



EYE ON ASIA: “Water – Taking actions for a water secure Asia

Speakers & Panelist for Panel Discussion: *What can be done about water security?* Moderated by Mr. Ravi Narayan, Chairman, Governing Council, APWF. Panelists: Dr. Arun Shrestha, Louise Whiting, Stuart Orr, Eelco van Beek

9:45 Climate change and water resources in the Himalayas

Dr. Arun Shrestha, ICIMOD

Dr Arun Bhakta Shrestha is a Senior Climate Change Specialist and Programme Manager for Regional Programmes – River Basins and Cryosphere and Atmosphere. He has a PhD in Earth Sciences from the University of New Hampshire, USA, and a Master's degree in Hydraulic Engineering from Minsk, former USSR. Before joining ICIMOD, Dr Shrestha worked for the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, Nepal. His main areas of expertise include climate change, glaciers and glacial hazards, glacial lake risk mitigation, atmospheric environment, and hydrological modelling. Dr Shrestha in the scientific team for the preparation of the First National Communication of Nepal to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).



9:50 Securing international climate finance to enhance water security – Lessons from Bangladesh

Ms. Louise Whiting, WaterAid

Louise is WaterAid's Senior Policy Analyst for water security and climate change in London. She focuses on WASH sector engagement in water resources management and also works with WaterAid country programmes across Africa and Asia to engage in climate change policy development, climate finance tracking and advocacy. Louise previously worked for the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific where she worked on a range of water governance, irrigation and food security issues. Prior to this Louise advised the Minister for Water in Australia throughout the Murray-Darling Basin reform period.





9:55 Water risks in Eastern Himalayas and the Role of Private Sector

Stuart Orr, WWF International

Stuart has been with WWF since 2006 and works with the private sector on a range of water related activities, from water footprint to public policy engagement. Stuart has published numerous papers on water measurement, agricultural policy and water-related risk, and is currently co-drafting policy guidelines for the private sector as part of the UN CEO Water Mandate. Stuart has also recently joined the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council for water.

Stuart holds an MSc in Environment and Development from the School of International Development at the University of East Anglia and is currently based in Switzerland where he works at WWF-International as a Manager in the Freshwater Team.



Eelco van Beek

Consultant River Basin Development

Eelco van Beek has been actively involved in many water resources development projects in the Netherlands and abroad, ranging from projects with emphasis on long-term planning to real-time operation, from projects aimed at pre-feasibility studies to detailed water management projects, and from integrated studies (water quantity, water quality, ecology, economics, socio-economics and institutional aspects) to single-aspect studies.

Besides his position at UNESCO-IHE he works as water resources management specialist at Deltares where he is leading two multi-party research projects: (1) fresh water supply in delta areas under climate change and (2) perspectives in water management, aiming to integrate social/institutional and technical aspects in decision making under uncertainty.

