





#WATER #CLIMATE #SDG13 #SDG6



## **OUR RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **PUT WATER AT THE HEART OF ADAPTATION STRATEGIES**

93% of the nationally determined contributions (NDCs) submitted at the COP21 which include an adaptation component mention water (Study FWP-Coalition Eau updated in June 2016): this proves that water is seen as a major issue by most of the countries in a context of climate change: droughts, flooding, hurricane, rise of the sea level, degradation of the water quality, biodiversity degradation etc. Climate change participates indeed to the modification in time and space of the allocation of water resources, leading to economic, social and environmental impacts all around the world including in Europe.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change should thus take water into account as a priority for the discussions on adaptation, including within the Adaptation Committee and its other bodies.

## **DON'T FORGET WATER IN MITIGATION EFFORTS**

If water is a key for adaptation to climate change, it can also contribute quite largely to the mitigation of CO2 emissions, in particular through a better management of the energy consumption linked to its uses, for example drinking water, wastewater treatment and irrigation. Water can also be a sustainable source of energy. The French Water Partnership is currently working on the energy footprint of water and sanitation services and irrigation.

## LINK WATER, CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The issues related to water and climate change are closely linked to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Successfully reaching the SDG6 on water and of other water-related goals (SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16) depend on our on our ability to fight against climate change. On the other hand, many water projects will also contribute to the SDG13 on climate, as water has a major role in adaptation and mitigation. **Coherence and complementarity should therefore be anticipated when implementing the SDGs and the Paris Agreement on climate**. Starting from COP23, high-level events will be organized each year as part of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action on the links between the SDGs and climate change. This year's two high-level events will focus on SDG2 (zero hunger) and SDG11 (sustainable cities).

## STRENGTHEN THE COMMITMENTS AND INSERT THE CONTRIBUTIONS INTO THE NATIONAL POLICIES

All countries should make sure they connect their commitments, notably their national determined contributions (NDCs), into their national adaptation and mitigation strategies and policies: water should emerge as a priority in national policies and be integrated within other major sectors such as energy, food security, health, education. To this end, financial but also technical support and capacity building should be provided to the national and local stakeholders by the international community. Capacity building of these actors is essential for a better interconnection of water and climate in public policies.

The sum of national contributions, as they stand today, correspond to an average global warming augmentation between 2.7 °C and 3,5 °C by 2100. The actions planned are insufficient to stop temperatures in this century from rising more than 2 °C, which is the initial goal of COP21. It is therefore necessary that the States evaluate their progress since COP21 and increase their ambition in the perspective of the NDC review process.

The **civil society also plays an important role** to encourage the governments to include water into their adaptation policies, to support the local actors to implement those strategies at their level and to raise the general public awareness on the importance to integrate water in the national policies.

# INCLUDE WATER KNOWLEDGE AND NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN POLICIES AND STRATEGIES AT ALL LEVEL

To analyze needs in terms of response to climate change, we need to **enhance knowledge on climate and its impact on water management,** particularly at the local level. To reduce the climatic uncertainty and better manage water resources, we must improve both social and scientific knowledge (climatology, hydrology, meteorology). Data that has either been measured (hydro-weather stations, swell meters, etc.) or forecasted (models) and water information systems are fundamental for efficient planning. The development of satellite data help overcome in some cases the weakness of field data acquisition.

To have a double impact on human life and biodiversity, and thus contribute to SDGs 6 (Water), 13 (Climate), 14 (Ocean), 2 (Zero hunger) and 15 (Ecosystems), it is also important to develop Nature-Based Solutions (NBS), in addition to grey infrastructures. These green solutions can simultaneously increase territories' resilience to climate risks (droughts, floods, erosions, marine submersion, etc.), play a role in protecting and restoring biodiversity and respond to other development challenges such as access to drinking water, food security, human health, sustainable cities etc. A high-level declaration on nature-based solutions is open for signature by all stakeholders during COP23, to encourage the inclusion of NBS in strategies and policies at all levels.

## PROMOTE APPROPRIATE FUNDING STRATEGIES

Donors' attention should be drawn to the necessity of appropriate funding for climate and water, notably by fulfilling financial commitments included in the Paris Agreement and with the opening of climate funds (Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund) to adaptation projects in the water sector. In the long run, 50% of those funds should be dedicated to adaptation, thus making water one of the top priorities, and target the most vulnerable populations. Those funding, which will add up to the funds dedicated to development, should be made accessible to developing countries.

Water and climate funding will have to support integrated water resources policies, including not only infrastructures but also measures to **improve resources knowledge**, **strengthen the water governance**, **and develop nature-based solutions**, involving the civil society. It will therefore have to focus **on capacity building** and include **monitoring and evaluation of water policies**. To this end, financing tools adapted to the different project owners, especially in developing countries, should be implemented.

Beyond international funds, **funding mechanisms at national, basin and local levels should be implemented or reinforced**, as well as innovative mechanisms: decentralized cooperation, tax on financial transactions etc.

## **UNITE FOR MORE VISIBILITY**

The international community of water needs to be united (example of the **#Climateiswater initiative**) and needs to develop closer connections with the climate community, as well as with the energy and agriculture communities.

The Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, launched during COP21 as the Action Agenda and reinforced in COP22, should continue to promote and reinforce the existing Water and Climate Alliances: the Paris Pact on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Basins of Rivers, Lakes, and Aquifers; the Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate, the Business Alliance for Water and Climate; the Global Clean Water Desalination Alliance. Other initiatives such as the ones undertaken by the Parliamentarian, the Youth or NGOs should also be taken into account and followed-up. The governance of those initiatives, as well as the governance of the Global Climate Action Agenda in general,

should be clarified and their financing secured.

The **Water Day**, which appeared in the official programe of the thematic days of UNFCCCC since COP21, should be institutionalized and organized each year within the COPs.

Discover multi-stakeholders projects and solutions in our publications, available online on our website.



### **ABOUT FWP**

The French Water Partnership ,chaired by former Member of Parliament Jean Launay, is the reference platform for French public and private water actors active internationally.

Its 150 members are divided into 6 representative colleges of the French water landscape: the government and its public institutions; NGOs, organizations and foundations; local authorities and parliamentarians; economic players; research and training establishments and French and foreign individuals. For the past 10 years,

The FWP has been advocating internationally so that water be a priority in sustainable development policies, and to promote the French water expertise



