

# Sustain Tunis 2026 Conference

## Water and Ecosystem Resilience under a Changing Hydrological Cycle

Tunis, Tunisia | 2-4 June 2026 <https://sustaintunis2026.eu/>

### Final Conference Agenda

Session	Time	Activity
<b>Day 1: Tuesday, 2 June 2026</b>		
Plenary session	08:00-09:00h 09:00-10:00h	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Registration</li> <li>- Opening ceremony and welcome remarks</li> <li>▪ <b>Seifeddine Jomaa</b> and <b>Slaheddine Khlifi</b> (Conference Co-Chairs)</li> <li>▪ <b>Khaled El Moueddeb</b>, General Director of Ecole Supérieure des Ingénieurs de Medjez el Beb</li> <li>▪ <b>Aissa Hlaimi</b>, Director of General Directorate of Water Resources in Tunisia</li> <li>▪ <b>Ali Rhouma</b>, PRIMA Project Officer</li> <li>▪ <b>Octavi Quintana Trias</b>, Director of the PRIMA Program</li> <li>▪ <b>Zohra Lili-Chabaane</b>, President of IRESA Tunisia</li> <li>▪ <b>Hamadi Habaieb</b>, Secretary of State for Water Resources of Tunisia</li> </ul>
	10:00-10:45h <b>1<sup>st</sup> Keynote Speaker</b>	<p><b>Kamel Didan</b> (University of Arizona, USA): <i>Diagnosing Climate Change Impacts on Tunisia's Ecohydrology using Long-term Remote Sensing and Climate Data Records</i></p> <p><b>Conveners:</b> Seifeddine Jomaa and Slaheddine Khlifi</p>
	10:45-11:15h	Coffee break
Plenary session	11:15-12:30h	<p><b>Session A1:</b> Hydrological and Ecosystem Monitoring and Modelling</p> <p><b>Convener:</b> Nadim K. Copty</p>
	11:15-11:45h <b>Invited Speaker</b>	<p><b>Michael Rode</b>, Mufeng Chen, Felix Sauke, Karsten Rinke, Martyn Futter, Seifeddine Jomaa: <i>Catchment-Scale Biogeochemical Responses to Climate-Driven Forest Dieback: Evidence from the Bode River Basin, Harz Mountains (Germany)</i></p>
	11:45-12:15h <b>Invited Speaker</b>	<p><b>Miguel Martin</b>, Vanessa Almeida de Godoy, Rafael Magnabosco, Carmen Hernández-Crespo, Jaime Gómez-Hernández: <i>Nitrates Removal in Constructed Wetlands as Nature-based Solutions at the Aquifer-Surface Water Interface</i></p>
	12:15-12:30h	<p>Pari Luigi, Claudia Zaccaria, Luca Cozzolino, Simone Bergonzoli, <b>Maria Valentina Lasorella</b>: <i>Performance of a Flexible Water Tank System for Enhancing On-Farm Water Storage in Central Italy</i></p>
	12:30-14:00h	Lunch
Parallel session 1	14:00-15:00h <b>Room 1</b>	<p><b>Session B1:</b> In-situ and Earth Observations for Hydrological System Monitoring</p> <p><b>Convener:</b> Khaled El Moueddeb</p>
	14:00-14:15h	<p><b>Patrícia Lourenço</b>, Mariano Terrón, Ivan López, Luís Paixão, Ailla Maçaneiro, Vanessa A. Godoy, Jaime Gómez, Miguel Martín Monerri, Pier Paolo Roggero, George Karatzas, Seifeddine Jomaa, José Rafael Marques da Silva: <i>Spatio-Temporal Resilience Indicators of Mediterranean Surface Waters</i></p>
	14:15-14:30h	<p><b>Anis Bousselmi</b>, Niass Amadou, Ahmed Skhiri, Slaheddine Khlifi: <i>Evaluation of Advanced Irrigation Management Methods for Wheat under Semi-Arid Conditions: The Case of Bou Salem Region (Jendouba, Tunisia)</i></p>
	14:30-14:45h	<p><b>Ameni Belhaj Kilani</b>, Marnik Vanclooster, Slaheddine Khlifi: <i>Integrating SAR and Optical Data for Precision Agriculture: Soil Moisture Monitoring in the Public Irrigated Area of Lakhmass (Siliana, Northern Tunisia)</i></p>
	14:45-15:00h	<p>Djiba Keita, Arnaud Gauthier, <b>Sana Ounaies</b>, Abir Imad, Ahmeda Konate: <i>Assessing Environmental Risks of Gold Mining on the Hydrogeochemical Quality of the Kankan Aquifer (Guinea)</i></p>
Parallel session 2	14:00-15:00h <b>Room 2</b>	<p><b>Session B2:</b> Multi-Scale Hydrological Modelling and Forecasting under Changing Climate</p> <p><b>Convener:</b> Vanessa A. Godoy</p>
	14:00-14:15h	<p><b>Valeria Todaro</b>, Daniele Secci, Marco D'Oria, Maria Giovanna Tanda: <i>CMIP6-Medplus: A Statistically Downscaled CMIP6 Climate Projection Dataset for the Mediterranean Region</i></p>
	14:15-14:30h	<p><b>Daniele Secci</b>, Marco D'Oria, Valeria Todaro, Maria Giovanna Tanda: <i>Climatic Water Balance as a Lens for Future Mediterranean Hydrological Stress</i></p>
	14:30-14:45h	<p><b>Siwar Ben Nsir</b>, Marco D'Oria, Seifeddine Jomaa, Slaheddine Khlifi: <i>Climate Change Impacts on Streamflow in a Data-Scarce Mediterranean Catchment: The Bouherma Basin, Tunisia</i></p>

	14:45-15:00h	<b>Khouloud Gader</b> , Ahlem Gara, Slaheddine Khelifi, Houcine Jeder, Marnik Vanclooster: <i>Hybrid CNN-GR4J Modeling for Present and Future Streamflow Simulation under CMIP6 Climate Scenarios in Semi-Arid Mediterranean Catchments</i>
	15:00-15:30h	Coffee break and poster session
Parallel session 1	15:30-16:45h <b>Room 1</b>	<b>Session B3:</b> Data-Driven, Process-Based and Socio-hydrological Modelling for Water Management <b>Convener:</b> Marco D'Oria
	15:30-15:45h	<b>Linda Mansouri</b> , Rim Ouachani, Hamouda Dakhlaoui: <i>Artificial Intelligence for Predicting Hydrometeorological Hazards in the Medjerda Basin</i>
	15:45-16:00h	<b>Elif Bal</b> , Ali Kerem Saysel, Irem Daloglu Cetinkaya: <i>Stakeholder-Driven Dynamic Systems Modeling for Managing the Water-Food-Ecosystems Nexus in the Konya Closed Basin, Türkiye</i>
	16:00-16:15h	<b>Luca Doro</b> , Guido Casula, Mario Pirastru, Alberto Carletti, Giovanni Ragaglia, Javier M. Osorio Leyton, Pier Paolo Roggero: <i>Modeling Water and Nutrient Dynamics in Mediterranean Intensive Farmlands: APEX-Based Assessment of the Role of Shelterbelts and Forested Infiltration Areas</i>
	16:15-16:30h	<b>Mohammadreza Khandandel</b> , Elif Bal, Cem İskender Aydin, Ali Kerem Saysel, Nadim Copty, İrem Daloglu Çetinkaya: <i>Water Management Pathways for Sustainable Agriculture and Ecosystem Restoration in the Konya Closed Basin, Türkiye</i>
	16:30-16:45h	<b>Silvia Baralla</b> , Maria Valentina Lasorella, Myriam Ruberto, Andrea Arzeni, Valentina Carta, Chiara Piccini, Mara Lai, Tommaso Pomponi, Marianna Ferrigno: <i>Stakeholders' Involvement Strategies to Broaden the Impact of On-Farm Water Management Innovation: Results From AQUAGRI-KNOW Project</i>
Parallel session 2	15:30-16:45h <b>Room 2</b>	<b>Session B4:</b> Water quality monitoring and Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for Ecosystem Restoration and Social Challenges <b>Convener:</b> Anis Bousselmi
	15:30-15:45h	<b>Sadashiv Chaturvedi</b> , Salvatore Manfreda, Davide Talamini, Marco Sandrucci: <i>Multi-Objective Robust Decision Making for Dual-Purpose Water Infrastructure under Hydro-Climatic Extremes</i>
	15:45-16:00h	<b>Oussama Belloulid</b> , Oussama Abaouss, Mehdi Ait Lachguer, Taha Hachem, Hicham Elgatem: <i>Operationalising Science-based Wetland Restoration through Modelling-Driven Nature-based Solutions at Dayet Aoua (Sebou Basin, Morocco)</i>
	16:00-16:15h	Safa Chaabane, <b>Khalifa Riahi</b> , Mohamed Hachicha, Slaheddine Khelifi: <i>High-Frequency Monitoring of Water Quality and Level Dynamics in a Hill Dam Reservoir with Floating Photovoltaics in Northern Tunisia</i>
	16:15-16:30h	<b>Michael Ronse</b> , Anis Guelmami: <i>Mediterranean Water-Related Ecosystems under Increasing Pressure: Implications for Water Security and Resilience</i>
<b>End of first day activities</b>		
<b>Day 2: Wednesday, 3 June 2026</b>		
Plenary session	08:30-09:15h <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Keynote Speaker</b>	<b>Salvatore Manfreda</b> (University of Naples Federico II, UNINA, Italy): <i>Next-Generation River Monitoring: Cameras and Artificial Intelligence for Unconventional Hydrological Measurements</i> <b>Convener:</b> David Andrew Barry
Plenary session	09:15-10:25h	<b>Session A2:</b> Groundwater Sustainability from Local to Global Scales and WEFE Nexus <b>Convener:</b> J. Jaime Gómez-Hernández
	09:15-09:45h <b>Invited Speaker</b>	<b>Ali Rhouma:</b> <i>Assessing Farming Sustainability through the Lens of Water Energy Food Ecosystems Nexus</i>
	09:45-10:15h <b>Invited Speaker</b>	<b>Graham Fogg:</b> <i>On the Need for Groundwater 2.0</i>
	10:15-10:45h <b>Invited Speaker</b>	<b>David Hyndman:</b> <i>Using Remote Sensing and Integrated Hydrologic Models to Evaluate Irrigation Impacts on Water-Stressed Aquifers Across the United States</i>
	10:45-11:15h	Coffee break
Parallel session 1	11:15-12:45h <b>Room 1</b>	<b>Session C1:</b> Groundwater Vulnerability and Impacts of Climate Change <b>Convener:</b> Pier Paolo Roggero
	11:15-11:30h	<b>Aishik Debnath</b> , Amir Rouhani, Manfred Fink, Slaheddine Khelifi, Patrícia Lourenço, J. Jaime Gómez-Hernández, Nadim K. Copty, Seifeddine Jomaa: <i>Assessing Groundwater Dynamics in Northwestern Tunisia Using High-Frequency Monitoring and Earth Observation</i>

	11:30-11:45h	<b>Khouloud Neili</b> , Fatma Trabelsi, Shakil Jiwa, Sarah Durrani, Amir AghaKouchak: <i>Prediction of Groundwater level using Machine Learning and Earth Observation data; case study: The Lower Valley of the Medjerda</i>
	11:45-12:00h	Matilde Labanti, Nadim K. Copty, Slaheddine Khelifi, Evangelos Tziritis, Seifeddine Jomaa, <b>Maria Giovanna Tanda</b> : <i>High Frequency Monitoring for Groundwater Characterization in the Mediterranean Region</i>
	12:00-12:15h	<b>Vsevolod Samartsev</b> , Sergey Pozdnyakov, Ping Wang, Vladimir Lekhov, Sergey Grinevskiy: <i>Regional Estimate of Groundwater Runoff in European Russia Accounting for Climate Change at the Turn of the 20th and 21st Centuries</i>
	12:15-12:30h	<b>Sana Ounaies</b> , Arnaud Gauthier, Abir Imad: <i>Advanced Hydrologic Modeling for Water Management in Coastal Mediterranean Regions: The AI4Water Project</i>
Parallel session 2	11:15-13:00h <b>Room 2</b>	<b>NextGen4MED Side Event</b> : System Dynamics Modelling <b>Convener</b> : Elif Bal
	12:30-14:00h	Lunch
Parallel session 1	14:00-15:30h <b>Room 1</b>	<b>Session C2</b> : Governance and Policy towards Sustainable Water Management <b>Convener</b> : Ali Kerem Saysel
	14:00-14:15h	<b>Chiara Ceseracciu</b> , Federico Mura, Romina Deriu, Giampiero Branca, Pier Paolo Roggero: <i>Co-creating Knowledge on Water: A Community-Based Perspective for Mediterranean Water Governance</i>
	14:15-14:30h	<b>Imen Souissi</b> , Oussama Rhouma, Ahmed Skhiri, Vanessa A.Godoy, Raphael Magnabosco, J. Jaime Gómez-Hernández, Slaheddine Khelifi: <i>Water-Allocation under Climate Change in Siliana Dam (Northern Tunisia): AQUATOOL Application for Enhancing Resilience and Reducing Water-Use Conflicts</i>
	14:30-14:45h	<b>Maroua Oueslati</b> , Miranda Apakidze, Seifeddine Jomaa, Patrícia Lourenço, Vanessa A. Godoy, Awais Naeem Sarwar, Ainhua Maté Marín: <i>From Innovation to Impact: Business Models and Exploitation Pathways for Sustainable Water Solutions in the Mediterranean - Insights from the OurMED Project</i>
	14:45-15:00h	<b>Ahmed F. Abugdera</b> , Demetris F. Lekkas: <i>Integrating Ecological Objectives into National Action Planning for Water Pollution Reduction in Libya</i>
	15:00-15:15h	<b>Ahlem Gara</b> , Khouloud Gader, Slaheddine Khelifi, Marnik Vanclooster, Christophe Bouvier: <i>AI-Enhanced Spatial Assessment of Hydro-Climatic Data Uncertainty in a Southern Mediterranean Basin</i>
	15:15-15:30h	<b>Domenico Miglino</b> , Seifeddine Jomaa, Slaheddine Khelifi, Michael Rode, and Salvatore Manfreda: <i>Transferability of Image-based River Turbidity Monitoring: Insights from a Tunisian Case Study</i>
Parallel session 2	14:00-17:00h <b>Room 2</b>	<b>Share Africa Side Event</b> : Innovative Technologies for Sustainable Water Management <b>Convener</b> : Salvatore Manfreda
	15:30-16:00h	Coffee break
<b>Poster session</b> 16:00-17:30h		<p><b>P1 - Maria Valentina Lasorella</b>, Sergio Ruggieri, Pasquale Garofalo, Giuseppe Satalino, Michele Rinaldi: <i>Smart Irrigation – Technology for More Sustainable and Water-Saving Agriculture</i></p> <p><b>P2 - Vanessa A. Godoy, Rafael Magnabosco</b>, Miguel Martín, Carmen Hernández-Crespo, Eduardo Cassiraga, Javier Rodrigo-Illari, J. Jaime Gómez-Hernández: <i>Water-Swap Strategies for Lagoon Restoration: The Albufera of Valencia</i></p> <p><b>P3 - Siwar Ben Nsir</b>, Marco D'Oria, Seifeddine Jomaa, Mohamed Hachicha, Slaheddine Khelifi: <i>Combining in Situ Observations, Earth Observation Data, and Pedotransfer Functions for Catchment-Scale Soil and Hydraulic Property Mapping</i></p> <p><b>P4 - Rachid Chellali</b>, Miloud Aissat, Mohamed Loucif: <i>Qualitative Overview of Urban Wastewater Reuse in the South Plain of Tissemsilt, Algeria</i></p> <p><b>P5 - Fabien Chatelier</b>, Amir Rouhani, Maroua Oueslati, Nadim K. Copty, İrem Daloğlu Çetinkaya, Cem İskender Aydın, Evangelos Tziritis, Salvatore Manfreda, Seifeddine Jomaa: <i>A Systemic Framework for Mainstreaming Nature-based Solutions</i></p> <p><b>P6 - Abir Garouachi</b>, Fatma Trabelsi, Ivan Serina: <i>Integrated Remote Sensing and Hydrological Modeling for Assessing Groundwater Recharge Dynamics in Coastal Aquifer: Case of Ras Jebel, Tunisia</i></p> <p><b>P7 - Nouhed Friha</b>, Imen Souissi, Slaheddine Khelifi: <i>Assessment of Irrigation Practice and Crop Vulnerability in a Semi-Arid Mediterranean System: Sidi Ibrahim Irrigated Area (Northern Tunisia)</i></p> <p><b>P8 - Evangelos Tziritis</b>, Zhor Abail, Oyku Akoguz, Alberto Carletti, Nadim K Copty, Gana Gecheva, Seifeddine Jomaa, Slaheddine Khelifi, Elena Lopez, Miguel Martin Monerri, Fabio Masi, Quirico Migheli, Charalampos Paraskevas: <i>A Transformative Innovation Ecosystem for Resilient Water Management through Scalable Nature-based Solutions in the Mediterranean (NBS360)</i></p> <p><b>P9 - Dhia Slim</b>, Fatma Trabelsi, Ivan Serina: <i>Evaluation of the Impact of Land Use on the Recharge of the Ras Jebel Aquifer: Application of Remote Sensing and Modeling</i></p>

		<p><b>P10</b> - Ioulia Koroptsenko, Emmanouil A. Varouchakis, <b>George Karatzas</b>: <i>WEAP Modeling for Efficient Water Allocation in the Keritis-Therissos Watershed: Pathways to Sustainability</i></p> <p><b>P11</b> - <b>Peter Dietrich</b>, Moulshree Tripathi, Amanda Vinson, Rudolf Liedl, B.R. Chahar, Prabhas Yadav: <i>When is the Streambed Relevant for Groundwater-Surface Water-Interaction?</i></p> <p><b>P12</b> - <b>Silvia Baralla</b>, Myriam Ruberto, Simona Capone, Raffaella Zucaro: <i>Water Excellences and Water Cultural Heritage as Opportunity to Promote Rural Areas and the Importance of the Sustainable Use of Water in Italy</i></p> <p><b>P13</b> - Mina Khosravi, Paolo Perona, <b>David Andrew Barry</b>: <i>Capturing Sequential Decision Interdependencies in Data-Driven Operating Rules</i></p> <p><b>P14</b> - <b>Ahmed Skhiri</b>, Malak Moussa, Taheni Mbarki, Slaheddine Khelifi, Mohamed Hachicha: <i>Climate Change Impacts on Water Requirements and Soil Salinity of Open Field-Grown Tomato in the Medjerda River Basin</i></p> <p><b>P15</b> - <b>Chaima Chaouachi</b>, Nadia Gaboussa, Amor Bayouli, Slaheddine Khelifi: <i>Impact of Soil Erosion Practices and Climate Change on Runoff and Reservoir Sedimentation: SWAT Application at Wadi Souani Sub-Catchment (Kef, Tunisia)</i></p> <p><b>P16</b> - <b>Nashat Hamidan</b>, Omar Suleiman: <i>High-Frequency Hydrological Monitoring and Environmental Flow Assessment in a Semi-Arid River Basin: The Mujib Basin, Jordan</i></p> <p><b>P17</b> - <b>Saif Tahri</b>, Sana Ounaies, Arnaud Gauthier: <i>Hydrological modelling of the impact of sediment deposits on bank erosion and flood management, case study: Pas-de-Calais department, France</i></p>
	20:00h	Social dinner
<b>End of second day activities</b>		
<b>Day 3: Thursday, 4 June 2026</b>		
Plenary session	08:30-09:15h	<b>Elena López-Gunn</b> (Director of ICATALIST, Spain): <i>Building (Water) Resilience in The Age of (Climate) Extremes</i> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Keynote Speaker</b> <b>Convener:</b> İrem Daloğlu Çetinkaya
	09:15-10:30h	<b>Thematic Session A3: Ecosystem Protection and Restoration Under Increasing Pressures</b> <b>Convener:</b> Patrícia Lourenço
	09:15-09:30h	<b>Vanessa A. Godoy</b> , Rafael Magnabosco, Miguel Martín, Carmen Hernández-Crespo, Eduardo Cassiraga, Javier Rodrigo-Illari, J. Jaime Gómez-Hernández: <i>Scaling Up Nature-based Solutions through Integrated Modelling</i>
	09:30-09:45h	<b>Maximilian Schwarz</b> , Jonas Franke, Isabel Augscheller, Stefan Kirmaier, Kevin Kuonath, Seifeddine Jomaa: <i>Multi-Scale Earth Observation for Wetland and Hydrological Monitoring across the Mediterranean: Remote Sensing Products from Basin to Regional Scale within the OurMED Project</i>
	09:45-10:00h	<b>Sameh Anibi</b> , Souhir Ellouze, Moncef Zairi: <i>Reservoir Siltation in Tunisia: Insights from the Siliana Dam Reservoir</i>
	10:00-10:30h	Coffee break
Plenary session	10:30-12:00h	<b>Session A4: Digital Twin for Timely and Effective Decision Making</b> <b>Convener:</b> Daniele Secci
	10:30-10:45h	<b>Saida Ben Alaya</b> : <i>Hydraulic Modelling of the 2018 Nabeul Flood in Korba (Oued Boulidine) using HEC-RAS and HEC-GEORAS</i>
	10:45-11:00h	<b>Ainhoa Maté Marín</b> : <i>Lessons Learned from Deploying the Xylem Vue Digital Platform in Mediterranean Demo Sites for Sustainable Water Management in View of Climate Change</i>
	11:00-11:15h	<b>Amir Rouhani</b> , Michael Rode, Seifeddine Jomaa: <i>River Basin Digital Twin Platform as a Next-Generation Decision Support System</i>
	11:15-11:30h	<b>Mehdi Ben Youssef</b> , Amir Rouhani, Seifeddine Jomaa: <b>MEDWaterHUB: A Cloud-based Interactive Platform for Water Management and Environmental Storytelling in the Mediterranean Region</b>
Plenary session	11:30-12:30h	Concluding remark
<b>End of the conference</b>		