

UNESCO IHP-IX Priorities Area Program Discussion February 2021

Draft Proposal for New Action Plans

Summary: Establish UNESCO IHP Action Groups (UNIAC), International Management Certifications (UNIMAC), considering the role of modern media, children and schools and the impacts of Corona Virus on Water Resource Consumption and Quality.

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1. Establishment of UNESCO IHP Action Groups (UNIAC): IHP and UNESCO water family chairs and centers need practical program and frameworks for targeted networking and close international cooperation. To cover the explained gap in priority area 3 (Bridging the data-knowledge gap), and also enhancing targeted research and innovative activities (Priority area 1) and also enhancing priority area 3 on education:

- We propose: **Establishment of UNESCO IHP Action Groups (UNIAC)** composed of UNESCO water family partners, university, research institutes and industrial/social partners. For this purpose a permanent website for online applications for Proposed New Action Plans can be provided on IHP website.
- **The action groups here means:** Working groups on certain joint scientific and research topics (for 3-5 years depends on the each proposal) for investigating challenges and solving problems related to IHP and water family topics such as water resource management, water quality, waste water treatment, water diplomacy, water society evolution relationships, etc. The working group members can be UNESCO Chairs and Centers and national international universities and research institutes, as well industrial/social partners. The received proposal can be reviewed by relevant international reviewers coordinated by IHP UNESCO.
- **To encourage establishment of working actions IHP UNESCO can award a certain basic fund for each action groups** (e.g. 20,000 Euro annually) for organizing joint workshops and travel costs for exchange of students, researchers, experts and staffs for joint research works, sharing facilities, experiences and knowledge.
- The European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST), **Growing ideas through networks**, COST actions are very good available examples: <https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions/what-are-cost-actions/>

2- Establishment of “UNESCO International Management Certifications (UNIMAC)”: In modern world we don't have any more any corner of the world which cannot be influenced by others' resource managements. Therefore the resource management of all countries around the world should be considered via international and global issues. UNESCO can and should play a certain role for this purpose, and IHP can initiate such program by offering intensive training courses on “Global and International Concerns in Local and National Water and Energy Resources Managements”.

3- Requirement of Research Focus on “Corona Virus Impacts on Water Resource and Quality Management” regarding following aspect:

- - Increasing water consumption for daily domestic cleaning (body, food products, packages and house furniture). The right and efficient recommendations considering the most updated scientific knowledge are needed to be delivered to the families around the world.
- -Waste water quality released in nature regarding increasing level of the detergents, disinfections and chemicals
- -Technology development for cleaning and disinfection considering water consumption and quality issues in cooperation with related research center and companies
- -Biomedical research on virus probable transmissions via water flow and resources

4- The Professional Usage of Modern Media for IHP-IX Program (Instagram, Tweeter, etc) is really needed to be considered. The modern world brings modern global challenges, we have to use the benefits of modern world as well via usage of updated tools for problem solutions dynamically.

5- The role of Children and New Generations Has to Be Really Highlighted Practically in IHP-IX Program: We should consider the big capacity of the schools (elementary and high schools), How we can use the potential of more than **11,500 UNESCO Associated Schools** in over 180 countries worldwide – for example just around 300 of them in Germany:

<https://www.unesco.de/en/education/unesco-associated-schools>