

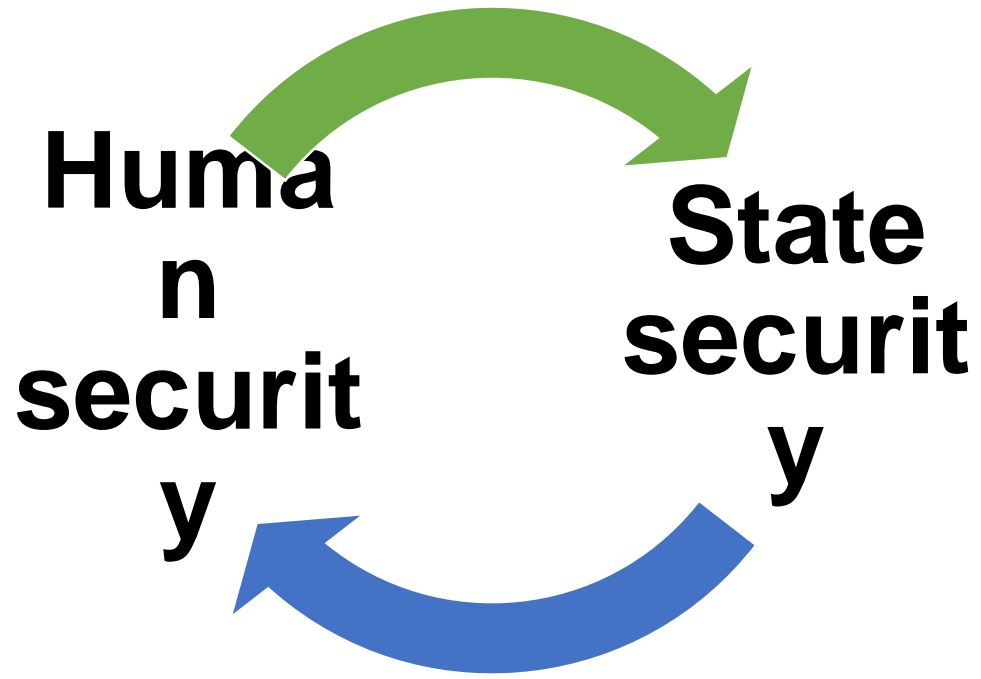
Water resource challenges as a global security challenge: Perspectives from the security community

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Understanding security



Water wars?

- **Armed Conflict** - active if there are at least 25 battle-related deaths per calendar year
- **War** - conflict with at least **1000 battle-related deaths** per calendar year

*Collarates of War Project (COW)/Uppsala
Conflict Data Program*

Causes of Armed Conflicts - conflict indicators

- Source of incompatibility (territory/government/both)
- Unequal distribution of resources (governance issues)
- Lack of inclusivity and marginalization
- Weak institutions, political stability, rule of law indicators

Views from the security community - I.

- **China's National Defense in 2008** - climate change and related security risks mentioned for the first time, concerns over its impact on national security
- **Intelligence Community Assessment on Global Water Security (2012)** - released at the request of the U.S. State Department

Views from the security community - II.


- **The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) - Science and Technology Committee (STC)** has underlined that natural resource constraints should be a concern for the transatlantic community - *Food and Water Security in the Middle East and North Africa* (Special Report, October 2017)
- **Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC)** - partnership/platform - UNEP, UNDP, OSCE, UNECE, REC



Zoom in: Mindanao, the Philippines

- The role of natural resources in the conflict/peace process
- Rich in natural resources (up to 1 trillion USD) - minerals, natural gas and oil deposits (Liguasan Marsh - bird sanctuary)
- Control over natural resources included in different peace agreement (Moro-Government)
- High poverty in resource-rich areas





Over- securitization of the water world?

- **Shor-term perspective** - cooperation between the security sector and development/technical side is necessary to deliver humanitarian assistance, aid, and support reconstruction in areas affected by armed conflicts
- **Long-term perspective** - inclusive approach in finding solutions to long-term security threats - including how to support volatile regions affected by climate change and water scarcity

**“Peace is 10% agreement and 90%
implementation.”**

Irene Santiago, Mindanao, the Philippines



Thank you/Tack
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