

Annual General Meeting and Scientific Symposium
WATER, HERITAGE & CLIMATE MITIGATION/ADAPTATION:
CONNECTING PAST KNOWLEDGE & FUTURE RESILIENCE

October 18, 2026

9.30am – 5.00pm (GMT +8)

Grand Margherita Hotel, Kuching, Malaysia (in-person)

WEBEX Platform (online): <https://ku-edu.webex.com/ku-edu/j.php?MTID=m1a033c68730d7acccc0220e42a682bd7>

Programme Moderators: Henk van Schaik & Ave Paulus

Annual General Meeting

9.30 – 10.40 am **Opening and Greetings**
Meisha Hunter (ISCWater President)
Sir Diederik Six (Honorary Initiator)
Reports from ISC Bureau (tbc)
Reports from National Committees (tbc)

Scientific Symposium

Presentation to be in *Pecha Kucha* format: 20 slides, 20 seconds per slide

Block 1: Terraces and Landscapes

10.40 – 10.47 am	Climate Resilience in the Honghe Hani Rice Terraces Haiming Yan (China)
10.48 – 10.55 am	Historic Water Meadows as Nature-Culture-Based Solutions for Climate Adaptation Paola Nella Branduini (Italy)
10.56 – 11.01 am	On-going Example of Water Heritage Revitalisation for Terraced Farming in Taiwan North Coast with Youth Empowerment and Ecological Resilience Zhao-Zong Wu (Chinese Taipei)
11.02 – 11.09 am	Rice Bowl Cultural Landscape of Malaysia Afzal Azhari (Malaysia)
11.10 – 11.17 am	Participatory Methodologies for Adaptation of Historic Waterfront Cities Marco Acri (Slovenia)

11.18 – 11.25 am	Still Waters Run Further: The Evolving Functions of Historic Waterways in Lukang, Taiwan Dr. Chao-Shiang Li (Chinese Taipei)
11.26 – 11.33 am	Beyond Excavation: Sivagalai as a Living Cultural-Ecological Landscape Saranya Dharshini (India)
11.34 – 11.41 am	Water, Rice and Resilience: Reconnecting Historical Water Knowledge with Future Adaptation in the Sakarya River Basin, Turkiye Emine Ciedem Asray (Turkiye)
11.42 – 12.00 pm	Discussion

12.00 – 1.00 pm LUNCH BREAK

Block 2: Rainwater-based and Ensembles

1.00 – 1.07 pm	Rain Heritage to Rain Security Reviving Ancient Wisdom for Future Water Safety Mooyoung Han (South Korea)
1.08 – 1.15 pm	Qasabeh Qanat as Living Water Heritage: Linking Conservation, Climate Resilience and Local Sustainable Development Zahra Shafizadeh, Anis Darvishi (Iran)
1.16 – 1.23 pm	Cisterns, Wells and Living Landscape: A Hydro Archaeological Perspectives on Three Millenia of Water Management and Climate Adaptation at Phoenix (Marmaris, Turkiye) Asil Yaman (Turkiye)
1.24 – 1.31 pm	Authenticity in Irrigation Heritage: An International Comparative Analysis of the Karez System, Balinese Subak and Spanish Traditional Irrigation Shifu Zhang (China)
1.32 – 1.39 pm	Living with Water: Refarming Water Heritage in the Eastern Black Sea as a Resource for Climate Adaptation Saadet Gundogdu (Turkiye)
1.40 – 1.47 pm	The Seasonal Salinity Regime of Rawa and Living Water Heritage of Songkhla Lagoon and Thale Noi, Thailand Patiphol Yodsurang (Thailand)
1.48 – 1.55 pm	Reframing Stepwells as Living Water Heritage: Cultural Landscape, Sacred Practice and Community Stewardship in Maharashtra Shubhashree Upasana (India)
1.56 – 2.03 pm	Living with a Changing Water: Reframing Riverine Landscape Beyond Risk and Resilience in the Menderes (Maeander) Delta Gokhan Okumus (Turkiye)
2.04 – 2.30 pm	Discussion

2.30 – 3.00 pm COFFEE / TEA BREAK

Block 3: Intangible Heritage

3.00 – 3.07 pm	When Water Becomes Heritage: Community Stewardship, Environmental Pressures and Climate Resilience from Sacred Springs to Coastal Landscapes in Cameroon Christian Delphin Fegue (Cameroon)
3.08 – 3.15 pm	Traditional Knowledge Systems for Sustainable Flood Risk Management in Cultural Heritage Sites Elif Nur Arslan, Gulsen Disli (Turkiye)
3.16 – 3.23 pm	Seeing the Sacred Lake: A Three-Dimensional Visual Landscape Assessment Method for Water Heritage Values – Qinghai Lake Basin, China Zixuan Zhou (China)
3.24 – 3.31 pm	Water Makes Community Living Water Heritage in Fengyu Town, Yunnan, China Han Qi'er (China)
3.32 – 3.39 pm	Water, Heritage & Climate Mitigation/Adaptation: Connecting Past Knowledge& Future Resilience Memory as Risk Knowledge Faizah Mohd Isa (Malaysia)
3.40 – 3.47 pm	Water Heritage and Historical Resilience in Iran: Reinterpreting Indigenous Water Culture and Management Systems in the Qazvin Shima Kabiri, Somayeh Maraghi (Iran)
3.48 – 3.55 pm	Resilience in Networks: Traditional Water Management Systems as Adaptive Heritage of Historic Cities in the Lower Amu Darya Region, Uzbekistan Yapeng Ou (China)
3.56 – 4.03 pm	Seeping from the Mountain: Communal Rituals of Resistance and Gratitude with Water Moniek Driesse (Netherlands)
4.04 – 4.30 pm	Discussion

4.31 – 5.00 pm Final Discussion and Conclusion/Recommendations
