



TRAVEL REPORT
(OP MC. No.04, s. 2014)

TITLE: XVIII World Water Congress – Water for All: Harmony Between Humans and Nature

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The World Water Congress is one of the world's largest congresses linking water policy makers, researchers, and policy practitioners. Since 1973, International Water Resources Association (IWRA) has held a World Water Congress every three years in various locations around the world. This influential event has been successfully held 17 times. During the Congress, heads of international organisations, high level government officials, experts, scholars, entrepreneurs, and economists from all over the world would share their knowledge, experience, and practice regarding a wide range of topics related to water.

With the theme of "Water for All: Harmony between Humans and Nature", the XVIII World Water Congress aims to promote coordination and balance between the water needs of humans and nature. The Congress facilitated knowledge and experience sharing, focusing on investigating the relationship between water, humans, and nature, identifying and reconciling all water-related factors in a coordinated manner, and making and implementing water management strategies and policies using systematic approaches.

The objective of the World Water Congress is to provide a meeting place to share experiences, promote discussion, and to present new knowledge, research results and new developments in the field of water sciences around the world. For almost five decades the World Water Congresses have been excellent events for the identification of major global themes concerning the water agenda, and for the bringing together of a large cross-section of stakeholders for the development and implementation of decisions in the field of water.

The XVIII World Water Congress, jointly hosted by the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China and the International Water Resources Association (IWRA), came to a successful close on September 15th in Beijing, China. This remarkable event brought together 2980 registered attendees ranging from experts, scholars, and delegates from 83 countries and regions, along with 36 international organisations.

Throughout the Congress, numerous sessions, including 4 High-level plenary sessions, 36 Regular sessions, 74 Special sessions, and 15 Side events, were held, covering 6 sub-themes and 44 topics. More than 130 reports were presented, and over 80 exhibitions related to water-related issues were organized. The congress highlighted the importance of inclusive development, multilateral cooperation, and sharing successful water governance experiences to achieve the water-related goals of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Collective efforts and international collaboration will be instrumental in addressing water challenges and building a sustainable and water-secure future for all.

II. DATE, PLACE AND PURPOSE OF THE TRAVEL

11-15 September 2023; Beijing, China; To attend and present a paper at the XVIII World Water Congress

III. KEY OUTCOMES

The global water crisis is an escalating concern, with growing population pressures, climate change, and increasing demand for water resources exacerbating the challenges. Sustainable water management practices have become imperative to ensure a resilient and secure water future for all.

Congress Highlights:

- Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM): Emphasizing the importance of adopting IWRM approaches that consider the holistic management of water resources. This approach promotes the efficient use of water, equitable access, and ecosystem conservation.
- Technological Innovations: Exploring cutting-edge technologies such as IoT sensors, artificial intelligence, and remote sensing for real-time monitoring and data-driven decision-making in water management.
- Climate Adaptation: Discussing strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change on water resources, including resilient infrastructure, drought and flood management, and adaptation measures.
- Stakeholder Engagement: Highlighting the significance of involving all relevant stakeholders, including communities, governments, NGOs, and the private sector, in collaborative water management efforts.
- Cross-Border Cooperation: Advocating for international collaboration and diplomacy to address transboundary water issues and promote peaceful and sustainable water-sharing agreements.
- Capacity Building: Emphasizing the need for capacity-building programs and knowledge sharing to enhance local and regional capabilities in water management.

Key Takeaways:

- Sustainable water management is an essential component of achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation).
- Technological advancements and data-driven decision-making are critical for efficient water resource management.
- Climate change adaptation is crucial to ensuring water resilience in the face of increasing environmental uncertainties.
- Stakeholder involvement and cross-border cooperation are essential for the success of water management initiatives.

In conclusion, the XVIII World Water Congress underscored the significance of embracing sustainable and innovative approaches to water management in the pursuit of a resilient and water-secure future. By promoting collaboration, harnessing technology, and fostering inclusive governance, we can navigate the challenges of water scarcity and build a more sustainable world for generations to come.

IV. ABSTRACT OF THE PAPPER PRESENTED (for Paper Presenter)
(See attachment No. 1)

V. ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS
(See attachment No. 2)

VI. FUNDING AGENCY FOR TRAVEL SUPPORT – Local and Foreign
(See attachment No. 3)

VII. SUMMARY OF TRAVEL EXPENSES

Particulars	Local Funds		Foreign Funds	
	Name of Agency	Amount	Name of Agency	Amount
Travel	Visayas State University – Faculty Development Fund	Php 30, 227.76	-	-
Registration Fee	Visayas State University - Faculty Development Fund	Php 20,796.60	-	-
Others	Visayas State University – (Research Project) GAA.ISRDS.0723-0624.02	Php 24,601.77	-	-

VIII. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO SPONSOR

Attachment: Photocopy of Certificate of Participation/Attendance/Appreciation, and Photographs, if available



Opening ceremony of XVIII World Water Congress at the Beijing Guoce International Convention and Exhibition



Attending the plenary session on Tackling Challenges in Water Resource in a Changing Climate



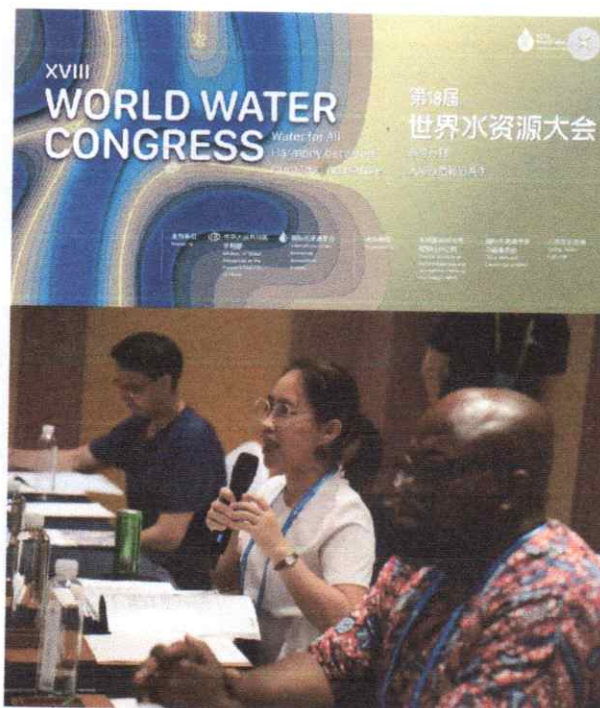
Signature wall for the XVIII World Water Congress posted in front of the Beijing Guoce International Convention and Exhibition

Vision:
Mission:

A globally competitive university for science, technology, and environmental conservation.
Development of a highly competitive human resource, cutting-edge scientific knowledge and innovative technologies for sustainable communities and environment.



Attending the special session on “Water for All, All for Water”



Actively participating during the open forum on the regular session on Hydro-meteorological extremes and urban sustainable development in changing environment

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Attending the special session on Advance in Flood Disaster Assessment and Risk Management



Presenting my study on Monitoring Social Change in Mining Areas Using Remote Sensing

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Closing ceremony of the XVIII World Water Congress

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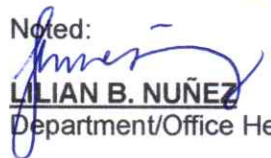
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