

BRIEF REPORT

The Hague Roundtable on Climate & Security

12th meeting, hosted by Mississippi State University, the Mississippi Water Resources Research Institute
13 – 14 April 2022 at 08:00 – 11:00 CDT U.S. in Starkville, Mississippi, U.S.A.

Food-water system resilience: groundwater & irrigation strategies for collaboration in Central Asia

Web: hagueroundtable.com Twitter: [@hagueroundtable](https://twitter.com/hagueroundtable)

This hybrid Roundtable meeting in the mornings of 13-14 April 2022 featured live and online presentations and discussion panels on the needs and potential collaboration on water and food security adaptation in Central Asia and globally. An online panel convened at [IHE Delft Inst. for Water Education](https://www.ihe.delft.nl/) in the Netherlands with participation of the [Red Cross Climate Centre](https://www.redcrossclimatecentre.org/), and participants affiliated with the [Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction \(GNDR\)](https://www.gndr.org/) joined from around Asia. These online panels connected online some 150 officials meeting live at Mississippi State University, and other online participants to explore project innovation and cooperation in water and food security.

The Roundtable was held as part of the Mississippi (regional) Water Resources Conference on 12-14 April. Topics of the conference included Climate, Economics of Water Drinking Water & Wastewater, Coastal Issues, Emerging & Innovative Technologies, Groundwater & Surface Water, Policy & Planning Water Management, Social Science Nexus, Private Wells, Water Use Efficiency & Reuse, and Watershed Management. The morning Roundtables were moderated by John Matthews, Executive Director of the [Alliance for Global Water Adaptation](https://www.allianceforwateradaptation.org/) (AGWA).



Agenda of presentations at the meeting

13 April

- **Irrigation and field management:** **Dr. Drew Gholson**, Coordinator, National Center for Alluvial Aquifer Research / Mississippi State University
- **Surface and alternative water use/reuse:** **Dr. Michele Reba**, Research Hydrologist United States Department of Agriculture / Arkansas State University
- **Hydrological forecasting & climate impacts on water Central Asia:** **Dr. Abror Gafurov**, Hydrologist, GFZ Potsdam, Germany via online video
- Working discussions on **exploring collaborative projects** in Central Asia and globally: Moderator **John Matthews** Executive Director of Alliance for Global Water Adaptation [AGWA](#)
- Plenary: Results and way forward from group discussions: with **John Matthews**

14 April

- **Groundwater monitoring:** **Dr. Dana Porter**, Professor & AgriLife Extension agriculture engineering, Texas A&M University
- **Groundwater regulation:** **Cathy Janasie**, Senior Research Counsel at National Sea Grant Law Center/ University of Mississippi
- Special commentary via online video on **Collaboration in adaptation for water-food security** – including opportunities around World Water Day 2022 and the [UN 2023 Water Conference](#): **Henk Ovink**, the Netherlands Special Envoy for Water Affairs
- Working discussions on **exploring collaborative projects** in Central Asia and globally
- Results and way forward from working group: with **John Matthews**

About Mississippi State University International Institute and the Water Resources Research Institute

Mississippi State University's (MSU) International Institute, is a global connection to worldwide partnerships, competitive international academic opportunities, and impactful research collaborations that shape the world's future. The International Institute serves as a hub for MSU's international activities and mobilizes faculty, staff, and students to engage globally and positively influence the lives of Mississippians and our neighbors around the world. Developed in 2011, the International Institute's primary function supports Mississippi State University's internationalization efforts to be the state's premier global university through three dedicated areas of learning, research, and service.

MSU overview: <https://hageroundtable.files.wordpress.com/2022/07/mississippi-state-univ-overview.pdf>

The **Mississippi Water Resources Research Institute (MWRRI)** at Mississippi State is a statewide center of expertise in water and associated land-use. The MWRRI is a repository of water quality and quantity knowledge for use in education, research, outreach, planning, and community service. MWRRI scientists conduct research on current and anticipated problems to assist rural and municipal water districts, regional water management organizations, and state and federal water agencies. Scientists also work to identify and implement tools to increase efficiency and effectiveness of water planning and management.

More information on MWRRI: <https://hageroundtable.files.wordpress.com/2022/02/miss-state-univ-water-resources-brochure.pdf>

MWRRI goals are to serve public and private interests in the conservation, development, and use of water resources; to provide training opportunities in higher education whereby skilled professionals become available to serve government and private sector alike; to assist planning and regulatory bodies at the local, state, regional, and federal levels; to communicate research findings to potential users in a form that encourages quick comprehension and direct application to water related problems; to assist state agencies in the development and maintenance of a state water management plan; and to facilitate and stimulate planning and management that:

- Deals with water policy issues
- Supports state water agencies' mission with research on problems encountered and expected
- Provides water planning and management organizations with tools to increase efficiency and effectiveness of water planning and management

Links to presentations (PDF)

- **Irrigation and field management, Dr. Drew Gholson:**
<https://hagueroundtable.files.wordpress.com/2022/07/irrigation-and-field-mgmt-gholson.pdf>
- **Surface and alternative water use/reuse, Dr. Michele Reba:**
<https://hagueroundtable.files.wordpress.com/2022/07/surface-water-and-reuse-reba-1.pdf>
- **Hydrological forecasting & climate impacts on water Central Asia, Dr. Abror Gafurov:**
<https://hagueroundtable.files.wordpress.com/2022/07/climate-impact-and-hydroforecast-gafurov.pdf>
- **Groundwater monitoring, Dr. Dana Porter:**
<https://hagueroundtable.files.wordpress.com/2022/07/aquifer-ag-water-mgt-tech-porter.pdf>
- **Groundwater regulation: Cathy Janasie**
<https://hagueroundtable.files.wordpress.com/2022/07/regulation-groundwater-aquifers-janasie.pdf>

About The Hague Roundtable: About The Hague Roundtable on Climate & Security: The Roundtable supports global cooperation on climate risks to peace, sustainable development, and political stability. This independent forum facilitates a dialogue among representatives of governments, NGOs, education institutions, development organizations, military, private sector, and donor organizations – which may be stakeholders who do not exchange ideas and strategies on these threats. Participants are encouraged, in a less-formal setting, to voice: 1) their biggest challenges 2) concrete actions to be taken 3) what they can offer 4) what they need. The initiative is based in The Hague, a city known for peace and justice, and as a hub for global issues.

Special thanks to Dan Reynolds and staff at the MSU International Institute, Jason Krutz and staff at the MWRRI, Eddy Moors and staff at IHE Delft, Shivangi Chavada with the GNDR, Stefania Giodini with the Red Cross Climate Centre, John Matthews and Henk Ovink for their generous input and support in the organization of the 12th Roundtable meeting.

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