

Climate Crisis and Covid19 Collide: Resilience through Information, Governance, and Justice

Thursday, 15 October 2020

1:00-2:30pm CET

Free registration [here](#).

Webinar Description

As the world grapples with the repercussions of Covid-19, the value and importance of water are more apparent than ever. Climate-related water disasters that disproportionately affect vulnerable populations and marginalized communities are further exacerbated by inequities brought on by the pandemic. Access to water and sanitation is of the utmost concern to protect public health, but many communities still lack these services. Meanwhile, typhoons, hurricanes, floods, droughts, and wildfires call into question how to effectively manage extreme weather amidst a global health pandemic. Race, income, and gender quickly emerge as stark disparities in response and recovery efforts.

How can information, governance, and justice work together to address multiple-crises? Now, more than ever, we need groundwork for a just recovery and transition that renders communities resilient to all types of shocks. Join experts from Sweden, Lebanon, Thailand, the United States, and South Africa for a dynamic discussion on equity and resilience during Covid-19. This session will look at what happens when extreme events and pandemics collide, the implications on vulnerable communities, how water professionals are responding, and key insights for future resilience work.

This webinar is the second in a three-part series on information, justice, and governance for SIWI's World Water Week 2020/2021. More information can be found [here](#). **To register for this webinar, visit [here](#).**

Panelists

- **Dr. Phil Graham**, International Programme Manager–Water & Climate, Swedish Meteorological & Hydrological Institute (SMHI) (**moderator**)
- **Carol Chouchani Cherfane**, Chief, Water Resources Section, United Nations Economic & Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- **Dr. Jenny Grönwall**, Advisor Water Policy & Rights, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)
- **Dr. Hans Guttman**, Climate Change and Climate Risk Management Department Head, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)
- **Dr. Adrienne Hollis**, Senior Climate Justice and Health Scientist, Union of Concerned Scientists
- **Dr. Oliver C. Ruppel**, Professor of Law and Director, Development and Rule of Law Programme (DROP), Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Agenda

This dynamic 90-minute webinar will include presentations, dialogue, and questions:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Expert Presentations
- Panel Discussion
- Participant Q&A
- Closing

Panelist Bios



Phil Graham (*moderator*)

Phil Graham is International Programme Manager for Water and Climate at the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI). He has a broad background in water resources management, hydrology, climate science, climate change assessment and adaptation, capacity development, and hydro-meteorological and climate services. His experience of over 30 years spans from village water supply to advanced modelling tools with applications in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Southeast Asia and USA. Phil holds a PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the Swedish Royal Institute of Technology, where he is also Docent (Associate Professor). His Master's studies were in water resources planning and management at Colorado State University. Phil has published numerous scientific articles, contributed to the IPCC assessment reports and was a lead author for the Assessment of Climate Change for the Baltic Sea.



Carol Chouchani Cherfane

Carol Chouchani Cherfane serves as Chief of the Water Resources Section in the Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in Beirut. She also coordinates the Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region (RICCAR) under the Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies, based at ESCWA. Prior to joining the United Nations, she worked for the Harvard Institute for International Development and the World Bank. She holds degrees from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and Georgetown University.



Jenny Grönwall

Dr Jenny Grönwall is SIWI's Advisor on Water Policy and Rights and joined SIWI in 2013. Her work is currently focused on groundwater governance and policy development, and the bridging of science and practice in this field. Jenny also serves as SIWI's focal point for work on the human rights-based approach and has co-developed a manual on the HRBA to IWRM. Prior to joining SIWI, Jenny worked for the Institute of Water Policy at the National University of Singapore, the Abu Dhabi Water and Supervision Bureau, the International Institute of Environment and Development in

London, the Stockholm Resilience Centre, and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. Jenny has a Master of Laws from Gothenburg University, a PhD from Linköping University, and was a research fellow with ATREE in Bengaluru, India, for her post-doc.



Adrienne L. Hollis, PhD, JD

Adrienne L. Hollis is the Senior Climate Justice and Health Scientist at the Union of Concerned Scientists. She leads the work on methods for accessing and documenting the health impacts of climate change on communities of color and other traditionally disenfranchised groups and ensures scientific information from UCS is communicated in a culturally competent and helpful manner to vulnerable populations. Dr. Hollis works with environmental justice communities to identify priority health concerns related to climate change and other environmental assaults and evaluates climate and energy policy approaches for their ability to effectively address climate change and benefit underserved communities. Within the Climate & Energy program, she is examining climate and energy policies aimed at reducing exposure to negative health and environmental impacts; and recommending policy approaches to foster inclusiveness and greater benefits to underserved communities, and effectively address climate change.

Dr. Hollis has more than 20 years of experience in the environmental arena, particularly focused on environmental justice, equity and inclusion, and the adverse health effects of environmental exposures and climate change on vulnerable communities.



Dr. Oliver C. Ruppel

Professor of public and international law and director, Development and Rule of Law Programme (DROP), Stellenbosch University, South Africa. Distinguished fellow, Stellenbosch Water Institute and Fraunhofer Centre for Int. Management and Knowledge Economy, Germany. Professor extraordinaire in various universities around the world. Coordinating AR5 lead-author 'Africa', Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) WGII. Founding director, Climate Policy and Energy Security Programme for sub-Saharan Africa, Konrad Adenauer Foundation. Member of the Academy of Sciences of Cameroon (CAS).