United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization · Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme

AGWA

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization · International Center for Integrated Water Resources Management under the auspices of UNESCO

Biographies of speakers

Dr. **John H. Matthews** is the Executive Director and co-founder of the Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA), an international NGO focused on supporting experts, decision makers, and institutions within the water community to work together to find solutions for resilient water resources management. His work primarily targets decision-making frameworks for adapting water infrastructure and ecosystems to climate impacts. John has been published in many policy, scientific, and technical journals and books, including Science and Nature Climate Change. He has advised a wide range of institutions, including bilateral, multilateral, NGO, national level agencies, UN agencies, foundations, and corporations on topics including non-stationary resource management, finance, economics, and management practice. He is a columnist with OOSKAnews and a Courtesy Faculty member of Oregon State University's Water Resources Graduate Program. Previously, John started and directed global freshwater climate adaptation programs for WWF and Conservation International. He has PhD in Aquatic Ecology from the University of Texas.

Dr. **Guillermo Mendoza** is the International Programs Manager and Team Lead for Integrated Water Resources Management with the US Army Corps of Engineers' Institute for Water Resources (IWR). He provides international and domestic support to decision making for complex water resources problems, such as implementing IWRM, implementing trade-offs analysis, collaborative modelling for decision support, and risk-informed decision scaling for climate change adaptation. He is a lead author of, "Climate Risk Informed Decision Analysis: Water Resources Planning and Design for Uncertain Futures (CRIDA)", which complements the World Bank's Decision Tree Framework using a USACE informed step-wise planning principles for project formulation and justification. In particular, he worked with the municipality of Udon Thani to build flood risk resilience through green infrastructure. He recently completed a one-year assignment at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy as a senior policy analyst supporting coordinated US science and technology for water security and resilience.

Sarah Freeman is a graduate researcher in the Hydrosystems Group at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst where she manages their Resilience by Design work in Mexico City, which aims to identify portfolios of actions and investments that improve the sustainability and equity of water provision in the greater metropolitan water supply system. She has 15 years of experience working as a water resources engineer on climate change adaptation, resilience planning, international development and environmental conservation issues in Latin America and the Caribbean, East Africa, the Eastern Himalayas, Southeast Asia and the Middle East. She holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering and MS in Water Resources engineering from Tufts University.