

Local Water Solutions for Global Challenges (March 2021)

People

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Partnership:	University of Strathclyde and Gaia Education

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Water is essential for life and for sustainable development. Increasing human population, the impacts of climate change and unsustainable growth all place pressures on the world's precious freshwater resources. Managing water well is essential for the international community to deliver the promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Without this, most of the Sustainable Development Goals cannot be achieved. Every drop matters.

The course presented by the University of Strathclyde, Gaia Education and UNITAR contributes to the International Decade (2018–2028) for Action – Water for Sustainable Development.

This Water Action Decade will focus on the sustainable development and integrated management of water resources and sanitation to achieve social, economic and environmental objectives and to implement and promote related programmes and projects, as well as to advance cooperation and partnership at all levels to achieve internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

* The content of the modules is based on original materials developed for Hydrogeology and Water Resources Education at the University of Strathclyde and is supported by students who take part in the Vertically Integrated Project (VIP) Water, Sanitation and International Development.



By the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Conceptualise Integrated Water Resource Management Challenges;
- Understand the linkage between SDG6 (Water and sanitation) and other SDGs;
- Conceptualise Water treatment technologies within Integrated Water Resource Management Challenges;
- Identify how water treatment plays a role in increased water resilience;
- Differentiate transboundary from national Integrated Water Resource Management Challenges;
- Grasp the importance of the science-policy interface;
- Conceptualise Integrated Water Resource Management Challenges within a Food-Water-Energy Nexus.



This course is delivered through UNITAR's e-Learning Platform. It comprises of 4 modules, each consisting of a lesson, a discussion forum and a quiz.

The modules are as follows:

- Module 1 - Global Water Challenges
- Module 2 - Water and Wastewater Treatment Technologies
- Module 3 - Water Governance
- Module 4 - The Water-Energy-Food Nexus



Learning activities are based on UNITAR's sound adult learning pedagogical principles. They are distributed in such a way as to ensure the achievement of the learning objectives in a flexible manner: learning materials can indeed be consulted in a non-linear way so as to provide participants with a high degree of flexibility in choosing the learning pace that is most suitable to them. Thus, participants are responsible for their own learning throughout the course. Each module aims to deepen the participant's skills and understanding as well as provide him/her with the opportunity to network and dialogue with other participants, sharing country specific experiences and good practice in sustainability issues related to water resources management.

Learning materials include the following elements:

- basic reading materials to support the understanding of the basic concepts and principles of the modules' subject matter
- advanced reading materials (optional) for participants willing to learn more about the topic
- external links to relevant publications, reports and websites
- glossaries of terms and acronyms as supportive learning tools
- a community discussion board (forum) will allow participants to discuss topics initiated by the course participants and to post questions, comments or new discussions.

Learning Time

The learning time is estimated to be about five hours per week. This includes study time (about three hours/week) and participation in prescribed activities (about two hours/week). Time dedicated to quizzes and other activities is not taken into account in this estimation. The course lasts for five weeks and will close after that time.

Course Completion and Certification

Successful completion of the course requires participants to successfully respond to all quizzes. A Certificate of Completion will be issued to participants who complete all quizzes and make payment of \$100 USD to UNITAR.

Assessment Activities

The assessment activities are organised into four self-correcting quizzes which aim at evaluating participants' comprehension of the course content.



The course is open to:

- Integrated Water Resource Managers
- Community Health and Sanitation Workers
- International Development Consultants
- Water Quality and Treatment Managers
- Poverty Alleviation Activists
- Developing Countries Agricultural Engineers
- SDG Training Multipliers
- Hydrology Students and Workers
- Community Leaders
- Urban Water Developers
- Climate Justice Policy Makers
- Waste Water Treatment Workers



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