

Identification and Impact Assessment of Emerging Water and Health Risk Factors in a Changing Climate

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Water quantity and quality dynamics are severely impacted by a changing climate, particularly in countries experiencing prolonged periods of water scarcity. Adaptation to a changing climate may require a coherent approach that takes into account all possible water bodies, sources and uses as they vary temporally and spatially. This review article will examine the types of water sources, their treatment and raw/finished water quality dynamics when impacted by adverse climate phenomena. Case studies of water and health manifestations will be presented. Formulation of sustainable intervention measures for water bodies that provide a smooth adaptation to a changing climate may require an elaborate assessment of the various environmental and water-based risk factors that impact the served population, the water industry and the piped water network status.