**Global Water Security Issues**

**Call for Papers and Proposal Form**

***Issue 6: Biodiversity Protection and Water Security***

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| **The ‘Global Water Security Issues (GWSI) Series’ is co-published by UNESCO Headquarters and UNESCO i-WSSM, with assistance from the International Water Resources Association (IWRA), on an annual basis. The selected papers will be published as part of the ‘Global Water Security Issues (GWSI) Series’** |

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management (i-WSSM), under the auspices of UNESCO, invite researchers, scientific communities, and practitioners from international organizations, government agencies, non-profit institutions, and the private sector to submit proposals (using the form attached to this call for proposals) for the next issue of the Global Water Security Issues (GWSI) Series, which focusses on biodiversity protection and water security. The authors of selected proposals will be invited to submit a draft chapter and accepted chapters will be published by UNESCO and UNESCO i-WSSM in Issue 6 of the GWSI Series. Authors of selected papers will be invited to present their work at an international event, such as the IWRA World Water Congress.

**The selected chapters shall be original, high-quality research or policy analysis not previously published elsewhere.**

Chapter proposals must contain the information **outlined in the attached Proposal Template (see pages 4 and 5)**.

GWSI chapters will need to meet the following requirements:

* **Topics**: The thematic focus of chapters should align with the overall theme and address topic(s) identified in the Proposal Template (see below)
* **Content**: Chapters should include the content identified in Section 2, Content.
* **Case Study**: It is strongly encouraged that chapters include details of one or more practical and successful case studies.
* **Environmental and socioeconomic settings**: Papers may be tailored to specific environmental and socioeconomic settings or they may be broadly applicable; in all cases, linkages to policy issues and/or key policy decisions must be included.
* **Languages**: Proposals and chapters must be submitted in English.
* **Format**: The final chapter should be between 20 and 30 pages in length of double-spaced text, including all images and references.
* **Maps and cartography**: Papers should follow the UN or UNESCO Map Policy
* **Gender** equality: Papers should use gender neutral language.

Chapter proposals (using the Proposal Template attached) are **due by 12 May 2023**.

Authors of selected proposals will be notified by 30 June 2023 and invited to submit the first draft of their chapter by 15 September 2023. These draft chapters will undergo a preliminary review by the Editorial Board. Authors whose chapters will proceed to subsequent steps will be notified by 6 October 2023, and they will also receive Editorial Board review comments to be incorporated into a subsequent draft. Revised draft chapters incorporating the Editorial Board comments will be due by 1 December 2023. These revised draft chapters will go through a peer review process. The Editorial Board, in consultation with UNESCO Headquarters, will consider the peer review comments and make a final decision on publication of the chapter. Authors will be notified by 9 February 2024 of the publication decision and peer review comments. Final chapters incorporating peer review comments will be due by 15 March 2024. Note that authors will be requested to sign a copyright agreement with UNESCO; a copy of the agreement can be provided upon request.

**Interested parties should complete the Proposal Template (see pages 4 and 5).**

**1. BACKGROUND**

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| ‘Water Security’ has increasingly become a priority at the national and global levels, as water resources are under growing pressures from global changes. The 9th phase of UNESCO’s Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP), implemented between 2022 and 2029 as part of the eight-year Medium-term Strategy of UNESCO (2022-2029), is dedicated to the overall theme of “Science for a water secure world in a changing environment”. Securing water for people and ecosystems is essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Although water security has received greater consideration as a concept in research and discussions over the past decade, there are a variety of topics related to water security that have not yet been extensively researched. As such, there is an urgent need to conduct research into emerging and future global issues that are related to water security within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and to disseminate the research results for putting water security concepts into practice.  The GWSI Issue 6 will focus on the theme *Biodiversity Protection and Water Security*. One of the key dimensions of water security is ensuring water for ecosystems and biodiversity. On the other hand, measures aimed at ensuring water for people have negative impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity. The importance of mitigating the consequences of water security measures on aquatic biodiversity is being increasingly recognized. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), which is an independent intergovernmental body, has warned that unprecedented species extinctions are accelerating and have serious implications for economic livelihoods, food security, and health and quality of life globally. Technological, economic and social transformative changes are needed to conserve, restore and sustainably use nature. While dams, reservoirs, desalination facilities, potable water and sanitation systems, groundwater abstraction and other measures help to secure water for human use, these technologies and human activities alter the natural aquatic environment in ways that disturb aquatic ecosystems, causing the loss of biodiversity and habitats. Similarly, land use and land-based activities for flood prevention, urban stormwater management, and the protection of farm operations also have effects on the quality, quantity, timing and pathways of water, with potential implications for aquatic plants and animals. Approaches to mitigate the effects of water security on biodiversity range from policy level measures, such as legal provisions for the maintenance and protection of freshwater ecological flows to ecosystem-oriented modifications to water infrastructure, such as fish ladders to enable migrating fish species to return past dams to upstream spawning grounds. Measures also include collaborative decision-making for aquatic biodiversity protection, more inclusive valuation approaches that recognize the essential role of biodiversity in economic productivity, and other innovative approaches. Preservation of aquatic habitat, such as wetlands and coastal mangroves, has proven to be beneficial for both human needs and other living organisms, further supporting the importance of healthy aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity.  The Issue 6 proponents of the GWSI Series invite researchers and practitioners making decisions on water security to submit contribution proposals on policies, technologies, economic and legal instruments, and social/ community-based approaches designed to prevent, mitigate and restore the negative effects of water security measures on aquatic biodiversity. Contributions on the co-benefits of measures to protect aquatic biodiversity are also invited. The intended focus is on contributions that provide practical and applied policy and technological solutions, tools, methods, and approaches, as opposed to theoretical, hypothetical, or purely academic contributions. Contributions may address a range of topics in the areas of governance, planning, infrastructure, knowledge management, stakeholder involvement, and human capacity building, while providing insights on how to successfully implement, monitor and/or assess the initiatives. Please see the **Proposal Template** (following) for potential sub-themes.  **Objectives**  The main objective of the **Global Water Security Issues Series** is to collect and disseminate tangible cases, best practices and analyses on water security. By publishing with distinguished researchers from relevant organizations, the GWSI provides a starting point for discussion on a broad range of issues that collectively fall under the umbrella of water security. Focusing on a specific theme, each issue/edition of the GWSI Series identifies current issues related to the theme, broadens discourses, brings regional/national cases to the forefront, contributes to water-related agendas and development frameworks, and shares diverse perspectives in connection with the Sustainable Development Goals. The specific objectives of this issue of the publication include:   * To collect and disseminate research and the experience of practitioners/ decision-makers on practical applications and best practices to protect biodiversity while achieving water security objectives. * To strengthen cooperation among researchers engaged in the water sector * To encourage and enhance research on water security-related issues, in particular aquatic biodiversity protection * To build the global knowledge base on water security and biodiversity protection, bringing together diverse regional and national perspectives * To identify solutions for improving global water security-related issues, and * To contribute to achieving water security in concert with biodiversity protection in the long-term. |

**2. CONTENT**

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| Contributing chapters should include:   * Background information for an informed but non-expert reader * Definition of key terms * Key questions addressed and scope of the paper * Methodology * Case Study synopsis * Discussion, including the impacts and risks identified by your research * Policy implications and, as appropriate for the paper, recommendations or next steps * Figures, drawings and photographs suitable for publication.     Refer to the themes on the **Proposal Template** (following).  **3. SUBMISSION AND CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT PROCESS**  Proposals for chapters must be submitted using the Proposal Template, below. **Please email the completed Proposal Template to** [**m.trudeau@iwra.org**](mailto:m.trudeau@iwra.org).  The scheduled dates for proposal selection and the chapter development process are as follows:   * By **12 May 2023,** authors interested in contributing chapters should send a completed proposal template. The proposals will be reviewed by a selection committee; proposals will be assessed based on their quality, relevance, and substance. * By **30 June 2023** the submitter of each proposal will be informed of the selection committee’s decision. * By **15 September 2023,** the authors of the selected proposals should submit the first draft of their chapter to the International Water Resources Association (IWRA), which will receive them on behalf of UNESCO i-WSSM and UNESCO Headquarters. Editorial comments and a decision to proceed to subsequent steps will be made by **6 October 2023.** * By **1 December 2023**, a draft chapter for peer review will be due; peer review comments and confirmation to proceed to final publication will be provided to authors by **9 February 2024**. * By **15 March 2024,** final full chapters should be submitted to the International Water Resources Association.     Papers on topics identified by authors that are relevant to the theme, but that have not been specifically identified in the topic choices of the Proposal Template, may be considered based on their relevance. Proposals on topics identified in the Proposal Template will be given preference during the selection process. |

**Global Water Security Issues (GWSI)**

**Proposal Template**

***Issue 6 Theme: Biodiversity Protection and Water Security***

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**PROPOSAL TEMPLATE (Send by email to m.trudeau@iwra.org by 12 May 2023**

Please complete this Proposal Template to express your interest in preparing a paper for the Global Water Security Issues (GWSI) Paper Series.

**※ According to the UNESCO Publication Board, UNESCO's global priorities on Africa and Gender Equality should be ensured during the publication process. These priorities will be taken into account during the proposal selection as well as during manuscript reviews. Proposals with these priorities will be given preference during the selection process.**

**All fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are mandatory.**

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| 1. **Choose the sub-theme(s)\*** (Highlight more than one sub-theme if applicable) |

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| THEME: Biodiversity Protection and Water Security | | | | |
| I. Governance and Biodiversity | II. Water Infrastructure and Its Impacts on Biodiversity | III. Land Use Planning for Water Security and Biodiversity Protection | IV. Knowledge, Tools, and Risk Management for Biodiversity conservation/ protection/ restoration | V. Education and Public Engagement in Biodiversity Protection Decisions |
| A. Governance policy, legal tools, economic instruments to protect/ conserve/ restore aquatic biodiversity impacted by water security measures.    B. Vulnerability assessment and management for aquatic biodiversity  C. Governance processes for priority-setting and response to unintended consequences to aquatic biodiversity from water security initiatives    D. Overcoming institutional barriers to biodiversity protection/ conservation/ restoration | A. Guidance, policy and practices for preventing, mitigating and restoring effects of water infrastructure (urban, irrigation, flood, energy, etc.) on aquatic biodiversity  B. Infrastructure design and operation to protect/ conserve/ restore aquatic biodiversity  C. Practical methods or processes to finance and support inclusion of aquatic biodiversity in water security initiatives  D. Success stories for recovery/restoration/ protection/ conservation of aquatic biodiversity with implementation of water security infrastructure or other water security initiatives | A. Changes needed in land use planning (rural, urban, agriculture, other) to include aquatic biodiversity considerations  B. Inclusion of biodiversity considerations in nexus challenges (water, food, energy)  C. Zoning and other planning techniques to protect aquatic biodiversity | A. Uncertainty analysis of biodiversity health, status and trends to support decision-making by water professionals  B. Identifying and quantifying co-benefits of aquatic biodiversity  C. Monitoring and data needs for aquatic biodiversity protection/ restoration/ conservation related to water security initiatives  D. Science-informed decision-making challenges and opportunities for healthy biodiversity and water security | A. Multi-stakeholder engagement in scenario planning for water security and biodiversity protection/ conservation/ restoration.  B. Biodiversity literacy and awareness-raising among policy makers, local and indigenous communities, youth, the public  C. Approaches to engaging with investors, communities, politicians about biodiversity and water security |

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| **Which of the above topics will your paper address (e.g., IA, IIB, etc.). If you do not choose one of the topics above, provide a description of your proposed topic and the rationale for its inclusion as part of the overall theme *Biodiversity and Water Security* (50 words)** | | | | | |
| 1. **Main focus and specific objectives (50 words)\***   Describe the main focus of the proposed chapter and specific objectives/questions to be addressed | | | | |
| 1. **Background/rationale and context (150 words)\***   Describe the background, context, rationale and related environmental and socioeconomic settings; briefly describe tangible case studies | | | | |
| 1. **Key conclusions and expected outcome (100 words)\***   Outline the key conclusions and expected outcome (e.g., what capacities will readers gain) of the proposed chapter and how it can contribute to water security and this issue’s theme | | | | |

**4. AUTHOR**

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| **Title\*** □ Mr. □ Ms. □ Prof. □ Dr. | | | | | |
| **First Name\*** | |  | **Last Name\*** | |
| **Organization/Affiliation Name\* :**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **Co-author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s)\* :** | | | | | |
| **Type of Organization\***  **□** Government/Local government □ International Organization □ Public Corporation □ Academia, Research Institute  **□** Industry (Enterprises, etc.) □ CSO (Civil Society Organization, NGO) □ Other ( ) | | | | | |
| **Country\*** | **Telephone\*** (Country Code-Area Code-Number) | | | **E-mail\*** | |

For inquiries regarding this call for proposals, please contact IWRA at: [office@iwra.org](mailto:office@iwra.org) or [m.trudeau@iwra.org](mailto:m.trudeau@iwra.org).