

Call for communications



Symposium Water Management in Semi-Arid Areas, Tools, Global Changes (GESOC)

**Marrakesh, Morocco
November 7-10, 2022**



Context of the event

In many semi-arid areas, particularly in the Mediterranean, strong tensions over water resources generate conflicts of use and impact the economy. These crises result from the scarcity of water resources combined with an increase in consumption and needs, often linked to the development of irrigated agriculture in recent decades. Moreover, all projections indicate that this situation is likely to worsen under the impact of climate change. In this context, a good understanding of the hydrological processes at work in these regions, of the role of the different actors involved and of the farmer's practices is an essential prerequisite for ensuring informed management of water resources and uses.

The aim of this conference is to discuss the scientific approaches developed to date by the international community on the subject of water in the Maghreb and in semi-arid areas in general. Emphasis will be placed on innovative approaches mobilising field experiments, spatial remote sensing and biophysical modelling. We also wish to promote dialogue with institutional stakeholders and farmers in order to jointly propose innovative and acceptable solutions and tools for better resource management.

Topics

The framework of the conference will be the hydrology of semi-arid zones, with a focus on physical resource/use approaches, with a view to the impact of global changes. Work emphasising the contribution of satellite remote sensing will be favoured, without restricting ourselves to it. Studies on the social management of water are also expected if they make the link with more physical problems, in the framework of multidisciplinary approaches.

The scientific themes addressed will include:

- Characterisation and quantification of water resources (snow cover, surface water and aquifer dynamics)

- Characterisation of agricultural uses and practices, in particular for irrigated agriculture
- Impact of extreme events and hydrological risks
- Methodological developments for satellite monitoring of the water status of surfaces, from the agricultural plot to the regional scale
- Integrated resource management and social management of water
- Anthropogenic impact on the hydrological cycle, including its atmospheric component

The following cross-cutting themes will be favoured for all these topics: spatial remote sensing, impact of climate change, multidisciplinary approaches, management support tools, social water management, sustainability.

The last day of the conference (10 November) will be devoted to a field trip to the Haouz plain and the High Atlas of Marrakech.

Abstract submission

Authors are invited to submit an abstract of maximum 500 words on the conference website according to the proposed template, for oral or poster presentation. Extended abstracts will be requested for all selected papers and will be distributed to all participants. Authors may also propose an article for the special issue of *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences* journal (HESS): "Hydrological changes in the Mediterranean: Observation and modelling".

Key dates

- **May 15, 2022** : Deadline for abstract submission (500 words)
- **June 15, 2022** : Notification of acceptance
- **August 30, 2022** : Deadline for extended abstracts submission (2 to 4 pages).
- **September 15, 2022** : Deadline for registration



Registration

A registration fee may be charged for access to the room, lunch, coffee break and excursion, in which case the amount will be limited, consistent with the Southern context of the event. This information will be provided prior to the submission of extended abstracts.

Students will be able to apply for accommodation costs when submitting extended abstracts.

Venue

Marrakech is easily accessible by air and offers a wide range of accommodation for all budgets, a list of hotels will be provided to participants. The city and its region offer many possibilities for visits and excursions.

The languages of the conference are French and English. Simultaneous translation will be provided.



Organizing committee

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- Centre d'Etudes Spatiales de la Biosphère (CESBIO, Toulouse, France)
- HydroSciences Montpellier (HSM, Montpellier, France)
- Université Mohamed VI Polytechnique (UM6P, Benguerir, Morocco)
- Agence de Bassin Hydraulique du Tensift (ABHT, Marrakech, Morocco)
- Office Régional de Mise en Valeur Agricole du Haouz (ORMVAH, Marrakech, Morocco)

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Web site:

<https://gesoc2022.sciencesconf.org>