

Climate Change and Water



BUILDING RESILIENCE TO HYDRO-CLIMATIC RISKS



Global water management must transform to meet the challenges of the present and the future. Climate change has made the water cycle far less predictable – and water availability and quality less reliable – threatening communities, livelihoods, and sustainable development.

Our goal is a water-secure world. We help countries prepare for and adapt to increasing hydro-climatic risks, and we work to slow the pace of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions of water service providers.



We work with clients to improve water management, providing investment and technical support that builds resilience, reduces emissions, and lowers costs. And we promote partnerships between governments, the private sector, and civil society that help countries adapt to climate variability.



TO SUPPORT THE COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY, WE ENCOURAGE:

- Better access to water, sanitation, and hygiene services on an emergency basis.
- The design of economic stimulus programs that support short-term job creation in the water sector and the construction of energy-efficient, climate-resilient infrastructure.
- Longer-term efforts to develop resilient, equitable, and sustainable water use.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS RADICALLY ALTERING THE WATER CYCLE. THE WORLD IS BECOMING:



Hotter - Higher temperatures are increasing the rate of evaporation from land and plants into the atmosphere, leading to greater demand for irrigation water.



Stormier - The frequency and intensity of hurricanes and cyclones are on the rise, resulting in stronger winds, more precipitation, and more recurrent flooding.



Wetter - Rising sea levels are increasing the risks associated with storm surges and poor drainage in low-lying coastal areas. Higher sea levels also affect the quality of freshwater resources.



Drier - Drought frequency and intensity are increasing, resulting in crop failures, growing water scarcity, and potential famines. Arid zones and deserts will continue to expand.



More polluted - Higher temperatures are intensifying the growth of dissolved nutrients in bodies of water, leading to harmful algal blooms, dead zones, and fish kills.



We promote human and natural systems that **build resilience to hydro-climatic risks** to cope with the effects of climate change.

INVESTING IN CLIMATE RESILIENCE PAYS OFF.

Every **\$1** spent on resilient infrastructure yields **\$4** in cost savings.



We work with our clients to design **climate-informed and energy-efficient green and grey water projects** that sustain water resources, deliver services, and build resilience.