

# JOINT INITIATIVE ON WATER AND PEACE

UNESCO-IHE INSTITUTE FOR WATER EDUCATION &  
UN-MANDATED UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE



University for Peace



UNESCO-IHE  
Institute for Water Education



# JOINT INITIATIVE ON WATER AND PEACE



Water concerns us all. We need water to survive, we need water for our crops, we need water for our industries and we need water to relax. Water is becoming a scarce good in many places of the globe. While parties continue to collaborate, tensions are mounting and potential conflicts loom large, both at local, national and international levels.

## Description and aim of the cooperation

The UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (based in the Netherlands) and the UN-Mandated University for Peace (UPEACE) (based in Costa Rica) have decided to combine their expertise and knowledge on water and conflict resolution by establishing a joint initiative on the topic of Water and Peace. This unique cooperation is meant to trigger complementary research and education in a field which deserves attention now more than ever.

Two globally renowned experts in the field will be appointed by both institutes to lead the development of a complementary research agenda on water and peace, the exchange of teachers in relevant postgraduate programmes and joint supervision of research students (postgraduate and doctoral) on projects of mutual interest. A joint lecture series will allow for further integration of the specialisations of UNESCO-IHE (water) and UPEACE (conflict resolution), from which students of both institutions would benefit.

## UNESCO-IHE and University for Peace

UNESCO-IHE and the University for Peace both have been recognised by the United Nations-system and have the aim to educate a new generation of decision-makers, academics and leaders, and enable them to make that change the world needs. Both institutions provide postgraduate education at their headquarters, as well as capacity building activities with partner institutes world-wide.

### UNESCO-IHE



Based in the Netherlands, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education was established in 2003. UNESCO-IHE continues the work that started in 1957 when IHE first offered a postgraduate diploma course in hydraulic engineering to practicing professionals from developing countries. The Institute is mandated by UNESCO to provide training, education and capacity building services to member states, with emphasis on developing countries and countries in transition. UNESCO-IHE is instrumental in strengthening universities and research centres in increasing knowledge and skills of professionals working in the water sector.

### University for Peace



Headquartered in Costa Rica, the United Nations-mandated University for Peace was established in December 1980 as a Treaty Organization by the UN General Assembly. As determined in the Charter of the University, the mission of the University for Peace is: "to provide humanity with an international institution of higher education for peace with the aim of promoting among all human beings the spirit of understanding, tolerance and peaceful coexistence, to stimulate cooperation among peoples and to help lessen obstacles and threats to world peace and progress, in keeping with the noble aspirations proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations."



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