

Training Workshop: Empowering Utilities with ECAM-Driving Climate Action in the Water and Sanitation Sector

Date: Thursday 30th October 2025

Time: 08:45-12:30

Coordinated by: International Water Association (IWA), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Venue: United Nations Bonn Campus

Format: In person, English

Moderated by: Ms. Alexandra Dubois, Advisor to the Water Policy - Innovations for Resilience (WaPo-RE) sector programme, GIZ

Max Capacity: 32

Training Workshop Summary

Water utilities are severely impacted by climate pressures to deliver safe water and sanitation, and protect water bodies as well as people and assets, in alignment with the SDGs. Despite global commitments to achieve the 2030 goals on climate, sustainable development, and disaster risk reduction, progress remains insufficient, especially in the water sector, which is a priority in National Adaptation Plans and regional adaptation strategies. Water and sanitation utilities not only face escalating physical climate risks, but, they also contribute up to 7% of global emissions, and pollution from untreated waste makes it worse. Therefore, utilities are critical to the cities' successful climate adaptation and should act towards global decarbonisation. The ECAM (Energy Performance and Carbon Emissions Assessment and Monitoring) tool is a globally recognized, web-based, open-source platform, developed by GIZ and the International Water Association (IWA). ECAM enables utilities to assess GHG emissions and energy performance, identify opportunities to reduce direct and indirect emissions and monitor progress over time. It is user-friendly, with extensive training and guidance materials available on the platform to support users of all expertise levels. The tool has been utilized in over 17 countries and is an essential resource for organizations like the Global Water Initiative and the Inter-American Development Bank.

This session, jointly hosted by IWA and GIZ, will equip water and sanitation utilities with the tools and knowledge to embed climate resilience into daily operations and

long-term strategic planning. The training builds on real-world case studies from Jordan, Thailand, Mexico, and Peru—where ECAM-supported interventions led to significant CO2 reductions and operational cost savings.

By equipping utilities with the knowledge and digital tools to quantify and cut emissions, the session supports global climate targets and strengthens resilience across urban water systems. It also aligns with the strategic direction of climate financiers such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), which promotes innovative financing models and recognizes water's untapped potential as both an adaptation and

mitigation tool. The training will also explore pathways for accessing climate finance by demonstrating performance, accountability, and scalable impact through tools like ECAM. Through the ECAM tool, utilities can take a leading role in advancing decarbonization, improving energy performance, and leveraging access to climate finance.