

# **Webinar on Glacier Preservation**

## **1. Background**

22 March is World Water Day, an annual UN Observance focusing on the importance of freshwater, and a yearly reminder to reflect on sound water governance. World Water Day 2025 focuses on glacier preservation, emphasizing the need for global action to manage meltwater sustainably and reduce emissions, securing vital water resources for the future.

Established in 2002, the International Sediment Initiative (ISI) is a global initiative to assess erosion and sediment transport to marine, lake or reservoir environments aimed at the creation of a comprehensive approach for the remediation and conservation of surface waters, intricately linking science with policy and management needs.

ISI prioritizes three thematic areas. The third one is “Glacier-related sediment, erosion and hazards management”. Glaciers play a significant role in sediment transport and erosion. Glacier- and permafrost-related hazards, such as, Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF), represent a continuous and growing threat to human lives and infrastructure in high mountain regions. Under this thematic priority, efforts will focus on research and knowledge of glacier erosion processes, cryosphere system vulnerability reduction, Glacial Lake Outburst Floods.

A webinar on Glacier Preservation will be organized on 21, March (Friday), 2025.

## **2. Proposed Date and Time**

March 21 (Friday) 2025, 08:00-10:00 (CET) / 15:00-17:00 (Beijing Time)

## **3. Host organizations**

- China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR)
- International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES)
- UNESCO Regional Office for East Asia
- UNESCO International Sediment Initiative (ISI)
- National Key Laboratory of Water Cycle in River Basin and Water Security
- Key Laboratory of Sediment Science and Northern River Training, the Ministry of Water Resources

## **4. Theme**

Glacier sedimentation, erosion and disaster management

## 5. Agenda

TIME	PROGRAMME	Moderator
15:00-15:10 (10 mins)	<p>Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ai Sugiura</b>, Programme Specialist and Head of Natural Sciences, Regional Office for East Asia</li> <li>• <b>Vít Vilímek</b>, Professor, Department of Physical Geography and Geoecology, Charles University in Prague (CUNI); Working group leader of ISI</li> <li>• <b>Jianli Zhang</b>, Deputy Director-General, International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES)</li> </ul>	<b>Yujie Wang</b> , Director, division of international cooperation, IWHR
15:10-16:25 (75 mins)	<p>Keynote speech</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Glacial lakes, outburst floods and extreme sediment transport events</b> <b>Adam Emmer</b>, Cascade   The mountain processes and mountain hazards group, Institute of Geography and Regional Science, University of Graz, Austria</li> <li>2. <b>Variation of riverine runoff and sediment flux over the Tibetan Plateau under Climate Change</b> <b>Fan Zhang</b>, Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences</li> <li>3. <b>Remote Sensing and Modeling of Recent Glacier Mass Loss Hotspot in the Tibetan Plateau</b> <b>Xingdong Li</b>, department of Remote Sensing, IWHR</li> </ol>	<b>Hongling Shi</b> , Professor, IRTCES
16:25-16:55 (30 mins)	<p><b>Q/A and Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Guoan Yu</b>, Associate Professor, Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences</li> <li>• <b>Adam Emmer</b>, Lecturer, Cascade   The mountain processes and mountain hazards group, Institute of Geography and Regional Science, University of Graz, Austria</li> <li>• <b>Fan Zhang</b>, Professor, Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences</li> <li>• <b>Xingdong Li</b>, Engineer, department of remote sensing, IWHR</li> </ul>	<b>Cheng Liu</b> , Professor, IRTCES
16:55-17:00 (5 mins)	Wrap up and Closing	