

## **2021 "State of Climate Services: Water" Report Launch 5 October 13:30-15:00 CEST**

More than 2 billion people are living in countries under water stress and 3.6 billion people face inadequate access to water at least one month per year. Meanwhile, water-related hazards have increased in frequency for the past 20 years. Since 2000, flood-related disasters have increased by 134%, and frequency of droughts increased by 29%. Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) is vital to achieving long-term social, economic and environmental well-being. But, although most countries have advanced their level of IWRM implementation, 107 countries remain off track to hit the goal of sustainably managing their water resources by 2030 (UN SDG 6).

The latest report on the State of Climate Services, for water, explores the progress made by WMO Members in using climate services to address water-related challenges. The report highlights the gaps in user engagement, forecasting, observing networks, and data collection that still exist. The launch event is a 1 hour and half program being curated by WMO featuring interventions by some of the report's contributing organizations. An audience of hundreds of participants is expected, representing a wide range of stakeholders engaged in implementing or supporting the application of climate services for effective adaptation in the water sector.

The launch event will present the report's findings and lessons learned to help countries, funding agencies and development partners to assess the steps needed to address gaps in the climate services value chain to achieve greater resilience, improve adaptation and development outcomes in the water sector.

The event will be opened by Prof. Petteri Taalas, Secretary-General of WMO, followed by a high-level discussion. The event will be moderated by Dr Paul Egerton, Director, Cabinet Office of the Secretary-General. The event will conclude with a Q&A session.

### **Programme**

- 3 minute video
- Introduction of speakers, Dr Paul Egerton, Director, Cabinet Office of the Secretary-General, WMO
- Opening and overview of report findings, Prof. Petteri Taalas, Secretary-General, WMO
- Mr Qu Dongyu, Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Mr. Gilbert F. Hounbo, Chair of UN-Water and President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development
- Mr Mikko Ollikainen, Manager, Adaptation Fund (AF)
- Mr. Joseph Intsiful, Senior Climate Information and Early Warning Systems Specialist, Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- Global Environment Facility (GEF), TBC
- European Investment Bank (EIB), TBC
- Q&A
- Closing