

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**on**

**Water Resources of Arid and Semi-Arid Regions of Africa (WRASRA):**

*Issues and Challenges*

3 - 7 August, 2003

***Announcement and call for papers***

***Gaborone, Botswana***

## Conference sub-themes

The conference covers a wide range of themes:

**Theme A:** Water policy and legislation for national and international water systems in Africa and beyond

**Theme B:** Research and development issues and human resources and capacity building in the water industry

**Theme C:** Integrated water resources management, partnerships and finance for building sustainability in the regional and international waters

**Theme D:** Application of geophysical, GIS and remote sensing techniques in exploration, development and management of water

**Theme E:** Climate change and its impact on hydrogeology, water resources, carbon and environmental systems

**Theme F:** Vulnerability and risk assessment and development of water-related risk-mitigating activities

**Theme G:** Surface and groundwater hydrology, groundwater recharge, water quality, biogeochemistry, agrohydrology, wetlands and related ecosystems

**Theme H:** Mining, irrigation, hydropower, and domestic uses of water

**Theme I:** Water development, environmental and socio-economic issues

## Background

Water plays a key role in the development of world societies and a sustainable use of this resource is of utmost importance. Africa's water resources are threatened by the increasing population trend with the resultant increase in water demand, the stresses of water use for various activities, desertification, global warming and climate change, and other interventions in the water cycle by man. These effects are more pronounced in the Arid and Semi-Arid regions of the world and especially in Africa. It is therefore vitally important that the water resources in Arid and Semi-Arid regions are developed and managed in a sustainable and integrated manner.

Integrated management of the water resources in the arid and semi-arid regions of Africa requires the whole spectrum of efforts from local and community stakeholders to national and transboundary river basin management. This conference thus aims at sharing the best practices of water use and conservation around the globe.

There are no magic solutions in sustaining water supplies, as neither market forces, military might, mega-projects nor money alone are able to solve the world's water problems. On top of the technical problems the social aspect of the problem should be integrated along with conservation and community initiatives to solve the root problems of water scarcity, which otherwise may incur immense human cost.

The conference is expected to address the future water stress due to limited water resources, population growth, increasing demand and pollution and other related risks, resulting in insufficient water supply. The conference will also foster insights on issues of global sustainable development and set concrete targets to meet the need for drinking water and sanitation.

## Submission schedule

20 February 2003– Submission of abstracts  
20 March 2003– Notification of accepted abstracts  
20 April 2003 – Submission of full paper for review  
10 June 2003 – Submission of final papers  
10 July 2003 – Notification of accepted papers

## Conference Contacts

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# Registration

Please, complete and return this form to conference organising committee by mail, fax or e-mail.

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to present a paper  
\_\_\_\_ Yes, \_\_\_\_ No

Preferred mode of presentation:

Oral\_\_ Poster\_\_ Software\_\_ Product Demo\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_