

Special Session: Water Security and Cities

- **Objectives:** Issue 4 of the Global Water Security Issues (GWSI) Series has the theme *Water Security and Cities – Integrated Urban Water Management*. Integrated Urban Water Management includes resiliency, socio-economic arrangements for capacity and innovation, land management practices, water quality and quantity management, and protection, conservation and recovery of the natural environment negatively affected by urban centers. In this special session, practices to improve water security in cities using integrated water management techniques including governance, information and technical approaches will be explored, featuring authors of case studies documented in the GWSI Series Issue 4 and a young professional's perspective.
- **Organizers:** i-WSSM, IWRA, UNESCO
- **Congress sub-theme:** Innovation for Water Governance and Management
- **Outcomes:** The presentations and the panel discussion will highlight opportunities and challenges facing urban centers to manage water through integrated governance, information and technical methods. It will also raise awareness of the capacity development initiative represented by the GWSI. The session will also provide opportunities for networking among practitioners working in Integrated Urban Water Management.
- **Programme (90')**

Time	Title	Speaker/Participants
10 min	Introduction (10') - Opening Remarks - Welcoming Remarks	Abou Amani (<i>UNESCO-IHP</i>) Bongwoo Shin (<i>i-WSSM</i>)
65 min	Presentations (65') - Presentation 1 (5') Overview of GWSI - Presentation 2 (15') (recorded presentation) Integrated Urban Water Management - Presentation 3 (15') Water Security Challenges and Opportunities in Lahore – A City of Pakistan	Seo Hyung Choi, i-WSSM Sarantuyaa Zandaryaa, UNESCO (recorded presentation, to be confirmed) Ghulam Zakir-Hassan, Irrigation Research Institute, Government of the Punjab, Irrigation Department, Pakistan Hassan Tolba Aboelnga, Faculty of Spatial Development and Infrastructure Systems

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation 4 (15') (recorded presentation) Nexus Assessment of Urban Water Security in the Mediterranean Region: A Case Study of Beirut, Lebanon - Presentation 5 (15') Nature based solutions 	<p>ms, TH Köln-University of Applied Sciences, Germany (recorded presentation)</p> <p>Kate Hawley IWRA World Water Envoy, UK</p>
10 min	<p>Panel Discussion (10') Moderator: Mary Trudeau (<i>IWRA</i>)</p>	<p>All Presenters Seo Hyung Choi (<i>i-WSSM</i>)</p>
5 min	<p>Summary and Closing (5')</p>	<p>Callum Clench (<i>IWRA</i>)</p>

Issue 4 of the Global Water Security Issues (GWSI) Series has the theme Water Security and Cities - Integrated Urban Water Management (IUWM). The GWSI is a publication by UNESCO in collaboration with i-WSSM UNESCO and with the assistance of IWRA. IUWM includes resiliency, socio-economic arrangements for capacity and innovation, land management practices, water quality and quantity management, and protection, conservation and recovery of the natural environment negatively affected by urban centers.

This special session fits in with the IWRA World Water Congress theme of Water-Human-Economy-Ecology Nexus under a changing environment because integration of urban water management is an important approach to incorporate the many needs and issues facing water decision-making in urban centers. In this special session, practices to improve water security in cities using integrated water management techniques including governance, information and technical approaches will be explored, featuring authors of case studies documented in the GWSI Series 4 and a young professional's perspective. The GWSI chapter authors have experience from geographically diverse regions, and their presentations will highlight some successes, lessons learned, technologies, information needs, and governance approaches to implementing IUWM in cities.

The 90-minute session will open with welcoming remarks by UNESCO IHP and i-WSSM, and with an overview of the GWSI series. Next, four 15-minute presentations will be given by GWSI representatives, chapter authors and an IWRA Water Envoy. The presentations will be followed by a 15-minute panel discussion with all presenters, i-WSSM representatives and IWRA representatives engaged in responding to questions and comments from the audience. Audience engagement is an important feature of the special session and will provide opportunities for networking among practitioners working in the field of IUWM. The session will close with a summary of key points by IWRA's Executive Director. All presenters proposed are to be confirmed, pending confirmation of the acceptance of the special session and the schedule for the session during the WWC.