Special Session

Groundwater Catalogue for informed policy development and management interventions

Organized by: UN-Water Task Force on World Water Day 2022
Time: Tuesday 22 March 2022 | 10.45 - 12.15
Room: 13 EXPO

PROGRAMME

Moderator: Ms Christina Fraser, Researcher, International Groundwater Assessment Centre (IGRAC)

Opening remarks:
- Ms Alice Aureli, Chief of Section, Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP)
  UNESCO, Division of Water Sciences (SC/HYD)
- Ms Maria Angelica Sotomayor, Practice Manager, Eastern and Southern Africa, Water Global Practice, World Bank

Introduction to a Groundwater Catalogue:
- Mr Neno Kukuric, Co-coordinator UN-Water Task Force, IGRAC

Coastal aquifers example:
- Mr Geert-Jan Nijsten, Senior advisor (ground)water management, Deltares

Panel on informed policy development and management interventions:
- Mr Cesar Carmona-Moreno, Scientific Advisor, Joint Research Centre, European Commission (JRC)
- Ms Virginie Gillet, Land and Water Officer, Water Resources Assessment, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Mr Neil Dhot, Executive Director, AquaFed- The Federation of Private Water Operators
- Mr Moustapha Diene, Hydrogeologist, Geology Department, Faculty of Sciences and Technology, Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar, Senegal
- Mr Joel Podgorski, Senior Scientist, Department Water Resources & Drinking Water, Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (EAWAG)

Suggestions from the audience
Conclusion and closing
Why the Catalogue?

Groundwater is a necessary part of many aspects of our daily life: from wetlands to food production, from sanitation to climate change. Due to the diversity and complexity of water problems, it is often challenging to identify the role of groundwater and adequately incorporate it in the decision-making process. Moreover, policy makers and managers do not always have a sufficient overview of tools, measures and instruments that could be applied in solving specific and complex issues.

What is the Catalogue?

The Groundwater Catalogue is a Wikipedia-like application meant for a better provision of information on groundwater management tools, measures and instruments, encompassing supply and demand, groundwater protection and stakeholder participation. The Catalogue will enable policy-and decision makers to better explore suitable solutions for complex groundwater issues, based on factsheets, case studies and references.

Objective of the session

The session is about strengthening the science-policy-practice interface using the newly developed Groundwater Catalogue. The objective here is to actively involve groundwater policy- and decision-makers in the development and verification of the Catalogue. Today’s discussions will provide necessary input into the further development of the Groundwater Catalogue as an innovative, collaborative tool providing essential groundwater policy and management information.