



The 'Water and Climate Dialogue Series'

announces its first International Talk series

A Mini Workshop by UNU-INWEH and International Environment Research Institute (Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, GIST) South Korea

The workshop is the part of special dialogue series on 'Water Security' , the UN Water Security Framework) that encompasses multiple dimension in water management (governance, transboundary cooperation peace and political stability, financing and partnerships; Drinking Water and Human Well Being, Ecosystems; climate change and economics activities-development).

The Water Security Agenda

A New Guiding Framework for Research, Intervention, and Leadership for a Water Secure World

Nidhi Nagabhatla

United Nations University Institute for Water, Health and Environment, Hamilton, ON, Canada
nidhi.nagabhatla@unu.edu

8 December 2017

2:15 – 3:30 pm
GIST

The World Water Decade (2005-2015) stimulated international development agents /actors on a particularly priority targets related to water management and UN-Water's conceptual framework on Water Security– encouraged integrated thinking and aims to inform and influence policy action, particularly under-investigated direct and indirect drivers such as urbanization, economic and development activities, migration, conflicts and peace negotiations, that in many ways influence managing of water resources. As the impact of these drivers is increasing- 'Water' oriented Sustainability Goals and Targets (SDG's) can greatly reduce the vulnerability for communities and nations. That's the motivation for the "Water Security and Nexus," a collaborative initiative undertaken by UNU-INWEH to support decision makers and development community in envisioning a water secure world- through knowledge based synthesis; research- policy bridging; developing innovation network for implementation and capacity development. The project aims to capture an increasing range of water crisis scenarios- unpacking of the larger water nexus- outlining knowledge outputs for operatives in water managements sector. In this presentation selected dimensions are discussed; (a) addressing human and institutional capacity need via development of global scale Water Security training program and the UN Water Learning Center; (b) synthesis that re-positions water in the global development discourse on peace and political stability, particular emphasis- why shared water systems have either failed or flourished in resolving conflict and maintaining peace (c) arguments on water pricing as an indicator of commitment and barrier in implementing long term water security objectives, including notes on resilient cities and the New Urban Agenda. It remains pertinent to create a shared understanding (water security lens) that may offer a foundation for future dialogue and partnerships for sustainable water management.

About the speaker

Dr Nagabhatla is a (natural) systems science specialist and a geospatial analyst. She is currently a senior researcher at UNU INWEH. Canada. She had lead, coordinated and implemented transdisciplinary projects and worked with multi-disciplinary researcher teams in various geographical regions and varied thematic domains related to water and ecosystems, particularly in Asia, South Africa and West European regions. She has worked more than 15 years with multiple international organization's (IWMI, World Fish Centre, and IUCN) leading water related research and capacity development initiatives. She is also affiliated with leading academics institutes: Oxford University (UK); Leibniz University (Germany) and McMaster University (Canada) in various roles, mostly related to sustainability research and science-policy interfacing and capacity development.

About the institute

United Nations University Institute for Water, Health and Environment (UNU-INWEH), based in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada is the part of the United Nations University consortium. UNU-INWEH acts as the "UN Think Tank on Water" and contributes to the resolution of the global water challenge through a unique programme of applied research and education. The institute's vision is to create a world free of water problems where sustainable human development and environmental health and security are assured for all. UNU-INWEH responds directly to the regional and global water crisis and facilitate efforts to meet UN Development goals by providing a scientific evidence base and works in cooperation with other research institutions, international organizations, individual scholars, and scientists throughout the world.

Programme of Mini Workshop

Time	Event / Programme
14:00 - 14:10	Opening Remarks by the Director, GIST
14:10 -14:45	Guest Lecturer, Dr Nidhi Nagabhatla
14:45 - 15:15	Q/A's and Open discussion Water Security and Nexus
15:15 -15:30	Presentation of Young Professionals (GIST-UNU Joint Scholars)
15: 30 ~ 15:35	Brief announcement of collaboration activities between GIST and UNU-INWEH (focus on ELE Programme)
15:35 ~ 15:40	Closing Remarks
15:40	Group Photo