

AGWA'S GLOBAL POLICY TEAM

INNOVATIONS & OPPORTUNITIES

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2016



PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21·CMP11



AGWA'S POLICY MISSION

The AGWA Policy group is a network of AGWA members and like-minded organizations engaged in global climate-water policy work, in particular the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and committed to contribute to the overall AGWA mission and purpose.

The aim of the Policy group is to

- Facilitate coordination and information sharing on global climate-water policy processes;
- Contribute to bridging between global policy development and national and local climate adaptation and mitigation
- Articulating the emerging needs, enabling environments, and best practices for the practice of climate adaptation and mitigation and long-term water sustainable management to global policymaker audiences



LAST YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

- Policy “focus” events. For instance, at SWWW in 2015, we organized *Global Climate Policy and National Water Action: Towards COP21 and Beyond*, with speakers as the President of the Marshall Islands, addressing linkages between water resources and climate vulnerability.
- United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) 70th Session. During the UNGA70, the UN SDG were formally adopted, while Sweden, France and Peru presented key messages on water and climate in the UN General Assembly, supported by our efforts
- The Lima Paris Action Agenda (LPAA). Support to the UNFCCC and Parties in the negotiation process.
- Resilience and Water Day 2 December 2015. At COP21, water was very visible: prioritized in the LPAA and through several declarations. Given the Resilience and Water Day at COP21, members of the Policy group mobilized to make a splash for water in the climate negotiations, including activities related to the #ClimatelsWater campaign.
- Launch of the freestanding #ClimatelsWater campaign / team. #CIW focuses on advocacy and messaging in the lead up to and during the COPs.
- Support to the Rabat Conference on Water & Climate, July 2016. At COP21, the Moroccan government announced that they would host a meeting before COP22 to articulate how to engage the water community within and throughout the UNFCCC. AGWA supported the Moroccan government up to and during the conference, and has been working to develop the *Livre Bleu*, which is a major outcome and product from the conference.
- UNFCCC intersessional policy meetings, Nairobi Work Programme, and other UNFCCC organizations. Some members of the AGWA Policy group were present and active at the May 2016 Bonn intersessional meeting. It was a strategic moment to be present in order to seize the coming stakes and next steps for the implementation of the Paris agreement and the other subsidiary bodies.

“WATER WAS
DISCUSSED WITH
GREATER DEPTH AND
DETAIL THAN AT ANY
PREVIOUS UN CLIMATE
CONFERENCE.”

Circle of Blue

PLANNED & PROPOSED

ACTIVITIES

- The Policy group has made preparation for the COP22 a priority with a two-folded approach: organizing events in the run up to the climate conference on the one hand, and strengthening policy recommendations based on technical work on the other.
- The Policy group will bring its support to the Moroccan government in finalizing the “Livre Blue” and disseminating its content and recommendations to the 12th Adaptation Committee (AC) meeting that will take place in Bonn in September. It is also a key moment to push AGWA’s messages to the AC and collaboration with other actors and countries will also be sought. The AGWA Policy group will also bring assistance to support the launch of the Blue Book at COP22 and input the high level sessions around it and the ‘Call for Africa’.
- Endeavors to continue promoting a specific window within the GCAA for water will be strong at SWWW through the organization of many official and side events as well as specific meetings. The presence of a strong Moroccan delegation will facilitate this. Contributions to the Climate Change Summit and specifically the Water Forum in Nantes (27-29.09) will also allow to collectively mainstream water within the GCAA.

2016: POLICY STRATEGY

Major strategies:

- Parties are now the locus of action within for climate policy
- Water is central to mitigation & adaptation, but the NDCs, NAPAs, and NAMAs do not yet reflect this
- Climate finance will be central to mainstreaming water knowledge and ensuring effective adaptation
- Technical knowledge should inform policy frameworks
- Communication and outreach are essential to success

Three working groups:

- Climate finance
- Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- Implementing the Paris Agreement
- >90 people on the team



FORTHCOMING EVENTS/PROCESSES

- Rabat outcomes
- Adaptation Committee
- Agenda-setting summit in Nantes
- GCAA's water theme
- Review process for NDCs in 2018
- Blue & green zone events
- Water Day, blue zone, Marrakesh



OPPORTUNITIES / NEEDS

- A “water governance” mechanism for the Global Change Action Agenda (GCAA)
- Practical guidance for strong national water implementation in the NDCs
- Effective linkages: HLPW, Sendai, SDGs, UNFCCC
- Better communications!

PLEASE JOIN
US!

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