

1. Opening Message

Global goals, local actions: small steps towards our ambitions

"As you start to walk on the way, the way appears" - (rumi)

We are now in the third year of our collective journey toward achieving the goals of IAHS-[HELPING \(2023–2032\)](#). This newsletter marks a small but meaningful step in fulfilling the [SUN Working Group](#)'s mission to support these goals. We hope it will continue throughout the decade, serving as a regular channel for updates and shared progress. In this second issue, you'll find valuable insights and information related to recent events, publications, blogs, and key initiatives, all aligned with our working group mission.

This newsletter is designed for everyone interested in, or working at, the intersection of hydrology, science, and policy. Feel free to share it within your network—we'd love to reach and connect with more like-minded colleagues around the world.

We hope you enjoy it—and as always, we warmly welcome your ideas and contributions for future editions. Let's keep building momentum together!

Mojtaba Shafiei

IAHS-SUN Working Group

2. Science-Policy Events

World Water Week in Stockholm (24-28 August 2025)

World Water Week is a leading conference on global water issues, held every year since 1991. A non-profit event that co-created with leading organizations. a week-long event held each year in late August.

Online participation is free of charge:

- ◆ link to register and access to the program: [World Water Week](#)
- ◆ Exploring the program: [Link1](#) or [Link2](#)

IHP-WINS: Empowering Open Science & Data-Driven Water Governance

On April 28, 2025, IHP-UNESCO launched the new Water Information Network System ([IHP-WINS](#))—a digital platform designed to support the UNESCO Water Family in sharing hydrological datasets, creating powerful data visualizations for informed decision-making, and providing comprehensive water education resources.

The primary objective of IHP-WINS is to improve the availability, accessibility, and usability of water-related information, with a strong emphasis on supporting evidence-based decision-making and promoting sustainable water resources management. (+).

✦ **IHP-WINS is an excellent example of Open Science and Open Hydrology in practice.** An inspiring tool and concept for both local and global initiatives advancing hydrological science, water education, and sustainable water management.

- ◆ [link](#) to download its brochure.
- ◆ [Link](#) to explore the platform.

3. Publications Update



Applications of AI for water management

UNESCO recently published a new book titled "Applications of Artificial Intelligence for Water Management." A related webinar was also held on 1 April 2025, showcasing practical applications of AI in the water sector.

■ You can access the book, webinar recording, and presentation files here:

🔗 <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/artificial-intelligence-applications-water-management>



Global Risks Report 2025

The Global Risks Report is a comprehensive analysis of the most significant risks facing the world today. It is published by the World Economic Forum. The report analyses global risks through three timeframes to support decision-makers in balancing current crises and longer-term priorities.

🔗 <https://www.weforum.org/publications/global-risks-report-2025/>



Devising a Strategic Approach to Artificial Intelligence : A Handbook for Policy Makers

The World Bank has published a handbook to help low- and middle-income countries harness the potential of AI. It offers policy makers a practical and flexible framework to shape national AI strategies that reflect "local needs" and realities. It supports responsible, inclusive, and sustainable AI adoption.

It is a practical resource for shaping national strategies and driving local impact. You can download it via this [link](#).

4. Blog Corner – Insights From Practice

Our new blog section features informal, narrative-style content on local and global issues at the intersection of hydrology, policy, and practice. It highlights perspectives, reflections, and stories connecting local action to global goals while aligning with the HELPING goals.

(These blogs are selected from trusted sources in the global water and science-policy communities)

Rethinking water security in a water-insecure world?

A blog by the World Bank's Global Water Director outlining key pathways toward achieving a water-secure future. <https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/water/rethinking-water-security-in-a-water-insecure-world>

What's the deal with all the 'co-'s?

Co-creation, co-design, and consultation: what do they mean, and how do we use them?

Explore this reflection on these popular terms here: <https://stickydot.eu/news/whats-the-deal-with-all-the-co-s/>

Leveraging Synergies Across Environment and Development Policies

Highlighting 2024's "triple COP" year, this blog explains how siloed policies—such as carbon offsetting—can harm ecosystems. It calls for integrated, context-sensitive strategies across biodiversity, climate, and development agendas.

<https://www.diplomaticcourier.com/posts/leveraging-synergies-across-environment-development-policies>

5. Spotlight on Hydrological Science-Policy-Practice Programs (HSP3)

In the SUN Newsletter, we aim to highlight global and national efforts that bridge science and policy in hydrology. This issue focuses on an international capacity development network (Cap-Net).



Cap-Net: A Strategic Response to Global Water Knowledge Gaps

Cap-Net is a global network for capacity development in sustainable water management, established by UNDP in 2002. With over two decades of experience and numerous partner institutions worldwide, it leverages local and international expertise to address critical gaps in water-related education.

👁 Vision:

“Water Knowledge for All: Empowering Individuals, Enabling Environments”.

🎯 Mission:

is strengthened individual and institutional capacity, and knowledge base to formulate and implement relevant policies, laws and strategies at country, regional, water basin, and source-to-sea scales.

Cap-Net Facilities:

1. Online Courses

Cap-Net offers a wide range of free online courses focused on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and SDG 6. Most courses are self-paced and include certification upon completion.

🔗 <https://cap-net.org/the-network/online-courses/>



2. Training Manuals

Cap-Net provides a diverse collection of training manuals covering topics such as IWRM, urban flood management, data integration, water governance and drought risk reduction.

🔗 <https://cap-net.org/knowledge-for-all/>

📌 Cap-Net’s courses and training materials are open to everyone — including national and local experts. For example, you can explore the “[SDG 6.5.1 IWRM Action Planning Course](#)”. Developing an action plan is key to fostering multi-stakeholder engagement and establishing a monitoring system to support goals implementation.

6. Final Notes

We hope this second issue of the SUN Working Group Newsletter offers valuable insights and sparks ideas for further development and collaboration toward our shared goals. With each edition, we take one more step forward. Stay tuned!

If you have ideas or are willing to contribute, we’d love to hear from you. Thank you!