

Water resilience – adaptation and mitigation to climate change
Key messages from World Water Week in Stockholm for the New York Summit participants
in the run-up to COP 21

Presented by Sweden and endorsed by France and Peru

- 2015 is a crucial year for global sustainability and future generations. Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and its adverse impacts undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development. **Water is a key issue in the adaptation to climate change and important for successful mitigation.**
- Water is a cross-cutting resource and underpins all development aspects: it is essential for human health, food security, sustainable economic development, social progress and sound ecosystems. Climate-driven water hazards, water scarcity and variability pose significant risks to all economic activity, such as food and energy production, manufacturing and infrastructure development, as well as political stability.
- Access to reliable and safe water resources is vital for sustainable development for all countries in the world, in particular for the least developed countries and small island States.
- The progressive record of Sendai, Addis Ababa and the UN General Assembly in New York, as well as the 7th World Water Forum in Korea, creates political momentum to welcome water-related Sustainable Development Goals and to take water into consideration at the highest level of the political agenda for a successful outcome at COP 21 in Paris.
- Resilience to climate change requires adaptive water management and resilient water infrastructure. Many efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions depend on reliable access to water resources. Effective and sustainable water resources management is also key for successful climate change mitigation.
- Increased collaboration among governments, the local community, civil society, the private sector, academia, international organisations and individuals is essential to successfully chart a safe, sustainable future, manage global challenges such as climate change and resolve competing freshwater demands in the future.
- The extended water community attending World Water Week in Stockholm expressed support for the implementation of the Lima-Paris Action Agenda, to drive climate action and accelerate the growing engagement of all parts of society in combating climate change.
- France and Peru will organise a **dedicated Water Resilience half day at COP21** on 2 December 2015
- All stakeholders are **encouraged to commit to concrete actions for water and climate change** to be presented at COP21, for example:
 - for **basin organisations**, to develop adaptation plans to climate change.
 - for **business** (small and large companies), to increase water and clean energy efficiency.
 - for **local governments** (cities, regions, local authorities), to develop flood risk management plans and warning systems.
 - for **civil society** (NGOs, youth), to raise awareness of the important role of water in successfully addressing climate adaptation and mitigation and to act on climate change.
 - for **research and development organisations**, to spearhead technical insights about robust, resilient water resources management.
 - for **governments, civil society and the private sector**, international organisations, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders, to support water and climate-resilient development.