



# WATER, MAIN MARKER OF **CLIMATE CHANGE**

AN APPEAL FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE FWP FOR COP27

- ● ● *SDGs, Climate, Biodiversity:  
3 converging priorities  
for water*

french  
water  
partnership



partenariat  
français  
pour l'eau

# EMERGENCY: LET'S TRANSLATE WORDS INTO ACTION

**The impacts of climate change are increasing, intensifying and accelerating, and water is often their marker.** From the western United States to Pakistan, from Somalia to Europe and in France, floods, droughts, heat waves and forest fires are affecting every region of the world, with serious consequences for the health and safety of populations, biodiversity, and many activities that depend on water resources: drinking water supply, agriculture and food security, energy, industries, etc. For many of these hazards, scientific evidence establishes a clear link with the climate crisis.

**The IPCC reports published these past decades, the latest of them last year, constantly warn of these risks and catastrophes.** The facts are chilling: these hazards were expected and are certain to be repeated and to intensify in the decades to come.

**The current international crises risk jeopardizing** the limited progress made in reducing green-house gas emissions following the Paris Agreement commitments to avoid exceeding average global warming of 2°C and to maintain efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C.

Unfortunately, the commitment shown by nations does not yet match the scale of the challenges. The current trajectories are taking us towards global warming of 3°C, or even more by the end of the century, with all the catastrophes that will ensue. Experts believe that the majority of States have yet to appreciate the scale of the exposure of populations and economic systems to the risks of climate change, and its impact on the entire water cycle and the ecosystems dependent on it. However, solutions do exist: **they must be implemented urgently and require the participation and profound transformation of all sectors of our societies.**



We are faced today with a two-fold requirement:

**to support the legitimate development of the developing countries, which require better access to essential goods and services, while reducing the pressure of human activities on the natural environment through a systematic quest for reductions in consumption. This includes the water footprint of imports, which often take place at the expense of emerging countries.**

In addition to mitigation, adaptation is also key to the resilience of our societies, and water is at the heart of it. In every territory, essential uses, including the needs of wetlands and aquatic ecosystems, will have to be addressed in adaptation plans that explore, in a concerted manner, the various possible options in terms of quantitative and qualitative management of water resources: development of knowledge, awareness and evolution of practices, integrated management of water resources, adaptation solutions based on nature, etc.

National Adaptation Plans are a useful guide for steering international action on adaptation to climate change at the technical, social and financial levels. All the signatory states of the Paris Agreement should have them. Greater transparency and improved monitoring of the planned measures must be put in place to better assess the thematic and geographic priorities to be implemented: **the French Water Partnership proposes to link the monitoring indicators for the National Adaptation Plans with those of the Sustainable Development Goals for the water sector, in conjunction with the most recent climate data available.**

This is the final COP before the first Global Assessment of the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Considering the signals - both strong and weak - that surround us, a sense of concern prevails regarding our ability to identify, prioritize and promote essential adaptation measures for the water sector.





The French Water Partnership thanks and congratulates the Egyptian presidency for the AWARe initiative which advocates for a better integration of water and climate issues, as FWP members have been doing for more than 15 years now. We support this initiative and encourage cooperation to ensure its promotion and implementation, especially in the next major international forums such as COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh and the 2023 UN Conference on water in New York City.

The 200 public, private and community members of the French Water Partnership are calling for a new impetus from the international community to invest in the various fields of action to combat climate change and its effects, taking the entire water cycle into consideration.



**The water stakeholders are the sentinels of the ongoing change.**

They sound the alarm and take action. But this action will only be worthwhile if it is global and shared. The time has come for all sectors to move from good intentions to programs of action that must take into account ecosystems and the well-being of populations and economic activities, and are based on the systemic approach of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.



( + 200 MEMBERS

The French Water Partnership (FWP) is the platform for public, private and community French players in water who are active internationally. It has engaged in advocacy internationally for 15 years to make water a priority in sustainable development policies, and encourages exchange between French expertise and that of other countries. With its various members (State and public institutions, authorities, NGOs, businesses, research and training institutes, and qualified experts), it delivers collective messages on water in international arenas such as the World Water Forums, the COP climate and biodiversity conferences, and high-level political forums on the Sustainable Development Goals.

## FWP PUBLICATIONS

You can see all of the FWP's publications on our website:

[www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr/en/our-productions/](http://www.partenariat-francais-eau.fr/en/our-productions/) or by scanning below



- > Reducing the greenhouse gas emissions of water and sanitation services
- > Bioenergy, geological carbon storage and water resources: Challenges, impacts and good practices
- > Summary of the water impacts of the 3 parts of the 6<sup>th</sup> IPCC Report
- > Water & Climate, time for action: Initiatives and projects by French stakeholders
- > Water and food security: FWP messages
- > Water and Nature-based solutions: The toolbox for elected officials and communities
- > The French policy for the management of water resources and aquatic biodiversity
- > Better Knowledge for Better Management: Complementarity between field data and satellite data

Projects led by the French Water Partnership are possible thanks to the support of its donors

