

ROYAUME DU MAROC



Ministère de l'Équipement et de l'Eau
Direction Générale de l'Hydraulique



8th Edition of the King Hassan II Great World Water Prize

“ Securing water resources for food sovereignty and shared prosperity”

Communication kit

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General Presentation of the King Hassan II Great World Water Prize

Created in 2002, the Hassan II Great World Water Prize is an initiative jointly led by the Kingdom of Morocco and the World Water Council, in memory of the late HIS MAJESTY KING HASSAN II for his actions in favor of international cooperation and the preservation of water resources.

Awarded to one or more individual or legal persons of public or private law and intended to reward actions promoting the protection and preservation of water resources, the improvement of their management, the reuse of wastewater as well as raising awareness of water issues, the prize is awarded every three years at the World Water Forum, during a special ceremony held during the opening plenary session.

After Kyoto in 2003, Mexico City in 2006, Istanbul in 2009, Marseille in 2012, Daegu-Gyeongbuk in 2015, Brasilia in 2018, and Dakar 2022, the Prize will be awarded for the eighth time at the 10th World Water Forum to be held in Bali, Indonesia, from 18 to 24 May 2024.

The award winner will receive a cheque for \$500,000* as well as an international recognition and visibility.

Fez, 06 July 2023 – The Minister of Equipment and Water, Mr. Nizar Baraka, and the President of the World Water Council, Mr. Loïc Fauchon, officially launch the 8th edition of the King Hassan II Great World Water Prize, on the occasion of the 3rd International Conference on Water and Climate (06 and 07 July 2023, Fez).

Under the general theme of “Cooperation and Solidarity in the Fields of Water Resources Management and Development”, the 8th edition of the King Hassan II Great World Water Prize will have a specific theme: “Water security for food sovereignty and shared prosperity.”

This edition will reward any project, work, experience, invention, or initiative aimed at achieving water security, food sovereignty, and prosperity, through the adoption of appropriate approaches to water resources management.

As usual, the Prize will be awarded during the opening ceremony of the World Water Forum, the next one will be held in Bali, Indonesia, in May 2024. The winner will receive a \$500,000 cheque, a trophy and a certificate.

To recall that the Hassan II Great World Water Prize is an initiative jointly led by the Kingdom of Morocco and the World Water Council, in memory of the late HIS MAJESTY KING HASSAN II for his enlightened and strategic vision for the protection and integrated and sustainable management of water resources, as well as for his actions in favor of international cooperation.

Created in 2002 and awarded for the first time at the 3rd World Water Forum in Kyoto, Japan, in 2003, the Prize is awarded to one person, a group of people, an institution or organization that has made a significant contribution to the development and use of water resources, at the scientific, economic, technical, environmental, social, institutional, cultural or political levels.

The application procedures and additional information relating to the 8th edition are published on the official websites of the Ministry of Equipment and Water of the Kingdom of Morocco (<http://www.equipement.gov.ma/>) and of the World Water Council (<https://www.worldwatercouncil.org/>).

Applications will be received from **04 August 2023** via the dedicated platform: **www.hassan2gwwp.org**

The deadline for applications is **30 September 2023**.

"Securing water resources for food sovereignty and shared prosperity"

In a global context marked by uncertainty, where crises follow one another and climate change is becoming increasingly important, the challenge of water security and food sovereignty is now facing all States, particularly those in the developing world, despite the multiplicity and diversity of the programs implemented within the framework of national agricultural policies. These countries, often vulnerable to climate change, remain dependent on food imports to ensure the supply of basic food for their populations.

Recurrent droughts now represent one of the most significant impacts of climate change for arid countries, which directly impact countries whose GDP is mainly based on the agricultural sector.

Also, the pandemic crisis of COVID 19 revealed the return in strength of the theme of Sovereignty in all areas. Whether it is sanitary, energy, industrial, food, achieving the goal of food sovereignty depends on a more systemic and coordinated governance and requires more strategic and operational coordination, particularly at the territorial level.

The notion of food sovereignty, which appeared in the international arena with the declaration of Via Campesina ⁽¹⁾ on the sidelines of the 1996 World Food Summit, could be the pillar of a global public policy of food security. It is based on the recognition, for each State of the right to give itself the means to produce its own food under the conditions it chooses independently, through agricultural policies that it believes the best suitable to ensure food security.

Water is an indispensable resource and a key element not only to ensure food security, contributing to the increase of crop, animal and fishery productions, but also to end extreme poverty and promote shared prosperity. This relationship should be approached with particular attention and in a very concerted manner with all the partners involved. The common objective of the latter should make it possible to ensure equity in the use of available water resources and to find effective and innovative solutions to enhance their value in agriculture while preserving them, paying particular attention to groundwater resources.

Good management of water resources is therefore a lever for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that all signatory countries have committed to achieve by

2030, whether in terms of access to drinking water, food, health, and to prosperity. Thus, sustainable economic growth with less poverty will be possible.

The candidacy for the 8th edition of the King Hassan II Great World Water Prize is open to any project, work, innovative experience of development, or initiative aimed at the achievement of food security and sovereignty, through appropriate approaches to water resources management. This involves targeting specific objectives and providing answers to problems, including:

- How should water resources be managed to ensure water security, in favour of food sovereignty?
- How to promote and implement the sustainable management of water resources, particularly groundwater resources, for the conservation of ecosystems and the preservation of water quality and availability in the context of food production?
- How could reducing food waste, promoting sustainable diets and awareness-raising strategies help address water scarcity?
- How do technologies, innovations and investments ensure food security and sovereignty, given the scarcity of water resources, in a context of increasing competition between different water uses?
- How do water and agriculture policies support and strengthen each other to achieve water security and food sovereignty goals for shared prosperity?

President:

- **Mr. Nizar Baraka, Minister of Equipment and Water**

Members :

- **Mr. Loïc Fauchon**, President of the World Water Council
- **Mr. Driss Dahak**, Ex-Secretary General of the Government, and member of the Academy of the Kingdom of Morocco
- **Mr. Guy Fradin**, Special Advisor to the President of the World Water Council
- **Mr. Ahmed Réda Chami**, President of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (ESEC)
- **Mr. Mamadou Dia**, Chairman and CEO of Senegalese Waters (Sénégalaise des Eaux)
- **Ms. Nouzha Chekrouni**, Professor, Ex-Minister and Ex-Ambassador
- **Mr Hicham El Habti**. President, Mohammed VI Polytechnics University
- **Ms. Emilia Saiz**, Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

Winners of previous editions

2022- the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (ODSR)

The award was thus a recognition of the efforts of this organization, as a successful model of equitable sharing and democratization of access to water resources, which promotes peace, prosperity and territorial development of member countries.

2018- the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

The OECD recognition was an acknowledgement of its efforts and commitment to implement the principles of solidarity and inclusion to ensure water security and contribute to climate justice. The OECD supports policies that promote the equitable distribution of socio-economic benefits. It also works to establish and promote the principles of good governance in water management.

2015 – Abdou Maman Kane

Mr. Abdou Maman Kane, Director of Tech Innov Niger, was awarded the Hassan II Great World Water Prize for his work in favor of an integrated and innovative remote irrigation system. This social entrepreneur has provided a concrete solution to the problems of the food nexus, energy and water through a technological process that allows farmers to remotely control their farm's irrigation system via their mobile phone and solar panels. This solution allows farmers to save time and energy, increase the area under irrigation, increase production and income, and optimize the management of irrigated water.

2012 – The Sahara and Sahel Observatory (SSO)

The SSO is an international organization based in Tunis. Created in 1992, the action of this institution covers the arid and semi-arid areas of the Sahel-Saharan region and aims to promote the conditions for good environmental governance in order to contribute to food security and sustainable development in its area of action. The SSO focuses on shared aquifers and the development of North-South synergy in order to give a new impetus to the fight against desertification and the mitigation of the effects of recurrent droughts. The SSO has developed an innovative regional approach for States' Members, based on the notion of awareness around the theme of basins and water management.

2009 - Abdulatif Youssef Al-Hamad

Chairman and CEO of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), Mr. Al-Hamad was rewarded for his significant achievements in relation to water and for his contribution to improving cooperation and solidarity in the field of water resources development and management.

2006 - Torkil Jønch Clausen

As Director of Development and CEO of DHI Water and Environment (Denmark), Mr. Clausen was awarded the Hassan II Great World Water Prize for his outstanding contribution to the progress of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) worldwide. He was also a founding member of the Global Water Partnership and Governor of the World Water Council.

2003 - Jerson Kelman and Mahmoud Abu-Zeid

The President Director of the National Water Agency (ANA) of Brazil and the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation of Egypt were awarded for their considerable achievements and contributions in the areas of water resources management and development.

8th Edition Brochure (in 3 languages)

The Brochure, attached, is also available in electronic format in three languages on the official websites of:

- ↳ Ministry of Equipment and Water- Directorate General of Hydraulics/
Kingdom of Morocco
- ↳ World Water Council

It can also be downloaded via the application platform:

www.hassan2gwwp.org.