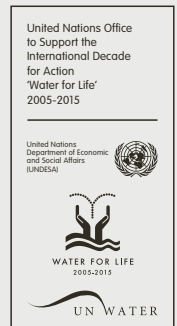


# Water and Climate Change Reader

## United Nations Office to Support the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005-2015

Produced by the United Nations Office to Support the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005-2015, this reader is mainly intended for those media professionals interested to get familiar with water and climate change. Special emphasis is placed on adaptation strategies. The guide provides basic references for easy reading on climate change and some of the latest and most relevant UN publications on water and climate change. Some additional non-UN references are also included. Link provided when the publication is available online.

[www.un.org/waterforlifedecade](http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade)



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## Climate change: the basics

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### ■ **Climate in Peril: A Popular Guide to the Latest IPCC Reports.**

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). 2009

[www.grida.no/\\_res/site/file/publications/ClimateInPeril.pdf](http://www.grida.no/_res/site/file/publications/ClimateInPeril.pdf)

The purposes of this short guide are two-fold: first, to help to bridge the divide between science and policy; second, to increase public awareness on climate change, its impacts and the urgency of combating them. This booklet is intended for those who do not have the time – and may not have the scientific expertise – to read the entire Synthesis Report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

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### ■ **State of the World 2009. Into a warming world.**

Worldwatch Institute. 2009

[www.worldwatch.org/node/5984](http://www.worldwatch.org/node/5984)

This edition of « State of the World » examines the steps we urgently need to take to prevent a global catastrophe, while adapting to the climatic shifts already set in motion. « State of the World » is published annually in 28 languages.

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### ■ **Human Development Report 2007/2008. Fighting climate change: Human solidarity in a divided world.**

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2007

[hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2007-2008/](http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2007-2008/)

The 2007/2008 edition of the Human Development Report provides a stark account of the threat posed by global warming. It argues that the world is drifting towards a “tipping point” that could lock the poorest countries and their poorest citizens in a downward spiral, leaving hundreds of millions facing malnutrition, water scarcity, ecological threats, and a loss of livelihoods.

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### ■ **Human Development Report 2007/2008. Fighting climate change: Human solidarity in a divided world.** Summary report.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2007

[hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR\\_20072008\\_Summary\\_English.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR_20072008_Summary_English.pdf)

Summary report of the Human Development Report 2007/2008.

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### ■ **Climate Change: Information kit.**

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). 2002

[unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/infokit\\_2002\\_en.pdf](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/infokit_2002_en.pdf)

This information kit contains a series of fact sheets that summarize with simple words the most recent progress made under the Climate Change Convention and Protocol and the most up-to-date findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

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## Water and climate change

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### ■ **Climate information for managing water needs.** Fact sheet.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO), UN-WATER, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 2009

[www.wmo.int/wcc3/documents/WCC3\\_factsheet3\\_water\\_EN.pdf](http://www.wmo.int/wcc3/documents/WCC3_factsheet3_water_EN.pdf)

The factsheet presents the main challenges water managers are confronted with and demonstrates how vital is for them to be accurately and timely informed on climate. It also includes facts and figures and some information on United Nations water and climate-related programmes.

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### ■ **3<sup>rd</sup> United Nations World Water Development Report: Water in a Changing World.** Chapter 5.

World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). 2009

[www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/wwdr3/pdf/15\\_WWDR3\\_ch\\_5.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/wwdr3/pdf/15_WWDR3_ch_5.pdf)

Chapter 5 of the 3rd edition of the UN World Water Development Report focuses on climate change and the possible futures the world can envision.

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■ **3<sup>rd</sup> United Nations World Water Development Report: Water in a Changing World.**

Chapter 5. Facts and figures.

World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). 2009

[www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/wwdr3/pdf/WWDR3\\_Facts\\_and\\_Figures.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/wwdr3/pdf/WWDR3_Facts_and_Figures.pdf)

Facts and figures on water and climate change extracted from chapter 5 of the 3rd edition of the UN World Water Development Report.

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■ **Water and Climate Change: Citizen Mobilization, a Source of Solutions.**

World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). 2009

[unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001818/181893E.pdf](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001818/181893E.pdf)

This paper discusses the responses that communities may take in the current context of climate change and extreme events; in the meanwhile, it highlights the major role played in the process by the community leaders and their commitment. The paper begins by defining climate change, the vulnerabilities associated with the phenomenon and the possible adaptation to them. This is followed by a description of sustainable adaptation strategies based on real-world case studies and the proposal of possible solutions.

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## Information materials for specific audiences

### Media

■ **Climate Change and the Media (Global Crises and the Media).**

Tammy Boyce and Justin Lewis. 2009

This report explores the relationship that exists between climate change and the media; special emphasis is posed on and the way media coverage modifies according to the context. Chapters consider the influence of public relations and fictional programming, the relationship between public understanding and media coverage, and the impact the media industries themselves can have on climate change.

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■ **Time to adapt? Media coverage of climate change in non-industrialised countries.**

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). 2009

[www.iied.org/pubs/display.php?o=G02512&n=6&l=8&a=M%20Shanahan](http://www.iied.org/pubs/display.php?o=G02512&n=6&l=8&a=M%20Shanahan)

Chapter 12 extracted from the book “Climate Change and the Media”.

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■ **Talking about a revolution: climate change and the media.**

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). 2009

[www.iied.org/pubs/pdfs/17029IIED.pdf](http://www.iied.org/pubs/pdfs/17029IIED.pdf)

The paper reviews how the media reports on, and what people think about, climate change in different parts of the world. The author states that, even though the issue has never been higher on the media’s agenda, problems persist in the way it is reported.

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■ **Climate Change Information for Effective Adaptation. A Practitioner’s Manual.**

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ). 2009

[www2.gtz.de/dokumente/bib/gtz2009-0175en-climate-change-information.pdf](http://www2.gtz.de/dokumente/bib/gtz2009-0175en-climate-change-information.pdf)

This is a practical guide to obtaining adequate information on climate change, interpreting it properly and using it in a responsible way.

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■ **Comunicar el Cambio Climático. Escenario social y líneas de actuación.**

Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, España. 2008

[www.mma.es/secciones/formacion\\_educacion/recursos/rec\\_documentos/pdf/comunicar\\_cc\\_co\\_mpleto.pdf](http://www.mma.es/secciones/formacion_educacion/recursos/rec_documentos/pdf/comunicar_cc_co_mpleto.pdf)

Produced by the Ministry of the Environment of Spain, the main objective of this document is to provide guidance on how to inform, communicate and educate properly on human-induced climate change.

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- **Creating a Climate for Change. Communicating Climate Change and Facilitating Social Change.**  
Susanne C. Moser, Lisa Dilling. 2007

“Creating a Climate for Change” examines the challenges associated with communication and climate change in order to induce and facilitate social response. The paper offers practical suggestions for a better communication on climate change and a more convenient social adaptation to it.

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- **New Rules: New Game. Communications tactics for climate change.**  
Futerra Sustainability Communications. 2006

[www.futerra.co.uk/downloads/NewRules:NewGame.pdf](http://www.futerra.co.uk/downloads/NewRules:NewGame.pdf)

These short rules are not but communication techniques which pull together different strategies for changing people’s behaviour and attitudes towards climate change.

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- **United Kingdom Communications Strategy on Climate Change.**  
Futerra Sustainability Communications. 2005

[www.compassnetwork.org/images/upload/ccc-strategy.pdf](http://www.compassnetwork.org/images/upload/ccc-strategy.pdf)

This paper documents a series of proposed recommendations that together make up a communication strategy aiming at changing attitudes towards climate change. The strategy is formulated for the United Kingdom and suggests using positive and inspirational messages rather than statements of fear or concern.

#### Policy makers

- **Water, Energy and Climate Change. A contribution from the business community.**  
World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). 2009

[www.wbcsd.org/DocRoot/Dg6GYWJq7xuaLOOwZOi/WaterEnergyandClimateChange.pdf](http://www.wbcsd.org/DocRoot/Dg6GYWJq7xuaLOOwZOi/WaterEnergyandClimateChange.pdf)

This document brings together a set of key messages made by the business community; all the messages concern the interrelationships between water, energy and climate change, the challenges they entail and the business implications they can have.

- **Climate change 2007: Synthesis report. Summary for policy makers.**  
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). 2007

[www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4\\_syr\\_spm.pdf](http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4_syr_spm.pdf)

This Synthesis Report is based on the assessment carried out by the three Working Groups of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); it provides an integrated view of climate change as the final part of the IPCC’s Fourth Assessment Report. This report makes projections on future climate changes and assesses the current scientific knowledge of: the natural and human drivers of climate change, the observed changes in climate, and the ability of science to attribute changes to different causes.

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- **Changing the water policy climate: A summary for policy makers of the report “Climate changes the water rules”.**  
Dialogue on Water and Climate (DWC). 2003

[www.unwater.org/downloads/leaflet\\_climate\\_changes.pdf](http://www.unwater.org/downloads/leaflet_climate_changes.pdf)

This booklet is a summary of the publication “Climate changes the water Rules” addressed to water policy-makers.

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- **Climate Changes, Water Security and Possible Remedies for the Middle East.**  
World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). 2009

[unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001818/181886E.pdf](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001818/181886E.pdf)

This report looks closely at the Middle East region and explores the relationship between climate change and water vulnerability – it also indicates some remedies in certain selected cases.

#### Water managers

- **Water Adaptation in National Adaptation Programmes for Action. Freshwater in Climate Adaptation Planning and Climate Adaptation in Freshwater Planning.**  
World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP). 2009

[unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001818/181887E.pdf](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001818/181887E.pdf)

This report concerns water adaptation aspects in ongoing processes of formulating and implementing National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs).

- **Climate changes the water rules: How water managers can cope with today's climate variability and tomorrow's climate change.** Dialogue on Water and Climate (DWC). 2003

[www.waterandclimate.org/UserFiles/File/changes.pdf](http://www.waterandclimate.org/UserFiles/File/changes.pdf)

This report provides a wealth of information about climate change and variability. It also offers a compendium of specific adaptation strategies in order for water managers and decision-makers to draw upon and have an overview of international support initiatives on water and climate.

- **Coping with Impacts of Climate Variability and Climate Change in Water Management: A Scoping Paper.** Dialogue on Water and Climate (DWC). 2002

[www.waterandclimate.org/UserFiles/File/scoping.pdf](http://www.waterandclimate.org/UserFiles/File/scoping.pdf)

At a meeting in Delft, The Netherlands, in November 2001, about 50 hydrologists, climate scientists and water managers discussed climate change and climate variability in relation to Integrated Water Resource Management. An overview of coping options together with a summary of the most important outcomes and recommendations resulting from the discussion are reflected in this document.

- **Climate Variability and Water Resources Degradation in Kenya. Improving Water Resources Development and Management.** World Bank. 2006

[www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2006/01/10/000090341\\_20060110161654/Rendered/PDF/348540KE0Clima101OFFICIAL0USE0ONLY1.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2006/01/10/000090341_20060110161654/Rendered/PDF/348540KE0Clima101OFFICIAL0USE0ONLY1.pdf)

Although several studies have been conducted in recent years on Kenyan water resources development and management, none of them has specifically focused on the economic implications of water resource management or mismanagement. This report attempts to fill that gap for two of the most important water-related issues facing the country, that is to say the effects

of climate variability and the steady degradation of the nation's water resources.

## Youth

- **Fighting climate change: Human solidarity in a divided world. Two degrees of separation between hope and despair. A young people's summary of the United Nations Human Development Report 2007/2008.**

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2008

[hdr.undp.org/en/media/Two\\_Degrees\\_En.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/Two_Degrees_En.pdf)

Youth summary report of the Human Development Report 2007/2008.

## Technical reading

### Special focus on water and climate change

- **Climate change and water. IPCC Technical Paper VI.** Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). 2008

[www.ipcc.ch/pdf/technical-papers/climate-change-water-en.pdf](http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/technical-papers/climate-change-water-en.pdf)

This technical paper draws together and evaluates the information contained in IPCC Assessment and Special Reports concerning the impacts of climate change on hydrological processes and regimes and on freshwater resources – their availability, quality, use and management. It takes into account current and projected regional key vulnerabilities, the relationships between climate change mitigation and water and, eventually, some prospects for adaptation.

### Special focus on adaptation to climate change

- **Facilitating an International Agreement on Climate Change: Adaptation to Climate Change.**

Global Leadership for Climate Action. 2009

[www.unfoundation.org/assets/pdf/adaptation\\_to\\_climate\\_change.pdf](http://www.unfoundation.org/assets/pdf/adaptation_to_climate_change.pdf)

This paper deals specifically with adaptation and the links of adaptation to development and poverty alleviation, putting an emphasis on action at the local level.

■ **The Earthscan Reader on Adaptation to Climate Change.**

Earthscan publications. 2008

This reader gathers different writings on adaptation to climate change. Following an introduction tracing the evolution of adaptation from a biological concept into a policy objective, the book is divided into five parts: Adaptation Theory; Adaptation, Vulnerability and Resilience; Adaptation and Disaster Risk; Adaptation and Development; Adaptation and Climate Change Policy.

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■ **Climate Change and Vulnerability and Adaptation. 2 Volume Set.**

Earthscan publications. 2008

“Climate Change and Vulnerability” discusses who is vulnerable to climate change, how and why in those parts of the world that have been poorly researched. “Climate Change and Adaptation” covers current practices for managing climate risks and their changing nature: food security, water resources, livelihoods, human health and infrastructures, strategies for adaptation and the integration of these strategies into development planning and resource management.

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■ **Adapting cities to climate change.**

Earthscan publications. 2009

This volume brings together a wide range of information that identifies and assesses risk, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in the urban centres of low and middle-income countries. Framed by an overview of the main possibilities and constraints for adaptation, the contributors examine the implications of climate change for cities in Africa, Asia and Latin America and propose innovative agendas for adaptation.

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■ **Climate change impacts, vulnerabilities and adaptation in developing countries.**

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). 2007

[unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/impacts.pdf](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/impacts.pdf)

This book highlights the concerns and needs of developing countries to adapt to the effects of climate change; on the other side, it deals with the impact of climate change in four developing-country regions: Africa, Asia, Latin America and small-island developing States. For the developing regions here considered, it analyses their

vulnerability, their future adaptation options and needs, and their current adaptation plans, strategies and actions.

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■ **Balancing Expenditures on Mitigation of and Adaptation to Climate Change: An Exploration of Issues Relevant to Developing Countries.**

World Bank. 2007

[www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2007/08/02/000158349\\_20070802095523/Rendered/PDF/wps4299.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2007/08/02/000158349_20070802095523/Rendered/PDF/wps4299.pdf)

This paper discusses how adaptation fits into the global climate strategy, at both global and national levels.

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■ **Poverty and Climate Change: Reducing the Vulnerability of the Poor through Adaptation.**

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2005

[www.energyandenvironment.undp.org/undp/index.cfm?module=Library&page=Document&DocumentID=5050](http://www.energyandenvironment.undp.org/undp/index.cfm?module=Library&page=Document&DocumentID=5050)

The purpose of this document is to contribute to a global dialogue on how to mainstream and integrate adaptation to climate change into poverty-reduction efforts.

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■ **Adaptation Policy Frameworks for Climate Change. Developing Strategies, Policies and Measures.**

Global Environment Facility (GEF). 2005

[www.preventionweb.net/files/7995\\_APF.pdf](http://www.preventionweb.net/files/7995_APF.pdf)

The main objective of this guidebook is to assist developing countries and provide them guidance in the identification, and prioritisation of potential adaptation options. The ultimate goal is to combine the found options into a coherent strategy that is consistent with sustainable development and their national priorities.

[Special focus on water and climate change adaptation](#)

■ **Water and climate change adaptation. Key messages for the 15th Conference of Parties (COP-15) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.**

Global Public Policy Network on Water Management (GPPN). 2009

[gppn.stakeholderforum.org/fileadmin/files/GPPN\\_2008-9/Papers/GPPN\\_Key\\_Messages\\_Water\\_and\\_Climate\\_Change\\_Adaptation\\_COP-15.pdf](http://gppn.stakeholderforum.org/fileadmin/files/GPPN_2008-9/Papers/GPPN_Key_Messages_Water_and_Climate_Change_Adaptation_COP-15.pdf)

This document contains a series of messages delivered by the Global Public Policy Network on Water Management and addressed to the 15th Conference of Parties of the UNFCCC.

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■ **Perspectives on Water and Climate Change Adaptation.**

Co-operative Programme on Water and Climate (CPWC), International Water Association (IWA), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), World Water Council (WWC). 2009

[www.waterandclimate.org/index.php?id=5thWorldWaterForumpublications810](http://www.waterandclimate.org/index.php?id=5thWorldWaterForumpublications810)

Series of 16 papers on Water and Climate Change Adaptation offering various thematic, geographical and sectoral points of view on water and climate change adaptation.

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■ **Climate change adaptation in the water sector.**

Co-operative Programme on Water and Climate (CPWC). 2009

[www.waterandclimate.org/index.php?id=news\\_details&nid=70](http://www.waterandclimate.org/index.php?id=news_details&nid=70)

The main purpose of the book is to offer a compendium of specific adaptation strategies for students, water managers and decision makers. The book consists of two parts: the first part describes general issues; the second part presents specific case studies.

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■ **Climate Change and water adaptation issues.**

European Environment Agency (EEA). 2007

[www.eea.europa.eu/publications/technical\\_report\\_2007\\_2](http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/technical_report_2007_2)

The report reviews the challenges that Europe is facing to deal with climate change impacts on water resources. Using both a survey and a policy analysis at European level, the paper illustrates different practices in different countries. It comes to the conclusion that European countries are well aware of the impacts of climate change on water and that this is proved by the first steps they have taken towards adaptation.

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■ **Policy Brief 5: Climate Change Adaptation and Integrated Water Resources Management – An Initial Overview.**

Global Water Partnership (GWP). 2007

[www.gwpforum.org/gwp/library/Policy%20Brief%205%20Climate%20Change%20Adaptation.pdf](http://www.gwpforum.org/gwp/library/Policy%20Brief%205%20Climate%20Change%20Adaptation.pdf)

The brief is intended to review different aspects of water use and management relating to climate change.

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| ■ UN Publication     |
| ■ Non-UN Publication |

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The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations Secretariat or the United Nations Office to Support the International Decade for Action (UNO-IDfA) 'Water for Life' 2005-2015.

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