

+ 1st WASAG International Forum on Water Scarcity in Agriculture

Leaving
no one behind

19-22 March 2019 | Praia, Cabo Verde

Overview

Under the patronage of Cabo Verde and in collaboration with Italy and FAO, WASAG announces its 1st International Forum on Water Scarcity in Agriculture to be held in Praia, Cabo Verde from 19 to 22 March 2019, to coincide with the celebration of World Water Day 2019 which this year adopts the theme of 'Leaving no one behind'.

The forum aims at identifying concrete – practical, innovative and collaborative- solutions to address water scarcity in agriculture in a changing climate. With a focus on Cabo Verde, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and West African countries, the forum is expected to illustrate how water scarcity in agriculture can be addressed and turned into an opportunity for sustainable development and food and nutrition security. The Forum is open to partners, stakeholders, academics, practitioners, and policy makers from the public and private sectors and civil society.

Focus areas

1. Water and Migration
2. Drought Preparedness
3. Financing Mechanisms for sustainable management of water resources
4. Water and Nutrition
5. Sustainable Agriculture Water Use
6. Saline Agriculture

Organizers

Government of Cabo Verde

Ministry of Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies,
Italy (MIPAAFT)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
(FAO)

Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG)

Objectives of the forum

- Raise awareness about the impacts of climate change, the importance of sustainable management on water in agriculture and of healthy ecosystems and their services.
- Identify the specific needs and agree on priority actions to address water scarcity in agriculture, focusing on SIDS and West African countries.
- Share experiences in addressing water scarcity in agriculture in the context of climate change.
- Establish collaboration between partners and stakeholders to ensure their commitment to finance priority actions.
- Mobilize resources to address the growing issues of water scarcity in agriculture in SIDS and the West African countries.

Expected Outcomes

- The sustainable and effective management of water for agriculture, as well as the importance of healthy ecosystems and their services for sustainable agricultural systems recognized as key points in achieving the Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement.
- Applicable solutions, including nature-based solutions, identified and tailored to the local contexts of SIDS and West African countries.
- New and strengthened collaborations between partners and stakeholders established, to address the complex and multi-pronged issue of water scarcity in a changing climate.
- Sustainable investments identified, to achieve positive results in the management of water scarcity.



This Forum will specifically contribute to these Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



Draft agenda

Time	Day 1: Monday 19 March 2019	Day 2: Tuesday 20 March 2019	Day 3: Wednesday 21 March 2019	Day 4: Thursday 22 March 2019
8.30 - 09.00	Registration	Registration	Debrief of Day 2 (15 min)	Debrief of Day 3 (15 min)
09.00-10.30	Field trip	Opening Ceremony	Technical session - Sustainable Agriculture Water Use	World Water Day Celebrations and launch of World Water Development Report
10.30-11.00		NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK - for new partnerships and project support mobilization		
11.00-12.30		Technical session - Cabo Verde	Technical session - Saline Agriculture	Closing ceremony
12.30-14.00		LUNCH BREAK/ Side Events		COCKTAIL
14.00-15.30	Side events / Working Group meetings	Technical session - Water and Migration	Technical session - Financing Mechanisms for sustainable management of water resources	
15.30-16.00	NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK			
16.00-17.30	WASAG Partners Meeting/ Side Events	Technical session - Water and Nutrition	Technical session - Drought preparedness	
17.30-18.30		Poster session / Exhibition	Conclusions and Synthesis	
18.30~		RECEPTION		

An exhibition area will be available during the whole Forum where participants will be able to display or showcase technologies, products and innovations.

Call for technical contributions

Technical contributions (papers, posters, etc.) are invited for consideration to be submitted to WASAG-registration@fao.org. It should encompass one or more of the six focus areas of the forum. The deadline for submissions is **10 February 2019**. A scientific committee will select the submissions based on whether they provide or propose practical, innovative and collaborative solutions to address water scarcity in agriculture. All partners and stakeholders of WASAG, regional organizations, including the private sector from different regions of the world with a keen interest in water scarcity in agriculture are encouraged to participate.

For more information, visit <http://www.fao.org/land-water/events/ws-forum/en/>

To register to the Forum, send an email to WASAG-registration@fao.org