



International Conference on Water, Peace and Security

Water as a Catalyst for Peace and Cooperation

DAY 1 – 27 October 2025

Room A

Room B

Room C

08:30 - 09:00	Registration & Welcome Coffee
09:00 - 09:30	Opening Session A Day 1 - Moderator Emmy Euma Odera - International Alert, Kenya
	Opening remarks 1: WPS (NL embassy in Nairobi, Kenya)
	Opening remarks 2: African Union/IGAD
	Opening remarks 3: Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Kenya
	Opening remarks 4: H.E. Outi Holopainen (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland)
09:30 - 09:50	Keynote speech 1: Dr Madiodio Niasse (Dakar Water Hub, Senegal)
09:50 - 10:10	Inauguration Speech: Ex-president of Ghana, H.E. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo (tbc)
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:30	Session 1A Theme 1 From water-conflicts to peace and cooperation Moderator Karin Roelofs (WPS Advisory Team, Netherlands)		Special Session 1B Water, Land and Climate Resilience in Indigenous Communities and Pathways for Peace, Equity, and Climate Justice Moderator, opening remarks & overview - June Bartuin, Indigenous Peoples’ for Peace and Climate Justice, Kenya		Special Session 1C Water for Peace: Conflict-Sensitive Basin Management in Ethiopia’s OmoGibe Moderator and introduction - Zablon Adane – WRI,		
	Opening Remarks Theme 1: Karin Roelofs		Opening remarks & overview	June Bartuin	Introduction to the session by Zablon Adane		
	Water as a Bridge for Peace: Strengthening Cooperation and Stability in the Nile Basin – The Case of Rusumo Hydropower	Abraha Adugna (NBI, Uganda)	Case study presentations based on themes	Naomi Kurgat Paul Chepsoi Lekapan Paul Jonah Cherutich	Approaches to mitigate water-related conflicts through optimization and scenario modelling in the Omo-Gibe Basin	Seleshi Yalew	
	Addressing Downstream Water Issues in the Tana River Basin, Kenya	Caroline Ng'weno (Nature Kenya)	Expert panel dialogue		Explore opportunities and challenges for inclusive water governance in the Omo-Gibe Basin	Teketel Tadesse	
	The Nile River at a Crossroads: Addressing Threats and Harnessing Potential for Peace, Cooperation, and Sustainable Development	Dawit Zegeye Haile (African Union)	Interactive mapping workshop		Conflict-Sensitive Water Planning and Inclusive Dialogue in the Omo-Gibe Basin	Daisy Kosgei	
	Water conflict? Empirical analysis of ENGO effectiveness in addressing domestic water-related conflict	Badradin Mohammed (Univ Maryland, USA) (Online)					
	Q&A		Q&A		Q&A		
	12:30 - 13:30	Lunch Break					

13:30 - 15:00	Session 2A Theme 1: From water-conflicts to peace and cooperation Moderator Karounga Kieta -Wetlands International Sahel		Session 2B Theme 1: From water conflicts to peace and cooperation Moderator Anisa Doty - Finnish Peace Diplomacy Platform		Special Session 2C Tides of Peace: Unlocking the Potential of Lake Turkana for Climate Resilience and Stability Moderator Daniel Kangogo - UN World Food Programme (WFP)	
	Evaluation of Partnerships for Water and Development: A Case Study of the WPS Partnership	Margaret Kangethe (IHE Alumnus)	Local Water Governance and Human Security in Ethiopia’s Borkena River Basin: Pathways to Peace and Cooperation	Sebsib Woldie (Wollo Univ, Ethiopia)	Opening Remarks	Betsy Njagi
	Beyond Control: A Socio-ecological Protocol to Transform Flood Risk into a Catalyst for Peace and Cooperation in Fluvial Deltas	Humberto Tavera Quiroz (Univ Córdoba, Colombia) (Online)	Water Czars and Groundwater Diplomacy: Skills, Scales and Sustainability	Shalet Idawo (Min. Water & Irrigation, Kenya)	Turbulent waters, Troubled shores: The Twin Threats of Climate Change and Conflict on Vulnerable Communities around Lake Turkana	Achiba Gargule
	Herder-farmer crisis and the need for national livestock transformation plan in democratic Nigeria	Oluwasegun Ogunsakin (Ekiti State Univ, Nigeria)	Women participation in water management in the Karamoja region, Uganda: Implications on peace and security	Alex Ronald Mwangu (Kabale Univ, Uganda)	Building shared knowledge on Water and Ecosystem Resources for promoting stability for communities in Lake Turkana	Christian Berretta
	Trust Governance– The “No-State” Solution	Sofia Maya Collin (Unbounded Law), USA (Online)	Localised analysis of conflicts in Beni	Papy Kasereka Kaombe (BENI Peace Forum, DRC)	Panel discussion	John Erus, Emmy Auma, Daniela Nairita, Caludia Ah Poe, and Brizan Were
	Q&A		Q&A		Closing Reflections and Way Forward	Jelmer van Veen
	15:00 - 15:30	Coffee Break				

15:30 - 17:00	Session 3A Theme 2: Innovations for Water and Peace Moderator Aaron Wolf -Oregon State University, USA		Special Session 3B From Scarcity to Stability: Climate-Smart Water Governance in Fragile Contexts – The Case of Somalia Moderator Christophe Hodder – UN Climate Security and Environmental Advisor to Somalia		Special Session 3C Turning the Tide: Building Peace through the WPS Approach in the Water-Stressed Lake Turkana Region Moderator Daisy Kosgei WPS Kenya	
	Opening Remarks Theme 2	Aaron Wolf	Opening Remarks	Ahmed Kurweyne	Welcome and Introduction	Augustine Lokwang
	Water-based Conflict in Sool Region	Mohamed Daud Somali Academy, Somalia	Framing the scene	Christophe Hodder	Understanding water-related conflicts, Ecosystems mapping, Modelling and Data Analysis for Informed Decisions	Daisy Kosgei Luiosa Chinyavy Edmond Kuto Andreja Jonoski Krishna Patil
	Turkana dashboard: information tool for supporting water peace and security	Andreja Jonoski (IHE Delft) (online)	Panel discussion	Paolo Paron Bilan Elmi Albert Reichert Ahmed Kurweyne	Local Perspectives: How Water is Contributing to Peace	Titus Ekiru Joline Achieng Simon Thuo
	Space4Water Country Case: The use of Space-based Technology to address water challenges in The Gambia	Momodou J.A. Senghore (NEWRM Centre, Gambia)				
	A Rawlsian perspective on water governance reform in South Africa	Beatrice Dube (UNISA, SA) (online)				
	Q&A		Wrap up and closure		Q&A, Reflections, and closing	

17:00 - 17:30	<u>Room A:</u> Closing Session A, day 1: Moderator Zablon Adane (WRI)
	WPS integrated approach: from water-related conflicts to peace and cooperation (Yasir Mohamed, IHE Delft)
	Harvesting of day 1 (Jonatan Godinez Madrigal, IHE Delft)
17:30-19:30	Snacks and Drinks

DAY 2 – 28 October 2025

Room A

Room B

Room C

08:30 - 09:00	Registration & Welcome Coffee				
09:00 - 09:20	Opening Session A, day 2 - Moderator Dr. Modathir Zaroug (ICPAC, Kenya)				
	Keynote speech: Aaron Wolf, Oregon State University, USA				
09:30 - 10:30	Session 4A: Theme 3: Climate security Moderator Dr. Modathir Zaroug (ICPAC)		Special Session 4B Rethinking River Basin Management for Holistic and Sustainable Development of the Nile Moderator Nile Basin Initiative		Special Session 4C Shared Waters, Shared Future: Securing Peace and Sustainable Livelihoods in the Tana River Basin Moderator Nature Kenya
	Opening Remarks Theme 3	Madiodio Niasse (DWH, Senegal)	(tbc)	Opening Framing	
	Climate Change and water conflicts in the Lake Chad basin: a Peace and Security issue	Eric Suyru (Ethics & Policy Lab Cameroon,)		Community Voice (Lived Experience from the Tana Delta)	Community leader from the Tana Delta
	Water Governance and Conflict Prevention in Kenya's Border Regions: Insights from Research on the Ewaso Ng'iro Basin	Paul Maina (Eunaul Ent, Kenya)		Panel Insights	County Government (Tana River or Lamu), Downstream

	(De)constructing meanings and pathways of water and peace	Laura Turley (Online) (Geneva Water Hub)			Interactive Roundtable & Audience Dialogue	Water User Representative, Wetlands International, Nature Kenya, Upstream County Representative
	Q&A				Wrap-up with concrete next steps and a clear call to action	
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break					
11:00 - 12:30	Session 5A Theme 3 Climate Security Moderator Audrey Legat - Deltares		Session 5B Theme 4: Marginalized groups Moderator Laurens Nijzink (Voice4Thought)		Special Session 5C Advancing Sustainable Water and Sanitation Solutions: Transitioning Services for Displaced Communities into Local Utility Frameworks. Moderator Lavuun Verstraete – Programme Manager, UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Region	
	Assessing the Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources and Pastoralists Livelihoods in Kajiado West SubCountry, Kenya	Sammy Oleku (POWER, Kenya)	Opening Remarks Theme 4	Laurens Nijzink	Introduction to the session	Lavuun Verstraete
	Geopolitical Risks of Water Resources and Climate Change in the Tigris–Euphrates Basin: From Transboundary Conflicts	Darío Salinas Hiba Moh. (Blue Peace Middle East)	Empowering Youth in Water and Peace in Sudan: Lessons Learned from the	Ali Elhaj (Water Gov & Diplomacy, Sudan)	Peacebuilding through HDP - nexus implementation	

	to Local Vulnerabilities in Iraq and Syria	(Online)	Sudan Youth Parliament for Water (SYPW)			TBC: UNICEF, UNHCR, KfW, AfDB/WB
	Community-Based Water Governance for Conflict Prevention in Post-Conflict Regions	Mohamud Abdulle Hassan (Mogadishu Univ, Somalia)	Empowering Marginalized Groups: Agency and Resilience in Water, Peace, and Security	Emmanuel Busera (Afro-Asia Inst, Kenya)	Lessons from the field on financial sustainability and institutional reforms	TBC: Local Government
	Youth Inclusion in Multi-level Transboundary Water Governance: A Case of Sio-Malaba-Malakisi Basin	Wesley Omondi (SMM Young Water Diplomats, Kenya)	Centering marginalized groups in water governance for sustainable peace	Lesarge Sheillah Simpanoi (Univ Nairobi Law, Kenya)	Transitioning to utility-led refugee-inclusive water provision	Official (e.g. Somali Region, Ethiopia)
			Negotiated Ownership: Environmental Justice and Community Stewardship of Flood-Prone Rivers	Vija Viese (NTNU, Latvia)		TBD - Implementation Experience
	Q&A	Q&A		Q&A		
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch Break					
	Session 6A Theme 4: Marginalized groups Moderator Seleshi Yalew - IHE Delft		Special Session 6B Securing Water, Sustaining Peace: Involving Defence and Security Actors in Addressing the Water Security Nexus – HCSS and IA		Special Session 6C Exploring Financing Opportunities for water, peace and security Moderator Ingwell Kuil – Rebel Advisory East Africa	

13:30 - 15:00			Moderator Jessica Hartog – IA and Thijs van Aken - HCSS				
	Water as a Catalyst for Equity: Centering Marginalized Voices in Governance and Climate Resilience Subtitle: Transformative Leadership from the Margins in Conflict-Affected and Climate-Stressed Contexts	Jatani Bonaya Godana (Engr, Ethiopia)	Introduction to the session		Setting the scene	Ingwell Kuil	
			The water security nexus: conflict pathways	Jessica Hartog	Keynote speech	Fred Kioko	
	Elevating Marginalized Voices: Reclaiming Agency in Water, Peace, and Security Governance	Phares Ogola (Future Africa, Kenya)	Opportunities and challenges for engaging defence and security actors in addressing water-related security challenges	Thijs van Aken	Panel discussion	Fred Kioko Viola Kilel Kennedy Mugo	
	The Overlooked Actor: Role of the Media in Transboundary Water Governance	Kizito Sikuka (LIMCOM, Zimbabwe)	Regional perspectives on engaging the 4th D in Ethiopia, Kenya and Mali	Experts from Ethiopia, Kenya and Mali (TBC)		Q&A with audience	Christophe Matthew Hodder
	From the Ground Up: Unearthing Everyday Water Violence and the Agency of Marginalised Communities in Nepal	Hannah Leigh (Online) (WEDC, UK)					
	Q&A		Q&A and closing		Wrap-up and closure using Mentimeter		
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee Break						
15:30 - 17:00	Closing Session day 2: High-Level Panel on Water and Peace - Moderator Pieter van der Zaag (IHE, Delft)						
	Keynote speech: Abdoul Aziz Alhousseini (Voice4Thought, Mali Youth) (tbc)						

	Panel discussion: WPS; Water, Peace and Security Partnership; IGAD/African Union; Bartuin Indigenous Peoples, Kenya (tbc); MFA Finland; MFA Netherlands; Voice4Thought, Mali (tbc)
	Closing remarks by Yasir Mohamed
17:00 - 19:00	Snacks and Drinks