Use international networks to define research priorities for development and disseminate results to stakeholders - Africa

Gil Mahé
IRD / FRIEND Water / PHI UNESCO, IAHS
• FRIEND-Water
• and other IHP programs
• International Sediment Initiative, Large Rivers Initiative...
• Goal: create regional communities
• Share knowledge, methodologies, tools, databases, workshops, training sessions,..
• Global conferences
• Young and gender issues
• To enhance: Open data, education, link with society
• FRIEND-Water
• Develop skills in innovative methodologies and tools
• Since 2019 4 workshops dedicated to **spatial hydrology** in the frame of FRIEND-Water
  - Bangui (Central African Republic)
  - Abdijan (Côte d’Ivoire)
  - Cotonou (Bénin)
  - Conception (Chile)
IAHS – International Association of Hydrological Sciences
6000 hydrologists network
10 specialists commissions, transverse topics
Develop links with Society issues (Panta Rhei decade) and education
Strong link with UNESCO IHP/FRIEND-Water
Sponsoring of large events, Global FRIEND conferences
https://books.google.tn/books/about/Hydrology_in_a_Changing_World.html?id=7AjhoQEACAAJ&redir_esc=y
American Geophysical Union - AGU
• How to develop the influence of African hydrologists in international research organizations and in society?
  • Participate in international scientific commissions, promote specific research topics – see Montpellier IAHS conference 29th May 3rd June 2022
    – S20. Hydrology, new tools and innovative measurements and citizen science in Africa
    – S21. Hydrology of Mediterranean and semi-arid regions
    – S22. Tropical Hydrology
• IAHS Africa Committee
• 23 UPH in Africa
• Increase links between IAHS and UNESCO multiple programs
• Develop participative research: include more people, including kids/schools, in research operations, observatories, etc…
• Open Science/open data, and bring science to citizens
• Develop links with NGOs and private companies in need of hydrological data and knowledge

- Modifying hydrological normal to improve the resilience of constructions (bridges, dikes, roads, dams…) – link with engineers offices

- Work with local/regional associations both to
  - Better take into account the local problems to study
  - Include local people in environmental surveys / observatories
  - Example of the Ghar el Mellah lagoon in Tunisia – local fisheries and WWF/Ramsar site
• FRIEND-Water and IAHS

• Develop links with other disciplines
• Ecohydrology – Water quality / UNESCO
• Social Sciences – link with water needs and uses
• Socio-economy – Costs linked with hydrological variability
• Marine studies – Coastal Vulnerability
• Etc…
Thank you for your attention