University of Glasgow

Water and Sustainable Development Seminar Series

Water and Sustainable Development: What has been achieved and what needs to be done?

Monday, 06 June 2022
10.00am (BST)



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Global Webinar Series on Water and Sustainable Development

The University of Glasgow, through its School of Interdisciplinary Studies, is delighted to present a Global Webinar Series on Water and Sustainable Development. This series provides a platform for discussion on current and future water-related problems, and potential solutions from a multidisciplinary, multisectoral and multi-issues basis. Leading global academics, senior policymakers from around the world, heads of national and international organisations, and senior officials from important multinational corporations will contribute and provide insight from their expert perspectives.

The second webinar in the series takes place on Monday 06 June at 10.00am (BST), this event will focus on the theme of water and sustainable development - what has been achieved and what still needs to be done.

Click here to register

The webinar will be moderated by Professor Fabrice Renaud of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Glasgow. Professor Carol Hill, Head of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies and Director of Dumfries Campus at the University of Glasgow, will introduce the webinar. The panel members will be Dr Rachael McDonnell, Dr Oyun Sanjaasuren, Professor Cecilia Tortajada and Mr Pierre van Rensburg. Closing remarks will be provided by Professor Graeme Roy, Dean of External Engagement in the College of Social Sciences at the University of Glasgow.



Moderator



Professor Fabrice Renaud
Professor of Environmental Risk and Community Resilience at the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Glasgow. He is also the School's Research Director. Before that, Fabrice was Head of the Environmental Vulnerability and Ecosystem Services section of the United Nations University – Institute for Environment and Human Security in Bonn, Germany. Fabrice leads research on (1) use of ecosystem-based approaches for reducing risks from natural hazards, and (2) broad sustainable development issues with a focus on human-environment interactions.

Introduction to the Webinar

Professor Carol Hill
Head of the University of Glasgow School of Interdisciplinary Studies and Director of its Dumfries Campus since 2014, prior to which she held a number of senior leadership roles. Her research has a focus on the social, economic and cultural constraints, including social constructions of identity, that produce inequalities and impact on life's chances but, reflecting her early training as an economic historian, she has considerable strength over more than one subject specialism. This dualism has been key in furthering the strategic aims of a School that is intrinsically interdisciplinary and purposely brings academics from the social, natural and physical sciences together with the shared aim of identifying novel interdisciplinary solutions to the complex world problems of today.



Closing Remarks



Professor Graeme Roy
Graeme Roy is Dean of External Engagement in the College of Social Sciences and Professor of Economics at the University of Glasgow. He is a former Senior Civil Servant in the Scottish Government and head of the First Minister's Policy Unit. He is a past Director of the Fraser of Allander Institute at the University of Strathclyde. He has been a special adviser to the Scottish Parliament's Economy Committee and is the incoming chair of the Scottish Fiscal Commission.

Panellists



Dr Rachael McDonnell
Deputy Director General – Research for Development at the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) where she leads and drives the water security science agenda to address global development challenges related to food, land and water systems under a climate crisis. She is a specialist in drought risk science and management from forecasting through to mitigation and financial risk management.

Dr Oyun Sanjaasuren
Director of External Affairs. A former Minister from Mongolia, Oyun has extensive experience in representing international organisations. She served as the first President of the United Nations Environment Assembly, the governing body of UN Environment. After leaving the Government of Mongolia in 2016, she was appointed Chair of the Global Water Partnership. Oyun's five consecutive terms in Mongolia's Parliament included stints as Minister of Environment and Green Development (2012–2014) and Minister of Foreign Affairs (2007–2008). Holding a PhD in Earth Sciences from the University of Cambridge, Oyun has also been a prominent advocate of civil and social rights.





Professor Cecilia Tortajada
Professor in Practice, School of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Glasgow, UK. Cecilia is a past president of the International Water Resources Association, member of the International Selection Committee of the Millennium Technology Prize, Technology Academy Finland, and member of the OECD Initiative on Water Governance. The main focus of her work is on impacts of global events on water resources, food, environment and societies. She is Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Water Resources Development.

Mr Pierre van Rensburg
Strategic Executive for Urban and Transport Planning at the Windhoek Municipal Council. Until 2017, he was Strategic Executive for Infrastructure, Water and Technical Services among other, responsible for the strategic planning and operations of all water and sewer related infrastructure in the city. This includes the Goreangab Water Reclamation Plant where the direct reclamation of potable water from treated sewage has been practiced since 1968. Since 2016, he has also served as a member of the Technical Committee of Experts advising the Cabinet and President of Namibia on water security.



The School of Interdisciplinary Studies is part of the College of Social Sciences at the University of Glasgow.

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