



**Monday , 12 March, 2012**

**Time : 7:15-8:15pm**

**Room : PEu 4 - Europa 4 > Palais de l'Europe**

**Side Event**

## **GROUNDWATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE WITH A FOCUS ON MEDITERRANEAN COASTAL AQUIFERS**

Coordinator: UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP)

### **Background and Objective:**

Climate change is modifying the hydrological cycle and affecting the quantity and quality of global freshwater resources. Understanding the effects of climate variability on groundwater has particular relevance for management decisions during drought and in areas where surface waters are nearing the limits of sustainability. In the Mediterranean coastal aquifers are of particular importance. These generally secure water supplies are increasingly threatened by depletion and quality degradation from saltwater intrusion and land-based pollution. This side event focuses on two programmes of UNESCO-IHP; Groundwater and Climate Change (GRAPHIC) and the component on “Management of Coastal Aquifers” of the GEF MedPartnership.

A panel of international experts will raise attention for the importance of considering the effects of climate change on groundwater in water resources management and discuss possibilities for using groundwater as adaptation measure to climate change. Best practices and case studies of coastal aquifer management in the Mediterranean will be also presented and discussed in the session. The side event will also feature the launch of the book publication “Climate Change Effects on Groundwater Resources – A Global Synthesis of Findings and Recommendations” that presents results from a global set of GRAPHIC case studies and derived management and policy recommendations.

### **Programme:**

Facilitated by : Holger Treidel and Jose Luis Martin-Bordes, UNESCO International Hydrological Programme

#### **Climate Change Effects on Groundwater Resources (GRAPHIC)**

- UNESCO's GRAPHIC Project: Improving knowledge and awareness of Climate Change Effects on Groundwater. Holger Treidel, UNESCO-IHP
- Launching the GRAPHIC Book: Key findings and recommendations derived from case studies. Jason Gurdak, San Francisco State University
- GRAPHIC Case Study - Groundwater Resources increase in the Iullemmeden Basin. Guillaume Favreau, IRD

#### **Coastal Aquifer Management and Groundwater in the Mediterranean (MedPartnership)**

- Introduction by Mrs. Danièle Milon, Mayor of the City of Cassis
- Technical and Management Recommendations for Coastal Aquifer Management in the Mediterranean, Jacques Ganoulis, UNESCO Chair INWEB
- Integration of Coastal Zone Management and Coastal Aquifers Management, Zeljka Skaricic, PAP/RAC
- UNESCO-IHP MedPartnership Case Study – The Coastal Aquifer of Bou Areg and the Nador Lagoon (Morocco), Viviana Re, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

**Partners:** San Francisco State University, Australian National University, UNEP/MAP, PAP/RAC, Mairie de Cassis, Association Gemisc Rivière Mystérieuse

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