

Pakistan National Committee on Intergovernmental Hydrological Program

Comments of 2nd Order Draft of UNESCO IHP-IX Strategic Plan

First of all, we would like to appreciate UNESCO IHP Secretariat for developing a very comprehensive draft of IHP-IX Strategic Plan. We are also thankful UNESCO for making us part during development process of this important document. Though, we have given our input at various stages, we would like to emphasise on the following key points:

- Engagement of community social systems particularly for remote, tribal and indigenous regions.
- ICT is more than Satellite and remote data management; it also includes in-situ sensor or meters installation and their data management through web-based data management. This is more related to building strong interactions between communities and technologies.
- IoT is not merely limited to system of hardware and software, humans are very important component of this system. Therefore, community education is essential to manage these tools on ground to generate this data and experts to monitor it remotely.
- We strongly endorse the concept of nature- based solutions. Many attempts have been made in the past to bring exotic solutions in the communities but that could not be sustainable and successful. We need to bring science in nature-based solutions for sustainable development.
- Citizen science is a very good initiative that will provide an opportunity to involve citizen in various kinds of science-based work. In Pakistan, PCRWR in collaboration with UW is going to start citizen science: lake water monitoring soon.
- The document should emphasize that developed countries should transfer recycling, wastewater treatment and desalination technologies to the under-developed countries which is also a part of SDG 6.