

Water, Peace & Security Initiative

The Hague



In collaboration with
The Netherlands'
Ministry of
Foreign Affairs



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Over the last few years, leading institutions from the World Economic Forum to the U.S. intelligence community and the Dutch army have raised a red flag regarding the social, economic and peace and security threats arising from increasing threats to water security in the world. Water security is reducing rapidly in the world and some regions are even facing physical water shortage already. With the expected increase in populations and economic demands for water, rapid global ecosystem destruction and climate change, this problem will increase to unprecedented levels, becoming an urgent risk for livelihoods, economies and even global stability.

The Water, Peace and Security Initiative.

The Water, Peace and Security Initiative (WPSI) was created in 2017 by IHE Delft, World Resources Institute (WRI), Deltares and the Hague Centre for Strategic Studies (HCSS) with support from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is open for further collaboration and has already extended its collaboration to include Wetlands International, Oregon State University and the Pacific Institute.

The initiative is a response to the urgent threat the reduction in water security globally causes to human security and social stability and is embarking on a pilot project for two years. The initiative consists of four areas of work, or “pillars”.

1. **Understand:** increase our understanding about the interrelationship between water and human security and on basis of this, develop powerful information tools for action. This will consist of a global online tool that will monitor the vulnerability of countries and regions for water related security threats and act as an early warning tool. For identified “hotspot areas” of potential security risk, the WPSI will tools for intervention analysis and informed decision making and action
1. **Mobilize:** Build political awareness and momentum and exchange knowledge, to mobilize effective action
2. **Learn:** develop capacities required to address vulnerabilities linked to water-induced security threats
3. **Dialogue:** Strengthen processes of peaceful conflict resolution through water diplomacy, mediation, dialogue and by using the rule of law

On the 22nd of March 2018 at the World Water Forum 2018 the consortium presented the initiative and its objectives, approach and foreseen impact.

For further information on the WPSI, please contact one of the partners or rolien@bergsasse.nl