

**UNFCCC COP 24**  
**Katowice, Poland**

**Concept Note**  
**Action Event: Water**

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

Friday, 7 December 2018  
15:00 – 18:00

Organised by

Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA), French Water Partnership (FWP), Global Alliances for Water and Climate (GAfWAC), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UNESCO-IHP, World Water Council (WWC)

## **MPGCA Water: Water-wise climate solutions to mitigate, adapt and thrive**

### **Description**

Sustainable management of freshwater is essential to achieving our climate goals and creating a resilient future for people and ecosystems. These two sessions highlight water-smart climate solutions for the private sector and Parties looking to strengthen and enhance their NDCs for 2020 and beyond.

### **Overall Narrative/Background**

Achieving our ambitious climate goals will require strong action from both the public and private sectors in terms of policies, finance and regulation, as well as new and innovative business standards and practices. Long-term progress on our mitigation and adaptation targets, as well as the development and implementation of sustainable production and consumption models necessary for a successful low-carbon future cannot be achieved without considering the role of freshwater. Water is a critical component for nearly all of our GHG reduction strategies and will be essential to adapting to a world marked by uncertain and uneven climatic change.

Climate-smart water management practices are relevant not only for the water sector but for cities and urban settlements, energy, forests, oceans and agriculture, to name but a few. As we ramp up ambition ahead of 2020, we seek to offer examples of water management tools and practices that can provide important co-benefits across sectors, reduce redundancy and competition for investment, as well as reduce the likelihood of project failure. In our first panel we aim to provide Parties with tangible water solutions they can use to inform the revision and implementation of their 2020 NDCs, bringing case studies from innovators in the field of ecosystem-based adaptation, insurance risk analysis, finance, and from cities and Parties themselves working to improve their long-term climate resilience.

Because our climate adaptation and mitigation goals cannot be achieved by public sector engagement alone, the second half of the programme features an interactive and provocative conversation between Parties, industry leaders, finance innovators, energy companies and climate experts on how we re-assess the complex and shifting trade-offs between sectors and the environment in order to actively move towards more sustainable production and consumption models, in line with both the Paris Agreement and Agenda 2030 (SDG12). “Doing more and better with less” requires a fundamental reassessment of our business models and we aim to provide Parties and companies with positive examples of how freshwater can contribute to reaching the ambitious targets under the Paris Agreement as well as the SDGs.

## Objective of the event: Impacts and progress made in 2018

**1. Disseminate lessons learned and build upon best-practice projects facilitating climate adaptation and resilient climate mitigation.** Over the past year our members have held several climate and water events and sessions including at the 8th World Water Forum, SB48, UN High Level Political Forum, Stockholm World Water Week, and elsewhere with the objective of demonstrating the benefit of adopting robust and flexible management tools and approaches to climate adaptation and mitigation within the NDCs and the UNFCCC more generally. This work has been undertaken with cross-cutting inputs from our colleagues in the forests and landscapes, textiles, agriculture, and food and beverage sectors, among others, and we are actively working with numerous corporate partners to reduce impacts on water resources along their whole value chain, by designing innovative solutions in three domains: climate resilient agriculture supply chains, circular water management and natural infrastructure.

**2. Identify new initiatives or commitments on climate action announced at COP 23.** We have actively engaged multiple times over the last year with the UNFCCC Talanoa Dialogue, submitting several inputs via the online portal, hosting an official Talanoa event at World Water Week on resilient water management for achieving coherence between the Paris Agreement and SDG targets as well as one highlighting sound water and forest management practices for a climate changed world, and participating at the in-person Dialogue session at SB 48 in May.

### Contact:

Ingrid Timboe  
SIWI/AGWA  
[policy@alliance4water.org](mailto:policy@alliance4water.org)  
+1 202 8212142