



# GLOBAL WATER FUTURES

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SOLUTIONS TO WATER THREATS  
IN AN ERA OF GLOBAL CHANGE

[WWW.GLOBALWATERFUTURES.CA](http://WWW.GLOBALWATERFUTURES.CA)

## The home stretch

Reaching Global Water Futures knowledge users through  
knowledge mobilization

Presentation to the Global Water Futures User Advisory Panel meeting, 26 May 2022



## Objectives of the User Advisory Panel

- insights into the **users' science and decision support needs**
- provide recommendations and avenues for translating GWF's research results into **real-world impacts**
- support **scientific exchange with private and public sectors**
- provide **strategic advice**
- be a catalyst in identifying **new opportunities for sustainability of the GWF network post CFREF funding**



# Five years of GWF Knowledge Mobilization

1. Building a **common understanding** of KM and its value
2. **Building relationships** and maintaining engagement with end-users at every stage of research
3. Developing **resources/tools** to support projects and to share concepts and ideas across GWF network
4. **Articulating when & how is GWF having a meaningful impact on water management** practices in Canada



## Our focus in 2022-23

- **Strengthening the science-policy interface** by building on patiently cultivated relationships
- **Sharing syntheses** that pull together work from across the programme
- **Making relevance visible** through capturing researcher-user interactions
- **Winning hearts and minds** by tapping into the power of visual art, lived experience, fiction, and poetry to raise awareness, increase understanding, and encourage reflection about the need for science
- **Preserving, promoting and pivoting on** institutional memory



## Questions for you on the Panel

- **What else** is needed to ensure further success and significance to users?
- Who are the **'knowledge users'** we want most to reach? Where are there gaps?
- What are your **priorities**?
- Appropriate **paths**?



## Getting specific about users

- **First users:** The science community – researchers and research institutions -- to keep knowledge evolving
- **Next users:** government, industry and professional associations, private sector, NGOs: to understand potential impact, translate, and advocate
- **End users/beneficiaries:** those directly affected by water and climate issues, to change attitudes and practice

## Project



## GWF Message

Climate change is influencing water availability

Innovative Canadian modelling work can inform water management at the global level to better deal with climate change

## Next User Examples

Science community; Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; OMAFRA; Ontario Federation of Agriculture, OFVGA, Ontario Horticultural Trades Association, Ontario MECP

Science community; Global Commission on Adaptation; GWP; World Bank Water; UN-Water; UNEP; WMO

## End User Examples

Farmers, Food processors, Input suppliers; Crop insurers

State, regional, and municipal government bodies of Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan

## Project



Global Water Futures @GWFutures · May 18  
Northern lakes may be at higher risk of harmful algal blooms because air temperature is increasing faster in the north: Michael Dallosch and colleagues explore [bit.ly/3MFSJlj](https://bit.ly/3MFSJlj) @GWFutures Meeting HOME | GWF 2022 #GlobalWaterFutures2022 @Lake\_Futures @crduguay @HomaKrp



Global Water Futures @GWFutures · May 16  
Hydro-limnological knowledge to understand climate change impact on nesting of the world's last migratory flock of whooping cranes [bit.ly/3yvEUBH](https://bit.ly/3yvEUBH) @GWFutures Meeting HOME | GWF 2022 @NWF\_Research @RamsarConv @ParksCanada @markbidwellyxe #GWF2022



## GWF Message

Climate change is influencing northern freshwater quality

Climate change has a direct impact on water for biodiversity

## Next User Examples

Science community; Health Canada; Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board; Northwest Territories Health and Social Services

Science community; UNEP-WCMC; Ramsar Convention; Parks Canada; Audubon Society; UNEP; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; Birdlife International

## End User Examples

Northern communities; Fishers

Local communities; tourism operators





# From project to programme: options for synthesis

## Project orientation

High specific relevance

Quick to create

## Programme orientation

Big issues: accessible to policymakers

Needs significant time and resources

Potential for patterns to emerge



A synthesis framework based on impact can provide:

- A cohesive network-wide **narrative**
- A **structure** to summarize diverse research
- **Story-telling** hooks
- Annual Science **Meeting organization**



# Potential collective 'impact themes'

Predicting  
water  
availability

Decision-  
support tools  
to protect  
/enhance  
water quality

Water  
risk/liability  
assessment  
tools

Inputs for  
sector-based  
BMPs

Mitigating,  
adapting to  
climate change  
risk