

CLICO (Climate Change, Hydro-Conflicts and Human Security) Project

Research / Policy Event

“Climate Change and Water Security in the Middle East”

Date-Time: 20 January 2012, 09:00-13:30

Venue: CHAR –S2 JENK Meeting Room, European Commission

CHAR (Charlemagne building)

Rue de la Loi, 170, 1049 Brussels

Draft Agenda

Climate change is expected to seriously affect many people in the Middle East, against the backdrop of already existing conflict and water contestations. Climate change has often been linked to negative effects on water security – in the worst case it might cause hydro-conflicts between individuals, groups or nations stemming from incompatible claims over water resources and ways to manage them, or from the side effects of hydrological hazards, such as floods and droughts. However, the evidence for the link between climate change and violent conflict is contested and strong arguments on hydro-cooperation are also on the agenda.

This research/policy panel event aims at bringing the researchers and policymakers together to discuss climate change and water security in the Middle East and appropriate policy responses. Does climate change actually endanger human security and exacerbate existing hydro-conflicts or even create new ones? What do scientific insights on the inter-linkages between climate change and water security tell us about policy-making in the Middle East?

The panel is organised in the context of the research project CLICO (Climate change, hydro-conflicts and human security) funded under the 7th Framework Research Programme and part of the research 'cluster' CLIWASEC (Climate, water and security) jointly implemented by the FP7 Social Sciences and Humanities Programme and the Environment Research Programme.

For further information on CLICO: <http://www.clico.org/>

For further information on CLIWASEC: <http://www.cliwasec.eu/home/home.php>

Friday, 20 January: Policy event “Climate change and water security in the Middle East”	
9.00 – 9.30	Event registration
9.30 – 9.45	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Angela Liberatore –DG Research and Innovation, European Commission; Martin Foeth – European External Action Service (EEAS)</p> <p>Short information on CLICO and CLIWASEC Dr. Giorgios Kallis – University of Barcelona, CLICO Project Co-ordinator</p>
9.45 – 11.15	<p>Panel first interventions (15 minutes each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jan Selby, University of Sussex (author of <i>Water, Power and Politics in the Middle East: The Other Israeli-Palestinian Conflict</i>, IB Tauris 2003). • Dr. David Katz, The Porter School of Environmental Studies, University of Tel Aviv (expert on environmental conflict resolution, transboundary water institutions and Middle East water issues) • Dr. Abdelrahman Tamimi, Head of Palestinian Hydrology Group (expert in hydro-politics and water security, participated in charting the Palestinian negotiation strategy in relevant multi-lateral talks) • Prof. Dr. Ralf Ludwig, CLIMB Project (professor of applied physical geography at University of Munich) • Prof. Dr. Roberto Roson, WASSERMed Project (associate professor of economics at Ca’Foscari University, Venice)
11.15 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 12.15	<p>Feedback from policy stakeholders (10 minutes each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lars Müller, DG Clima, European Commission • Alar Olljum, European External Action Service (EEAS) • Alessandra Sensi, DG DEVCO, European Commission • Catherine Woollard, European Peacebuilding Liason Office (EPLO)
12.15 – 13.15	Discussion: open floor for questions to panel and further discussion
13.15 – 13.30	Summary by the facilitator and farewell