

Global Water Security Issues (GWSI) Call for Papers and Proposal Form

2021 Theme: Water Security and Cities – Integrated Urban Water Management

The 'Global Water Security Issues (GWSI) Paper Series' is co-published by UNESCO Headquarters and UNESCO i-WSSM on an annual basis. The selected papers will be published as part of the 'Global Water Security Issues (GWSI) Paper Series'.

CALL FOR PAPERS

UNESCO i-WSSM invites researchers from international organizations, government agencies, research institutions, not-profit institutions, and the private sector to submit proposals for the 'GWSI Paper Series' on water security and Sustainable Development Goals. The selected papers will be published as part of the 'GWSI Paper Series' of UNESCO i-WSSM and UNESCO Headquarters. Authors of chosen papers will be invited to present their work at an international event, such as the Korea International Water Week (KIWW) or the World Water Forum. **The selected paper shall be original, high-quality work not previously published.** Note that authors will be requested to sign a copyright agreement with UNESCO upon selection of the paper for the series; a copy of the agreement can be provided upon request.

Proposals are due by March 12, 2021. Successful authors will be notified by April 9, 2021 and full first draft papers will be due by June 25, 2021. Authors will be requested to respond to editorial review comments by September 3, 2021 and peer review comments by November 26, 2021.

GWSI papers will need to meet the following requirements:

- **Topics:** Papers should address a topic within the Water Security theme (see the Proposal Template following)
- **Content:** Papers should include the content identified in Section 2 Content, following.
- **Case Study:** Papers are strongly encouraged to include details of one or more practical and successful case studies.
- **Environmental and socioeconomic settings:** Papers may be tailored to specific environmental and socioeconomic settings or they may be broadly applicable; in any case, linkages to policy issues and/or key policy decisions should be included.
- **Languages:** Proposals and papers must be submitted in English.
- **Format:** The final paper should be at least 20-pages and not exceed 30 pages of double-spaced text, including all images and references.

Interested parties should complete the Proposal Template following.

1. BACKGROUND

Over the years 'Water Security' has attracted international attention ever since the UNESCO's Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP) placed emphasis on it and focusing its 8th phase on Water Security, being implemented between 2014-2021, in line with the eight-year Medium-term Strategy of UNESCO (2014-2021). According to the World Bank, securing water is essential to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and goes well beyond water access and sanitation. Surprisingly, though, a variety of topics regarding water security have not been extensively researched internationally. As such, there is an urgent need to conduct research on emerging and future global water security issues in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and to document these studies.

The 2021 theme is Integrated Urban Water Management. Agencies and organizations have definitions of this term that work for their purposes. Without attempting to definitively characterize the term, water security aspects of Integrated Urban Water Management include resiliency, socio-economic arrangements for capacity and innovation, land management practices, water quality and quantity management, and protection, conservation and recovery of the natural environment negatively affected by urban centres. Proposals will ideally include several aspects of Integrated Urban Water Management.

Objectives

The main objective of the 'GWSI Paper Series' is to document emerging water security-related issues and analyses, by co-publishing with distinguished researchers from relevant organizations and providing starting points for discussion on a range of issues that collectively fall under the umbrella of water security, identifying the present issues, broadening discourses, bringing regional cases to the centre, and sharing diverse perspectives, in connection to the Sustainable Development Goals.

The specific objectives of the papers include:

- To share research and studies on similar topics in order to strengthen cooperation among researchers engaged in the water sector internationally
 - To encourage and enhance research on water security-related issues
 - To identify solutions for improving global water security-related issues, and
 - To contribute to achieving water security in the long-term.
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2. CONTENT

The paper should include:

- Background information for an informed but non-expert reader
- Definition of key terms
- Key questions addressed and scope of the paper
- Methodology
- Case Study synopsis
- Discussion, including the impacts and risks identified by your research
- Policy implications and, as appropriate for the paper, recommendations or next steps
- Figures, drawings and photographs suitable for publication.

Refer to the themes on the **Proposal Template** (following). Other related topics may be acceptable with written justification (submitted as part of the completed Proposal Template).

3. SUBMISSION PROCESS

Proposals for papers must be submitted using the Proposal Template, following. **Please email the completed Proposal Template to m.trudeau@iwra.org**. The scheduled dates for proposal selection and paper review are:

- By **12th March 2021**, researchers interested in submitting papers should send a completed proposal template. The proposals will be reviewed by a selection committee which will judge proposals based on their quality, relevance, and substance.
- By **9th April 2021** the submitter of each proposal will be informed of the selection committee's decision.
- By **25th June 2021**, the researchers of the selected proposals should submit the first draft of papers to the International Water Resources Association (IWRA), which will be receiving them on behalf of UNESCO i-WSSM.
- Draft papers will be peer reviewed through a process established by the International Water Resources Association; authors will be requested to respond to comments by an editorial board (within 8 weeks of receiving comments) and to peer review comments (within 5 weeks of receiving comments).
- By **15th October 2021**, final full papers should be submitted to the International Water Resources Association.

Up to 20% of the GWSI Paper Series may consist of papers on topics identified by authors that are relevant to the theme but that have not been specifically identified in the topic choices of the Proposal Template. Proposals on topics identified in the Proposal Template will be given preference during the selection process.
