



**IMPEL Water and Land Conference 8 and 9 October
2019, Rome**

**‘Droughts and Floods: Adaptation to Extreme events
in a hotter climate’**





The 2019 [IMPEL Water & Land](#) Conference took place on 8 and 9 October in Rome, Italy, at the [Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research](#) (ISPRA – Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale). This two-day conference brought together speakers from different Member States to talk about droughts and floods adaptation in a changing climate.

Liam Cashman from Commission's DG ENV delivered a presentation on the Environmental Compliance Assurance (ECA) and emphasised the contribution of IMPEL's work on specific topics (e.g. Doing the Right Things and Guidelines for Inspections) adding that with the new Commission's focus on zero pollution there is still much work to be done, especially on Water and Land issues (e.g. Nitrate Directive).

The 1st session of the Conference featured several presentations and perspectives on droughts and the focus was on trends in the drought landscape, irrigation problems, groundwater slow crisis, strategic dam planning and designing dams to pass sediments as a way to fight droughts. Most speakers agreed that there is a need to build resilience in the view of next decades.

The 2nd session was focused on floods and the speakers delivered presentations that highlighted the implementation challenges of the main legislative drivers on this topic: Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the Floods Management Directive (FMD). Jill Michielssen from Commission's DG ENV pointed out that even though compliance is increasing there are still implementation gaps in all Member States regarding the implementation of the WFD that need to be urgently filled.

There were different discussion panels throughout the conference, namely one about Climate Change Effects and about the implementation of the Water Framework Directive and the Industrial Emissions Directive and the challenges found when the two directives are crossed over.

The Project Managers from the Water & Land Expert Team delivered presentations about the developments and main findings of the projects they are managing this year and [Marco Falconi](#), the Expert Team Leader, closed the Conference by giving a presentation about IMPEL and the challenges that lie ahead.

All presentations can be viewed in the annex below.



Annex: all presentations

- [ECA initiative and Environment Action Program](#) - [Liam Cashman](#) (DG ENV)
[Trends in drought monitoring and risk analysis, keys to reduction of our exposure](#) - [Alfred de Jager](#) (JRC)
[Integrated Drought Management Programme in Central and Eastern Europe](#) - [Sabina Bokal](#) (Global Water Partnership Central Eastern Europe)
[Coping with water scarcity](#) - [Jippe Hoogeveen](#) (FAO)
[Land degradation neutrality: The science-policy interface from the UNCCD to national implementation](#) - [Anna Luise](#) (ISPRA, SNPA)
[Dam strategic planning to reduce sediment connectivity alteration](#) - [Simone Bizzi](#) (University of Padova, Department of Geosciences)
[Mitigation of droughts in UK](#) - [Paul Hickey](#) (Environment Agency)
[Drought monitoring in Italy: Focus on the network of River Basin District Observatories for water resource uses](#) - [Stefano Mariani](#) (ISPRA, SNPA)
[State of implementation of Floods Directive](#) - [Jill Michielssen](#) (DG ENV)
[State of implementation of Water Framework Directive](#) - [Jill Michielssen](#) (DG ENV)
[Applying the Water Framework Directive and Floods Management Directive in the Rhine transnational basin](#) - [Adrian Schmid-Breton](#) (Internationale Kommission zum Schutz des Rheins)
[Exploitation of satellite-to-earth microwave links to estimate rainfall](#) - [Daniele Caviglia](#) (University of Genoa)
[Monitoring floods in Lombardy: real time and planning](#) - [Matteo Cislighi](#) (ARPA Lombardy, SNPA)
[Floods Directive: managing diversity](#) - [Barbara Lastoria](#) (ISPRA, SNPA)
[Weather alert system: floods and avalanches](#) - [Roberto Cremonini](#) (ARPA Piedmont)
[Integrated Water Approach and Urban Reuse](#) - [Geneve Farabegoli](#) (ISPRA)
[Management of Mining waste](#) - [Monica Serra](#) (ISPRA)
[Landspreading and capacity of soils to accept contaminants](#) - [Barry Sheppard](#) (Environment Agency)
[Risk analysis based control of agriculture](#) - [Anette Pedersen](#) (MST)
[River Development planning](#) - [Thomas Ormond](#) (Regierungspräsidium Darmstadt)
[Future challenges and projects of Water and Land](#) - [Marco Falconi](#) (ISPRA)