



Science for Solutions decade: **HELPING**  
**Hydrology Engaging Local People IN** one **Global** world  
IAHS Scientific Decade 2023-2032  
[IAHS Scientific Decade](#)

**Details of the Working Group – Co-Creating Water Knowledge**

**Describe the work and how your suggested working group will contribute to the goal(s):** The group will contribute to the goal by synthesizing the available experiences of participatory water management and governance and participatory research in water sciences to develop a comprehensive state of the art, identify research gaps and implement suitable training activities within IAHS.

**Describe the methods you will use to achieve the goal(s):** Revision of existing scientific literature, grey sources, projects on participatory water management; critical analysis of biases in participatory research; networking with other scientific associations (political sciences, geography, anthropology, etc.); piloting of new approaches in small-scale projects (<100kE funding).

**Describe the (a) short-term, (b) the long-term and (c) the ultimate results you hope to achieve:**

(a) Increase awareness in the hydrological community of the value of multiple and diverse water knowledges for sustainable development in a changing world. Establish a multi- and trans-disciplinary network of academics from the social and natural sciences arts, and humanities, social actors, and citizens to develop co-creation approaches to water management and knowledge;

(b) Develop a shared vision and strategy for valuing multiple and diverse water knowledges within IAHS. Identify and foster co-produced research and development initiatives that: i. bridge social and natural science and generate power-sensitive accounts of the production and distribution of hydrological risk; ii. recognises and leverages diverse grassroots knowledge on water management at multiple scales; iii. accounts for the aspirations and desired futures of actors who most directly experience and suffer from hydrological risk. Develop a database of good practices of collaboration and co-creation of knowledge, both from existing research and new experiences within the WG;

(c) Develop a platform within IAHS dedicated to co-creating water knowledge by drawing on different ways of knowing without establishing a hierarchy between them and recognising their values and richness for addressing present and future water-related challenges and fostering just and sustainable futures.

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