

Over 25 years of FRIEND-Water: an overview

HENNY A. J. VAN LANEN¹, SIEGFRIED DEMUTH², TREVOR DANIELL³, DAVID M. HANNAH⁴, GREGOR LAAHA⁵, GIL MAHÉ⁶ & LENA M. TALLAKSEN⁷

1 Hydrology and Quantitative Water Management, Wageningen University, Droevendaalsesteeg 3, 6708 PB Wageningen, the Netherlands
henny.vanlanen@wur.nl

2 Hydrological Systems & Global Change Section, Division of Water Sciences, Natural Sciences Sector, UNESCO, 1 rue Miollis, 75 732 Paris cedex 15, SP France

3 School of Civil, Environmental and Mining Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences, University of Adelaide, Adelaide 5005 Australia

4 School of Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham, Birmingham B15 2TT, UK

5 Institute of Applied Statistics and Computing, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, BOKU Vienna, Peter Jordan-Straße 82, A-1190 Vienna, Austria

6 IRD/HSM, 15 rue Abou Derr BP 8967, 10000 Rabat-Agdal, Maroc

7 Department of Geosciences, University of Oslo, P.O.Box 1047, Blindern, NO-0316 Oslo, Norway

Abstract FRIEND-Water has been a flagship programme of the UNESCO-International Hydrological Programme (IHP) for more than 25 years. This network has delivered outstanding scientific value (research papers, conferences) and made significant contributions to international cooperation in the water sciences and associated water resources management, an objective at the core of the IHP and UNESCO mandate. An overview of major activities and outcomes from this cross-cutting programme is provided, including database progress, enhanced scientific understanding of hydrological processes across scales, development of analytical tools, education, capacity building, dissemination and cooperation with other networks. The programme is not only a network of scientists; it is also aims to be a network of several databases and institutions. Ongoing and future activities of the FRIEND-Water network are also addressed.

Key words regional hydrology; flow regimes; hydro-extremes; water resources; databases; education; capacity building; dissemination; international cooperation