



How to educate hydrologists that are effective in an ever changing world ?

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The challenges for education world-wide are tremendous! To reach the MDGs in Africa by 2015, the number of water professionals needs to be increased by about 300% - well trained hydrologist are key in that respect. A recent WHO study (mid-term review of MDGs) revealed that Sub-Saharan Africa will not reach for instance the sanitation related MDG before 2082, if the current level of funding remains. Capacity building via education is key in that respect. Less dramatic figures can be found for other continents, but the challenges for good hydrology education will remain compelling, last but not least because of numerous global changes (cf. session description).

This presentation will discuss (i) challenges for water education with particular emphasis on the education of hydrologist of the future. Hereby, a global perspective will be taken, and the partly differently/partly similar challenges in the Global South and North will be examined. (ii) Competency profiles for hydrologists of the future will be suggested, which all will have components of the a T-shape competency profile but the topics of the education will vary depending of the given context. Special attention will be give to under-graduate education vs. graduate education (MSc and PhD level) as well as hydrology education in the field of continuous professional development. Finally, (iii) different ways to improve the education of hydrologists as well as the hydrology education of other water professionals will be discussed. This includes revisiting the hydrology curricula, applied teaching and learning methods, and joint educational activities in knowledge partnerships.