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Human and Social Right of Water

- 1. Water is life: basic human right: 40-50l/pers. for survival
- 2. Water gives services: social right
- 3. Water is business: economic right: 70% of extracted and river water is used for business
- 4. Lack of water: affects health, environment, social organization, economic development, psychological factors, violence and conflicts
- 5. MDG: reduce to half people without safe water: 80% of all illnesses
 - 1.1 billion without water; 2.4 billion without sanitation
 - 4 billion people with diarrhea; 10% of people in the South infected by parasites
 - 6 million blind (trachoma)
 - 200 million esquistosomiasis (20 million severe ill)
 - 10 million with arsenic pollution due to overexploitation of aquifers???
 - 50% of rural areas in poor countries missing safe water and sanitation
 - Slum dwellers missing safe water and sanitation
- 6. Obligation of industrialized countries:
 - Investments, transfer of technologies, advice, long term investments
- 7. Obligation of poor countries:
 - Descentralization of water management, clean hands, hygienic education, middle-term plans, efficient administration, clear priorities, just tariff system, adapted technology, development and maintenance of water supply system, gender sensitivity, combating corruption

2. Environmental Needs

Social

relations

Security

Supporting

Services needed for the production of all other ecosystem services (e.g. nutrient cycling)

Material minimum

Provisioning

Food - Freshwater - Wood, woodhur Products obtained from ecosystems (e.g. food and water)

➤ Health

Freedom and choice

HUMAN WELL-BEING

Non-material benefits obtained from ecosystems (e.g. cultural heritage)

Cultural

Regulating

Benefits obtained from regulation of ecosystems (e.g. climate regulation and water purification)

Climate regulatio

Ecosystem Services as Food and Health Providers

- Water is vital for the life and health of people and ecosystems
- 15 out of 24 ecosystem services are degraded or used unsustainably
- Soil nutrient depletion, erosion, desertification
- Depletion of freshwater reserves and pollution of groundwater
- **Overfishing** is pressuring fragile soils
- Loss of tropical forest and of biodiversity reduces food availability
- **Urbanization** is diminishing the availability of land for food production.

Bio-capacity and bio-debt



3. Use of Water



A World of Salt Total Global Saltwater and Freshwater Estimates



Source: Igor A. Shiklomanov, State Hydrological Institute (SHI, St. Petersburg) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO, Paris), 1999.

Global flow of green and blue water

Flujos globales de agua verde y azul



4. Water Security: a controversial concept

- One common goal: to provide water security in the 21st Century:
 - This means ensuring that freshwater, coastal and related ecosystems are protected and improved;
 - sustainable development and political stability are promoted;
 - every person has access to enough safe water at an affordable cost to lead a healthy and productive life
 - the vulnerable are protected from the risks of water-related hazard
- Water resources are under **threat** from pollution, overexploitation, land-use changes, unsustainable use, climate change and other anthropogenic forces.
- Links between threats and poverty: the poor who are hit first and hardest (slum dwellers without basic services).
- One simple conclusion: **business as usual is not an option.**



Safe water and sanitation

Source: WHO, 2007

Inequality in water and sanitation



Mapa 1 Reservas de Agua Renovable por Año/Persona/Cuenca (1995)



Mapa 2 Proyecciones de Reservas de Agua Renovable por Año/Persona/Cuenca (2025)



5. Water Use in Agriculture Irrigated Areas



Source: WaterGAP, 2000

Potential of irrigation in the world



Fuente: FAO, 2002

Virtual Water and Food (only grains)



6. Water Stress

Kofi Annan: "Drought and desertification are threatening the well-being and livelihood of more tahn one billion people in 110 country of the world".



Freshwater stress



North Africa, Middle East, South Africa, India and Mexico are seriously affected by water stress from 1995 on. Climate change will increase water stress in Sudan, Kenya, Mauritania, China, Pakistan, Australia, Peru, Chile and some European countries.

Zones with Highest Water Stress



7. Hydro-meteorological Extreme Events/Regional and Social Vulnerability



Temblores



nuracanes iropicale





Potential Tipping Points



8. Water research in Mexico

Elaboration of a national of the scientific and technological state of art of water research, institution, business and urgent research themes





Central objectives of the research of RETAC in Mexico

The basin as a hydrological unite fro planning and development of a multisectorial, multi-institutional and multidisciplinary research an actions

Reduction of vulnerability, early warning, prevention, mitigation, adaptation

Internat/national inciatives against floods and drought

Voices of human environmental (in)segurity and social sconflicts

Construction of capacities and development of resilience Create consciousness for sustainable development with disaster risk reduction and protection against Extreme events



2. ALIMENTOS, AGRICULTURA Y BIOTECNOLOGÍA





Impact in cascade: Crops resistent to drougth



10cm of less water for irrigation in one hectare signifies a <u>reduction</u> of 1000 ma of water, suficient to offer water for 4,000 people. +Riego (-) (+)Aquifer

Relation: biotechnology, genetic, hydrology, agriculture sociology, economy, health, livelihood, poverty alleviation, etc.

9. Lessons cami: Awareness Raising

Dissemination of information on water security issues based on the scientization of water research, through cooperation with leading universities and research institutes globally.

Policy Advocacy

Epistemic community to foster cooperation & bring together science and policy making on water security issues (FAO, WHO, WMO, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO), and international workshops for systematic interchange of practical experiences for territorial governance with social cohesiveness. Proactive strategies for adjustment and mitigation to water threats.

Capacity Building

Strengthening traditional and innovative knowledge for embedding the assessment of levels of water. security into the environmental impact and risks assessment, land use planning and environmental auditing. **Training on best practices for conflict settlement** mechanisms at the sub regional and national levels. **Financing: Channelling Resources** International, climate related financial institutions (IFAD, GEF), micro credit, insurance and land use micro investments for local development programmes and, regional organizations and national donors (ministries of development cooperation and environment) to improve policies for water security.

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