

# eMag of climate action in Africa

**#3 Adaptation and Water**

Thursday 17 Mars 2022



# News:

# Climate Chance



## The Climate Chance Summit Europe 2022 took place in Nantes on March 7th and 8th!

This was the first major in-person climate event since the COP26 in Glasgow and was organised by Climate Chance in synergy with the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union (FPEU). The Summit gathered around 800 non-state actors from 20 different countries to debate on the European Green Deal and to show our support to Ukraine. The objective of the Summit was to identify priorities and common proposals from local actors to strengthen the European Green Deal. 4-5 proposals were produced in each of the Summit workshops and will be included in an address to EU leaders to be published in mid-May.

**During the Summit, the Water workshop led by the French Water Partnership brought together different stakeholders to discuss the following issues:**

- Improving knowledge: better understanding for better management
- Improving water quality
- Adapting societies and territories

- Limiting the impacts on environments and societies and promoting resilience by developing strategies and plans to deal with the risks associated with climate change
- Taking into account countries of the South

**The 9th edition of the World Water Forum will take place from 12 to 15 March in Dakar, Senegal.**

The Climate Chance team will be present at this event. We invite you to come and meet us!

To register to the World Water Forum, [click here!](#)

**Climate Chance Summit Africa 2022 is coming!**

We will see you in October 2022 in Dakar, Senegal for our Africa Summit, which is currently at the heart of Climate Chance's activities. The eMag will play a role in preparing the messages that will be discussed during the event



# New IPCC report, what lessons for adaptation and water issues?

**Sarah Dayan, Head of the Climate and CSR Unit at Comité 21, presents the lessons to be learned from the 6th IPCC WGII AR6 report in terms of adaptation, with particular attention to issues related to the water sector.**

## **Climate, water and adaptation.**

Climate change is increasing the intensity of extreme weather events (heavy rainfall, storms, floods) and is impacting both the water cycle and water networks.

What are the water-related adaptation challenges?

- Ensuring water supply and availability in terms of quantity and quality for humans and biodiversity,
- Managing water to ensure the well-being of populations and food production,
- Managing conflicts of use at the scale of river basins

**What are the specificities of the 6th IPCC report? "Transformation is the word that characterises this report the most, we talk about adaptive transformation."**

The report also integrates social justice more broadly and calls for a de-compartmentalisation of disciplines so that systemic solutions can be developed taking into account all the dimensions of a problem in order to avoid maladaptation. Finally, it stresses the importance of having a precise vision of the impacts at different time scales and degrees of warming.

## **The key figure:**

- Between 3.3 and 3.6 billion people live in highly vulnerable contexts

## **Key IPCC conclusions on water:**

- There is an increase in mortality from floods, droughts and storms.
- Floods and heavy rains also create migration issues.
- In economic terms, the unavailability of water can lead to major losses (agriculture, fishing, tourism, forests).
- The impacts of climate change on water will have a negative impact on food supply, fisheries, and agriculture. Asia and Africa are the most vulnerable continents.
- Flooding and rising water levels are particularly relevant to the African continent. This will lead to a number of displacements
- Regarding water quality, at 2.1°C, thousands to tens of thousands of additional cases of disease are expected, mainly in Central and Eastern Africa, as well as health problems related to malnutrition.

**These findings are alarming, but the IPCC also gives us some solutions:**

- Retaining natural water through innovations,
- Slowing flows through nature-based solutions,
- Conservation, protection and restoration of freshwater to adapt to climate impacts and protect biodiversity.



# Case study: Cities lead the way, Cape Town's water strategy

**Tania Martha Thomas, Research Officer at Climate Chance Observatory, presents the case study carried out in collaboration with CDP (Carbon Disclosure Project) on Cape Town's Water Strategy.**

The study was published on 7 March in the latest Global Synthesis Report 2022 of the Observatory. The Report aims to monitor the progress and levers put in place by non-state actors in terms of climate action. Case studies show inspiring best practices that can be replicated.

[Read the full report here.](#)

**Cape Town is a particularly interesting model of resilience through its water strategy.**

In 2018, the city experienced a record water shortage and a severe three-year drought, but was awarded the 2021 Water Savings Award.

**The five pillars of Cape Town's water strategy:**

- Secure access to water with social-economic targets to ensure that all people have access to safe water and toilets
- Wise water use by developing relationships between people and water through legislation and advance planning. This has reduced water use from 200 litres to 140 litres per day.
- Expanding water supplies in the city to benefit from more than 3,000 litres of water per day for the next few years and having a reliable infrastructure.
- To share the benefits of regional water resources by working with the different stakeholders in the city.
- To have a better consideration of water use in the functioning of the city and to ensure the balance of the ecosystems in the city.



# Interview of Philippe Guettier, French Water Partnership (FWP)

## **What is the World Water Forum (WWF)?**

Philippe Guettier: The WWF is the largest global meeting of all public and private water stakeholders from all continents. It is an event organised every three years by the World Water Council, an international association based in Marseille. The 9th Forum will be held in Dakar next week, from 21 to 25 March. There will be a large number of us there, as the forums usually bring together several thousands of people. This one has been postponed for a year because of COVID, but it will be no different.

## **Today we have with us a group of African non-state actors who have been following us, particularly since the organisation of the Climate Chance Summits in Africa. Can you tell us a word about the place of NSAs in the framework of this event and the forum?**

Philippe Guettier: Important point: the forum is an informal event. It is organised by water professionals who wish to help all water stakeholders at the global level to coordinate and prepare recommendations for international forums, and in particular for this Dakar forum, for the International Conference on Water and the 2030 Agenda organised next year by the United Nations. Civil society can express itself much more in forums of this type than in the more formal UN forums.

## **We have heard about the Dakar 2022 Initiative label, can you explain to us what the label consists of?**

Philippe Guettier: This label is a first in the history of the Forum. It was a question of labelling projects in preparation, in incubation or completion. The label was awarded by an international jury of which I am a member and was based on 9 criteria to judge the projects, with particular attention given to their contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Water for all SDGs application, which allows one to look at and evaluate the positive and negative contributions of a project to the SDGs in a very rational way, was very useful in selecting the projects and will be highlighted during the forum. Once online, it can be used free of charge by decision-makers around the world. This is in line with the Forum's focus on the inclusion of policies in the SDGs. The Forum makes recommendations and highlights projects by certifying them, to underline that they are the best possible contributors to the SDGs and the 2030 agenda. Dakar will be an important moment for States and for civil society, focused on climate and adaptation in the water sector in particular, to work on the SDGs. This is the leitmotif of the Forum.



# Interview of Philippe Guettier, French Water Partnership (FWP)

## **Do we have an idea of the number of projects certified ?**

Philippe Guettier: 126 projects have been certified, divided into the four main themes of the Forum: (1) Water security and sanitation, here we find the issues of climate and biodiversity; (2) Water and rural development, an important subject in view of the exodus in large cities and the expansion of cities in developing countries; (3) Cooperation, in basins and territories within the same country or between countries; (4) Tools and means.

## **Finally, can you explain how the FWP [French Water Partnership] has organised itself for the World Water Forum and what the FWP is doing at the Forum?**

Philippe Guettier: The French Water Partnership was created in March 2007 during the preparation of the World Water Forums to ensure that the visibility of French actors is as high as possible. Now, the FWP and its members are active in many forums, in particular at the United Nations, in the Climate COPs, the Biodiversity COPs, etc. Its role is to coordinate the French water movement and its members. Its role is to lead the network of French actors, which is made up of 200 public and private members: government bodies, local authorities, parliamentarians, experts, research institutes, and NGOs such as Climate Chance.

The idea is to prepare a multi-stakeholder advocacy, and to ensure that water contributes as much as possible to the achievement of the SDGs. At the Dakar forum, the PFE and its members are very present in the political and thematic sessions, in the projects certified "Initiative Dakar 2022", and the PFE leads the "French space", a place for dialogue between French actors and their international partners.

## **Are there any concrete events taking place in this forum space?**

Philippe Guettier: Yes, there are multiple events in the French space, between 7 and 8 events per day in an agora that can accommodate about 60 people, and other events in smaller formats will take place in another part of the space to allow for pitches on projects related to water. The panel is always international. And there are still a few places left for the pitches!

## **The last word:**

Philippe Guettier: It is very interesting to work in partnership with PFE-Climate Chance. Members of the Climate Chance network are of course welcome to attend the Forum and the French space.

**[To register for the 9th World Water Forum, click here!](#)**

**[Find all the projects certified Initiative Dakar 2022 by clicking here.](#)**

**[And for the programme of the Espace France, follow this link.](#)**



# Initiative Dakar 2022 :

## The AAR SEN'EAU project

**Benjamin Masmondet, Director of Customer Expertise at SEN'EAU, presented the AAR SEN'EAU project, a project to digitise water meter reading, which was awarded the "Initiative Dakar 2022" label at the 9th World Water Forum.**

This project aims to bring access to water closer to customers through 5 axes :

1. Digitalisation of water meter reading
2. A new, clearer and more educational bill
3. An online agency
4. Instant digital payments
5. Informing customers by SMS, the most effective way to reach Senegalese customers

Digitalisation and geolocation enable meter readers to read meters in real time using smartphones equipped with 4G. Once received and checked, the bill is issued in less than 24 hours. Customers therefore have a more reliable bill and can be informed immediately if there is a problem with over-consumption. Moreover, the faster receipt of the bill allows customers to better manage their budget, particularly in the event of a leak.

In addition, SEN'EAU has greatly reduced the number of kilometres travelled by its agents and made interventions faster thanks to the geolocation of water meters.

**"Understanding one's bill means controlling one's consumption and controlling one's consumption means preserving the resource."**

It has been redesigned with a clear graph of the consumption history and other useful messages to enable customers to quickly visualise the information they need to know.

The online agency allows customers to carry out their procedures and download their invoices without the need for the paper version. The aim is once again to control their budget and water consumption.

Little known in Europe, digital payments make it possible to exchange money and pay bills very easily. SEN'EAU has made it very easy to use the tool to make payments instantaneously. Customers even save money because it avoids stamp fees.

Finally, customers can be informed efficiently by SMS or email about their account information.

**Come and meet SEN'EAU at the World Water Forum and during its visit day on 23 March!**

SEN'EAU will host a stand, where the 3 labelled projects will be presented + special sessions on the exhibition site, the programme of which will be circulated shortly.

**Visit day on Wednesday 23 (by registration) to come and visit the different projects and see the video operation centre, the call centre, and discover the installations of the water production plant in Dakar.**

The eMag also gave us the opportunity to meet Gaston Kayenga, who also has a project certified "Initiative Dakar 2022": the [MAJI USAFI NA AMANI BENI project](#) in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The objective is to bring water to vulnerable populations and contribute to the consolidation of peace in the region.



# Next events

Join us for the eMag on Sustainable  
Cities: Thursday 7 April 2022 from 3 to 4  
pm (Paris time).

