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À : Hydrology Programme <ihp@unesco.org>

Cc : Nair-bedouelle, Shamila; Amani, Abou; Makarigakis, Alexandros K.; Otte, Alexander; John Matthews [Addresses deleted by the IHP Secretariat for reasons of data protection]

Objet : Comments on the 2nd-order draft of the Strategic Plan of IHP-IX

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Dear Colleagues,

Please see below for comments from and potential collaboration with AGWA:

The document is very robust and thorough with regards to water resources challenges, opportunities, and future goals. I am glad to see that including adaptation and resilience in water governance was highlighted as a priority area (Priority Area 5). An additional aspect that could be mentioned here is the role of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in supporting mitigation, adaptation, and resilience goals. It could also be worth explicitly stating the link between climate change management and disaster risk reduction, and how including climate concerns in water management could also be used to reduce disaster risk.

AGWA would be interested in continuing to collaborate with UNESCO-IHP on CRIDA (Expected Output 5.2 of Priority Area 5) and other bottom-up approaches to water management under great uncertainty. There is a continued, if not growing, need for tools for decision making under uncertainty – while it is certainly important to reduce uncertainty when possible, sometimes you cannot, and water management decisions still need to occur nevertheless. While implementation of CRIDA projects is growing worldwide, there is still work to be done on developing the technical, policy, and capacity building aspects of CRIDA. CRIDA projects can require technical capacity beyond what currently exists at project sites. By developing and supporting technical capacity building through additional training courses, workshops and/or other forms of support, UNESCO-IHP and AGWA could act to future implement CRIDA and build water resource resilience. UNESCO-IHP member countries and partners could also help to identify future opportunities for potential projects worldwide. These activities would align with Strategic Objective 2 and Outcomes 1, 2, and 3.

Warm regards,

Kari