



Panel on bridging IWRM and NAPAs



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Convened by: GWP, AMCOW and UN Water

Wednesday December 1, 12:00 – 13:00; Hotel Fiesta Americana Coral Beach

Chaired by Dr. Letitia A. Obeng, GWP Chair

According to the UNFCCC, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) are among the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. In particular, widespread poverty limits their adaptive capacity¹. While climate change impacts will be manifested through the water cycle, many LDCs lack adequate water infrastructure, inadequate information systems for better water management, and their institutional capacities to manage the scale of predicted impacts are inadequate. Investments in water infrastructure and better climate information as well as development of capacity of institutions to build resilience are required. Various initiatives have been started to strengthen water management and adapt to climate change.

The UNFCCC has supported a number of countries to develop National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs). In addition, many countries have developed Integrated Water Resources Management Plans as a response to the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). Building synergies between IWRM plans and NAPAs is essential to maximize opportunities for coherent cross-sectoral adaptation and to integrate water security and climate change in national development plans.

This panel debate will draw on the knowledge of experts involved in development of IWRM plans and NAPAs to identify win-win opportunities for strengthening synergy during development and implementation of these plans.

12:00-12:05: Introduction: GWP Chair-Dr. Letitia A. Obeng

12:05-12:15: Linking the Water, Climate and Development Agendas
Alex Simalabwi, GWP Senior Network Officer and Climate Change Focal Point

12:15-12:30: Implementing the Africa Water Vision and the MDG Target:
Key Messages on Water, Climate and Development from the Africa Water Week
Mr. Bai Mas Taal- Executive Secretary, African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW)

12:30-12:35: Mainstreaming IWRM and NAPAs in Zambia's National Development Plan
Mr. Adam Hussein- Director of Water Affairs- Ministry of Energy and Water Development

12:35:-12:40: Opportunities for strengthening synergy- IWRM Plans and NAPAs
Paul V. Desanker- UNFCCC Secretariat (tbc)

12:40-12:45: Inter-Agency Coordination in UN System: Key Messages and Reflections from UN-Water (UNDP/ UNEP)

12:45-13:00: Reflections, interventions and discussions-*Moderated by GWP Chair.*

¹ http://unfccc.int/files/cooperation_and_support/ldc/application/pdf/13a01p32.pdf