

Session: Nature Based Solutions for Water

Launch of the Arabic edition of the United Nations World Water Development Report 2018

Date/time/venue: 3 March 2019/ 14:45 – 16:15 / Dead Sea Room 1 (King Hussein Bin Talal Convention Center, Dead Sea, Jordan)

Convener: UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme

Co-convener (s): Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud Foundation, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Sciences for the Arab States, League of Arab States, ESCWA, FAO, IUCN

Chair: Dr Ghaith Fariz (Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Sciences for the Arab States)

Speakers:

10 minutes

- Setting the scene - HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan of Jordan (UNESCO Special Envoy for Science for Peace)
Topic: *Science for Water, Science for Peace*

2 minutes break - HRH leaves the Room

10 minutes

- Speech by Eng. Ali Subah (Secretary General, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan)
Topic: *National policies oriented towards Nature based solutions to improve livelihoods in Jordan*

10 minutes

- Speech by Mr. Kassim Al Jabri, (Senior Manager for Project Design, Public Authority for Electricity and Water, Member, ACWUA Board of Directors, Muscat, Oman) [TBC]

5 minutes

- Mr Hammou Laamrani (Senior Expert, Water Energy Food Security and climate change nexus, Economic Sector, the League of Arab States)

15 minutes

- Keynote Presentation Prof Dr Stefan Uhlenbrook (Coordinator, UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme)
Topic: *Main Findings and Policy Implications of the UN World Water Development Report 2018 Nature-based Solutions for Water*

Photo Opportunity

Panel discussion (**40 minutes**):

Moderator: Dr Engin Koncagul (Senior Programme Officer and the WWDR Process Coordinator, UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme)

1. Ms Carol Chouchani Cherfane (Chief, Water Resources Section Sustainable Development and Productivity Division, ESCWA)
2. Dr Ghaith Fariz (Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science in the Arab States)
3. Mr Jean-Marc Faures (Regional Programme Coordinator for the Near East and North Africa, FAO)
4. Mr Ali Hayajneh (IUCN, Regional Water Coordinator)

Contact person:

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Session Brief:

UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) coordinates the work of numerous UN agencies and relevant institutions to produce the UN World Water Development Report (WWDR) on behalf of UN-Water. The session will present the main findings of the WWDR 2018, entitled “Nature Based Solutions for Water”. The Arabic edition, which will be launched on this occasion, is made possible thanks to the generous contribution of the Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud Foundation - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The speeches, keynote presentation and the panel discussion will focus on the potential of nature-based solutions to address contemporary water management challenges across all sectors, and particularly regarding water for agriculture, sustainable cities, disaster risk reduction and water quality. The session will feature real-life examples from different regions of the world and within Jordan.