

Ecosystem Session 5.a.1 Balancing water needs for humans and nature

Monday 19th March, 16h30-18h00

Room 29 (former ST9 -M Cons2)

Draft Session Proposal

Media-friendly title (suggested by the co-organizers)	Balancing water needs for humans and nature
Working title	Balancing water needs for humans and nature
Key question	What factors are vital to successful efforts to provide water for nature while also satisfying human demands for water?
Media-friendly session summary (3-5 sentences)	Balancing the water needs for humans and nature poses a major challenge for society. This session will examine how water needs for the environment are being recognized in water planning, and provide success case studies in this perspective, showing multiple benefits collected and the approach of Nature Based Solutions.
Session description (150 words)	Balancing the water needs for humans and nature poses a major challenge for society, requiring improvements in water use efficiency, and the recognition that environment has its own legitimate water needs. Restoration of hydrological connectivity and the identification and provision of environmental flows for river and wetland systems are fundamentally important to protect aquatic biodiversity and to maintain healthy ecosystems capable of providing sustainable services. This session will examine how water needs for the environment are being recognized in water planning, and provide success case studies in this perspective, showing multiple benefits collected and the approach of Nature Based Solutions.
Confirmed convening organization(s) and contact information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shannon Li, Australian Water Partnership, (Shannon.li@waterpartnership.org.au) ● Ariana Rossen, National Institute of Water (Argentina) (arianarossen@hotmail.com) ● Edouard Boinet, Natural Water Retention Measures and Office International de l'eau (e.boinet@oieau.fr), and ● Marion Mestre (colleague of Edouard's from Office International de l'eau) (m.mestre@oieau.fr) ● Paula Moraes Pereira, Biodiversity Secretariat, Brazilian Ministry of the Environment (paula.pereira@mma.gov.br); [cc Mateus Dela Senta (mateus.senta@mma.gov.br) and Andre Jardim (andre.jardim@mma.gov.br)]

<p>Session outline and time allocation</p>	<p>90-minutes in total</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● (5 mins) Short film by Citizens Process ● (5 mins) Introduction by Prof Nick Schofield (Australian Water Partnership) ● (30 mins) Three (3) speakers x 10 mins each: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carl Binning, Murray-Darling Basin Authority (AU) <i>Political factors contributing to successful environmental flows program in the Murray-Darling Basin, Australia</i> 2. Eugenio Barrios, World Wildlife Fund (MX) <i>Development of a national system of water reserves for allocating environmental flows, covering 189 rivers in Mexico</i> 3. Anne Belbéoc'h, Seine Normandy Water Agency (FR) <i>Efforts to balance human and nature water needs in international cooperation project of the Seine-Normandy basin Agency in China</i> <p>(continued..)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● (45 mins) Panel Discussion (up to 3 min introduction per panelist (5) + discussion by audience): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eugenio Barrios, World Wildlife Fund (MX) ● Marion Mestre, Office International de l'eau (FR) ● Stuart Bunn, Australian Rivers Institute (AU) ● Asia or Africa region TBC (female required) ● <i>Backup: Teodoro Estrela, Júcar River Basin Authority (BR)</i> ● (5 mins) Session Summary <p>Talks will be in the form of informative case studies or emerging trends/lessons learned from experiences across multiple case studies.</p>
<p>Contributions received that will be included in the session (with a word or two about how they are included)</p>	
<p>Missing stakeholders</p>	
<p>Expected outcomes, impacts and follow-up linkages with events and initiatives after the Forum</p>	<p>This session will focus on success factors for balancing water needs for humans and nature. It will follow from the 2017 International Riversymposium, which reviewed progress on environmental watering since the 2007 Brisbane Declaration, and will feed into subsequent efforts in conferences such as Stockholm World Water Week to create inertia and advance solutions to environmental watering.</p>