
- Members of the Task Force may be invited to support outreach to promote the climate change projects and activities through social media platforms, or to participate in dialogue on water and climate change topics at conferences.

4. Milestones

The timing of specific tasks will evolve as the work progresses but there are some specific milestone dates for this project as indicated in Table 1 following.

Table 1 Key Milestones for the Climate Change Task Force

Date	Step	Comment
15 September 2019	First draft of proposal/s for IWRA's XVII World Water Congress	More info: www.worldwatercongress.com/index.php?gt=par/par_session
30 September 2019	Submission of proposal/s for IWRA's XVII World Water Congress	Same link <i>as above</i>
October/ November 2019	Possible submissions for 2 nd World Summit on LNOB and Climate Change	<i>tbc</i>



IWRA

International Water Resources Association

December 2019 to January 2020	Organisation of sessions for the 2 nd World Summit on LNOB and Climate Change	There may be more regular meetings, documents revisions and support to outreach activities
February 2020	2 nd World Summit on LNOB and Climate Change	Presentations to be made during the summit
March to May 2020	Organisation of sessions for XVII Congress	There may be more regular meetings, documents revisions and support to outreach activities
11-15 May 2020	World Water Congress	Presentations will be made during the congress
June 2020	Task Force discussions on future activities and directions	Brainstorming on next steps, development of policy briefs and webinars, and potential collaboration projects

5. Deliverables

The deliverable for this initiative is a set of sessions for the 2nd World Summit on Climate Change and IWRA's XVII World Water Congress on the science policy interface between water and climate change that can be showcased after on dedicated policy briefs, webinars or publications, and also help trigger new projects and activities during 2020.



IWRA

International Water Resources Association

IWRA TASK FORCES

TERMS OF REFERENCE

I. OBJECTIVES

An IWRA Task Force (TF) is a small collection of water professionals within the IWRA membership, considered experts in a certain field of study, which work together in the aim of supporting projects within a specific discipline.

i. Objective

IWRA Task Forces were developed to facilitate networking between IWRA members who share common interests, and as an important tool to use the expertise of these members to contribute to meaningful products related to specific topics in water management. TFs establish a collection of members, from various backgrounds yet with similar areas of expertise, to collaborate as a task force in producing useful outcomes related to the expertise of TF members.

ii. Justification

The International Water Resources Association (IWRA) strives to improve the management of global water resources, through facilitating and contributing to knowledge exchange in the field of study. As a membership-based organization, IWRA promotes connections between water professionals from various geographies and disciplines, through events and networking opportunities. TFs allow networking between members with common interests through providing a platform for membership interaction and information exchange on a particular topic.

Furthermore, IWRA works towards the goal of improved global water management through advancing research and enhancing the quality of knowledge in the subject. Task Forces support advanced research and knowledge production through using the expertise of IWRA members to contribute to useful tasks and projects. As the IWRA Executive Office is a small secretariat with several activities, the creation of TFs supplies assistance on thematic project activities, and allows more projects to be completed with a greater level of knowledge and collaboration.

II. ELEMENTS OF A TASK FORCE

i. Stakeholders

The actors involved in TFs include the task force comprised of current IWRA members, the IWRA Executive Office, and possibly external stakeholders who may be coordinating the project.



IWRA

International Water Resources Association

The TFs consist of 5 – 15 IWRA members with a maximum of 2 student members, selected through a formal application process. Selected members will be referred to as TF topic panelists, and have a short personal profile presented on the IWRA webpage. In the case of panelist inactivity over the length of one full year, the expert panelist will be removed from the TF.

A Coordinator of the TF will be chosen to manage the overall delegation of tasks within the group and take the lead on projects and activities. The Coordinator will represent the TF during correspondence with the IWRA and/or external stakeholders.

ii. Stakeholder Responsibilities

Roles

As the task force with expertise on the topic, the selected panel of the TF will have the role of completing projects, as guided by IWRA and possibly an external stakeholder. These projects will be accomplished through active discussion among panelists and through delegation of tasks within the project. If there is no specific project that is active in the topic area, the TF may hold discussions and undertake research into the appropriate selection of a task for the TF.

The IWRA Executive Office will act to supply or approve meaningful projects for the TF and structure the direction of work carried out by the task force. The Executive Office will provide overhead support and guidance during all stages of the TF's development and activities.

Communication

For the effective functioning of TFs, regular communication between stakeholders is necessary. The coordinating actor of the TF will report to the IWRA Executive Board on progress made by the group on a quarterly basis, and in greater frequency as deadlines and clarification on tasks is required.

The IWRA Executive Office will provide prompt feedback and support to all inquiries from the TF.

iii. Scope and Commitment

The TF will have a specific timeline of goals, activities and deadlines, clearly defined in the scope of each TF specific terms of reference. This schedule will allow for an acceptable amount of time to complete tasks and communicate issues.

Each member of the TF will commit to 5 hours of work each month. This estimate includes time for correspondence with other panelists or stakeholders as well as time for tasks related to the project work. To remain in good standing, as a minimum, TF members must attend at least two on-line meetings in a year.



IWRA

International Water Resources Association

iv. Resources Available

The IWRA Executive Office will provide technical support, coordination and project content, especially during the commencement of the TF. When the TF is established, expert panelists in the group will be welcomed and introduced via email, provided the contacts of all TF members and invited to an initial web meeting for proper introductions and planning, coordinated by IWRA. IWRA will aid in the facilitation of regular meetings among TF panelists, using GoToMeeting or similar means of connection.

To facilitate quick and regular communication among the TF, IWRA may also provide an online discussion platform. This platform will be available only to the specific TF members and IWRA representatives, set-up and managed through the IWRA LinkedIn page.

Appropriate project content in the form of background information, direction and relevant documents will be supplied by the IWRA Executive Office.

III. DELIVERABLES

i. Measures of Success

The measures of success will be clearly defined at the start of the project, depending on the TF and the proposed projects. Potential measures of success will be in the form of an event such as a webinar, a finalized document or general advocacy document.

ii. Constraints

All documents and work produced within the TF will remain the property of the IWRA.