

REPORT SUBMISSION OF A SYSTA AWARDEE, JUDDY N. OKPARA ON THE OCCASION OF THE 12TH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON STATISTICAL HYDROLOGY (STAHY 2022) HELD FROM 17-20 SEPTEMBER 2022 AT HOTEL PARCO TORRE CHIA SARDINIA, ITALY

This is a personal report on the recently concluded STAHY2022 held in Chia Sardinia, Italy from 17-20 September, 2022, written to express first, my appreciation to the leadership and management of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS) for counting my PhD research, a novel work worthy of consideration for the Sivapalan Young Scientist Travel Award (SYSTA) and given me the rare opportunity of participating in the workshop for the first time since its inception.

The STAHY2022 started with an opening and welcome ceremony on Saturday, 17th September, 2022. Among the personalities present were Prof. Salvatore Grimaldi, the Vice-President of International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS), Prof. Elena Volpi, the president of International Commission on Statistical Hydrology, ICSH-IAHS, Prof. Roberto Deidda, the Chair of STAHY2022 Local Organizing Committee (LOC), Prof. Taha B. Ouarda, Prof. Andras Bardossy, Prof. Ashish Sharma, Prof. Jerry Stedinger, Prof. Richard Vogel, Dr. Simon M. Papalexiou etc. The STAHY2022 was declared open by the Vice-President of IAHS after introducing the three (3) SYSTA Awardees that made it to Italy, namely; Juddy N. Okpara of Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State Nigeria, Meghana Nagaraj of Indian Institute of Technology Madras, India and Vikas Poonia, of Indian Institute of Science, India. The session was brought to an exciting end with icebreaker cocktail party put together in the evening by the LOC.

EARLY CAREER STUDENTS' WORKSHOP

Before the two main presentations slated under the early career student workshop session held later in the afternoon of Sunday, there was 1-minute 50 flash presentations of posters before the poster attendance session, where the flash presentation presenters were asked questions to provide further clarifications on their respective research works. The three SYSTA Awardees that were present also made their presentations. *Picture coverage of some of the events are attached herewith.*

COMMENTS: The introduction of “flash presentation” into the STAHY workshop was a welcome development and innovative idea. However, suggestions were given on how to sustain the idea and improve on it; especially, providing clear guidance or guidelines on what type of information the flash presentation should contain as well as increasing the duration. It is hoped that such suggestions will be taken in good faith and incorporated in the planning of subsequent future workshops and conferences.

On Monday, 15 presentations were held including invited 30 minutes talk of Prof. Andras Bardossy; whereas on Tuesday 13 presentations were delivered including presentation on the STAHY Award winning research work of Dr. Simon Papalexiou, “Modelling Hydrometeorological Processes with Laws of Randomness: From Univariate to Space-Time Simulations”.

OBSERVATIONS: The environment of the STAHY2022 venue was averagely okay, especially, the beautiful surrounding beach, but most of the participants could not enjoy direct access to the Wifi internet network that was paid for in their rooms. The internet network was only available at the reception and the workshop hall. Additionally, the STAHY2022 SYSTA Awardees went with expectation to also receive a SYSTA Award Certificate the same way SYSTA Awardees of IAHS 2022 Scientific Assembly in Montpellier, France was given certificates. The three STAHY2022 SYSTA Awardees that made it to Italy were puzzled and speechless when the curtain was drawn to mark end of the workshop without any other thing said to the awardees.

CLOSING CEREMONY

The grand finale of the STAHY2022 was marked with a closing ceremony where the workshop was declared closed by Prof. Elena Volpi, the President of International Commission of Statistical Hydrology, ICSH-IAHS, and was followed by an exciting social dinner at Crar'e Luna held on Tuesday night.

CONCLUSION

The STAHY2022 indeed provided an ample opportunity to meet, interact and cross-breed ideas with other early career hydrologists; as well as meet with some renowned erudite scholars in the field of hydrology such as Prof. Jerry Stedinger, Prof. Richard Vogel. Prof. Taha B. Ouarda etc. including meeting with the STAHY2022 Awardee and developer of CosMos Model Dr. Simon M. Papalexiou. Thanks once again for the SYSTA Award given to me, without which my participation would have been impossible; and for this privilege of making new contacts and friends in our enviable field of hydrology. Such award to me, cannot be taken for granted, it has only spurred me into doing more research to promote IAHS through publishing in their Journal of Hydrological Sciences.

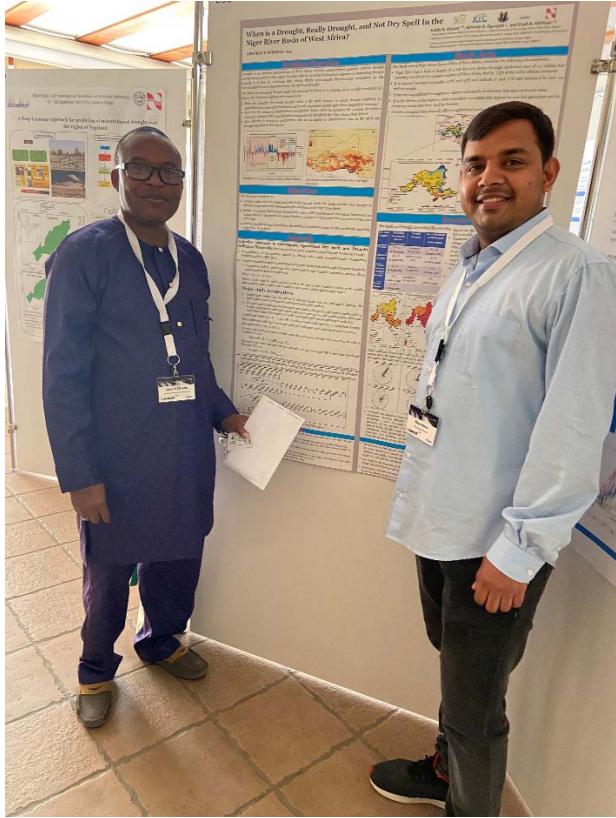
Abstract: [When is a drought, really drought, and not a dry spell in the Niger River Basin of West Africa?](#)



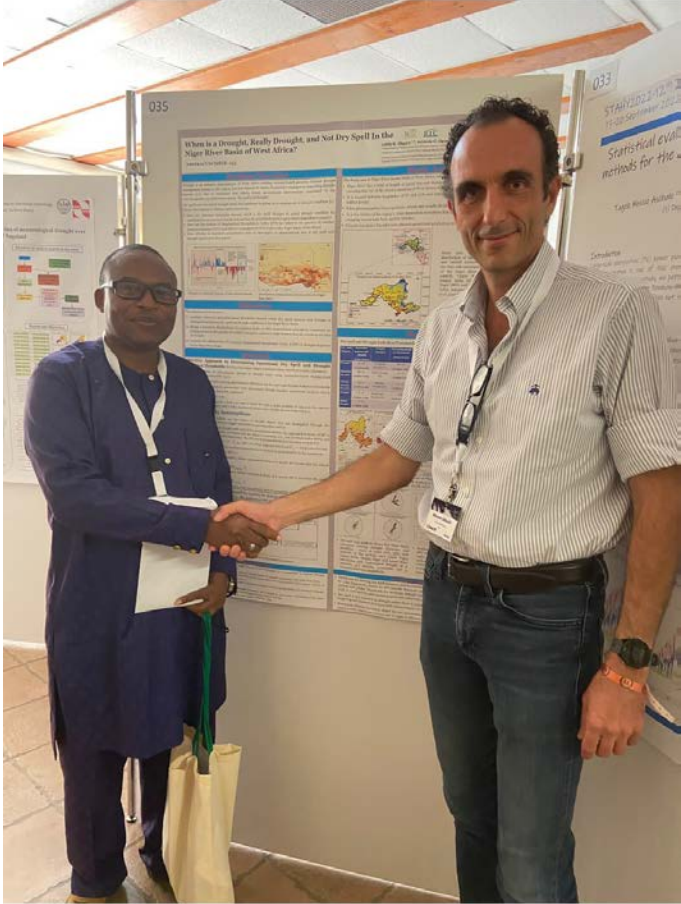
Juddy N. Okpara

STAHY2022 SYSTA Awardee

September 30, 2022



SYSTA awardees Juddy Okpara and Vikas Poonia



Juddy Okpara with IAHS VP Salvatore Grimaldi