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AN URGENT Adaptation of water management to climate change is needed

- Pour le site - Actes des conférences internationales / Papers of international conferences - 2009 - Conférence sur le réchauffement climatique -
Climate Change Conference - Conferencia sobre cambio climático -

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« Adapting to the consequences of climate change in river basins: tools for acting. »

Adapting to the consequences of climate change

Global warming now seems to be unavoidable.

One of the first consequences will be a change in the hydrological cycles.

Freshwater resources will be directly affected in the coming years, with for consequences, in particular and according to the regions:

- * changes in the intensity and frequency of floods and droughts;
- * modification of the flows of rivers coming from mountains, because of the melting of glaciers and reduction of the snow cover;
- * increased erosion caused by the modification of plant and soil cover;
- * higher plant evapotranspiration leading to changes in agricultural production, regarding irrigation in particular;
- * changes in the flows to the river mouths, as well as salt water intrusion inland and in coastal aquifers, because of the increase of sea and ocean level…

The demographic, economic and ecological consequences are likely to be very important and require a worldwide mobilization to quickly prepare the adaptation programs necessary in each river basin.

This necessary adaptation to the effects of climate change on the hydrological cycles was at the core of the work of the [8th World General Assembly of INBO](#), which was held in Dakar (Senegal) from 20 to 23 January 2010, at the invitation of the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS).

References

- [Istanbul](#) - Turkey - March 2009 – 5th WWF
- [Stockholm](#) - Sweden - August 2009 - EUROPE-INBO
- [Zhengzhou](#) - China - October 2009 – 4th IYRF
- [Beirut](#) - Lebanon - October 2009 - MENBO