

German Water Symposium
“Adaptation in Action – Climate Change in the Water Sector”
2nd and 3rd February, 2012, Frankfurt



Context

The water sector has the potential to be strongly affected by the negative impacts of climate change with wide-ranging consequences for human societies, infrastructure as well as ecosystems. The adverse impacts of climate change will add an additional dimension on the development of the water sector which in most of the developing countries is suffering from a variety of pressures. Development and climate change are closely interlinked: Development facilitates adaptation to climate change; adaptation to climate change fosters development. However, this strong linkage makes it increasingly difficult to differentiate between specific adaptation and development measures with consequent implications on e.g. adaptation finance. These and other challenges related to adaptation to climate change in the water sector will be reflected in the symposium's three thematic sessions.

Topics

Financing Adaptation to Climate Change: The objective of this session is to discuss the new challenges concerning adaptation finance. Adaptation financing needs, prioritization of adaptation finance, appropriate modes of delivery as well as questions related to the distinction between development finance and adaptation finance in the water sector will guide the session.

Adaptation in Practice: In this session different practical approaches and insights from adaptation projects in the water sector will be presented in a highly interactive *market place*. Partners and key actors will have a chance to present their best practices and share their lessons learnt.

Tools, Methodologies and new Approaches: As a cross-cutting issue, adapting to climate change and uncertainty in the water sector pose new challenges. This session will focus on tools and methodologies to e.g. address climate data availability to incorporate future climate scenarios into project design, methodologies for mainstreaming adaptation in the water sector, namely “climate proofing” as well as measures to target adaptation finance effectively and avoid maladaptation. Key actors will present and discuss their approaches.

Venue