

TOPIC SESSION REPORT	Chair:	Reporter:
<p>Theme: Education, Knowledge and Capacity Development</p> <p>Thematic coordination group:</p>	<p>Thematic coordination lead:</p> <p>Organization: UNESCO</p> <p>Name contact person: A Szöllösi-Nagy</p> <p>e-mail: a.szollosi-nagy@unesco.org</p>	
<p>Topic: 6.4</p> <p><i>Data for All (new proposal)</i></p> <p>Topic Main Question:</p> <p><i>How can we unlock the data treasure chest?</i></p>	<p>Topic co-coordination lead:</p> <p>Organization: International Association of Hydrological Sciences, IHP</p> <p>Name contact person: Gordon Young & A Askew</p> <p>e-mail: gordonyoung_wwap@yahoo.com</p> <p>Name contact person: Siegfried Demuth</p> <p>e-mail: s.demuth@unesco.org</p>	
Key Topic Issues	Questions	Session Ideas
Unlocking the data treasure chest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who is responsible for collecting & storing the data? Who should pay for the data? Who owns the data? Should we share data? How to provide open access to data for scientific and operational purposes What mechanism and instruments/tools exist to improve the data sharing process? Why are institutions & organizations protective of the data they collect? 	
The ultimate data machine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can we use technology to facilitate data access, mining & knowledge acquisition? What lessons can we learn from online giants such as Google, Yahoo, etc., in the area of data handling, sharing and visualization? How can the water sector benefit from unified personalized information platforms (GoogleEarth, YouTube, TomTom etc)? Are we prepared for future developments such as a single digital earth model (that combines geographical, hydro-geological, ecological, climatologically models)? 	

Pareto principle (80/20)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is it possible for us to understand 80% of the water cycle with just 20% of data?• Are there techniques that identify the most important & significant components of data that gives us the majority of the picture in relation to the water cycle?• In countries that are data scarce (developing countries), can we demonstrate that a little data (but the most important) goes a long way in our understanding of the water cycle?• Are there good examples where limited but focussed data collection activities provided a major impact on the understanding of the water cycle and hence supported effective, efficient design & management?	
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