AGWA’s Tenth Annual Members Meetings
Zoom online conferencing (virtual)

- Thursday, 20 Aug. from 12:00 – 1:30 a.m. UTC
- Monday, 31 Aug. at 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. UTC


8/20/2020 – AGM 1

Participants: John Matthews (AGWA), Alex Mauroner (AGWA), Ingrid Timboe (AGWA), Kari Davis (AGWA), Johan Grijsen (independent consultant), Paul Fleming (Microsoft), Robin Miller (Ceres), Will Logan (ICIWaRM), Louise Whiting (FAO), Joe Manous (USACE IWR), Homero Paltán (World Bank)

- JM: Welcomes everyone on call, explains why we are having two calls, gives thanks that AGWA exists and still exists 10 years later, talking about how thankful he is to do what we do and work in what we do, AGWA is the network and it is the network’s footprint that it is enormous
- JM: As terrible as COVID is, it has helped us because it is making it clear that resilience comes from systems. Resilience is now more in the common lexicon than ever before
  - Big resilience – how we align these types of resilience under this common approach
- Introductions of people on calls
- JM: Talking about the business items
  - SAC – introduces SAC members
  - Board – Acknowledgement for Cees’s service on the board, Changes to the board
    - Black Lives Matter prompted a conversation about diversity on the Board.
    - Option that we came to was to add 2 seats to the board.
    - Brief background of board member candidates, and sharing of bios
      - Think about the nominees and how they increase the mission of AGWA and beyond
- AM: General state of AGWA network
  - Growth this year, now just shy of 2000 members
  - 501(c)(3) status achieved
  - Changes to the secretariat – Kari (joining), Nureen (leaving)
  - Mailing list, social media growth
  - Prior to COVID, we were part of a number of events. Now we are more online.
- AM: Technical programs
  - BUA to adaptation – CRIDA, Adaptation academy, Webinars on BUA
  - ClimateReady podcast
  - Resilient WASH
  - Thematic and regional communities of practice
- IT: Policy programs
  - UNFCCC Marrakesh partnership – water focal point
  - Adaptation Academy
  - Working with development banks
  - Lots of other types of events
  - Publications around the COP
  - COP – Participated in/coordinated 18 events. Wow!
After COP, reflected on the value of the Marrakesh Partnership
  - Ingrid is no longer the main focal point
  - The new co-focal points are from the AGWA network
Ingrid has been more focused on developing reports and webinars

**JM: The future**
- Overview of three thematic areas
  - CC relevance for the private sector: water centric, not fresh water, framing of the issue
    - Workshop at Microsoft (Redmond)
  - Policy and best practices/policy and capacity building
  - Resilient infrastructure

**Breakout groups – resilience infrastructure**
- AM: New project with the Resilience Shift – we are a leading voice for water
- AM: International Coalition for Sustainable Infrastructure (ICSI)
- AM: Asks the group for feedback of additional groups we should be working with
  - Will: Are you talking about green infrastructure or greener-grey infrastructure?
  - AM: Both, we want to mainstream and operationalize it. Mentioned the ADB project and how we are mainstreaming green and grey
- KD: Outlines two existing ADB projects, PI’s CW
- AM: We are thinking about both interconnectedness and flexibility when we think of resilience.
  - How to we move from single to multi-purpose infrastructure?
- Homero: Need to define the ultimate purpose of infrastructure. There are several stages/phases of infrastructure. Is it to deliver a service? Or do we need to think more broadly, and think about more types of services – societal gains (equity, economic), institutional, country level gains, sustainable development goals, food security, water security. Need to understand the purpose of infrastructure beyond just providing water services
- AM: Yes, and this highlights the need to multi-purpose benefits to infrastructure. Need to think about the co-benefits as well.
  - In light of this global economic downturn, even greater need to maximize what we do with limited financial resources.
- Johan: I look at this practical. A lot of money in the WB is spent on limited projects (e.g., a dam). In such kind of projects, there is a need for simplicity and to do things quick. It is too difficult for practitioners to incorporate these bottom-up approaches (BUA) sometimes.
  - Need to make these BUA approaches easy to understand for practitioners.
  - Looking for examples of how things will be affected by climate change.
  - Would love some simple examples of CRIDA, but simplified/clear case studies. Lots of clients don’t have the money, or don’t want to spend it. Find a way to easily incorporate
- AM: Yes, we need to find a way to make it easier for practitioners to incorporate BUA, green infrastructure, NBS

Back to main session
• AM: Wrap up of resilient infrastructure group
• JM: Wrap up of private sector resilience
  • Reports do not equal action on an issue

• Final thoughts
  • Will: We are stuck at 80% completion on special issue in water policy on making grey a little greener. Capturing engineering standards to incorporate uncertainty.
  • Will: CRIDA has a Spanish translation! It is almost done and will get distributed
  • Will: USAID is tied up with CRIDA in South Africa. They had a report, and it was “all” CRIDA.
  • Will: UNESCO is putting together 8-year strategic plan. Looking “very friendly” toward CRIDA, water governance based on science, sustainable water management (IHP 9)
    • The water management part is strengthening

• JM: Thanks for joining!
Participants: John Matthews (AGWA), Alex Mauroner (AGWA), Ingrid Timboe (AGWA), Kari Davis (AGWA), Kathryn Pharr (AGWA), Maggie White (SIWI), Adrian Sym (Alliance for Water Stewardship), Sonja Koeppel (UNECE Water Convention), Belynda Petrie (OneWorld Sustainable Investments), Dieter Rothenberger (GIZ), Thandie Mwape Villadsen (Partners for Resilience), Pallavi Bharadwaj (Gravity Water), Robert Kranefeld (GIZ), Monica Altamirano (Deltaires), Aparna Sridhar (TNC), Kelsey Harpam (International Center for Environmental Mgmt), Islam ul Haque (Ecological Sustainability), Joppe Cramwinckel (independent consultant), Pradeep Mohapatra (UDYAMA), Jos Timmerman (independent consultant), Casey Brown (UMass Amherst), Hanna Plotnykova (UNECE Water Convention), Nate Matthews (Global Resilience Partnership), Flavia Rocha Loures (environmental lawyer), Niels Vlaanderen (NL Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Mgmt), Harm Duel (Deltaires), Erin Huber (Drink Local, Drink Tap), Andy Roby (FCDO), Ian Harrison (CI), Jonathan Kaledin (11th Avenue Strategies), Jason Fairbairn (Arup), James Dalton (IUCN)

- JM: introductions
- Maggie White: Welcoming comments
  - Maggie mentioned the policy and technical aspects for AGWA. Alex and John have done technical.
  - Private sector work is being expanded.
  - Push toward the private sector, in COPs too
  - Look more at the whole supply value change
  - Resilience and water – no one was talking about it a few years ago, but now people are
- Group introductions
- JM:
  - We don’t exist to create information, but to share information
  - Powerful role for us to play
- Interventions from a few members
  - Dieter Rosenberger (GIZ)
  - Niels Vlaanderen (Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, the Netherlands)
  - Seth Shultz (Resilience Shift)
    - “21st century leadership is partnership”
  - Andy Roby (DFID)
    - “smart and nice people”
    - “highly responsive”
- Break out group, resilient infrastructure
  - Alex asked people if there was anything that was interesting to people
    - Pradeep: Resilient infrastructure is important or otherwise will have loss of life and loss of economy. Focus on ecosystems is also needed — maximize the benefits and minimize the loss. Benefits to common people first, help support people and planet together. Needed to save lives.
    - Alex: DRR, Mix of hard and soft infrastructure. Another key theme of AGWA is green infrastructure and nature-based solutions
    - Aparna: NBS – perhaps something interesting with work that CI is doing.
    - Development finance institutions, project design; water supply delivery and
wastewater infrastructure – how are the 2 working groups for policy and tech coordinating with resilient infrastructure?; government actors and institutions

- Could be opportunities with funding of NBS and water
- Alex: work with engineers directly. Need to look at how projects are funded and financed. We have done this a bit with climate bonds and developing standards, work with MDBs, etc.

- Erin Huber: Have you worked with US Water Alliance? Water equity task force. A lot of their recent work has been about flooding, poorer neighborhoods in US Midwest cities.
  - Alex: We can look into reconnecting with US Water Alliance
- Nathanial Matthews: Look at Center for Complex Systems at Stellenbosch University. They put out a guide for resilient infrastructure earlier this year.
- Monica Altamirano: Would be good to have a listening session to see what types of needs people have on this topic

- JM: Final thoughts and meeting closure