

MANAGING WATER UNDER UNCERTAINTY AND RISK: UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACTS OF EXTERNAL FORCES ON WATER RESOURCES AND THEIR USE

Olcay Ünver

ABSTRACT

The United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR), coordinated by the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) and published every three years, is the flagship report of the United Nations system on water. The 4th edition, to be launched in March 2012 at the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille, France, addresses "managing water under uncertainty and risk". In particular, the report describes how demographic, economic, social and political developments as well as climate change affect water resources and their uses. Accelerating and often unpredictable changes of those external forces increase uncertainty and introduce risks for water management. This is why it becomes increasingly important to monitor, understand and share information about the resources and their use. During his presentation, Dr. Olcay Ünver, WWAP Coordinator, will provide an overview of external forces impacting water, analyse their future evolution and suggest ideas for cross-cutting and coordinated approaches to water management at all level.

PALAVRA-CHAVE: Water management, water drivers, uncertainty, risks