



Ninth Biennial Rosenberg International Forum on Water Policy

25-28 January 2016
Panama City, Panama

Biographies of Participants

Oktaý Aksoy, Turkish Foreign Policy Institute

Oktaý Aksoy served in Geneva, New York and Moscow as a Turkish diplomat and at different positions in the Turkish Foreign Ministry. He was Turkish Ambassador in Helsinki, Amman and Stockholm and is currently a Board Member at the Turkish Foreign Policy Institute in Ankara, Turkey.

Diego Arevalo, Good Stuff International

Diego Arevalo is a civil engineer at the University of the Andes in Colombia. He has a master's degree in Hydrology with a specialization in Hydraulics. He is also a researcher and consultant for Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Footprint. Diego has more than 15 years of professional experience as a part of several companies and organizations in the public and private sector. These companies and organizations are focused on development projects in more than ten countries, mainly in Colombia, Spain and Peru. His key projects include: Project manager in Hydrology and water works – Acciona 2006/2009 – Spain, Technical Advisor of the Water Fund Lima - Aquafondo – 2010 – Peru, Coordinator in Peru for Water Futures partnership – 2011 – Peru, National Study Water Footprint of Colombia, WWF – 2012 – Colombia, Water Footprint Assessment in Porce river Basin - 2013 - Colombia, Water Footprint Assessment in San Luis – 2013 – Argentina, Water Footprint Assessment and Water Stewardship Strategy for SABMiller LAC, Bavaria (Colombia) and National Brewery (Panama) – 2013/2015 – Colombia and Panama, Water Fund in North of Santander - Alliance BioCuenca – 2015 – Colombia, Director of Water Footprint Assessment for Colombia – 2015 – Colombia. Currently, Arevalo is working as the Regional Director of Good Stuff International Latin America and Caribbean - GSI-LAC - based in Medellin. GSI (www.goodstuffinternational.com) is an international consulting firm with presence in Netherlands, Switzerland, Kenya, Spain and Colombia; focused on developing projects aimed at sustainable water management.

Suzanne Bayley, University of Alberta Canada

Dr. Suzanne Bayley is a Professor of Ecology (Emeritus) with a specialty in the ecology, biogeochemistry and management of wetlands & shallow lakes. Her work on the ecological processes in floodplain and isolated wetlands & lakes ranges from experience in Canada, Louisiana (Mississippi Delta), Florida & the Chesapeake Bay USA. Her focus is the effect of hydrologic processes and keystone species on the ecology of these systems. She developed indicators of ecosystem health for marsh & shallow lakes.

Gaye Cheikh Becaye, Ministry of Higher Education Senegal

Cheikh B. Gaye is Director General of Research at the Ministry of higher Education, Senegal. He holds a PhD in Hydrogeology. He is a Full Professor and has worked for 7 years as an isotope hydrology expert at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, and was awarded a Nobel Prize Certificate in 2005. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and Technology of Senegal.

Susmita Dasgupta, World Bank

Dr. Dasgupta is a Lead Environmental Economist in the Development Research Group of the World Bank with a specialization in empirical research. Her research focus is on environmental management in developing countries. Dr. Dasgupta has done extensive analysis on health hazards of pollution, poverty/environment nexus, setting priorities in pollution control, deforestation, biodiversity loss, impacts of climate change on coastal zones and climate extremes, adaptation to climate change, cost effective regulations, monitoring and enforcement of regulations. She has conducted research activities in Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Cuba, India, Iran, Lao PDR, Madagascar, Mexico, Tunisia, Vietnam and Yemen, and has published numerous articles on issues related to development and environment.

Ariel Dinar, University of California, Riverside

Ariel Dinar is a Professor of Environmental Economics and Policy, School of Public Policy, University of California, Riverside. He teaches and conducts research on water related policy and economics aspects.

Salif Diop, Academy of Sciences – Senegal

Prof. Salif Diop is a University Professor, Member of the National Academy of Sciences and Techniques of Senegal, Member of the African Academy of Sciences (ASS) and Member of The World Academy of Sciences for the Advancement of Sciences in the Developing Countries (TWAS).

Guillermo Donoso, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Guillermo Donoso is an Agricultural and Natural Resource Economist specializing in Water Economics, Water Allocation Mechanisms, and Water Management. At present, he is a Full Professor of Agricultural Economics Department of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. He previously has been Director of the National Agricultural Research Institute of Chile and held the position of Dean of the Facultad de Agronomía e Ingeniería Forestal of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile from 1998 to 2007.

Daniel Dooley, New Current Water and Land, LLC

Daniel Dooley is the principal in a water and land consulting, project financing, and water trading firm. He is the former, Senior Vice President, University of California, Office of the President.

Antonio Embid, Universidad de Zaragoza

Antonio Embid Irujo is Professor in the Faculty of Law, University of Zaragoza (Spain). Previously, he has been a researcher in the March Foundation (1980) and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (1982). He is doctor honoris causa for three Universities in Argentina (2008, 2009 and 2012).

José Fábrega, Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá

Dr. José Fábrega is the Director of the Hydraulics and Hydrotechnical Research Center at the Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá (UTP). He obtained his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the Santa María La Antigua University (USMA) in Panamá. He also has a M.S. in Civil Engineering and a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Purdue University. Dr. Fábrega has 14 publications in scientific journals and in 2015, he was a co-author and coordinator of the Panamanian chapter in the Book “Urban Waters Challenges of the Americas”. He is the Panamanian focal point to IANAS water group. His research experience focused in areas of Environmental and Hydrological Engineering. Professionally, he holds P.E. licenses from Panamá, Costa Rica and Indiana (US).

Elias Fereres Castiel, University of Cordoba, Spain

Elias Fereres is a Professor in the School of Agricultural and Forestry Engineering, University of Córdoba, Spain, and Researcher at the Institute of Sustainable Agriculture, Scientific Research Council of Spain (IAS-CSIC). He arrived at UC

Davis in 1972, where he obtained a PhD in Ecology and worked until 1982. His area of interest is agricultural water use and management. He is Chief Editor of the journal Irrigation Science, and he is currently the president of the Royal Academy of Engineering of Spain.

Martin Forde, St. George's University

Dr. Martin Forde is a full professor in the Department of Public Health & Preventive Medicine in the School of Medicine at St. George's University in Grenada and currently serves as the Department's Acting Chair and Track Director of the Environmental and Occupational Health Track.

Alberto Garrido, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Alberto Garrido is a Professor of Agricultural and Natural Resource Economics, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid. He is also Deputy Director of the Water Observatory of the Fundación Botín.

Andrea Gerlak, International Studies Association

Andrea K. Gerlak is Director of Academic Development with the International Studies Association at the University of Connecticut and Senior Policy Scholar with the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at the University of Arizona. Her research agenda examines the causes of -- and innovative solutions to -- some of our world's most pressing water problems. She studies cooperation and conflict in water governance, including questions of institutional change and adaptation to climate change in rivers, basins, and human rights and equity issues. Presently, Dr. Gerlak is a collaborator on a number of interdisciplinary research projects, including a climate change adaptation project in the Caribbean, a hydropower and energy security project in South America, and a study of green infrastructure in the southwestern United States.

Joan Girona, Generalitat de Catalunya

Joan Girona is interested in plant-water-relation, plant-crop-orchard water requirements, and vegetative control through deficit irrigation in orchard and field crop plants. His interests further include how to use reduced amounts of water in the best efficient way and how to optimize irrigation scheduling, how to industrialize knowledge in order to facilitate grower implementation and how to upgrade these technology to the irrigation district level in order to improve water use efficiency. He is an expert in water relations in fruit trees and grapevines. His major goal has been to development of RDI (Regulated Deficit Irrigation) practices. Girona has been a researcher at IRTA since 1983. He is currently General Director of Food, Agro-Food Industries and Quality, at the Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food Department. Generalitat de Catalunya

Peter Gleick, Pacific Institute

Dr. Peter Gleick is President and co-founder of the Pacific Institute, a global water thinktank in Oakland. He is a hydroclimatologist and works extensively on finding and advancing solutions to the world's water problems. He is a member of the US National Academy of Sciences.

Julia Guardia, The Institute of Water Supplies and Sewer Systems of Panama

Sra. Julia Guardia holds a B.S. degree in civil engineering and M.S. degrees in both sanitary engineering and business administration. She has substantial experience as a consultant on both water supply and sanitation issues. In recent years, she was appointed by the President of the Republic of Panama as Executive Director of the National Institute of Aqueducts and Sewages (IDAAN). In this capacity, she is responsible for the provision and management of urban water supply and sanitation services for Panama City and other urban centers in Panama.

Jefferson Hall, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

Dr. Jefferson Hall is a Staff Scientist at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) and the Director of the Agua Salud Project (<http://www.ctfs.si.edu/aguasalud/>). A major research focus is on understanding the flow of goods and services provided by tropical forests and how they change with land use and climate change. His research projects include multidisciplinary teams of foresters, ecologists, hydrologists, economists, social scientists as well as educators involved in leadership training. He is the lead editor and author on a recently released watershed white paper “Managing Watersheds for Ecosystem Services in the Steepland Neotropics” (<http://dx.doi.org/10.18235/0000163>). Prior to joining the staff at STRI Dr. Hall worked for 20 years on different aspects of conservation and development in Central Africa.

Zakri Abdul Hamid, Prime Minister’s Office, Malaysia

Professor Zakri Hamid’s research and focus on genetics, biodiversity and biplomacy has earned him distinction nationally in Malaysia as well as internationally. In 2012, he was appointed as Chairman of Biotech Corps by the Prime Minister of Malaysia. Also, he currently serves as the Science Advisor to the Prime Minister. He was elected the founding Chairman of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and also appointed as joint Secretary of the Global Science and Innovation Council, chaired by the Prime Minister. Professor Hamid is a member of the Academy of Sciences of Malaysia; the Academy of Sciences of the Developing World; the Islamic World Academy of Sciences; and the World Academy of Art and Science. In 2014, he was the recipient of the prestigious environmental prize, the Zayed International Prize for the Environment for Scientific and Technological Achievement.

Mohamed Hassan, InterAcademy Partnership (IAP)

Professor Hassan is Co-Chair of the Global Network of Science Academies (IAP) and Chairman of the UNU Council. He was founding Executive Director of TWAS and President of the African Academy of Science.

Pieter Heyns, Heyns International Water Consultancy

Pieter Heyns is a professional civil engineer and transboundary water management consultant. He is the past Head of the Department of Water Affairs in Namibia. He has degrees in science and water engineering from the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa. He served as a Commissioner in five water commissions on the border rivers of Namibia. He is also a fellow of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering and associate of the Desert Research Foundation of Namibia. He chaired the Water Resources Technical Committee of the Water Division of the Southern African Development Community and is a member of the first Steering Committee of the Global Water Partnership and the World Bank Advisory Group on Water Resource Management in Africa. He has published 20+ papers, wrote numerous articles, made contributions to several books and edited publications on water matters.

Glenda Humiston, University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Dr. Glenda Humiston became Vice President of UC’s Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources in August 2015. Humiston brings over 25 years of experience working on public policy development and program implementation supporting sustainability; prior experience includes service as a Peace Corps volunteer in Tunisia and several years as a consultant on environmental and agricultural issues throughout the western states. Prior to her current position, she served President Obama 2009 – 2015 as the California State Director for USDA’s Rural Development programs. From 1998 – 2001 she served President Clinton as Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment at USDA. Glenda managed the Sustainable Development Institute at the 2002 World Summit for Sustainable Development in South Africa and the 2006 World Water Forum in Mexico City. Humiston earned her Ph.D. from U.C. Berkeley in Environmental Science, Policy and Management; a Master’s in International Agricultural Development from U.C. Davis and a Bachelor’s degree in Animal Science from Colorado State University.

Helen M. Ingram, University of California, Irvine

Helen Ingram is a member of the executive committee and this is her 4th time attending the forum. She is a long-time researcher of water resources, specializing in issues of politics and equity.

Karin Kemper, The World Bank Group

Karin Kemper is the Senior Regional Advisor in the Office of the Vice President of the Latin America and Caribbean Region of the World Bank, focusing on infrastructure, sustainability and region-specific policy dialogs. Prior to this appointment, she was the Director of Climate Policy and Finance at the World Bank and also held management positions in South Asia and LAC. She has published extensively on the economics of water resources management and has led studies on natural resources and environmental management worldwide. She holds a Ph.D. in Water and Environmental Studies and a B.Sc. in International Business Administration and Economics from Linköping University in Sweden.

Matthew C. Larsen, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

Matthew C. Larsen is the Director of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, a unit of the Smithsonian Institution, located in Panama. The Institute, with 400 employees and an annual budget of \$40 million, furthers the understanding of tropical nature and its importance to human welfare, trains students to conduct research in the tropics and promotes understanding of present and past biological diversity. Larsen's 80+ publications are in the fields of natural hazards, water resources, climate change, and marine geology.

Trinh Thi Long, World Wide Fund for Nature Vietnam

Dr. Trinh Thi Long has worked for the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Vietnam as the Mekong Delta Landscape Manager, who plays the leading role in the planning, coordination and management of the WWF effort to conserve Vietnam's Mekong Delta Landscape and is responsible for all aspects of this work, including the planning, management, financial and administrative aspects of the landscape programme, who organizes project execution consistent with programme objectives engaging national counterparts and building reputation for quality design and reliable delivery.

Rodrigo Maia, UPORTO-FEUP

Rodrigo Maia has a PhD in Civil Engineering from the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Porto (FEUP). He is an Associate Professor (AP) at FEUP, an affiliate AP at Colorado State University, the Vice-President of EWRA (European Water Resources Association), and an EU research evaluation expert. He is the Research Project coordinator on: water resources management with emphasis on extreme events; fluid mechanics and its applications to channel flows. He is involved in studies and research on international rivers basins, namely of the Iberian Peninsula. He is the Research Group coordinator in several national and international projects, namely FP5, FP6 and FP7 EU Projects. He is also involved in the creation of a Drought Early Warning Management System for the Portuguese National Water Authority. Currently Maia is supervising 6 PhD Thesis and several MSc Thesis. He is also Author/co-author of 6 chapters in books with 80 publications in international periodicals with referee and papers in conference proceedings.

Ney Maranhão, Agência Nacional de Águas

Ney Maranhão is a geologist with a Civil Engineering DSc. He is specialized in water resources managing. After a long carrier on private sector dealing with engineer infrastructure projects, he joined Brazilian National Water Agency in 2006 as Superintendent of Water Planning. He also had worked as National Secretary of Water Resources and Urban Environment in the Ministry of the Environment. Nowadays, he has a mandate as a Director in Brazilian National Water Agency.

Jose Marengo, CEMADEN

Jose A. Marengo is Chief Research Scientist from CEMADEN, the reference center on natural disasters and climate risk. He participates in the IPCC AR4 as Lead Author for the IPCC SREX and Coordinating Lead Author of the Fifth Assessment Report AR5 WG2. He is a professor at the Post Graduate Programs in Meteorology and Earth System Sciences at the National Institute for Space Research. He is author of more than 300 publications from papers to books and book chapters and reports.

Kenneth Matthews, Australian Academy of Technological Sciences

Ken Matthews is the former Chair and CEO of the Australian National Water Commission. Previous appointments include Secretary (CEO) of the Australian Federal Agriculture Department and of the Federal Transport Department.

James McPhee, Universidad de Chile

James McPhee is a Civil Engineer and Hydrologist. He has been a Professor at Universidad de Chile since 2005. His main areas of interest include snow and glacier hydrology, and environmental modeling.

Abdelfattah Metawie, National Water Research Center

Prof. Metawie graduated from Colorado State University, USA. He is a professor at the National Water Research Center in Egypt, an ex-chairman of Nile Water Sector Ministry of Water Resources & Irrigation Egypt, and former Vice President of IME France. He has 35 experience in field of integrated water resources management in Egypt, Africa, Middle East and other countries of the world. He published many papers in International, Regional and National conferences as well as preformed consultancy services in many Regions of the world.

Jorge Motta, Science, Technology and Innovation of Panama (SENACYT)

Dr. Jorge A. Motta served as Director of the Gorgas Memorial Research Institute. He was President of the Panamanian Academy of Medicine and Surgery, and Governor for Central America of the American College of Physicians. He was also President of the Panamanian Association for the Advancement of Science. He received the James D. Bruce Memorial Award by the American College of Physicians and was awarded the President's Global Leadership Award, which is the highest recognition the University of South Florida. Dr. Motta currently holds the position of National Secretary of Science, Technology and Innovation of Panama.

Sumant Nigam, University of Maryland

Sumant Nigam got his Ph.D. in Geophysical Fluid Dynamics from Princeton University in 1984, followed by postdoctoral work with Richard Lindzen at MIT. Sumant came to the University of Maryland in 1987, where he is Professor of Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Earth System Science. From 2000-2002, Sumant was Director of the Large-scale Dynamic Meteorology program of the National Science Foundation. Sumant's expertise is in climate dynamics, ocean-atmosphere interaction, and regional circulation and hydroclimate variability. Sumant is a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society and the Royal Meteorological Society.

John Nilson, Saskatchewan Legislature

John has served 20 years in the Saskatchewan Legislature where he has been Attorney General, Minister of Crown Investments, Minister of Health and Minister of Environment (including Water, Forestry and Climate Change) and Leader of the Opposition. He practiced law and mediation in Regina for 18 years before entering politics. He has a strong interest in showing how science and evidence-informed medicine can inform public policy. He is pleased to bring his legal and political experience to the Advisory Board of the Rosenberg International Forum on Water Policy.

Ainun Nishat, BRAC University

Ainun Nishat is currently working as Professor Emeritus, at BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh. He was a Professor of Water resources at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Dhaka over 25 years before joining IUCN and BRAC University. His areas of research interest include IWRM and ICZM practices, Adaptation to Climate Change, Trans-boundary River basin Management, etc.

Daniel Olago, University of Nairobi

Daniel Olago is Associate Professor at the Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation, and the Department of Geology, University of Nairobi. His current research interests focus on the interactions among groundwater, surface water, climate, environment and human linkages with a special focus on eastern Africa. He is the Focal Point for Water in the Kenya National Academy of Sciences.

Doug Parker, UC California Institute for Water Resources

Doug Parker is the Director of the California Institute for Water Resources and Strategic Initiative Leader for UC Agriculture and Natural Resources' Water Quality, Quantity, and Security Strategic Initiative. Previous experience includes Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maryland and Cooperative Extension Economist at UC Berkeley. Doug obtained his Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics, UC Berkeley and Bachelor's Degrees in Economics and Environmental Studies, UC Santa Barbara.

Ayman Rabi, Palestinian Hydrology Group

Ayman Rabi has MSc and PhD in water resources engineering and MBA in Business Administration. He has more than 27 years of experience in various water related issues and member of Rosenberg Advisory committee.

Silvia Rafaelli, La Plata Basin

Silvia Rafaelli is International Technical Coordinator of the GEF-Project: "A Framework for Sustainable Water Resources Management in La Plata Basin, located in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay (GEF-UNEP-OAS-CIC). She is an Argentinean Doctor in Engineering Sciences with over 25 years' experience, mainly in the topics related to hydrology and integrated water resources management.

Gabriel Roldan, Universidad Católica de Oriente

Professor Dr. Gabriel Roldan is a professor at Universidad Católica de Oriente in Rionegro, Colombia. He is also a member and Director of Publications of the Colombian Academie of Sciences. Email: grolan@une.net.co.

Richard M. Rosenberg, Bank of America (Ret.)

Richard Rosenberg is the retired Chairman and CEO of the Bank of America. Under his leadership between 1990 and 1996 the bank became the second largest in the United States and both its assets and income doubled. The Rosenberg International Forum on Water Policy originated in 1996 with an endowment gift from the Bank of America to the University of California to honor of Mr. Rosenberg. Mr. Rosenberg has had a long term interest in water resources and was credited with rallying the California business community to address the causes and impacts of the drought of 1987-1992.

R. Maria Saleth, Madras School of Economics

Prof. Saleth is currently affiliated with the Madras School of Economics, Chennai, India, after completing his assignments as the Director of Loyola Institute of Business Administration and as the Director of Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, India. Before that, he has been a Principal Researcher with the International Water Management Institute, Colombo, Sri Lanka. His area of research include Water Resources Management, Agricultural Policy, Institutional Reforms, and Impact Assessment. He has published nine books and several journal articles and

book chapters related to these areas of specialization. His current research focus is on climate change adoption from an institutional perspective.

Louis Santiago, University of California, Riverside

Professor Santiago's primary research interests are in the environmental physiology of plants, with emphasis on understanding how plant physiological processes of individual species influence ecosystem processes. He has an active interest in determining the role of plant water use in the hydraulic cycles of forested watersheds. Professor Santiago joined the Botany and Plant Sciences faculty at the University of California, Riverside in 2006 and also serves as co-director of the Facility for Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry.

David Sauchyn, University of Regina

Dr. David Sauchyn is Research Professor at the Prairie Adaptation Research Collaborative (PARC) at the University of Regina. His main research interest is the climate and hydrology of the past millennium in Canada's western interior and how knowledge of the past can inform scenarios of future climate and water supplies.

David Schindler, University of Alberta

David W. Schindler, OC, AOE, FRS, FRSC is Professor of Ecology Emeritus at the University of Alberta. He was the founding director of the Experimental Lakes Area. Schindler's research on the ecology and biogeochemistry of lakes and rivers has earned him nineteen international awards, including the first Stockholm Water Prize, the Volvo Prize, and the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement; and 36 national awards, including the NSERC Gerhard Herzberg Gold Medal for Science and Engineering.

Mordechai Shechter, University of Haifa

Mordechai Shechter is a Professor at Emeritus, University of Haifa, Israel. He has a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Iowa State University (1968). His roles include: Past Chair for the Department of Economics, Chair and Founder for the Department of Natural Resource & Environmental Management, Founder and Director of the Natural Resource & Environmental Research Center (established 1985), Past University Rector (Provost), Dean of Research, Chair for the Senior Faculty Association, President (2000-2005) at Tel-Hai Academic College in Upper Galilee, and Founding Dean (2009-2014) at the School of Sustainability Interdisciplinary Center (IDC). He was also Past Chair, Israel's National Parks and Nature Reserves Authority Council; Past Chair, Board of Directors of Haifa's Museums, and Past Head of Israel's Knowledge Hub for Climate Change Adaptation (ICCIC).

Soroosh Sorooshian, University of California, Irvine

Soroosh Sorooshian, is a Distinguished Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth System Science Departments and Director of the Center for Hydrometeorology & Remote Sensing (CHRS) in the Henry Samueli School of Engineering (HSSoE) at UC Irvine. Prior to 2003 he was a Regents Professor at the University of Arizona for 20 years and was the founding director of the \$35 million-funded NSF STC Sustainability of semi-Arid Hydrology and Riparian Areas (SAHRA). His area of expertise is Hydrometeorology, water resources systems, climate studies and application of remote sensing to earth science problems with special focus on the hydrologic cycle and water resources issues of arid and semi-arid zones.

Vo Khac Tri, Southern Institute of Water Resources Research

Dr. Tri graduated with a Diploma of Civil Engineer at Polytechniques University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in 1978. He finished Master Science at Swedish Agriculture Science University, Sweden in 1997. He received his PhD from the Southern Institute of Water Resources Research in 2002. He worked at the same Institute as Associate Professor and Researcher. Dr. Tri has more than 35 years' experience in Water resources management and is the author of over 30 scientific publications and conference papers.

Fernando Urquidi, Academia de Ciencias de Bolivia

Fernando Urquidi is a Geologist with a Ph.D. in Applied Geochemistry. He is also a Full Member of the Bolivian Academy of Science Expert in underground water.

Katherine Vammen, University of Central America, Managua

Katherine Vammen has a PhD with a specialty in biochemistry and microbiology of water from the University of Salzburg (Paris Lodron), Austria. She is the IANAS Water Programme Co-Chair. She is also a Specialist in water quality and water resource management. Presently she is a member of the research staff at the University of the Central American University (UCA) in Managua, Nicaragua. She was a former Deputy Director of the Nicaraguan Research Center for Water Resources (CIRA/UNAN). She was the founder of the Central American Regional Master's Program in Water Sciences and National Focal Point for Nicaragua in the Inter-American Network of Academies of Sciences (IANAS) Water Program. She is also the Co-editor of Urban Waters Challenges in the Americas, IANAS.

Carlos Vargas, Panama Canal Authority

Carlos Vargas is Executive Vice President for Water, Environment and Energy of the Panama Canal Authority. His work experience as a manager of the Panama Canal began in 1980 when he was one of the Panamanians hired during the Canal transition from U.S. ownership to Panamanian ownership. He was trained as a hydrologist and holds a Master's in civil and environmental engineering from Cornell University.

Henry Vaux, Jr., UC ANR, Rosenberg International Forum on Water Policy

Henry Vaux, Jr. is the Founding Chair of the Rosenberg International Forum on Water Policy. He is Professor Emeritus of Resource Economics at the University of California, Riverside and also Associate Vice President Emeritus of the University of California System where he served as the Chief Operating Officer for all of the University's programs in agriculture and natural resources. He was formerly Director of the University of California Water Resources Center. Vaux is a National Associate of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. He served as Chair of the Water Science and Technology Board of the National Research Council and is currently the U.S. representative to the Water Committee of the InterAmerican Network of Academies of Science (IANAS).

Chunmiao Zheng, Peking University

Chunmiao Zheng currently holds the position of Chair Professor and Dean of the School of Environmental Science and Engineering at the South University of Science and Technology in Shenzhen, China. He has also been Chair Professor and Director of the Institute of Water Sciences at Peking University, and the George Lindahl III Endowed Professor of Hydrogeology at the University of Alabama. The primary areas of his academic research are contaminant transport in the subsurface, groundwater management, and ecohydrological processes in large watersheds. Among the numerous honors and awards he has received, Zheng is the recipient of the O.E. Meinzer award from the Geological Society of America and the M. King Hubbert award from the National Ground Water Association, both in 2013. Zheng holds a Ph.D. degree in hydrogeology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Moneef Zou'bi, Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS)

Dr Moneef R. Zou'bi has been a researcher in Science and Technology Studies for over 25 years. Born in Amman, Jordan, he studied for his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in Civil Engineering Technology and Management at Brighton and Loughborough Universities in the United Kingdom, 1980 - 1987. After becoming engrossed in global development issues, he decided to do post-graduate work at the Department of Science and Technology Studies at the University of Malaya. He was appointed as Director General of the Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS) by the IAS Council in May 1998. Over the last three decades he has been involved in scientific missions in more than 30 countries, undertook some consultancy work for the UNESCO, as well as an advisory role on water issues for the InterAction Council. Since the mid-1990s, he has devoted all his energies to science advocacy at all levels, and to

promoting the role of academies of sciences as agents of change engaged in bridging scientific and technological, development, and even political divides between countries, cultures and civilizations.